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LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif launches the Mobile App "Radio Pakistan Awaz Khazana".

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 government saved Pakistan from default and the subsequent economic disaster waiting to happen, safeguarded national interests, restored the trust of friendly countries and provided relief to people after the devastating floods.



He said after the end 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): Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives has launched a 16-month 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).

A large number of de-

velopment projects and schemes of strategic significance were considered and approved during this period, said the report.

The report emphasized that special attention was given to the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) as the Planning Ministry increased the PSDP from Rs500 billion to Rs1150 billion for 2023-2024, overcoming financial limitations while ensuring transparency through the PSDP Portal, which provides digital access to 1.1 trillion worth of PSDP data.

While highlighting the performance of the CDWP, the reports said that CDWP-approved projects showed

the sensitization of priorities to carry out national development schemes. After the infrastructural projects, the major emphasis had been laid on the projects of human resources development. It further said since April 2022, the Planning Ministry has placed special emphasis on youth empowerment and inclusive development.

This section includes several strategic initiatives undertaken by the Ministry as part of the PM's Youth Development Programme. Under this programme, six initiatives are on education, four center around engagement and opportunities, and two each for employment and entrepreneurship.

Caretaker PM Kakar thanks political parties for welcoming his appointment

ISLAMABAD (INP): 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 ability.

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

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 the media in Kobey Chak.

Dollar hits Rs302 in open market

KARACHI (INP): The US dollar hit 302 against the rupee in the open market, going beyond the boundaries marked by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to keep the difference in open and interbank exchange rates in the range of 1 per cent to 1.5 per cent, says media reports.

"The US dollar rates kept fluctuating during the day and reached as high as Rs302," said Zafar Paracha, general secretary of the Exchange Companies Association of Pakistan.

On Friday, the dollar traded at Rs296 in the open market.

Shah's statement about caretaker PM 'fumes' PPP

ISLAMABAD (INP): Former federal minister Khurshid Shah's statement about the caretaker prime minister has "fumed" Pakistan People's Party (PPP), sources said on Sunday, citing sources.

Shah in his statement had said that they were unaware that Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar would be appointed as caretaker Prime Minister. PPP had finalized five names which included Saleem Abbas, Jalil Abbas, Muhammad Malik and Afzal Khan from KP, he added.

Shah had further said that it would have been better if someone among them was appointed as caretaker

PM. The senior leadership of the party has sought an 'explanation' from Khurshid Shah over his statement regarding Anwarul Haq Kakar.

The sources said Khurshid Shah's statement 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 Riaz in this context.



KABUL: Leaders of Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam (Nazriati) Maulana Abdul Qadir Luni, Syed Haji Abdul Sattar Shah Chisti, Haji Hayatullah Kakar and others meeting with Afghan Foreign Minister Maula Ameer Khan Mutaki.

ISPR says: Two terrorists killed amid swift response to attack on military convoy in Gwadar

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

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

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 said.

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 condemned the terrorists attack on 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 safety."

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

Anwar Kakar resigns from senate, BAP membership

ISLAMABAD (INP): Designated Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar resigned from his senate, Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) membership.

According to 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.

One soldier martyred amid eliminating four terrorists in Bajaur IBO

RAWALPINDI (APP): A soldier of the Pakistan Army embraced martyrdom during an intelligence-based operation (IBO) conducted on the night of August 12-13 in the general area Charamang, 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

years, resident of District Kohat), having fought gallantly embraced Shahadat during an intense exchange of fire.

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.

PPP urged nation to void hate, division: Bilawal

KARACHI (APP): Chairman 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 greetings to the nation on Independence Day, he expressed good wishes for all Pakistanis. He said that today is the day to pay homage to Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and his companions, who struggled for freedom under

his leadership and made sacrifices.

"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 establishment.

"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 equality," he continued.

PM felicitates Kakar on his appointment as Caretaker PM

LAHORE (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday congratulated Anwarul 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.

