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Will share good news on electricity bill reduction with nation soon: PM

Urges nation to support govt in making Pakistan stable, prosperous

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday, congratulating the nation on the 78th Pakistan Independence Day, urged the people especially the youth to support the government in its efforts to make the country, prosperous, stable and peaceful.

He said the youth were the bright future of the country who could play their role in the country's development.

"The next few years are crucial for you and the country, so only focus on your studies and attaining skilled-based education, and do not indulge yourself in the negative agenda of the enemy who is out to target you and utilize your capabilities in anti-state activities," he asked the youth while addressing a ceremony held here in connection with the independence day celebrations.

Unfortunately, he said the enemy was now using digital terrorism tools to sabotage the country's development journey.

On the occasion of the Independence Day, the prime minister extended his heartfelt felicitations to the people of Pakistan and paid homage to the immense sacrifices of forefathers and countless unsung heroes of the Pakistan Movement, who fought tirelessly for an independent country for millions in South Asia, where they could live according to their beliefs and values.

As envisioned by Allama Muhammad Iqbal, Pakistan emerged as an independent and sovereign state on the map of the world on 14th August 1947 through the unwavering and steadfast leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and unmatched sacrifices of our ancestors, he added.

Continued on page 2



PISHIN: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti addressing a ceremony held in connection with Independence Day

Green courts' campaign gets underway: CJ BHC vows to form such a society where every person gets basic rights

Mr Justice Muhammad Hashim Khan announces to introduce Green Courts, all judges to plant one sapling each

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief Justice of Pakistan Muhammad Hashim Khan on Wednesday announced the introduction of Green Courts, where every individual gets one's basic rights.

He stressed that every person and institution make endeavour to form such a country where there every one gets rights as per the constitution and law, where life of all citizens is protected and where there is no concept of illegal detention and every one has the opportunity of fair trial.

These views were expressed by the Chief Justice High Court while addressing the flag hoisting ceremony on Independence Day at the High Court building premises on Wednesday.

The judges of High court and subordinate courts, office bearers of the bar associations and senior lawyers, their children were present.

The Chief Justice on the occasion extended heartfelt greetings to the 77th Independence Day to

Continued on page 2



QUETTA: Inspector General Frontier Corps, Inspector General of Police Balochistan and Provincial Ministers attending Independence Day Ceremony

President confers national awards on 104 Pakistanis, foreigners on I. Day

Nishan-e-Pakistan to be posthumously awarded to former PM Zulfikar Ali Bhutto for his public services

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Wednesday announced the conferment of Pakistan's national awards on 104 Pakistanis and foreigners, in recognition of their services, excellence and sacrifices in their respective fields.

The awards were announced on Pakistan's 78th Independence Day which will be presented to the awardees at an investiture ceremony on March 23, 2025.

The president conferred the awards to individuals in the fields including education and engineering, science, medicine, arts, literature, sports, social ser-

Continued on page 2

Adiala Jail deputy superintendent arrested for facilitating Imran Khan

RAWALPINDI (INP): Adiala Jail deputy superintendent Muhammad Akram was taken into custody for allegedly facilitating Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder and former prime minister Imran Khan in the prison.

The security agencies detained Adiala Jail deputy superintendent Muhammad Akram on the charges of misusing his powers.

Akram is accused of facilitating PTI founder Imran Khan and allegedly acting as a messenger for him. The security agencies informed the Inspector General of Prisons about the situation, and he had already been removed from his position.

The agencies are investigating the deputy superintendent Muhammad Akram, and departmental action will be taken following the probe.

Balochistan govt accepts land gifted by CJP, his brother

QUETTA (Online): Balochistan government has accepted the land gifted by the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa and his brother Qazi Azmat.

According to sources environmental centre for public welfare will be built on the gifted land wherein several activities for students and tourists will be carried out.

Exhibition hall, tourist centre and seminar hall will also be set up in environmental centre.

The gifted 31680 square feet land lies adjacent to the Quaid-e-Azam's Residency at Ziarat.

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ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif hoists the national flag at the Pakistan Monument on the 78th Independence Day.

Local Government system to be strengthened: New divisions and districts should be established on administrative grounds, says Chief Minister

Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti announces to set up 50-bedded hospital in Pishin; forms committee for review of matters about forming Pishin as separate division; announces grant of Rs. 100 million for Pishin Local Council

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has categorically stated that new divisions and districts should be formed on administrative basis as the districts can't be formed on linguistic basis.

He said that Pakistan is our first identity and we must be proud of it. He said that local government system would be strengthened further. He said that the grant of local councils has been made double in the budget.

He announced to form a committee for taking review of the matter about formation of Pishin as separate division. The committee would review the related matters in this regard.

The Chief Minister was addressing a ceremony held to mark the Independence Day at Rest House, Pishin on Wednesday.

The Provincial Ministers, members of provincial assembly and other dignitaries were present at the occasion. The Chief Minister announced to start certain new projects for development of Pishin. He mentioned that Pishin is the district the elders of which always supported Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. He also said that the elders of Pishin have proved their loyalty with Pakistan. He said that education and health are priorities of the provincial government.

He said that the school or college teacher who is drawing salary from the government can't sit at home without teaching children.

He on the occasion announced to upgrade one middle school of Pishin as High one. Moreover, he announced to set up 50-bedded hospital in Pishin besides announcing Rescue 1122 service for the highway in district. He also announced to consider demand about setting up of sub-campus of Balochistan University in Pishin. Besides, he announced grant of Rs. 100 million for the Pishin local council.



QUETTA: Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar and Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti inaugurating Quetta Solid Waste Management project. Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Federal Minister Jam Kamal Khan, Speaker Balochistan Assembly Abdul Khaliq Achakzai, Provincial Ministers and high officials are also present

Quetta solid waste management project made functional in short span of three months

QUETTA: The Quetta solid waste management project was made functional here on Wednesday. The Deputy Prime Minister, Muhammad Ishaq Dar and Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti formally inaugurated the project, which is being considered as first of its kind in the history of country.

Also present on the occasion were Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Federal Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan and other high ups.

While speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister congratulated the Commission

Continued on page 2

One killed, eleven including children injured in grenade attacks

QUETTA: Unidentified assailants lobbed a grenade attack on a hotel near Quetta railway station on Wednesday, leaving one person died and eleven other including children, injured. The attack, which targeted the busy area, sent shockwaves through the city, raising concerns about security. The injured were rushed to the trauma center of the civil hospital Quetta for medical treatment. Police reached the spot as an investigation into the incident went underway.

The injured were immediately provided with medical aid and transferred to Civil Hospital Quetta for further treatment. The condition of the victims is reported to be stable, but the attack has left the local community on edge. Shortly after the first blast, a second explosion occurred near Joint Road, injuring a total of seven people.

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Deputy Premier hoists national flag at BA We have to make Pakistan economic power after becoming atomic power, announces Ishaq Dar

Deputy Prime Minister emphasizes we have to take Pakistan at place which was dreamed by Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Muhammad Iqbal

QUETTA: The Deputy Prime Minister, Muhammad Ishaq Dar has reiterated the federal government's resolve to make Pakistan economic power after becoming atomic power.

"We have to achieve what Allah Almighty has written in our destiny. It is desire of the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif to improve economy and GDP of the country. Pakistan would have to emerge shining star in future and we would see Pakistan becoming developed and including in G20", stated the Deputy Prime Minister while addressing the flag hoisting ceremony at the Provincial Assembly's law on Wednesday.

The Deputy Prime Minister extended greetings of the Independence Day to the people of Balochistan on his as well as behalf of the President and Prime Minister.

The flag hoisting ceremony was attended by the Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, Speaker Provincial Assembly, Abdul Khaliq Achakzai, Federal Minister for Commerce and including in G20", stated the Deputy Prime Minister.



QUETTA: Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar cuts cake during the flag hoisting ceremony at the lawn of Balochistan Assembly to mark the Independence Day, CM Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti, Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and federal commerce minister Jam Kamal are also present.

Flag hoisting ceremonies held at Armed Forces HQs CJCS, services chiefs felicitate nation on Independence Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Armed Forces of Pakistan, the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and the Services Chiefs extended heartfelt felicitations to the nation on the Independence Day of Pakistan, a momentous occasion that commemorates the realization of a long-cherished dream of a separate homeland for Muslims.

On this auspicious day, the Armed Forces of Pakistan paid tribute to the visionary founding fathers and valiant veterans, who rendered supreme sacrifices in their unwavering pursuit of freedom and self-determination. Their unrelenting spirit and sacrifices continue to inspire generations, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said on Wednesday.

"The Armed Forces reaffirm their unwavering commitment to defending Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity and values, upholding the trust reposed in them by the nation. As we celebrate this Independence Day, we reiterate our resolve to preserve our hard-won freedom with honor, dignity and an unshakable commitment to our cherished ideals. Long live Pakistan!", the ISPR said.



QUETTA: Provincial Advisor Naseemur Rehman Mulakhail leading a rally on eve of 77th Independence Day

Grand flag hoisting ceremony at BA lawn attended by Deputy PM, Speaker NA, other dignitaries

QUETTA: The grand flag hoisting ceremony was held at the lush green lawn of Balochistan Assembly here on Wednesday morning.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Muhammad Ishaq Dar hoisted the national flag along with the Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Speaker Provincial Assembly, Captain (Ret) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai, Federal Minister Jam Kamal Khan and other dignitaries.

Also present at the ceremony were the provincial ministers, members of provincial assembly as well as the Chief Secretary Balochistan, Shakeel Qadir Khan, Inspector General of Police, senior civil and military officers, dignitaries from different walks of life, besides others.

The students of different educational institutions also participated in the ceremony. They also presented national songs.

The siren was rung at the ceremony marking celebrations of Independence Day.

Special arrangements including security were made to ensure no untoward incident is occurred on the occasion.

Meanwhile, the flag hoisting ceremony was also held in the premises of Balochistan High Court where the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Muhammad Hashim Kakar hoisted the national flag. The ceremony was attended by the judges of higher and subordinate courts besides the senior lawyers, office bearers of different bar associations and their children.

Similarly, flag hoisting ceremony was also held at the Quaid-e-Azam residency, Ziarat. The Commandant of FC, Lorlai Scouts, Brigadier Razaq Ahmed and Deputy Commissioner Ziarat, Liaquat Ali Kakar hoisted the national flag.

The similar flag hoisting ceremonies were also held in different other cities of the province.



QUETTA: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar along with Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti, Chief Minister Balochistan, Ayaz Sadiq, Speaker National Assembly and others watching fireworks during ceremony on the occasion of 77th Independence Day of Pakistan

Pak missions celebrate 78th Independence Day with traditional zeal

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's missions across the globe on Wednesday celebrated the 78th Independence Day with various colorful events to mark the significance of the historic day.

Embassies, Consulate Generals and High Commissions in different countries held flag hoisting ceremonies in which messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out. The Pakistani diaspora participated in large numbers to express their patriotism and binding affection with the motherland.

On the national occasion of Pakistan's 78th Independence Day, a graceful flag hoisting ceremony was held at the Consulate General of Pakistan in Jeddah. Consul General Khalid Majid led the ceremony and joined by Pakistani community with great pride and honour as he raised the National Flag, accompanied by the uplifting spirits of the national anthem.

According to a press release, students from Pakistani School delivered patriotic speeches portraying Pakistan's vibrant history, cultural heritage and remarkable accomplishments.

Consul General Khalid Majid, in his remarks, highlighted the significance of the day and paid tribute to the founding fathers of Pakistan and highlighting the country's achievements in various fields.

The ceremony concluded on a joyous note, with a cake-cutting ceremony, gifts distribution among children. Special prayers were offered for the

prosperity and well-being of Pakistan, Saudi Arabia.

