Backlog of pending cases continue to rise again in SC

According to details, when Chief Justice of Pakistan Justice Yahya Afridi took office, there were about 60,000 cases pending. The number of cases decreased to 55,000 in March 2025. However, now the number of pending cases increased during the summer vacations.



Art exhibition in Lahore to mark independence

on the instructions of the Chief Minister from 1st to 14th Augus

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

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Review meeting

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting to review the progress of reforms in IT Sector and restruc-



PM for action plan to achieve \$30 billion IT exports target in coming years

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on was taking measures to advance Friday appreciating the achievement of the previous year's IT export target of \$3.8 billion by the Ministry of Information Technology, directed the formulation of a comprehensive action plan for annual targets and measures to surpass the \$30 billion target in the coming years.

The prime minister, chairing a meeting to review the initiatives of National Information Tech-

Ministry of Information Technology, said that the government its economy through digitization, aligning it with modern require-

Highlighting the introduction of complete digital ecosystem to achieve IT exports target of \$30 billion, he directed the restructuring of NITB and the recruitment of the best talent from the

He appreciated the establishment of centers to make youth,

nology Board (NITB) and the especially women, self-reliant was informed that in the finanin the IT sector for employment opportunities, as thousands of youth were securing respectable employment through the Digital Youth Hub and gaining the capa-

bility to compete internationally. He observed that the implementation of e-Office had led to paperless governance in govern- a modern system aligned with ment offices, resulting in savings of both time and resources.

During the briefing on the progress of NITB's restructuring and the initiatives of the Ministry of Information Technology, it consultancy projects.

cial year 2025, Pakistan's IT sector exports achieved a 19% growth, surpassing the \$3.8 billion target, while the number of freelancers in the country increased by 91%.

Regarding NITB, it was informed that work on creating contemporary requirements was in its final stages. The Board is working on over 179 websites, more than 31 mobile applications, over 113 portals, and 57

The NITB's restructuring focuses on enhancing user experience, preparing for future changes, building modern infrastructure, improving governance and service delivery, strengthening cybersecurity, risk management, research, innovation, and increasing workforce capacity.

The meeting was attended by federal ministers Ahad Khan Cheema, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, Prime Minister's Coordinator Musharraf Zaidi, and relevant senior officials.

Tarar slams Indian media, calls for unified response to misinformation

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD, AUG 08 (APP): Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar House, that the Parliament of on Friday strongly criticized the Pakistan stands firmly with its Indian media for spreading disinformation, asserting that Pakies, media, and the nation had response to Indian aggression.

in the National Assembly, Tarar demonstrating that media ethics responded to a query raised by continue to hold ground in the MNA Sharmila Faruqui and country.

lauded Parliament's role in Operation Bunyaan Marsus. He said a clear message was sent to the enemy from the floor of the

Referring to false claims by stan's Parliament, armed forc- Indian media that the ports of Lahore and Multan had been delivered a unified and resolute destroyed, Tarar said Pakistan's collective response effectively Speaking during question hour countered the disinformation,

He commended both government and opposition members for effectively presenting Pakistan's narrative across national television platforms, noting that media houses played a key role in shaping the domestic discourse, which enabled Pakistan to engage confidently on international media fronts.

Tarar also acknowledged the contribution of Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, and political parties representatives, who played a



pivotal role in articulating Paki- stan's position on global media platforms.

Govt reconstitutes commission on enforced disappearances

ISLAMABAD: The feder-

Following his appointment, al government on Friday Justice Shah has initiated reconstituted the Commis- measures aimed at resolving sion of Inquiry on Enforced cases of missing persons.

ances, disposing of 8,770 cases, around 82 per cent, as of July

Hussain Shah as its new chair- of alleged enforced disappear- 15 new complaints.

It also began implementation on Rs5 million financial assistance package for fami-In July alone, after Shah lies of missing persons. The assumed office, the commission chairman presided over two Disappearances and appoint- The commission has so far resolved 70 enforced disap- meetings to finalise recommened Justice (r) Syed Arshad received 10,607 complaints pearance cases and registered dations on the assistance cases

for the federal government.

Justice (r) Nazar Akbar has been appointed as the commission's member for Sindh, retired judge Muhammad Bashir for Islamabad, and Justice (r) Syed Afsar Shah for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Armed forces commemorate 67th martyrdom anniversary of Major Tufail Muhammad

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Field Marshal Sved Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff, General Sahir Shamshad Mirza, NI (M), Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, Admiral Naveed Ashraf, NI (M), Chief of the Naval Staff, and Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Babar Sidhu, NI (M), Chief of the Air Staff, along with the Armed Forces of Pakistan, solemnly commemorate the 67th martyrdom anniversary of Major Tufail Muhammad Shaheed, Nishan-e-Haider, who embraced martyrdom in the line of duty while courageously engaging the enemy in the Lakshmipur sector of erst-

while East Pakistan. Major Tufail Muhammad Shaheed displayed extraordinary bravery and unwavering resolve as he led his troops in a daring assault against enemy forces. Despite being critically wounded, he continued to fight with exceptional valour and successfully accomplished his mission. His heroic actions earned him the nation's highest never be forgotten.



military honour—Nishan-e-Haider—a symbol of unparalleled gallantry and supreme

On this solemn occasion, the Armed Forces of Pakistan pay glowing tribute to Major Tufail Muhammad Shaheed and to all martyrs who have laid down their lives in defence of the motherland. Their legacy of courage, selflessness, and patriotism continues to inspire generations and stands as a beacon for all defenders of the nation.

Pakistan remains eternally indebted to its martyrs, whose sacrifices uphold the peace, stability, and sovereignty of our beloved homeland.

We salute our heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice for the defence of Pakistan. Their courage and devotion shall

President, PM pay tribute to Major Tufail Muhammad

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday paid rich tribute to Major Tufail Muhammad Shaheed (Nishani-Haider) on his 67th martyrdom anniversary, lauding his bravery and sacrifice to safeguard the motherland.

The president and prime minister, in their separately issued statements, said that the entire nation saluted its heroes whose sacrifices guaranteed the national safety and security.

67 years ago today, Major Tufail Muhammad Shaheed (Nishan-i-Haider) sacrificed his life for the motherland while bravely fighting the enemy. The entire nation salutes his sacrifice and bravery which is a role model for the nation," President

safe today due to the sacrifices of the sacrifices of its martyrs.



these great sons and the nation paid tribute to its great heroes who sacrificed their lives for the country's security.

"The nation will always remember the sacrifices of its martyrs. Pakistan is proud of its brave armed forces, which courageously confront the enemy on every front," he added.

Prime Minister Shehbaz, also paying tribute to Major Tufail Muhammad Shaheed, said that the entire nation saluted his sacrifice and bravery.

"We pay tribute to our great heroes who sacrificed their lives for the country's security. The He said that Pakistan was nation will always remember

PM Shehbaz lauds security forces for foiling terrorist infiltration at Pak-Afghan Border

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Friday paid tribute to the security forces for successfully thwarting an infiltration attempt by Khawarij terrorists from the Pakistan-Afghanistan border in the Zhob district.

The prime minister praised the operation in which 33 militants were eliminated, calling it a remarkable success in the nation's ongoing fight against terrorism, a Prime Minister's

Office news release said. "Our brave soldiers risked their lives to foil this infiltration attempt and crushed the nefarious designs of the terrorists," the prime minister said.

PM Shehbaz reaffirmed the nation's unity and unwavering support for its armed forces in the battle against extremism, stating, "The entire nation stands shoulder to shoulder with our security forces in this fight."

He further reiterated his government's firm commitment to eradicating terrorism in all its forms from the country. "We are determined to eliminate every trace of terrorism from our soil," the Prime Minister declared.

Saturday, August 9, 2025

PM directs to boost tourism in Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir

ISLAMABAD: A meeting on the promotion of tourism was held at the Prime Minister's House, Islamabad, under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

To attract domestic and foreign tourists to the tourist areas of Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir, construction of the best infrastructure and easy travel and connectivity and high-quality modern entertainment facilities are indispensable.

The Prime Minister directed to prepare a plan of action as soon as possible for the promotion of tourism in Islamabad, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan. He also directed to prepare feasible and soonest possible projects for the promotion of

He further directed that a strategy be made for the construction of best quality hotels, resorts, entertainment venues and other facilities for the convenience of tourists in Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan.

The meeting was briefed by the



Tourism, Sardar Yasir Ilyas, on the proposals for the promotion of tourism.

The meeting was informed that work can be started on the targets of increasing the number of foreign tour-Prime Minister's Coordinator for ists in the country, making tourism an

important part of the GDP and establishing 20 new places for tourism; a ment Conference will be organized in strategy is being made to fully exploit the potential of religious and medical

The meeting was informed that the Agriculture University.

