Technology Roundup

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- ➤ 2nd International Conference on Microwave, Antennas & Circuits (ICMAC 2025)
 - ➤ 7th Asia Pacific Information Technology Conference
- ▶4th International Conference on Robotics, Electrical and Signal Processing Techniques 2025
- ➤ 30th Asia and South Pacific Design Automation Conference ASP-DAC 2025
- ➤11th International Conference on Mechatronics and Robotics Engineering (ICMRE)

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Tech & Trade Offers





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Pakistan Pavilion Unveiled at the Singapore Fintech Festival SFF 2024

Pakistan's High Commissioner to Singapore, Rabia Shafiq, inaugurated the Pakistan Pavilion at the Singapore Fintech Festival (SFF) 2024, one of the world's leading fintech events. She

praised the participation of ten Pakistani fintech companies, urging them to leverage the platform to build international partnerships and showcase the country's growing tech expertise. Highlighting Pakistan's strengths, she noted the skilled workforce, strategic access to Asian markets, and time zone advantages, positioning it as a promising IT hub. Notably, Hakeem App, a leading Pakistani fintech firm, was nominated for the prestigious "Fintech Excellence Award 2024" by



the Monetary Authority of Singapore, reflecting the sector's innovation. Pakistan's participation at SFF aligns with its efforts to drive economic growth through technological innovation and strengthen ties with Singapore's fintech ecosystem.

Fast-Tracking Islamabad IT Park for Innovation and Digital Growth

The government has reaffirmed its commitment to accelerating the completion of the Islamabad IT Park, a key initiative to bolster Pakistan's digital economy. This pledge was



made during a project review meeting attended by officials from the Planning and IT Ministries, the Korean Ambassador, and other stakeholders. The IT Park is envisioned as a regional hub for innovation, aligning with the country's goal to become a leader in technology and IT services. Spanning 66,893 square meters, it will house 120 office spaces for IT and tech-enabled companies, a startup incubation center, a business support hub for legal and financial services, an industry-academia linkage center, and a Tier III Data Center. The park aims to enhance innovation, promote collaboration, and provide vital infrastructure to drive sustainable digital growth in Pakistan. The Islamabad IT Park will boost

Pakistan's digital economy by fostering innovation, creating jobs, and supporting tech startups. With modern infrastructure and industry-academia collaboration, it aims to position the country as a regional technology leader.

First Pakistani to Win Prestigious Gordon Bell Prize in Super computing

A global research team developed the ExaScale Climate Emulator, which offers highly localized, accurate predictions for weather events such as floods and hurricanes, aiding

disaster management. The emulator improves the speed and precision of climate predictions, even for specific towns, and could help farmers to optimize sowing and irrigation. Dr. Zubair Khalid from LUMS, part of the team behind the project, emphasized its real-world applications and energy-efficient design. Dr. Khalid is the first Pakistani to win the prestigious Gordon Bell Prize for this work, which uses Al and high-performance computing to improve climate modeling. His achievement showcases the global impact of this research and aims to inspire young Pakistani scientists.



KU Students Develop World's Tiniest Rechargeable Nebulizer

Students from the University of Karachi have created the world's smallest rechargeable nebulizer, offering a compact and portable solution for asthma and respiratory patients. This



innovation addresses the inconvenience of bulky traditional nebulizers, especially for travel and emergencies. The new device is palm-sized and rechargeable, providing 35 minutes of continuous use on a single charge, enough for two days of typical use. This breakthrough simplifies managing respiratory emergencies, making it easier for patients with chronic conditions to carry and use. This rechargeable nebulizer offers unmatched portability and

convenience, allowing respiratory patients to manage their condition easily during travel or emergencies. This achievement highlights the potential of young innovators to solve global health challenges.