An official ceremony to mark the 78th anniversary of Independence of Pakistan was held at Pakistan House Tehran, today. Members of Pakistani community in Iran and officials of the Embassy, attended the ceremony.

The ceremony commenced with the playing of national anthem and hoisting of the national flag by Charge d' Affaires Ahmad Shami.

Charge d' Affaires Ahmad Shami paid rich tributes to the founding fathers of the nation Quid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal and other leaders who led the Pakistani movement and offered sacrifices for the creation of an independent Muslim state.

Pakistan High Commission, London celebrated 78th Independence Day with traditional zeal and enthusiasm on Wednesday.

Pakistan High Commissioner to the UK Dr. Mohammad Faisal hoisted Pakistan flag to the tune of National Anthem.

The special ceremony commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran, and reading out of messages of the President, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister.

A flag hoisting ceremony was held at Pakistan House, Singapore on Wednesday to commemorate the 78th Independence Day of Pakistan.

Pakistan High Commissioner Rabia Shafiq hoisted the flag to the tune of the national Anthem, followed by the messages of

the President and the Prime Minister, read out by Press Counsellor Athar Zeb Abbasi and Deputy High Commissioner Salman Mahmood respectively.

Pakistan High Commissioner in Sri Lanka Major General (Retd) Faheem-Ul-Aziz HI (M) hoisted the national flag of Pakistan in an impressive ceremony at the Pakistan High Commission in Colombo.

The special messages of the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out for the audience.

To celebrate the 78th Independence Day, the Embassy of Pakistan in Bishkek organized a flag hoisting ceremony in the Chancery which was attended by members of Pakistani community in Kyrgyzstan including Pakistani students, faculty members of Kyrgyz medical universities, business community, members of civil society and media.

To mark the 78th Independence Day of Pakistan, a flag hoisting ceremony was organized at the Embassy of Pakistan Seoul.

Ambassador of Pakistan Nabeel Munir congratulated the community on this auspicious occasion and called for unity and solidarity in pursuit of the common goal of development and prosperity of the nation.

The Embassy of Pakistan in Tokyo organized an event to mark the Independence Day of Pakistan. A large number of community members, including women, children and the elderly joined the event to celebrate Youm-i-Azaadi with patriotic zeal and fervor.

The event started with flag hoisting by Ambassador Raza Bashir Tarar.

A flag hoisting ceremony was organized at the Embassy of Pakistan, Abu Dhabi to celebrate the 78th Independence Day of Pakistan with national zeal and enthusiasm.

Ambassador of Pakistan to the United Arab Emirates Faisal Niaz Emirati congratulated the community members on the Independence Day and highlighted the need of unity, faith and discipline in pursuing collective efforts towards Pakistan's socioeconomic progress; and prayed for the beloved country's peace and prosperity.

The Embassy of Pakistan in Mexico hosted a joyous celebration on the occasion of Pakistan's Independence Day.

The event drew around 70-80 leading Pakistani community members living in Mexico, as well as distinguished guests from the local foreign office and Mexican business circle, a press statement said.

A flag hoisting ceremony was held at the Consulate General of Pakistan, Dubai to celebrate the 78th Independence Day of Pakistan. The event was attended by many Pakistani community members and their families.

Welcoming the guests, Hussain Muhammad, Consul General congratulated Pakistani community living in UAE on the 78th Independence Day of Pakistan. "Pakistan appeared on world map as the largest Muslim state on 14th August 1947 under the dynamic leadership of Quid-

i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. Our forefathers rendered countless sacrifices for the creation of an independent state where we can live with freedom, dignity, and self-respect", a press release quoted the Consul General as saying.

On the occasion of the 78th Independence Day of Pakistan, Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad hoisted national flag to the tune of the national anthem at the Embassy of Pakistan, Paris and welcomed distinguished members of the community and French friends including large number of children.

The Ambassador noted that 14th August was truly auspicious as it brought together the entire nation - in celebration, in paying homage to the Quid-e-Azam and other leaders of the freedom movement, in remembrance of the supreme sacrifices of their forefathers, in honoring their heroes and drawing inspiration from the glorious past and the tremendous achievements over the decades.

Similar events were held in Pak embassies in Cambodia, Azerbaijan, Consulate General Chicago, Oman and other cities.

Ambassador of Pakistan in Azerbaijan Qasim Mohiuddin congratulated the Pakistani community and highlighted the significance of the day.

Flag hoisting ceremony was held at the Embassy of Pakistan, Tashkent on 14 August 2024 to mark the Independence Day.

Ambassador of Pakistan to Uzbekistan Ahmed Farooq hoisted the national flag on the tune of national anthem.

We are if this country is: Information Minister

ISLAMABAD (Online): Information Minister Atta Ullah Tarar has said with every passing day it is becoming proved that two nation theory was correct.

"We are if this country is. No political party, political leader is above Pakistan, he said this while expressing his views with reference to Independence day in a ceremony held in a private TV station here Wednesday.

National integrity and survival are first, he added. What is within our means we will do for the national integrity and revival of national economy.

The political forces will have to think where the political interest ends, he held.

They will have to think national interest starts from where, he underlined.

He stressed all will have to play their respective role to reach destination.

Reforms process is underway in state institutions, he remarked.

He went on to say Prime Minister (PM) will announce comprehensive plan in his address to nation. The plan includes privatization of some institutions, right and downsizing and other reforms.

Pakistanis come forward enthusiastically in any calamity and problem, he added.

Pakistani nation is ahead of all nations in the

world in making charity, he observed.

When PTI founder fell from crane then Nawaz Sharif summoned party meeting within 15 minutes, he remarked. Nawaz Sharif said to party leadership we will not run election campaign. He extended offer to political rival to go alongside each other.

He stated one man was imposed and he did what with the country. This man annoyed friendly countries.

National hero Arshid Nadim has returned to country, he said adding he was given status of state guest in Islamabad.

Arshid Nadim himself said he is PM planted plant, he pointed out.

Head-constable martyred in terrorists attacks on police check posts in KP

LOWER DIR (Online): One head Constable has been martyred and another has been injured in terrorists attack on Police check posts in Jamrud area and Jandool in Lower Dir KP.

Some unknown terrorists attacked on Mayar Jandool police check post in Lower Dir martyring one police constable and injuring other one.

Young labor union celebrates Independence Day at Torkham border

Independent Report

KHYBER: The Young Labor Union organized an Independence Day celebration at the Pak-Afghan Torkham border, with the aim of conveying a message of loyalty to Pakistan to the world. The event included a rally and cake-cutting ceremony, where participants chanted slogans like "Long live Pakistan" and expressed solidarity with the Pakistani Army.

Correspondent added Abdul Rahman Shinwari, President of the Young Labor Union, said that the purpose of celebrating Independence Day at the border was to send a message of devotion to Pakistan to the world. He added that on this day, they pay tribute to the heroes of the nation and are willing to sacrifice their lives for Pakistan.



QUETTA: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar along with Mir Sarfaraz Bugti, Chief Minister Balochistan, Ayaz Sadiq, Speaker National Assembly and others are hoisting National Flag during Flag hoisting ceremony on the occasion of 77th Independence Day of Pakistan, in Quetta.

President confers national...

Continued from page 1

ferred Nishan-i-Imtiaz posthumously on late Nasir Kazmi for services in the field of literature and Hilal-i-Pakistan in Saudi Prince Abdulaziz Bin Salman Al Saud for his services to Pakistan.

In recognition of their excellence in the fields of science, the president conferred Hilal-i-Imtiaz on Amir Hafeez Ibrahim, Sitara-i-Imtiaz on Dr Ghulam Muhammad Ali and Sardar Muhammad Aftab Ahmed Khan; and Tamgha-i-Imtiaz on Dr Sara Qureshi, Dr Rafiuddin and Professor Dr Usman Qamar.

In the education field, Sadia Rasheed was bestowed Hilal-i-Imtiaz; Sitara-i-Imtiaz was announced for Dr Suleman Shahabuddin, and Syed Azhar Hussain Abidi, and Presidential Pride of Performance award for Barkat Shah, Abdul Rasheed Kakar and Aneeqa Bano.

The president announced Hilal-i-Imtiaz for Dr Shahryar and Dr Dr. Zaryab Setna, and Tamgha-i-Imtiaz for Dr Akifullah Khan, Dr Syed Abid Mehdi Kazmi and Ikramullah Khan for their contributions to the field of medicine.

Similarly, Collin David was bestowed with Sitara-i-Imtiaz in the field of arts; Arshad Aziz Malik, Bakhtiar Ahmed and Barister Zafarullah were conferred Tamgha-i-Imtiaz; while Fariha Pervaiz, Hamid Rana, Shiba Arshad and Naveed Ahmed Bhatti to receive Pride of Performance Award.

For their contribution to the field of literature, the president conferred Hilal-i-Imtiaz on Javed Jabbar;

Sitara-i-Imtiaz on Salman Awan, Zafar Waqar Taj and Muniza Shamsi; Tamgha-i-Imtiaz for Syed Jawad Hussain Jafari and Pride of Performance Award for Ambreen Haseeb.

Besides, Maqsood Ahemd, Amad Shakeel Butt, Rehman Ishfaq and Mir Nadir Khan Magasi were bestowed with Tamgha-i-Imtiaz and Amir Ishaq with Presidential Pride of Performance Award for their excellence in the sports field.

President Zardari conferred Sitara-i-Imtiaz on Mian Aziz Ahmed, Hunaid Lakhani, Sana Hashwani, Safinaz Munir; and Hilal-i-Imtiaz on Khwaja Anver Majeed and Hussain Dawood.

The taxpayers and exporters who were conferred Sitara-i-Imtiaz included Syed Imran Ali Shah, Nazimuddin Feroz, Imtiaz Hussain, Adnan Niaz, Zahid Ahmed Ghareeb and Syed Asad Hussain Zaidi.

The president also announced the conferment of Sitara-i-Shujaat on Panigir Deputy Commissioner Zakir Hussain Baloch who was recently martyred in a terror attack in Mastung; Hilal-i-Imtiaz on Capt. (Retd) Muhammad Khurram Agha, Dr Syed Tauqir Hussain Shah and Umar Farooq.

In the public service field, Dr Rubaba Khan Buledi, Dr Hamid Attiq Sarwar, Waqasuddin Syed, Jameel Ahmed, Ayaz Khan, Ahmed Ishaq Jahangir, and Irfan Nawaz Memon were conferred Sitara-i-Imtiaz while Tamgha-i-Imtiaz was announced for Syed Shakeel Shah, Ashhad Jawad, Rubab Sikandar, Muhammad Yousef Khan,

Cardinal Joseph Coutts, Rehan Mehtab Chawla, Rear Admiral Tanvir and Amir Mahmood Lakhani.

To recognise their gallantry, the president conferred Hilal-i-Shujaat posthumously on Sub Inspector Taimur Shehzad Shaheed, Sepoy Muhammad Asif Shaheed, SPMuhammad Aijaz Khan, DSP Sardar Hussain Ishaq, DSP Allama Iqbal Shaheed, LHC Muhammad Farooq Shaheed, Additional SHO Adnan Afridi Shaheed, Allah Rakhio Nandwani, Constable Jhanzeb and Constable Irshad Ali Shaheed.

Malik Sabz Ali Shaheed and Captain (Retd) Hamza Anjum were conferred Sitara-i-Shujaat and Tamgha-i-Shujaat was announced for Malik Mahmood Jan Shaheed, Prince Abdullah Shaheed, Sahib Khan and Dr Shafi Muhammad Bazenjo.