National Tourism Expo and Invest-Islamabad soon. Recently, the Mango Festival, 2025 was organized in Multan in collaboration with the Nawaz Sharif

Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik, met with His Excellency Mr. Ali Mubarak Ali Essa A1-Khater, Ambassador of the State of Qatar to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, to discuss avenues for enhanced bilateral cooperation on Friday.



Pakistan's Energy Future: PM Briefed on Jagran Hydel Power Project Phase-II



跨 🛮 Bureau Report Muzaffarabad

Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq on Friday received a detailed briefing on the Jagran Hydel Power Project Phase-II. Secretary Department of Power Development and Electricity, Irshad Ahmed Qureshi, briefed the Prime Minister on the causes of delay in the project's construction and the progress achieved so far. On the occasion, Minister Chaudhry Azhar Sadiq, Chief Secretary Khushal Khan, Principal Secretary Zafar Mahmood Khan, Secretary Electricity Irshad Ahmed Qureshi, and other senior officials were also present. Speaking at the briefing, the Prime Minister said the project represents a significant milestone in addressing the region's energy needs. He emphasized the importance of its timely completion and directed the concerned authorities to utilize all available resources to ensure the project is completed without further delay.

5th Board of Studies Meeting, Department of Mass Communication



MUZAFFARABAD: Department of Mass Communication University of AJ&k-Official successfully convey its 5th Board of Studies meeting today. The meeting was graced by the presence of Dr. Nadeem Haider Bukhari, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Saadat Hanif Dar, Registrar, and Dr. Javed Iqbal, Director, Quality Enhancement Cell. A nominee from the Controller of Examinations Office and Mr. Raja Sohail, District Information Officer Muzaffarabad also attended the meeting. Esteemed external members, including Dr. Majid Ul Ghaffar from the Department of Mass Communication, Hazara University and Prof. Dr. Saqib Riaz from the Department of Mass Communication, Allama Iqbal Open University, contributed valuable insights to the discussions. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Shahida Khalique, Coordinator of the Department, with active engagement and participation from the departmental faculty. The meeting focused on curriculum development, academic enhancement, and strategic initiatives aimed at improving the overall quality of teaching and learning. As a gesture of academic collaboration, Dr. Majid Ul Ghaffar graciously presented copies of his book, Broadcast Journalism to all faculty members.

Yousuf Siddiqui Elected as Chairman ICMA

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Muhammad Yousuf Siddiqui Chairman. Muhammad Shahbaz Vice Chairman, and Muhammad Rafiq Secretary of the Institute of Cost Management and Accounts Pakistan Interna tional Multan Branch Coun-



cil, were elected. According to the details, a meeting of the members of the ICMA Pakistan International Multan Branch Council was held in which new office bearers were elected. Muhammad Yousuf Siddiqui Chairman. Muhammad Shahbaz Vice Chairman and Muhammad Rafiq Secretary were unanimously elected. On this occasion, all the office bearers thanked the members and promised to fulfill their expectations and pledged to take revolutionary steps in the field of education and strive for further improvement and to move Pakistan towards development through education. All the members of ICMA congratulated the newly elected office bearers.

Chairman Senate Gillani & Family Attend Rasam-e- Qull Khani of Tanveer Gillani

👺 Kiran Asim

MULTAN: A large gathering Photo Gilani, Muhammad Ayub held at the shrine of Hazrat Musa Pak Shaheed for the repose of the soul of former Federal Minister and President of Anjuman-e-Islamia Makhdoom Syed Tanveerul-Hassan Gilani. Sajjada Nashin Makhdoom Syed Abul-Hassan Gilani led prayers, while Alla- ri, Sadruddin Gilani Licensed, ma Muhammad Farooq Khan Saeedi, in his address, said that the role played by Makhdoom Syed Tanveer-ul-Hassan Gilani in keeping the flag of the last generation of Hazrat Muhammad Mustafa (peace be upon him) high and promoting education cannot be forgotten. The gathering was attended by the late's cousin, Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, Sahibzada Syed Aamir Gilani, President Anjuman-e-Islamia Syed Imran Gilani, Makhdoom Syed Ghulam Yazdani Gilani, Makhdoom Javed Hashmi, Syed Ahmed Mujtaba Gilani, Syed Sami-ul-Hassan Gilani, Makhdoom Syed Sohail Hassan Gilani, Rajan Bakhsh Gilani, Makhdoom Velayat Mustafa Gilani, Ali Musa Gilani, Ali Qasim Gilani, Ali Haider Gilani, Mehr Irshad Sial, Makhdoom Tufail Mohiuddin Gilani, Syed Noorani. Gilani, Senator Rana Mahmoodul Hasan, Makhdoom Zohaib Gilani, Qari Nasir Mian Khan, Asad Mumtaz Sial, Mazhar Javed Sial, Khawaja Sulaiman Siddiqui, Khawar Shafqat Bhatta, Haji Javed Akhtar Ansari, Hasan Raza Mashhadi, Babu Nafis Ansari,

Mughal, Sultan Mahmood Malik, Ghulam Shah Mustafa Gilani. Allah Nawaz. Venus, Nazir Mohiuddin Bhatta, Rana Sajjad, Waseem Mumtaz Advocate, Salman Hasan Gilani, Professor Dr. Tariq Mehmood Ansa-Malik Usman Dogar, Makhdoom Shoaib Akmal Hashmi, Ashraf Qureshi, Khawaja Muhammad Ilyas, Syed Asim Shah, Habibullah Shakir, Azhar Baloch, Allama Dr. Siddique Khan Qadri Hamid Nawaz, Waheed Nawaz Hamid Nawaz, Hamid Ali Saidi Asim. Goldavi Saqlain Mehravi. Bakhtiar Asimi. Shaukat Saeedi, Khawaja Qasim, Hafiz Iqbal Khan Khakwani, Rana Faraz Noon, Rana Shahidul Hassan, Miran Mohiuddin Gilani, Malik Naseem Labar, Malik Muhammad Yousuf, Malik Imran Yousuf. Abdul Rehman Yousuf, Haji Arshad Buta, Matiul Hassan, Mazhar Nandla, Tanveer Mohil, Mehran Arshad, Khawaja Abdul Salam Naqshbandi, Javed Arain, Zahid Bahar Hashmi, Asghar Ansari, Dr. Javed Siddiqui, Ghulam Farid Azhari, Malik Iqbal Mangan, Javed Hussain Suhrawardy, Ahmed Khan Malizai, Asif Rasool Awan, Rana Tahir Razaq, Ali Murad Siddiqui Rana Tahir Shabbir, Barrister Salman Qureshi, Abid Thahim, Malik Arshad Bhutta, Khalid Khan Mohmand, M. Saleem Raja, Farhan Gilani, Sheikh Muhammad Sharif Malik Niaz

Rao Sajid Ali, Chaudhry Abdul Bhutta, Zia Ansari, Azhar Sandi-Waheed Arain, Sadruddin Gilani la, Professor Malik Muhammad Asif, Rao Naeem Shahid, AD Khan Baloch, Salim-ur-Rehman Meo, Muhammad Hussain Arain, Malik Shahzad, Qasur Bhatti, Mustafa Lahori, Mufti Abdul Qavi, Professor Tariq Qadri, Saber Ansari, Sheikh Imran Arshad, Allah Bakhsh Bhutta, Hashim Babar, Mir Ahmed Kamran Magsi, Rana Zulfiqar, Deputy Mushtaq Adil, Aamir Shahzad Siddiqui, Dr. Muhammad Ali, Haji Khalil Raan, Mirza Arshad Qadri, Munawar Khurshid Siddiqui, M Saleem Darbari, Talha Ansari, Muhammad Naeem Khan, Zaeem Gilani, Agha Akmal Raza Qazilbash, Malik Niaz Muhammad Bhutta, Mehr Khurshid Sial, Chaudhry Muhammad Yasin, Abdul Rehman Gilani, Malik Iqbal Bhutta, Dilawar Hussain Qadri, Ashiq Hussain Qadri, Afzal Qadri, Rahat Qadri, Moin Qadri, Shahbaz Qadri, Safdar Qadri, Khwaja Muhammad Nasir, Malik Naseem Labar, AD Baloch, Major Moin Bukhari, Makhdoom Ghaus Anwar Gilani, Makhdoom Dr. Alam Gilani, Shafqat Raza, Haji Akhtar Hussain Bhutta, Malik Qadeer Khokhar, Salim-ur-Rehman Mayo, Zulfiqar Shah Hashmi, Raza Shah Gilani, Hamza Sial, Sajjad Sial, Asif Awan, Chaudhry Abdul Waheed Arain, Gul Khan, Sardar Tabish Durrani, Haji Saeed Ansari, Aamir Manzoor Ansari, Munirul

