



Erdogan slams 'digital fascism' after Türkiye blocks Instagram

President Tayyip Erdogan fiercely criticised social media companies on Monday, saying they sought to "muzzle the Palestinian people's voices", after Turkey blocked access to Instagram last week. Turkey was holding talks with Instagram on Monday after the move, which followed a top Turkish official's accusation that the social media site blocked condolence posts over the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh.



PM Sheikh Hasina steps down after bloody protests, flees Bangladesh

Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina resigned on Monday and fled the country, as more people were killed in some of the worst violence since the birth of the South Asian nation more than five decades ago. Army chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman announced Hasina's resignation in a televised address to the nation and said an interim government would be formed. Media reports said Hasina, 76, was flown in a military helicopter with her sister and was headed to India.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Youm-e-Istehsal

KARACHI: Pakistani people rally to mark Kashmir Solidarity against the Indian government's 2019 decision to scrap the special status of Jammu and Kashmir in Islamabad, Pakistan on August 05, 2024. On Aug. 5, 2019, India repealed Article 370 of its Constitution which allowed Jammu and Kashmir its own constitution, flag and two-house legislature that could frame its own laws.



Photo: Online

Governor Punjab calls on President Zardari



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan on Monday called on President Asif Ali Zardari. During the meeting at the Aivan-e-Sadr, the overall situation in Punjab province and political matters were discussed, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release.

President Zardari expressed his grief over human and financial losses in the aftermath of recent rainfall in the province.

Governor Punjab calls on PM

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan on Monday called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

During the meeting, different matters pertaining to Punjab province, besides overall situation in the country, including political, were discussed, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Senator Dar attend Meeting of the OIC Executive Committee in Jeddah

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar will visit Jeddah, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to participate in the Extraordinary Meeting of the OIC Executive Committee being held on 7 August 2024. The Meeting is being convened at the request of the State of Palestine and the Islamic Republic of Iran to discuss the ongoing Israeli aggression against Palestine and other regional states.



Meeting, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister will present Pakistan's serious concerns about the dire situation in Gaza and the wider Middle East region. He will emphasize the urgency of peace and provision of relief assistance to the people of Gaza. On the sidelines, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister will hold bilateral meetings with his counterparts from other OIC member states.

Finance Minister chaired the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on State-Owned Enterprises

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb presided over a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on State-Owned Enterprises (CCoSEs) at Finance Division today.

their relevant State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) as strategic/ essential or otherwise.

The Cabinet Committee on SOEs approved the re-merger of National Security Printing Company (NSPC) with Pakistan Security Printing Corporation (PSPC), and directed the Ministry of Finance and SBP to complete the formalities and present the implementation plan before the Committee.

The Cabinet Committee further approved that National Bank of Pakistan (NBP), being a part of Sovereign Welfare Fund, is exempted from SOE Act 2003, hence not required to be categorized, whereas EXIM Bank be categorized as Essential SOE.

PM-Kashmir

Granting due rights to people of Kashmir, Palestine, only way to maintain peace in region: PM

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday emphasized that granting due rights to the people of Kashmir and Palestine was the only way to maintain peace and stability in the region.

In his televised address to the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly on Youm-e-Istehsal, the prime minister said the day is not far away when both India and Israel will be bound to give due rights to the people of Palestine and Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) as all ways other than this lead to total destruction.

He said that Pakistan was a nuclear power and that was part of its defence. However, he



said Pakistan had never thought of aggression with regard to its nuclear power. "Therefore the better option is to adopt the peaceful way and sit together to find out the peaceful solution to the Kashmir dispute." The prime minister pointed

out that this occasion reminded us of the grave consequences of India's illegal actions of 5 August 2019 vis-à-vis Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

Ever since, he said today, in the IIOJK, efforts were being made

to silence the genuine leadership of the Kashmiri people and muzzle the media. "The number of political prisoners remain in the thousands, while 14 political organizations have been outlawed."

The harassment of innocent people, arbitrary detentions and the so-called 'cordon and search operations have become a matter of routine. The Indian forces are operating with impunity, according to them under different draconian laws, he added.

PM Shehbaz Sharif vowed that until the Kashmiris get the basic rights and freedom, Pakistan will continue to extend the moral support and will continue to knock the doors of all the international institutions.

Paying tributes to the people of Kashmir, he said "we salute to their struggle for freedom who had been bearing the atrocities and cruelties of the Indian armed forces for 77 years".

He also paid tributes the Hurriyat leaders including Chaudhry Ghulam Abbas, Sardar Ibrahim Khan, Mirwaiz Muhammad Yousuf, Syed Ali Gilani, Muhammad Ashraf Sehrai, Altaf Ahmed Shah, Moulana Abbas Ansari and all the young workers and leaders who raised their voices against the Indian atrocities.

"We salute to Asiya Andrabi, Yaseen Malik, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, Shabbir Ahmed Shah, Mussarat Alam Butt, and Burhan Wani for their struggle for freedom.

DG ISPR calls for stronger action against 'digital terrorism'

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan military's spokesperson has criticised the lack of legal action against the spread of fake news, propaganda, and "digital terrorism" in the country.

"It is the country's law that has to control and curb digital terrorism [but] unfortunately, you can see that lies, propaganda — particularly on social media — fake news and doctored images continue to spread while confusion is created in the public's mind," Director General of the Inter-Services Public Relations Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry said at a press conference in

Rawalpindi on Monday. His press conference was centred on internal security and the overall security situation after the recent rise in terrorist attacks.

The military spokesperson added that the current laws are not being utilised effectively to curb the proliferation of misinformation on social media and other digital platforms.

"But the law is not taking its course against [digital terrorism] the way it should."

He warned that the Pakistan Army would take legal action against anyone, regardless of their position, who is found to be involved in spreading propaganda against the armed forces or creating divisions between the military and the people.

Pakistan to continue support for Kashmiris struggle till freedom: Tarar

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar said that Pakistan would continue to support Kashmiris' just struggle for right to self-determination till freedom from illegal Indian rule.

He was addressing a press conference along with Federal Minister of Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Engineer Amir Muqam here Monday.

He said that Ministry of Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan under Amir Muqam had launched a historic campaign on the occasion of Youm-e-Istehsal to highlight Indian atrocities in Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

Tarar said on Aug 5, 2019, the special status of Kashmir was ended by the India's Modi regime through unilateral and illegal actions. He said India had unleashed a reign of terror in the occupied Kashmir by



usurping all fundamental rights of hapless Kashmiri people.

The minister said Indian has illegally and unlawfully occupied the state as it was a disputed territory and Kashmiris were promised by the United Nations to grant them right to self-determination. He said that India was not only continuously violating human rights in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir but it was violating UN Security Council's resolutions as well.

The minister said that government of Pakistan has always condemned Indian atrocities in IIOJK and raised its voice at all relevant forums.

During the rule of Pakistan Demo-

cratic Movement, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in his address to the United Nations General Assembly demanded that the right of self-determination should be given to the Kashmiri people as promised by the UN.

Under the illegal, immoral and unjustified actions of 2019, the special status of Occupied Kashmir was abolished by Modi regime and since then, worst violations of human rights were being committed by India in the valley, he maintained. He said that right to self-determination was the fundamental right of the Kashmiri masses and Pakistan would continue support for their birth right of freedom.

The minister said New Delhi should immediately withdraw the illegal and unlawful actions of August 5, 2019 and restore the special status of Kashmir and take steps for holding free and impartial plebiscite in Kashmir under the aegis of the United Nations.

ISSI holds seminar on 'India's Illegal and Unilateral Actions in IIOJK: Five Years On'

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The India Study Centre (ISC) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) hosted a seminar, titled "India's Illegal and Unilateral Actions in IIOJK: Five Years On." The purpose of the seminar was to commemorate struggle and sacrifices of the Kashmiri people, especially in the backdrop of India's illegal and unilateral actions of August 5, 2019 in IIOJK. Dr. Khurram Abbas, Director ISC, delivered introductory remarks. Speakers included Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, Director General ISSI; Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BoG, ISSI; Ambassador Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, Spokesperson and Additional Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Pakistan; Ambassador Riffat Masood, Pakistan's Former Ambassador to Iran; Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja, Executive Director, CISS, AJK; Mr. Altaf Hussain Wani, Chairman Kashmir Institute of International Relations (KIIR); and Mr. Mahmood Saghar, Leader All Parties Hurriyat Conference.

In his remarks, Dr. Khurram Abbas noted that India not only unilaterally changed the status of Jammu and Kashmir five years ago, but has also been seeking to alter its demographic structure in order to turn the Muslim majority into a minority. It was the sacrifices made by the Kashmiri people and diplomatic efforts by Pakistan that have kept the Kashmir issue fully alive. DG ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood stated that today was an appropriate occasion to evaluate the role of India, Pakistan, Kashmiris and the world community, since India's illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019. He elaborated that, on India's part, this period of 5 years has been marked by unabated repression, deceit, manipulation and misrepresentation. While IIOJK had remained the world's 'most militarized zone' as it was in 2019, the BJP government had peddled the falsehoods of 'normalcy' and 'progress' returning to the Valley. Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja shared a rich academic perspective on India's illegal actions in IIOJK and how they have affected the already deteriorating state of human rights in the Valley. Mr. Altaf Hussain Wani reflected on the historical pattern of youth's engagement in the struggle for Kash-

mir's freedom. He noted that young researchers and artists need to be encouraged and facilitated to approach global conscience using nontraditional, peaceful means. Mr. Mahmood Saghar of the APHC reaffirmed commitment of the Kashmiri leadership and masses to reunite with Pakistan. He also underscored that Kashmiris will never accept any proposal to turn the LoC into a permanent border as a solution to the long-standing dispute. Ambassador Riffat Masood highlighted the efforts made by Pakistan on the diplomatic front and emphasized that a stable and prosperous Pakistan could do more for the Kashmir cause and a just solution of the dispute. In her address, chief guest Ambassador Mumtaz Zahra Baloch reiterated Pakistan's commitment to support Kashmiris' right to self-determination. She noted that India's actions of 5 August 2019 were aimed at further consolidating Indian control over the occupied territory, which the Kashmiris have practically neutralized with their unmatched resistance. The seminar concluded with remarks by Ambassador Khalid Mahmood,



Chairman BoG, ISSI, during which he dilated on the historical perspective of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and highlighted its legal aspects in light of international law, UN Charter, and relevant Security Council resolutions.

Protest

ISLAMABAD: People hold a banner during a protest rally to mark Kashmir Solidarity against the Indian government's 2019 decision to scrap the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, in Federal Capital, India repealed Article 370 of its Constitution which allowed Jammu and Kashmir its own constitution, flag and two-house legislature that could frame its own laws.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

IPPS contracts should be canceled immediately for the favor of Pakistani people

Quratul Ain Asim



MULTAN: Chairman Saraikistan Democratic Party Rana Faraz Noon said expensive electricity has become unaffordable. The demands of Jamaat-e-Islami are the demands of Pakistanis. Jamaat-e-Islami also made the establishment of Saraiki province a part of its demands. The Saraikistan Democratic Party (SDP) delegation will show solidarity with the leaders and participants of Jamaat-e-Islami sit-in by wearing Saraiki Ajrak and participate in the sit-in. These views were expressed by the Chairman of the Saraikistan Democratic Party, Rana Muhammad Faraz Noon. He said that IPPs are licking the country like termites. The people of Saraiki Wasib are giving bad prayers to the Government allied Parties looters. The poor are getting poorer, the rich are getting richer, business has come to a standstill. The contracts of IPPs should be canceled immediately, they have become a symbol of the economic ruin of the country, there should be a transparent investigation of the IPPs, the result of the investigation will be the well-known allies and their followers. In 2012, the Supreme Court revealed the corruption of elites in IPPs, the elites are so strong that even today they are looting the country's wealth through IPPs, the mandate of IPPs was to end load shedding from the country, load shedding has not ended, and IPPs are also being given money in fractions.