For their services to Pakistan, President Zardari conferred national awards for foreigners including Hilal-i-Pakistan for Saudi Prince Abdulaziz Bin Salman Al Saud; Hilal-i-Quaid-e-Azam for Fu Zhiheng and Mohammad Saif Al Suwaidi; Sitara-i-Pakistan for Majid bin Abdullah Al Kassabi and Engineer Abdullah Al-Swaha; and Sitara-i-Quaid-e-Azam for Haydar Qurbanov and Dr. Christine Schmotzer. The president also conferred Tamgha-i-Pakistan on Mountaineer Lukas Woerle, Dr. Aurore Dither, Prof. Valeria Fiorani Piacentini and Agostino Da Polenza; Tamgha-i-Quaid-e-Azam for Zhang Baozhong and Xinmiin Liu; and Tamgha-i-Khidmat for Diana McArthur.



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi presents a traditional turban to Olympics Gold Medalist Arshad Nadeem during his visit to Governor House.

Governor Kundi welcomes Olympic winner Arshad Nadeem at Governor House

PESHAWAR (APP): Olympic gold medalist Arshad Nadeem visited the Governor House Peshawar on Wednesday on the occasion of Independence Day.

Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, personally welcomed Arshad Nadeem at the main entrance of the Governor House and escorted him to his office in a traditional buggy.

During the welcome, a ceremonial police guard saluted Arshad Nadeem, and flower petals were showered along the route.

A traditional Khattak dance was also performed. Arshad Nadeem was accompanied by his coach, Salman Butt.

A dignified ceremony was held at the Governor House in Arshad Nadeem's honour. The event was attended by members of the parliament, Chief Secretary of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry, IG Police Akhtar Hayat Gandapur, business community representatives, athletes, students and individuals from various walks of life.

The Governor presented Arshad Nadeem with a traditional turban and a souvenir.

Faisal Karim Kundi also cut a cake celebrating Independence Day with

Arshad Nadeem.

In his address, he praised Nadeem's outstanding performance at the Paris Olympics, noting that Nadeem not only achieved a historic victory but also enhanced the joy of Independence Day for the nation.

He lauded Nadeem as a national hero who has elevated the pride of the entire country, describing his Olympic success as a role model for the youth.

The Governor highlighted the province's struggles with terrorism over recent years and the sacrifices made by the people, forces and Army Public School martyrs.

He emphasized his commitment to developing sports facilities in the province and supporting young athletes to emulate Nadeem's success on the global stage.

He urged the provincial government to support young athletes to positively represent the province and country. In response, Olympic gold medalist Arshad Nadeem thanked Governor Faisal Karim Kundi for the warm hospitality and reception.

He acknowledged that his victory was the result of hard work, the support of his parents, and the prayers of the entire nation.

We have to make Pakistan..

Continued from page 1

merce and Trade, Jam Kamal Khan, provincial ministers, members of provincial assembly, high civil and military officials, dignitaries belonging to different shade of life and others.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Prime Minister said that Pakistan had become 24th best economy of the world in 2017. The stock exchange of the country had emerged as the number one stock exchange of the South Asia, he recalled. He said that in his political career of 31 years, he had seen that some hidden forces became active when Pakistan progressed.

He said that Allah Almighty has blessed Pakistan with numerous minerals and natural resources.

He said that he wants to tell the whole world that Pakistan has minerals of billions and trillions of rupees. He said that there's no room of violence in the country. He said that the theory of angry people has no meaning.

The Deputy Prime Minister appreciated the provincial government for arranging excellent events marking the Independence Day in Quetta.

CJ BHC vows to form such a society...

Continued from page 1

the whole nation, all honourable judges and judicial staff.

He said that the country came into being after immense sacrifices and this is because of these sacrifices that we are taking breathe in the free environment.

He said that every individual celebrates according to one's own style, some people celebrates the day as the day of accountability while some people celebrate it for achieving their targets by setting them.

He said that our resolve is high, and no one can imagine the achievements what we made in different sectors.

He said that we are included in the atomic powers of the world despite limited resources.

Our nation has set examples of sacrifices and sympathy which were witnessed during the relief of earthquake affected people and while tackling the issues of natural disasters.

But still we are left behind the world in some sectors.

He stressed that we have to ensure implementation on the green book of the constitution 1973.

The Chief Justice announced that we are going to introduce the Green Courts in Balochistan in which all the judges would plant one sapling each.

Referring the issue of pending cases, the Chief Justice said that we would make efforts to ensure prompt and cheaper justice to the people.

Will share good news on...

Continued from page 1

hard work for the country's development.

He said that currently electricity bills was the biggest concern of everybody and without reducing the electricity tariffs, Pakistan's industry, agriculture, and exports could not grow.

"The government is working day and night to resolve this issue," he said assuring that in few days the government will give the nation a good news of significant cut in electricity tariffs.

Furthermore, he said that he would address the nation in few days in which he would present a five-years economic plan of the country.

PM Shehbaz Sharif, on the occasion, also condemned the ongoing Israeli barbarism on the Palestinians saying that the "massacre of thousands of innocent Palestinians has diminished our pleasures on the occasion of independence day".

Similarly, he also expressed the government's resolve to stand by the Kashmiri brothers and sisters until the resolution of the issue according to the will of the people of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJ&K).



LONDON: High Commissioner of Pakistan to UK, Dr. Mohammad Faisal along with spouse and guests cutting cake to celebrate Independence Day of Pakistan.

Ahsan urges unity, consistent policies continuity for Pak development on 78th I-Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Wednesday called upon the nation to demonstrate greater unity and steadfastness to ensure sustained development through consistent policies. "Let us pledge to advance Pakistan's development with a continuity of policies and commit to avoiding any compromise on it," he said in a message marking the 78th Independence Day. He stressed the need for rejecting extremism, policy inconsistency and any other factors that im-

ped national development and prosperity. "Let Pakistan grow," he urged. The minister noted that achieving development goals would require peace, stability, uninterrupted policy continuity and on-going reforms. "We envision a Pakistan where education, development, and employment opportunities are accessible to all, without discrimination," he said. He highlighted that the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government was working to foster an investment-friendly environment conducive to business growth, innova-

tion and ample employment opportunities. "We aim for Pakistan to gain prominent recognition and a leading position in global competition through our quality, productivity and innovation," he elaborated. Ahsan Iqbal reiterated the PML-N government's commitment to elevating Pakistan's standing among the nations and aligning it with leading countries in the development race. Reflecting on the past, he recalled that the founding fathers of Pakistan established an Islamic state with principles of passion, determination, unity and

faith, making significant sacrifices. The minister pointed out the persistent internal, regional and global challenges. Among these, he identified stabilizing the economy and achieving development goals as the most pressing. He lamented that political instability, inconsistent policies, disruptions in the democratic process, extremism and terrorism had hindered development progress in the past. He noted that countries that gained independence after Pakistan have advanced significantly in development.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif with the singers and students who performed at the Independence Day event.



ISLAMABAD, Chairman Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari and other cutting cake on occasion flag hoisting ceremony during 77th Independence Day celebration.

ISSI celebrates I Day with fervor under the theme "Mera Pakistan"

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) on Wednesday marked Pakistan's Independence Day with a vibrant celebration under the theme "Mera Pakistan." The event, held at the ISSI was a tribute to the rich diversity, cultural heritage, and indomitable spirit of the Pakistani people, a news release said. With the active participation of ISSI Interns, the festivities were imbued with youthful energy, creativity, and an unshakable belief in Pakistan's progress and prosperity. The Interns presented a series of short videos, delivered passionate speeches, and performed milli naghmay (national songs). The videos depicted the multifaceted identity of Pakistan, highlighting the cultural richness of various regions across the country. The celebration also highlighted the vital role of women in the nation's progress and paid homage to important personalities who have played a pivotal part in shaping Pakistan's history. It was also emphasized that the Independence Day reminded us of the just struggle of the Kashmiri people and that Pakistan would remain in abiding solidarity with them until they realized their inalienable right to self-determination. The singing of patriotic songs by the young

Imam Masjid Al-Nabawi completes 7-day goodwill visit to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Imam Masjid Al-Nabawi, Dr Salah bin Mohammad Al-Budair on Wednesday concluded his seven-day goodwill visit to Pakistan and departed for Madina Munawwarah. Chaudhry Salik Hussain, Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Ahmad Khan, Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi, and Saudi Ambassador Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki bid farewell to the distinguished guest at Lahore airport. Imam Al-Budair expressed his gratitude for the profound love and reverence shown by the Pakistani people towards the Two Holy Mosques during his stay in the country. He remarked that the respect and hospitality extended by the people and the government of Pakistan would always be remembered. During his visit, the revered Imam met with President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir, Speaker of the National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Chairman Senate Yousuf Raza Gilani, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan, Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz, Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman.

Federal Minister urges unity on Pakistan's 77th Independence Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): On Pakistan's 77th Independence Day, Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmad Sheikh called for unity and collective effort to drive the nation's progress. During the 77th Independence Day celebrations, Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmad Sheikh highlighted the importance of freedom and the sacrifices made by the country's founders in establishing the Islamic Re-

Mohsin congratulates nation on Independence Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi has extended heartiest congratulations to the nation on the eve of Independence Day. He said, "We are grateful to Allah Almighty that we are living in a free homeland. He said that we must learn the value of freedom from the enslaved nations." He emphasized that we must appreciate the true value and dignity of our free homeland. He also highlighted that millions of Muslims sacrificed their blood to light the flames of freedom. He paid rich tribute to the unparalleled sacrifices of those who were martyred in the Pakistan Movement. He also honored the great sacrifices of the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the peace of the homeland. Interior Minister stated that there is no country as beautiful and resource-rich as Pakistan in the world, but unfortunately, as a nation, we have wasted 77 years in mutual discords, parochial, linguistic and sectarian biases. He stressed that now is the time for the entire nation to unite and think about Pakistan collectively, because if Pakistan exists, so do we all. He underscored that we must set aside egos, differences, and divisions forever and contribute towards making Pakistan a great country. He said, "Independence Day demands that we must learn from past mistakes and move towards a bright future. We must all play our part in national development by following the principles of faith, unity, and discipline." He expressed confidence that with the grace of Allah Almighty, the nation will overcome every challenge. He called for the resolve to put aside personal interests and work together for the progress and development of Pakistan.

Rana felicitates nation on I Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Industries, Production and National Food Security Rana Tanveer Hussain on Wednesday urged for collective efforts towards achieving a prosperous, peaceful and united Pakistan. Felicitating the nation on the country's Independence Day, he emphasized the crucial role of the youth in driving Pakistan's progress, urging them to harness their potential and contribute to the country's growth through their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment.



ISLAMABAD: Special Children enjoying Independence Day along with their teachers visiting Federal Capital on Sightseeing Twin Cities Double Decker Bus.

Abdullah Gul says: Youth must gear up to spearhead country's journey to progress

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman, Tehreek-e-Jawanan Pakistan (TJP), Mohammad Abdullah Gul while congratulating the nation on 78th Independence Day said that the youth must gear up to spearhead country's journey to progress and glory to continue the legacy of tireless struggle of our founding fathers for the motherland. In his message on the Independence Day, the TJP Chairman said that Pakistan was the name of success, whereas the leadership of the neighbouring country who used to say that Pakistan could not last for three months, witnessed that Alhamdulillah today Pakistan was celebrating its 78th Independence Day. Abdullah Gul said that Pakistan started its journey with success and was moving towards development. "Our first five-year economic plan was taken by South Korea and China. When the then Chinese president visited Pakistan, he visited the industry in Lahore and was stunned to see the progress in Pakistan's engineering sector. Pakistan gave a loan of 140 million dollars to Germany in 1967," he said. He added that since 1971 Pakistan continued its journey of development despite being facing separation. He said that today our youth should work tirelessly to utilize the country's resources. "We have progressed in every field, be it industrial sector or engineering. Be it sports or agriculture, Pakistan has raised flags of success in every field.