Islam, Wasim Qadir Hashmi,

Jafar Shah Professor Muham-

mad Asif, Mumtaz Shajra, Mian Razaq, Faheem Mumtaz, Sultan Mehmood Malik, Khalifa Muhammad Yasin, Haji Altaf Baloch, Khalifa Muhammad Bakhsh, Arshad Chatta, Farooq Bhutta, Maisam Bhutta, Sheikh Tahir Amjad, Mushtaq Raan, Shahid Bhatti, Masood Hash-

mi, Rana Faraz Ahmed Noon,

Khawaja Nizam Ahmed, Malik

Salim Labar, Malik Ashfaq Raan,

Abdul Rauf Lodhi, Malik Allah Nawaz Venus, Dr. Afzal, Sardar Thousands of people including Riaz Mahmood Mazari, Malik Mazhar Pahor, Malik Riaz Hussain Samtia, Rana Abdul Rehman, senior journalists Shaukat Ashfaq, Asad Mumtaz Sial, Mazhar Javed Sial, Sajjad Bukhari, Mumtaz Khan Niazi, Shakeel-ur-Rehman Hur, Jawdat Nadeem, Sarfaraz Awan,

Rana Irfan-ul-Islam participated. Qari Saeed Sarmad recited the recitation. Nazim-e-Ala Jamaat Ahle Sunnah Punjab Allama On this occasion, Asad Mumtaz Muhammad Farooq Khan Saeedi delivered the address. Allama Dr. Muhammad Siddique Khan the turbaning on behalf of the Qadri was a special participant. Sial community, while Malik Qari Ijaz Saeedi, Qari Mati-ur-Rasool, Qari Rehmat Hussain turbaning on behalf of the Bhutta recited the Khatm Sharif. Sajja-

Hassan Gilani offered prayers after the turbaning of Syed Aamir Gilani and Syed Imran Gilani. Sial, Mazhar Javed Sial and Malik Muhammad Asif also performed Niaz Bhutta also performed the





30º - 38º Clear

Namaz Timings

EMERGENCY
Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 8
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

Women Police

Statio	NS
Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

Rawalpindi	9270601-2
ENQU	
Edhi Ambulance	1

Eani Ambulance	
PIA Flight Info	114
PIA Cargo	9280979
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WASA Rawalpindi	5555489
CAA	9281092

HOSPITALS

CMH	5611111
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 Metropol	itan
Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224

PSAAdvancing Efforts Towards **Empowering** Women **Agricultural** Workers in Punjab

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Awaz Foundation Pakistan, organized a pivotal meeting of the Provincial Stakeholders Alliance (PSA) to promote an enabling environment for Women Agricultural Workers (WAWs) in Punjab. The event brought together a diverse range of key stakeholders from civil society government departments, and human rights organizations, marking another major step in the ongoing efforts to legally recognize and empower rural women working in agriculture.

The meeting was convened by Mr. Zia ur Rehman, CEO of Awaz Foundation Pakistan. Kev participants included MPA Sumbal Malik Hussain; Ms. Humera Aslam Provincial Advocacy Officer, Awaz Foundation Pakistan: Ms. Fatima Asad from the Bonded Labour Federation Ms. Ghulam Fatima from the Labour Qaumi Movement; Mr. Musharaf Ahmed from the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan: Ms. Rehana Afzal from the Punjab Social Protection Authority (PSPA): Ms. Hafiza Humera from the Child Protection Department; and Mr. Farooq Tariq, civil society activist.

Two-Day port security and harbour defence exercise conducted at Karachi harbour

KARACHI: Pakistan Navy conducted a two-day Port Security and Harbour Defence Exercise at Karachi harbour. The exercise aimed to enhance operational tactics, techniques, and procedures, and to strengthen inter-agency coordination among all relevant stakeholders.

Multiple scenarios were rehearsed to improve the readiness and integrated response capabilities of Pakistan Navy's Coastal Command, Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA), Karachi Port Trust (KPT), and other law enforcement agencies.

During the course of exercise, participating units rehearsed coordinated actions in a high-pressure isation of potential threats to crit- evolving situations.



structure. Special emphasis was placed on real-time communication, joint situational awareness, and the streamlining of command

exercise reaffirmed the determination, operational readiness, and capability of Pakistan Navy and other participating agencies environment, focusing on swift and control mechanisms to ensure to safeguard national assets and detection, deterrence, and neutral- a rapid and cohesive response in ensure secure, uninterrupted port operations under all conditions.



ISLAMABAD: A view of the plant distribution point of CDA at D-Chowk as Government is distribut-



A literary program held at Government Ghazali College, Latifabad

👺 Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: A dignified literary program was held at Government Ghazali College, Latifabad, Hyderabad, in connection with "Jashn-e-Latif" (Celebration of Latif). The program featured detailed discussions on the intellectual heritage and poetic greatness of Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai.

poet and writer Anwar Sagar Kandhro, in his lecture, said that Allama I. I. Qazi and H. T. Sorley judged Shah Latif on the three literary stand-

ards of truth, simplicity, and purity, and declared him the greatest poet in the world. Shah Latif's poetry is like a Through Shah Abdul Latif prayer for the well-being of Bhittai's poetry, the Sindhi nation and language gained his Sur "Sassi," the themes of fast determination are prom-

On this occasion, Professor Waheed Channa said that Shah Latif was a messenger poet of Sufism, who conveyed the message of humanity, love, and sincerity.

Professor Razia Khatoon, in her paper, stated that all humanity.

Dr. Aslam Brohi, speaking international recognition. In on Shah's Sur "Marvi," said that it is the highest example struggle, courage, and stead- of love for one's homeland and sacrifice, something rare in the

> Presiding over the program, the college principal, Professor Ghulam Farooq Jan, said that Shah Latif's poetry is a flagbearer of truth, righteousness, and peace. He described Shah



saying that just as the people of Iran love Hafiz, the Sindhi nation loves Shah Latif with deep devotion.

The program was attended by a large number of teachers, students, and literary figures, who paid rich tributes to the thoughts and art of Shah Latif.

Raksha Bandhan festival celebrated



ISLAMABAD: As the month of Saawan nears its end and the monsoon season starts to slow down, the Raksha Bandhan festival is celebrated, a beautiful tradition observed by both Hindus and Sehajdhari Sikhs, honouring the pure and selfless bond between a brother and sister.

In this spirit, a special ceremony was held at the historic and sacred Gurdwara Panja Sahib in Hasan Abdal. Mr. Isphanyar Bhandara attended the event on the kind invitation of Sardar Ravinder Singh Jaggi and Sardar Satnam Singh.

He listened to the soulful kirtan, took part in the ardaas, and spoke to visitors from across KPK and Punjab, inquiring about their experiences and the security arrangements.

Mr. Bhandara left the Gurdwara with a heart full of spirituality and appreciation for the atmosphere of unity and devotion.

Business Leader Zahid Iqbal Chaudhry Pays Tribute to Late Qazi Muhammad Akbar

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Former Vice President of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), Zahid Iqbal Chaudhry, Friday expressed deep sorrow over the demise of former vice president Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Qazi Muhammad Akbar.

In his condolence message he prayed for the elevation of the departed $\,$ soul and strength for the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss

Offering condolence to Qazi Muhammad Akbar's brother Dr Qazi Muhammad Ashraf, President Chakwal Chamber he said the late Akbar was a visionary personality whose leadership played a vital role in resolving the challenges faced by business and trade communities not only in Chakwal but across Pakistan.

He noted that Qazi Muhammad Akbar's foremost priority was to bring Chakwal at par with developed districts in terms of economic, commercial, and industrial progress. "His contributions to the upliftment of Chakwal's business sector will be remembered for years to come," he added.

Zahid Iqbal Chaudhry reiterated that the United Business Group (UBG) will continue to walk alongside the Chakwal Chamber of Commerce in line with the late leader's vision and will make every effort to fulfill his unaccomplished mission.

Qazi Muhammad Akbar was the founding figure of the Chakwal Chamber of Commerce and served as Vice President of FPCCI with great distinction, he concluded.

Delegation of victims of Bach Minor Moga Sultanpur Hamar met Salim-ur-Rehman Mayo

MULTAN: A Delegation of victims of Bach Minor Moga Sultanpur Hamar met with former Advisor Governor Punjab Salim-ur-Rehman Mayo. The delegation included Haji Muhammad



mad Ramzan, Muhammad Aslam, Muhammad Ajmal, Mansoor Hussain, Muhammad Pehlwan, Hafiz Zahid Iqbal. They apprised him of the problems of Bach Minor Moga Sultanpur Hamar and stressed the need to solve the water problem. Salim-ur-Rehman Mayo, while talking to the delegation, said that he has met with Chief Engineer of the Irrigation Department Rab Nawaz Bajwa to solve the problem. It is hoped that the problem will be solved soon so that the lands are irrigated and the crops are ready. He said that farmers should be provided with water to irrigate their crops in any case and they should not suffer due to the paved drains. He assured the delegation that the problem of non-availability of water will be resolved soon. Salim-ur-Rehman Mayo demanded from the Chief Engineer of the Irrigation Department and the higher authorities that for the last 10 years, farmers have been $\,$ deprived of water supply from Bach Minor Moga Sultanpur Hamar. If they are not provided with water, the farmers will be forced to protest.