Government should show serious responsibility to relieve the people on electricity bills: Jalandhri

Syed Nadeem Kazmi

MULTAN: The central Nazim Al-Madaris Al-Arabiya Pakistan Qari Muhammad Hanif Jalandhri, has said that the government should show serious responsibility to relieve the people from the high inflationary electricity bills, who are being forced to commit suicide due to the economic crisis. The commercial and business community has also been made restless, but after the sharp increase in the prices of petroleum products, gas, vegetables, fruits, now more taxes on pulses and rice have completed the important departments from Nishtar 1 Hospital. Instead of shifting neurosurgery and orthopedics to Nishtar 2, new neurosurgery and orthopedic departments should be built in Nishtar 2 instead of economic exploitation of poor patients to go to Nishtar Hospital 2 at a distance of 30 kilometers from Multan City. He met the Central Organization of Trade Unions of Pakistan President South Punjab Sheikh Javed Akhtar, Multan President Khalid Mehmoed Qureshi, South Punjab Deputy Secretary Rana Muhammad Hashim, Multan Vice President Nadeem Sheikh, Haji Aslam Qureshi at the office of Jamia Khair Madaris Multan. Qari Muhammad Hanif Jalandhri further said that the coalition parties including the PML-N and People's Party should have mercy on the condition of more than 26 crore poor people of the country. Madrasas have started getting locked and working class workers including children are being forced to commit suicide. IPPs agreements should be revised and poor people should be given the right to live. Orders to provide free electricity to mosques and madrasas, be issued.

Founder of PTI Imran Khan is committed to principled politics: Amir Dogar

Khalid Chaudhry

MULTAN: The founder of PTI is committed to principled politics and will not deal under any circumstances. The founder of PTI has created a new political history of the world with his determination and independence. Member of Moeen Riaz Qureshi inaugurated Basheer Sons big business center at Ghanta Ghar Kachhari Road Furniture Market. He said that the purpose of Finance Act 2024 is to prevent the poor man from getting justice and the protest action of District Barmultan will lead to the abolition of this cruel act. On this occasion, he was accompanied by members of the provincial assembly, Moin Riyaz Qureshi, Shahid Mahmood Ansari, Imran Bhatta, the owner of Bashir Sanziush Furniture, Malik Ejaz Hussain Bhatta, Malik Amar Bhatta, Malik Abrar, Malik Rizwan Bhatta, Jamsheed Bhatta, Zohaib Khalid, Hasan Ejaz, Roshan Imran, Muhammad Daud Bhatta, other business representatives and lawyers were also present on this occasion and prayed for development and prosperity in Pakistan. Multan-Member of National Assembly of Tehreek-e-Insaf, Malik Amir Dogar, Member of Provincial Assembly, Moin Riyaz Qureshi, Imran Bhatta, Malik Ijaz Hussain Bhatta, Malik Amar Bhatta, Azhar Shah Bukhari Bashir are inaugurating Sanzeesh Furniture, on the other hand they are asking for prayers.



Depts of Orthopedics and Neurosurgery will not be allowed to be shifted to Nishtar Hospital 2: Ali Haider Gillani

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Syed Ali Haider Gillani, the parliamentary leader of the People's Party in the Punjab Assembly, while addressing a press conference in Multan Press Club, said that Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz will not let the two important departments of Nishtar One, Orthopedics and Neurosurgery, end under any circumstances. Chief Minister Punjab Mariyam Nawaz Visit Multan as soon as possible to check Nishtar 1 and 2 on ground and also Nishtar 2 Issue the full activation commands. The Saraiki separate province is the need of the Saraiki Waseeb People's. The people of South Punjab and Multan have given a full mandate



to Gillani Family and Pakistan People's Party in the election and the people of Multan have given love to the People's Party and the Gilani family. Ali Haider Gillani said that if Multan city and Wasib are abused, we will raise our voice and will not

remain silent. In the press conference MPA Wasif Mazhar Ran. Rana Iqbal Siraj PPP District General Secretary Rao Sajid Ali and others participated. Syed Ali Haider Gillani further said in the joint press conference that he has seen the notifica-

tion of transfer of two departments of Neurosurgery and Orthopedic Surgery from Nishtar Hospital 1 to Nishtar 2 due to transfer of two important departments of Nishtar Hospital 1 to Nishtar Hospital 2 in South Punjab. After consulting with all the members of the Assembly, we have strongly rejected it. We believe that there is a need to increase the capacity of Nishtar Hospital One. The number of ICU beds and ventilators in Nishtar Hospital One should be increased. Ali Haider Gillani said that very sensitive patients come to the neurosurgery and orthopedic surgery departments, at present no treatment facility has been provided in Nishtar 2, no operation theaters have been functional in Nishtar Hospital Two.

Sardar Attique accuses India of 'darkest day' in the history of Kashmir

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Addressing the special session of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly held on the occasion of Kashmir Exploitation Day, All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference President Member of Assembly Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan said that today I strongly condemn India's action on August 5, 2019. India has not left a single day on which the mountains of oppression were not broken in Occupied Kashmir, but today is the darkest day and the darkest chapter in the history of the state. India

has committed political terrorism, economic terrorism, cultural terrorism in occupied Kashmir. He tried his best but when he did not succeed, he resorted to military killings. Currently, the number of occupying forces in Occupied Kashmir has reached 1 million. President Pakistan People's Party Azad Kashmir and Assembly Member Chaudhry Muhammad Yasin said that five years have been completed since India abolished Article 370 and 35A in Occupied Kashmir and changed its special status. Pakistan People's Party was founded on the Kashmir issue and Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto reit-



erated his determination to fight for the freedom of Kashmir for a thousand years. As long as he was the

prime minister and foreign minister, Pakistan's foreign policy was centered on the Kashmir issue. I believe that if he was alive, when would the Kashmir issue have been resolved. But they were judicially murdered, which today has been declared as a wrong decision by the Supreme Court. Ms. Benazir Bhutto Shaheed also always adopted a categorical stand on the Kashmir issue. When Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was the foreign minister, he said that he will not meet Modi and there will be no talks with India until he withdraws the actions of August 5. He said that Narendra Modi and Netanyahu are history.

Islamabad
30° - 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	3:49 am
Zohr	12:14 pm
Asr	5:04 pm
Maghrib	7:04 pm
Isha	8:38 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad	1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 & 4451122
Motorway Police	9266044
Motorway Police	9270601-20

Women Police Stations

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

ENQUIRY

Edhi Ambulance	115
PIA Flight Info	114
PIA Cargo	9280979
Railway Inquiry	117
Railway Exchange	9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi	5555489
CAA	9281092

HOSPITALS

CMH	561111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International	4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA	9221334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service	
E-7, F-10 & F-11	9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8	9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8	9266316
Wapda Islamabad	9217579-80
Sui Gas Complaint	119, 9272249

Alama Iqbal Open University in full swing in education campaign: Regional Director

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Mrs. Nasreen Akhtar Mirza Regional Director, Allama Iqbal Open University Rawalpindi Region said that the university has a prominent position in the promotion of higher education at the national and international level. The youth should benefit from university facilities for higher education to become active citizens of the society. Never leave your education incomplete due to financial constraints, Allama Iqbal Open University is always there to support you in your pursuit of education. Admissions to important programs including matriculation, FA are going on, from which students will benefit. Mrs. Nasreen Akhtar Mirza Regional Director, Allama Iqbal Open University Rawalpindi Region in her special statement to the students said that the university is following its slogan "Education for All". This is the reason why the university has been awarded the best ranking in different periods in the promotion of high quality education. She said that the education campaign is going on in Rawalpindi region in full swing.

InnoXera Pakistan 2024: Pioneering the Future of Education through Technology

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The 6th InnoXera Summit took place at the Serena Hotel in Islamabad, marking its second consecutive year in Pakistan. The summit, one of the biggest in the education and technology sectors, began with a keynote address by the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, underscoring the government's dedication to advancing these critical fields.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Guest of the event, Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani, Federal Secretary, Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training Pakistan stated, "As Secretary Federal Education, I am thrilled to witness the collaborative efforts of government and private institutions in revolutionizing education in Pakistan through technology. Together, we are harnessing the power of innovation to create a future-ready generation, bridging the digital divide, and unlocking endless possibilities for our youth. This synergy marks a significant milestone in our journey towards a knowledge-based economy, and I am confident that it will have a transformative impact on the educational landscape of Pakistan."

Eng. Mohammad Almadani, Founder and CEO of Classera, the main sponsor of the summit, stated: "InnoXera is more than just a summit; it is a catalyst for educational transformation. Our commitment at Classera is to pioneer the future of smart learning. By bringing together thought leaders and innovators in Pakistan and around the globe. Similarly, Zarrar Hasham Khan, Group Chief Business Solutions Officer, PTCL and Ufone 4G said, "PTCL Group is committed to modernizing education and learning to expand growth opportunities for every child in Pakistan. Our partnership with InnoXera Pakistan exemplifies our dedication to advancing educational technology to ensure equitable access to education, which is guaranteed as a fundamental right by the Constitution of Pakistan."

Microsoft representative, Jibrán Jamshad, Country Principal Officer & Regional Education Lead added "Microsoft emphasized its commitment to empower learners as Microsoft is dedicated to providing tools and resources to elevate educational experiences. Intel also highlighted its role in advancing educational technology. "At InnoXera Global Summit, Intel's sponsorship of the '2024 Innovative Teacher' awards underscores our commitment to supporting teachers who use technology to create inspiring learning experiences." Stated Luigi Pessina, Director of Global Education Programs and Strategy at Intel.

In a pioneering move to transform Pakistan's educational framework, Classera Inc., in collaboration with PTCL and HP Classeasy technologies, has unveiled an ambitious project called e-Taleem. Developed in partnership with the Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training, this initiative signifies a substantial leap towards embedding technology within education, fostering a future where every learner in Pakistan can avail themselves of top-tier education through groundbreaking digital learning solutions. Over the course of three years and catering to an impressive 200,000 users, the e-Taleem platform stands out as a symbol of innovation in addressing the dynamic demands of education in Pakistan. Leveraging cutting-edge technology, e-Taleem aims to surpass conventional studying techniques, fostering critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication, and digital literacy among students. E-Taleem platform, powered by Classera, PTCL and HP Classeasy technologies, is evidence of a shared vision for an educational landscape aiming to make a transformative impact on over 200,000 users over the next three years. This collaboration exemplifies the commitment of Classera, PTCL, HP, and the Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training to revolutionize the educational framework in Pakistan.

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Preparations for Independence Day

ISLAMABAD: A view of pink busses stands at a school, in Federal Capital, Following the directive of the Prime Minister Mian Shehbaz Sharif, special pink buses will be available for female students and teachers in Islamabad starting August 7.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

EveryWater brings clean drinking water to underserved areas of Chitral

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: EveryWater, in collaboration with notable partners, has successfully facilitated the provision of convenient and sustainable water purification solutions to flood-affected communities in Chitral, Pakistan.

Earlier in February this year, over 200 units of EveryWater's innovative and easy-to-use water filtration devices were distributed among as many households, helping them meet their safe drinking water needs for two years.

This effective solution, comprised of storage units fitted with EveryWater's innovative high-flow filter, addresses the challenge of readily accessing safe drinking water, especially in the aftermath of flash floods in the region.

Addressing this thoughtful initiative, Syed Javed, Chief Executive Officer



of EveryWater, remarked, "Our efforts are centered around the wellbeing of all people. We are humbled to have played a part in ensuring safe, drinkable water for the hard-hit community of Chitral, where we have witnessed a drop in incidents of ailments from 23% to under 1%

in one month." He expressed his desire to continue working with institutions supporting the cause of containing the spread of waterborne diseases in the future as well.

In this endeavor, EveryWater seeks like-minded public and private entities for identifying and collaborating in the implementation of impactful interventions, especially in the underserved regions of Sindh and Baluchistan, where access to clean water and other essential resources remains scarce for most people.

Under the Hashoo Group umbrella, EveryWater commits its efforts to the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations, particularly goal number 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and number 3 (Good Health and Well-being). By facilitating seamless access to healthy water, EveryWater aims to ensure enhanced well-being for all citizens.

Youm-e-Istehsal Kashmir observed with great enthusiasm in Wana



Adam Khan Wazir

SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: Deputy Commissioner Nasir Khan said on Monday that we have not forgotten our Kashmiri brothers and sisters, we will support them at every level for their rights and till Kashmiris get their right, we will not back down.

He expressed these views while talking to the media representatives on the occasion of the Youm-e-Istehsal Day and ceremony held at the Deputy Commissioner's office and the walk organized for solidarity with Kashmiris.

Assistant Commissioner Wana Faisal Ismail along with officers of various line departments and tribal elders participated in large numbers in the ceremony.

The walk organized on this occasion started from Assistant Commissioner Wana office, during which the participants carried banners against the rights of Kashmiri Muslims and against Indian atrocities, on which the demands were written, while in the same sequence, slogans were also raised.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Nasir Khan further said that we will continue to support the right of self-determination of Kashmiris, India has tried to change the status of Kashmir.

Deputy Commissioner said the purpose of celebrating Exploitation Day is to send a blunt message to India, the blood of Kashmiris will not go in vain and God is willing, the sun of freedom will rise in Kashmir very soon.

Quantum Cloud & AI Technologies a Strategic alliance with Huawei

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Quantum Cloud & AI is pleased to announce a strategic alliance with Huawei Cloud Pakistan, aimed at fast-tracking the adoption and implementation of cloud and AI technologies across Pakistan. This collaboration is set to bring innovative solutions tailored to meet the specific needs of Pakistani businesses and government, driving the nation's digital transformation forward.

Management of both organizations underscore the commitment of both companies to leveraging their respective strengths.

Quantum Cloud & AI brings extensive international expertise of cloud & AI based on their experience in UK and USA, while Huawei offers world-class and local expertise in cloud services and AI. Together, they will work to provide scalable and secure solutions that will empower various industries within the country.

Mr. Mansoor- CEO Quantum Cloud & AI Technologies said in his briefing to the media "Quantum Cloud & AI Technologies is very excited to form an alliance with industry leading hyperscaler and is looking forward to work with Huawei on introducing AI enabled solutions in health, agriculture and financial sectors. On this occasion he also briefed media about the health-tech solutions using AI services on Quantum Cloud in Pakistan.

Mr. JiaShuhao-CTO Huawei Cloud while talking to the media explained the strengths of Huawei Cloud and reiterated its commitment to the cloud & AI adoption in Pakistan. Furthermore, answering to a question, he explained how Huawei is closely working with all relevant stakeholders from the private sector and government to enable organizations and government in their digital journey including technical and policy matters. As part of this alliance, Huawei is targeting key sectors including FMCG's, finance, health and public sector. These industries are identified as having significant growth potential and stand to benefit greatly from the enhanced efficiency, security, and scalability that cloud-based solutions can provide.

The meeting was also joined by a leading health tech organization from USA which in partnership with Quantum Cloud & AI Technologies is ready to introduce their cutting-edge health tech solutions on cloud. Speaking to the conference members, Mr. Waqas Amjad discussed the vast opportunities in health sector in Pakistan and iterated his commitment to work with Quantum Cloud & AI for innovative health sector solutions.

Regarding the readiness of Pakistan's existing infrastructure to support the transition to cloud services, the companies acknowledge that while there are challenges, the nation is making significant progress. Ongoing investments are being made to improve internet connectivity, increase data center capacity, and enhance cybersecurity measures.

This alliance is a critical step in ensuring that Pakistani businesses are equipped to effectively leverage cloud and AI technologies.

Experts advocate women empowerment in trade to boost south asian interregional trade and economic integration

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Experts at the report launch of the policy document on women in trade emphasized that empowering women in trade could facilitate interregional trade and economic integration in the South Asia region.

The Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) launched its report titled "Empowering Women in Trade—a South Asian Perspective" with the support of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF) on Monday.

Dr. Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director of SDPI and co-author of the report, in his interventions, stated that

regional and free trade agreements and GSP+ should benefit women-led enterprises. "Tax policy and tax administration reforms require a gender lens to reduce the cost of doing business for women.

Dr. Arif Saleem, Faculty of Management Sciences at Islamic International University, noted that the report highlights various challenges for women in Southeast Asia, where barriers are higher than other regions.

Ms. Aniq Arshad, Program Manager, Friedrich Naumann Foundation Pakistan, commended the comprehensive study by SDPI for covering many key insights across South Asia. Ms. Mahnoor Arshad, Research

Associate and co-author of the report, delivered a detailed presentation on the study's findings. She explained that the study focused on four key areas: how women can benefit from pre-existing trade agreements in South Asia, regional and global integration of women in trade, bottlenecks in various sectors, and the roles of public and private sectors and regulators.

Dr. Asanka Wijesinghe, Research Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka, emphasized the need to investigate female entrepreneurs' roles in export productivity to devise specific interventions. International evidence shows that female entrepreneurs contribute significantly to global trade.

Dr. Selim Raihan, Executive Director of the South Asian Network on Economic Modelling (SANEM), Bangladesh, cited a World Bank study with the Bangladesh Stock Exchange, revealing that women entrepreneurship in Bangladesh is linked to SMEs and microenterprises operating locally.

Ms. Kiran Afzal, Senior Private Sector Specialist at the World Bank, stated that the report is timely and provides a roadmap for integrating women in trade. She emphasized that improving economic and trade outcomes requires women's integration in trade value chains, which will also encourage the formality of female employment, directly boosting economic development.

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Lesson learned from Bangladesh...

The student protests in Bangladesh which began in June 2024, in Dhaka, quickly spreading to other cities such as Chattogram, Comilla, Rajshahi, and Sylhet have taught numerous lessons to all pillars of the state—political parties, civil society, and students.

The students should understand that if they perceive injustice, their genuine rights being usurped, meritocracy being trampled, or positions and vacancies being filled through nepotism and favoritism, they must come forward and demand justice, meritocracy, and a fair distribution of national resources in a peaceful and non-violent manner. They must remain steadfast in their demands, even if it requires enduring physical abuse, unconstitutional arrests, or even death at the hands of the state's oppressive arms.

They should bear in mind that if their demands are just, their narratives powerful, and their commitment unwavering, they can compel the government, the parliament and the judiciary to accede to their demands and force even the most powerful and entrenched rulers to step down or flee the country in total disgrace.

In Bangladesh, the history of the student agitation against nepotism is very long and tortuous. Initially 50% of the job quota was reserved for the privileged groups and marginalized community, such as the descendants of freedom fighters from the 1971 Independence War, along with quotas for women, ethnic minorities, and disabled individuals. The break-up was 30% of the jobs reserved for the descendants of freedom fighters who participated in the 1971 Liberation War, 10% for women, 10% for disadvantaged districts, 5% for ethnic minorities and 1%

for individuals with disabilities.

The first mass scale agitation was started in 2018 by the students. Their narrative was simple; that the system was outdated and favored certain groups disproportionately, often those with connections to the ruling party; therefore, they demanded the quota system to be abolished altogether. The government of Hussina Wajid succumbed to the pressure and announced abolition of the quota. Later the government turned away from its commitment and caved in to the pressure of the vested interests and did not translate its promises into reality.

The matter was later taken to the supreme court which also succumbed to the pressures and reinstated the quota system in its totality on 5th June, 2024. This move triggered widespread anger among students and young graduates, who felt the system undermined merit-based recruitment. The protests started at Dhaka University and quickly spread to other educational institutions across the country, gaining momentum through social media. By mid-June, tens of thousands of students were participating in demonstrations, blocking major roads and intersections, and disrupting daily life nationwide.

The government's response was harsh, deploying police and security forces to disperse the demonstrators using tear gas, rubber bullets, and batons. A nationwide curfew and internet shutdown were imposed to stifle the protests. This violent crackdown resulted in over 114 deaths, thousands of injuries and eleven among the protesters, with numerous arrests and

reports of mistreatment. The death of Abu Sayed, a prominent protester, symbolized the brutality faced by the movement.

This unrest prompted the Supreme Court to expedite the hearing originally scheduled for August and, on July 21, 2024, reduced the quota of freedom fighters from 30% to 5% and maintained 2% for other disadvantaged groups.

Even this move of the supreme court was rejected by the students and they further intensified their protests and demanded complete abolition of the quota system terming it against the meritocracy. In addition they demanded broader reforms, unconditional release of arrested students, accountability of the government and accountability of the state apparatus responsible for the violence on the students.

The Supreme Court learned a bitter lesson about the importance of balancing public sentiment with judicial decisions, particularly regarding affirmative action and meritocracy. The court realized that it is not merely a tool in the hands of those in power but has a greater responsibility to serve the public good. It understood that its duty is to protect the interests of the entire population, not just the vested interests of a few. The power of public wrath was also evident; when the public is determined to achieve genuine objectives, even the court must yield to their demands. The Supreme Court acknowledged that it exists because of the general masses, not because of a select few.

The government of Bangladesh learned several critical lessons. It realized that

forgetting those who brought it to power was a grave mistake. The government came to understand that the very people who mandated it to power also had the capability to bring it down if their genuine demands were not met. The use of the kinetic arms of the government against its people would inevitably result in facing the people's wrath. The energy and determination of the populace could overpower even the most powerful arms of the government, leading to the administration stepping down in total disgrace.

In Bangladesh, the institution that played an exemplary role was the army. It promptly recognized the popular sentiments of the people and timely realized that the government of Sheikh Hasina had lost the mandate of the people and no longer represented them. The army understood that once the populace, who had brought the government to power, withdrew their support, the government lost its mandate, legitimacy, and credibility to remain in power. The army aptly recognized that the entire state's power, including all its pillars and institutions, whether civilian or military, is subservient to the masses. If any pillar loses the people's support, it is doomed to fail and collapse. What the government and the judiciary did not realize, the army realized that once the government no longer had the people's support, it was not obligated to defend it anymore. It became imperative for the army to preserve its dignity and honor by facilitating a transition of power to a government chosen by the people, and the sooner this transition happened, the better.

Writer is Former Press Secretary to the President, Former Press Minister to the Embassy of Pakistan to France, Former MD, SRBC



Analysis

Qamar Bashir

China's traditional textile hub showcases opportunity for Pakistani businesses

Suzhou, once known as a city of textile in ancient China, has established itself as an industrial hub in China's economic landscape.

This transformative image was featured during the recent Pakistan Investment and Trade Conference held jointly by the Consulate General of Pakistan in Shanghai and local authorities and enterprises in Suzhou, underscoring the city's potential for Pakistan-China collaboration across various sectors.

Consul General of Pakistan in Shanghai, Shehzad Ahmad Khan said Suzhou, a historic treasure nestled beside Shanghai, has emerged as a beacon of modern development and a key hub for international collaboration.

"My initial encounter with Suzhou was impressive – it stands as a testament to China's rapid urbanization and economic strides," remarked the Consul General adding, "Suzhou's position as a manufacturing epicenter is undeniable, and the seamless flow of human resources between Shanghai and Suzhou underscores its strategic significance."

According to the Suzhou Statistics Bureau, the city's economy continued to thrive in the first half of 2024, with a gross domestic product of RMB 1.2059 trillion, a significant increase of 6.2% year-on-year. The city's manufacturing prowess is also evident: in the first half of 2024, Suzhou achieved a total industrial output value of RMB 2.2253 trillion, up 5.5% year-on-year, reported China Economic Net on Monday.

The Consul General further emphasized the strong synergies between Suzhou and Pakistani counterparts, particularly in the fields of textiles, renewable energy, electric vehicles and medical devices.

"We see immense potential for cooperation, whether through industry relocation, joint ventures, or foreign direct investment from China to Pakistan," he said, adding that the existing ties between the two nations are rooted in their shared history of silk and textile production.

The Consul General further emphasized the growing importance of Pakistan as a gateway to the European Union for exports, while noting its vast market for consumer products.

The Conference culminated with a series of B2B networking sessions and individual meetings, presenting a golden opportunity for enterprises from both countries to delve into potential partnerships and discuss avenues for collaboration.



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmī. (Courtesy of Ashraf Al-Awsat)

August 5 Marks a Somber Day in the History of IIOJK - II

Respect for human rights necessitates a commitment to accountability and justice for violations. Advanced countries establish truth and reconciliation commissions, support independent human rights monitoring bodies, and prosecute perpetrators of atrocities. Through holding individuals and institutions accountable, these nations demonstrate their dedication to upholding human rights principles and ensuring justice for victims.

The protection and promotion of human rights for minorities are essential aspects of advanced societies. Safeguarding the rights of minorities—whether defined by ethnicity, religion, language, or other characteristics—is crucial for fostering inclusivity, diversity, and social harmony. Recognizing and respecting minority rights not only reinforces fundamental principles of equality and justice but also enhances the overall well-being and prosperity of societies.

Granting human rights to minorities upholds the principle of equal treatment under the law, ensuring that every individual, regardless of background, is treated with dignity, respect, and fairness. By prohibiting discrimination and promoting equal opportunities, societies create environments where all members can contribute fully without fear of bias

or exclusion. Respect for minority rights strengthens social cohesion by acknowledging and celebrating the diversity inherent within societies. When minorities are embraced and included, it builds trust and cooperation among diverse groups. This inclusiveness reduces social tensions and fosters a sense of belonging across the community, thereby promoting a more united and resilient society.

Minority rights encompass the preservation and promotion of cultural, linguistic, and religious identities. These rights acknowledge the diversity of cultures and traditions, safeguarding them from assimilation or marginalization. Preserving cultural heritage not only enriches societal diversity but also enhances broader cultural appreciation and tolerance.

In democratic societies, safeguarding minority rights is crucial for ensuring representative governance and accountability. It ensures that all voices, including those of minorities, are heard and taken into account in decision-making processes. By promoting political participation and representation, minority rights strengthen democratic institutions and uphold the principles of justice.

Granting human rights to minorities also contributes to economic development by unlocking the potential of all members of society. When

minorities have equal opportunities in education, employment, and access to resources, they can contribute significantly to economic growth and innovation. Inclusive economic policies that empower minorities foster a more dynamic and competitive economy. Without safeguarding minority rights, there is a risk of exclusion and marginalization, which can exacerbate inequalities and divisions within society. Ensuring equal rights and opportunities helps mitigate these risks, promoting social mobility and reducing disparities in accessing essential services such as healthcare and housing. Respecting minority rights is not just a domestic responsibility but also an international commitment under various human rights treaties and conventions. Countries that uphold minority rights demonstrate their adherence to global human rights standards and contribute to collective efforts to advance human dignity and justice worldwide.

India, which asserts itself as a secular, democratic, and civilized nation, has faced challenges in substantiating these claims in practice. In recent years, concerns have intensified over human rights violations against minorities, particularly under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Despite its diversity and pluralistic ethos, India has faced scrutiny regarding its treatment of minority communities, including Muslims, Christians, Dalits (Scheduled Castes), and Adivasis (Scheduled Tribes).

To be continued

Analysis



Abdul Basit Alvi

Custodial torture, fake encounters: India robs Kashmiris of every right

Dr. Saeed Ahmad Ali

The Kashmir issue, being one of the oldest items on the agenda of the United Nations, which has held the Subcontinent hostage since 1947, now has become a flashpoint between the two nuclear states, a bone of contention between Pakistan and India.

For Pakistan, the Kashmir issue is not a territorial problem; rather, it is a human issue, relating to more than 13 million Kashmiris. Owing to its human dimension, the issue warrants an early resolution, so that the Kashmiri people can have a sigh of relief. As the Youm-e-Istehsal-e-Kashmir [Kashmir Exploitation Day] is being observed on August 5, experts believe that India had robbed Kashmiris of every right through custodial torture and fake encounters including the right to speech in the Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Talking in connection with the Youm-e-Istehsal-e-Kashmir, experts said that [Narendra] Modi-led Indian regime is not even allowing Kashmiris to assemble and speak their mind and has gagged the internet and media while journalists were being harassed without any reason.

Hurriyat leader Yasin Malik's wife Mushaal Hussein Mullick told that the RSS-inspired 'Hindutva' ideology was being pursued in IIOJK by the BJP-led Modi government, which was presenting ugly face of India around the globe. She said the dire political and human rights situation in the occupied territory had left India exposed at the international level. Lauding the sacrifices of people living at the Line of Control (LoC), she added that Kashmiris had been braving the brunt of firing at the LoC with the utmost courage. She urged the people of IIOJK to observe a complete strike on August 5, on both sides of the line of control and around the world to observe the Indian exploitation day. Modi-led Hindutva Indian government's illegal move of repealing the special status of the territory on August 05, 2019, she informed.

Mushaal Mullick said fascist Modi and the Indian Army are turning Kashmiris into a minority in the valley by issuing domiciles to Indian citizens. In IIOJK, over 100,000 Kashmiris had been killed by Indian forces since 1989, while more than 7,200 people were murdered in custodial torture by the

Indian army, she informed. The grave human rights violations including killings, extrajudicial executions, arbitrary arrests, torture, and destruction and snatching of property witnessed a surge to an alarming proportion in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir after the Narendra

A recent report released by the Research Section of Kashmir Media Service, revealed that the killing of Kashmiri youth since Aug 5, 2019 have been higher than those in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2019. Most of the victims were killed in fake encounters and in custody in the garb of violent cordon and search operations in the length and breadth of the territory, it said. A recent report reveals that senior Hurriyat leader, Muhammad Ashraf Sehrai and Altaf Ahmed Shah were among dozens of Kashmiris who died in the custody of Indian police. The report said that at least 2,369 people were critically injured due to the use of brute force including firing of bullets, pellets and teargas shells by Indian troops, paramilitary and police personnel on peaceful demonstrators and mourners in the territory.

Meanwhile, many youths were picked up from their houses and then eliminated after being labeled as mujahideen or overground workers of mujahid organizations. It added that most of the arrested youth were booked by the Indian authorities under black laws like Public Safety Act and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, it revealed.

PPP senator Shear Kamran said that it has been quite unfortunate that India used dilly-dallying tactics to avoid the UN promised plebiscite and continue its occupation of the territory despite the fact that the world body appointed several plebiscite administrators for the purpose.

Safdar Shaheen Pirzada, a noted lawyer told A that Indian rulers led by Jawahr Lal Nehru manipulated a temporary link between IIOJK and rest of India through Article 370, a constitutional provision of the Indian constitution.

Although it was deemed as a temporary deal until a solution to the dispute was to be found, but India hoodwinked the Kashmiri leaders like Sheikh Abdullah about the hollow autonomy through clauses like 370, Pirzada said.

Article 370 was later supplemented by Article 35A that provided a sense of security to the people of Kashmir over their land, which was too robbed by Modi regime on Aug 5, 2019, he added.

Kashmiris oppose foreign occupation: Demand self-determination: Dr. Fai

Spokesman Report

NEW YORK: Braving thunder-shower, a large number of Kashmiri-Americans—men, women and children—and their allies Sunday staged a demonstration at New York's historic Times Square to denounce India's widespread human rights abuses in Indian occupied Kashmir and urged the world community to implement the UN-pledged right to self-determination to the Kashmiri people. The rally was jointly organized by all Kashmiri-American Diaspora organizations to mark the fifth anniversary of India's brutal siege of Jammu and Kashmir. Waving banners and shouting slogans, the demonstrators condemned India's August 5th action in annexing occupied Kashmir that has sparked off a crisis in the disputed region. They also voiced support and solidarity with the Kashmiri people who are facing the existential threat

due to illegal actions taken by Modi administration.

The demonstrators raised vociferous slogans of "Modi Guilty of Crimes Against Humanity in Kashmir"; "India: Guilty of Genocide in Kashmir"; "Kashmiris Reject Indian Occupation: UN Resolutions only Solution"; "Indian Forces: Out of Kashmir"; "No justice: No Peace"; "Freedom for all: Freedom for Kashmir", etc.

Dr. Imtiaz Khan, a prominent Kashmiri American scholar said that on 5 August 2019, the Government of India revoked the special status or autonomy, granted under the article of the Indian constitution to Jammu and Kashmir — a region where according to UN resolutions, governments of India and Pakistan were supposed to restore peace and order to the region and prepare for a plebiscite to decide the fate of Kashmir. The successive governments of India reneged on their

promise and even leaders like Nehru, who posed as champion of democracy and one of founder of non-aligned movement lacked moral courage to honor his commitment that was made to people of Kashmir in a rally held in the heart of Kashmir in 1947.

Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, Secretary General, World Kashmir Awareness Forum said that the events of August 5, 2019, are consistent with the ruthless occupation and suppression the people of Kashmir have suffered under the unpopular Indian rule. As is widely acknowledged and documented internationally, this brutal occupation has led to more than 100,000 civilian deaths, more than 10,000 individuals missing or disappeared, and thousands of Kashmiri women raped. This does not even begin to account for the tens of thousands tortured, maimed, and permanently injured men, women and children by the Indian military and para-



military forces during their 77-year reign of terror. Imam Saffet Catovic, a long-time

US Muslim Community Organizer/Activist and Environmental leader said that he would like to see a

humane resolution of all international conflicts including that of Palestine and Kashmir.

Sardar Zarif Khan, Sardar Taj Khan, Vice Chairman of Kashmir Mission USA, Sardar Zulfiqar Roshan Khan, Sardar Shoaib Irshad., Raja Mukhtar, Advocate Sardar Imtiaz Khan Garalvai, Sardar Aftab Roshan Khan, Sardar Sajid Sawar, Professor Saeed, Professor Rashid Shah, Raja Razzak, Sagher Ahmed, Ms. Amana Taj, Nazam Hussain, Khalid Fahim, Imtiaz Khan, Sardar Farooq Khan, Sadaqat Hayat, Haji Mohaqmmad Shafi, Tariq Nazeer, Khurshid Shaheen, Tahseen Ahmed, Khizar Kiani, Abid Khan, Latif Kiani, Sorab Khan, Iltafkhan, Sardar Farooq New York, Sardar Habib, Zeeshan Walyat, Zahid Shahbaz, Mirza Farooq, Manzoor Hussain Dunya news, Samad Khan, Shahzad Hussain, Amir Sunny Studio also speak on the occasion and highlight the Kashmir issues

Brain-Eating Amoeba in Pakistan, an awareness article

Maha Ahmed

Naegleria fowleri, more commonly known as brain eating amoeba, is the only specie in its genus that can cause serious infection in man. Amoeba in simple words is a single celled organism that can move on its own and change shape.

Unlike bacteria, they are large in size, more complex and are eukaryotic in nature meaning their cells have a proper nucleus and membrane bounded organelles. Naegleria fowleri causes primary amebic meningo-encephalitis in humans, having a mortality rate of 95-99%. During swimming or diving, the amoeba goes into the nose, from there it enters the brain where it feeds on brain tissue getting its name "brain eating amoeba".

After one day of exposure, initial symptoms such as nausea, vomiting,



stiff neck, hallucinations, change in sense of taste and smell can arise. It is commonly found in warm fresh water, swimming pools, water parks and soil. It is thermophilic in nature, meaning it can withstand higher temperatures.

This property allows it to cause infection in the summer or before monsoon season. The major cause of increasing cases is climate change as long/warm summers and humid conditions provide a suitable environ-

ment for N. fowleri to grow in water bodies. Pakistan is on the second number, with respect to the number of cases around the world. First case in Pakistan was reported in 2008 and till 2023, there have been 146 cases reported mainly from Karachi. In 2023, 7 deaths were reported in Pakistan.

People aged 26-45 years are majorly affected. However, in USA, children are commonly affected by this amoeba.

Water in Pakistan is saline, and N. fowleri cannot even survive in these conditions, this proves that there is a genetically mutated form of this specie in the country.

The presence of Naegleria fowleri was reported in the domestic water supply of Karachi. Recreational activities, such as swimming or diving, and ritual ablution (wudhu with contaminated warm fresh water are the main reasons for this amoebic infection.

Ways to protect ourselves against this deadly creature include using boiled, clean water for wudhu (ablution). Chlorination that involves adding chlorine in water resources is important. It is advised to stay away from freshwater like rivers, ponds and lakes in the summers as the water is hot that provides a suitable environment for this amoeba and chances for getting the infection are higher.

Writer is student of Capital university of science and technology, Islamabad

Saudi welcomes 8th site on UNESCO World Heritage List: Al-Faw Archeological Area

Spokesman Report

JADDAH: Did you know Saudi is now home to eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites? Here's something you didn't know about the latest addition...

Saudi is a land with a long history, and a crucial cross-road between west and east bustling with important trade routes. It is a land that has been inhabited for millennia, a land of living wonders, and where ancient civilizations, many of which are lost today flourished. It is a land where the tales of the past still influence the present.

Discover Saudi's newest World Heritage Site: The Cultural Landscape of Al-Faw Archeological Area:

Set in a strategic point of the ancient trade routes that used to crisscross the Heart of Arabia and abruptly abandoned around the 5th century CE, the site of Al-Faw — which includes the vestige of the city of Qaryat al-Faw — is full of mysteries waiting to be uncovered. This historic site offers a captivating glimpse into the rich heritage and culture of Saudi, a land of discovery and endless possibilities. Almost 12,000 archeological remains have been found from prehistoric times to late pre-Islamic area testifying to the successive occupation of at least three different populations stretching more than 6,000 years.

Once a thriving trade hub

at the crossroads of ancient caravan routes, Al-Faw's well-preserved ruins and water management system, tools and artifacts, intricate carvings, make it a must-visit destination for history enthusiasts and travelers alike.

The Destination: Al-Faw and its surroundings

The Al Faw archaeological site is situated approximately 650 km southwest of the capital Riyadh, about 100 km south of the Wadi al-Dawasir area, at the northwest of the Empty Quarter, near the Tuwaiq mountain range. The site presents a unique blend of natural beauty and historical significance. The journey through Al-Faw is not just a walk-through ruins, it's an immersion into the vibrant life of an ancient trading hub. The landscapes enhance the experience, with breathtaking views that remain unchanged from days past. With each step, you connect with the deep historical roots of the region, discovering how Al-Faw played a pivotal role in shaping this part of the world.

Al-Faw is also located just next door to another UNESCO World Heritage Site, a place of exceptional natural beauty, 'Uruq Bani Ma'arid which was only added last year to the UNESCO list. This is a great opportunity to explore not one but two sites of extraordinary natural and cultural relevance for Saudi.

Al-Faw's remote location was a key factor to its pres-



ervation but it is relatively easier for modern travelers to visit today — no need for camels or horses anymore — with regular scheduled flights available from Riyadh to Al Jawf, which is approximately a 2-hour drive from Al-Faw. Flyadeal and Flynas both offer flights on this route, providing a convenient and efficient way to reach this historic site. Depending on your preference, you can rent a car or take a taxi from Al Jawf to Al-Faw. Options for car rental include Al Wefaq Rent a Car or Lumirental.

For an authentic experience, traditional guesthouses near Al-Faw, will offer traditional décor, local cuisine, and cultural activities.

But if a stop-over in Riyadh is necessary or recommended, the Saudi capital and its region also feature many historical, cultural and natural sites worth a detour. Diriyah, "The City of Earth", is the founding place of the First Saudi State in 1727. At its heart sits the UNESCO World Heritage Site of At-Turaif, a cradle of Saudi culture. The modern Bujairi Terrace brings together restaurants from across a variety of global culinary traditions (including four Michelin-star restaurants as well as the examples of Saudi cuisine) to Diriyah. Don't miss the chance to

experience authentic Saudi coffee, a cultural staple, at one of the many local cafes. And for those who crave adventure, the Edge of the World offers breathtaking views and hiking opportunities — just a short drive away from the capital.

Packages and accommodations in Riyadh are available to suit various preferences and budgets. For a luxurious stay, consider the Ritz-Carlton Riyadh, with rooms starting at \$600 per night, or the Four Seasons Hotel Riyadh at Kingdom Center. The Radisson Blu Hotel offers more affordable options, with rates starting at \$300 per night.

For a comprehensive travel experience in Saudi, consider packages available through Visit Saudi, which include guided tours, desert safaris, and cultural activities. For the more adventure, the Tuwaiq Adventure Camp offers unique experiences like hiking, rock climbing, and stargazing, with accommodations starting at \$150 per night.

Connectivity and Visa Saudi has recently eased tourist visa requirements with immediate effect, where Pakistani applicants can now submit a bank statement showing a minimum monthly credit amount of USD 750 or its equivalent.

The Tasheer offices across Pakistan offer a convenient and user-friendly experience, including visa application guidance, biometric enrollment, status tracking, and passport delivery. Travellers can schedule an appointment on the Tasheer website prior to their visit.

In addition, Saudi has introduced the transit visa which is available for travellers arriving in Saudi via Saudia and Flynas, where they can transit and explore Saudi for up to 96 hours. Visa on arrival is available for those travellers who hold a valid and used UK, US or Schengen visa.

In the past year, Saudi introduced the one-year multiple entry visa for Pakistani travellers. This is a specific visa for those coming for personal visits such as attending weddings or functions or visiting friends or family. Holders of this visa can enjoy multiple visits to Saudi within a 12-month period, allowing them to explore the country's vibrant cities, cultural richness, and natural wonders all year round.

Pakistani travellers with the one-year multiple entry visa can also perform Umrah, underscoring Saudi's commitment to fostering spiritual journeys and cultural exchanges.

UK PM vows swift justice as far-right thugs riot, attack mosques, ethnic minorities

LONDON: British Prime Minister Keir Starmer vows rioters would "regret" engaging in "far-right thuggery" after a sixth day of escalating violence in England as the government announced emergency security for mosques as well the swift judicial action amid the threat of further disorder in next days.

In a televised address to the nation, the prime minister condemned an attack on a hotel housing asylum seekers in Rotherham and promised those involved in unrest would "face the full force of the law".

Speaking from Downing Street, Starmer, 61, suggested that rioters taking to the streets, and those "whipping up this action online and then running away themselves," would face consequences.

Meanwhile, the Home Office announced mosques would be offered greater protection under a new "rapid response process" designed to quickly tackle the threat of further attacks on places of worship.

"People in this country have a right to be safe, and yet we've seen Muslim communities targeted, attacks on mosques," the prime minister said.

He said: "Other minority communities singled out, Nazi salutes in the street, attacks on the police, wanton violence alongside racist rhetoric, so no, I won't shy away from calling it what it is: far-right thuggery." The leader of the Labour Party indicated that the response to the violence could mirror elements of how the 2011 riots were handled, at which time he was director of public prosecutions.

"We do have standing arrangements for law enforcement which means that we can get arrests, charge remanded in custody and convictions done very quickly," he said.

"I myself was part of that in 2011 when I was director of public prosecutions, and I'm determined we will do whatever it takes to bring these thugs to justice as quickly as possible."

He told reporters that time has been spent over recent days working with police and the justice system to "make sure that the necessary arrangements for law enforcement are in place".

It means the system can get "arrests, charge, remand and custody and conviction done very quickly".

"I want you to know that this violent mob do not represent our country and we will bring them to justice," he said.

Asked whether he thought everyone taking part in the riots were far-right thugs, he said: "If you target people because of the colour of their skin or their face then that is far right and I'm prepared to say so. But it doesn't matter what apparent motivation there is. This is violence, not protest. It doesn't matter what the motivation is."

He hit out at the "marauding gangs intent on breaking the law or worse", adding: "There is no justification, none, for taking this action and all right-minded people should be condemning this sort of violence."

Ministers have suggested that courts could sit 24 hours to fast-track prosecutions — as they did in 2011 — while police forces have measures in place to draft in extra officers to tackle potential unrest.

It comes as anti-immigration rioters attacked police and smashed the windows of a hotel in Rotherham as the atmosphere turned increasingly febrile on the sixth day of unrest in England.

The Epic of Mughal Saga: Babur the Fearless

My dearest reader let's tell you the story of our ancestors, our beloved warrior Emperors, who are the living embodiment of might, and gave the history one of his masterpiece. The Epic of Mughal Saga.



Munaza Kazmi

The narrative of the fabulously talented dynasty began in 1483, when Zahiruddin Muhammad Babur, just 12 years old then, ascended the throne of the tiny Mughal principality of Feranga in a faraway Central Asia. Feranga was a lovely land of lush valleys and gurgling streams, and Babur loved it dearly. But the boy-king, who had the blood of Timur and Chingiz Khan coursing in his veins, was a dreamer of great dreams, where Feranga was too small to sate his ambition. Hence, though a little boy, he set out, soon after his accession, to invade the neighboring kingdom of Samarkand, dreaming of empire and glory.

The fledgling had taken wing too soon. Not only did he fail to hold Samarkand, but soon lost Feranga as well, and for several years he had to wander about in the mountains of Central Asia, a king without a kingdom, even without a home, seeking a safe anchor somewhere, but vain. Babur wrote in his engaging memoirs, "It came very hard on me, I could not help crying a good deal. But he never lost hope, and fortune favored him eventually, bestowing on him the secure throne of Kabul.

Babur was now king again. And in Kabul his eyes turned towards, where, beyond the snow laden mountains, lay the vast fertile Indo-Gangetic Plain, renowned for its wealth, which was then ruled by the Afghan dynasty of Lodis. However, in November 1525, Babur descended from the white mountains, crossing the Indus, and swept into Hindustan. This was a perilous enterprise, for he had only a small army of just 12 thousand men, while opposing him was a mammoth Lodi army of 100 thousand men and a formidable contingent of 1000 elephants. But in a 5-hour battle fought at Panipat, about 80 kilometers north of Delhi, which his strategic plan, he entirely routed the army. Babur, at his 43 was finally an emperor.

His life was fulfilled and 4 years later Babur died, making a history. My dearest, reader if Babur can then why you can't?

To be continued...

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
77,084.48	78,225.98
Day's High	Day's Low
78,330.09	76,943.24
Index Value	Change
11,244,641,093	-1141.50
Percentage	Time
-1.46%	5 Aug, 2024 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
8,008.23	-166.48
Percentage	Time
-2.04%	5 Aug, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
38,816.04	-921.22
Percentage	Time
-2.32%	5 Aug, 1:02 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
31,458.42	-4,451.28
Percentage	Time
-12.40%	5 Aug, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	184	185
Bahrain Dinar	741.05	749.05
Canadian Dollar	204.15	206.15
China Yuan	38.4	38.8
Danish Krone	40.15	40.55
Euro	303.65	305.65
Hong Kong Dollar	35.65	36
Indian Rupee	3.33	3.43
Japanese Yen	1.91	1.99
Kuwaiti Dinar	908	917
Malaysian Ringgit	58.85	59.65
New Zealand \$	169.15	171.15
Norwegians Krone	26.04	26.34
Omani Riyal	722.87	730.89
Qatari Riyal	76.39	77.09
Saudi Riyal	73.75	74.45
Singapore Dollar	205	207.4
Swedish Korona	26.65	26.95
Swiss Franc	309.1	311.65
Thai Bhat	7.5	7.65
U.A.E Dirham	75.5	76.25
UK Pound Sterling	356.5	358.5
US Dollar	279.3	280.4

Conspiracies destroying railways: Mian Zahid Hussain

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Chairman of the FPCCI Advisory Board, National Business Group Pakistan, President of the Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, along with former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain, said on Monday that the railway's dysfunction is a significant barrier to progress.

He said that products delivered by vehicle are more expensive, which hurts the masses and businesses while compromising exports.

According to Mian Zahid Hussain, railways have consistently faced conspiracies to advance influential road transport.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that until the railways are made to work, Pakistani products will have to be sent to different regions through expensive road transport, which

increases their cost.

Similarly, export goods also become expensive, which reduces their ability to compete in the global market.

According to Mian Zahid Hussain, the railways in the neighbouring country of India, which have at least 22,000 trains and 7112 stations and employ 1.3 million people, is the backbone of the economy.

In India, they prepare the railway budget separately from the national budget. Meanwhile, China is rapidly completing railway projects and building a network of railways within the country as well as in many other countries, resulting in a flourishing economy.

420 million Chinese travelled by train in July alone, and the railway moved billions of dollars' worth of cargo from one location to another.

On the other hand, a conspiracy in Paki-



stan is destroying the railway, preventing it from providing benefits.

The business leader said that at one time, Pakistan Railways was considered an impor-

tant, stable, and profitable institution, but a dictator started destroying it just so that truck manufacturing businesses owned by his relatives could flourish.

Later, the transporters became politicians and moved to provincial and national assemblies, delaying the improvement of railways.

Soon, the transporters became so influential that no government would dare offend them by promoting railways.

Mian Zahid Hussain further said that Pakistan's economy is under pressure at the moment, and to improve it, among other measures, it is necessary to improve the passenger and especially the cargo systems of the railways. At this time, people consider railway travel very unsafe.

For the betterment of our railways, there is an urgent need to stop the declarations and statements and take practical steps so that it can become a profitable enterprise.

Group Photo

ISLAMABAD: Group photo of Ambassadors of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Algeria, Deputy Head of the Missions of Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Zafar Bakhtawari former President ICCI, Secretary General United Business Group, Zaki Aijaz acting President FPCCI, former Presidents Zubair Malik, Mian Shaikat Masood, Khalid Javaid, Nasir Qureshi, Tahir Farooq, Akhtar Munir, EDG Information Service Academy, Malik Shabbir and other after a dinner reception hosted in honour of War Bakhtawari.



Ambassadors propose highest Civil Awards of their countries for Zafar Bakhtawari

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Ambassadors and diplomats from various countries were united to honor Zafar Bakhtawari of their countries highest civil awards for his unparalleled contributions in fostering Pakistan's relations with their countries.

At a dinner reception hosted in honour of prominent business leader, former President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Secretary General United Business Group (FPCCI, UBG) Zafar Bakhtawari, the Dean of Diplomatic Corps, Ambassadors of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Ethiopia, Algeria, Deputy Head of the Missions of Indonesia and Azerbaijan, and other dignitaries praised Zafar Bakhtawari's tireless efforts in promoting international cooperation and trade.

Ambassador of Turkmenistan, Atadjan Movlamov said that under the visionary leadership of Zafar Bakhtawari, Islamabad's business community is undertaking tireless efforts for forging Pakistan's ties with other countries, adding that he himself is well aware of the endeavors Zafar Bakhtawari has been making for the purpose and that owing to his determination for the cause he deserves for the civil award of his country.

Ambassador of Uzbekistan Aybek Arif Usmanov shared historic linkages between Pakistan and Uzbekistan, citing centuries-old relations between the two brotherly countries. He described Zafar Bakhtawari as a true friend of Uzbekistan, who enjoys a complete grip on the historic relationship between the two states and described him the most eligible figure for his country's civil award.

Ambassador of Ethiopia, Jamal Bekar Abdullah, referred to the successful business trip of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry's delegation to Ethiopia and

commencement of direct flights would yield positive results in exploring business avenues between the two countries. Acknowledging Zafar Bakhtawari's contributions especially in bringing the two countries closer to each other and the African nations in general he also endorsed the notion of decorating Zafar Bakhtawari with any of the civil award of his country.

Algerian Ambassador, Brahim Romoni by stating that the business community is the backbone of every country's economy, expressed his desire to arrange a ceremony by all the Ambassadors to recognize Zafar Bakhtawari's services for nurturing relations among the nations and bestow him with his country's civil award.

Ambassador of Kazakhstan, Yerzahan Kistafin, lauded Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry's role, especially Zafar Bakhtawari and his son Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, incumbent President of ICCI in bringing the nations closer, particularly Kazakhstan and Pakistan and favoured to decorate Mr. Bakhtawari with his country's civil award.

Charge d'affaires of Azerbaijan, Tamerlan Khalilov, said, "Pakistan and Azerbaijan enjoy exemplary relations, standing together through thick and thin." He paid glowing tributes to Zafar Bakhtawari for his untiring efforts in promoting businesses and binding bonds of friendship with other countries. He described Zafar Bakhtawari as the best friend of his country in Pakistan since the inception of the Embassy.

Deputy Head of the Indonesian Mission Rahmat Hindiarata also hailed Zafar Bakhtawari's role for cultivating international bonds of friendship.

Zafar Bakhtawari highlighted the enduring and robust nature of Pakistan's relationships with Central Asian, African, and ASEAN countries, underscoring his

personal commitment to fostering friendship and collaboration among nations.

He added, "Whosoever is a friend of Pakistan is his friend by underling the need to honour all the business leaders with national awards who are playing prominent role in strengthening ties at global level.

President ICCI, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari by mentioning the efforts of business community especially the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry under his leadership said that despite all odds the business community is continuously playing its role for the economic prosperity of the country. He acquainted the attendees with the initiatives taken by the ICCI for promoting business relationship with other countries as well as those in the pipeline for the economic advancement of the country.

The host Tahir Farooq, Chairman/Editor-in-Chief of Daily Ittehad Media Group & Pakistan Economic Net by describing Zafar Bakhtawari as the true son of the soil and the identity of Islamabad, impressed upon the Government of Pakistan to decorate Zafar Bakhtawari with the highest civil award in acknowledgement of his exemplary services for strengthening international bonds.

The event was attended by senior bureaucrats Arshad Munir, EDG, Information Service Academy, Akhter Munir, Media Advisor to the President of Pakistan, Abdul Akbar, Press Secretary to Prime Minister of Pakistan, Khalid Taimur Akram, Executive Director, PRCCSF.

Business community was represented by Zaki Aijaz, acting President FPCCI, Zubair Ahmed Malik former President ICCI, FPCCI, Khalid Javaid, former President ICCI, Mian Shaikat Masud, former President ICCI, Nasir Qureshi, Malik Shabbir Awan, Nasir Chaudhry, Zia Chaudhry, Fatima Hassan and other.

"USF's Connectivity Projects Prove a Game-Changer in Reducing Poaching Incidents in Pakistan"

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a significant development, the Universal Service Fund's (USF) connectivity projects have been credited with substantially reducing poaching incidents in Pakistan. This revelation was made by MNA Sardar Nabeel Ahmed Gabol during a meeting with USF CEO Chaudhry Mudassar Naved.

According to Gabol, the USF has launched 93 projects in under-served and un-served areas over the past five years, with subsidies exceeding PKR 8.84 billion.

These initiatives have included the laying of over 10,000 km of optical fiber cable and the installation of 2,915 mobile towers.

The deployment of renewable solar energy, alongside voice and data services, has greatly improved local and international market connections, providing a boost to local businesses and transport.

This enhanced connectivity has had a positive impact on the environment, contributing to a reduction in poaching incidents.

Gabol praised the USF's efforts, noting that their projects have made a tangible impact on the lives of people in these areas.

The USF's connectivity projects have proven to be a game-changer in reducing poaching incidents in Pakistan, and their impact is expected to be felt for years to come.

Raja Zahid Sarfaraz appointed as President of DCFA North Punjab

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Dairy & Cattle Farmers Association (DCFA) Pakistan is pleased to announce the appointment of Raja Zahid Sarfaraz as the new President of the DCFA North Punjab. This strategic appointment is set to bring fresh leadership and positive advancements to the dairy and cattle farming community in the northern region of Punjab.

Shakir Umer Gujjar, the Central President and founder of DCFA, expressed his confidence in the new leadership. "We believe that Raja Zahid Sarfaraz's expertise and vision will significantly contribute to the welfare of dairy and cattle farmers in North Punjab."

His commitment to innovation and sustainable practices aligns perfectly with our mission to enhance the industry's growth and development."

Raja Zahid Sarfaraz, the newly appointed President, shared his enthusiasm for the role. "I am honored to take on this responsibility and work alongside dedi-



cated farmers to improve our industry. Our goal is to ensure the well-being of dairy and cattle farmers by providing them with the necessary resources, training, and support.

Together, we will strive to enhance productivity and ensure sustainable practices that benefit both our farmers and the environment."

Under Raja Zahid Sarfaraz's leadership, DCFA North Punjab aims to introduce new initiatives focused on education, resource management, and technological integration to improve farm productivity and animal welfare.

These efforts are expected to foster a more robust and resilient dairy and cattle farming sector, contributing to the overall economic growth of the region.

SECP registers 2,864 new companies in July

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) registered 2,864 new companies in July 2024. This signaled an increase of 25% from the corresponding month last year and marked the highest number of companies ever registered in a month. The total number of registered companies now stands at

225,561.

About 58% of companies incorporated in July, 2024 were registered as private limited companies, 39% as single-member companies, and the remaining 3% as public unlisted companies, not-for-profit associations, trade organizations, and limited liability partnerships. 99.8% of companies were registered online.

The information technology sector took the lead with incorpora-

tion of 471 companies, trading with 364 companies, services with 362, real estate development & construction with 284, tourism with 164, food & beverages with 139, e-commerce with 120, education with 111, textile with 65, marketing & advertisement with 64, corporate agricultural farming with 63, chemical with 53, healthcare, and power generation 51 each. Furthermore, cosmetics & toiletries, mining & quarrying

with 47 each, fuel & energy with 46, engineering with 43, pharmaceutical with 40, transport with 32, auto & allied with 27, communications with 23, cables & electric goods with 22, arts & culture with 18, paper & board, and sports-allied with 17 each, logging with 16, and 107 companies were registered in other sectors.

Foreign investment has been reported in 86 new companies

mainly by foreign investors from Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Azerbaijan, Canada, China, Germany, Greece, Iraq, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, Qatar, Russia, Sri Lanka, Turkey, UK, US and Zambia. The major chunk of investment was received from China's investment in 64 companies, whereas Turkey invested in 03, Afghanistan, and UK in 2 each and remaining countries in 01 each.

Pakistan Beverage Triumphs with In-House Go-Live of SAP S/4HANA, Pioneering Digital Self-Reliance in the Industry

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Beverage Limited (PBL), a frontrunner in the Beverage industry, has achieved a groundbreaking digital transformation by implementing SAP's S/4HANA on-premise solution. This significant move towards an on-premise solution is a testament to PBL's commitment to innovation and growth, setting a benchmark within the industry. The transition, executed entirely in-house, stands out as a unique greenfield implementation, rarely seen in the corporate landscape.

The culmination of this strategic initiative was celebrated in Karachi, with the presence of PBL's senior management including Mr. Syed Sohaib Ahmed, Senior Director Transformation and Strategy. Unlike the usual practice of engaging external partners for such transitions, PBL's adept team led this monumental task with exceptional dedication, showcasing their profound expertise and tenacity. This effort not only exemplifies PBL's internal capabilities but also underscores their vision to be at the forefront of adopting cutting-edge technologies.

Saqib Ahmad, Country Managing Director, SAP Pakistan, Iraq, Bahrain, & Afghanistan, acknowledged the remarkable achievement of PBL. Ahmad recognized the company's proactive approach in replacing the previous version of SAP ERP with the more advanced S/4HANA system, ensuring the company stays ahead in the competitive beverage industry. SAP's support was instrumental throughout this journey, providing PBL with the necessary assistance to overcome challenges during this exciting transformation.

PBL's successful implementation of S/4HANA on-premise solution marks a pivotal step in their digital strategy, positioning them to leverage the full potential of real-time data insights, optimized resource management, and streamlined business processes. The project signifies PBL's readiness to harness innovative technologies and reinforces their standing as a digitally forward company in Pakistan's dynamic corporate sector.

PCB to launch all-format Champions tourney during domestic season 2024-25

Asim Tanveer

LAHORE: With a view to bridge the gap between domestic and international cricket, provide more competitive and high-pressure cricket, and create better earning opportunities for its future stars, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Monday announced to add all-format 'Champions' tournaments to the Men's Domestic Cricket Season 2024-25.

PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi announced the introduction of new tourneys during a press conference here at the Gaddafi Stadium. He was flanked by Advisor to Chairman Cricket Waqar Younas and CEO Salman Naseer.

The PCB Chairman said that the Champions Cup was envisaged to bridge the gap between domestic and international cricket without any changes to the domestic structure, adding that the tourneys would help pick the best performers from the domestic cricket pool.

He said a pool of 150 players would be groomed under the a mentor (a former legend of Pakistan cricket) with each to look after a team comprising 30 cricketers including the national team players.

To a question, he said Champions Cup would be made part of the PCB Constitution so that it had a lasting presence in the

system.

He said five teams Panthers, Stallions, Lions, Dolphins and Wolves would be headed by a legend on a three year contract and he would be assisted by a coaching staff of 10 persons.

Naqvi further said: "Our current standings - sixth in Tests, fourth in ODIs and seventh in T20Is - do not reflect the true potential and legacy of Pakistan cricket. He said in order to restore our rightful place at the top of world cricket, we must innovate and strategically enhance, expand and strengthen our domestic structure, the introduction of the three Champions tournaments is the right step in this direction".

"The Champions tournaments will bring together our most talented and consistent performers from domestic cricket with our centrally contracted players, creating an environment that mirrors the intensity of international cricket. With broadcast matches, legendary mentors, elite coaching staff and extensive media coverage, these tournaments will provide our players with the exposure and experience they need," Naqvi added.

He said: "By establishing a clear and progressive pathway from clubs, schools and universities to intra-district, to inter-district, to regional/department competitions, we are nurturing the next generation of cricketing

stars".

Naqvi said: "The Champions tournaments will offer our players a platform to experience the rigorous and pressures of international cricket right here at home, adding that his is crucial for building a robust and highly competitive domestic structure that consistently produces world-class talent".

The PCB Chairman said he was highly optimistic about the future of Pakistan cricket and the investments we are making through the Champions tournaments will pay immense dividends. "We are dedicated to identifying, nurturing and preparing our best talent to represent Pakistan on the global stage."

The Champions One-Day Cup, Champions T20 Cup and Champions First-Class Cup will join the National T20 Cup, Quaid-e-Azam Trophy (regional first-class tournament),

President's Trophy (departmental first-class tournament), President's Cup (departmental 50-over event), and HBL Pakistan Super League 2025 in the 2024-25 domestic cricket season, expected to run from September 1, 2024 to August 5, 2025.

With the addition of three Champions tournaments, the PCB will now organize a total of 261 matches across eight men's senior tournaments. This includes 131 first-class matches in three events, 40 50-over

matches in two events and 97 T20 matches in three events.

In the 2023-24 season, the PCB had organised 203 matches in the six men's senior tournaments, including 51 first-class matches in two tournaments, 55 50-over matches in two events and 97 T20 matches.

Salient features of the newly-introduced Champions



tournaments are:

Five sides - Dolphins, Lions, Panthers, Stallions and Wolves - will compete in each Champions Cup event.

Each Champions Cup event will be played in a double-league format.

Around 150 of the country's highest-performing domestic players from the past three years and centrally contracted players will be available for selection (more details to be shared in due course)

Each side will have a former Pakistan superstar as a mentor and potentially as an owner (mentor and owner names/details to be announced in due course)

Player support personnel of each side are expected to include: Head Coach (at least Level 3,

minimum five years with a first-class side), batting/bowling/fielding coaches (minimum Level 3, three-year experience), Strength and Conditioning Coach, Physiotherapist, Analyst, Operations Manager, and Media/Digital Media Manager

Each side will be allocated a dedicated Regional High Performance Centre in Faisalabad (High Performance Centre Faisalabad), Karachi (Hanif Mohammad High Performance Centre), Lahore (National Cricket Academy), Multan (Inzamam-ul-Haq High Performance Centre), and Sialkot (High Performance Centre, Sialkot) for training and practice

Enhanced domestic contracts will be offered to 150 cricketers as: Category 1: 40 players, PKR550,000 per month; Category 2: 50 players, PKR400,000 per month; Category 3: 60 players, PKR250,000 per month.

In the 2023-24 season, domestic contracts were offered as PKR300,000 for A+ Category, PKR200,000 for A Category, PKR185,000 for B Category, PKR170,000 for C Category, PKR150,000 for D Category, PKR100,000 for E Category, and PKR50,000 for F Category

In addition to the monthly retainers, players will receive improved match fees as follows: PKR125,000 for 50-over matches and PKR100,000 for

T20 matches. In the 2023-24 season, match fees were PKR80,000 and PKR40,000 for red and white-ball cricket, respectively

Each side will have a Corporate Sponsor and Media Partner. Other revenue streams will include broadcast and live-streaming rights, event title sponsorship, ground branding rights and ticket sales/merchandise

The Champions One-Day Cup will serve as the season opener of the PCB Men's Domestic Cricket Season 2024-25 when the 21-match tournament is played from 1-29 September. Curtains will fall on the PCB Men's Domestic Cricket Season 2024-25 with the Champions First-Class Cup, which will be held from 28 May to 5 August.

In addition to the eight men's senior tournaments in the period from August 2024 to September 2025, the PCB

will also organize 11 development/pathway tournaments which will be separate to the three Pakistan Shaheens and one Pakistan U19 away series.

This potentially means, the budding and upcoming youngsters are expected to get around 13,000 matches at the schools, colleges, universities, clubs, U15, U17, U19, Regional Inter-District Senior and Challenge League Senior levels across all formats to test their skills, impress their

coaches and selectors with their performances, make themselves available for selection in the regional, departmental, franchise and Champions sides and, in the meantime, continue to walk up the ladder in pursuit of their dreams.

Tentative dates of the eight men's senior tournaments in the PCB Men's Domestic Cricket Season 2024-25 are (schedules, formats and other details will be announced closer to time):

Champions One-Day Cup: 1-29 September (five teams, 21 matches) (new event)
President's Cup (50-over): 3-15 October (nine teams, 19 matches) (seven teams, 24 matches in 2023-24)

Quaid-e-Azam Trophy: 20 October-18 December (18 teams, 73 matches) (eight teams, 29 matches in 2023-24)

Champions T20 Cup: 21 December-2 January (five teams, 21 matches) (new event)

President's Trophy (first-class): 6 January-7 March (nine teams, 37 matches) (seven teams, 22 matches in 2023-24)

National T20 Cup: 13-21 March (18 teams, 35 matches) (18 teams, 63 matches in 2023-24)

Pakistan Super League 2025: 10 April-25 May (six teams, 34 matches) (six teams, 34 matches in 2023-24)

Champions First-Class Cup: 28 May-5 August (five teams, 21 matches) (new event)

All Pakistan Christian Basketball closing ceremony held at LaSalle High School

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: The closing ceremony of the All Pakistan Christian Basketball floodlight tournament was held at LaSalle High School and College Faisalabad. Director General FDA Muhammad Asif Chaudhry was the chief guest. Sargodha got the position. Among the position holders teams, the special guest, Director General FDA Muhammad Asif Chaudhry, Director General FDA Muhammad Asif Chaudhry and others distributed the prizes. The tournament was inaugurated by Reverend Brother Sajid Bashir, Sector Coordinator Pakistan. In this tournament, major cities of Pakistan Six teams from Lahore,



Islamabad, Sargodha, Sialkot and Faisalabad competed. In the organizing committee of this tournament, Immanuel Asad Secretary General, Faisal Asad Organizing Secretary, Shehzad Saleem Program Conductor, Kokab Shakeel Advisor, Sharjeel Asad, Anil Jamshed, Akram Masih, Shams Pervaiz, Amjad Sharif, Adeel Aziz, Aftab Anjum, Adil Raja, Samuel Khokhar, Adeel Khokhar and Shahrooz Bashir. Officials Tariq Nawaz, Muhammad Ashfaq, Faheem Sattar, Arham Khalil, Dr. Parvez Akhtar and Miss Rabeah were present in this tournament. The chief guest of the closing ceremony appreciated the efforts of the tournament committee and congratulated all the winning teams.

China's Li Yuehong wins men's 25m rapid fire pistol gold at Paris Olympics

Xinhua

CHATEAUAUX: China's veteran shooter Li Yuehong won his maiden gold at his third Olympics after victory in men's 25m rapid fire pistol here on Monday.

The 34-year-old made 32 hits in the final to secure the fifth shooting gold for powerhouse China.

Li won bronze at both Rio de Janeiro and Tokyo Olympics.



Zou Jingyuan wins China's second gymnastics gold at Paris Olympics

Xinhua

PARIS: Zou Jingyuan overcame a shoulder injury to capture the men's parallel bars title on Monday for China's second gymnastics gold medal at Paris Olympics.

Defending champion Zou was only the third man to win two gold medals in a row on this apparatus, amassing a massive 16.200 points to edge Illia Kovtun of Ukraine, who took the silver with 15.500.

Shinnosuke Oka of Japan, the all-around champion, got the bronze with 15.300 points.

Zou was seen nursing his right shoulder after Sunday's rings final, in which he collected a silver. He said afterwards the injury affected his training.

Zou's near perfect routine drew gasps from the crowd at Bercy Arena. He was in perfect control and flied over bars with such smooth connections.

His compatriot Zhang Boheng who just won the silver of men's all-round finished fourth in Monday's competition.



Bangladesh A arrival delayed by 48 hours

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The arrival of Bangladesh A Men's cricket team has been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances by 48 hours from the scheduled August 7 landing at the Islamabad airport.

A Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) press release said the BCB has confirmed to the PCB their men's 'A' cricket team's departure for Islamabad has been delayed by 48 hours due to unforeseen circumstances.

"The BCB and PCB have been in regular contact for the past two days and will continue to work together on the revised tour itinerary with further details to follow in due course," the PCB added.

The Bangladesh 'A' cricket team was due to arrive in Islamabad in the wee hours of Wednesday for two four-day and three 50-over matches from 10-27 August.



Spain and USA on course for Olympic women's football final showdown

Sports Desk

LYON: World Cup holders Spain and four-time gold medallists the United States are on course for a showdown in the Olympic women's football final with the two heavyweights favourites to win on Tuesday.

Led by reigning Ballon d'Or Aitana Bonmati, Spain face surprise semi-finalists Brazil in Marseille while a rejuvenated USA under new coach Emma Hayes meet Germany in Lyon.

The Americans are the traditional powerhouse of women's international football and their performances at the Olympics suggest they are back as a force after a disappointing World Cup last year.

Hayes only took over in May and is still getting to know her team but the USA topped their group with three wins from three

and edged an impressive Japan after extra time in the quarter-finals, with Trinity Rodman scoring the crucial goal.

They have already beaten Germany in the tournament, and that 4-1 thumping in Marseille in the group stage suggests they should fancy their chances of winning through to the gold medal match in Paris on Saturday.

"We are so confident going into games. That comes from Emma. She believes in us so much," said the forward Sophia Smith when asked about the impact of the new coach.

Hayes, 47, arrived after over a decade of success at Chelsea and is hoping to lead the USA to a record-extending fifth gold since women's football was introduced at the Olympics in 1996. They last won the title in 2012.

"I coached Chelsea for 12

years. I am not going to be disappointed at anything this team does because I respect football at the top level, and for us to arrive tactically at the place we have so quickly is real credit to the players," the coach said of her new charges.

Germany were gold medallists in 2016, the one Olympics in which the USA did not win any medal in women's football.

Under Horst Hrubesch, they finished second in their group behind the USA and then edged out reigning Olympic champions Canada on penalties in the quarter-finals.

Goalkeeper Ann-Katrin Berger, who played under Hayes at Chelsea, was the star against Canada as she saved two penalties in the shoot-out before converting the winning kick herself.

"It was a very tough game, but

when it went to the shootout, I knew we had a great goalkeeper. It gave us confidence, and she got us the victory," defender Kathrin Hendrich told FIFA.com.

Spain are appearing in the Olympic women's football for the first time but their World Cup triumph last year showed they are currently the most accomplished side in the international game.

However, they were moments away from being eliminated in the quarter-finals by Colombia, as they trailed 2-0 before fighting back to equalise through Irene Paredes deep in injury time.

They then won on penalties, with Barcelona's Bonmati converting the decisive spot-kick.

"We don't want to leave here. We want to keep our Olympic dream alive. This team has no limits," declared young attacking star Salma Parulluelo to FIFA.com ahead of facing Brazil.



The Brazilians have twice won Olympic silver, in 2004 and 2008, but were not expected to get this far at the Paris Games.

They scraped through their group as a best third-placed side despite a 2-0 defeat by Spain in a

game marked by the sending-off of legendary captain Marta.

Brazil then stunned hosts France in the last eight, winning the quarter-final 1-0 without their suspended skipper.

Marta was handed a two-match ban by FIFA for her

red card in the last group game, meaning she will not be able to feature against Spain.

The Brazilian Football Confederation called that suspension "excessive" and said it would appeal to enable the 38-year-old to feature.

Solidarity with Kashmiris

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister & Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar speaks during a protest rally to mark Kashmir Solidarity against the Indian government's 2019 decision to scrap the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, in Federal Capital, India repealed Article 370 of its Constitution which allowed Jammu and Kashmir its own constitution, flag and two-house legislature that could frame its own laws.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Pakistan Expresses Solidarity with the Kashmiri People on 'Youm-e-Istehsal

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: On the fifth anniversary of India's illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019 in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), the people and Government of Pakistan are observing the 'Youm-e-Istehsal' (Day of Exploitation).

The President, the Prime Minister, and the Deputy

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, in their special messages on the occasion, have reaffirmed Pakistan's strong diplomatic, political and moral support to the Kashmir Cause.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister has addressed letters to the leadership of the United Nations and Organization of Islamic Cooperation to apprise them of the grave consequences of Indian

actions since 5 August 2019. In these letters, the Foreign Minister has also called for implementation of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions to enable the people of Jammu and Kashmir to determine their own future.

In the run up to the 'Youm-e-Istehsal', the Foreign Secretary briefed the Islamabad-based diplomatic missions on the situation in IIOJK, on 2

August 2023. He analyzed the situation from the perspective of international law, peace and security, and human rights.

To express solidarity with the oppressed people of IIOJK, a special 'Walk' was held in Islamabad this morning along the Constitution Avenue, up to the Parliament Building. The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, and the Minister for Kashmir Affairs

and Gilgit-Baltistan were guests of honor at this occasion.

A range of activities are being organized throughout the country to observe 'Youm-e-Istehsal'. With the active participation of Pakistani and Kashmiri Diaspora, Pakistan's diplomatic missions around the world are also arranging special events to raise global awareness about the plight of the Kashmiri people.

Ethiopia, Pakistan discuss bilateral political consultation agreement

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have discussed signing of a Bilateral Political Consultation agreement by end of this year to foster deeper cooperation at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels for addressing global challenges.

The signing of the agreement came under discussion during a meeting between H. E. Jemal Beker Abdula, Special Envoy & Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the FDR Ethiopia to Pakistan, and H. E. Ambassador Hamid Asghar Khan, Additional Secretary (Africa) Ministry of the Foreign Affairs.

Both sides agreed to sign

the agreement at the earliest possible time which will help create an institutional mechanism for both the countries to work together at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels for dealing with global issues such as climate change, terrorism, cybercrimes, fake news and others.

On the occasion, H. E. Ambassador Jemal Beker briefed the Additional Secretary about the earnest desire of the Government of Ethiopia for signing the Bilateral Political Consultation agreement with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to further strengthen the bilateral relations.

He highlighted the growing cooperation between the two countries in the realms of politics, economy, trade and culture through consistent



Ali, Prime Minister of Ethiopia.

The Ambassador informed the Additional Secretary about Ethiopia's initiatives for regional integration such as Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam, Green Legacy Initiative, Dine for Generation and others.

He said South Sudan had signed the Nile Basin Cooperative Framework Agreement which would ensure equitable and reasonable utilization of the Nile water and further integrate the region.

He informed the Ambassador that the Government of Pakistan had ratified the Bilateral Political Consultative agreement which was crucial to strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries.

and constructive engagement between the governments, business community, academia and professionals of the two countries with the delegations' exchange in the last two years.

The Ambassador also briefed the Additional Secre-

tary about Home Grown Economic Reform Programme 1.0 (HGERP) which has doubled size of its GDP, making it top economy in the East Africa and 3rd economy in the Sub Saharan Africa under the leadership and guidance of H. E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed

Youm-e-Istehsal-e-Kashmir observed across Australia

Spokesman Report

CANBERRA: Youm-e-Istehsal was observed across Australia, with multiple events organized across major cities, including Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane. Car rallies featuring pictures that expressed support for Kashmiris and their quest for justice and self-determination also gained a lot of public attention.

To commemorate the day, the High Commission for Pakistan in Canberra organised a webinar titled "Youm-e-Istehsal-e-Kashmir: 77 Years of Occupation and Oppression". The event featured several distinguished panelists who provided insightful remarks on the situation in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

The keynote speakers included Honorable Senator David Shoebri, Honorable Senator Lee Rhiannon, Dr. Claude Rakisits, Syed Faiz Naqshbandi, and Professor Samina

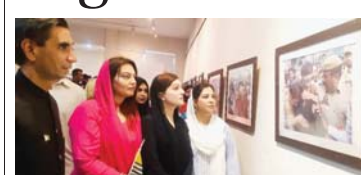
Yasmeen.

High Commissioner H. E. Zahid Hafeez Chaudhri, in his remarks, thanked all the speakers for their valuable contributions. He highlighted the historic role played by Australia in the IIOJK dispute, noting that Australia was a founding member of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) and that Sir Owen Dixon, the 6th Chief Justice of Australia, was the first UN mediator between India and Pakistan.

He reminded the international community of its obligations to seek just resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UNSC resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people.

The High Commissioner also briefed the audience on the ongoing humanitarian crisis in IIOJK. He reiterated that Pakistan would continue to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with its Kashmiri brothers and sisters until the resolution of the IIOJK dispute.

Mushaal emphasizes World to took notice of Human Rights violations in IIOJK



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Former Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Human Rights and Women empowerment Mushaal Hussein Mullick has emphasized on International community to took notice of Human Rights violations committing by BJP government in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) since August 05, 2019.

Mushaal, a Chairperson Peace and Cultural Organisation and wife of incarcerated senior Kashmiri hurriyat leader Mohammad Yasin Malik inaugurated a Kashmiri Atroc-

ities Photo Exhibition and addressed the participants of a protest walk, held in connection with the Youm-e-Istehsal-e-Kashmir at Punjab Arts Council Rawalpindi, marking the fifth anniversary of the revocation of Articles 370 and 35 A by India in 2019 to revoke the special status of disputed Kashmir territory, said the human rights violations including killings, extrajudicial executions in IIOJK surged since India's BJP government illegally repealed special status of occupied Jammu and Kashmir on August 05, 2019.

Mushaal also said that indian government is now allowing people from the rest of India to acquire property in IIOJK and settle there permanently. Sabien Hussein Mullick Secretary General Peace and Culture Organisation and Prof Zafar advisor on Kashmir Affairs also participated in the exhibition and protest.

Federal Minister Finance meets with the Managing Director of Jacobs, Cordova and Associates



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb held a meeting with the Managing Director of Jacobs, Cordova and Associates Mr. Scott Jacobs at Finance Division today. Secretary Board of Investment and officials from relevant ministries/divisions were also present in the meeting.

The meeting focused on the subject of regulatory reforms aimed at improving regulatory environment in the country to improve entrepreneurship, innovation and investment.

Mr. Jacobs presented a comprehensive proposal to streamline the regulatory system, suggesting a thorough review of standardized processes to achieve significant results.

Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb acknowledged the importance of these reforms and underscored the need for impact-driven assistance to ensure the successful implementation of these reforms. The discussions also centered on identifying specific areas where reforms are urgently needed to optimize operations and regulatory frameworks. Both parties agreed on the importance of a structured approach to regulatory reforms.

Aleem Khan condemns Indian atrocities in Kashmir

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Istehkam-e-Party and Federal Minister for Privatization, Board of Investment and Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan has strongly condemned Indian atrocities in held Kashmir and said that 5th August will be remembered in the history as Black Day.

While giving reacting on the completion of 5 years of Exploitation in Kashmir by India Government, Abdul Aleem Khan said that Modi has violated basic human rights in Occupied Kashmir in contrary to the international laws. By abrogating Article 370 on August 5, 2019, the heinous conspiracy to prevent the right of self-determination of Kashmiris continues till date, Abdul Aleem Khan added. He said that apart from all suppression on Kashmiris no force can really change the historical status of Jammu and Kashmir and neither

foils the freedom struggle of Kashmiris. Federal Minister confirmed that Pakistan will continue to provide all possible moral and diplomatic support to Kashmiri brethren. On the completion of 5 years of Indian brutality, Federal Minister and President Istehkam-e-Party Abdul Aleem Khan further said that the Modi Government on August 5, 2019, had created a drama to end the special status of Muslims in Kashmir to hide their identity while even today, Modi's scattered mentality is still visible, which is deplorable. For the purposes, the Indian Army is breaking mountains of persecution in Kashmir, while the dirty tactics of the "Hindutva Government" has been badly exposed.

Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan concluded that all Pakistanis are stand united to express solidarity with Kashmiris and we will always support their right of self-determination at every forum.

Pakistan Embassy in Moscow to commemorate Youm-e-Istehsal-e Kashmir

Spokesman Report

MOSCOW: The ceremony to commemorate Youm-e-Istehsal-e-Kashmir was held at the Pakistan Embassy Moscow on 05 August 2024 to acknowledge the justified struggle of the Kashmiri people for independence and to denounce the illegal and unilateral steps taken by India.

The event began with recitation from Holy Quran followed by the anthems of Pakistan and Azad Kashmir. Special messages on the occasion of Youm-e-Istehsal of the President and Prime minister of Pakistan were read by Charge d'affaires



Mr. Salmaan Pervaiz and First Secretary Mr. Muhammad Tayyab.

The guests were presented with a documentary detailing India's unlawful activities in IIOJK.

Participants united in reaffirming Pakistan's steadfast moral, political, and diplomatic support for Kashmir's indigenous freedom struggle.

Pak Embassy in Hague marks Youm-e-Istehsal-e Kashmir



Spokesman Report

HAGUE: The Embassy of Pakistan, the Hague organised a seminar to mark Youm-e-Istehsal-e-Kashmir. The seminar focused on situation in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK) especially since India's illegal and unilateral actions of 2019.

Speaking at the occasion, Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar underscored that "Youm-e-Istehsal" is another dark day in the history of Kashmir. He said that the human

rights situation in IIOJK has continued to worsen following India's illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019. Ambassador Tarar mentioned efforts made by Pakistan's leadership in highlighting the Jammu and Kashmir issue to the world.

The speakers highlighted Indian atrocities and plight of Kashmiri people in IIOJK especially, since 05 August 2019, as well as the historical, political and legal dimensions of Jammu and Kashmir dispute. They called the gross human rights violations in the IIOJK "a big challenge to the conscience of the international community". It was emphasized that the international community must play role in peaceful and just settlement of Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance to the UN Security Council resolutions.