Pakistan Exports Tractors to Tanzania Advancing Trade with Technology

The first shipment of Pakistani-made tractors delivered in Tanzania is marking a major step in enhancing trade ties between Pakistan and East Africa. According to an official statement from the Ministry of Commerce, Masai Trekta Company Ltd, which recently established its tractor distribution headquarters in Tanzania, will serve as a key partner in distributing Pakistani ATS tractors throughout Tanzania and potentially expanding into neighboring regions. The tractors were exported by Pak-Tractors House, a leading manufacturer based in Lahore. The export of Pakistani-made tractors to Tanzania will boost Pakistan's economy by expanding exports and creating job opportunities in manufacturing. Strengthening trade ties with East Africa can open new markets and foster regional cooperation. This move can also



lead to increased exports to neighboring countries and promote technological collaboration.

China-Pakistan Agreements to Boost Trade and Digital Innovation

Nine cooperation agreements were signed between Chinese and Pakistani businesses during a Strategic Cooperation Summit on E-Commerce, themed "Unleashing the Digital



Potential of CPEC," held in Chenggong, Kunming, Yunnan. These agreements, valued RMB 1.918 billion (around \$263.8 million), cover various sectors such as overseas investment, trade, minerals, agricultural products, and the digital economy. Key companies involved include Yunnan Yunshangyun Big Data Industry Development Co., Ltd., Jinhu International Trade (Kunming) Co., Ltd. and Northern Frontier Mines Pakistan. These agreements are expected to strengthen trade and investment ties, particularly in emerging fields like digital technologies and e-commerce focusing on emerging sectors like digital technologies. It offers new investment

opportunities and supports the growth of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The agreements are expected to boost trade, attract foreign investment, and foster regional economic development.

Karachi's First Female AI School Teacher

A private school in Karachi's Gulshan-e-Iqbal area has introduced Ainee, an Al-powered teacher designed to enhance classroom learning. Ainee helps Grade-V students in subjects

like mathematics, science, and languages by offering a personalized learning experience. Unlike traditional methods, Ainee uses Al algorithms to respond to student queries, track progress, and adapt lessons to individual learning speeds. This initiative aims to bridge the gap between conventional education and modern technology, providing targeted teaching to better meet each student's needs. It also sets an example for other schools in



Pakistan, where AI-driven teaching could improve academic outcomes and spark interest in STEM fields. As educational institutions and healthcare providers integrate AI technology, they are shaping a future where personalized learning and efficient healthcare services are standard. Initiatives like these improve quality and promote inclusivity, offering communities better access to opportunities.

The New Gwadar Airport Set for Operations Soon

The New Gwadar International Airport is nearing completion, with operations expected to begin by the end of December, as confirmed by Acting Director-General Air Vice Marshal



during a site visit. Accompanied by senior officials, authorities reviewed the airport's readiness and met with key stakeholders, including representatives from the Gwadar Development Authority, Gwadar Port Authority, Pakistan Navy, and Pakistan Army. The visit highlighted the airport's advanced features and its potential to drive regional economic growth. It was assured that all preparations are on track to meet the operational timeline. As part

of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the \$246 million airport is equipped with a modern terminal, expansive runway, and cutting-edge facilities. This milestone project is poised to enhance connectivity, stimulate trade and tourism, and solidify Gwadar's role in global commerce, opening new economic opportunities for the region.

NADRA Unveils Groundbreaking Biometric Technology at IDEAS 2024

At IDEAS 2024 in Karachi, the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) showcased advanced biometric technologies for the first time at the biennial defense

exhibition. In collaboration with the National Radio and Telecom Corporation (NRTC) and NADRA Technologies Limited, NADRA unveiled locally produced biometric devices, including portable, lightweight tools designed for identity verification in remote areas. These innovations aim to revolutionize citizen services with fast, accurate, and secure registration and verification processes. The user-friendly systems are built for affordability, security, and durability, making them ideal for applications like



national ID systems and border control. The technologies drew significant interest from both domestic and international delegates, highlighting Pakistan's domestic tech advancements and opening doors for global collaborations in biometrics.

