

# Independent

dailyindisb@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah www.dailyindependent.com.pk Hub

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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 its people. He said that it is necessary that Balochistan gets its 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 is bright and this country



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

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: 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

we pay tributes to the sacrifices, hardships and struggle of our forefathers while celebrating the Independence day with pride.

However, we need to realize the new generation about the sacrifices rendered by our elders in freedom of our country.

He mentioned that our forefathers have been in forefront in strengthening the All India Muslim League.

He said that freedom is a great blessing, and it is our responsibility to maintain it.

He stressed that let's unite for celebrating our freedom, unity and unwavering spirit of Pakistan.



QUETTA: Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar and Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti head to the Governor House from Quetta Airport.

## Bilawal reaffirms PPP dedication to uphold principles of democracy

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

In a message on the occasion 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.

Bilawal Bhutto reiterated the PPP's commitment to advancing the nation's progress and unity by strengthening democracy in line with the vision of Pakistan's founding fathers.

"As we celebrate Independence Day, we honor the sacrifices made by our forefathers who fought for our freedom and sovereignty. Today is a day to reflect on the vision of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and his democratic ideals. It is 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 autocratic rule that undermined basic freedoms and rights."

Bilawal Bhutto emphasized that the PPP remains committed to the principles and vision of the founding fathers.



QUETTA: Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar being briefed by Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti and Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir 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):** Prime Minister 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

as a united team. In his opening remarks at the federal cabinet meeting, he expressed his deep belief that teamwork is essential for achieving success.

He emphasized the importance of learning from past mistakes and moving forward with relentless day-and-night efforts to build the nation envisioned by Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

This year on Independence Day, he said, the entire nation will reaffirm its commitment to work tirelessly for the country's progress.

**Two terrorists killed as search operation starts in Mastung**  
**Independent Report**

QUETTA: Two terrorists were killed during search operation started against the terrorists following the terrorist attack at the vehicle of Deputy Commissioner Panjur in Mastung area on Tuesday.

The sources of Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) informed that the search operation was started against terrorists in Mastung.

The CTD, Police, Levies and Quick Response Force (QRF) are taking part in the search operation being carried out in Mastung after the incident of terrorism that claimed life of Deputy Commissioner Panjur.

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.

## Funeral prayer of martyr Deputy Commissioner Panjur offered

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The funeral prayer of martyr Deputy Commissioner Panjur, Zakir Baloch was offered at the Central 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



Khalique Sheikh, Deputy Inspector General of Police and other high ups.

After offering funeral prayer, the body of Deputy Commissioner Panjur was sent to the native town, Turbat for burial.

Earlier, the Governor, Chief Minister and other high ups laid floral wreath at the coffin of martyr Deputy Commissioner.

It may be mentioned here that Deputy Commissioner Panjur, Zakir Baloch was gunned down by unknown armed assailants while he was on his way to Quetta from Panjur on Monday night.

The Chairman Municipal Committee Panjur, 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):** 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 India.

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 in 2021.

Last month, five individuals with a radioactive device reportedly stolen from Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC) were also found from Dehradun.

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 India.

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.



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

## 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**  
on Tuesday.  
The prominent personalities present on the occasion were Deputy Speaker National Assembly, Ishaq Dar, Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Federal Minister, Jam Kamal, Governor sheikh Jaffar Mandokhail, Corps Commander Lt General Rahat Nasim Ahmed Khan, provincial ministers and other high ups.

A large number of people gathered at the spacious stadium to witness the ceremony.  
The Chief Minister said it is matter of great

## President strongly condemns attack on Panjur DC

**ISLAMABAD (APP):** President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday strongly condemned the attack on the Deputy Commissioner of Panjur Zakir Baloch in the Mastung district of Balochistan. The president expressed his deep grief over the martyrdom of the deputy commissioner in the attack.

Conveying condolence to the bereaved family of Zakir Baloch, he prayed to Allah Almighty to grant them strength to bear the loss and also for the elevation of the martyred soul's ranks in paradise.

## Opposition evolves plan to give tough time 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-Tahaffuz-Ayeen, Maulana Fazlur Rehman, head of JUI-F, Chairman PTI Gohar Ali Khan, Asad Qaisar, Umar Ayoub 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.

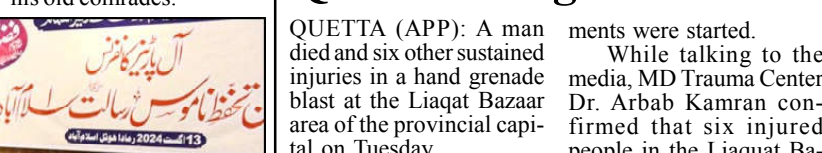
Sources said PTI leaders heard complaints of Maulana Fazlur Rehman.

## 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 Shahak has been killed by his own associate. He remained involved in high profile terrorist activities.

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



QUETTA (APP): A man died and six other sustained injuries in a hand grenade blast at the Liaquat Bazaar area of the provincial capital on Tuesday.

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

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-

mentations were started.

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.

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

**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.

## PM announces cash price of Rs150m for Arshad Nadeem

**ISLAMABAD (APP):** Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday announced a cash award of Rs150 million (15 crore) to Olympian and gold medal-

ist Arshad Nadeem besides a number of other initiatives to recognize his historic feat in javelin throw competition of Paris Olympics 2024.

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 Olympics.

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.

## 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 reduced 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).

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Daily Voice of Masses 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.

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.

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.

Can Tel Aviv's assertions that it is ready to discuss a ceasefire really be taken seriously in the aftermath of such bloodbaths?

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.

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 prevent harm to both the person and wider society.

Australia's recipe

Mohammad Ali Babakhel

With more than 100 different faiths and over 300 languages, Australia is one of the world's most culturally and linguistically diverse nations.

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.

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 prevent harm to both the person and wider society.

In Australia, new migrants with low income and high unemployment rates are often vulnerable to extremist narratives. New migrants for whom English is a second language are uncertain about navigating systems in a new country and may feel isolated.

drive them to amplify their voices online, further exposing them to extremist influences. This is why reducing access to extremist material and empowering communities to combat terrorist narratives are among Australia's priorities.

collaboratively and quietly at the global, regional, and bilateral levels. In the 2002 Bali bombings, 202 people, including 88 Australians, were killed, representing the single most significant loss of Australian life due to terrorism.

The Australian strategy includes six principles: lives must be protected; the government and the community must tackle terrorism together; terrorist acts should be prosecuted through the criminal justice system; international partnerships should be built; community and national resilience should be strengthened; and Australia's counterterrorism (CT) arrangements should reflect the changing threat environment.

Australia's recipe for CVE is based on the belief that unity of effort works, partnerships matter, and teamwork makes everything possible. Australia's approach acknowledges that the threat is persistent and dynamic; hence, it never remains static.

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Saving lives

Naseem Salahuddin

Sanitation and 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.

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 of Immunisation (EPI), their acceptance is inconsistent.

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.

boy and observed that his subject remained protected. He used his innovation in his native town, stemming the spread of smallpox.

The Latin word for cow is 'vacca', and cowpox is 'vaccinia'; Jenner called this procedure vaccination. The process was subsequently refined and became mandatory globally. The last naturally occurring smallpox case was reported in Somalia in 1977.

Efforts expanded to combat other IDs. Universal immunisation against Hepatitis B has saved millions from liver failure and liver cancer. Life-saving vaccines are available today against viral influenza, bacterial pneumonia, meningitis, tetanus, typhoid, and cholera.

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 pandemic was met with swift vaccine development, illustrating the critical role vaccines play in combating global health crises. Encouraging results from

field trials of vaccines against malaria, dengue, and TB are in the development or testing phases. However, not all IDs are vaccine-preventable. While they are playing havoc globally, 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 immune system is the presence of 'memory cells'. Even years later, a booster shot will awaken resting cells and enhance protection.

If at least two-thirds 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 receive vaccinations.

Most 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 specific infections must be prioritised but must not replace water, sanitation and hygiene.

International News

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

Monitoring Desk

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.

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.

Mediators have spent months trying to get the sides to agree to a three-phase plan in which Hamas would release the remaining hostages captured in its Oct. 7 attack in exchange for Palestinians imprisoned by Israel, and Israel would 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 Gaza Strip and one of them landed in the sea off central Israel.

US says it had no role in ousting of Bangladesh's Hasina

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: The United States had no role in ousting Bangladesh Prime 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."

More than 200 prisoners are evacuated in Lebanon amid concerns about wider war Lebanese authorities have evacuated prisoners from police stations in Beirut's southern suburbs and southern Lebanon to other parts of the country out of concerns about possible war with Israel, judicial and security officials say.

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 consultation."

House explosion in Maryland kills 2 and damages nearby homes

Monitoring Desk

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 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.

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

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: The 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.

Indonesia 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.

700 migrants reach Britain on 11 boats

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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.



Russian President Vladimir Putin attends a meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas outside Moscow, Russia.

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Muslim guard rescues girl from knife attacker in London

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.

Putin tells Abbas of 'great pain' at Palestinian plight

Monitoring Desk

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.

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

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KYIV: President 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 region.

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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.

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.

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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 arriving.

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 its air space.

In his nightly video 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 Syrskyi 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 attacks.





## Pakistan was inevitable

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

and since then Sindh became the Gateway to Islam in India. Shahabuddin Muhammad Ghauri was the first Muslim warrior who was responsible for the establishment of Muslim rule in India. After the defeat of Pirthvi Raj in the second battle of Tarain in 1192, Sultan Mohammad Ghauri appointed Qutbuddin Aibak as his Viceroy to consolidate his empire. The last Muslim dynasty, which ruled in India was the Mughul dynasty. In 1857, the Muslims lost the War of Independence and last Mughul Emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar, was deposed and made prisoner, hence, the Muslims became subjects of British India. Thus, Hindus got new masters and the British needed for their support, against the Muslims, who favoured them in every walk of life. For about a century Indians remained under the British rule, who were not only deprived 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 India, 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 to develop the country.



**There is no Power on Earth that can undo Pakistan.**

**M A Jinnah**

After a long struggle, under the dynamic leadership of Quaid-i-Azam, the Muslims got a separate homeland - Pakistan on August 14, 1947. This day has, therefore, a historical importance, the day on which the downtrodden Muslims of the South Asia got a place, where they could live freely and mould their lives according to the principles of Quran and Sunnah. On this day Pakistan emerged not only as the biggest Muslim state of the Islamic world but also as a fifth largest country on the world map. If Pakistan had not been created, the Muslims in India would have remained there as a nameless nation or a religious minority. Pakistan is a great gift of Allah, which came into being on 27th Ramzan-al-Mubarak, Yaum-al-Juma, so that the Muslims should bow before Allah for this great favour of a sovereign state.

The Quaid, on the occasion of Independence Day, in his message to the nation said: "It is with the feelings of the greatest happiness and emotion that I send you my greetings. August 14 is the birthday of the independent and sovereign state of Pakistan. It marks the fulfillment of the destiny of the Muslim nation which made great sacrifices in the past few years to have its homeland." He added: "Today is Jumma-tul-wida, last Friday of the Holy month of Ramazan, a day of rejoicing for all of us wherever we may be in this vast Sub-continent and for the matter of that throughout the world. Let the Muslim congregations in

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-Muslims. Why should not the Muslim of north-west India and Bengal be considered as a nation entitled to self-determination just as other nations in India and outside India are? Personally I think that the Muslims of north-west India and Bengal ought to ignore at present the Muslim minority provinces. This is the best course to adopt in the interests of both Muslim majority and minority provinces." Atlee the Prime Minister of Great Britain announced on February 20, 1947 that transfer of power to responsible Indians not later than June 1948 would take place. It was simultaneously announced that Wavell was being recalled and replaced by the Viscount

Mountbatten. Lord 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 act with Congress and insult to the Muslims. After the decision 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 states.

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 that Quaid-i-Azam should

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 problems, 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 Pakistan under the leader.

being 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 your assets and the future of Pakistan." Due to the opposition of Atlee, 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 was the only 'solution' of the problem of India. Any idea of a United India could never have worked and in 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-continent.