Chinese Embassy condemns terrorists' attack on Chinese Convoy in Gwadar

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

LAHORE (INP): Sardar Akhtar Mengal, the seasoned Baloch nationalist leader, isn't happy with the appointment of Anwarul 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 a political solution.

Mengal, the chief of his 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 notwithstanding the situation being faced in Balochistan, it was a surprise that they [Nawaz and others] had been unable to learn from what had they faced. A solution

to the current problems was being find in consultation with the establishment, instead of politicians, he remarked.

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.

Ashrafi terms national flag a symbol of unity, solidarity

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Ulema Council Chairman Hafiz Muhammad Tahir 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 Bait-ul-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-

honored the flag should face immediate legal action, including the confiscation of their identification cards and passports, as a measure against treason.

His passionate appeal comes as the nation prepares for the upcoming Independence Day celebration on August 14, which promises to be a grand spectacle of pride and enthusiasm.

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 Fajr prayer, seeking strength and stability for Pakistan.

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.



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

CM Punjab felicitate nation on Independence Day

Independent Report
LAHORE: Caretaker Chief 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.

The chief minister underscored the need to comprehend and uphold the intrinsic worth and honor of a nation that is

free. He paid tribute to the countless Muslims who dedicated their lives to kindle the flame of liberation, as well as the venerable forebears of our liberated land.

Paying homage to the unparalleled valour of those who laid down their lives during the Pakistan Movement, he emphasised the significance of their sacrifice in pursuit of a peaceful nation.

The CM called for introspection and learning from the past experiences to chart a promising path forward. He stressed the imperative of adhering to the tenets of faith, unity, and organisation, with each individual playing an integral role in the nation's advancement.

Mohsin Naqvi asserted that the shared responsibility of bequeathing a harmonious, robust, and flourishing Pakistan to the forthcoming generations. He underscored the pivotal role of exemplary unity and solidarity in confronting the challenges that lie ahead. Confidently, he envisioned a radiant future for Pakistan and emphasised that, through the benevolence of Allah Almighty, the Pakistani nation would triumph over every obstacle. He called upon all citizens to renew their commitment to prioritise the nation's growth over personal interests and collaboratively elevate the stature of Pakistan.



LAHORE: Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif in a group photo with Journalists, Media workers, Artists and Technical resources during the launching ceremony of the Mobile App 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 tomorrow.

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 for Independence Day programmes and rallies, he said that the Mayor of Karachi should come out and see that there was no flag of Pakistan anywhere. He asked why the

flags of Pakistan could not be hung on poles instead of being waved.

"On August 14, the Indian record of reciting the national anthem will be broken."

The Governor said, "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 Mazar-e-Quaid on independence day.

He said, "The biggest draw is going to be held tomorrow."

Husband kills his American wife

LAHORE (Online): Gurkin (Grave Digger) 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 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 Khan was arrested from the cemetery while burying his wife's body and the murder weapon was also recovered from the accused.

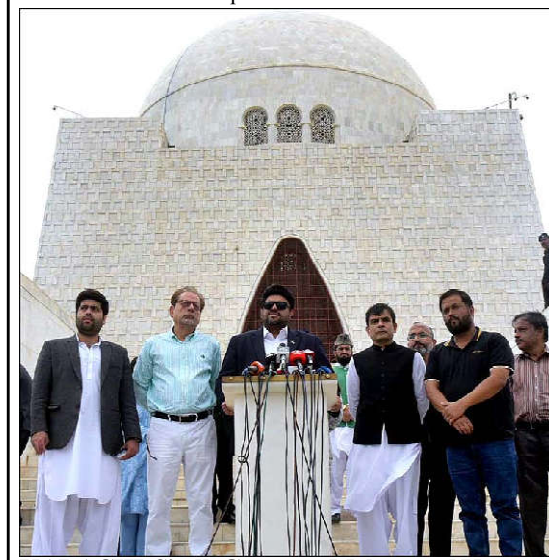
Cadet College Hasan Abdal a safe institution of high traditions: Governor Punjab

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.