Pakistan falls short of breastfeeding target, WHO warns

ISLAMABAD: As Breastfeeding Week 2025 comes to an end, the World Health Organization (WHO) alerted that only 48.4% per cent of infants under six months are exclusively breastfed in Pakistan - well below the World Health Assembly target of 60 per cent by 2030.

This shortfall results in losses of US\$2.8 billion annually due to the negative impact of low breastfeeding rates on public health, according to data from Nutrition International's Cost of Not Breastfeeding Tool.

In Pakistan, low breastfeeding rates also trigger over 33,700 deaths, 6.6 million child diarrhoea cases, and 2.7 million school years lost annu-Nutrition International. In addition, milk substitutes - which are less healthy for infants - exceeds US\$888

Under the international theme survival in the earliest stages of life.



ally, according to the same data from sustainable support systems", and following a recent global joint statethe country's expenditure on breast- ment by WHO and UNICEF, WHO reiterated that breastfeeding is one of the most effective ways to ensure a baby's health, development, and

protection against multiple diseases such as diarrhoea and pneumonia.

"Investing in informing and supporting all mothers to prioritize breastfeeding is investing in a healthier Pakistan. WHO will continue to fully support Pakistan and

its partners to promote breastfeeding, which is the safest and best way to protect a baby's health and, in addition, generates US\$35 in economic returns for every dollar invested," said WHO Representative in Pakistan Dr Dapeng Luo.

In partnership with the Government of Pakistan and partners, since January 2024, WHO has promoted breastfeeding by providing counselling to over 172,000 mothers in 157 nutrition stabilization centres (NSCs) across the country.

The Organization also supported initiatives such as the training of more than 700 workers - including doctors. nurses and LHVs - the conceptualization of the Sindh Protection and Promotion of Breast-Feeding and Young Child Nutrition Act (2023), the establishment of lactation management rooms in NSCs, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) guidelines and training packages, and trainings on the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI).

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UAE participates in commemoration of 78th anniversary of Pakistan's Independence

■ he United Arab Emirates participates in the commemoration of the 78th anniversary of Pakistan's Independence Day through a public event at the Dubai Exhibition Centre in Expo City Dubai, scheduled for August 10.

The event will be attended by Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence, alongside Faisal Niaz Tirmizi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the UAE, with the presence of diplomats, economic representatives, and notable social figures from the Pakistani community in the country.

This event, organised by "Emirates Loves Pakistan" — a platform dedicated to sharing inspiring content that highlights the success stories and contributions of the Pakistani community in the UAE, in collaboration with the Pakistan Association in Dubai, with support from Dubai Police, is intended to facilitate the participation of the Pakistani community in the UAE in marking their national Independence Day.

The occasion will feature activities reflecting the cultural heritage, arts, and folklore of Pakistan, as well as acknowledging the historical relations and diplomatic ties between the two nations. The program includes events to highlight Pakistan's traditions, the contributions of the Pakistani community to the UAE's sustainable development, and a recognition of their achievements.

The event, expected to draw approximately 60,000 attendees, will include a ceremony to acknowledge distinguished members of the Pakistani community in the UAE, accompanied by cultural performances, artistic exhibitions, musical presentations, and traditional folklore activities. These are designed to represent the diversity of Pakistani culture and cater to a broad audience.

The event will also include live performances by Pakistan's national superstar Sahir Ali Bagga, Sufi rock-star Natasha Baig, and renowned storyteller Yousuf Bashir Qureshi.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1971 under the leadership of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the UAE has maintained efforts to develop its relations with Pakistan across various sectors.

In January 2025, the UAE and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan issued a joint statement confirming their intent to enhance consultation and coordination, strengthening their strategic partnership in economic, commercial, and cultural domains, as well as joint projects.

In June 2025, a strategic partnership in governmental modernization was initiated between the UAE and Pakistan, reflecting a mutual commitment to collaboration, the exchange of successful governmental practices, expertise, and the development of institutional capacities to support modernization efforts.

The UAE is recognized as a significant investor in Pakistan. Over the past two decades, UAE investments—through public and private sectors—have exceeded \$10 billion, focusing on telecommunications, services, tourism, information technology, oil and gas, housing, banking, and real estate.

Independence Day — A Symbol of Gratitude, Awareness, and Sacrifice

Muhammad Asif

Day, the day on which Allah Almighty bestowed upon us a free, sovereign state of Pakistan. This day is not just a historical date but the fruit of sacrifice, struggle, prayer, and faith. We should not only celebrate but also show gratitude and awareness by understanding the reality of this day.

Every year on 14th August, Pakistanis across the nation celebrate Independence Day with immense passion and pride. Streets are lit up with green and white lights, flags flutter in the air, patriotic songs echo in homes and marketplaces, and rallies and parades fill the atmosphere. But the real question is:

Is Independence Day only about celebration? Or is it a moment to reflect on who we are, where we stand, and where we are heading as a nation?

The True Concept of Freedom; Freedom is not limited to the acquisition of a piece of land or a change in rulers. It means; The right to self-determination, Religious and cultural liberty, A system based on justice, equality, and dignity, And the freedom to live life in accordance with one's values and beliefs. Pakistan was not founded merely for political reasons, but as a visionary state where the Muslim identity, values, and way of life could flourish. The Pakistan Movement was about protecting a nation's soul not just its soil.

There's no harm in celebration. It's beautiful to see; Streets decorated with flags, Children singing patriotic songs,

celebrate Independence organizing events, parades, and compevalues, leadership skills, and love for the justice, education, and tolerance is incomsymbolism only—without action, responsibility, and reform—then the spirit of freedom becomes hollow.

The Sacrifices Behind This Day; This freedom came at an unimaginable cost, Millions of people migrated, leaving behind everything. Hundreds of thousands were martyred, raped, or lost their families. Mothers lost sons, children lost parents — only so

future generations could live with dignity and faith in a land of their own. Are we honoring these sacrifices?

Does today's Pakistan reflect the dream of Iqbal and the vision of Quaid-e-Azam?

The Harsh Reality Today; Despite being a free nation, we struggle with, Youth drowning in drugs, unemployment, and hopelessness, an education system divided by class, and health facilities inaccessible to the poor, Justice delayed or denied, and law applied unequally, Rising intolerance, corruption, and social division. In such a state, celebrating independence should not be just about festivities—it should be

a wake-up call, a time for self-evaluation. Our National Responsibilities; To give true meaning to Independence Day, we must: Educate our people, especially the underprivileged. Uphold the rule of law, treating everyone equally before the constitution. Fight corruption and injustice, not just on social media but in

titions. But if the celebration is limited to country. Revive national identity with unity, honesty, faith, and hard work.

Independence Day is not just a historical anniversary — it is a sacred responsibility.

We owe it to those who gave their lives for this land, to rise above petty differences and unite as a strong, enlightened, and ethical nation.

Let this day be not only about joy, but also about commitment - acommitment to build the Pakistan that was once dreamed of, not

just celebrate it once a vear. Finally, a message to the nation. Nations

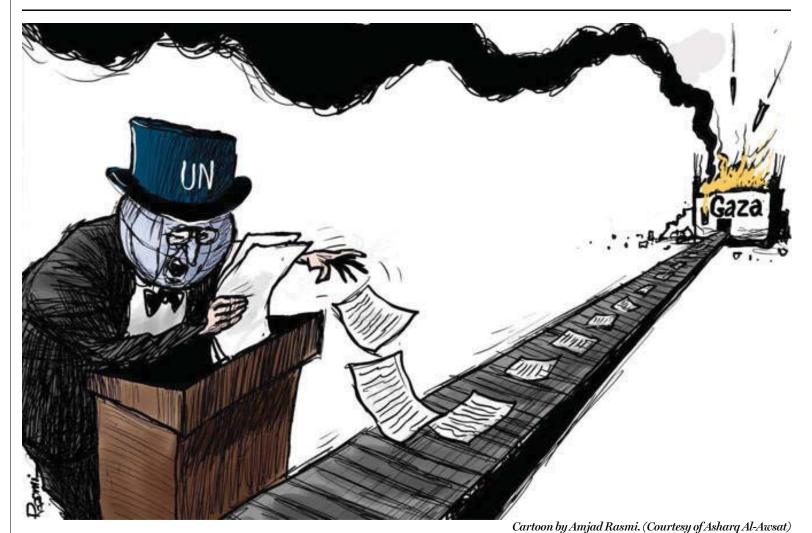
are not built by slogans and songs alone -They rise through character, sacrifice,

and vision. Freedom is not just about raising the flag; it's about upholding responsibility, sacrifice, and commitment to nation-building. Never forgetthis freedom wasn't gifted; it was earned with the blood and sacrifice of our forefathers. Protect it with pride. As you celebrate Independence Day, ask yourself: Are we truly free in our thoughts, systems, and society? The real celebration of freedom begins when we strive to become better citizens every day. August 14 is not just a date—it's the symbol of a dream realized through vision, struggle, and unity. Build your part of Pakistan with honesty and effort. That's the true spirit of Independence. Loving your country is not about slogans—it's about character, integ-

very year on August 14, we public buildings lit up, and institutions real life. Empower our youth with moral rity, and contribution. Freedom without plete. Let's complete our freedom with action. Blessed is those who breathe in free air—never forget the sacrifices that made it possible. This Independence Day, renew your promise—not just to celebrate freedom, but to defend and dignify it every