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

was no administrative machinery to assume the day-to-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 three-fourth 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. In 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

in British India. 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 recreational spots to mark the holiday. This is also the time to

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-

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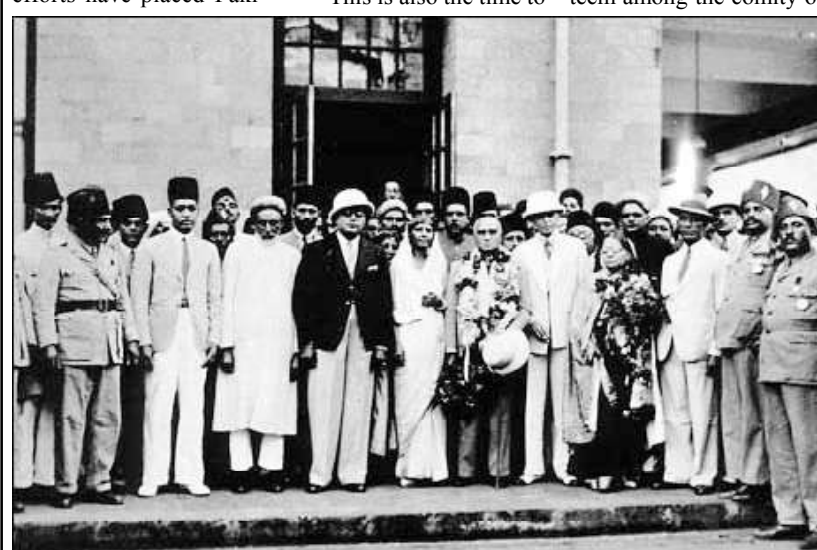
## Independence Day: A day to commemorate matchless sacrifices of freedom fighters

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-

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## 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 more than seven decades ago on Pakistan's historic emergence. 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-respect.

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

Muslims in the sub-continent were facing untold misery and disgrace at the hands of British rulers and their Hindu partners, coupled with growing so-

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

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 added. Dean Faculty of So-



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 self-respect."

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 and reshaping.





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

ISLAMABAD (APP): 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 waived 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 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 and 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 vast tourism potential and the government wanted the foreigners to witness the beauty of Pakistan which is endowed with stunning green valleys, famous deserts, beautiful oceans and mesmerizing landscapes.

To a query, he said all provincial governments and the secretary interior were informed that dedicated desks would be established to welcome tourists at the airports. All the stakeholders were taken on the board to ensure safety and security of tourists in the country, he added.

He said Gilgit Baltistan received massive inflow of foreign tourists that even surpassed the number of domestic visitors every year.

## In working for homeland's progress Dr. Rubaba stresses on importance of unity and collective effort

Independent Report  
QUETTA: The Advisor to Chief Minister of Balochistan on Women Development, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi extended her heartfelt congratulations to the nation.

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 country.

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

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.

## PML-N MPs delegation calls on Ishaq Dar

QUETTA (APP): The delegation of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N)'s parliamentarians led by Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandukhail met with Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) Muhammad Ishaq Dar at Governor House Quetta here Tuesday. Speaker National Assembly (NA) Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and Federal 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 governance were discussed. In the meeting, it was agreed to make the relations between the federation and the provinces more stable and pleasant with the aim to develop the country.

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

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): 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 forefathers, who made countless 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 responsibility 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 Quaid-e-Azam's leadership, 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 Pakistan happy and prosperous, we should wholly and solely concentrate on the well-being of the people, especially of the 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 passing through the region.

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 of Pakistan Navy was also given to Chief of the Naval Staff, 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 domain.

## 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 welcomed the British cooperation in this regard and expressed his pleasure.



LONDON: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi shaking hands with British Home Secretary 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 Vietnam, Pham Anh Tuan, High Commissioner-designate of Maldives, Uz 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 improving mutually beneficial cooperation 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 countries. He stated that Pakistan offered great investment 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 turned-out contingent of Pakistan Armed Forces upon their arrival at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

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

QUETTA (APP): Governor 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 completion 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 Bisharat Hussain at Governor House Quetta.

Governor Balochistan said that national highways have a key role in the construction and development of the country and provinces.

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 important national highways connecting Balochistan with other provinces.

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 accelerated.

Emphasizing on the construction of a flyover near the Western Bypass Khizi Chowk in the provincial capital Quetta, he said that the construction of a flyover on the Western Bypass would help in smooth traffic flow, reducing congestion and promoting economic development.