Ministry Delivers More Chrome-books to Empower School children

The Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training has announced the arrival of 300 additional Chromebooks for distribution to primary and high schools in Islamabad Capital



Territory. This shipment marks a significant step in the ministry's ongoing efforts to enhance educational access and quality through technology, bringing the total number of Chromebooks set for distribution to 1,000. In the coming days, another 500 Chromebooks will be distributed, further expanding technological resources for students. These devices, paired with digital interactive boards, aim to transform traditional classrooms into interactive tech-driven learning environments. With access to a range of digital educational tools, students will be able to learn more efficiently and effectively. Officials

emphasized the importance of the initiative, noting that the ministry is dedicated to leveraging technology to improve learning outcomes and equip students with essential skills for the digital age. The provision of Chromebooks is part of a broader effort to modernize the education system, empower students, and improve overall academic performance by integrating technology into learning.

Transparent Solar Cells to Generate 1000x More Energy

Solar energy is essential for sustainability, but traditional panels face limitations in size, rigidity, and opacity, restricting their use to rooftops or fields. Recent innovations in transparent

solar cells (TSCs), particularly near-invisible solar cells (NISCs), offer new possibilities, enabling energy harvesting from surfaces like windows, vehicles, and even human skin. These cells maintain over 70% transparency while efficiently generating power. The breakthrough comes from using two-dimensional materials, such as tungsten disulfide (WS₂), known for their light absorption and tunable properties. By optimizing the interaction between WS₂ and Indium tin oxide



(ITO), researchers achieved power conversion efficiency over 1,000 times higher than traditional devices. These advancements are pushing the boundaries of solar technology, offering the potential for integration into everyday structures and consumer electronics, marking a shift toward a more sustainable future.

Wave-Based Food Processing to Replace Traditional Methods

Microwave-based vertical cooking vessels, often used for heating products, offer a more efficient method than traditional heating systems. In home microwaves, waves travel through



a waveguide and into the cooking chamber, which can be extended to heat products in larger, cylindrical vessels. This technology eliminates the need for heating tank walls, reducing costs associated with jacketed vessels and simplifying the process by removing components like steam boilers and gearboxes. A pump circulates the product, and a temperature sensor ensures precise temperature control. For example, by applying a set power input, microwaves directly heat the product,

maintaining the desired temperature with minimal energy use. This method offers significant advantages over traditional heating, including reduced energy consumption, lower equipment

costs, and simplified operation. As a result, wave-based cooking holds potential for improving food processing in the industry.

Transforming Agriculture with the First Indoor Vertical Strawberry Farm

The world's first indoor vertical strawberry farm is set to open in Richmond, Virginia, in early 2025, signaling a transformative shift in the future of agriculture. This cutting-edge facility

utilizes 30-foot vertical towers to grow strawberries efficiently and sustainably, producing over 4 million pounds annually on less than one acre of land. By combining hydroponics, a soil-free growing technique that uses nutrient-rich water, with advanced vertical farming technologies, the farm maximizes space and resources, making it a model for sustainable food production. It demonstrates how urban agriculture can help tackle food security challenges while reducing the environmental impact of traditional farming. The farm's carefully controlled indoor environment ensures



optimal growing conditions, protecting crops from pests, diseases, and extreme weather conditions. This eliminates the need for harmful chemical pesticides, which are commonly used in conventional farming but can have negative effects on the environment and human

Chinese Scientists Are Working Quickly to Develop Climate-Resistant Potatoes

China, the world's largest potato producer, relies on the crop for global food security due to its high yield. However, potatoes are vulnerable to heat, and climate change is worsening this risk



by increasing temperatures and causing more extreme weather events like droughts and floods. A three-year study is examining the impact of higher temperatures on potatoes, focusing on China's most common varieties. The research found that temperatures just 3°C higher than current averages accelerated tuber growth but cut yields by over 50%. With global temperatures expected to rise by up to 3.1°C by 2100, efforts to protect potato production are critical. Companies like Yakeshi Senfeng are investing in advanced systems like aeroponics to grow potatoes in

controlled environments, while farmers are seeking higher-yielding and disease-resistant varieties, especially those resistant to late blight, which thrives in warmer, humid conditions.