> Come, let us prostrate ourselves in gratitude before the true Lord and pray that: O Allah! Protect Pakistan from every evil plot and make it a cradle of peace, justice, and unity. Ya Allah! Shower Your mercy upon this beloved land and shield it from internal and external enemies. O Lord of the worlds! Bless Pakistan with progress, stability, honesty, and righteous leadership. O Merciful God! Grant Pakistan courageous and sincere leaders who lead with integrity and wisdom. Ya Rabb! Inspire the youth of Pakistan with knowledge, vision, and patriotism to build a bright future. O Allah! Protect our armed forces, our borders, and our institutions, and keep our nation safe from all harm. O Most Gracious! Cleanse Pakistan of corruption, injustice, division, and lawlessness. O Creator! Make Pakistan the land our martyrs dreamed of — where truth prevails, justice is delivered, and every soul lives with dignity. O Allah! Make Pakistan a center of knowledge, action, truth, and piety. O Allah! Protect our Pakistan, make it a land of peace, and grant us safety, faith, and excellence within it."

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'Life and Contributions of Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai'

Indian subcontinent, some luminous figures shine forth who not only spread the message of Sufi thought but also immortalized the ideals of humanity, love, and tolerance through their verses. Among was his transformation of the Sindhi language these radiant souls, the exalted name of Shah

often referred to as the soul, the heartbeat, and the voice of Sindh. More than a poet, he was a mystic visionary who, through his thought and art, initiated a profound intellectual and spiritual tradition that continues to illuminate the cultural and philosophical landscape of Sindh and the subcontinent to this day.

Khan Singhanvi Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai was born in the 17th century into a noble, religious, and scholarly family. He was born in 1689 in the village of Bhit, near Hala in into a living spiritual experience. Sindh's Hyderabad district hence the epithet "Bhittai." His father, Shah Habib, was a pious and learned man who gave special attention to his son's spiritual and intellectual upbringing. From a young age, Shah Latif displayed extraordinary sensitivity, curiosity, and intelligence. He was deeply drawn to the Qur'an, Hadith, Islamic jurisprudence, Persian literature, Arabic language, and the mysteries of Sufism.

His Sufi worldview was deeply rooted in Islamic teachings, yet he expressed these truths not through the rhetoric of clerics, but through the soft language of love and longing. His message reflects the doctrine of Wahdat al-Wujood (Unity of Being), which holds that the entire universe is a manifestation of one divine reality. He invites the seeker to discover

n the spiritual and literary history of the heart. In his vision, love is not merely a destination but the path itself, and the true seeker is the one who purifies the self in the fire of divine longing.

One of Shah Latif's greatest contributions and literature. He infused it with a new color, a Abdul Latif Bhittai stands preeminent. He is new expanse, and profound meaning. Not only

did he bring spiritual themes to the common people in simple, accessible language, but he also celebrated rural life, feminine emotions, and the subtle beauties of nature with remarkable grace. His poetry is rich with melody, emotional intensity, and lyrical flow. It is not just read, but sung even today in Sufi gatherings, shrines, and cultural festivals across Sindh,

accompanied by traditional instruments like the damburo and tanburo, turning his message

His life was the very embodiment of the values he preached. Shah Latif lived with simplicity, humility, and a deep sense of compassion. He rejected religious fanaticism, sectarian hatred, and class discrimination, raising a quiet but powerful voice of reform through his conduct. There was no bitterness or violence in his resistance only the fragrance of truth, patience, and unwavering love. His shrine at Bhit Shah remains a significant spiritual center, attracting countless devotees every year.

Shah Latif's portrayal of women in his poetry is especially remarkable. In an age when women were viewed through narrow societal lenses, he presented them as courageous, dignified, and resilient figures. The heroines of his legendary tales are not passive subjects but active seekers "True Love," which lies beyond the veils of the of truth symbols of steadfastness, self-respect, world and is reflected only in the mirror of the and moral integrity. This perspective not only

restores the rightful place of women in society but also reflects the highest spiritual virtues that anyone man or woman can strive for.

Shah Latif's message transcends time and geography. It speaks of universal human unity, interfaith harmony, and spiritual awakening. Speaking to his people, his land, and his era, he created an intellectual legacy that serves as a beacon for all times and all cultures. He stands among the great Sufi masters of the subcontinent who merged language, culture, and spirituality into a harmonious whole a message that still lights up human hearts today.

Modern scholars and intellectuals continue to explore and translate his works. His poetry has been rendered into English, Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi, Persian, and other languages. Yet the emotional depth, symbolic richness, and soulful resonance of his original Sindhi verses remain unmatched an enduring miracle of poetic art that continues to stir hearts with sincerity, truth, and spiritual warmth, centuries after it was first composed.

In conclusion, Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai was not merely a poet or mystic he was the embodiment of an entire spiritual philosophy. He was a voice that still echoes through the chaos of time, a lamp that continues to shine in every age of darkness. His teachings, his poetry, and his life offer us a lasting lesson: that love, humanity, tolerance, knowledge, and self-realization are the truest paths to divine truth.

Shah Latif chose not the path of wealth or fame, but the humble road of the faqir and through that path, he illuminated not just Sindh but all of humanity. He remains not only worthy of our reverence but of our emulation in spirit, in thought, and in life.

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Police Open Courts or Closed Doors? Public Access Claims and the Bitter Reality - I

public and authorities often feel unbridgeable. However, in Punjab, the government is there is always the risk that without transparency making serious efforts to close this gap. In this and fairness, such forums could be used for undue province, the public has always been placed at the heart of governance.

able Chief Minister of Punjab, Ms. Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the provincial administration is taking notable steps to make people's lives easier. Today, we shed light on the concept of police open courts.

In Punjab, "Police Open Courts" refers to the practical tradition of holding public hearings at police stations to

disputes, and provide immediate relief. These are tion and strict monitoring. not formal judicial proceedings but a platform for direct contact between the police and the public, designed to address minor disputes or issues on the spot. Without a doubt, open courts give people direct access to senior police officials and allow the police to make decisions on the spot. These public forums enable citizens to present their complaints directly at the police station, aiming for mediation, guidance, and informal resolution without the formal court process—especially for those unfamiliar with or unable to access formal legal procedures.

According to the Prosecutor General of Punjab, these sessions usually deal with issues such as property disputes, petty thefts, or family quarrels. However, these are not part of the formal judicial system and have no legal authority to issue binding

n many parts of the world, people face decisions. They are merely a supplementary mechdifficulties in accessing justice and adminanism to help police resolve public issues and build istrative services. The complex layers of trust within the community. Furthermore, by bureaucracy and the gap between the resolving minor matters at an early stage, they also help reduce the burden on formal courts. Yet, pressure or influence. Therefore, as the Prosecutor General stresses, there must be clear regula-Under the insightful leadership of the Honourtions and effective oversight to keep these sessions

within ethical and legal boundaries. The Sindh High Court also maintains that a balance must be struck between facilitating access and protecting citizens' legal rights.

Undoubtedly, police open courts are a people-friendly initiative aimed at improving policepublic relations and offering

Zain-ul-Abideen Abid accessible dispute resolution, listen to citizens' complaints and issues, resolve but their success requires careful implementa-

In this program, the Punjab Police—under the leadership of Inspector General Dr. Usman Anwar—plays a key role. The police are often the first institution people approach in times of trouble. By participating in open courts, the police can address public issues promptly and provide on-the-spot relief.

Since their introduction, open courts have brought several benefits to Punjab's citizens. First, they save time and effort in resolving issues. Instead of navigating multiple layers of bureaucracy, people can directly convey their concerns to the relevant officials. Second, transparency increases. When problems are discussed and solved in a public forum, the chances of corruption or misconduct diminish.

To be continued

Weekly Medai briefing

Pak-Iran ties strengthened after President Pezeshkian's state visit: FO

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Office Spokeson Friday said Pakistan and Iran have regional peace, and standing in solidarity with the Palestinian and Kashmiri people.

The foreign office spokesperson at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here.