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 Rehman, Brigadier Dr. Muhammad Khaliq Al

Rasheed Kayani, Mossadegh, Zulqarnain, Lt. Gen. Najibullah Khan, Prof. Dr. Zafar Ali Chaudhry, Syed Deem Hussain Rizvi, Lt. Gen. Nouman Zakaria, Amdadullah Bosal, Dr. Chaudhry Faisal Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor Fatima Jinnah Women University Dr. Saima Hamid, Education Specialist Asia Khuram Agha, Dean Dr. Saima Siddiqui, Commissioner Rawal Pindi Liaquat Ali Chhata, Secretary Finance Government of Punjab and Secretary School Education Punjab.

The annual budget was approved in the meeting and important issues related to the College were taken into consideration.



KARACHI: Sindh Governor Mohammed Kamran 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 76th Independence Day

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry felicitated the entire nation, especially the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on the auspicious occasion of 76th Independence Day of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Terming freedom as a great blessing of Allah Almighty, he said that Q u a i d - e - A z a m 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 long freedom struggle of the Muslims of subcontinent.

He said that development and prosperity of Pakistan is the individual and collective responsibility of

all the people living in this country.

The Chief Secretary 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 prosperity of our beloved country above everything and should not hesitate to give any sacrifice for it," he added.

He said people of Pakistan and law enforcement agencies bravely faced internal and external threats and rendered numerous sacrifices. He paid rich tribute to all the martyrs, prayed for their exalted ranks and expressed solidarity with their families.

7 dead, 1,335 injured in Punjab road accidents

LAHORE (APP): At least seven persons were killed and 1,335 others injured in 1,309 road traffic crashes in Punjab during the last 24 hours.

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 teams.

The data analysis showed that 693 drivers, 45 underage drivers, 178

pedestrians, and 471 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 victims.

According to the data, 1,145 motorbikes, 92 auto-rickshaws,



LAHORE: Visitors seeing the model of Bab-e-Pakistan Monument, the first stay of refugees in 1947.

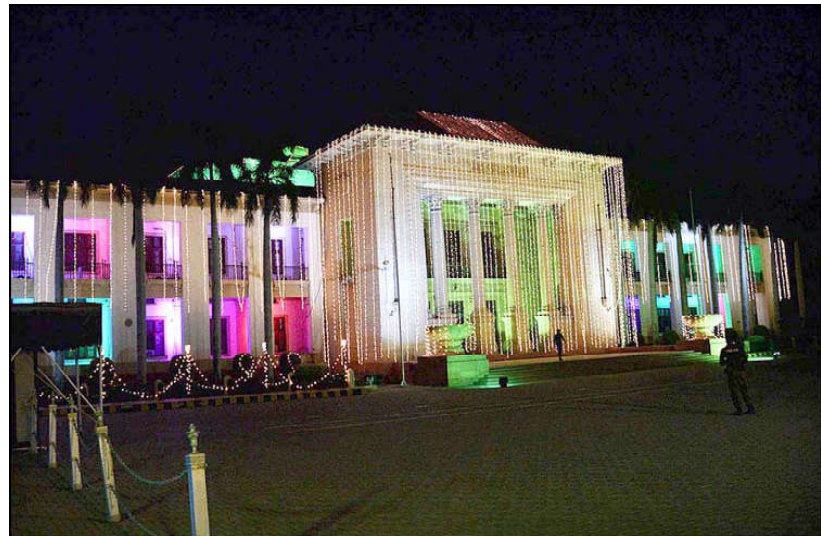
Ombudsman orders Rs. 35m relief to complainants

LAHORE (APP): Taking action on complaints received at the regional offices, the office of the Punjab Ombudsman provided relief to complainants to the tune of Rs. 35.23 million through different provincial departments.