ISLAMABAD: A youngster is busy in dangerous and risky stunt at Islamabad Highway during Independence Day celebrations, in the Federal Capital.

NDMA warns Depts concerned as monsoon rains expected in KP from Aug 14-18

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) on Wednesday urged all relevant authorities and the public to take necessary precautions to mitigate the potential impacts of flooding and landslides as National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) of the NDMA anticipated further rains in various parts of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa from August 14-18. Moderate to heavy rains are expected in Hazara, Malakand Division, Peshawar, Bannu, DI Khan, Hangu, Haripur, Kohat, Kurram, Lucky Marwat, Mohmand, Orakzai and Waziristan areas, a news release said. "Rain may cause urban flooding in various cities and flash flooding in hilly areas, flow of water in the streams and nullahs is also expected to increase," the NDMA said. The NDMA issued instructions to all relevant departments to alert Emergency Response Teams and mobilized resources to ensure a swift response to any arising situations. Tourists were advised to avoid traveling to these areas during the forecasted period, whereas the public is advised to remain vigilant and follow instructions from local authorities.

Chandio greets nation on I-Day, urges reflection on founding fathers' vision

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan People's Party Senator Maula Bakhsh Chandio Wednesday extended warm greetings to the nation and urged citizens to reflect on the sacrifices, struggles, and visionary leadership of its founding fathers, including Q u a i d - e - A z a m Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Iqbal. Talking to a private news channel, Senator Chandio reminded the nation that the true essence of independence lies in upholding the principles of justice, equality, and prosperity towards a future that honors the legacy of those who fought for a separate homeland. By honoring their legacy, the nation can reignite the spirit of patriotism, unity, and progress that defined the country's early years, he added. Senator Chandio's message is a timely reminder to work together towards a brighter future, built on the principles of justice, equality, and prosperity for all Pakistanis. Attaining the true purpose of independence is the responsibility of every citizen, he added.

ICT lights up I Day with historic celebrations at F-9 Park

ISLAMABAD (APP): Islamabad's F-9 Park became the heart of Pakistan's Independence Day celebrations, where a historic event brought together families, renowned artists, and the country's first-ever drone show, created unforgettable memories last night. The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration organized an Independence Festival at F-9 Park, marking a significant celebration in the federal capital. The event was highlighted by Pakistan's first-ever drone show, a spectacle that captivated the audience as 500 drones lit up the night sky, forming the Pakistani flag and other mesmerizing patterns. Adding to the patriotic spirit, javelin thrower Arshad Nadeem's recent gold medal victory at the Paris Olympics was also celebrated, further boosting national pride during the festivities. The festival offered free entry to citizens, allowing families to participate in the wide array of activities planned, especially for children. Various food stalls were set up, catering to the tastes of food lovers, ensuring that everyone had something to enjoy.



ISLAMABAD: People having huge national flag marching on Islamabad Expressway to celebrate the Independence Day of Pakistan.

PAL marks special celebration on 78th I-Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): In line with nationwide festivities, the Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) organized a special celebration to commemorate the country's 78th Independence Day. The event, marking the grand commencement of the Academy's three-day Youth Festival, was attended by hundreds of young students from across the country. Dr. Najeeba Arif, Chairperson of PAL, warmly welcomed the young participants and other literary figures from around the nation.

IRSA releases 386,200 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Wednesday released 386,200 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 427,500 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1547.00 feet and was 149.00 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 280,700 cusecs and 251,700 cusecs respectively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1210.90 feet, which was 162.90 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet.



ISLAMABAD: World Minorities Alliance along with former Minister Christian Labor participated in 77 Independence Day celebration rally.

Senator Talal greets nation, pays tribute to founders & martyrs

ISLAMABAD (APP): On the occasion of Pakistan's 78th Independence Day, Senator Talal Chaudhry congratulated the nation and paid glowing tributes to the visionary founders of Pakistan and the brave martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the country's freedom. He called on the government, opposition, and citizens to put aside their differences and work together towards a common goal. He said that because of the untiring struggle and sacrifices of our forefathers, today we are breathing in a free country. He said the purpose of celebrating Independence Day was to reaffirm the commitment to the country's prosperity, development, and peace. Senator Talal vowed to work tirelessly towards creating a brighter future for all Pakistanis.

APHC leadership in jail extends warm wishes to Pakistan on I Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): The jailed leadership of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) Wednesday felicitated the people and Government of Pakistan on the eve of their 77th Independence Day which is being observed (today) on August 14. According to Kashmir Media Service, APHC Chairman Massrat Alam Butt, in a message sent from New Delhi's Tihar Jail and issued in Srinagar, extended his warmest wishes to the Pakistani nation. He expressed gratitude to Pakistan for its continued political, moral, and diplomatic support to the Kashmir cause. Senior APHC leader

NA speaker promotes 270 employees of NA secretariat

ISLAMABAD (Online): Speaker National Assembly (NA) Ayyaz Sadiq has promoted 270 employees of NA Secretariat on the occasion of independence day. Those who have been promoted include grade one to grade 20 employees. According to NA spokesperson the employees were not promoted on the basis of merit and seniority since the last 8 years. Earlier the promotions were given on pick and chose.

Rivers Indus, Kabul still run in medium, low flood

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Federal Flood Commission (FFC) report on Wednesday, that presently, River Indus is experiencing Medium Flood in Guddu-Sukkur Reach whereas it is in Low Flood at Tarbela-Kalabagh-Chashma-Taunsa reaches while River Kabul is also running in Low Flood at Warsak. According to daily FFC report on Wednesday, all other major rivers of the Indus River System i.e. Rivers Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi and Sutlej are discharging normal flows. The current Combined Live Storage of the country's major reservoirs (Tarbela, Mangla & Chashma) stands at 10,573 MAF (79.17% of the total live storage capacity of 13,354 MAF).

Sindh CM calls for unity Governor hoists national flag at Mazar-e-Quaid

KARACHI (APP): Governor Sindh Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori visited the mausoleum of the father of the nation Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah on Wednesday morning and laid a wreath at the 'Mazar' and offered Fateha.

Governor also recorded his comments in the guest book.

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and senior members of the provincial cabinet were also present on the occasion.

Speaking to the media at the shrine, Governor said "Today we pledge in front of Mazar-e-Quaid that we have to make more efforts to fulfill the purpose for which Pakistan was created. He said the spirit of the nation is still so high and today Olympian Arshad Nadeem will be with us at Governor House to celebrate Independence Day."

Governor Tessori said, "Celebrating independence day together is a sign that we are not

individuals but a nation. Presenting solute to the armed forces and law enforcement personnels, Governor said that our soldiers and policemen were sacrificing their lives to safeguard frontiers of our homeland."

Kamran Tessori said, "Arshad Nadeem, our national hero and famous singer Atif Aslam will be with us today to celebrate Independence day here at Governor House where National Anthem will be jointly sung and Pakistan's flag will also be unfurled."

He said, "The people of Karachi are specially invited at Governor House to celebrate Independence day of Pakistan."

Meanwhile Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has urged the nation to remain united and resilient in the face of current challenges, emphasizing the need to counter divisive forces that are spreading hatred in society.

Speaking at the Mazar-e-Quaid on

Wednesday, the Chief Minister highlighted the importance of following the principles of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah to steer the country out of its crisis.

During the media briefing, Shah congratulated the nation on the upcoming Independence Day, acknowledging the resilience of Pakistan's youth and citizens. He cited the response to the 2022 floods as evidence of the province's determination, noting that despite expectations of prolonged flooding, the people quickly drained the water, prepared their lands, and cultivated wheat.

Reflecting on Pakistan's history, Shah expressed confidence that the nation would overcome its current challenges, just as it has in the past. He stressed the importance of unity in achieving economic growth, development, and improvements in education and healthcare.



KARACHI: Governor of Sindh, Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori, Chief Minister of Pakistan's Sindh province Syed Murad Ali Shah and others offers prayers at the mausoleum of founding father Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah during Independence Day.

Flag hoisting ceremony held at Governor House to celebrate I Day

PESHAWAR (APP): A dignified flag hoisting ceremony was held at the Governor's House in Peshawar on Wednesday on the occasion of Independence Day.

The governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, conducted the flag hoisting ceremony.

The event saw the special participation of Consul Generals from the United States of America, Iran, and Afghanistan.

Provincial Assembly member Ahmad Karim Kundi, along with the staff of the Governor's House and other distinguished guests, also attended the ceremony.

During the ceremony, the Consul Generals from the three countries joined Governor Faisal Karim Kundi and other attendees in chanting "Pakistan Zindabad" (Long live Pakistan).

Following the flag hoisting, special prayers

were offered for the country's development and prosperity.

Governor Faisal Karim Kundi extended his heartfelt congratulations to the entire nation on Pakistan's Independence Day.

He paid tribute to the martyrs of the Pakistan Army, police, and Army Public School, expressing his gratitude.

Kundi emphasized the need for peace, prosperity, and development in the province and called for collective efforts to honor the sacrifices that led to the country's independence.

In his message on Independence Day, Governor Kundi congratulated the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the merged districts.

He highlighted that the free nation is a result of the great sacrifices and sustained struggle of our ancestors.

Kundi reaffirmed his

CM Punjab attends flag hoisting ceremony on 77th Independence Day

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif hoisted the national flag at the Alamgiri Gate of Lahore Fort on the occasion of Independence Day.

National anthem was presented on the occasion. The Chief Minister participated in a special ceremony being held at the Hazuri Bagh.

The CM paid a visit to the Mazar-e-Iqbal, laid a floral wreath and offered Fateha at the Mazar-e-Iqbal. She prayed for the integrity, progress, prosperity and stability of the country and paid homage to the Poet of the East Allama Muhammad Iqbal in glowing words.

CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif was presented a salute by the smartly turned out contingent of scouts standing on the stairs of Badshahi Mosque



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah launches a 10-day polio eradication campaign by administering polio drops to children at Khalid Jameel Dispensary, Garden East.

CM conducts surprise visit to CBD Walton project, directs swift completion

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif made a surprise visit to the CBD Walton project on Wednesday, closely inspecting the ongoing work on the Walton Road 47 project, which connects Kalma Chowk to Walton.

During her visit, the Chief Minister reviewed the progress of the construction activities and assessed the development of the Walton Road drain.

The CM emphasized the importance of quality construction and directed that the project be completed as soon as possible.

"We are fully aware of the difficulties being faced by the people due to the ongoing construction of Walton Road," she stated, highlighting the government's commitment to minimizing public inconvenience.

In line with her directives, the three-lane carriageway of Walton Road is set to be opened for traffic in September. Additionally, the dual carriageway is expected to be completed by October, with construction work continuing around the clock to meet these deadlines.



KARACHI: Students hold national flag during 77th independence day celebration on 14 August at Mazar e Quaid.

PWPA chairperson leads flag hoisting ceremony

LAHORE (APP): Chairperson of the Punjab Women Protection Authority (PWPA) Hina Pervaiz Butt led a flag-hoisting ceremony at her office here on Wednesday, followed by the planting of a tree.

The event was attended by Director General Safina Sadiq, Deputy Director Aqsa Rafiq, Rabia Usman, and other officials.

In her address, Hina Pervaiz Butt extended heartfelt congratulations to the people of Pakistan on the 77th Independence Day. She emphasized that the nation envisioned by Quaid-e-Azam and Allama Iqbal is rapidly progressing. The vision of development and prosperity is at the heart of the leadership of Pakistan Muslim League-Women's Association.