Welcoming President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr. Masoud Pezeshkian's state visit to Pakistan on August 2-3, Ambassador Khan noted that the visit came at a pivotal time for the region. The Iranian President was accompanied by a high-level delegation, including Foreign Minister Seyyed Abbas Araghchi and senior ministers, he added.

dent Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister markets, he mentioned. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, and Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq

underscored the fraternal ties between the two nations grounded in shared religion, culture, and mutual respect. person, Ambassador, Shafqat Ali Khan He strongly condemned the "unprovoked Israeli aggression" against Iran reaffirmed their commitment to deep- and lauded the Iranian nation's unity ening bilateral relations, promoting and bravery during the recent 12-day war. He expressed hope that the visit would further cement bilateral ties, Ambassador Khan said.

President Pezeshkian, in turn, addressed the weekly press briefing thanked Pakistan for its consistent support during the war, praising its diplomatic advocacy for de-escalation and peaceful conflict resolution, he added.

In talks with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Ambassador Khan said both leaders emphasized solidarity and discussed expanding the bilateral trade volume from the current \$3 billion to \$10 billion. Key initiatives included enhancing barter trade, During the visit, he said President increasing export quotas for rice, fruits, Pezeshkian held meetings with Presi- and meat, and operationalizing border

The Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar also called on President Pezeshkian and separately met with his Iranian aid consignment to Gaza, 100 tons of



hold preliminary discussions on bilateral and regional issues, he said.

Ambassador Shafqat Ali Khan highlighted Pakistan's continued humanitarian assistance to the people of Gaza. On August 3, Senator Ishaq Dar oversaw the dispatch of Pakistan's 17th President Zardari, in his meeting, counterpart Seyyed Abbas Araghchi to food, powdered milk, and medical

A day later, Senator Dar officiated the send-off ceremony for the 18th humanitarian aid consignment, consisting of dry rations, meals, and medicines. This brings Pakistan's total humanitarian assistance to Gaza to 18 shipments totaling 1,815 tons, reaffirming Islamabad's steadfast support

for the Palestinian cause.

On that occasion, he said Senator Dar reiterated Pakistan's call for an immediate ceasefire, protection of civilians, and a political solution based on the pre-1967 borders in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions. Ambassador Khan categorically rejected what he called "baseless and unfounded allegations" regarding the involvement of Pakistani nationals in the Ukraine conflict. "No verifiable evidence has been presented, nor has Pakistan been formally approached by Ukrainian authorities," he said, adding that the matter would be taken up with Kyiv to seek clarification.

The spokesperson condemned in the strongest terms the storming of Al-Agsa Mosque by thousands of Israeli settlers, including senior officials and Knesset members. "These provocations, accompanied by offensive declarations, are deliberate attempts to inflame religious sentiments and destabilize the region," he warned, urging the UN and international community to act urgently to safeguard the sanctity of Al-Aqsa and uphold Palestinian rights.

Addressing the sixth anniversary of peoples worldwide.

India's unilateral and illegal actions of August 5, 2019, in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK), Ambassador Khan said Pakistan observed Yaum-e-Istehsal with solemn resolve. Special messages were issued by the President, Prime Minister, and Deputy Prime Minister, reiterating Pakistan's unwavering political, diplomatic, and moral support for the Kashmir cause, he added.

Senator Ishaq Dar, he said also wrote to the UN Secretary-General, President of the UN General Assembly, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and OIC Secretary-General to highlight the deteriorating human rights situation in IIOJK and press for implementation of UN Security Council resolutions.

A solidarity walk led by Senator Dar and joined by Foreign Office staff, civil society, and citizens was held in Islamabad to mark the occasion, he added.

Ambassador Shafqat Ali Khan concluded the briefing by reiterating Pakistan's unwavering stance on key foreign policy issues and its commitment to promoting regional peace, justice, and solidarity with oppressed



№ News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates has launched a global campaign urging the intering, while more than two million risk net's decision to fully occupy and impose control over the Gaza Strip. The Minis- forms. try warns that these decisions endan-

exposing them to mass killing, starvamillion people face immediate uproot-

ger the survival of Palestinian civilians, sions a stark revelation of the true nature of the occupation's war on Gaza's resition, and forced displacement. Over one dents and Palestinian civilians, a war waged without justification.

The continued failure of the UN Secunational community to confront the being confined to less than 10% of the rity Council to enforce an immediate grave consequences of the Israeli cabi- Strip's area, a clear step toward their ceasefire, secure the release of hostages eventual forced expulsion in various and detainees, protect civilians, and stop the use of starvation as a weapon has ment to pursue its plans of genocide, The Ministry considers these deci- provided cover for the occupying govern- forced displacement, and annexation. tional intervention to halt the war and Declaration.

Calls for the Immediate Implementation of the New York Declaration: Palestine



The Ministry calls for urgent interna- immediately implement the New York

Post-Graduation Dilemma: Career Switch, Life Glitch

Sadaf Dilawar

"پڑھوگے لکھوگے ،بنوگے نواب" e all grew up believing this golden promise. Parents proudly repeated, "Just get your degree, and life will be set." So we burned the midnight oil, studied hard, chased top grades, and believed graduation was a golden ticket

But today? That golden ticket feels more like a worn-out local bus ticket, full of bumps, endless stops, and absolutely no guarantee of reaching the destination. Every job ad starts with the same hilarious paradox: "Fresh graduates can apply... experience preferred." It's like asking a new-born to run a marathon the day

Just last week, at a university convocation where everyone was proudly wearing gowns and holding degree folders, I overheard two fresh graduates chatting in the cafeteria, a conversa-

tion that summed up the entire dilemma. One sighed, "I finally got this degree, but where do I find a job? My father keeps saying, 'We educated you enough, now it's your time to earn,' but every ad screams experience and additional skills!" His friend laughed and replied, "Forget it, man! The degree is only good for showing relatives or updating your CV. Let's try freelancing instead. I've heard people make decent money sitting at home by creating gigs online or even funny reels." That tiny conversation felt like the voice of an entire generation, ambitious but distracted.

Look around, and the reality is even funnier, or sadder. A private school teacher, after years of studying, struggles to earn only 30-40k a month, while a TikToker dancing to trending songs or a YouTuber unboxing snacks or makeup products can earn triple. Someone becomes an overnight sensation just by eating 20 burgers on camera or making silly public

So, many switch careers by compulsion, not by choice. One of my friends, an engineering



graduate, now runs a TikTok page teaching math tricks and earns more than senior engineers. A Chemistry gold-medalist sells customised cakes on Instagram. A literature major is taking online crash courses in graphic designing or digital marketing just to survive smartly. Doesn't it seem like a life glitch? It sounds funny,

but that's how unpredictable our career paths have become.

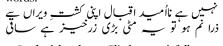
I have personally seen many fresh graduates frustrated, some hopeless, and sadly, a few giving up entirely. Bright, talented students spend years preparing for exams like PPSC or FPSC, only to end up sitting at home because competition is insanely high and quotas are painfully low. Adding to this frustration is a valid question many young people are asking: "Why spend four years earning a piece of paper when a cooking show or a trending reel can pay more?"

But giving up is not the answer. The world has changed, and we need to change with it. A plain degree is no longer enough to become a 'Nawab'. It must be paired with relevant skills, especially when these skills are easily accessible online. A graduate who upgrades their skills today stands a far better chance in the job market than someone relying solely on a dusty transcript.

Universities, too, need to step up. Our education system is still producing theory-rich but

skill-poor graduates. Although HEC has recently revised curricula for some fields and introduced new undergraduate education policies, employability still doesn't play a significant role in how universities are ranked. The government should also create more vacancies to address the rising unemployment crisis among fresh graduates.

To sum up this dilemma, let's recall Iqbal's



So, don't lose hope. Glitches aren't full stops, they're just commas in your journey. Learn, unlearn, and relearn smart skills, and adapt. Sometimes, a bumpy road leads to the best destinations. And maybe, just maybe, these life glitches are the real golden ticket we were promised all along.

The writer is analyst and she can be reached

The Light of Devotion - Life and Legacy of Syedna Hazrat Chadar Wali Sarkar (RA)

Rana Muhammad Owais

he Urs Mubarak (annual commemoration) of Muhammad Shah, Syedna Chadar Wali Sarkar (RA), begins today in Hasan Parwana Colony, Multan. A saint whose very name reflected his essence — "Wali of Muhammad" (PBUH) he was a friend of Allah and a guide be envied by the world. who embodied humility, compassion, and selflessness.

and His Messenger but also a shelter of hope for his followers, protecting them like a mother hen shielding her chicks. He did not seek offerings; own guide, Hazrat Jamaat Ali Shah Muhaddis Alipuri (RA), dedicating his

with generosity and love.