Official source told APP on Sunday that set-up scholarships amounting to Rs. 672,000 were also

paid to students on the directions of the ombudsman.

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



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 Protection and Welfare 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 domestic help, saying that the objective of the campaign was to liberate children from domestic labour and ensure a reduction in child exploitation among domestic helpers.

The CPWB chairperson said that so far 25 child protection units had been established in various districts of the Punjab province. She said the CPWB was committed to further extending the scope of its services to all districts, and ensuring effective protection of

child rights across the province. She said that 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 Punjab chief secretary, additional chief secretary (ACS) Home and the line departments for their cooperation in the endeavour.

Ms. Munawar Sultana, National Project 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 child labour, who are deprived of their childhood, their health and education, she said.

LG Dept. takes action against illegal constructions

LAHORE (APP): A major crackdown has been initiated against illegal constructions and encroachments on the orders of Minister for Information and Local Government Amir Mir.

More than 51 under-construction 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 Sunday that following

Minister for Information and Local Governments Amir Mir's directives, action had been launched against building inspectors involved in facilitating illegal constructions. FIRs have been filed against those engaged in unauthorized construction activities. He added that basements' excavation beneath shops on McLeod Road in Data Ganj Bakhs Zone had been stopped. "This measure was taken to avert the risk of collapsing adjoining buildings. This unauthorized work was carried out without any approval."



KARACHI: Insaf Lawyer Forum leader, 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 Parks and Horticulture 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.

The participants created paintings featuring Q u a i d - i - A z a m 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 (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Haji 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 Jahanzeb and grandfather senior journalist Hazrat Khan Mohmand.

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

Governor Haji 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 India.

In Pasrur, Nullah Dek ferociously flowing with floodwater of 20,000 cusecs at Kangara and Chahor points, provincial irrigation 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, Tambho Ghalbi 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.

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 traffic arrangements throughout the province on the 76th Independence Day on Sunday.

"A d d i t i o n a l personnel should be deployed to provide security to large public gatherings, rallies and other events," he said.

"All operational units including Special Branch, Counter Terrorism Department (CTD), Special Protection Unit (SPU), and executive police should adopt a joint security plan for Independence 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 CCTV cameras, walkthrough gates and metal detectors for monitoring and checking of the people," he added.

"C o o r d i n a t e d arrangements should be made for the safety and security of women and children in parks, highways and public places on Independence Day," he emphasised.

"Those who quarrel 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 painting competition in connection with Independence Day, at Lahore museum in Provincial Capital.

Search underway for 'non political' people to fill KP caretaker cabinet

PESHAWAR (INP): 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 going on.

A search for completely non-political people is underway to fill the for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa cabinet.

C o n t i n u o u s 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 security clearance.

Advisers and special 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

cabinet are likely to be finalized next week.

Earlier this year, members of the caretaker cabinet of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) had taken oath back in January.

KP Governor Haji 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 Zafraan, and former Senator Taj Mohammad Afandi. Moreover, Advocate Sawal Nazir, Bakht Nawaz, Fazal Elahi, Adnan Jilil, Shafulah, Shahid Khan, Malik Khushdil Khan, Mohammed Ali Shah, Justice Irshad Qaiser, and Manzoor Khan Afandi were also part of the caretaker KP cabinet.

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 Sunday.

A police spokesman 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 Zafraan 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 Gandhi Suf Hidayat Ullah area. As a result, Zafraan died on the spot and the assailant fled from the scene. The police registered a case against unknown accused and started investigations.

In another incident, one Mulazim Hussain resident of Malekhi area of Paroa tehsil was buried under the debris as the wall of his house collapsed on him.

The data analysis showed that 693 drivers, 45 underage drivers, 178

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi has 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 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, prevailing challenges, and

opportunities for growth.

"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 moral and ethical values, as 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 wanted a homeland for themselves where they could freely order their individual and collective lives in accordance with the teachings of Islam, he added.



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

Chairman Senate congratulated the nation on Independence Day

ISLAMABAD (Online): I would like to extend my heartfelt 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 same way.

Chairman upper house said Pakistan came into existence due to the tireless struggle and eternal sacrifices of the Muslims of the

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 generations. Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah had dreamed of a modern democratic state in Pakistan. We face numerous challenges in realizing this dream, he maintained.

Further he said Pakistan has made the greatest sacrifices in the establishment of world peace and the war against terrorism. The endless sacrifices of our armed forces, law enforcement agencies are unparalleled.

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 Allah, 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.

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

ISLAMABAD (INP): A traffic diversion tunnel has been as part of the ongoing construction work for the main abutment under the 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.

The tunnel was inaugurated by Anwar ul Haq GM/PM DHPP, WAPDA Kohistan along with Fidencia 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 maintain the flow of traffic but also accelerate the progress of construction on the left-side abutment of the dam at the DHPP.

"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 tunnel Stage-I is with an installed generation capacity of 2160 MW and the stage-II will be of 2160 MW capacity.



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): Islamabad police have chalked out a comprehensive security and traffic plan on the occasion of independence day (August 14) and decided to deploy security personnel at important installations as well as public places too.

A source said that Police, with the help of 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 Independence Day and extra contingents of Rangers, Frontier Constabulary, and Islamabad Police will be deployed there along with vigilance at various entry and exit points of the city.

"We're fully geared up and exercising extra vigilance. There are over dozen points from Faizabad to Pirwadhi Square at GT 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 forested areas will be scanned with sophisticated security equipment while security personnel on horses will patrol the city.

Islamabad residents and those coming to the city from other areas have been appealed to keep with

them their CNIC or other identification documents.

Islamabad Capital Police (Traffic Division) has also made a specialized traffic plan to ensure smooth traffic and safety precautions across the city.

This plan includes the 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 duties.

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 stationed at key locations throughout the city and equipped with roadblocks.

Promoting Pakistan's ideology in real spirit need of hour: Javed

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chairman Nazaria-i-Pakistan Council (NPC), Mian Mohammad Javed emphasized promoting the ideology of Pakistan in real spirit urging the nation to follow the guiding principles of Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

In an interview in connection with the Independence Day being marked on August 14, he said: "I belong to the generation who has witnessed the creation of Pakistan, enthusiasm and countless sacrifices of lives, property and honour

for the sake of the country. 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 Pakistan."

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 and prosperous for the next generations."

U.S. Envoy felicitates people of Pak on 'I-Day'

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 two countries."



ISLAMABAD: Participants posing for a group photograph before Golf match titled "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 13, 1965, the "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

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 Zohab 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 British musical charts.

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 5.

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

New students who wish to apply to face-to-face programs can apply online till 15th August on the university website (<http://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 programs will be held from August 17 to 23.

Merit Lists of successful candidates will be uploaded on the university website within two weeks.

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) programs.

Archbishop calls for unity on Independence Day

ISLAMABAD (INP): On the 76th 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 Christian community in the freedom movement and in the

development of Pakistan. 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 for all.

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 together in dignity and prosperity."

Kashmiris to observe Indian Independence Day as Black Day

ISLAMABAD (INP): Kashmiris on both sides 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 mark the Indian Independence Day as a black day to protest India's ongoing denial of Kashmir's birthright to self-determination and to inform the outside world of worst Indian state terrorism actions and

policies. She said that every 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 years.

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 parades in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, including the capital city of Muzaffarabad and all other nine district headquarters, to reaffirm their intense hatred towards Indian imperialism.



ISLAMABAD: People are enjoying during celebration Independence Day, in Federal Capital.

PNCA plans culture show, exhibition to mark I-Day

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan National Council of 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 Jamal, 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

Fazal Jutt, Wahid Bakhsh Faqir, Sajid Ali, Liaquat 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 with ForArtSake would present a painting exhibition by Ali Azmat curated by Amna Pataudi.