Later, Hina Pervaiz Butt participated in an Independence Day celebration at the Liberty Police Khidmat Markaz, where she also performed a flag-hoisting ceremony and cut a cake in honor of the occasion. The event was graced by the presence of CTO Lahore Ammara Athar, Chairman of the All Pakistan Women's Association.

Largest national flag hoisted in Sukkur

SUKKUR (APP): A national flag hoisting ceremony on Wednesday held here to celebrate the Independence Day of Pakistan. Spokesperson to Sindh Government and Mayor Sukkur along with senior officers hoisted the largest national flag.

The event was attended by Divisional Commissioner Sukkur Fayyaz Hussain Abbasi, DIGP Pir Muhammad Shah, Deputy Commissioner Dr MB Raja Dharejo, SSP Sukkur Amjad Ahmed Shaikh and other officials.



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi and Olympics Gold Medalist Arshad Nadeem along with other officials cutting the cake of Independence Day at Governor House.

CM Sindh launches Ten-day long anti-polio drive

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah launched a crucial 10-day polio eradication campaign aimed at immunising over 1.1 million children under five in 85 union councils of the city. He said 1,037,000 children, ages four months to five years, would receive fractional inactivated polio vaccine (F-IPV) injections.

"In the campaign, we will use innovative, painless jet injectors to target high-risk areas in Karachi, where the polio virus still circulates.

He was talking to the media, just after launching a 10-day vital anti-polio campaign, August 15-25, 2024, by administering polio drops to children at Khalid Jameel Dispensary, Garden East on Wednesday.

Provincial Ministers

Nasir Shah, Sharjeel Memon, Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, and Zulfiqar Shah were also present on the occasion. Murad Ali Shah said that the anti-polio campaign launched in 85 union councils of Karachi city targeted over 1.1 million children under five to receive oral polio vaccine drops.

He added that 1,037,000 children (ages four months to five years) would receive fractional inactivated polio vaccine (F-IPV) injections.

The Chief Minister stated that innovative and painless jet injector technology is being used to target high-risk areas in Karachi, where the polio virus is still circulating.

He added that the mission aims to stop the spread of the virus in the city.

Rangers make extraordinary security on I-Day

KARACHI (APP): On the occasion of Pakistan's Independence Day, Pakistan Rangers Sindh took extraordinary security measures across Karachi.

A spokesperson said on Wednesday that Rangers personnel conducted extensive patrols in key areas of the city, including Mazar-e-Quaid, Shahrah-e-Faisal, Tariq Road, M. A. Jinnah Road, Allahwala Chowranghi, Nursery, Baloch Colony Bridge, Karsaz, Drig Road, Natha Khan Road, Star Gate, Airport Road, Shaheen Complex, Chowranghi, Ziauddin Ahmed Road, I.I. Chundrigarh Road and adjoining areas.

The patrols were bolstered by the Rangers Anti-Terrorist Squad and Heavy Bike Squad. Security was heightened around major landmarks, markets, shopping malls, parks, and highways to ensure public safety.

Minister Azma extends I-Day greetings, urges unity, vigilance among youth

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Information Minister Azma Bokhari has extended heartfelt congratulations to the entire Pakistani nation on the occasion of 77th Independence Day.

In her message, she emphasized that Pakistan stands as a testament to the sacrifices made by the nation's great leaders and ancestors, urging every citizen to cherish the freedom that was hard-won.

In a statement issued here on Wednesday, she called upon parents to protect their children from discord and unrest, warning that elements within the country are attempting to foster division. "The

youth must act as a strong, united front against these challenges," she remarked. "It is concerning that those whose own children are abroad are trying to instill a sense of subservience in our nation's youth."

Reflecting on the significance of Independence Day, the minister reminded the nation that freedom was not easily won. It came at the cost of countless sacrifices made by Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and his companions in their struggle to establish a separate homeland for Muslims. "August 14 serves as a reminder of their tireless efforts and the monumental struggle they endured," she said.

Ceremony held in PHC to mark I-Day

PESHAWAR (APP): An impressive ceremony was held on the premises of Peshawar High Court (PHC) to celebrate Independence Day.

Chief Justice Peshawar High Court, Justice Ishtiaq Ibrahim, Judges, Advocate General, Deputy Attorney General, District and Session Judge Peshawar, Chairman Services Tribunal and members of bas associations attended the ceremony.

Chief Justice hoisted the flag while a smart contingent of police presented salute.

Addressing the ceremony, Chief Justice congratulated the nation on Independence Day and paid tribute to struggle of Muslim leaders to get a separate homeland.



LAHORE: Chief Minister of Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif arriving for offering Fateha on the grave of Poet of Nation Dr. Allama Mohammad Iqbal at Mazar-e-Iqbal during Independence Day celebrations, in the Provincial Capital.

Independence Day "Change of Guards" ceremony held at Mazar-e-Quaid

KARACHI (APP): An impressive Change of Guard ceremony was held at the mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah as the entire nation celebrated the 77th anniversary of the independence of Pakistan on Wednesday (August 14).

A smartly turned-out contingent of the cadets of the Pakistan Naval Academy and sailors clad in ceremonial dresses assumed guard duties at Mazar-e-Quaid with enthusiasm, traditional spirit, and military customs.

Commandant Pakistan Naval Academy

graced the occasion as Chief Guest and reviewed the guard.

The Chief Guest and cadets of the Pakistan Navy presented Quami Salam to the Father of the Nation, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

The ceremonial mounting of the guard was followed by the laying of a floral wreath at the Mazar-e-Quaid by the chief guest on behalf of the Chief of the Naval Staff, officers, and men of the Pakistan Navy.

Later on, the Chief Guest Commandant of Pakistan Naval Academy, Commodore Khalid, offered Fateha.

ANF recovers 15 kg drugs in 7 operations

RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting seven operations, managed to recover 15 kg drugs and arrested seven accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Wednesday.

He informed that 6 kg hashish was recovered near Chungi Amar Sadhu Lahore.

In another operation, 5.4 kg weed was recovered from a vehicle intercepted on Coastal Highway Gwadar and an accused was arrested.

1 kg ice was recovered from the possession of an accused arrested in Dera Ghazi Khan. 990 grams hashish was recovered from an accused rounded up near Bacha Khan Bridge Karachi.

Senior minister launches monsoon plantation campaign on Independence Day

LAHORE (APP): Punjab's Senior Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb marked the country's Independence Day by inaugurating the monsoon plantation campaign titled "One Person, One Tree."

The campaign, which emphasizes environmental stewardship, was launched with the planting of a local citrus sapling by the Senior Minister on Wednesday.

During the ceremony, Marriyum Aurangzeb offered prayers for the nation's success and prosperity, urging citizens to participate in the initiative by planting

saplings to celebrate Independence Day. She highlighted that over 3 million trees are being planted across Punjab as part of the campaign.

The Senior Minister also introduced a unique plantation experiment involving the use of seed balls, emphasizing that tree plantation is not only a virtuous act but also a national necessity.

Secretary of Environmental Protection Raja Jahangir, DG Wildlife Mudassar Riaz Malik, DG PHA Tahir Wattoo, and other dignitaries were present at the event.



PESHAWAR: A view of Bala Hisar decorated with lights during 77th Independence Day celebration on 14 August.

Governor SBP says: Economic stability is key to national sovereignty

KARACHI (APP): The Independence Day was celebrated at SBP with renewed fervor and enthusiasm. The formal proceedings began with the hoisting of the National Flag, as the Navy band played the National Anthem.

The colorful ceremony was attended by a large number of SBP employees along with their families. A small contingent of Inter Bank Security Officers performed a march-past, demonstrating discipline and cohesion, and presented the guard of honor. Additionally, a choir consisting of students from the Garage School, DHA CSS and Bahria School sang national songs.

Governor SBP, Jameel Ahmad's message which was readout by Executive Director Muhammad Haroon Rasheed, praised the immense sacrifices made by the founding fathers in establishing a separate homeland for Muslims of

the Indian subcontinent. His message focused on improvements in macroeconomic indicators.

In his message, Governor Jameel Ahmad pointed out that inflation had significantly decreased to 11.1 percent in July this year, down from 28.3 percent in July 2023. He highlighted the country's previous struggles with macroeconomic indicators, noting that the current account deficit, which was USD 17.48 billion in FY 22, had been reduced to USD 3.2 billion in FY 23, and further to USD 0.68 billion in FY 24. Foreign remittances have now increased to USD 30.25 billion in FY 24 from USD 27.33 billion in FY 23.

The Governor also noted that the situation regarding foreign reserves has improved, with reserves rising to USD 9.3 billion despite ongoing debt repayments. Furthermore, there have been no import restrictions, and IT exports

have risen significantly. These improvements, he emphasized, bode well for the country's economy.

The Governor elaborated that the improvement in macroeconomic indicators is the result of measures taken by both the Government and the SBP, leading to a better economic outlook. Banks have developed their plans to issue more loans to the agriculture and SME sectors compared to last year, to harness the potential in these areas. He emphasized the SBP's efforts to ensure access to financial services for the general public, including initiatives such as the National Financial Inclusion Strategy, the National Financial Literacy Program, and Banking on Equality. He also highlighted 'Raast,' Pakistan's first instant payment system, which enables end-to-end digital payments among individuals, businesses,



CHINIOT: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Qaiser Ahmad Sheikh distributing the free coupon of 5 Liter Petrol to Ten Thousand bikers.

Experts stress enhancing public finance for reducing malnutrition

MUZAFFARABAD (APP): A two-day capacity building workshop on Public Finance for Nutrition and Early Childhood Development was conducted by scaling up nutrition (SUN), NGO.

Secretariat, Planning and Development Department (P&DD) in collaboration with UNICEF Pakistan on Monday- Tuesday at Kashmir Institute of Management (KIM). The event was chaired by Secretary P&DD Mr. Amir Latif, Senior Chief, SUN focal Person, Mehreen Gillani, and notable attendees including DG

Health Dr. Farooq Ahmad Noor, Dean of Allied Health Sciences Dr. Bashir Kamt, Donor Coordinator PM Secretariat Asma Andarabi, and representatives from the health, education, women's development, agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and WASH departments, as well as the other UN partners - World Food Programme (WFP), research academia, civil society, and media.

Dr. Saba Shuja, ECD Manager at UNICEF Pakistan, and Muhammad Iqbal, Resource Person from the SUN Unit KPK, joined as facilitators both in person and virtually, to

the capacity-building workshop and added valuable technical perspectives to the discussions. The main objectives of the workshop were to build capacity for tracking the allocations for nutrition, and expenditure of public funds in nutrition, along with sensitization on the optimized nutrition markers through technical presentations, group works, and discussions.

Participants were divided into four groups, each presenting on different aspects of nutrition and the roles of various government departments.



ISLAMABAD: Commuters purchasing national flag displayed by the roadside vendors as the nation celebrates the Independence Day of Pakistan.

NTDC adds another 250 MVA autotransformer at Sheikhpura grid station

LAHORE (APP): National Transmission and Despatch Company Limited (NTDC) has successfully added a 250 MVA autotransformer at 500 kV Grid Station Sheikhpura to enhance its power transmission capacity.

The augmentation work of existing 160 MVA, 220/132 kV autotransformer (T-8) with 250 MVA, 220/132 kV autotransformer has been completed by Project Delivery (North) Lahore, the autotransformer successfully energized, today. A shutdown was approved up to 14-08-2024 for this work,

however, NTDC team completed the project 03-days before the scheduled shutdown period by deploying extra resources, according to NTDC spokesman here Monday.

The augmentation of this autotransformer will enhance the loading capacity of 500 kV Grid Station Sheikhpura and provide relief to the areas under Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO).

The enhanced capacity of this grid station will ensure smooth power supply, which will benefit the domestic, commercial and industrial consumers.

SNGPL disconnects 10 more connections over violations

LODHARAN (APP): The Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) UFG Control Task Force raided and disconnected 10 more connections.

Three consumers metres were found seal tampered and further legal action recommended by disconnecting connections.

Likewise, six more metres were disconnected due to suspicious tampering and were disconnected and recommend further legal action. While one consumer's meter was on billing and was installed on site. On which metre was disconnected and legal action recommended.

Moreover, extensions from five consumers, who were found guilty of supplying gas to more than one house, were also removed.

SCCI celebrates I-Day

PESHAWAR (APP): Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on Wednesday arranged a flag hoisting ceremony to mark Independence Day.

The event was by Leader Businessmen Forum, Ilyas Ahmad Bilour, President SCCI, Fuad Ishaq, Senior Vice President SCCI and other office bearers. On the occasion, glowing tributes were paid to forefathers for their struggle and sacrifices for a separate motherland.

Addressing the ceremony, speakers vowed to follow golden principles of founding father of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

Engineers play crucial role in nation building: FEICSA

LAHORE (APP): Federation of Engineering Institutions of Central and South Asia (FEICSA) Secretary General Engineer Sultan Mahmood said on Wednesday that architects and engineers play equally crucial roles in nation-building projects, driving the progress and prosperity of a country.

Addressing the national flag hoisting ceremony here at Creative Group of companies headquarters, he said engineers on the other hand, bring these architectural visions to life. Their expertise in structural integrity, materials, and technology ensures that buildings and infrastructures are not only safe and efficient but also durable and cost-effective. From constructing bridges, roads, and airports to developing energy systems and transportation networks, engineers are

integral to the practical implementation of architectural designs. Their technical know-how fuels innovation in construction, making projects more resilient and adaptable to future needs.

Syed Amir Jafri, leading consulting architect and member Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planner briefly speaking on the occasion said that architects are responsible for envisioning and designing structures that define the physical and cultural landscape of a nation. He said they create functional, aesthetic, and sustainable spaces, whether residential buildings, public infrastructures, or monuments. By blending creativity with practicality, architects shape the identity of cities, contributing to their economic growth and enhancing the quality of life for the people.

KPT Chairman marks I-Day with flag hoisting ceremony

KARACHI (APP): The Karachi Port Trust (KPT) commemorated the Independence Day, with a ceremony filled with national spirit at the KPT Head Office on Wednesday.

Chairman KPT, Syedain Raza Zaidi, led the event as the chief guest, accompanied by all General Managers and Heads of Departments, said a news release. The celebrations began with the sounding of sirens for two minutes, followed by the hoisting of the national flag by Chairman Zaidi. He also reviewed a guard of honor presented by the Port Security Force.

In his address, Chairman Zaidi highlighted the significance of independence and paid tribute to the selfless contributions and sacrifices of the nation's forefathers in the creation of Pakistan. He honored those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to secure.



ISLAMABAD: A vendor displays fruits on his roadside setup to attract the customers at F-10 area.

President of JazzCash, joins Forbes Finance Council

ISLAMABAD (APP): President of JazzCash, Pakistan's largest fintech platform, Murtaza Ali, has been accepted into the Forbes Finance Council, the foremost community of financial services professionals worldwide.

Murtaza's selection to the Council comes as recognition of his outstanding performance in the fintech and telecommunications sectors said a news release.

With over 25 years of experience, Murtaza has consistently demonstrated his ability to drive business growth and innovation. His leadership at JazzCash, a joint venture between Jazz and Mobilink Microfinance Bank and part of the VEON Group, has been instrumental in transforming the digital financial services landscape in Pakistan.

As a Council member, Murtaza will have access to exclusive opportunities designed to enhance his professional influence.

He will engage with other respected leaders in private forums and members-only events and share his insights as a fintech expert on Forbes.com and in Q&A panels.

"It is an honor to join the Forbes Finance Council and contribute to the global conversation on fintech and digital financial inclusion," said Murtaza Ali. "At JazzCash, we are committed to bringing digital financial services to every Pakistani, especially the unbanked and underbanked. I look forward to sharing our experiences and learning from other leaders to continue driving innovation and growth in the sector."

Kashif Ashfaq hoists national flag at PFC HQ

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan was carved out as an independent Muslim homeland after immense sacrifices and bloodshed to lead their lives according to the tenets of Islam.

Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) Chief Executive Officer Mian Kashif Ashfaq expressed these views after hoisting national flag at PFC Headquarter on Wednesday. He said the journey to independence was marked by relentless struggles, hardships, and unwavering faith in the vision of a separate homeland for Muslims.

The founders of Pakistan, led by Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, struggled for a separate land where Muslims could practice their religion freely, govern themselves according to Islamic principles, and protect their cultural and religious identity.

WASA sings MoU of 10mln USD regarding mega projects of urban flooding

MULTAN (APP): Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) has signed MoU for record of discussion regarding mega projects of urban flooding worth of 10 million USD on Wednesday.

A ceremony regarding Record of Discussion for Disaster Prevention Project was held at Development and Public Health Engineering Secretariat in which Special Secretary Housing Punjab Tayyab Farid, Director General Multan Development Authority (MDA) Rana Saleem Ahmed, Managing Director WASA Khalid Raza Khan, Country Director of Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Mr. Je Ho Yeon and Focal Person for the project Deputy Director Planning & Development WASA Muhammad Nadeem were present.

Muhammad Nadeem said these funds would be provided in the form of grant-in-aid to WASA Multan by the participation of the Korea. Under the agreement

signed between WASA Multan and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), a master plan will be developed to prevent Multan city from urban flooding and underground water tanks would be constructed to provide relief to low-lying areas of the city during monsoons.

He said that capacity building of WASA Multan employees would also be done regarding Urban Flooding.

On this occasion, DG MDA Rana Saleem Ahmed said that after the preparation of the master plan of this mega project, the risk of urban flooding would be decreased in the historical city. He said that this project would also play an important role in capacity building of the employees of WASA Multan. Managing Director WASA Khalid Raza Khan gave good news to the citizens of Multan and said that the government's plan to provide mega project to WASA Multan through the friendly country Korea would be a milestone.



KARACHI: Vendors sell Pakistan's national flags at a roadside stall on the eve of the country's Independence Day, in the Provincial Capital.

Celebrating Unity and Patriotism: Huaneng Shandong Ruyi Pakistan Pvt. Limited Pak marks Independence Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Huaneng Shandong Ruyi Pakistan Pvt. Limited, the 1320 MW Coal Fired Power Plant (CFPP) in Sahiwal, became a vibrant stage through celebrating the Independence Day celebrations on Wednesday with a number of vibrant activities, showing a remarkable bond between Chinese and Pakistani staff.

The plant's annual observance of Pakistan's Independence Day was a profound testament to the camaraderie and unity between its Chinese and Pakistani staff.

This year's festivities were marked by heartfelt ceremonies that showcased a remarkable bond between the two nations. The day began with a traditional flag-raising ceremony, a moment of great significance for the Pakistani employees.

As the Pakistani flag was hoisted against the backdrop of the power plant, the ceremony was conducted with great reverence and national pride, said a news release. This symbolic act was not just a display of patriotism but also an

illustration of the respect and acknowledgment that the Chinese colleagues have for Pakistan's sovereignty and history.

The event was attended by all staff members, including key figures from the management. The presence of the entire workforce emphasized the collective spirit and mutual respect that define the working environment at Huaneng Shandong Ruyi Pakistan.

Mr. Xu, the company's president, played a pivotal role in the day's events and his address to the staff was a highlight, reflecting both gratitude and encouragement.

In his speech, Mr. Xu extended his heartfelt congratulations to the Pakistani employees, celebrating Pakistan's 77th Independence Day.

He spoke about the importance of patriotism, not just on national holidays but as a daily commitment to excellence and integrity. "Patriotism," he remarked, "is about contributing positively to our community and our company every single day."

Cake designers make Pakistan's birthday sweeter with patriotic creations

ISLAMABAD (APP): As Pakistan marks its birthday today, the sweet aroma of patriotism wafts through the air where confectionery artists across the country were seen busy in crafting masterpieces with cake designs that reflect the nation's spirit, making the occasion even more unforgettable.

Cake shops across the country are witnessing a surge in demand for custom cakes. From Lahore to Karachi, and Islamabad to Peshawar cake shops are working overtime to meet the orders, said a report aired by a Private news channel. Cake cutting ceremonies have become an integral part of Independence Day celebrations, said Hassan, an event organizer.

It is a way to show unity, solidarity and cakes are the perfect centerpiece, he added. Cake shops are also offering special discounts and packages for Independence Day, said a customer.

"I ordered a cake for my family gathering and got a great deal", she added. The boom in cake

shops and cake cutting ceremonies is not just limited to major cities. Even small towns and villages are getting in on the action, with local bakeries and sweet shops offering their own special Independence day treats, said a cake seller.

Cakes are a big part of our celebrations, and this year we wanted to do something special, said Ali, a local resident who ordered a custom cake for his workplace celebration.

The attention to detail is impressive, said Sarah, a customer who ordered a cake for her family gathering. The cake designer incorporated the Pakistani flag's colors and even added a small edible Quaid-e-Azam portrait, she added.

Cake cutting ceremonies are a wonderful way to boost morale and foster a sense of unity among our team members, said a government employee. Cake cutting ceremonies remind us of the sacrifices made by our forefathers and the importance of protecting our nation's freedom, said a teacher.



RAWALPINDI: A roadside stall holder decorates glasses to attract customers, on footpath on Murree Road in the city.

Ukraine is advancing deeper into Russia, Zelenskiy says

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: Ukraine said on Wednesday its forces had advanced further into Russia's Kursk region in the biggest foreign incursion into Russia since World War Two, posing a dilemma for President Vladimir Putin according to US President Joe Biden.

Thousands of Ukrainian troops rammed through the Russian border in the early hours of August 6 into Russia's western Kursk region in what Putin called a major provocation aimed at gaining a stronger hand in possible future ceasefire talks.

Ukraine has carved out a slice of the Russian border region of Kursk and though Putin said the Russian army would push out the Ukrainian troops, more than a week of intense battles have so far failed to oust them.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said

Kyiv's forces were continuing to gain ground in the Kursk region and that they had taken another one to two kilometres on Wednesday.

"We continue to advance further in the Kursk region," Zelenskiy wrote in a statement on Telegram, "from one to two kilometres in various areas since the start of the day. And more than 100 Russian prisoners of war in the same period."

Russia's defence ministry said 117 Ukrainian drones had been shot down within its territory overnight, mostly in the Kursk, Voronezh, Belgorod and Nizhny Novgorod regions. It said missiles had also been downed, and showed Sukhoi Su-34 bombers striking Ukrainian positions in the Kursk region.

Later, the ministry said Russian forces had repelled a series of Ukrainian attacks inside the Kursk

region, including at Russkoye Porechnoye 18km from the border, and pro-Russian war bloggers said the front has been stabilised.

The Ukrainian drone attack included strikes on four Russian military airfields in an attempt to undermine Russia's ability to attack Ukraine with gliding bombs, a Ukrainian security source told Reuters on condition of anonymity.

Russia's National Guard said it was beefing up security at the Kursk nuclear power plant, located just 35km from the fighting.

The Ukrainian assault into Russian territory has dramatically changed the narrative around the two-and-a-half-year-old war. Russia had been advancing in eastern Ukraine since the failure of Kyiv's 2023 counter-offensive to make any major gains against Russian forces.



Taliban security personnel ride in a convoy to celebrate the third anniversary of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan in Kabul.

Harris cautiously rolls out policy, aiming to outmaneuver Trump and address 2020 liabilities

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: Vice President Kamala Harris is trying to outmaneuver former President Donald Trump and address old vulnerabilities on her policy positions as she starts to fill in how she would govern if elected in November.

Vice presidents rarely have policy portfolios of their own — and almost always set aside any views that differ from those of the Oval Office occupant. Now, after four years of following President Joe Biden's lead, Harris is taking a cautious approach to unveiling a policy vision in her own right.

But her surprise ascendance to the top of the ticket after Biden dropped his reelection bid also means her policy platform

is being pulled together just as quickly.

When Harris inherited Biden's political operation in late July, the campaign's website was quietly scrubbed of the six-point "issues" page that framed the race against Trump, from expanding voting protections to restoring nationwide access to abortion. Instead, Harris has peppered her speeches — so far heavy on biography for herself and her running mate — with broad goals like "building up the middle class." She has called for federal laws to provide abortion access and ban assault-style weapons, but has been thin on the details of what specifically they would entail or how she would convince Congress to make progress on some

Bangladesh's ex-premier Hasina faces 'crimes against humanity' case

Monitoring Desk
DHAKA: A case was filed against Bangladesh's former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and eight other members of her now-dissolved cabinet and police officers on charges of "crimes against humanity" and "genocide," according to an official on Wednesday.

The case was filed at the local International Crimes Tribunal in the capital Dhaka, Ataur Rahman, a deputy director of the investigation agency of the court, told the media.

The tribunal was formed by the then-Awami League government of Hasina in 2010 to prosecute those who had opposed Bangladesh's war of independence in 1971.

Mexico to send US diplomatic note over donations to Mexican civil groups

Monitoring Desk
MEXICO CITY: Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador told a morning press conference on Wednesday that he would send a diplomatic note to the United States over what he called interference regarding US donations to opposition civil organizations. The president cited US funding for Mexicanos Contra la Corrupcion y la Impunidad, an anti-graft NGO which has investigated possible corruption in his administration as well as that of his predecessors. "We have dealt with it here several times, it has been made public but now we are going to handle it in the appropriate way through the letter I am going to send President Biden," Lopez Obrador said.



Palestinian children stand at the site of an Israeli strike on a house, amid the Israel-Hamas conflict, in Maghazi refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip.

Biden says Gaza ceasefire could stop Iran attacking Israel

Monitoring Desk
GAZA STRIP: US President Joe Biden said Tuesday that a ceasefire deal in Gaza could deter Iran from attacking Israel in retaliation for the killing of a Hamas leader that sent regional tensions soaring. His remarks came after Iran rejected Western calls to "stand down" its threat of reprisals.

The Islamic republic and its allies have blamed Israel for Ismail Haniyeh's killing on July 31 during a visit to Tehran for the swearing-in of Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian. Israel has not commented. Iran has vowed

to avenge the death, which came hours after an Israeli strike in Beirut killed a senior commander of Hezbollah, the powerful Iran-backed militant group in Lebanon. Asked if a truce between Israel and Hamas could stave off an Iranian assault, Biden said: "That's my expectation."

He told reporters in New Orleans that while negotiations were "getting hard" he was "not giving up." Western diplomats have scrambled to prevent a major conflagration in the Middle East, where tensions were already high due to the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza.

Unpopular Japan PM Kishida to step down

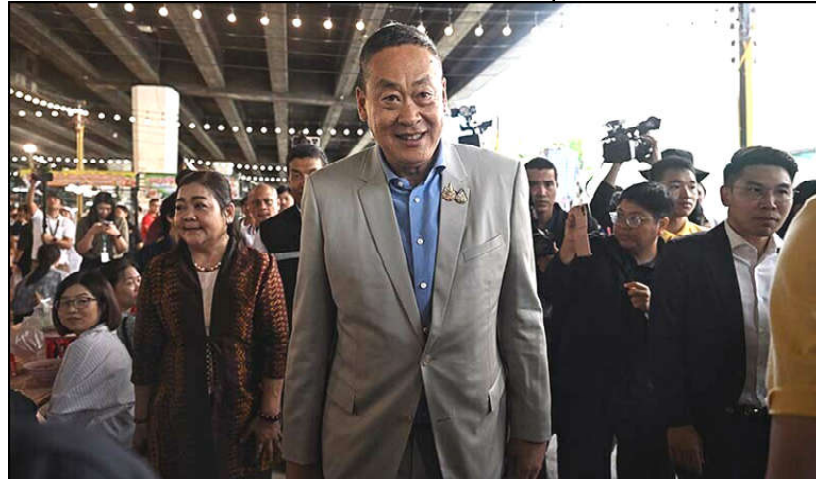
Monitoring Desk
TOKYO: Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida announced on Wednesday he will step aside next month, ending a three-year term plagued by low popularity ratings and a spluttering economy.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party, which has governed almost uninterrupted for decades, is due to hold a leadership contest next month, with the winner to become prime minister. Kishida said on Wednesday he will not seek re-election as party chief. "In this (party) presidential election, it is necessary to show the people that the LDP is changing and

the party is a new LDP," Kishida told reporters in Tokyo. "For this, transparent and open elections and free and vigorous debate are important. The most obvious first step to show that the LDP will change is for me to step aside," he said.

Kishida, 67, in office since October 2021, has seen his and his party's poll ratings slide sharply in response to rising prices hitting Japanese incomes and several scandals.

In November, Kishida announced a stimulus package worth 17 trillion yen (more than \$100 billion at the time) as he tried to ease the pressure from inflation and rescue his premiership.



Thailand's Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin arrives to visit a food market in Bangkok.

Romania defuses stray mine on its Black Sea shore

Monitoring Desk
BUCHAREST: Romania's navy carried out a controlled explosion on Tuesday of a mine that had drifted to its Black Sea shore, the defence ministry said.

Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey have a joint taskforce to defuse stray mines, which began floating in the Black Sea after Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022.

The ministry said the

navy was alerted by local officials early on Tuesday about an unidentified object that had washed up on shore near Grindul Chituc in southeastern Romania. The area is part of the Danube Delta, which Romania shares with Ukraine.

"By examining photographs taken on site, the object is most likely an anti-landing seamine of the YaRM type," the ministry said in a statement.

Denmark to pressure Sweden over gang violence

Monitoring Desk
STOCKHOLM: Denmark will put pressure on Sweden to contain growing cross-border gang violence, including armed Swedish teenagers acting as "child soldiers" in turf wars, the Danish justice minister said on Monday.

Denmark has seen a rise in violence on its soil by Swedish gang members in recent months and says the trend is a spillover from its northern neighbour which has by far the highest per capita rate of gun violence in the European Union.

Danish police last week began a more active monitoring of passengers arriving by train from Sweden and the government on Monday said it aims to introduce facial recognition technology to speed up investigations that are currently done manually.

"We will of course also put pressure on Sweden to take responsibility for these things," Minister of Justice Peter Hummelgaard told Danish TV2.

Swedish gang members involved in the violence will also face severe consequences, Denmark's national chief of police said.

"There will be a price to pay and it will be high," Thorkild Fogde told a press conference in Copenhagen.

The Swedish justice ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Taliban celebrate 3 years since Afghanistan takeover with military show

Monitoring Desk

KABUL: Afghanistan's Taliban rulers celebrated three years in power on Wednesday with a military parade paying homage to their homemade bombs used in war, fighter aircraft, and goose-stepping security forces. The Taliban's armed forces towed Soviet-era tanks and artillery pieces through the former US air base in Bagram, where Chinese and Iranian diplomats were among hundreds who gathered for the parade and speeches. The former Bagram base once served as the linchpin for US-led operations against the Taliban for two decades.

A swarm of motorbikes strapped with yellow jerry cans, often used to carry homemade bombs during the fight against international forces, also rumbled past assembled officials.

There were also US-made armoured personnel carriers, the black-and-white flag of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan — the Taliban government's formal name for the country — fluttering above them. Helicopters and fighter aircraft flew over the base, where Taliban fighters were once imprisoned, about 40 kilometres north of Kabul. Taliban forces seized the capital on August 15, 2021, after the US-backed government collapsed and its leaders fled into exile. The anniversary is marked a day earlier on the Afghan calendar. Their government remains unrecognised by any other state, with restrictions on women, who bear the brunt of policies the United Nations has called "gender apartheid".

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Hamas to stay out of Gaza truce talks, Iran considers Israel attack

Monitoring Desk
CAIRO: The Palestinian Islamist group Hamas said on Wednesday it would not take part in a new round of Gaza ceasefire talks slated for Thursday in Qatar, dimming hopes for a negotiated truce that Iranian sources say could hold back an Iranian attack on Israel.

The US has said it expects indirect talks to go ahead as planned in Qatar's capital Doha on Thursday, and that a ceasefire agreement was still possible. However Axios reported that US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has postponed a trip to the Middle East that had been expected to begin on Tuesday.

Three senior Iranian officials have said that only a ceasefire deal in Gaza would hold Iran back from direct retaliation against Israel for the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh on its soil last month. The Israeli government said it would send a delegation to

Thursday's talks, but Hamas, the Palestinian militant group that controls Gaza, requested a workable plan to implement a proposal it has already accepted rather than more talks.

"Hamas is committed to the proposal presented to it on July 2, which is based on the UN Security Council resolution and the Biden speech and the movement is prepared to immediately begin discussion over a mechanism to implement it," Senior Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri told Reuters. "Going to new negotiation allows the occupation to impose new conditions and employ the maze of negotiation to conduct more massacres," he added. There has been no let-up in fighting in Gaza, where residents of the southern city of Khan Younis said Israeli forces blew up homes in the east and intensified tank shelling on eastern areas of the city centre.

Venezuela's Machado says Maduro relying on military to stay in power

Monitoring Desk
LIMA: Venezuelan opposition leader Maria Corina Machado said on Tuesday that President Nicolas Maduro had "entrenched himself" with the nation's top military leaders in order to stay in power after last month's disputed election. The electoral authority, the CNE, which the opposition says is loyal to Maduro, declared that he had won reelection in the July 28 vote, while the opposition argues it was won by its candidate, Edmundo Gonzalez.

The CNE has not released a detailed vote count and its website has been down since the early hours of July 29. The opposition has posted its ballot count online, which shows Gonzalez receiving double the number of votes as Maduro. Machado, speaking at a virtual press conference with media from Colombia, Ecuador and Peru on Tuesday, called on Venezuelans at home and abroad to protest on Saturday to force Maduro to "respect" the election result.

Machado said she has chosen to do so to entrench herself with the top military command, that's all he has left," Machado said.

Venezuela's military has long supported Maduro, in power since 2013, and there have been no public signs since the election that leaders of the armed forces are breaking from the government. Machado is under criminal investigation for allegedly inciting police and military to civil disobedience after she published a letter calling for them to abandon Maduro. Security forces have also launched a crackdown on people they say were perpetrators of violent crimes during post-election protests. They have made more than 2,400 arrests, which advocacy groups say has left people fearful to take to the streets. "Maduro has incorrectly weighed his options," Machado said.

"Pressure needs to be put on him so he understands that the best option for him is to accept the terms of a negotiated transition."

More than 1,000 arrested following UK riots, police say

Monitoring Desk
LONDON: British authorities have now arrested more than 1,000 people following days of rioting involving violence, arson and looting as well as racist attacks targeting Muslims and migrants, a national policing body said on Tuesday.