China Is Testing Moon Base Construction Using Lunar Soil as Building Material

China is testing the use of lunar soil to build the first Moon base by sending prototype bricks to the Tiangong space station. A recent rocket launch delivered these bricks, created from

materials like basalt to mimic lunar soil, as part of China's goal to establish a permanent lunar base by 2035. The bricks will undergo exposure tests in space to evaluate their durability under harsh conditions like extreme temperatures, cosmic radiation, and moonquakes. If successful, using lunar soil for construction could significantly reduce the cost of building on the Moon by eliminating the need to transport materials from Earth. This experiment is part of China's collaboration with Russia on the International Lunar



Research Station, joined by several countries. Similar efforts are underway by the US and

European Space Agency, exploring 3D printing and Lego-inspired construction techniques for future Moon bases.

Revolutionizing Diagnostics with Novel Genomic Technology

Scientists at UC San Francisco have created a genomic test that uses metagenomic nextgeneration sequencing to quickly detect various pathogens including viruses, bacteria, fungi,

and parasites. Unlike traditional methods that focus on specific pathogens, this test examines all nucleic acids such as RNA and DNA in a sample, offering a more comprehensive diagnostic approach. It improves the diagnosis of neurological infections like meningitis and encephalitis and helps identify emerging viral threats. Originally designed for cerebrospinal fluid analysis, the test replaces the need for multiple diagnostic procedures, reducing delays and enhancing



treatment outcomes. It has already been applied to thousands of patients with unexplained neurological symptoms across the country, providing an effective and innovative tool for improving care and managing infectious diseases more efficiently.

Bioprinting Technique Creates Tissue 10x Faster

3D printing is not only used for creating physical products but also for developing human



tissue replicas that could aid in organ transplants, disease research, and drug testing. However, existing technologies have struggled to print tissues with high cell density at scale. A team from Penn State has developed a new bioprinting technique using spheroids cell clusters to create complex tissues. This method is 10 times faster than current techniques, improving precision and scalability while supporting tissue and organ development in regenerative medicine. This technology marks a major step forward in rapid bioprinting, enabling high-throughput tissue fabrication with improved cell viability. Bioprinting involves layering living cells in a substrate to create 3D tissues, similar to constructing a wall with cells as bricks and bioink as mortar.

Apple's iPhone Tech Tested for Faster Throat Cancer Diagnosis in NHS Trials

An iPhone adapter that quickly detects throat cancer is currently being piloted by the NHS, aiming to reduce waiting times for patients. Developed by Endoscope-i Ltd, this device

transforms an iPhone into an endoscopy tool, enabling nurses to capture live images of the throat, which specialists can analyze and report back within hours. The technology is being tested in the West Midlands and could eventually be used in various healthcare settings. Early trials at North Midlands University Hospitals NHS Trust have shown promising results, with no cancers missed and results delivered within 23 hours. This device could significantly improve early cancer detection, offering a more convenient, less invasive option for patients. The iPhone-based throat cancer



detection technology offers faster diagnosis and early detection, improving treatment outcomes. Its portability and less invasive nature enhance patient comfort.

Previously Unknown Compound Identified in Water

A new chemical compound, never identified before, was recently recognized in a recently published study. Despite being aware of the compound for decades, researchers struggled to



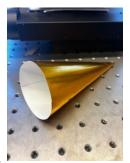
detect it. The breakthrough came when the compound was successfully synthesized in a laboratory, a first for the scientific community. The compound was analyzed using samples from regions with chloraminated drinking water, while Switzerland, where chloramination is not used, served as a control. This discovery raises concerns about its potential health risks, as it had not been included in previous toxicity studies. The research is an important step in understanding the

chemicals that may contribute to chronic toxicity in drinking water, which has been linked to long-term health issues like cancer. Future studies will assess the compound's potential risks and provide insights into controlling harmful substances in water systems.

Developing Sustainable Paper-Aluminum Packaging for Takeout Containers

Takeout containers made from foil-lined plastics are difficult to recycle. Research in ACS Omega suggests replacing plastic with paper could create a more sustainable option.

Researchers designed paper-aluminum laminates and tested their strength compared to polyethylene-aluminum packaging. The team created two types of paper-aluminum laminates: machine-direction (MD) and cross-direction (CD), each with differently oriented fibers. Tensile strength tests showed that while polyethylene-aluminum could stretch further without breaking, the MD laminate was more flexible but cracked along the grain. Simulations combining MD and CD fibers predicted similar strength to polyethylene-aluminum laminates. Although the hybrid laminate hasn't been created yet, the study offers valuable insights for engineers looking to develop eco-friendly materials that maintain the performance of conventional packaging.



Japanese firm ispace aims to conduct helium-3 mining missions on the Moon

Space mining is advancing with a new partnership between Japanese lunar exploration firm ispace and lunar prospecting company Magna Petra. The two companies have signed an



agreement to extract helium-3 isotopes from the Moon's regolith through sustainable methods for commercial use on Earth, where helium-3 is in short supply. This collaboration comes as ispace prepares for its second lunar lander mission, following a crash in its first attempt. The upcoming Resilience mission, scheduled for January 2025, aims to land the Tenacious micro rover on the Moon, demonstrating its ability to collect regolith

samples. Magna Petra plans to use the technology demonstrated in this mission to begin harvesting large quantities of helium-3. Both companies emphasize the importance of using various lunar resources beyond water to develop the cislunar economy, essential for future space exploration and commercialization.

Landmark Group Launches Textile Recycling Plant in Dubai

Landmark Group has launched the first textile recycling facility in Dubai, called Landmark Circulife, to promote sustainability in the fashion and retail industries. Inaugurated by UAE

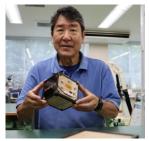
Minister of Economy and Landmark Group Chairwoman, the state-of-the-art facility will process 2,000 metric tonnes of textile waste annually. The recycled fibers will be used to create new products, reducing the need for virgin materials and minimizing landfill waste. As part of its sustainability efforts, Landmark Group also introduced takeback programs across UAE stores, encouraging customers to recycle old clothes in exchange for rewards. This initiative supports the UAE's Circular Economy Policy and aims to reduce textile waste and CO2 emissions while



conserving energy and water. Landmark Circulife is positioned to contribute significantly to the country's environmental goals and advance circularity in the fashion industry.

Japan Made World's First Wooden Satellite Heads to Space

The world's first wooden satellite was launched on Tuesday as part of a test for using wood in lunar and Mars exploration. Developed by Kyoto University and Sumitomo Forestry, the



satellite will be transported to the International Space Station (ISS) via SpaceX before being released into orbit, 400 kilometers above Earth. The satellite aims to demonstrate the potential of timber for space use. With a 50-year plan to plant trees and build wooden homes on the Moon and Mars, researchers developed a NASA-certified wooden satellite to prove wood can be a space-grade material. According to the lead scientists and professor at Kyoto University, early 1900s airplanes were made of wood; therefore, a wooden satellite should work too. Wood's durability in space is due to the lack of water and oxygen, which would

cause decay or fire on Earth. Additionally, a wooden satellite minimizes environmental impact at the end of its life.

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FORTHCOMING TECH EVENTS

PAKISTAN

- > 5th International Conference on Biological Research and Applied Science January 29 – February 01, 2025, Jinnah University for Women, Karachi https://ibras.juw.edu.pk/
- Global Conference on Green Construction Materials & Practices February 05 – 06, 2025, NED University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi https://gcgc2025.com/
- ▶ International Conference on Data-Driven Social Change (ICDDSC-2025) February 10 – 11, 2025, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam https://icddsc.sau.edu.pk/
- ➤ 6th International Conference on Advancements in Computational Sciences (ICACS'25) February 10 – 11, 2025, University of Lahore, Lahore https://sites.uol.edu.pk/icacs25/
- ➤ 7th International Conference on Materials Science and Nano-technology (MSNANO-25) February 17 – 19, 2025, Government College University, Faisalabad https://ms-nano.com/
- ➤ 5th International Workshop for Leadership & Stability (5th IWLS) February 17 – 22, 2025, National Defence University, Islamabad https://www.ndu.edu.pk/issra/download/5th-IWLS/5th_IWLS.pdf
- ➤ 3rd International Conference on Emerging Power Technologies (ICEPT) 2025 April 10 – 11, 2025, Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology, Topi Swabi https://giki.edu.pk/ICEPT/
- > 9th International Horticulture Conference & Expo-2025 April, 2025, PMAS Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi, Rawalpindi https://www.uaar.edu.pk/conference.php?conid=2
- 2nd International Conference on Microwave, Antennas & Circuits (ICMAC 2025) April 16 – 17, 2025, National University of Science and Technology, Islamabad https://icmac.seecs.edu.pk/
- > 5th IEEE International Conference on Communication Technologies 2025 (ComTech-2025) April 23 – 24, 2025, Military College of Signals, Rawalpindi https://conferences.mcs.nust.edu.pk/comtech2025/index.html
- ➤ 14th International Mechanical Engineering Conference (IMEC-2025) April 23 – 24, 2025, NED University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi https://imec.neduet.edu.pk/
- ➤ 2nd International Conference on Emerging Technologies in Electronics, Computing and Communication (ICETECC 2025)

April 23 – 25, 2025, Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro https://icetecc.muet.edu.pk/

➤ International Conference on Applications of Space Science and Technology (ICAST) November 18 – 20, 2025, Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad https://icast.pk/

INTERNATIONAL

- ➤7th Asia Pacific Information Technology Conference January 10 12, 2025, Hong Kong, China https://www.apit.net/
- ➤4th International Conference on Robotics, Electrical and Signal Processing Techniques 2025 (4th ICREST'25)

 January 11 12, 2025, Dhaka, Bangladesh

 https://aiubicrest.com/
- ➤ 19th International Conference on Mechanical Engineering and Robotics Research (ICMERR) January 15 17, 2025, Barcelona, Spain https://www.icmerr.com/
- ▶7th Asia Pacific Information Technology Conference (APIT 2025) January 20 – 22, 2025, Hong Kong https://www.apit.net/
- ➤ 3rd Asian Conference on Engineering and Information December 4 6, Singapore https://aceai-conf.org/
- International Conference on Computer Sciences, Engineering, and Technology Innovation January 25, 2025, Jakarta, Indonesia https://icocseti.unindra.ac.id/
- SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference and Exhibition February 04 06, 2025, Texas, USA https://www.spe-events.org/hydraulicfracturing/about-the-conference
- ➤11th International Conference on Mechatronics and Robotics Engineering (ICMRE) February 24 26, 2025, Lille, France https://www.icmre.org/
- ➤ 18th Signal Processing for Space Communications Workshop February 24 26, 2025, Barcelona, Spain https://www.asmsconference.org/
- ➤ Optical Fiber Communications Conference and Exhibition (OFC) March 30 April 03, 2025, California, USA https://www.ofcconference.org/en-us/home/

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GILGIT MART

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We are representative of the culture and healthy heritage of Gilgit-Baltistan. We connect Gilgit with all over the world through our healthy and precious nutritious delicacies and cultural handicrafts. Our mission is to make every person Healthy, every mind tuned and every home and business Eco-friendly by providing 100% pure, hygienic and artistic products that don't leave waste when produced used and decomposed. We are offering 100% natural and organic dry fruits, gemstones, river stones (pebbles), handicrafts of all kind, handmade wall hangings and local products all over in Pakistan at affordable prices.





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Hunza Foodways

About Hunza Foodways

The modern urban lifestyle bombards us with toxins and environmental pollutants. At Hunza Foodways, we aim to simplify and help restore your body's natural balance using potent, all-natural



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ingredients. As a pioneering Hunza Foodways company, we're dedicated to leveraging nature's power to bring harmony back into your everyday life.

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- Walnuts dipped in honey
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