Born in 1928 in Do Seen, Karnal Hazrat Pir Syed Wali district (India), his spiritual destiny was foretold before birth. Hazrat Syed Ghulam Hussain Shah Sahib (RA), upon seeing his pregnant mother, stood in honor of the unborn child, declaring that he would be an unparalleled saint whose spiritual glory would

From an early age, he showed deep devotion to Qur'anic recitation, A true Wali is not only close to Allah mastering the melodious Panipat style under Hafiz Qari Noor Muhammad. for his disciples, sharing their grief and His voice, filled with divine attraction, striving to bring them comfort. Syedna moved listeners to spiritual ecstasy — a Chadar Wali Sarkar (RA) was a beacon rare gift granted by Allah to His chosen servants.

Syedna Chadar Wali Sarkar (RA) treated all equally, regardless of status, instead, he followed the example of his and made every visitor feel special. His gatherings left people with a renewed sense of peace and joy. A unique days to blessing and uplifting people custom of his khanqah was to give

box of sweets along with prayers.

His disdain for material gain was well-known. When Rustam Nawab Ali Khan, father of Shaheed-e-Millat Liaqat Ali Khan, offered him an estate of 52 villages, he refused, saying: "We faqirs already have

mat." At his residence, a sign requested no one to stand upon his arrival, reflecting his dislike for ostentation.

His advice to disciples was simple yet profound: "Baba ji — don't be greedy, don't refuse, and don't hoard." He gave time to each visitor, inquiring about their lives and praying sincerely for their needs. It was said that whenever he prayed, Allah granted relief

Pakistan — even General Zia-ul-Haq, Field Marshal Ayub

Khan, and international leaders sought his counsel. During the 1965 war, he sent letters of

gratitude to Indonesian President Sukarno and King Hussein of Jordan, along with a Qur'anic verse for

our treasure — our rosary and prayer protection from sudden death. Both rulers followed the practice until their natural passing years later.

His reverence for Imam Hussain (AS) was deep. In 1969, when construction began on his veranda and the crescent of Muharram appeared, he stopped the work immediately, saying it was inappropriate during the month of mourning. He secretly arranged alternative work for the laborers

experienced a blessed vision of the Prophet , who expressed pleasure at his act of respect for the grandson of the Prophet .

Hospitality was his hallmark. He would feed guests regardless of meal time and instructed that after his passing, a pot of water and sack of dried lentils be kept by his grave so no visitor would go hungry — a tradition still honored.

He laid the foundation for many mosques, including Jamia Masjid Anwar-ul-Qur'an, Jamia Masjid Siddiq-e-Akbar, Jamia Masjid Wali Muhammad, and others.

His teachings stressed humility and remembrance of Allah: "A Pir is still human. Don't make him into a god. Life is a cage for a dervish; death is freedom. The greatest wazifa is to remember Allah with every breath."

After his passing, his son Pir Syed

devotees visiting from other cities a swiftly. His guidance reached beyond to prevent hardship. That night, he Zain-ul-Abideen Shah Sahib (RA) continued the mission, spreading Islam worldwide. Today, his grandson, Pir Syed Ali Hussain Shah Sahib, carries the mantle with the same piety, simplicity, and care for devotees. Under his guidance, Kothi Maki Madani remains a place of peace, and the Sufi order thrives.

The Urs Mubarak is observed annually on 12th Safar al-Muzaffar in Multan and globally. The event features soulful Qawwali and Naats after Isha prayers, culminating in collective supplication led by Pir Syed Ali Hussain Shah Sahib, who prays for Pakistan's safety and prosperity. Committees ensure all arrangements for visiting devotees are carried out with comfort and respect.

May Allah Almighty keep the blessings of Hazrat Pir Syed Wali Muhammad Shah Sahib (RA) alive until the Day of Judgment. Ameen.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

IIIUEX FIUCTUATIO		
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
145,382.79	145,647.13	
Day's High	Day's Low	
146,813.43	144,917.18	
Index Value	Change	
37,153,652,217	-264.34	
Percentage	Time	
-0.18%	8 Aug, 2025 4:30 pm	
Europe: FTS	E 100 Index	
Index Value	Change	
9,095.73	-5.04	
Percentage	Time	

Percentage -0.055%	8 Aug, 4:35 pm
USA: Dow Jones I	GMT+1 Industrial Average
Index Value	Change

Index Value	Change	
44,138.49	+169.85	
Percentage	Time	
+0.39%	8 Aug, 1:03 pm GMT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		

ISIA PACITIC: NIKKEI STOCKS AVERAGE		
Index Value	Change	
41,820.48	+761.33	
Percentage	Time	
+1.85%	8 Aug, 3:45 pm GMT+9	

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	184	189
Bahrain Dinar	751.75	754.25
Canadian Dollar	205	210
China Yuan	39.05	39.45
Danish Krone	43.58	43.98
Euro	330.20	332.20
Hong Kong Dollar	35.76	36.11
Indian Rupee	3.13	3.22
Japanese Yen	1.9000	2.0000
Kuwaiti Dinar	918.35	926.35
Malaysian Ringgit	66.45	67.05
NewZealand \$	165.22	167.22
Norwegians Krone	27.32	27.62
Omani Riyal	736.30	738.80
Qatari Riyal	77.18	77.88
Saudi Riyal	75.55	75.85
Singapore Dollar	219	224
Swedish Korona	29.04	29.34
Swiss Franc	348.4	351.15
Thai Bhat	8.62	8.77
U.A.E Dirham	77.3	77.55
UK Pound Sterling	380.55	382.75
US Dollar	283.9	284.9

"Governor KPK Meets Commerce Minister to Discuss Trade and Investment"

ISLAMABAD: Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, visited the residence of Federal Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan to pay a courtesy call.

During the meeting, both leaders discussed matters of mutual interest, with a focus on enhancing trade, investment, and economic opportunities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, said a press release issued

Special emphasis was laid on the role of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), Pakistan Horticulture Development & Export Company (PHDEC), the gems and jewellery sector, and the tobacco industry in driving export

They also exchanged views on strengthening the province's role in boosting Pakistan's overall exports.

The minister instructed TDAP officials to visit the Governor and share the strategy and ongoing efforts regarding the Expo Center being constructed in

Business leaders applaud COAS Field Marshal Asim Munir for resolving key economic issues

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Zain Iftikhar Chaudhry, Vice President and Regional Chairman of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI); S. M. Tanveer, Patronin-Chief of the United Business Group (UBG); Zaki Aijaz, Vice President FPCCI; Mian Abu Zar Shad, President of the Lahore Chamber; along with other prominent business leaders, addressed a press conference to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Field Marshal Sved Asim Munir.

They commended Field Marshal Munir for his unwavering support in resolving long-standing issues faced by the business community. "His timely intervention has been a tremendous service to the business sector," they noted.

The FPCCI speakers saluted Field Marshal Munir for his vision of transforming Paki-



him in realizing this national ambition. They private sector.

stan into an Asian Tiger, reaffirming that acknowledged that his efforts have ushered for retroactively imposing levies on gas bills the business community stands united with in a new era of optimism and progress for the from the past five years, labeling the move

They expressed serious concern over the now-amended Section 37A, which previously authorized Grade-16 officers to arrest businessmen — a move deemed unacceptable and detrimental to business confidence. "Intimidation will only drive investment and enterprise away," they warned.

"We are committed to contributing to the national exchequer and do not support tax evasion in any form. However, when the rights of the business community are at stake, we will stand together, united and firm," they declared.

They congratulated the business community nationwide on the successful amendments to Section 37A, calling it a significant step toward restoring trust and rebuilding the country's economy.

Lastly, they strongly criticized SNGPL unjust and demanding its immediate reversal.

Meeting with GSMA delegation

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, held a productive meeting with a high-level delegation from the GSMA, including Mr. Julian Gorman, Head of Asia Pacific (APAC) GSMA, Ms. Jeanette Whyte, Head of Public Policy (APAC) GSMA, and Ms. Saira Faisal, Country Lead for Pakistan GSMA on Friday.



Photo: PID

CMPak's Network Stands Firm Against Harsh Weather

E Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: CMPak, one of Pakistan's leading telecommunications providers, has successfully maintained uninterrupted nationwide network operations amid a series of extreme weather events, including heatwaves, windstorms, hailstorms, and heavy rainfall. This remarkable performance underscores CMPak's commitment to resilient connectivity and is powered by its Huawei, leveraging cuttingedge microwave backhaul technology.

In recent weeks, cities such as Lahore, Islamabad, and Bahawalpur have experienced CMPak's microwave transby Huawei's Intelligent Beam landscape."

Tracking (IBT) antenna technology-achieved a reliability rate of 99.995%, preventing potential regional communication breakdowns.

Huawei's IBT antenna system dynamically tracks and adjusts microwave beams in real time, compensating for tower swaying and structural warping caused by extreme weather. Unlike conventional microwave links that suffer from signal interruptions due to antenna misalignment, the IBT solution ensures strategic collaboration with high-performance connectivity even under the most challenging environmental conditions.