The riots, which followed the killings of three young girls in the northern English town of Southport, began after the July 29 attack was wrongly blamed on an Islamist migrant based on online misinformation.

Violence broke out in cities across England and also in Northern Ireland, but there have been fewer instances of unrest since last week after efforts to identify those involved were ramped up.

Many have been swiftly jailed, with some receiving long sentences. The National Police Chiefs' Council said in its latest update that 1,024 had been arrested and 575



Nigerian police personnel restrict protesters from convening for the sixth day of anti-government demonstrations against bad governance and economic hardship, in Lagos, Nigeria.

Assures to issue directives for timely release of funds for projects: We are serious in bringing Balochistan in mainstream development at par of other provinces, says Deputy PM

Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti tells Ishaq Dar timely completion of federal development projects conditional with timely release of funds

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Deputy Prime Minister, Muhammad Ishaq Dar has categorically stated that we are serious in bringing Balochistan in mainstream development at par of other provinces.

The Deputy Prime Minister assured to issue directives to the concerned authorities for timely release of the funds for federal development projects in the province.

He expressed satisfaction over the measures of provincial government for

restoration of law and order in the province and assured complete cooperation by the federal government.

The Deputy Prime Minister was in meeting with the Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti before leaving for Islamabad on Wednesday.

During the meeting, Speaker of National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Federal Minister Jam Kamal Khan and other senior high ups were also present.

There was discussion on the measures about on-

going development projects, law and order and social development.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that we are making provincial development programme compatible with the public needs.

He said that we are determined to improve service delivery system and establishment of the good governance.

However, the timely completion of the federal development projects is conditional with timely release of the funds.



QUETTA: Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar and Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti inaugurating new Registration Centers of NADRA. Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Provincial Ministers and high officials are also present

USAID provides health care equipments to flood-affected districts of Sindh, Balochistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): The United States Government, through USAID, has handed over 5,000 lady health worker kits, 90 maternal, neonatal, and child health packages, and 120 birthing stations to improve health services in eleven flood-affected districts of Sindh and Balochistan.

These supplies, part of USAID's \$27.8 million investment in the health sector's flood response, will enable lady health workers and health facilities to provide better health services to more than 80,000 children and 100,000 married women of reproductive age, said a press release.

The devastating floods in June 2022 severely disrupted health services in Sindh and

Balochistan, affecting over 13 million people and exposing them to waterborne and vector-borne diseases.

This crisis worsened issues in routine immunization, maternal health, and child malnutrition.

In response, USAID and its partners assessed health commodity needs in the hardest-hit districts and identified critical shortages.

The commodities delivered during the handover reflect the needs of these communities and align with national priorities.

Speaking at the handover ceremony, USAID Mission Director Kate Somvongsiri emphasized the long-term impact of this assistance.

"The donation of \$2.3 million in equipment marks

a significant investment in strengthening the health resilience of flood-affected communities in Sindh and Balochistan."

"By enhancing health service delivery and ensuring the availability of essential commodities, we can save lives and build resilience against future crises," remarked Dr Malik Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath, Coordinator to Prime Minister, MoNHSRC.

Speaking on the occasion Minister for Health and Population Sindh Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho said that this assistance has been pivotal in improving Pakistan's health system's capacity to respond to public health emergencies and ensure continuity of essential health services.



QUETTA: Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is being signed between Government of Balochistan and Akhuwat Foundation. Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti is also present

MoU signed between GoB & Akhuwat Foundation to provide interest free loans to unemployed graduates

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Government of Balochistan and Akhuwat Foundation here at the Chief Minister's secretariat on Wednesday.

Under the MoU, the unemployed graduates of the province would be offered interest-free and soft-term loans.

The Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Imran Zarkoon signed the MoU on behalf of provincial government while head of the Akhuwat Foundation, Dr. Muhammad Amjad Saqib signed the MoU on behalf of his organization.

The Chief Minister, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, Senator Sardar Umar Gorgej, Parliamentary Sec-

retary, Asfandyar Kakar, Member National Assembly, Ahmed Shah Gorgej, Agha Shahzaib Durrani, Chief Secretary, Shaheel Qadir Khan, spokesman of provincial government, Shahid Rind witnessed the signing ceremony.

According to the MoU, the Government of Balochistan and Akhuwat Foundation would provide interest-free soft term loans to the unemployed graduates with mutual cooperation.

These loans would be provided as per the viable business plan, mentioned in the official hand out issued here adding that these loans would be returned in easy instalments. Besides, the graduate women and minorities would also benefit from the loan scheme, it was further mentioned.

Massive Independence Day rally held at Pak-Afghan Border

QUETTA (INP): The 78th Independence Day of Pakistan was marked by a vibrant and patriotic rally at the Pak-Afghan border in Chagai.

Organized under the direction of Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) central leader Mir Ijaz Sanjrani, the rally took place in the Barbachah area. The event saw thousands of participants raising slogans of "Pakistan Army" and "Pakistan Zindabad," with the atmosphere filled with enthusiasm as national songs echoed through the crowd.

Sheikh claims facing death threats amid rising political tensions

RAWALPINDI (INP): Awami Muslim League chief Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed has revealed that he is facing death threats but remains resolute in his stance, asserting his right to stand by his beliefs.

In a video statement, the former interior minister declared that the government's time has come to an end, urging them to "pack up and leave." He criticized the current administration, stating that it has become a symbol of hatred, making it unsafe to travel anywhere in the country without security. Rasheed claimed that the public has grown to detest the rulers.

Tarar grieved over demise of senior journalist Akhlaq Bajwa

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Wednesday expressed deep grief and sorrow over the death of senior journalist Akhlaq Ahmed Bajwa.

The minister expressed his heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the family of the deceased.

"Late Akhlaq Ahmad Bajwa rendered valuable services in the field of journalism," he said adding the vacuum created in journalism due to his death cannot be filled.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Kuwait to Pakistan, Abdul Rehman Jay. Al-Mutairi with Federal Minister for Privatization, Board of Investment and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan in Independence Day function.

Independence Day PM expresses gratitude to UAE counterpart for extending greetings

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday thanked his UAE counterpart Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum for his warm greetings on Pakistan's Independence Day.

"I thank Your Highness and the entire leadership of UAE for always standing with Pakistan in our journey towards

peace, progress and prosperity. I am confident that by working together, we can build a brighter future for our peoples.

Long live Pakistan-UAE brotherhood," the prime minister wrote on his official X account in response to the felicitation message by Prime Minister of United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

GoB to bear passport expenses for Lagharis

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Balochistan government has announced that it will bear all expenses for the issuance of passports for Lagharis living in the Pak-Afghan border areas of Chaman. This move aims to facilitate local trade and travel while ensuring compliance with legal require-

ments. According to a spokesperson for the Balochistan government, Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has directed the provincial government to cover the costs of passport issuance for the local population, particularly the underprivileged, to ease their business and family ties across the border.



QUETTA: Director General Public Relations Balochistan Muhammad Noor Khetran enquiring about health of script writer Information Saadat Yar Bareeh who got injured in Tuesday night bomb blast

NAB organizes I-Day celebration

Independent Report
QUETTA: NAB Balochistan celebrated Independence Day with zest and enthusiasm on 14th August 2024 to pay homage for the independence. The ceremony was held at the premises of NAB (Balochistan) and NAB officers, officials, and their children actively participated. The children of NAB employees were dressed in bright ceremonial clothing.

The DG NAB (Balochistan) Mr. Izhar Ahmed Awan unfurled the flag in front of the enthusiastic participants. A ceremonial salute was presented by the police personal mark the occasion honoring the nations sovereignty and independence. The Director General interacted with the officers, staff, and children in the ceremony. The Director General NAB emphasized the importance of self-accountability and encouraged employees to play a proactive role in contributing to the betterment of our beloved country, by highlighting the significance of personal responsibility and collective effort in fostering positive change within the organization and society at large. Furthermore, DG NAB asked the NAB officers and officials to actively participate in celebrations of Independence Day.

Dar inaugurates NADRA's new registration centers in Balochistan

QUETTA (APP): Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar on Wednesday inaugurated 21 new NADRA registration centers and six new mobile registration vehicles in Balochistan during a ceremony held at CM Secretariat here. National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan, Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti, provincial ministers, parliamentary secretaries, assembly members, NADRA officials, were also present.

Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar expressed satisfaction with the provision of new NADRA registration centers and MRVs in the province.

He instructed federal

institutions to fully cooperate with the provincial government in providing services to the remote areas of Balochistan.

Chief Minister of Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti, on the occasion hoped that the establishment of new registration centers in 21 tehsils of Balochistan's remote areas would facilitate the public in obtaining registration and identity cards.

The Chief Minister added that the people in remote areas had faced difficulties in registration and obtaining identity cards.

The new registration centers and mobile vehicles would particularly benefit the elderly and women, allowing them to register and obtain identity cards at their doorstep.



BEIJING: A dignified investiture ceremony held at the Embassy of Pakistan in Beijing, Ambassador of Pakistan to China H.E. Khalil Hashmi, on behalf of the President of Pakistan, conferred the prestigious "Hilal-e-Quaid-i-Azam" award, upon Ambassador Nong Kong, Deputy Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council and former Ambassador of China to Pakistan.

Bilawal reaffirms PPP's commitment to democracy, unity on Independence Day

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

He emphasized that the 1973 Constitution embodies the spirit of the Freedom Movement and provides a unified vision for the nation's future.

Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari 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.

Chairman PPP stated, "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." Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari emphasized that the PPP remains committed to the principles and vision of the founding fathers. He remarked, "The ideology of Quaid-e-Azam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and the philosophy of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto serve as guiding lights for us. Under President Asif Ali Zardari's vision of reconciliation and national unity, we find hope and strength to navigate our challenges."



PISHIN: Parliamentary Secretary Asfandyar Kakar and MPs Asghar Tareen and Syed Zafar Ali Agha wearing traditional turban to Provincial Minister Mir Sadiq Umrani on eve of a ceremony held in connection with Independence Day

Deputy PM, Speaker NA return to Islamabad after two-day visit to Quetta

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Deputy Prime Minister, Muhammad Ishaq Dar and Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq returned back to Islamabad after winding up two-day visit to Quetta on Wednesday.

The Governor, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail, Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, provincial ministers, members of national and provincial assemblies saw them off at the Quetta airport.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Speaker National Assembly thanked the Chief Minister and expressed best wishes for him.

It may be mentioned here that Ishaq Dar and Speaker National Assembly participated in the Independence day celebrations in Quetta.

The Deputy Prime Minister also presided over the meeting about law and order and development projects.

He also participated as chief guest at the main ceremony of flag hoisting at the provincial assembly's law on Wednesday morning.

In addition to this, Ishaq Dar also inaugurated the Quetta solid waste management project along with the Chief Minister and Speaker National Assembly in Quetta.



QUETTA: Balochistan Youth ittehad hold rally to mark independence day.

Bazai vows to remember sacrifices rendered for creating Pakistan

QUETTA (APP): Former Deputy Attorney General, senior lawyer Ameenuddin Bazai, said on Wednesday that the joy we received on 14 August is something we and our future generations must remember for a lifetime.

While addressing a ceremony held in Kuchlak on the occasion of the 78th Independence Day, he said

"We must remember how many people were separated, martyred, and sacrificed in the struggle to achieve this great nation. Today, we must pay tribute to all their sacrifices."

Paying homage to the founder of Pakistan, he said, "today is a day to remember the greatest debt we owe to Quaid-e-Azam

Muhammad Ali Jinnah and his companions because it is through their efforts that we are breathing in the free air of an independent country.

Ameenuddin Bazai expressed gratitude to all those who made, protected, and contributed to the construction and development of this country.