# denemaent

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All stakeholders to be taken on board for resolving issues of province:

### Balochistan close to heart of PM and federal govt, measures to be taken to address issues: Ishaq Dar

Chief Minister says strong relation of trust can be established between state & general public, reforms being brought for improving governance being top priority of provincial government

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar has stated that Balochistan is close to the heart of Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif and the federal government and as such steps would be taken to resolve the issues being faced by the province and it's people. He said that it is necessary that Balochistan gets it's genuine rights. He said that economic situation of the country is surely hard but it is not disappointing. He said that the future of Pakistan

has come into being for ever. The Deputy Prime Minister was presiding over the meeting about the law and order situation and development projects in Balochistan here at the Chief Minister secretariat on Tuesday. Also present in the meeting were the Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Muhammad Ayaz Sadiq, Chief Minister, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, Federal Minister for Trade, Jam Kamal Khan, Member National Assembly, Mir Ejaz Jhakrani, provincial ministers and other senior high is bright and this country ups.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail receiving Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq upon arriving at Quetta Airport

### We have to realize new generation about great sacrifices of our elders for independence, says Governor

OUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has emphasized that there is a need to remind and realize the new generation that our elders had rendered great sacrifices for the independence of Pakistan.

In an official message issued here on Tuesday, the Governor said that we are celebrating 77th anniversary of Pakistan on this 14th August.

He said that we are actually remembering numerous sacrifices rendered for acquiring the freedom of Indo-Pak subcontinent, we are enjoying with. The Governor said that

**Independent Report** we pay tributes to the sacrifices, hardships and struggle of our forefathers while celebrating the Independence day with

> realize the new generation about the sacrifices rendered by our elders in freedom of our country.

forefathers have been in forefront in strengthening the All India Muslim

a great blessing, and it is our responsibility to maintain

He stressed that let's unite for celebrating our

freedom, unity and unwa-

vering spirit of Pakistan.

He mentioned that our

He said that freedom is

search operation was started against terrorists in Mastung. ies and Quick Response However, we need to

in the search operation being carried out in Mastung after the incident of terrorism that claimed life of Deputy Commissioner Panjgur. During the operation,

two terrorists were reportedly killed. However, the search operation is still continued, the sources of CTD informed adding the more force has been called in this regard.

The CTD sources said that it would be ensured to eliminate terrorists and restore peace.



Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti and Chief Secretary Shakeel Oadir Khan regarding law and order situation and ongoing development projects in Balochistan

### PM Shehbaz reaffirms commitment to building a strong, prosperous Pakistan

Cabinet approves enhancement in Privatization Commission Board members' strength

ISLAMABAD (APP): as a united team. Minister Prime Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday reaffirmed his strong commitment to transform Pakistan into a prosperous and robust nation through the collective efforts of all segments of society, working together

Two terrorists

killed as search

operation starts

in Mastung

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: Two terrorists

were killed during search

operation started against

the terrorists following ter-

rorist attack at the vehicle

of Deputy Commissioner Panjgur in Mastung area on

Terrorism Department

(CTD) informed that the

The CTD, Police, Lev-

Force (QRF) are taking part

The sources of Counter

In his opening remarks at the federal cabinet meeting, he expressed his deep belief that teamwork is essen-

tial for achieving success. He emphasized the importance of learning from past mistakes and

efforts to build the nation Azam Muhammad Ali

pendence Day, he said, the entire nation will reaffirm its commitment to moving forward with re- country's progress.

### Funeral prayer of martyr Deputy **Commissioner Panjgur offered Independent Report**

QUETTA: The funeral prayer of martyr Deputy Commissioner Panjgur, Zakir Baloch was offered at the Cen-

tral Police Office on Tuesday morning.

The funeral prayer was attended by the Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail, Chief Minister, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, Corps Commander, Lt. General Rahat Naseem Ahmed Khan, Provincial Minister for Home, Mir Ziaullah Langove, Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan, Inspector General of Police, Abdul



other high ups After offering funeral prayer, the body of Deputy

Commissioner Panjgur was sent to the native town, Turbat for burial. Earlier, the Governor, Chief Minister and other high

ups laid floral wreathe at the coffin of martyr Deputy It may be mentioned here that Deputy Commissioner Panjgur, Zakir Baloch was gunned down by unknown

armed assailants while he was on his way to Quetta from Panigur on Monday night. The Chairman Municipal Committee Panjgur, Abdul

Malik Baloch, accompanied by the Deputy Commissioner, was also injured in the firing incident.

### Pakistan expresses grave concern over recurrent theft of radioactive materials in India

ISLAMABAD (Online): viduals with a radioactive :In response to a question about Pakistan's reaction to the arrest of a gang in India with radioactive material, the Spokesperson, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mumtaz Zahra Baloch

stated the following: "Pakistan is gravely concerned at the reports of recurring incidents of theft and illicit sale of nuclear and

other radioactive materials

In the latest incident, a gang of individuals were found in illegal possession of a highly radioactive and toxic substance Californium, worth US\$ 100 million in quantity. Three incidents of theft of Californium were also reported

Last month, five indi-

device reportedly stolen from Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC) were also found from

These recurring incidents call into question the measures taken by New Delhi for the safety and security of nuclear and other radioactive material.

These incidents also suggest the existence of a black market for sensitive, dual use materials inside In-

The international community seeks an earnest disclosure from the Indian authorities as to how a sealed Radioactive Source (SRS) material, like Californium, was in the possession of the apprehended individuals.

### Grand Jashne Azadi ceremony at Bugti stadium: CM Bugti invites all angry people for negotiations

Says "come your state guarantees you the bright future, leave the weapons and come down from the mountains, the state would embrace you;

Vows to take revenge of every single drop of blood of martyrs; Directs to ACS Home to submit detailed report about the Mastung incident; seeks report about implementation on existing SOPs during movement of officers; asserts we would not take breathe without getting terrorists till their logical end

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has extended offer of dialogue to the angry people on eve of Jashne Azadi. He addressed to the

otherwise angry people saying "come your state guarantees you the bright future, leave the weapons and come down from the mountains, the state would embrace you," the Chief Minister said while addressing the grand cer-emony held marking the 77th Independence Day here at the Bugti stadium

ISLAMABAD (APP)

President Asif Ali Zardari

on Tuesday strongly con-

demned the attack on the

Deputy Commissioner of

Panjgur Zakir Baloch in the

Mastung district of Balochistan. The president

expressed his deep grief

over the martyrdom of the

deputy commissioner in the

to the bereaved family of

Zakir Baloch, he prayed to

Allah Almighty to grant

them strength to bear the

loss and also for the eleva-

tion of the martyred soul's

**Opposition** 

evolves plan to

give tough time

Conveying condolence

on Tuesday. The prominent per-

sonalities present on the occasion were Deouty Speaker National Assembly, Ishaq Dar, Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Federal Min-ister, Jam Kamal, Goversheikh Jaffar Mandokhail, Corps Commander Lt General Rahat Nasim Ahmed Khan, provincial ministers and other

A large number of people gathered at the spacious stadium to witness

The Chief Minister said it is matter of great media.

ebrating our Jashne Azadi. He said that we have to make pledge on this day that we would make the country stronger and stronger. The Chief Minister highlighted different initiatives taken by the government for uplift of different sectors and wellbeing of the people. He said that youth of the province are being kept away from the state under an organized conspiracy. He also said that attempts being made to weaken the province through negative

### PM announces cash price of **President strongly** condemns attack Rs150m for Arshad Nadeem on Panigur DC

ISLAMABAD (APP): Muhammad Sharif on Tuesday announced a cash award of

He said that he had also Minister recommended conferment Shehbaz of Hilal-i-Imtiaz award

upon Arshad Nadeem. The prime minister Rs150 million (15 crore) to said that it was a moment Olympian and gold medal- of immense pride to host



a number of other initiatives Nadeem who had won the in javelin throw competition of Paris Olympics

to government ISLAMABAD (Online): Opposition has evolved a plan to give tough time to government.

According to sources opposition held a meeting here to review overall situation of the country

The meeting was attended by Mehmood Khan Achakzai, chairman Tehreek-e-Tahaffaz-Ayeen, Maulana Fazlur Rehman, head of JUI-F. Chairman PTI Gohar Ali Khan, Asad Oaisar, Umar Avoub and others. The sources said the recent decision of Supreme Court (SC) was discussed in details in the meeting and the decision was taken to give tough time to government.

Sources said PT1 leaders heard complaints of Maulana

### . Fazlur Rehman. **BLF** most wanted terrorist Shambin alias Shahak killed by his own colleague

QUETTA (Online): Most wanted terrorist of Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF) Shambin alias Shahak has been killed by his own colleague.

According to security sources internal differences in the tanks of BLF have deepened. Its ring leader and most wanted terrorist Shambin alias Shahk has been killed by his own associate. He remained involved in high profile ter rorist activities.

He was wanted by law enforcement agencies for attacking forces and killing his old comrades.

Addressing a special ceremony held at the PM Office and televised on Tv channels, the prime minister said that the road between F-9 and F-10 sectors of Islamabad would be renamed as 'Arshad Nadeem road', besides Arshad Nadeem High Performance Academy would be established at Jinnah Stadium to groom the young talent for the upcoming 2028 Olym-

The prime minister announced establishment of Pakistan Sports Endowment Fund with Rs1 billion to support the players whereas a committee would be set up to give recommendations for the promotion of sports in the country.

On the occasion, the prime minister also announced an award of Rs10 million (1 crore)for Salman Iqbal Butt, Arshad's coach. he added.

nation's hero Arshad gold medal in Paris Olym pics after a gap of 40 years, on the basis of his hard

The entire nation thanked him as his success had doubled the celebrations of the Independence Day, he said, adding Arshad Nadeem, with his javelin throw, had also set a new Olympics record. The prime minister

opined that his achievement had set the morale of entire nation very high and gave a message that one should not be bogged down before problems and challenges but face them with courage and determination. "The precedent you set

in Paris is a beacon for us all. Your success came at a time when the preparations for the Independence Day are in full swing. Your precedent has given us courage. The Himalayan-like challenges will be surpassed and we will transform Pakistan into a great country,

### Govt slashes petrol price by Rs8.47 per litre Monitoring Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a relief for the masses reeling under the skyrocketing inflation, the government has reduced the petrol price by Rs8.47 per litre.

A notification in this regard has also been issued by the finance ministry in which the diesel price also rered by Rs6.07 per litre.

The decision comes mainly due to a drop in fuel prices in the global market.

The new price of the petrol stands at Rs260.96 per litre while that of diesel, it is Rs266.07 per litre. The fuel price cut comes as a major relief for the masses on the occasion of Independence Day, as the country gears up for the celebration of 77 years of independence today (August 14).

### Man dies, six injured in **Quetta hand grenade blast**

OUETTA (APP): A man ments were started. died and six other sustained injuries in a hand grenade blast at the Liaqat Bazaar area of the provincial capital on Tuesday.

According to the police sources, unknown men hurled a hand grenade near China Chowk which went

As a result, a man namely Irfanullah died on the spot while Muhammad Zainullah, Amanullah, Habibur Rehman, Sagar Govind, Yousuf Masih and Shabir received injuries. The body and the injured were rushed to Quetta Civil Hospital's Trauma Center where the injured treat-

While talking to the media, MD Trauma Center Dr. Arbab Kamran confirmed that six injured people in the Liaquat Bazaar bomb blast were brought to the trauma center after first aid in the accident department of Civil Hospital Quetta.

Provincial Health Minister Balochistan Sardarzada Mir Faisal Khan Jamali and Health Secretary Saleh Muhammad Baloch directed to MD Trauma Center Dr. Arbab Kamran and MS Civil Hospital Quetta Dr. Ishaq Panizi to provide best medical facilities to the injured.

### Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti head to the Governor House from Quetta Bilawal reaffirms PPP dedication to uphold principles of democracy "As we celebrate Inde-

pendence Day, we honor

the sacrifices made by our

our freedom and sover-

reflect on the vision of

phasized that the PPP re-

mains committed to the

principles and vision of the

founding fathers.

QUETTA: Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar and Balochistan

Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has reaffirmed his party's dedi-cation to upholding the core principles of democracy, constitutionalism, and equality on which Pakistan was founded.

casion of 77th Independence Day, he emphasized that the 1973 Constitution embodies the spirit of the Freedom Movement and provides a unified vision for the nation's future.

by strengthening democ-

racy in line with the vision

of Pakistan's founding fa-

Muhammad Ali Jinnah and his democratic ideals. It In a message on the ocis also a day to confront our challenges and learn from our past. Despite being founded by a leader who championed constitutionalism and democracy, our nation has faced periods of auto-Bilawal Bhutto reitercratic rule that undermined basic freedoms ated the PPP's commitment to advancing the and rights.' nation's progress and unity Bilawal Bhutto em-

He remarked, "The ideology of Quaid-e-Awam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali forefathers who fought for Bhutto and the philosophy of Shaheed Mohtarma eignty. Today is a day to Benazir Bhutto serve as guiding lights for us. Un-Quaid-e-Azam der President Asif Ali Zardari's vision of reconciliation and national unity, we find hope and strength to navigate our challenges.

He further assured, The PPP is dedicated to lifting our nation from the grips of inflation, unemployment, and poverty, while continuing the fight against terrorism. et us unite as one nation, driven by our shared values, to overcome any obstacle and build a brighter future for all Pakistanis.



ISLAMABAD: Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam (F) chief of Maulana Fazlur Rehman addressing on the All Parties Tahaffuz Namoos-e-Risalat conference.

# Daily Aoice of Masse, Independent

### School massacre in Gaza

Early on Saturday morning, Israel struck a school sheltering around 2,400 displaced Palestinians in Gaza City. At least 100 people have been reported killed in this atrocity. The accounts given by eyewitnesses are horrifying; many of the bodies were charred and dismembered.

When TTP terrorists struck the APS in Peshawar a decade ago, there was worldwide revulsion at the fact that the militants had slaughtered over 140 people, primarily minors. While that tragedy has not been forgotten by Pakistan, Israel has been unleashing similarly monstrous violence upon Gaza's civilians since

Throughout this one-sided conflict — perhaps better described as a genocidal campaign Tel Aviv has hardly batted an eyelid as it hit schools, hospitals and people queuing for food, all in the name of targeting Hamas. Even after the latest tragedy, Israel said it had hit "Hamas terrorists and commanders". Does this justify the burning alive and dismemberment of countless non-combatants, including children, in the process? Clearly, in Israel's twisted worldview, it does.

Can Tel Aviv's assertions that it is ready to discuss a ceasefire really be taken seriously in the aftermath of such bloodbaths? The US, Qatar and Egypt have recently called for resuming truce talks. But it appears that Israel is only playing for time, and is not serious about peace, or else it would not slaughter 100 people after agreeing to attend the talks. The fact is that the longer the slaughter in Gaza continues, the longer Benjamin Netanyahu can cling to power. Perhaps this is a reason why the Israeli prime minister is determined to set the Middle East on fire by provoking Iran and its armed regional allies. If a bigger conflagration ensues, Mr Netanyahu can claim he is defending his country from 'evil' Iran, and most of his Western friends may lap it up.

There are considerable chances of the war expanding. Iranian and Israeli and US officials have been exchanging combative rhetoric; it is perhaps only a matter of time before these verbal attacks turn into an actual confrontation. The US has reportedly asked one of its carrier strike groups to speed up its arrival in the Middle East, while its defence secretary has been regularly exchanging notes with the Israeli defence minis ter. None of this bodes well for the region, or for the larger international community. Clearly, the West is unwilling to rein in Israel. On Monday, the UK, Germany and France called upon Iran not to "escalate". Perhaps they would be better off advising Tel Aviv to stop murdering civilians in Gaza, and end the campaign of assassinations in Iran, Lebanon and Syria. Unless Israel is muzzled, there will be no peace in the Middle East, and the chances of escalation will

# Australia's recipe

### Mohammad Ali Babakhel

Wednesday August 14, 2024

With more than 100 different faiths and over 300 languages, Australia is to extremist material and one of the world's most culturally and linguistically diverse nations. Promoting social cohesion is a big challenge for it, but Australia has enjoyed a peaceful history, relatively free from violent extremism. Still, the threat of VE is not non-existent, and it threatens Australia's core values of respect for human rights, the rule of law, democracy, equal opportunity, and free-

In Australia, VE refers to the beliefs and actions of individuals who use violence or support the use of violence to achieve ideological, religious, or political goals. motivated and communal violence that seek to through fear and intimi-

Radicalisation is a complex process that involves a person's beliefs shifting from relatively conventional to radical, with a desire for a drastic societal change. According to the Australian belief, when a person radicalises, the community and government are responsible for acting and intervening to preperson and wider soci-

In Australia, new migrants with low income rates are often vulnerable to extremist narratives. New migrants for whom English is a second language are uncertain about navigating ter understood, mitisystems in a new country and may feel isolated. Those with low education levels also have low awareness of their rights gagement of the private and may feel voiceless, marginalised, and sus- as essential. That's why, ceptible to VE. Feelings to counter VE, Australia of helplessness may has

their voices online, fur- etly at the global, rether exposing them to extremist influences. This els. is why reducing access empowering communities to combat terrorist

narratives are among Australia's priorities. After 9/11, Australia enacted various laws to prevent acts of VE. In the past, the Australian authorities had to wait until a terrorist attack was imminent or underway before they could intervene. The updated Australian legal framework allows them to disrupt acts of VE while they are

still being planned.

The Australian ap-

proach to CVE (counter-

ing violent extremism) comprises robust security, strong law enforcement, effective community engagement, and ex-It includes terrorism and tensive partnerships. other forms of politically Australia invests considerable resources in community engagement bring about change and building social harmony. Key areas of focus include supporting individuals' participation in education, improving social and economic participation, increasing community harmony, preventing crime, and building effective families and community

organisations. Australia's recipe for CVE is based on the belief that unity of effort works, partnerships matvent harm to both the ter, and teamwork makes everything possible. Australia's approach acknowledges that the threat is persistent and and high unemployment dynamic; hence, it never remains static. Since the world is rapidly changing, threats are also congated, and reduced through collaborative partnerships. Australia also recognises the ensector and civil society

drive them to amplify collaboratively and quigional, and bilateral lev-

> In the 2002 Bali bombings, 202 people, including 88 Australians, were killed, representing the single most significant loss of Australian life due to terrorism. Afterwards, Australia started a CVE collaboration with Indonesia and other countries. Australia is also part of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS, which was formed in 2014. The Australian

strategy includes six principles: lives must be protected; the government and the community must tackle terrorism together; terrorist acts should be prosecuted thro-ugh the criminal justice system; international partnerships should be built; community and national resilience should strengthened; Australia' counterterrorism (CT) arrangements should reflect the changing threat environment. Its approach is based on four complementary streams of activity, which seek to build strength in diversity and social participation, work with vulnerable communities and institutions, address online terrorist propaganda, and support deradicalisation. Since 2003, the appointment of an ambassador for CT to deal with terrorism-related issues speaks of Australia's commitment to CT. This ambassador coordinates Australia's international CT efforts by building international linkages, leading diplomatic efforts in the domain of CT with partner countries, and facilitating Australia in benefiting from global best practices. Pakistan must evaluate the need for such a diplomatic position, which may benefit it and friendly countries equally. -- Cour-

# **Saving** lives

### Naseem Salahuddin

Sanitation immunisation stand as the most effective defences against disease, disability, and death caused by infectious diseases. As our population reels from public health diseases, neither individuals nor the government observe the basic principles of hygiene and sanitation. Overpopulation exacerbates these issues, straining civic resources and impacting public health.

Babies born to undernourished mothers are destined to die from preventable diseases even before they reach toddler age. Although early childhood vaccinations are offered free through the government's Expanded Programme Immunisation (EPI), their acceptance is inconsistent. Adults, too, are vulnerable to viruses or bacteria that can be prevented through vaccina-

Immunisation induces immunity against specific diseases. The selected bacteria or virus is modified, scientifically processed, and injected. It mimics the original disease, albeit mildly, and provokes the host immune system to produce antibodies that counter the infectious agent without causing the disease.

The history of vaccination began with smallpox. Older readers may remember the consequences of smallpox that killed, blinded, or disfigured millions everywhere. Medical history is replete with tales of this highly contagious disease that continued for centuries. In England, Edward Jenner's ground-breaking experiment in 1796 involved using fluid from eruptions on the hands of a milkmaid who milked the udder of a cow that had pustules. He injected the fluid into an incision on the arm of a healthy couraging results from -- Courtesy Dawn

his subject remained provation in his native town, stemming the spread of smallpox.

The Latin word for cow is 'vacca', and cowcalled this procedure vaccination. The process was subsequently refined and became mandatory globally. The last naturally occurring smallpox case was reported in Somalia in 1977. Routine smallpox vaccination 1980. Smallpox is the only ID to have been eradimost remarkable of public health successes.

combat other IDs. Univer-

sal immunisation against Hepatitis B has saved millions from liver failure and liver cancer. Lifesaving vaccines are available today against viral inmonia, meningitis, tetanus, typhoid, and cholera. Shingles, caused by the herpes zoster virus, is reactivated chickenpox virus acquired in childhood. The reawakened virus often causes relentless pain but can be prevented with the shingles vaccines. The Human papillomavirus (which causes cervical cancer in women) is preventable ceive vaccinations. Pilwith shots given during adolescence.

Childhood infections such as measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, diphtheria, and tetanus are vaccine-preventable. Polio, which killed or maimed thousands of children globally, has virtually ended through mass vaccination, with ongoing challenges in a few places including Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The Covid-19 panswift vaccine development, illustrating the

boy and observed that field trials of vaccines against malaria, dengue. tected. He used his inno- and TB are in the development or testing phases. However, not all Ds are vaccine-preventable. While they are playing havoc globally, pox is 'vaccinia'; Jenner Hepatitis C and HIV elude attempts at vaccine production.

Modern vaccines

are safe and generally

effective, although some people may express side effects, like a slight fever or rash. An intriguing feature of the human ceased worldwide in immune system is the presence of 'memory cells'. Even years later, cated and is among the a booster shot will awaken resting cells and enhance protection. Efforts expanded to The evidence of res-p-onse is the detection of measurable antibodies in the blood, but many such tests are not commercially available. Data on the efficacy of a vaccine is credible fluenza, bacterial pneu- only if obtained through well-conducted human

> published in reputable journals. If at least twothirds of a population is vaccinated during an outbreak, it will create a shield that will protect those who are not. Travellers heading to areas where a disease is endemic are advised to regrims to Haj and Umrah are vulnerable to meningitis, influenza, or pneumonia and must receive

> trials, validated, and

these preventive shots. Almost all vaccines in Pakistan are imported and hence expensive and erratically available, depending on their demand and import policies. Ironically, EPI vaccines for children are supported through international funding agencies, yet they are inadequately used. Vaccines for spedemic was met with cific infections must be prioritised but must not replace water, sanitation critical role vaccines and hygiene. This is the play in combating glo- responsibility of individubal health crises. En- als and our municipalities.

# International News

### **Israel-Hamas war latest:** Iran rejects European leaders' call to refrain from any retaliatory attacks

**Monitoring Desk** 

gather pace.

NEW YORK: Iran rejected a call Tuesday by three European countries urging it to refrain from any retaliatory attacks that would further escalate regional tensions. Iran calls it an 'excessive request."

The leaders of Britain, France and Germany in a joint statement Monday asked Iran and its allies to refrain from retaliation for the killing of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran last month. Iran has blamed Israel.

The European leaders also endorsed the latest push by mediators Qatar, Egypt and the United States to broker an agreement to end the Israel-Hamas war. Talks are expected to resume Thursday. And they called for the return of scores of hostages held by Hamas and the "unfettered" delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza.

Mediators have spent months trying to get the attack on Tel Aviv was on

WASHINGTON: The

United States had no role in

ousting Bangladesh Prime

US says it had no

role in ousting of

Bangladesh's Hasina

cusing the U.S. of playing a gulfed by demonstra-

sides to agree to a three- May 26. phase plan in which Hamas would release the remaining hostages captured in its

withdraw from Gaza. After more than 10 months of fighting, the Palestinian death toll is nearing 40,000 in Gaza, according to the Health Ministry there. Israel's military says Palestinian militants have fired two rockets from the landed in the sea off central Israel. It says the other projectile did not cross into Is-

Palestinians imprisoned by

Israel, and Israel would

raeli territory. Hamas' armed wing said it fired two rockets at Tel Aviv, located on the coast in central Israel.

Palestinian rocket fire has dramatically quieted during Israel's 10-month offensive in Gaza, which was launched in response to Hamas' Oct. 7 attack into Israel. The last rocket

it wanted control over

Bangladesh's Saint Martin

island in the Bay of Bengal.

The newspaper said Hasina

had conveyed that message to

it through her close associates.

Wazed, in a post on X on

Sunday, said she never

made any such statement.

Bangladeshi people should

determine the future of the

Bangladeshi government

and that's where we

stand," the White House

added. An interim govern-

ment in Bangladesh, led

by Nobel Peace laureate

Muhammad Yunus, was

sworn in on Thursday

with the aim of holding

elections in the Asian na-

tion. Bangladesh was en-

Hasina's son, Sajeeb

"We believe that the

Militants still launch sporadic rocket and mortar attacks near the border, but Oct. 7 attack in exchange for nearly all the projectiles are intercepted or fall in open spaces without causing casualties or damage. More than 200 pris-

oners are evacuated in Lebanon amid concerns about wider war Lebanese authorities have evacuated prisoners from police stations in Beirut's southern suburbs and southern Leba-Gaza Strip and one of them non to other parts of the country out of concerns about possible war with Israel, judicial and security officials say. The officials say about 220 prisoners were moved. It comes amid concerns that the ongoing exchange of cross-border fire between Israeli troops and members of the Lebanon-based Hezbollah group might expand after Israel killed a top Hezbollah official last month. Hezbollah has

### House explosion in Maryland kills 2 and damages nearby homes **Monitoring Desk**

vowed to retaliate.

BEL AIR: Two people were killed and 12 families displaced after a Maryland house exploded Sunday amid reports of a possible gas leak, fire officials said.

Neighbors described feeling and hearing the early morning blast that damaged a number of surrounding houses in Bel Air, a town about about 30 miles (50 kilometers) northeast of Baltimore. Firefighters were called to the area around 6:40 a.m. for a report of a gas leak and an outdoor odor of gas, said Oliver Alkire, a master deputy with the State Fire

Marshal's Office.
Alkire said that as firefighters were approaching, they began receiving calls that the house had exploded.



Russian President Vladimir Putin attends a meeting with Palestinian President

### **US** lifts restrictions on Saudi weapons, with eye on resolving Gaza crisis

Monitoring Desk mained a close strategic part-WASHINGTON: The ner of the United States, and United States confirmed on Monday it would resume sales of offensive weapons to Saudi Arabia, as concerns over human rights in the kingdom's Yemen war give way to US hopes for it to play a role in resolving the

conflict in Gaza. More than three years after imposing limits on human rights grounds over Saudi strikes in Yemen, the State Department said it would return to weapons sales "in regular order, with appropriate congressional notification and consulta-"Saudi Arabia has re-

we look forward to enhancing that partnership," State Depar-tment spokesman Vedant Patel told reporters. US President Joe Biden took office in 2021 pledging a new approach to Saudi Arabia that emphasised human rights, and immediately announced that the administration would only send "defensive" weaponry to the longtime US arms customer. The United States is again hoping for support from Arab partners as Iran threatens another reprisal against Israel over the killing in Tehran of Hamas's politi-cal leader, Ismail Haniyeh.

### Indonesian president holds first cabinet meeting in future capital

**Monitoring Desk** JAKARTA: Indonesian President Joko Widodo

on Monday held his first cabinet meeting in the country's future capital, despite much of the city remaining under construction as it runs behind schedule.

The \$32-billion megaproject Nusantara was widely expected to be inaugurated on August 17, Indonesia's Indepen-

dence Day, but building delays and funding woes have cast doubt on the

schedule. Widodo, popularly known as Jokowi, still hailed the city-in-progress, which is expected to be fully ready

"Not all countries have the opportunity, have the ability to build their capital starting from zero," he said.

from knife attacker in London

Muslim guard

rescues girl

**Monitoring Desk** LONDON: A 29-year-old guard at a nearby store, who gave his name as Abdullah saved an 11-year-old girl from a knife attack in the

British capital on Monday. Abdullah said he heard a scream and then saw someone "stabbing a "I jumped on him, held the hand in which he was (carrying) a knife, and just put him down on the floor and just held him and took the knife away from him," he said.

'Then a couple of more people joined as well and we just held him until the police came", he added

### 700 migrants reach Britain on 11 boats **Monitoring Desk**

LONDON: Over 700 migrants in small boats crossed the Channel to Britain on Sunday, the highest number on a single day since Prime Minister Keir Starmer took power vowing to tackle people-smugglers. Two migrants who attempted the crossing died, French authorities said earlier, taking the number of people to lose their life on the dangerous sea journey to 25 since the start of the year.

# of 'great pain' at Palestinian plight

**Putin tells Abbas** 

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin told visiting Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas on Tuesday that Moscow was pained by the plight of his people and backed their aspiration to create a fully fledged state.

Putin said Moscow was paying attention to events in the Middle East despite the demands of its own war in Ukraine. He did not refer directly to Ukraine's week-old incursion into western Russia, an operation that has caught Russia's military off guard and forced more than 130,000 people to flee their homes.

"Everyone is well aware that Russia today, unfortunately, must defend its interests and defend its people with arms Moscow, Russia.

Russian pening in the Middle East. what is happening in Palestine, of course, does not go unnoticed on our part,' Putin said, according to a Kremlin transcript.

"And of course, we are watching with great pain and anxiety the humanitarian catastrophe that has unfolded in Palestine," he added.

Putin noted the death toll of almost 40,000 Palestinians in the course of the Gaza war since the Islamist militant group Hamas attacked Israel on Oct. 7, killing some 1,200 people and taking more than 250 into captivity in Gaza. Item 1 of 3 Russian President Vladimir Putin attends a meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas outside

### Kursk attack will pressure Russia and 'restore justice,' Zelenskiy says

**Monitoring Desk** Volodymyr Zelenskiy said Ukraine had launched an incursion into Russian territory to "restore justice" and pressure Moscow's forces, in his first

acknowledgement of Kyiv's surprise offensive into the western Kursk re-Moscow's forces on Sunday were in their sixth day of intense battle against Kyiv's largest incursion

into Russian territory since the start of the war, which left southwestern parts of Russia vulnerable before reinforcement started ar-Russian authorities

rushed to evacuate residents and imposed a sweeping security regime in three border regions on Saturday, while Belarus, a staunch ally of Moscow, sent more troops to its border with Ukraine, accusing Kyiv of violating

In his nightly video tacks.

address, Zelenskiy said he had discussed the operation with top Ukrainian commander Oleksandr Syrskyi, vowing to respond in kind after Russia launched its full-scale invasion of its neighbour in February 2022.

"Today, I received several reports from Commander-in-Chief Svrskvi regarding the front lines and our actions to push the war onto the aggressor's territory," he said late on Saturday.

"Ukraine is proving that it can indeed restore justice and is ensuring the exact kind of pressure that is needed - pressure on the aggressor.

Russia's defence ministry said on Sunday it had destroyed 14 Ukrainian drones and four Tochka-U tactical ballistic missiles overnight over the Kursk region, and 18 drones over other Russian regions that Ukraine frequently at-

### Minister Sheikh Hasina, who recently quit her position and fled the South Asian nation, the White House said on Monday, calling allegations of US interference 'simply false.""We have had no involvement at all. Any reports or rumors that the United States government was involved in these events is simply false," White House spokesperson Karine Jean-Pierre said at a press briefing when asked

about reported claims of

U.S. involvement. A report

in the Economic Times

newspaper in India on Sun-

day had cited Hasina as ac-

role in ousting her because

# kistan was inevitabl

### By Prof Dr M Yakub Mughul

The Muslims were a political power in India for more than one thousand years. Muhammad Bin Qasim conquered Sindh in 712 AD

in India. Shahabuddin

Muhammad Ghauri was

the first Muslim warrior

who was responsible for

the establishment of Mus-

lim rule in India. After the

defeat of Pirthvi Raj in the

second battle of Tarain in 1192, Sultan Mohammad

Qutbuddin Aibak as his

Viceroy to consolidate his

empire. The last Muslim

dynasty, which ruled in In-

dia was the Mughul dy-

nasty. In 1857, the Muslims lost the War of Inde-

pendence and last Mughul

Emperor, Bahadur Shah

Zafar, was deposed and

made prisoner, hence, the

Muslims became subjects

of British India. Thus, Hin-

dus got new masters and

the British needed for their

support, against the Mus-

lims, who favoured them in

every walk of life. For

about a century Indians re-

mained under the British

rule, who were not only de-

prived of their majority

provinces in all respects

but at the same time the

Muslims were treated as second grade citizens. At

the time of partition of In-

dia, Pakistan inherited only

34 Industrial units out of

921. This shows that when

Pakistan was established,

these areas were extremely

backward economically and

we had to work very hard

appointed

tul-wida, last Friday of the the Muslims in prevailing Holy month of Ramazan, a day of rejoicing for all of us wherever we may be in this stitution with its idea of a vast Sub-continent and for single Indian Federation is the matter of that through- completely hopeless. A out the world. Let the Muslim congregations in Muslim provinces re-

ity before the Allah Al-

His eternal kindness and

mighty and thank Him of

generosity seeking His guid-

ance and assistance in the

task of making Pakistan to

a great state and themselves

into its worthy citizens".

"Finally, let me tell

you, fellow citizens, Paki-

stan is a land of great potential resources. But to

build it up into a country

worthy of the Muslim na-

tion we shall require every

once of energy that we pos-

sess and I am confident that

it will come from all whole-

June 1948 for granting in-

dependence to the sub-con-

tinent, but later, they hur-

riedly announced August

14, 1947 for the partition

of India in order to cripple

newly established country-

Pakistan and to create prob-

lems for it so that it could

first devotedly worked for

the cause of Hindu Muslim

Unity and spent most of

energies and efforts to-

wards its attainment. His

efforts were appreciated

and he was acknowledged

by the Hindu themselves as

Ambassador of Hindu

Muslim Unity." But the

force of emerging conditions

soon led the Muslims of the

The Quaid-i-Azam at

not survive

The British had fixed

and since then Sindh be- their thousands, in all the

came the Gateway to Islam mosques, bow in all humil-

There is no

Pakistan.

**Power on Earth** 

M A Jinnah

formed on the lines I have

suggested above, is the

only course by which we

can secure a peaceful India

and save Muslims from the

domination of non-Mus-lims. Why should not the

Muslim of north-west In-

dia and Bengal be consid-

ered as a nation entitled to

self-determination just as

other nations in India and

outside India are? Person-

ally I think that the Mus-

lims of north-west India and

Bengal ought to ignore at

present the Muslim minor-

ity provinces. This is the

best course to adopt in the

interests of both Muslim

majority and minority provinces." Attlee the Prime Minister of Great

Britain announced on Feb-

ruary 20, 1947 that trans-

fer of power to responsible

Indians not later than June

1948 would take place. It

was simultaneously an-

nounced that Wavell was

being recalled and replaced

that can undo

conditions in India. He said:

be Acting Governor-General. Being aware of the partiality of Mountbatten in favour of the Indian National Congress and his leadership, the Quaid did not want to take any risk. There upon Mountbatten said: "Do you realise what this cost you?" Quaid-i-Azam replied, "I may cost several crores of rupees in the assets." Mountbatten

replied, "It may well cost you the whole of yours assets and the future of Pakistan." Due to the opposition of Attlee, the Prime Minister of UK, and Lord Mountbatten for the partition of India and the partiality to Congress leadership later, and threat to Mr Jinnah Pakistan was deprived of getting its due share and Kashmir's future was left unsettled so that Pakistan may not consolidate itself. While addressing the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan on August 11, the Quaid had declared that the partition of India and the creation of Pakistan

my judgment, it would have led us to terrific disaster.' The economic factor and the fear of Hindus domination also played a vital role in the struggle for separate homeland for the Muslims of the sub-conti-

was the only 'solution' of the problem of India. 'Any

idea of a United India could

never have worked and in

The Establishment of Pakistan brought the greatest responsibilities on the shoulders of Quaid-i-Azam, who was not only the first 'Governor-General of Pakistan but also at the same time the Father of Nation. Had to build the newly born State, starting from the scratch.' At the time of independence there bye-elections in 1946 in NWFP, which was under the influence of the Congress. No doubt, it was Quaid's efforts and belief that made not only the British Government but also the Hindu dominated Congress agreed to the partition and establishment of two independent States in India, one for the Muslims and the other for Hindus. It was also due to the competent leadership of Mr Jinnah that Baluchistan, which was under the influence of princely States and Jagirdars, had given its verdict for Pakistan. NWFP too, which was under the Congress rule had voted for Pakistan. Hence, all Muslim majority areas i e, Bengal, Punjab, Sindh, Baluchistan, and NWFP voted for Pakistan and even Muslim minority areas also voted for Pakistan. This was a great success of Mr Jinnah. No doubt, the establishment of Pakistan is an outcome of the efforts Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah. His own qualities, character, way of reasoning, decision integrity were proved his weapons to crown him with success. The Quaid-i-

knowledge, calibre, courage, making, strength, perseverance, sense of honour and Azam was an indefatigable political leader. It was due to his honesty and sincere approach that he was able to carve out the sovereign state of Pakistan, despite so many obstacles and impediments in his way.

The Quaid-i-Azam will be remembered in history as one of the few world leaders who combined in themselves many lofty traits such as statesmanship, courage, sense of responsibility, integrity, for-

### **Independence Day:**

### A day to commemorate matchless sacrifices of freedom fighters

### By Taj Nabi Khan

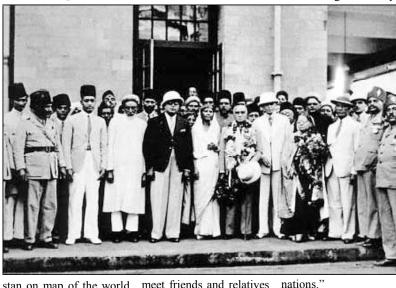
Every year, Independence Day of Pakistan is celebrated across the country and around the globe by Pakistani diasporas and in Pakistani missions abroad with patriotic zeal and zest to commemorate the matchless sacrifices of freedom fighters whose consistent efforts have placed Paki-

Thus Pakistan gained independence from the British rule on 14th August, 1947.Independence Day is a public holiday; therefore, the public is free to roam around and celebrate the day. They visit the national monuments and places of national significance recre-

in British India.

ational spots to mark the This is also the time to

cial Sciences, National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Dr Shahid Siddiqui while talking to APP said, "14th August is celebrated as Independence Day to remember the achievement and sacrifices of the heroes of Pakistan freedom movement but at the same time we should not forget our responsibilities to sustain it at high esteem among the comity of



stan on map of the world on 14th August 1947.

The day is not only an occasion to promote patriotism and national unity. But it is also the time to create awareness among the new generations about the sacrifices of the heroes of Pakistan Movement who rendered their lives for creation of a separate homeland for the Muslims of the subcon-

During the partition, more than 14 million people had crossed borders between Pakistan and India while each one of them had an untold story of his own. Therefore, on this day, homage is paid to all those had lost their lives during the migration and riots in 1947 as well as the political figures, freedom fighters, poets and artists. There was a growing demand for an independent Muslim state in the subcontinent. Consequently, the All India Muslim League was founded on December 30, 1906 while Allama Muhammad Iqbal presented the idea of a separate Muslim state consisted of geographically Muslim majority areas in the subcontinent in 1930. Afterwards, in 1940, the Pakistan Resolution was passed in Lahore demanding

meet friends and relatives and exchange gifts with each other to celebrate the day.Pakistan's Independence Day pays homage to the national heroes who devoted their lives for Pakistan's freedom move-

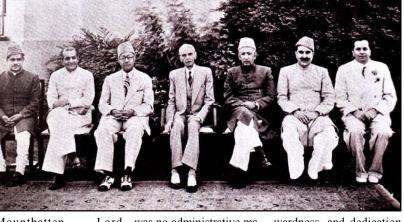
They had made efforts to materialize the dream of an independent Muslim state. Moreover, events such as special theatre shows, national song competitions, concerts, and Independence Day pageants are held while radio and television stations broadcast

national songs. Talking to APP, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Senator Prof. Dr. Mehr Taj Roghani said that independence movement was a long journey of struggle and sacrifices, adding that it was not easy even to imagine a free and sovereign Muslim state in the subcontinent under the British Raj.

She said, "Only those

know the real worth of freedom who are aware of the conditions of people living in colonies and occupied territories as slaves and second class citizens." Each citizen is representing Pakistan in one way or the other, therefore, it is a must to bring a positive change at individual level, she

The country is lucky to have a larger portion of youngsters — they need to concentrate on their education and equip themselves with innovative, creative and critical thinking to catch the pace of 21st century, he added.Dr Farruk Nadeem, Assistant Professor, Department of Languages and Literature, International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI) said, "There is a need to create understanding amongst the youngster about the true spirit of decolonization, freedom movement, and individual liberty in the democratic country." He said that people should celebrate the day with love and respect to the people who had given sacrifices for the country.Dr Shahid Hussain, Assistant Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Allama Igbal Open University while talking to the agency said that each and every citizen can make productive contributions to the wellbeing of the country. He urged the youth to plant at least one tree on the day to safeguard the future of the coming generation from environmental degradation. "Our forefathers have sacrificed their tomorrow for our today" on which the coming generations need to be



to develop the country. Sub-continent to change After a long struggle, their outlook and adopt a under the dynamic leaderdifferent course. ship of Quaid-i-Azam, the The Congress, like the Muslims got a separate British, had always ophomeland - Pakistan on Auposed the Muslims demand for separate homeland and gust 14, 1947. This day has, therefore, a historical impreferred a unitary form of government. This was portance, the day on which the downtrodden Muslims abundantly clear in the of the South Asia got a Nehru report as well as in place, where they could live the stand taken by the Infreely and mould their lives dian National Congress at accordance with the principles of Quran and the Round Table Conference. In both cases, it was Sunnah. On this day Pakistan emerged not only as the should be a unitary form of biggest Muslim state of the government with maximum Islamic world but also as a powers vested to the cenfifth largest country on the tre. The problem with the world map. If Pakistan had Congress leadership was not been created, the Musthat it always itself to exlims in India would have press the "of the nation" remained there as a namewithout realising the force states. of Muslim opinion opless nation or a religious posed to its policies and programmes. The Muslims minority. Pakistan is a great

gift of Allah, which came into being on 27th Ramzanwere not prepared to subal-Mubarak, Yaum-almit to a central government Juma, so that the Muslims with the Hindu majority should bow before Allah for domination. They realised this great favour of a soverthat they will remain "permanent minority" and could The Quaid, on the ocnot hope for turning the macasion of Independence jority rule in the opposite di-Day, in his message to the rection. The more they saw nation said: "It is with the the powers vested in the centre, the more they feared it feelings of the greatest hapmust necessarily, in practice, favour the Hindus, who formed the bulk of the popu-

Allama Iqbal considered Quaid-i-Azam as his mentor and used to write him letters on political issues. Iqbal wrote a letter to the Quaid on May 28, 1937 wherein he discussed the future of that Quaid-i-Azam should

Mountbatten. Mountbatten arrived on March 22, 1947 and he was warmly welcomed by Nehru. Lord Ismay had warned his government that this appointment was both a collusive acts with Congress and insult to the Muslims. After the decirecommended that there sion of the British Government. Mountbatten was trying to become the common Governor-General of India and Pakistan. He desired that after partition he should be the Governor-General of both of the new

> In mid-May Nehru invited Lord Mountbatten to continue as Governor-General of the new India and he immediately accepted the offer. In a meeting with the Quaid on July 2,1947 Lord Mountbatten put forward his proposal of a common Governor-General. However, Quaid-i-Azam did not agree with his proposal and informed Mountbatten that as all the Governors of the provinces after the establishment of Pakistan would still be British, as would be commanders of each of three armed services, the Governor-General must be a Pakistani to demonstrate that the country was really independent. Quaid-i-Azam also rejected his idea

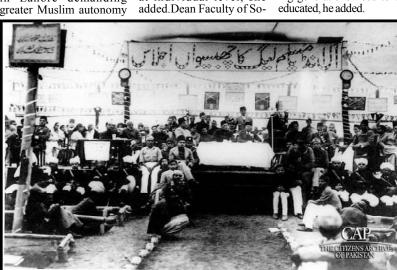
was no administrative machinery to assume the dayto-day official business. Actually Pakistan was born with a number of serious disadvantages. In 1947, it was not only, politically and administratively backward as compared to the rest of India but also economically the poorest part of the British India. Its economy was basically rural based. The majority of its

population lived in the countryside and threefourth of its GNP was contributed by the agricultural sector. The new country did not have its own currency. Being basically agricultural, the areas that in 1947 were set apart to form the State of Pakistan did not possess the institutional infrastructure to support a modern economy. În view of these handicaps, it was not therefore surprising that few people regarded Pakistan as economically not viable. The Quaid-i-Azam rose as a great Muslim leader in India. He galvanised and united the scattered Indian Muslims on the basis of Muslim nationhood. He categorically announced that there were two nations in India, Muslims and Hindus. He gave Muslims a destination in the form of a separate Muslim State in the Lahore Resolution, adopted by Muslim League

on March 23, 1940. The Quaid worked for the development of the areas comprising of Pakistan. He pressurised the British Government to introduce reforms in these areas. On the other hand he made Muslim League active in every corner of India. Due to his efforts, Muslim League branch was established in Baluchistan in 1939 and people of that area not only became aware of Muslim League but also supported Pakistan demand. Similarly under his leadership, Muslim League had also won all the four stan under the leader

wardness, and dedication for the cause. He was a great parliamentarian, his logic unassailable. He was unpurchaseable and had always the courage to say what he considered was in the interest of the Muslims of the Sub-continent. The problem of refugees and their rehabilitation was the most crucial, one, which faced Pakistan at the time of its creation. Over one million Muslims were killed ruthlessly. Nearly over twelve million Muslims had been forcibly driven from Indian territories into Pakistan. Mass killing of Muslims and mass exodus was maliciously designed to cripple the newly established Muslim State of Pakistan. Quaid-i-Azam met this challenge with courage and determination. He moved his headquarter to Lahore to give his personal attention to the problems of refugees. Quaid-i-Azam Relief fund was created in which rich and wealthy citizens of Pakistan were asked to donate generously for the rehabilitation of the refu-

Lord Mountbatten wanted to weaken Pakistan. He, therefore, influenced Radcliff to award Muslim majority Tahsils of Pathan Kot and Gurdaspur to India to provide land route to her to send its army to Kashmir. One of the major prob-lems, which the Government of Pakistan had to deal with, was that of finance. After partition the assets were to be distributed between the two countries as per agreed formula. But the Indian Government delayed the payment of Pakistan's share of assets with the intention to create as much disorder as possible and aggravate the economic crises in Pakistan. The finances of the country, however, were so carefully and efficiently managed by the Government of Paki-



# Pakistan moves towards achieving goals of its creation

The nation will reaffirm its commitment on 76th Independence Day to fully realize the sublime goals, set out by its founding father Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah

cades ago on Pakistan's his-

The founder had envisioned a peaceful, progressive and prosperous state, taking due care of masses, especially the poor, and where all citizens are equal in rights, dignity and self-

Pakistan came into being on August 14, 1947, under its leaders' philosophy of an independent state for Muslims, commonly known as a two-nation

Muslims in the subcontinent were facing untold misery and disgrace at the hands of British rulers and their Hindu partners, coupled with growing sobetween the two nations. They were also victims of poverty and economic depravity.

Over the years, the

two-nation theory has more than seven detoric emergence.

proven correct because all minorities living in India are still leading miserable life by all means under the dominance of extremist Hindus. "Hindus and Muslims belong to two different religious philosophies, social customs and literary traditions. They neither intermarry, nor eat together, and indeed they belong to two different civilizations which are based mainly on conflicting ideas and conceptions," the Quaid said in his presidential address to All-India Muslim

March 22, 1940. On August 11, 1947, Father of the Nation in his presidential address to the Constituent Assembly of and reshap.

League's Lahore session on

cial and economic disparity Pakistan said: "If we want to make this great State of Pakistan happy and prosperous, we should wholly and solely concentrate on the well-being of the people, and especially of the masses and the poor.

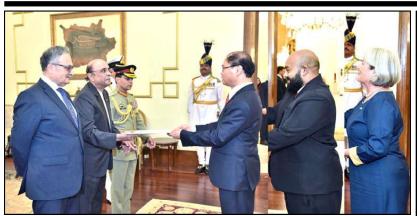
On another occasion during his 'broadcast talk' to the people of Australia on February 19, 1948, he said: "We follow the teachings of Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him). We are members of the brotherhood of Islam in which all are equal in rights, dignity and selfrespect.

Consequently, we have a special and very deep sense of unity.'

The incumbent government of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has striven to move forward on the right path, with top leadership pledging to fulfill the task of revamping







ISLAMABAD: The envoys of Vietnam, Maldives, and Ireland presenting their diplomatic credentials to President Asif Ali Zardari, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

### Visa fee for 126 countries waived under new visa policy: Tarar

Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, Culture and National Heritage Attaullah Tarar on Tuesday announced launch of a new visa policy under which visa fee for the nationals of 126 countries would be waved to boost tourism and attract foreign investment in the country. Addressing a news conference, the minister said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif would launch the new visa policy tonight which would allow 126 countries' residents to visit Pakistan in hassle-free manner. The new visa policy which is aimed at simplifying the visa process would come into effect tonight, he added.

According to him, the nationals of these countries

would get their visas within vast tourism potential and 10 minutes after filling an online form which had only 30 questions. The visa would be valid for 3 months and could be renewed in no time, he added.

The minister said the residents of gulf countries would get visa on arrival, while pilgrims would also be facilitated in this regard to boost the religious tourism in the country.

The beauty infrastructural development of Pakistan stunned the foreign tourists who left the country with sweet memories, he said, urging them to visit Pakistan which has been opened its doors to the world including travelers, businessmen and investors.

He said Pakistan had

tors every year In working for homeland's progress **PML-N MPs** 

### Dr. Rubaba stresses on importance of unity and collective effort

Ind. Day reminds of

great sacrifices of our

forefathers: Achakzai

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Advisor to Balochistan on Women Development, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi extended her heartfelt congratulations to

In a message on the occasion of Pakistan's 77th Independence Day being observed today (Wednesday), Dr. Rubaba Buledi emphasized that freedom is a priceless blessing, earned through the immense sacrifices of our forefathers. Today, we must renew our commitment to channel all our efforts towards the development and prosperity of our

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Speaker

Balochistan Assembly,

Captain (Retd) Abdul

Khaliq Achakzai has stated

that the Independence Day

reminds us of the great sac-

rifices rendered by our fore-

ment issued here on the eve

of Independence Day being

observed today (Wednes-

day), the Speaker said that

our elders waged untiring

struggle for getting the gift

is our motherland and as

such we should work to-

gether for ensuring develop-

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Speaker

Balochistan Assembly,

Captain (Retd) Abdul

Khaliq Khan Achakzai has

expressed deep grief and sorrow over killing of

Deputy Commissioner

Panjgur, Zakir Baloch in the

incident of firing in Khad

nation issued here on Tues-

day, the Speaker paid trib-

utes to the slain Deputy

Commissioner saying that

he was a dutiful and able

In an official condem-

Kocha area of Mastung.

He said that Pakistan

of freedom.

In an official state-

fathers for the freedom.

In her message, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi highlighted the unwavering contributions of the people of Balochistan towards the integrity and defense of the

She stressed the importance of unity and collective effort in working for the progress of our beloved homeland. She also underscored the need for women's equal participation in the development process, to realize the dream of a strong and prosperous Pakistan.

She prayed that Allah Almighty may keep our country safe and secure and guide it on the path of continuous development.

ment and prosperity of the

unite for betterment of the

nation setting aside our dif-

cial assembly also said that

Independence is a great

blessing of Allah Almighty.

We should be thankful to

Allah Almighty on the

countless blessings. We

should also work collec-

tively for the bright future

of country and nation, add-

to protect our national heri-

tage and sovereignty, the

officer, who served the

people of the province with

death of Deputy Commis-

sioner Panjgur is a big loss

of the province and nation.

the cowardly act of terror-

ism in which the Deputy

Commissioner was targeted

and martyred. He said that

we remember Zakir Baloch

as an enlightened and intel-

ligent officer whose vision

was the prosperous and de-

veloped Balochistan.

The Speaker said that

He also condemned

dedication and honesty.

Besides, we also have

ing he stressed.

Speaker maintained.

Speaker BA grieved over

killing of DC Panjgur;

terms death big loss

He stressed that let's

The Speaker provin-

## President Zardari stresses unity, stability on 78th Independence Day, urges investment in youth, women

PM vows for an inclusive, prosperous Pakistan; says economic policies vielding positive results

President Asif Ali Zardari, felicitated the nation on the 78th Independence Day, emphasized unity, integrity, and economic stability, urged following Quaid-e-Azam's teachings, called for investment in youth and women, and reaffirmed support for Kashmiris and Palestinians.

In his message on the occasion of the 78th Independence Day of Pakistan, being observed on 14th August 2024, the president said that the creation of Pakistan through peaceful and democratic means was a unique chapter in history, with homage paid to the leaders, workers of the Pakistan movement, and fore-

the government wanted the

foreigners to witness the

beauty of Pakistan which

is endowed with stunning

green valleys, famous deserts, beautiful oceans

and mesmerizing land-

provincial governments and

the secretary interior were informed that dedicated

desks would be established

to welcome tourists at the

airports. All the stakehold-

ers were taken on the board

to ensure safety and secu-

rity of tourists in the coun-

Baltistan received massive

inflow of foreign tourists

that even surpassed the

number of domestic visi-

delegation calls

on Ishaq Dar

QUETTA (APP): The del-

egation of Pakistan Muslim

League-Nawaz (PML-N)'s

parliamentarians led by

Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandukhail

met with Deputy Prime

Muhammad Ishaq Dar at

Governor House Quetta

here Tuesday. Speaker Na-

tional Assembly (NA)

Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and Fed-

eral Minister for Commerce

Jam Kamal Khan were also

present on the occasion.

During the meeting, overall

situation of the country,

ongoing development

projects and ensuring good

overnance were discussed.

In the meeting, it was agreed

to make the relations be-

tween the federation and

the provinces more stable

and pleasant with the aim

**Shahid Rind** congratulates

nation on

**I-Day** 

that the Balochistan Gov-

the Independence Day

with enthusiasm saying that

the celebrations started

from August 01 and the

grand finale would be held

He said that Governor Sheikh Jaffar Mandukhel,

Balochistan Chief Minis-

ter Mir Sarfraz Bagti

provincial ministers and

other political personali-

ties would participate in

the program on Indepen-

Three persons

killed in road

mishap

LORALAI (APP): Three persons have been killed

when a truck rammed into

Almadina hotel, a truck hit

a motorcycle due to over-

speeding, resultantly three

riders including Asad Khan,

Kaleemullah and Haji Faiz

Muhammed died on the

a case and started investi-

The police registered

On Dara road near

(APP)

QUETTA

in Ouetta.

dence Day.

motorcycle.

to develop the country.

Minister

He said

try, he added.

To a query, he said all

less sacrifices for the nation. Zardari stressed the need to set aside differences and work with dedication for the unity, integrity, and

economic stability of the country to cope with current challenges. He noted that Pakistan was blessed with abundant human and natural resources, and it was the re-

sponsibility of all to utilize

those for the welfare of the

people. He also stressed the importance of upholding the rule of law, strengthening democratic institutions, and working in the public interest to meet the high expectations of the nation.

The president urged drawing inspiration from

fathers, who made countship, emphasizing the importance of focusing on the well-being of the people, particularly the masses and the poor, to ensure Pakistan's prosperity.

He highlighted the need to invest in youth and women, enhance service delivery, and foster a business-friendly environment to build a stronger nation.

"We need to draw inspiration from the words of our Quaid and if we want to make this great State of masses and the poor.



ISLAMABAD: Naval Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf chairing command and staff conference of Pakistan Navy

### **PN Command & Staff** Conference reviews regional maritime situation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Command and Staff Conference of Pakistan Navy concluded here on Tuesday at Naval Headquarters chaired by Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf that reviewed maritime situation in North Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden and deliberated on measures for safety and security of national sea trade

During the conference, matters related to geo strategic milieu, national security, operational preparedness, training and welfare of troops were reviewed. Comprehensive briefing on important on-going and future developmental projects

passing through the region.

of Pakistan Navy was also given to Chief of the Naval Štaff, a Pakistan Navy news release said.

The Naval Chief expressed confidence over combat readiness and significant contribution of the Navy in maritime domain. Chief of the Naval Staff emphasized on strengthening maritime security and maintaining combat readiness so as to effectively respond to any aggression against Pakistan.

He urged on acquisition of niche and novel capabilities while exploiting indigenous sources in order to cope with modern day challenges in maritime do-

### **Interior Minister** calls on British

Counterpart
ISLAMABAD (APP):
Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi called on British Home Secretary Yvette Cooper during his visit to the United Kingdom. The Minister congratulated Yvette Cooper on assuming the office of British Home Secretary and expressed good wishes for her. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest, including legal assistance in criminal cases, effective border management, and measures to curb illegal immigration were discussed. The training of Pakistani police officers in the UK

was also discussed. The Minister wel comed the British cooperation in this regard and expressed his pleasure.



tary Yvette Cooper in London.

### Envoys of Vietnam, Maldives, Ireland present credentials to President

ISLAMABAD (APP): The envoys of Vietnam, Maldives and Ireland presented their diplomatic credentials to President Asif Ali Zardari, during a credential ceremony, held at Aiwan-e-Sadr, on Tuesday.

The President received credentials from the Ambassador-designate of Mohamed Thoha, and Ambassador-designate of Ireland, Ms Mary O'Neil, who also held separate meetings with the President.

Welcoming the envoys, the president felicitated them on their appointment and expressed the hope that they would play their role in further improv- Armed Forces upon their ing mutually beneficial co- arrival at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

operation with Pakistan. The president said that Pakistan wanted to further solidify trade, economic and investment relations with friendly countries in all areas of mutual interest. He remarked that Pakistan was focused on boosting bilateral trade volume with all friendly coun-Vietnam, Pham Anh Tuan, High Commissioner-designate of Maldives, Uz ment opportunities in diverse fields and businesses should invest in agriculture, energy, infrastructure, manufacturing, information technology, mining, and green technologies sectors.

Earlier, the envoys were presented guard of honour by a smartly turnedout contingent of Pakistan

### **Governor directs NHA to** timely complete works on Balochistan highways

OUETTA (APP): Governor with other provinces. Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandukhail on Tuesday directed the National Highway Authority (NHA) to focus on developing its national highways and ensure its timely completion with standard. He said that comple-

tion of works on highways would not only boost our economy but also improve the lives of our citizens. He expressed these

views while giving a briefing to National Highway Authority West Zone Member Basharat Hussain at Governor House Quetta. Governor Balochistan

said that national highways have a key role in the con- ated. struction and development

He said that in the context of Balochistan, Karachi to Chaman N25 and Quetta to Zhob N50 highways should be given more priority as they were imconnecting Balochistan

He said that it has been observed that by assigning manageable tasks to the respective contractors to ensure the timely completion of national highways, they would not only complete their part of the work within the stipulated time while it also made the consortium companies accountable.

He said that for standard construction of national highways, adherence to pre-approved structures and use of standard materials could be beneficial.

The Governor said that the speed of construction of all bridges in the province should be acceler-

Emphasizing on the construction of a flyove near the Western Bypass Khizi Chowk in the provincial capital Quetta, he said that the construction of a flyover on the Western By would help in smooth traffic flow, reducing congesportant national highways tion and promoting eco-



OUETTA: An illuminated view of Metropolitan cor poration building decoration with national flag color lights in connection 77th Independence Day cel-

### Ahsan vows to revive dev. trajectory, include Pak in top-10 economies

SLAMABAD (APP): economies of the world by Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Tuesday renewed his commitment to place the country on a national growth trajectory and include it among the world's top ten economies.

"We will once again turn the wheel of the economy and give the youth a Pakistan that will be among the top ten Day.

2047," he said, promising a future where the country's youth would inherit a thriving and prosperous state. The minister ex-

pressed this resolve while addressing the Istehkam-e-Pakistan seminar organized by the Islamic International University Islamabad (IIUI) in connection with the 78th Independence

The spokesman of

Meanwhile, the Direc-

General BFA,

BFA said that the legal ac-

tion has been started against

the distributor of fake cold

Attiqullah Khan said that

the stern action would be

### Crackdown against fake cold drinks with forged labels of famous brands in Quetta

**Independent Report** QUETTA: In a major crack-

down, the Balochistan Food Authority (BFA) seized huge consignment of the fake cold drinks having forged labels of different famous brands from a godiwn in the outskirt of Quetta on Tuesday. The spokesman of

BFA informed that the raid was conducted at a godown cum distribution unit located in Akhtarabad area of Ouetta on a secret informa-

During the raid, around 10,000 liters of fake cold drinks were recovered

taken against the production unit producing the fake cold The DG BDA said that adulteration and forg-

erv is a serious offence and as such stern action would be taken against those involved in it.

He warned that BFA would not tolerate those involved in forgery

QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti presiding over high level meeting regarding law and order situation Raisani emphasis need to remember

> Quaid's vision on Independence Day People's Party (PPP) leader Nawabzada Jamal Khan Balochistan Government Raisani Tuesday extended his greetings to the nation Spokesman Shahid Rind on on the occasion of Indepen-Tuesday congratulated the dence Day and emphasized whole nation on the occathe need to remember the sion of Independence Day. vision of Quaid-e-Azam Talking to APP, he said Muhammad Ali Jinnah, which led to the creation of ernment would celebrate

a free nation. "Today, we must honor the great sacrifices made by our elders for this embrace the message that Quaid-e-Azam gave about the youth," he said while

talking to APP. He said that Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah regarded the youth as the architects of this nation, urging them to serve the country with dedication, hard work, and discipline. Nawabzada Jamal Kĥan Raisani, who lost his father and 300 comrades in a terrorist attack, stated, "I believe in the ideology of

mocracy is the best revenge.' We must strengthen democracy, justice and equality by following the principles of Quaid-e-Azam to fulfill the dreams He said that the progress and prosperity of

the country depend on the capabilities and positive role of our youth. "We must advance in education and skills to build a strong and Mohtarma developed nation



# **Empowering women** imperative for achieving economic growth: Gilani

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani Tuesday said that empowering women to take leadership roles in climate action will lead to more innovative and comprehensive solutions, driving progress in environmental conservation and

sustainability. 'The impacts of rising temperatures, erratic weather patterns, and natural disasters disproportionately affect women and marginalized communities and it is imperative that response to these challenges is inclusive, equitable, and transformative" he expressed these views at a

of the delegation of Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD).

The delegation was led by Secretary General of AFPPD Ďr. Sirathranout. He felicitated Romina

Khurshid Alam, Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, the Ministry, Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, and all the stakeholders for organizing such a significant and impactful conference on an issue that resonates deeply with our national and regional priorireception hosted in honor ties.

### **IHC summons** secretaries interior, defense in missing persons' case ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court

(IHC) on Tuesday summoned secretaries of interior and defense, IGP ICT and DG FIA in person on non-compliance of orders to recover two missing broth-The court also sum-

espondents to clarify that why a contempt of court proceeding shouldn't be initiated against them for non-compliance of orders.

QUETTA: Chairman Public Accounts Committee Asghar Ali Tareen presiding over a meeting regarding audit paras of Agriculture Department and

moned Attorney General of Pakistan (AGP) for assistance in the same case on August 15. The bench asked the