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti presiding over high level meeting regarding law and order situation

## Ind. Day reminds of great sacrifices of our forefathers: Achakzai

Independent Report  
QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai has stated that the Independence Day reminds us of the great sacrifices rendered by our forefathers for the freedom.

In an official statement issued here on the eve of Independence Day being observed today (Wednesday), the Speaker said that our elders waged untiring struggle for getting the gift of freedom.

He said that Pakistan is our motherland and as such we should work together for ensuring development and prosperity of the country.

He stressed that let's unite for betterment of the nation setting aside our differences.

The Speaker provincial 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 collectively for the bright future of country and nation, adding he stressed.

Besides, we also have to protect our national heritage and sovereignty, the Speaker maintained.

## Shahid Rind congratulates nation on I-Day

QUETTA (APP): Balochistan Government Spokesman Shahid Rind on Tuesday congratulated the whole nation on the occasion of Independence Day. Talking to APP, he said that the Balochistan Government would celebrate the Independence Day with enthusiasm saying that the celebrations started from August 01 and the grand finale would be held in Quetta.

He said that Governor Sheikh Jaffar Mandukhail, Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bagti, provincial ministers and other political personalities would participate in the program on Independence Day.

## Raisani emphasis need to remember Quaid's vision on Independence Day

QUETTA (APP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Nawabzada Jamal Khan Raisani Tuesday extended his greetings to the nation on the occasion of Independence Day and emphasized the need to remember the vision of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, which led to the creation of a free nation.

"Today, we must honor the great sacrifices made by our elders for this homeland, and particularly 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 Khan Raisani, who lost his father and 300 comrades in a terrorist attack, stated, "I believe in the ideology of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, that 'democracy is the best revenge.' We must strengthen democracy, justice and equality by following the principles of Quaid-e-Azam to fulfill the dreams of our martyrs."

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 developed nation."



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandukhail being briefed by Member NHA West Zone Balochistan Bisharat Hussain regarding NHA

## Speaker BA grieved over killing of DC Panjgur; terms death big loss

Independent Report  
QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai has expressed deep grief and sorrow over killing of Deputy Commissioner Panjgur, Zakir Baloch in the incident of firing in Khad Kocha area of Mastung.

In an official condemnation issued here on Tuesday, the Speaker paid tributes to the slain Deputy Commissioner saying that he was a dutiful and able officer, who served the people of the province with dedication and honesty.

The Speaker said that death of Deputy Commissioner Panjgur is a big loss of the province and nation.

He also condemned the cowardly act of terrorism in which the Deputy Commissioner was targeted and martyred. He said that we remember Zakir Baloch as an enlightened and intelligent officer whose vision was the prosperous and developed Balochistan.

## Three persons killed in road mishap

LORALAI (APP): Three persons have been killed when a truck ramed into a motorcycle.

On Dara road near Almadina hotel, a truck hit a motorcycle due to over-speeding, resultantly three riders including Asad Khan, Kaleemullah and Haji Faiz Muhammad died on the spot.

The police registered a case and started investigation.

## 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 reception hosted in honor of the delegation of Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD).

The delegation was led by Secretary General of AFPPD Dr. Jeth Sirathanout.

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 priorities.



QUETTA: An illuminated view of Metropolitan corporation building decoration with national flag color lights in connection 77th Independence Day celebration.

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): 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 economies of the world by 2047," he said, promising a future where the country's youth would inherit a thriving and prosperous state.

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

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

Independent Report  
QUETTA: In a major crackdown, the Balochistan Food Authority (BFA) seized huge consignment of the fake cold drinks having forged labels of different famous brands from a godown in the outskirts 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 Quetta on a secret information.

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

The spokesman of BFA said that the legal action has been started against the distributor of fake cold drinks.

Meanwhile, the Director General BFA, Attiqullah Khan said that the stern action would be taken against the production unit producing the fake cold drinks.

The DG BFA said that adulteration and forgery 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: Chairman Public Accounts Committee Asghar Ali Tareen presiding over a meeting regarding audit paras of Agriculture Department and Cooperatives