"Every emergency call and location message during a crisis can save lives," said a intensified urban heat island CMPak spokesperson. "Our (UHI) effects, triggering joint innovation pilot with violent windstorms that led Huawei has proven that to building collapses, tree advanced microwave techfalls. and flight disruptions. nologies are not only viable Despite these conditions, but essential for maintaining lifeline communications in mission links-supported Pakistan's evolving climate

Coca-Cola Launches Its Latest Global Campaign

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Coca-Cola has launched 'Coca-Cola Utha, Zone Mein Aa' campaign, aimed at inspiring youth to live fully in the moment and truly enjoy it. In a world saturated with digital noise and constant distractions—particularly for Gen Z, the brand is a symbol for enjoying the moment and authentic human connections. As part of the campaign, immersive Coke Zones have been established along major routes to Pakistan's popular northern getaways. These refreshing lounges offer travelers a much-needed sanctuary to pause, unplug, and recharge.

Here, amidst the iconic sounds of Coke Studio and interactive games—all paired with a perfectly chilled drink-visitors can cut through everyday noise and rediscover joy in the moment.

Under the 'Coca-Cola Utha, Zone Mein Aa' campaign, these Zones also spotlight the company's dedication to sustainability. Waste segregation bins and information desks have also been set up that actively promote environmental awareness amongst the visitors at the zones.



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Mr. Sami Wahid, General Manager, Pakistan and Afghanistan Region of The Coca-Cola Company, said. "As friends and families across Pakistan plan their summer getaways, 'Coca-Cola Utha, Zone Mein Aa' is an invitation to actively participate, rediscover the value of being fully present, and create lasting memories, he said. We are grateful to our partners, including the Environment Protection Department, Punjab's

Environmental Protection Agency, and the CoRe Alliance, for helping us ensure visitors to Coke Zones carry the message of keeping the environment clean. This has made this campaign much more mean-

Coca-Cola has been operating in Pakistan since 1953 and supporting music, sports and refreshing beverages of choice

Ecommerce sector urges Govt for tax reduction and level playing field: PEA

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan eCommerce Association (PEA) has urged the government to reduce the tax burden on the local e-commerce sector and digital payments to provide a level playing field for online sellers and domestic shopping platforms as compared with foreign marketplaces.

The imposition of additional government taxes is negatively impacting the overall e-commerce ecosystem, including logistics companies, allied sectors, and overall business activities as a whole, said Omer Mubeen, Chairman – Pakistan eCommerce Association

"The tax disparity is not only limiting the growth of local businesses but is also forcing hundreds of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and women entrepreneurs to shut down," he added.

The association has called on the government to provide tax relief to the e-commerce sector, pointing out that major local companies are already paying substantial amounts in income and sales taxes. "The increase in taxes will not only reduce the competitiveness of local players but will also hurt the sales of domestic e-commerce companies,"

Cybersecurity Incident – PPL's Response and Current Status

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL) recently identified a cybersecurity incident involving a ransomware intrusion targeting parts of its IT infrastructure. The event was detected on August 6, 2025, and our internal cybersecurity protocols were immediately acti-

Our IT and cybersecurity teams, in collaboration with external experts, took prompt and effective containment measures, including the temporary suspension of select non-critical IT services as a precau-

tion to limit potential impact and ensure the integrity of our systems. PPL operates a multi-layered

cybersecurity framework, and thanks to these systems, the threat was rapidly isolated. At this point, there is no indication of compromise to business-critical or sensitive data. Core operational systems remain unaffected, and our Joint Venture (JV) partners and external stakeholders continue to operate without disrup-

We can confirm that a ransomware note was received from an external actor identifying themselves as "Blue Locker." In accordance with best practices and legal guidelines, the matter has been reported to relevant law enforcement and regulatory authorities. Investigations are ongoing in coordination with these

We remain committed to full transparency and are conducting a comprehensive forensic analysis to assess the scope and reinforce our cyber resilience. Our teams are working diligently to restore full system functionality in a secure and phased manner.

PPL places the highest priority on the trust of its stakeholders through safeguarding its digital infrastructure timely action and proactive cyber risk and remains focused on maintaining management.



'Yango Group Makes First Investment in Pakistan, Backing **Logistics Fintech Trukkr**

Commerce Desk

KARACHI / DUBAI: Yango Group, a UAE based tech company, has made its first investment in Pakistan through Yango Ventures acquiring a stake in Trukkr, a fintech platform digitizing financial services for the logistics sector. The investment will help Trukkr expand its operations, strengthen its credit-scoring tools, and improve access to financial services for thousands of trucking businesses across Pakistan.

In addition to capital, Yango will support Trukkr with product expertise and insights from over 30 global markets — helping the

company scale faster and build stronger foundations for growth. The deal marks the company's entry into the Pakistani startup ecosystem and reflects Yango's commitment to supporting long-term digital growth across its markets.

Yango Ventures is a \$20 million corporate venture fund of Yango Group aimed at supporting promising startups in MENAP. Sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America. Through Yango Ventures, the company provides early-stage companies not only with capital, but also with global expertise in ride-hailing, e-commerce, fintech, and AI — helping them scale effectively and sustainably.

CM Punjab directs all stakeholders to ensure excellent cleanliness arrangements on 'Jashn-e-Azadi' across Punjab

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif has directed to make excellent cleanliness arrangements across the province on Independence Day. She has directed all the departments to provide best facilities to the people during Independence Day celebrations. She has also directed to ensure best security and traffic arrangements at public places in view of the arrival of families to celebrate Independence Day.

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has directed the district administration across Punjab to fully support civic organizations on the eve of Independence colours of Independence Day spread like a rainbow in cities and villages across



Day celebrations. She highlighted, "The Punjab." People in cities and villages are and trucks were also beautifully decocontinuing to hoist flags on their houses. rated. Government and private buildings, Vehicles, motorcycles, rickshaws, trolleys

parks, squares, intersections, markets pendence Day.

and highways are also being decorated with flags and banners."

The beauty of areas and buildings was enhanced by installing electric lights and lamps. The beautiful scenes of decoration and embellishment in Lahore, Rawalpindi, Murree, Kotli Sattian, Jhang, Layyah, Sialkot, Muridke, Sheikhupura, Gujranwala, Jhelum, Chakwal and Attock also provided an opportunity of entertainment and rejoice to the citizens. Bazaars, streets, roads and intersections were also decorated in Faisalabad, Khanewal, Bahawalpur, Multan, Bhakkar, Mandi Bahauddin and Sargodha. National monuments were also illuminated. As evening falls, citizens come out on the streets to see the lamps and festivities to celebrate Inde-

Modern sports infrastructure is being constructed across the Punjab province: Muzaffar Khan Sial

15 Tahir Amin Malik.

LAHORE: Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial has presided over an important meeting regarding development schemes at Punjab Stadium on Friday.

The meeting was attended by Director General Sports Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry, Additional Secretary Mian Usman Ali, Acting Project Director PMU M Farhan and Deputy Director Tariq Khanzada.

Several important decisions were made regarding new sports schemes at the meeting. Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial officers directed to resolve the NOC and other issues soon.

Addressing the meeting, Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial said that modern sports infrastructure is being constructed around Punjab Stadium Khan". constructed across the Puniab prov-

"Shops and markets will be Complex will be constructed in DG that an open volleyball court and a and Punjab Stadium will be upgraded".



Lahore and other stadiums of the province. Besides this, a Tehsil Sports Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial said hostel at Nishtar Park Sports Complex

ary Sports and Youth Affairs

modern Archery Sports Arena will be constructed in I

UAJK extends admission deadline; revised entry test schedule announced

👺 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (UAJK) has extended the deadline for submission of applications for Fall 2025 admissions and issued a revised schedule for entry tests and merit lists.

According to an official circular issued by the Registrar's Office, the last date for submitting applications is now Thursday, September 4, 2025.

As per the updated plan, the entry test will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2025. The test for BS Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, and Cyber Security will be conducted at the City Campus from 9:00 AM to 11:00

The entry test for Allied Health



Sciences and Nursing will take place at the same venue from 12:00 noon to 2:00 PM. The test for the BBA program is scheduled to be held at Chella Campus from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

The merit lists for admissions will be displayed in three phases. The first merit list will be issued on September 16, 2025, followed by the second on September 22. If required, a third merit list will be published on September 25.

The university spokesperson urged all interested candidates to complete their applications within the given timeline and prepare accordingly for the entry test. Students have been advised to regularly check the official university website, www.ajku. edu.pk, for updates and further information.

Schools Must Reopen Before August 14, Demands Education Association

RAWALPINDI: All Pakistan Private Schools and Colleges Association Central President Dr. Malik Abrar Hussain has completely rejected the Punjab government's extension of summer vacations until September 1 as an illogical, anti-education and unjustified decision and demanded that this hidden conspiracy to keep children away from school be exposed. Schools must be opened before August 14, otherwise the already devastated education system in the country will suffer further backwardness.

In his statement issued here yesterday, