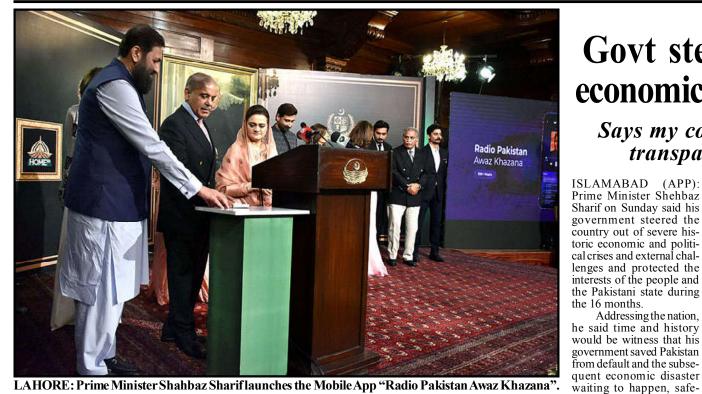
# Indenendent

dailyindisb@gmail.com Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah www.dailyindependent.com.pk Islamabad

Vol. XIII No. 240 Reg. mails-B / ID-445 Monday August 14, 2023, Muharramul Haram 26, 1445 A.H. Ph: 2158688, 2158997 Pages 4: Rs. 12



### PM address to nation:

#### Govt steered country out of severe economic, political crises in 16 months

Says my conscience is clear that I served honestly, transparently and followed the constitution.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday said his government steered the country out of severe historic economic and political crises and external challenges and protected the interests of the people and the Pakistani state during the 16 months. Addressing the nation,

he said time and history would be witness that his guarded national interests, government saved Pakistan restored the trust of from default and the subsefriendly countries and proquent economic disaster vided relief to people after the devastating floods.



of the constitutional tenure of his government, he was handing over power to the caretaker government.

"My conscience is clear that I served honestly and transparently and followed the constitution."

He congratulated Anwarul Haq Kakar for becoming the caretaker prime minister and expressed hope that he would ensure free, fair and transparent elections in Pakistan and protect the right to vote of the people.

"The caretaker prime minister is appointed after consultation between him and leader of the opposition Raja Riaz.

#### 33 CDWP, 12 ECNEC meetings held in 16 months

ISLAMABAD (APP): velopment projects and the sensitization of priorities tiatives has launched a 16month performance report while highlighting its key achievements made from

April 2022 to August 2023. The 29-page report contained details of achievements made by the ministry from April 19, 2022 to August 9, 2023, a news release said on Sunday. During the period under review, the Planning Commission managed to hold 33 meetings of the Central Development Working Party (CDWP) and 12 meetings of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC).

approved during this period, said the report.

Planning Ministry increased the PSDP from Rs500 billion to Rs1150 billion for 2023-2024, overwhile ensuring transparency through the PSDP worth of PSDP data.

A large number of de- approved projects showed entrepreneurship

Ministry of Planning, De-schemes of strategic signifi-to carry out national develvelopment and Special Ini- cance were considered and opment schemes. After the infrastructural projects, the major emphasis had been laid The report empha- on the projects of human resized that special attention sources development. It furwas given to the Public ther said since April 2022 Sector Development the Planning Ministry has Programme (PSDP) as the placed special emphasis on youth empowerment and in-

clusive development.

This section includes several strategic initiatives coming financial limitations undertaken by the Ministry as part of the PM's Development Youth Portal, which provides digi- Programme. Under this tal access to 1.1 trillion programme, six initiatives are on education, four cen-While highlighting the ter around engagement and performance of the CDWP, opportunities, and two the reports said that CDWP- each for employment and

#### Caretaker PM Kakar thanks political parties for welcoming his appointment

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar on Sunday thanked the political parties who welcomed his appointment and vowed to fulfil his responsibilities to the best of his

The caretaker PM received a stream of congratulatory messages from political leaders on his appointment to the position.

Former Balochistan chief minister Jam Kamal, Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party (IPP) leader Fawad Chaudhry, and Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) leader Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti were among those who met with interim PM at Punjab

ISLAMABAD (INP): House to offer their extolments.

Fawad Chaudhry said that Kakar's appointment as caretaker prime minister received collective appreciation. He expressed hope that the interim premier would fulfil the "heavy responsibility" that he had been entrusted with.

Kakar thanked all the parties who had welcomed his appointment and said that he was grateful to the people who had expressed their good wishes for him.

He said that he would strive to fulfil his duties to the best of his ability and that he would work for the betterment of the country.

# SIALKOT: The Chief Executive of Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party Jahangir

Tareen, along with President Aleem Khan and Dr. Firdous Ashiq Awan addressing to the media in Kobey Chak.

#### **ISPR says:** Two terrorists killed amid swift response to attack on

Chinese Embassy condemns terrorists' attack on Chinese Convoy in Gwadar

military convoy in Gwadar

RAWALPINDI (APP): The demned the terrorists attack security forces on Sunday killed two terrorists in a swift response to the attack made on a military convoy in the morning in Gwadar

The terrorists attacked a military convoy in Gwadar at 1000 hours, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) press release

The terrorists used small arms and hand grenades during the activity, however, due to efficient and swift response, two terrorists were sent to hell with no harm to any military or civil persons, it

The ISPR said, "Security Forces of Pakistan remain determined to thwart efforts of the enemies of peace and prosperity in the country." Meanwhile, Chinese Embassy in Pakistan on Sunday strongly conon a Chinese Convoy in Gwadar and asked Pakistani authorities to conduct a thorough investigation of the attack, severely punish the perpetrators and take effective measures to prevent similar incidents from

happening again. According to a statement issued here by the Chinese Embassy, "A convoy carrying Chinese citizens was attacked near the port of Gwadar in Balochistan, Pakistan. The incident caused no casualties on the Chinese side, and the relevant personnel have been properly placed in

The Embassy and the Consulate General in Karachi launched an emergency response immedi-'. The Chinese Embassy in Pakistan strongly condemns this terrorist act, the statement said.

#### **Dollar hits** Shah's statement about **Rs302** in caretaker PM 'fumes' PPP open market

Khursheed Shah's statement about the caretaker prime minister has 'fumed' Pakistan People's Party (PPP), sources said on Sun-

had said that they were unaware that Senator Anwaarul Haq Kakar would be appointed as caretaker Prime Minister. PPP had finalized five names which included Saleem Abbas, Jalil Abbas, Muhammad Malik and

On Friday, the dollar traded at Rs296 in the open

#### Anwar Kakar resigns from senate, BAP membership

dollar hit 302 against the

rupee in the open market,

going beyond the bound-

aries marked by the Inter-

national Monetary Fund

(IMF) to keep the differ-

ence in open and interbank

exchange rates in the range

of 1 per cent to 1.5 per cent,

kept fluctuating during the

day and reached as high as

Rs302," said Zafar Paracha,

general secretary of the Ex-

change Companies Asso

'The US dollar rates

says media reports.

ciation of Pakistan.

ISLAMABAD (IÑP): Designated Prime Ministér Anwarul Haq Kakar resigned from his senate, Balochistan Awami Party

(BAP) membership. Áccording sources, Anwarul Haq Kakar said that he is quitting his senate membership as his basic responsibility is to hold transparent elections. Furthermore, the designated prime minister said that consultation regarding the caretaker cabinet has been started, sources added.

A day earlier, Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar was selected as Pakistan's caretaker prime minister, PM Shehbaz and Riaz have sent advice regarding Kakar's appointment as the caretaker prime minister to President Alvi, the statement added

ISLAMABAD (INP: PM. The senior leadership Former federal minister of the party has sought ar

day, citing sources. Shah in his statement

Afzal Khan from KP, he

Shah had further said that it would have been better if someone among them

'explanation' Khursheed Shah over his statement regarding Anwaarul Haq Kakar. The sources said Khursheed Shah's state-

ment was against the party policy and he expressed his opinion without consulting the PPP's leadership. The PPP leaders have

been asked to avoid commenting on the issue of caretaker PM, the sources said.

It may be noted Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar was selected as Pakistan's caretaker prime minister. President Arif Alvi also signed the advice forwarded by PM Shehbaz and Raja was appointed as caretaker Riaz in this context.

#### PPP urged nation to void hate, division: Bilawal

KARACHI (APP): Chair- his leadership and made man of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Independence Day has urged the nation to work together to end the hatred and division from society as well as work hard to make Pakistan a country that other nations of the world can give examples of its democracy and prosperity.
While extending greet-

ings to the nation on Independence Day, he expressed good wishes for all Pakistanis. He said that today is the day to pay homage to Ouaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and his companions, who based on tolerance a struggled for freedom under equality," he continued.

sacrifices.

KABUL: Leaders of Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam (Nazriati) Maulana Abdul Qadir

Luni, Syed Haji Abduol Sattar Shah Chisti, Haji Hayatullah Kakar and oth-

ers meeting with Afghan Foreign Minister Maula Ameer Khan Mutaki.

"August 14 symbolizes making the impossible possible through peaceful political and democratic struggle," he said adding that the Day is also the occasion to ask ourselves whether today's Pakistan has succeeded in achieving all goals that our founding fathers had set and dreamed of at the time of its estab-

lishment. "In the light of the vision of the Quaid-e-Azam, we still have a long way to go and work hard to establish a strong federal democratic state and a society based on tolerance and

#### Mengal expresses strong reservations over caretaker PM in a letter to Nawaz

Akhtar Mengal, the seasoned Baloch nationalist leader, isn't happy with the appointment of Anwaarul Haq Kakar as caretaker prime minister as he wrote a letter to Nawaz Sharif the PML-N supremo saying that force was being used to solve Balochistan's problems instead of finding

Mengal, the chief of own faction of Balochistan Awami Party (BNP), said his letter was a continuation of the one he had written on July 22, 2022 and, unfortunately, the issues mentioned back then were still persisting. Expressing his dismay, the BNP-M head said not-

withstanding the situation

being faced in Balochistan,

it was a surprise that they

[Nawaz and others] had

been unable learn from what

had they faced. A solution

a political solution.

was being find in consultation with the establishment, instead of politicians, he re-

According to Mengal, they still remember the injustices of Gen Ayub Khan to Gen Pervez Musharraf, but his [Nawaz's] party has forgotten the conspiracies hatched and unconstitutional acts committed by Gen Musharraf and Gen Bajwa so quickly.

Making the undemocratic forces more powerful by weakening the democratic institutions will prove to be the last nail in the coffin of democracy, Mengal warned.

He also told Nawaz that the legislations introduced against the human rights concept would ultimately be used against them [PML-N] in future as they had not considered the Baloch people as a human.

#### One soldier martyred amid eliminating four terrorists in Bajaur IBO

RAWALPINDI (APP): A soldier of the Pakistan Army embraced martyrdom during an intelligencebased operation (IBO) conducted on the night of August 12-13 in the general area Charmang, Bajaur District on the reported presence of terrorists, while four extremists were killed in an intense exchange of fire.

During the operation, an intense fire exchange occurred between the security forces and terrorists, besides four terrorists being sent to hell, and one terrorist was apprehended, said an Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release issued here Sunday. The martyred soldier

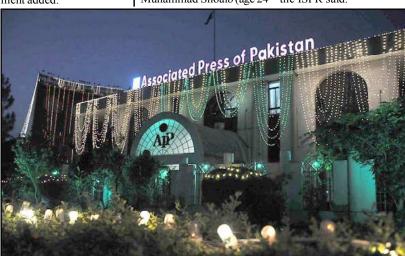
was identified as Sepoy Muhammad Shoaib (age 24

Kohat), having fought gallantly embraced Shahadat during an intense exchange

The forces had also recovered weapons, ammunition, and explosives including a suicide vest from the terrorists, who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities against security forces and killing of innocent citizens, especially suicide blasts, it said.

The sanitization of the area was being carried out to eliminate any terrorists found in the area.

"Security forces of Pakistan remain determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism from Pakistan,' the ISPR said.



ISLAMABAD: The Building of Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) is decorated with the colorful lights in celebration of Independence Day.

#### Ashrafi terms national flag a symbol of unity, solidarity

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- honored the flag should kistan Ulema Council face immediate legal action, Chairman Muhammad Mahmood Ashrafi, on Sunday underscored the significance of Pakistan's national flag as a symbol of unity and solidarity. Speaking at a press conference held at the central office of Baitul-Aman, Ashrafi who is also the President of International Interfaith Harmony Council categorically stated that disrespecting the national flag should not be tolerated and called for stringent measures against those allegedly involved in this heinous crime.

He further stressed that individuals who dis-

Hafiz including the confiscation Tahir of their identification cards and passports, as a measure against treason.

comes as the nation prepares for the upcoming Independence Day celebration on August 14, which promises to be a grand spectacle of pride and en-

Highlighting the importance of faith and national pride, he announced that prayers would be offered in religious seminaries and mosques across the country after the Faji prayer, seeking strength and stability for Pakistan.

His passionate appeal

PM felicitates Kakar on his appointment as Caretaker PM

AHORE (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday congratulated Anwaaru Haq Kakar on his appointment as Caretaker Prime Minister and expressed the confidence that he would ensure holding of free, fair and impartial elections in the country.

The prime minister said that trust reposed by all parties in Kakar's name proved their proper choice as the upcoming caretaker PM was an educated person and patriot He said that under a constitutional process, they agreed upon the name of a suitable person and thanked former leader of the opposition in the National Assembly Raja Riaz for holding a consultation in this regard.

#### Two traders killed, as many abducted by dacoits in Dera Bugti

DERA BUGTI (INP): Two traders were shot dead and as many were abducted by dacoits on Indus Highway in the limits of Naper Kot police, Dera Bugti on Sunday. A complete shutdown was observed and a sit-in was held in Dera Bugti against the killings and kidnapping of the traders. The protesters blamed the police for being in connivance with the dacoits kidnapping and killing innocent people.

LAHORE (INP): Sardar to the current problems

# Daily Soice of Masse, Independent

Monday August 14, 2023

#### High hopes

The choice was unexpected, given the considerably stronger candidates that were in the running for the post, but The PDM coalition it seems that outgoing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Opposition Leader in the National Assembly Raja Riaz have compromised over Anwaarul Haq Kakar, a hitherto littleknown senator from the Balochistan Awami Party.

"We had earlier decided that the caretaker PM should be someone from a smaller province and a non-controversial personality," Mr Riaz said after the agreement was reached between him and Mr Sharif. "Our aim was to remove the sense of deprivation in small provinces.

Mr Kakar will, therefore, serve as the eighth caretaker PM of Pakistan, having been entrusted by the two gentlemen with the task of keeping the country running till public representatives elected by the people return for the job. His selection will undoubtedly be scrutinised and re-scrutinised in the coming days, and will be dissected for its implications for the country amidst the uncertainty that clouds music. A group of young the upcoming polls.

Whatever the eventual verdict may be, one can start by considering some positives. Mr Kakar hails from a party which has worked with both the PTI and PDM. Though BAP is widely perceived to be propped up by the military establishment, he is perhaps as politically non-controversial to chronicle its sorrows. and palatable a choice as could tended vacation in Southbe in the present circumstances. Indeed, his selection expectations of spending time with both our daughseems to have been generally well-received, with even PTI representatives welcoming the decision. This would suggest that, despite all reservations, Mr Sharif and Mr Riaz ultimately made a good choice. That Mr Kakar represents Balochistan is also a cause for celebration. He may bring with him a perspective to the job that has been missing so far. However, will those two things alone be enough for what seems to be a rather weighty job? It can only be hoped that Mr Kakar will prove himself worthy.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that Mr Kakar may be pressured to stick around for longer than the law would allow. He should resist any such proposal. He must remain focused on the responsibility entrusted to him, which is to hold free and fair elections within the 90-day period provisioned for in the Constitution. There are tangible fears that he may be asked to play a supporting role in a conspiracy to extend the caretaker set-up till such time as the country's unelected decision-makers decide that the public may finally have a say in their future.

He must do all he can within his power to preclude this possibility. The biggest challenge will be to ensure that delimitations under the recently notified census are completed as quickly as possible. Perhaps he can begin by ensuring that the ECP has led to its banning, despite being cleared for release by the censors. Was this the everything it needs to complete this task without further imperilling constitutional timelines.

# Under the garb of legislation



Muhammad **Amir Rana** 

edented legislation spree deserves space in the Guinness Book of World Records. A political party, some ministers and legislators who claimed to be champions of human rights presented bills that contradicted their assertion. This is a new development in Pakistani politics, where all political actors surrender themselves to align with the centre of power.

The law minister made an interesting excuse when the Prevention of Violent Extremism Bill, 2023, was, fortunately, rejected by the Upper House following the timely intervention of a few senators. He said the PTI government drafted the bill, with every single clause and punctuation mark placed by needs to answer who dusted off the bill and presented it on behalf of the treasury

Although a few courageous legislators had blocked the bill, which was solely intended for political use, the treasury and opposition failed to prevent the amendment of the Official Secrets Act, 2023. It remains to be seen whether the PDM has earned itself breathing room for its future politics and, if so, how much space and for how long; the power holders are impulsive and lose interest if political actors take divergent steps. The PML-N is spe-

cifically facing a test case in the upcoming elections. The party had previously demanded a level playing field before entering the electoral process. However, it has since fully supported cracking down on its political opponents and has obediently served the power holders. It is unclear at the moment what the PML-N will gain from it.

Security-related legislation in Pakistan has broad scope — the country has a history of misusing such laws to target politicians. This fear led a few senators tions. Many security-re-

in the Upper House. It was a rare example of politicians standing up to the government on such an issue. In most cases, however, politicians have willingly or unwillingly supported security-related legislation, even when they know it could be used against them. For example, in January 2015, the Senate voted in favour of the 21st Amendment, allowing the creation of military courts. PPP Senator Raza Rabbani recorded his protest, stating that he was voting at the behest of his party, otherwise the amendment went against his conscience, and he had never felt more ashamed in his life than while voting for the establishment of military courts. However, political pragmatism is so entrenched that such sane voices also compromise when they see their benefit or if political opponents are

It was not the first time security-related legislation was suddenly introduced in parliament without prior debate or input from the law ministry. Much of this legislation is outsourced to private law firms and then endorsed by security institu-

the target of the legislation.

lated laws that have been passed by parliament, such as the Protection of Pakistan Act, 2014, and the Fair Trial Act, 2013, have empowered law-enforcement agencies at the expense of human rights. LEAs continue to demand even more extensive legal powers, and the government has responded by amending the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA), 1997, multiple times. In addition, military courts have been established to speed up terrorism-related trials. However, these legal measures still need to address the high acquittal rate in terrorism-related cases, which remains a serious concern.

The irony is that political parties know that security-specific laws will eventually be used against them, and even then, they forge ahead. Many politicians and political workers have been tried under the ATA, including the architect of the law, former prime minister Nawaz Sharif. In 1999, military ruler Gen Pervez Musharraf introduced two amendments to the ATA and added conspiracy-related clauses to charge Nawaz Sharif under

On the other hand, the

trial of hard-core sectarian terrorists has suffered long delays. Many of the accused operated from prisons, such as Malik Ishaq, one of the founders of the sectarian terrorist organisation Lashkari-Jhangvi. He was released on bail in December 2014 after spending over 13 years behind bars on more than 70 charges of sectarian killings. He was shot and killed in an encounter with law-enforcement personnel in July 2015. Pakistan's power hold-

ers have a binary perspective, which manifests itself in paradoxical ways. Their approach of 'good' and 'bad' militants is a manifestation of this perspective. This approach has been applied to both international and regional militant forces. The power holders apply a similar approach to political actors in the country, using the same legal regimes against them when needed. The context determines who is considered a threat and who is

Political parties and lawmakers are not so naive to support such legislation without the prospect of some benefit accruing to them; ie, they expect something in return. This could be further political engineer- Courtesy Dawn

ing in their favour or the approval of private bills, such as those related to private universities.

The treasury benches also supported the amendments in a bill by far-right religious parties. The Senate approved amendments to the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860, and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, to enhance punishments for those who disrespect the ahle bait or sahaba-i-karaam. These amendments were passed without discussion, raising concerns about the expansive nature of religious-related legislation. Such legislation has serious implications for peace and harmony in the country. However, at the same time, these could also be used against political opponents, as there is a history of this in Pakistan. Surprisingly, parliament and the establishment have yet to take the Supreme Court's advice, dispensed in 2019, to develop a new and comprehensive legal definition of terrorism. It is indeed ironic that a country that has been fighting a war on terrorism for two decades has extensive legislation and a wide range of policies without a proper definition of the term.

# **Leaving Pakistan behind**



Ghazi Salahuddin

As we escalated on to the main concourse of the Istanbul Airport, we were greeted by the sound of people was dancing in a corner to a racy rhythm, surrounded by a crowd of appreciative transit passengers. It was apparently an impromptu performance. And that is how I felt to have been ushered into the outside world, leaving Pakistan behind.But leaving Pakistan behind would be a hard thing to do, particularly for someone who is professionally required owever, a somewhat exern California with great ters and their families, would be a valid excuse one of the busiest airports of the world and watching, literally, the world go by, I made this resolution to genuinely try to leave Pakistan behind for a brief period of time. I am in a foreign land and they do things differently here, I thought. Can I flow in this tide and not worry too much about what is happening in Pa-

Perhaps the time for this exercise is not at all appropriate because so much is happening across the entire spectrum of the country's existence. A transformative period it is likely to become, with a shift in the dynamics of the civil-military relationship. What is appearing on the horizon is a blur, very much like the Rorschach test in psychiatry. How can I turn away from these momentous developments? On the other hand, a

momentary escape from these highly charged involvements may be therapeutic in some ways, an attempt to protect one's sanity. In any case, this column is not about the evolving political situa-

sible to not learn about the main headlines, I have not engaged in any political discourse during this entire week

In fact, I have not had even a glimmer of a Pakistani news channel, which is not what it used to be during our previous visits. We would part with Geo, so to say, only for the duration of the long flights. It also helps that I am not at all on any social media platform and do not make any political comment on WhatsApp. There is always the chance of running into expatriates who insist on talking politics. This, too, has not happened yet.

Yes, during conversations with relatives and friends, there have been references to the general situation that amounts to a loss of hope in the fu-

other pursuits. On that count, there is a touch of magical real-

So, drinking Turkish tion in Pakistan. Though that has divided so many coffee at a restaurant in it is obviously not pos- of our middle-class families, where ambitious young people have fallen in love with long distances, being together is a gift of heaven. For old parents and grandparents, every reunion is to be embraced as if it were the last. (As the poet said: "Our sweetest songs are

those that tell of saddest

thought") The secret, though, is the ability to live in the moment. This approach is specifically prescribed in the present times of inflation, social discord and political uncertainty. This 'pursuit of happiness' is seen to be more in evidence in the United States and where I am now is supposed to be a charmed place. What lovely weather it almost

always has. I know that this thought negates the ravture of our country. Since ages of climate change and an important measure of me conclude with a bit of I have been a proclaimed natural disasters in so a country's intellectual statistical evidence repessimist for a long time, I just need to nod in agreement. This also means many countries of the stance, is visited this many countries of the world. Europe, for instance, is visited this tor is, in my view, a larger lion print books were sold that I seek to dabble in summer by an unusual torically high temperatures, punctuated with very thought of the over- we know how much only

ing fires in Hawaii. We should be grateful for what we have.

certain luxuries and freedoms. The rigours of living in Karachi tend to enhance the pleasures of things, to watch movies in a cinema and breathe the atmosphere in a large bookstore or a library. Reading a book in any of the coffee shops of a shopping mall while the women are hunting for bargains becomes an experience to remember.

After an initial setback, printed books have world's largest bookregained their dominance seller. It would be the in this digital age, despite same in many other debeing high-priced. This is veloped countries, but let threat to our survival than and book publishing revsurge in tourism and his- our economic and politi- enues rose to \$29.33 bilcal deprivations. The lion. Thanks to the IMF,

this week is of devastat- campuses causes strong feelings of pain and depression.

Because this is just There is so much a vacation for me and I am that I can celebrate dur- looked after so well, there ing this brief escape from are ample opportunities Pakistan, in addition to of living it up. There is being in the company of so much to enjoy and to my family and enjoying engage with. But what pleases me the most is to intrude into the cultural sphere, wherever possible. That I will remain this life. There is a lot of an outsider of sorts is time to, among other matter or some regret. This is not the world that I inhabit

Still, for this short interval, I can do many things that are denied to the citizens of a country like Pakistan. One of them is the simple pleasure of browsing through books in a large bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, the ism in the life we are leading as a family. In a world united States, the story that exists on our be. -- Courtesy TheNews

#### This is us



Not all heroes wear capes. goes the popular catchphrase. In Pakistan, they play the role of judge. jury and executioner. I am speaking about the men who should be villainised but are turned into heroes. That is one of the many tragedies to befall this

I was thinking of heroes and how they are (mis)treated while watching Sarmad Khoosat's Zindagi Tamasha, the much-maligned and banned film, which the might lead them to devifilmmaker ended up releasing on YouTube recently. The film is not about heroes, but Khoosat's courage in releasing a film in the face of adversity is pretty heroic. But it is also tragic because there was no other way for him to show people his beautiful film.

Truthfully, I watched the two-hour film wondering which scene/moment scene that supporters of the Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan protested over or was it that scene? We are the vulnerable from harm left wondering because the scope of blasphemy alle- or the legal system or the

gations is such that anycommunity — the intimithing can cause offence. dators win. They always Plus, the party warned that the film's screening

It is unjust to punish could lead to unrest in the country. The government treats its statements as code red and succumbs to The movie is about a real estate agent who is also a naat khwan; he is loved and recognised for his skill and talent. He lives in Lahore with his bedridden wife while his married daughter works as a producer on a morning ended when a video of her father performing a dance

praised the film. wrong in the country.

In his message announcing the release of his film on YouTube, Khoosat said that while he followed all the procedures for its release, his film was not treated fairly. In a way, this is true about us too: we are not given a chance to thrive because someone somewhere is robbing us of opportunities to expand our horizons and ourselves. People were denied a chance to watch this movie in the cinema as a collective, which is what Khoosat wanted. "It was meant to be felt by you, received by you," he said in the YouTube message. I would say that this movie is for us; it is about us, by which I mean it's not pan-

the country. It takes nerve to release this on YouTube, es-

Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry

The world's first nuclear bomb was dropped on Hiroshima on Aug 6, 1945, killing over 100,000 residents. The second bomb followed three days later, and killed nearly 80,000 in Nagasaki. The scale of destruction was so vast, so indiscriminate that no country — not even the US, which had dropped the two bombs — ever used nuclear weapons after the two events. Oppenheimer, the American scientist who oversaw the creation of the two bombs, came to regret his awful legacy. He, as indeed the whole world, realised that a nuclear war would mean global annihilation. Hence, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) was signed in 1968 as a binding commitment by all state parties to disarm

(nuclear weapons) in due

course, not share nuclear technologies in the military domain, and encourage peaceful uses of nuclear The NPT offered a grand bargain. Five countries, which by then had already developed nuclear weapons — the US, UK, France, the (former) Soviet Union and China — were recognised as nuclear weapon states. All other countries that joined the NPT agreed not to develop nuclear weapons on the assurance that the NWS would pursue disarmament (Article 6) and help in sharing nuclear technologies for civilian purposes (Article

In reality, no NWS has worked towards complete disarmament of its nuclear

Union did work towards reducing nuclear weapons through treaties such as SALT, START and the INF. But the gains were offset by the development of new and advanced, more potent and precise nuclear weap- normal' in South Asia by ons by the NWS. According to the 2023 yearbook launched by the Stockholm-Sipri, the number of operational nuclear weapons has now "started to rise" because of the NWS' modernisation and expansion plans. The total global inventory was estimated at 12,512 warheads, of which 3,844 were deployed with missiles and aircraft.

A major reason for the failure of NPT's grand bargain was the discriminatory nuclear regime it offered. The world was divided into nuclear haves and havenots. The frustrations over the lack of progress towards disarmament of nuclear weapons, 90 per cent of which are in the possession of the US and Russia, led many states to adopt the Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Ban Treaty) in 2017. All five recognised NWS have opposed this treaty citing security concerns. It appears that the

world is increasingly overlooking the possibility of a nuclear war. The Sipri report indicates that around 2,000 nuclear weapons are in a state of high operational alert; most belong to Russia or the US, The NWS have also hardened their rhetoric, issuing at times "explicit or implicit threats about potentially using nuclear weapons". There is, thus, a growing risk that nuclear weapons might one day be used again. President Vladimir Putin's decision to station tactical nuclear weapons in Belorussia is a case in point. He has also raised the alertness of Russian nuclear

confrontation are no less in

Oppenheimer's legacy Start Doctrine (the ability to launch cross-border offensive operations in the shortest possible time) had sought to dent Pakistan's nuclear deterrence. In 2019, India tried to create a 'new carrying out a 'surgical strike' against Pakistan. Last year, India's nuclearbased research institute capable supersonic cruise missile, BrahMos, was accidentally launched and fell close to a Pakistani town. On both occasions, a potential crisis was averted thanks to Pakistan's restraint. Another accidental BrahMos launch close to the border was reported in the beginning of this year. Indian leaders have also created ambiguity about their commitment to 'no first use' and are resorting to the dangerous mantra of 'massive retaliation'. To maintain its nuclear

deterrence, Pakistan has responded to these developments by announcing its full-spectrum deterrence (developing capabilities from tactical to operational to strategic levels). A former director general of the Strategic Plans Division recently spoke about the development of weapons in all ranges. It is time for India and

Pakistan to take steps to stop the escalation in hostility before it reaches the point of a possible nuclear confrontation, the impact of which would be unimaginable. It would be prudent for India not to weaken nuclear deterrence and strategic stability in South Asia in the larger interest of regional peace. Alongside, it would greatly help if communication channels remain operative. An even better option is to revive the bilateral dialogue aimed at addressing outstanding issues, particularly the Kashmir dispute, and resurrect the expert group which had worked for years on conventional and nuclear con-The risks of a nuclear fidence-building measures. -- Courtesy Dawn

and I mean each one —

TV show. Their life is up-

to a song for his friends is

uploaded on social media

(without his knowledge or

consent) and goes viral.

Once widely respected, he

is now shunned by the

neighbourhood and wider

ten on how sad it was that

this award-winning movie,

which was also Pakistan's

selection for the Oscars in

2021, could not be

screened in its own coun-

try. Those who opposed

its release said in a state-

that

characterisation of the

naat reader in the film is

such that it can cause dis-

comfort to the public and

discomfort because it

holds a mirror to society.

And it is not a pretty

sight. How can anything

be rosy when a law has

been so weaponised in the

name of security that it is

now easy to use to silence

dation, portrayed so well

in the movie, is familiar to

anyone who's been up

tution. And because the

country doesn't have sys-

tems in place to protect

whether it is the police

This kind of intimi-

ate from Islam"

dissent?

A lot has been writ-

community.

ment

its demands.



for this diversion.

country.

Mumtaz Qadri was given the death penalty for taking the law into his own hands and assassinating Salmaan Taseer because he thought Punjab's governor had committed blasphemy. But the 100,000 who attended his funeral in 2016 saw him as a hero. As do the many visitors who come to pay their respects to his grave near Islamabad even today.

artists who want to produce work that goes beyond just 'mirch masala' entertainment. Cinema is a reflection of its society. Messages in movies can be inspiring and they can influence people on positions. The important thing is to let audiences choose what they want to watch - in cinema, on news channels, on television. In this case, at least 460,000 people had watched it on YouTube and most of the near 1,300 comments

Zindagi Tamasha is a movie to watch not just for its storytelling and performances but for providing an opportunity to reflect on who we are as a people — and I don't mean to come off as a grouchy, grim analyst on TV bemoaning all things

The film does cause express dering to audiences outside

> pecially since he will incur losses. That kind of courage makes Khoosat a hero among us. -- Cour-

#### CM Punjab felicitate nation | on Independence Day

**Independent Report** LAHORE: Caretaker Chief the countless Muslims asserted that the shared Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi has extended heartfelt congratulations to the nation on the occasion of the 76th Independence

Day.

In his message, released on Sunday, he expressed his warm felicitations to all fellow countrymen on the significant day. He acknowledged the immense blessing of freedom and expressed gratitude to Allah Almighty for enabling the countrymen to breathe in the world as a sovereign nation.

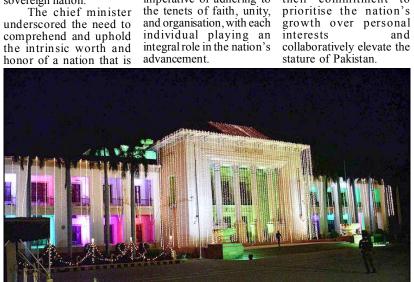
free. He payed tribute to who dedicated their lives responsibility to kindle the flame of bequeathing a harmonious, liberation, as well as the robust, and flourishing venerable forebears of our liberated land.

those who laid down their lives during the Pakistan Movement, he emphasised sacrifice in pursuit of a peaceful nation

from the past experiences to chart a promising path forward. He stressed the imperative of adhering to

forthcoming generations. Paying homage to the He underscored the pivotal unparalleled valour of role of exemplary unity and solidarity in confronting the challenges that lie ahead. Confidently, he the significance of their envisioned a radiant future Pakistan

emphasised that, through The CM called for the benevolence of Allah introspection and learning Almighty, the Pakistani nation would triumph over every obstacle. He called upon all citizens to renew their commitment to interests



LAHORE: Punjab Assembly building is decorated with the lights in celebration of Independence Day

#### **CPWB** launches social media campaign against child employers

LAHORE (INP): Child child rights across the Protection and Welfare province. She said that Bureau (CPWB) Chairperson Sarah Ahmad has announced launching a social media campaign against child employers, under the title of 'Social Boycott of Child Employers'.

In a talk with APP on Sunday, she emphasised the need to take a firm stand against those who employ children as departments for their domestic help, saying that cooperation in the the objective of the endeavour. campaign was to liberate children from domestic Sultana, National Project labour and ensure a reduction in child exploitation among domestic helpers.

CPWB The chairperson said that so for 25 child protection units had been established in various districts of the Punjab province. She said the CPWB was committed scope of its services to all districts, and ensuring childhood, their health and effective protection of education, she said.

construction of the newly inaugurated building at Kasur had been started in November 2021 at Kutchehry Road, while the child protection office had been operating in Kasur since 2019. She expressed her gratitude to the Puniab chief secretary, additional chief secretary (ACS) Home and the line

Ms Munawai Coordinator, Asia Regional Child Labour (ARCL) project, recently said that around 160 million children aged 5 to 17 years were engaged in child labour in 2020, with 79 million children involved in hazardous work. About 3.3 million of Pakistani children are trapped in to further extending the child labour, who are deprived of their

#### LG Dept. takes action against illegal constructions

crackdown has been initiated against illegal unauthorized, encroachments on the orders of Minister for Information and Local Government Amir Mir.

More than 51 underconstruction commercial and residential buildings have been sealed for being against the approved maps. Even structures built without approved maps are under scrutiny for potential demolition.

Secretary Local Government Dr Arshad Ahmad told media here carried out without any Sunday that following

and Local Governments Amir Mir's directives, action had been launched against building inspectors involved in facilitating illegal constructions. FIRs have been filed against engaged in unauthorized construction activities. He added that basements' excavation beneath shops on McLeod Road in Data Ganj Bakhsh

Zone had been stopped. This measure was taken to avert the risk of collapsing adjoining buildings. unauthorized work was



KARACHI: Insaf Lawyer Forumleader, Iqbal along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Karachi press club.

#### PHA hosts art contest to celebrate I-Day

LAHORE (APP): The The participants Parks and Horticulture created paintings featuring Authority (PHA) of Lahore organised a painting competition on the eve of Independence Day at Jilani Park on Sunday, where more than 70 students from different colleges and universities participated.

Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal, Minar-e-Pakistan, Shahi Qila, and the historical heritage of Pakistan as a tribute to Pakistan's independence.

#### **Governor KP** visits Jahanzeb's house, expresses condolence

PESHAWAR Governor Pakhtunkhwa, Ghulam Ali on Sunday visited the residence of the slain Danyal Zeb, who was tragically murdered the other day, and expressed his condolences to his father Jahanzib and grandfather journalist Hazrat Khan Mohmand.

The Governor said this heartbreaking and regrettable incident has deeply saddened him and the area.

Ghulam Ali emphasized that such incidents could not be tolerated and affirmed that strict action would be taken against those responsible and no leniency would be shown to those involved in such incidents. Those who committed the crime will face the consequences of their actions, he said.

Highlighting the importance of maintaining peace and security in the province, the Governor reiterated that the province was already faced with security challenges and such incidents that further disrupt the peace could not be tolerated.

He said that the local police were actively investigating the incident and were determined to apprehend the culprits.

The occurrence of such an incident within the city is a challenge for our law enforcement agencies, the Governor added.

#### Flooding in **Nullah Dek** after water discharge from India

PASRUR (INP): A flood flow of 20,000 cusecs passing through Nullah Dek on Sunday after floodwater released from

In Pasrur, Nullah Dek ferociously flowing with floodwater of 20,000 cusecs at Kangara and Chahor points, provincial rrigation department said.

'The water level consistently increasing in Nullah Dek at Kangara, irrigation department further said.Irrigation officials have apprehended that the floodwater could submerge Chahor, Dogri, Ropowali, Tamboh Ghalib and Kalowali Syedan areas.

Local administration has issued alert as rescue and relief teams have reached to the areas under flooding threat.India had also released water in Nullah Dek in July, which had flooded several villages in Pasrur tehsil of Sialkot district. The flood water from the neighbouring country caused high level flood in Nullah Dek inundating several villages and submerged standing crops on hundreds of acres.



Media workers, Artists and Technical resources during the launching ceremony of the MobileApp Radio Pakistan Awaz Khazana.

#### 'We are going to make record of raising Pak flag'; says Governor

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Governor Mohammed Kamran Khan Tessori Sunday said that we were going to make a record of raising the Pakistani flag He said that millions

of Pakistani flags would be distributed among the participants of the rally. Talking to media

persons during his visit to Mazar-e-Quaid to review arrangements Independence Day programmes and rallies, he said that the Mayor of Karachi should come out and see that there was no He asked why the tomorrow.

flags of Pakistan could not be hung on poles instead flags of political parties were waving. "On August 14, the

Indian record of reciting the national anthem will be

Independence Day is important for all of us." He said that the projects of public welfare would continue.

He urged to forget all grudges and come from Shahrah Faisal to Mazare-Quaid on independence

He said, "The biggest flag of Pakistan anywhere. draw is going to be held

#### **Punjab IGP orders foolproof** security, traffic arrangements across province

LAHORE (INP): Punjab Inspector General of Police (IGP) Dr Usman Anwar has directed to ensure foolproof security and arrangements throughout the province on the 76th Independence Day on Sunday.

"Additional

personnel should be deployed to provide security to large public gatherings, rallies and other events," he said.
"All operational units

Terrorism Counter Department (CTD). Special Protection Unit (SPU), and executive police should adopt a joint security plan Independence for Day celebrations," he added.

"The regional and district police officers should go out in the field themselves and review the

security arrangements," he directed."Ensure the use of cameras, walkthrough gates and metal detectors for monitoring and checking of the people," he added.
"Coordinated

arrangements should be made for the safety and security of women and children in parks, highways and public places on Independence Day," he empĥasised. "Those who quarrel

including Special Branch, with families, especially women, in public places will be dealt with sternly, he warned. The IGP also ordered

to form special teams for action against those involved in one-wheeling, aerial firing, rioting and immoral acts."Those who display arms in public and perform aerial firing will be arrested and punished.

LAHORE: Students busy in panting competition in connection with

cabinet are likely to be

cabinet of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) had

taken oath back in January.

Ghulam Ali administered

the oath to the cabinet

members in a ceremony

held at Governor House in

Peshawar. The KP governor had announced

the caretaker cabinet

members' names, including

former senators and other

prominent names. The

cabinet members included

former MNA Abdul

Haleem Qasoriya, former

MNA Hamid Shah, former

inspector general of police

Syed Masood Shah, former

Senator Zafran, and former

Senator Taj Mohammad

Afridi. Moreover, Advocate

Sawal Nazir, Bakht Nawaz,

Fazal Elahi, Adnan Jalil, Shafiullah, Shahid Khan,

Malik Khushdil Khan,

Mohammed Ali Shah

Justice ® Irshad Qaiser, and

Manzoor Khan Afridi were

also part of the caretaker

KP Governor Haji

Earlier this year, members of the caretaker

finalized next week.

Independence Day, at Lahore museum in Provincial Capital.

Search underway for 'non

political' people to fill

KP caretaker cabinet

(INP):

PESHAWAR

going on.

Contacts are underway

with various personalities

for their possible inclusion

as caretaker ministers in

the caretaker cabinet of

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The clearance process of

these personalities is also

completely non-political

people is underway to fill the for Khyber

communication among

important figures of the

province is going on to

form the new interim

cabinet. After the consent

from these personalities for

joining the caretaker

cabinet, the provincial

institutions have started

the process of their

assistants will not be part

of the caretaker cabinet.

As per the 18th

Constitutional Amendment,

there will be only 15

ministers in the caretaker

cabinet. Reportedly, the

names of the new caretaker

Advisers and special

security clearance.

for

Pakhtunkhwa cabinet.

search

Continuous

#### **Husband kills** his American wife

factory area of Lahore.

The police further said that the accused Kazim Khan tortured and killed the deceased Diana Cristo Khan, the accused had killed his wife and reached the graveyard alone to bury the body, that Gurkin (Grave digger) reported to the police.

According to the police, the accused Kazim

#### Man arrested for sexually harassing girl

LAHORE (INP): The Punjab police have arrested a man for harassing a girl in

Lohari Gate went viral on arrest of the man.

within an hour after the video of harassing a girl platforms. The police said the man arrested was habitual of harassing passerby females in the

Separately, on July 3. a man in Karachi's Gulistan-e-Juahar tried to sexually assault the woman by removing his shorts on the road.

Three die

in separate

incidents

in DI Khan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN

(APP): Three persons died

in separate incidents in

Dera Ismail Khan, the police and Rescue 1122

officials said here on

said that a 35-year-old man

named Rizwan Yaqubzai

son of Sahib Jan resident

of Maddi area filed a report

with Kulachi Police Station

that he along with his 29-

year-old brother Zafran

was coming home after

grazing goats.
His brother was

sitting behind him on a

bullock cart loaded with

firewood when unknown

person fired at his brother

as they reached Gandi Suf

Hidayat Ullah area. As a

result, Zafran died on the

spot and the assailant fled

from the scene. The police

registered a case against

unknown accused and

one Mulazim Hussain

resident of Malekhi area of

Paroa tehsil was buried

under the debris as the

In another incident.

started investigations.

A police spokesman

Sunday.

LAHORE (Online)
Gurkin (Grave Digger) LAHORE reported that the accused had killed his wife and reached the graveyard alone

to bury the body.

In Lahore, the husband killed an American woman. According to the police, the murder of an American woman by her husband took place in the

Khan was arrested from the cemetery while burying his wife's body and the murder weapon was also recovered from the accused.

According to police, a

video of a man harassing a girl in Lahore's area of social media. The SSP city took notice of the matter and ordered the immediate The arrest was made

76<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of the Islamic Republic of went viral on social Pakistan.

> Muslims of subcontinent. He said development

#### Cadet College Hasan Abdal a safe institution of high traditions: Governor Punjab

traditions.

He expressed these views while presiding over the 101st Board of Governors meeting of Cadet College Hasan Abdal. According to the management of the Cadet College, the members of the Board of Governors who attended the meeting included Chairman POF Lt. Gen. Ali Amir Rawan, Principal Cadet College Hasan Abdal Brigadier Nasir Saeed Khattak, Muhammad Saeed

Mehdi, Mahfoozur issuesi Rehman, Brigadier Dr. were Muhammad Khaliq Al consideration.

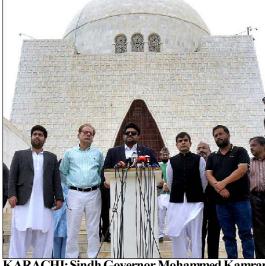
Independent Report
HASSAN ABDAL:
Governor Punjab Engineer
Muhammad Balighur
Rehman said on Sunday
that the Cadet College
Hasan Abdal was a safe
institution of high
traditions

Rasheed Kayani,
Mossadegh. Zulqarnain,
Lt. Gen. Najibullah Khan,
Prof. Dr. Zafar Ali
Chaudhry, Syed Deem
Hussain Rizvi, Lt. Gen.
Nouman Zakaria,
Amdadullah Bosal,
Traditions

Dr. Chaudhry Faisal Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor Fatima Jinnah Women University Dr. Saima Hamid, Education Specialist Asia Khurram Agha, Dean Dr. Saima Šiddigui,

Commissioner Rawal Pindi Liaquat Ali Secretary Government of Punjab and Secretary Education Punjab.

The annual budget was approved in the nmad Saeed meeting and important
Mahfoozur issues related to the College taken



Khan Tessori talking to media persons after inspecting the preparations for Independence Day programs and the rally at Mazar-e-Quaid.

#### **KP CS felicitates** fellow countrymen on 76<sup>th</sup> Independence Day

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief all the people living in this Secretary Khyber country.
Pakhtunkhwa Nadeem The Chief Secretary Chaudhry Aslam felicitated the entire nation, especially the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on the auspicious occasion of

Terming freedom as a prosperity of our beloved great blessing of Allah country above everything Almighty, he said that Q u a i d - e - A z a m give any sacrifice for it," he Muhammad Ali Jinnah and our forefathers made huge sacrifices for the creation of an independent state. He further said that Pakistan was achieved as a result of external threats and long freedom struggle of the rendered

and the individual and collective responsibility of families.

said celebration of Independence Day with great zeal and zest across the country reflects the fact that the green national flag will always fly high. "We should keep security, stability and

added. He said people of

Pakistan and law enforcement agencies bravely faced internal and numerous sacrifices. He paid rich that tribute to all the martyrs, prayed for their exalted prosperity of Pakistan is ranks and expressed solidarity with their

#### 7 dead, 1,335 injured in Punjab road accidents

seven persons were killed and 1,335 others injured in 1,309 road traffic crashes in Punjab during the last 24

As many as 673 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 662 with minor injuries were treated at the incident site by the rescue medical

The data analysis showed that 693 drivers, 45 underage drivers, 178 auto-rickshaws.

passengers were among the victims of road traffic crashes. The statistics show that 315 accidents were reported in Lahore, which affected 305 persons, placing the provincial capital at top of the list, followed by 84 in Faisalabad with 71 victims and at third Multan with 78 accidents and 81

According to the data, 1,145 motorbikes, 92



victims.

LAHORE: Visitors seeing the model of Bab-e-Pakistan Monument, the first stay of refugees in

#### **Ombudsman orders** Rs. 35mln relief to complainants

action on complaints directions received at the regional ombudsman. offices, the office of the Punjab Ombudsman also provided relief to comp complainants to the tune of Rs. 35.23 million through different provincial departments

APP on Sunday that stuckup scholarships amounting to Rs. 672,000 were also wall of his house collapsed

LAHORE (APP): Taking paid to students on the

Moreover, relief was provided complainants, including Rs. 1.96 million under the head of family pensions, Rs. 8.553 million for repair and maintenance of a Official source told building, Rs. 1.773 for payment of outstanding rents, Rs. 670,000 as death grants

#### Alvi urges nation to remain steadfast, work hard for country's uplift

ISLAMABAD (APP): opportunities for growth. President Dr Arif Alvi has "It is a time to renew urged the entire Pakistani nation to remain steadfast and work wholeheartedly for the development of the

country.

"There is a need to unite to cope with the social, political, economic and security challenges facing the nation today. So, let's resolve that we will not hesitate to offer any sacrifice for the security, prosperity and development of the moral and ethical values, as a democratic and political country," the president said in a message on the occasion of the 76th Independence Day anniversary.

The president congratulated all compatriots on Pakistan's 76th Independence Day anniversary, adding that on this day, they paid tribute to the sacrifices rendered by their founding fathers and workers of the Pakistan Movement

This day also gave the opportunity for introspection, he said, stressing that they should reflect on the nation's progress so far, teachings of Islam, he prevailing challenges, and

"It is a time to renew our commitment to building a stronger and more prosperous Pakistan as envisioned by the Father of the Nation. I urge my fellow countrymen to work for the welfare and uplift of deprived sections of our society. Let's pledge to uphold the principles of democracy, freedom, equality, tolerance, forgiveness, socio-economic justice and enunciated by Islam," a press release quoted the

president as saying. He said 76 years ago, on this day, Pakistan gained independence after the historic struggle of the Muslims of the sub-continent under the dynamic leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

The Muslims of India themselves where they could freely order their individual and collective lives

"The stories of those people, who faced hardships, endured oppression and braved immense challenges to reach Pakistan serve as a source of inspiration for our future generations. We should value the sacrifices of our forefathers for the creation of Pakistan and work for the prosperity of our people," the president observed.

He said the day marked the culmination of struggle in their quest for freedom from colonial rule

On this important day, the president said, let's also remember their oppressed brothers and sisters in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmin (IIOJK), facing Indian atrocities for decades.

India's illegal actions, including ending Jammu wanted a homeland for and Kashmir's special legal status in 2019, had further deteriorated the human rights situation in the valin accordance with the ley in the form of extra-judicial killings, torture, and illegal detentions.



ISLAMABAD: Traffic police wardens busy in issuing challan ticket to motorcyclists for violating traffic rules, in Federal Capital.

#### I'abad police chalk out elaborate security, traffic arrangements on Independence Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): dependence Day and extra them their CNIC or other Islamabad police have contingents of Rangers, identification documents. chalked out a comprehendence day (August 14) and decided to deploy security personnel at important inas nublic places too.

A source said that Police, with the help of Pirwadhi Square at GT sniffer dogs and security equipment, will comb the green areas of Daman-e-Koh, Pir Sohawa and Margalla hills.

Islamabad police and intelligence personnel will search Islamabad's sensitive areas in plain clothes.

It has been also planned to erect police pickets on almost all the city's major roads. The city has been divided into various security zones for In- been appealed to keep with

On the occasion of cel-

ebrating 76 national inde-

pendence various special

ligious, social, showbiz,

and sports personalities

gave special messages to

nation and congratulated

completion of 76 years of

Ruet-e-Hilal Committee

Muneebur Rehman has

congratulated the nation

on the 76th Indepen-

dence Day and said that

independent country is a

great blessing of Allah,

our elders got this coun-

try after many sacrifices.

said

Famous names of re-

ous walks of life.

independence

Frontier Constabulary, and

lance. There are over dozen points from Faizabad to Road for entering Islamabad and we've covered all these points by deploying extra police force there," a police source said.

He said that the city's ties. forested areas will be scanned with sophisticated security equipment while security personnel on

horses will patrol the city. Islamabad residents

by which we are recog-

nized in the world. Heri-

tage has to be adopted, if

are, because the heart is

Humayun Saeed said that

Pakistan belongs to us

and this is the country of

gether with our hearts

that we will become the

Siddiqui said that Paki-

stan is our identity in this

Mushtaq Ahmed said

that Allah Almighty gave

us this country on the

basis of Kalima Tayyaba,

we are thankful to Allah

Almighty. I go and put

Former test cricketer

Actor

Well-known actor

76 Independence

day dignitaries

special messages

ISLAMABAD (Online): Pakistan is such a land

personalities from vari- Pakistan is there then we

the nation over the all of us, let us pledge to-

Mufti

leader

Former Chairman of identity of this country.

Pakistan.

Islamabad Capital Po-

sive security and traffic plan Islamabad Police will be lice (Traffic Division) has on the occasion of independeployed there along with also made a specialized trafvigilance at various entry fic plan to ensure smooth and exit points of the city. traffic and safety precau-"We're fully geared up tions across the city.

deployment of a substantial workforce, comprising 550 officers and personnel.

A Superintendent of Police (SP), four Deputy Superintendents of Police (DSPs), and 22 inspectors have also been assigned du-

To maintain order and security on the roads during the celebrations on August 13 and 14, special squads have been formed.

These squads will be and those coming to the stationed at key locations city from other areas have throughout the city and equipped with roadblocks.

#### Munza parts ways from PTI

ISLAMABAD (Online): 1 contempt May 09 incidents of damaging the Military and Government constitutions, PTI leader Munza Hassan.

In one of her statements she said that I contempt the incidents of May 09 incident of damaging the Military and Government constitu-

Manza Hassan said that everything happened was wrong and it should not be happened, we should respect all our institutions.

She also said that as patriotic Pakistani I also proud of my army, anything which harms our country and institutes is contemptible.

She also said that as Pakistani progress of country is our duty,I am separating myself from Pakistan Tereekh e Insaf.



ISLAMABAD: People are enjoying during celebration Independence Day, in



GILGIT: Chinese delegation paying tribute to their relatives who loss their lives during the construction of Karakoram Highway (1959-77) during their visit to Chinese Graveyard Daniyor.

#### Chairman Senate congratulated the nation on Independence Day

ISLAMABAD (Online): I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to all Pakistanis at home and abroad on the auspicious occasion of "Independence Day" of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Chairman senate Sadiq Sanjrani said.

Today, the entire nation is celebrating Independence Day with renewed enthusiasm and fervor, he added. Today, he said, we are celebrating the birthday of Pakistan and I pray that Pakistan continues to flourish in the same way and our future generations also see Pakistan flourishing in the

Chairman upper house said Pakistan came into existence due to the tireless struggle and eternal sac-

ISLAMABAD (INP):

Chairman Nazaria-i-Paki-

stan Council (NPC), Mian

Mohammad Javed empha-

sized promoting the ideol-

ogy of Pakistan in real

spirit urging the nation to follow the guiding prin-

ciples of Quaid-i-Azam

nection with the Indepen-

dence Day being marked on

August 14, he said: "I be-

long to the generation who

has witnessed the creation

of Pakistan, enthusiasm

and countless sacrifices of

lives, property and honour

In an interview in con-

Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

subcontinent. Millions of Muslims sacrificed for the better and free future of their children. Today we are on the path of development and prosperity in a peaceful, dignified country because of their sacrifices.

The sacrifices of our ancestors are owed to us and to our future genera-Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah? had dreamed of a modern democratic state in Pakistan. We face numerous challenges in realizing this dream, he further he said Paki-

stan has made the greatest sacrifices in the establishment of world peace and the war against terrorism. The endless sacrifices of our armed forces, law enforcerifices of the Muslims of the ment agencies are unparal-

for the sake of the country.

generations.

**Promoting Pakistan's** 

ideology in real spirit

need of hour: Javed

leled. The sacrifices and services of the armed forces, civil and armed forces and other related organizations against terrorism are commendable. We should believe that

our Independence Day will bring us the promise of political, economic and social stability in the coming days. By the grace of Al lah, the country will be on the path of economic development which will set new heights of development and prosperity. The fruits will be available to the whole nation, he added.

He said our religion Islam teaches love, tolerance and kindness. To protect the blessings of freedom, we have to promote the spirit of mutual cooperation and goodwill.

#### U.S. Envoy **felicitates** on 'I-Day'

Women and children were even part of this struggle who fearlessly used to raise the slogans "Ley Key Rahain Gey Pakistan" and "Ban Key Rahey Ga Paki-Mian Mohammad Javed said, "Independence Day is a perfect time to acknowledge the numerous sacrifices rendered by our forefathers who gifted this homeland, it is our utmost responsibility to make this country strong, invincible two countries.

# people of Pak ISLAMABAD (APP): U.S

Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome on Sunday congratulated the people of Pakistan on its 76th Independence Day. In his statement, issued by the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, the Ambassador said that the past year has been a testament to the strength of our relationship. He said "We worked together on health, energy and climate to support the Pakistani people's recovery from last year's floods. Looking forward, the U.S.-Pakistan Green Alliance is a transformative initiative between our



ISLAMABAD: Participants posing for a group photograph before Golf match title" Mango Fest Diplomat Golf Cup" at Bahria Golf city in Federal Capital.

#### Pop diva Nazia Hassan being remembered on 23rd death anniversary

ISLAMABAD (INP): August 13 marks the death anniversary of Nazia Hassan, one of the most iconic figures in the history of Pakistan pop music who passed away 23 years ago today at the tender age of 35 following a prolonged battle with lung cancer.

Born on April 3, 1965, "Queen of Pop", as she was called, started her career at the age of 10 as a child artist. She rose to prominence through the popular Pakistan Television programme Sung Sung.

Hassan made her singing debut with the song ish musical charts.

Aap Jaisa Koi from a 1980 Indian film, Qurbani. Her debut album, Disco Deewane, released in 1981, charted in 14 countries worldwide, and became the best-selling Asian pop record at the time.

She enjoyed widespread popularity across South and Southeast Asia. Along with her brother Zoheb Hassan, Hassan went on to sell over 65 million records worldwide.

Her English language single Dreamer Deewane made her the first Pakistani singer to make it to the Brit-

#### **PNCA** plans culture show, exhibition to mark I-Day

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pa- Fazal Jutt, Wahid Bakhsh the Arts (PNCA) to mark Independence Day with tradition zeal and fervor, has planned a series of cultural activities on August 14. According to Director General PNCA Muhammad Ayub Jamali, renowned artists from all four provinces including Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu Kashmir would perform in the grand culture show to be held at PNCA auditorium at 7:00

p.m on the day.

The artists including

kistan National Council of Faqir, Sajid Ali, Liaqat Ali Baloch, Malangan Group, Zafar Ali and team, Bano Rehmat, Mubashara Hafeez Mesh Baloch, Sunila Baig and Rizwana Khan would present National songs in the grand show. National Performing Arts Group, PNCA will also present folk and regional dances in the show.

Meanwhile, PNCA in collaboration ForArtSake would present a painting exhibition by Ali Azmat curated by Amna Pataudi.

#### AIOU to close MPhil, PhD admissions on August 15

ISLAMABAD (APP): Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU)'s admissions for autumn semester 2023 face-to-face programs including BS, M.Sc (Hons), MBA, MPhil, MS and PhD programs will close on August 15, while Admissions for matric, FA and I.Com will continue till September

According to AIOU, the admission forms and prospectus of all programs are available on the univer-(www.aiou.edu.pk).

New students who

wish to apply to face-toface programs can apply online till 15th August or the university website h t t p s online.aiou.edu.pk) while those already enrolled in

these programs (current students) will be able to enroll till 22nd August. The entrance test/interviews for admission to MPhil, MS, and PhD pro-

August 17 to 23. Merit Lists of successful candidates will be uploaded on the university website within two

grams will be held from

The admissions for the second phase of semester autumn 2023 will start on September 1.

Programs offered in this phase will include teacher training programs, BA (associate degree), and BS (ODL) pro-

#### Dasu HPP completed & **Traffic Diversion Tunnel** open to traffic at KKH

main abutment under the at the DHPP. Dasu Hydropower Project (DHPP) by WAPDA.
This tunnel has been

strategically created at the existing Karakoram Highway (KKH) to facilitate the uninterrupted flow of general traffic. This initiative aims to ensure the smooth movement of vehicles while the

construction work on the main abutment is underway, according to a report carried by Gwadar Pro on Sunday. The tunnel was inaugurated by Anwar ul Haq GM/PM DHPP, WAPDA

Kohistan along with Fidencio Mendez Project Manager Dasu Hydropower Consultant (DHC). Senior Management and members were present on the occasion from

WAPDA, DHC and China Gezhouba Group of Companies (CGGC). The traffic diversion

tunnel situated near the Logoro area on the existing KKH will not only main-

ISLAMABAD (INP): A tain the flow of traffic but traffic diversion tunnel has also accelerate the progress been as part of the ongoing of construction on the left-construction work for the side abutment of the dam side abutment of the dam

"After the completion of LBDT, this tunnel will be used as a flushing tunnel to flush the deposited silt from the reservoir of the Main Dam," reads an official statement.

China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC) has been working on DHPP as the Main Works Contractor of DHPP. China Civil **Engineering Construction** Corporation (CCECC), Power Construction Corporation of China Ltd (PCCC), Zhongmei Engineering Group Ltd, and CGICOP are also involved

in the project.

DHPP is being constructed across River Indus. upstream of Dasu town in Upper Kohistan, KP. The 4320 MW DHPP is planned to be completed in two stages.

The under-construction Stage-I is with an installed generation capacity of 2160 MW and the stage-II will be of 2160 MW capacity



ISLAMABAD: Youngsters busy in selecting and purchasing National flag and related stuff from vendor in connection with Pakistan Independence Day celebrations.

#### 'Pakistan will never abandon Kashmiris under any conditions'

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pa- It said Pakistan will raise kistan stands shoulder to Kashmiris in their freedom struggle and will never abandon the Kashmiris under any conditions.

According to a report released by Kashmir Media Service on Sunday, Kashmir is an unfinished agenda of the partition of the lingering dispute in ac-Azam Muhammad Ali resolutions. Jinnah rightly said Kashmir

digenous freedom struggle is part of Pakistan movement and Pakistan is com-Kashmiris' struggle till free-

Kashmir dispute at every international forum and will inform the world community about the Indian atrocities in the occupied territory. The international community, it said, must

recognize its collective responsibility towards the Kashmiris and help resolve sub-continent and the Fa- cordance with the United Nations Security Council The report

is a jugular vein of Pakistan. strong, stable & economi-It said Kashmiris' in- cally powerful Pakistan is must for IIOJK's freedom from Indian yoke, adding the hearts of Pakistanis and mitted to support the Kashmiris throb in unison and Kashmir is destined to dom from Indian bondage. become a part of Pakistan.

#### Archbishop calls for unity on Independence Day

of Pakistan, Archbishop Dr. Joseph Arshad, Bishop of Islamabad-Rawalpindi Diocese, on Sunday called on the nation to unite and work together for the prosperity and development of the country.

According to the media reports, he said that Independence Day is a day to remember the sacrifices of our ancestors who fought for freedom, and to renew our commitment to building a better future for Pakistan.

Dr. Arshad also highlighted the role of the Chrisdom movement and in the prosperity.

ISLAMABAD (INP): On the 76th Independence Day He said that the Christian community has served the nation in all sectors, especially in health, education, and social services.

He urged the nation to work together to overcome the challenges facing Pakistan and to build a prosperous and peaceful country

In his message, Dr. Arshad said, "On this Independence Day, let us all rededicate ourselves to the service of our country and to the cause of peace and harmony. Let us work together to build a Pakistan where all citizens can live tian community in the free- to gether in dignity and

#### Kashmiris to observe **Indian Independence** Day as Black Day

of the Line of Control (LoC) and worldwide will observe India's Independence Day on August 15 as a "Black Day.' In Mirpur district, a

protest rally will be held from the city's District Courts grounds on Tuesday, August 15. Deputy Commissioner Mirpur Amjad Iqbal made this announcement. Mushaal Hussein

Mullick, Chairperson Peace and Culture organization and wife of noted Hurriyat Conference leader Yasin Malik, said that Kashmiris would dence Day as a black day to protest India's ongoing denial of Kashmiris' birthright to self-determination and to inform the outside world of worst Indian state terrorism actions and

ISLAMABAD (INP): policies. She said that ev-Kashmiris on both sides ery year Kashmiris globally mark this day as black day to protest Indian imperialism, that has been forcibly occupying most of the state illegally and brutally for the last 76

The day will be marked with anti-India marches and protest demonstrations in all towns and cities, big and small, on both sides of the LOC Protesters will wear black bands in their arms as a symbol of hostility towards India.

People from all walks of life will hold anti-India protests and mark the Indian Indepen- parades in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, including the capital city of Muzafferabad and all other nine district headquarters, to reaffirm their intense hatred towards Indian imperialism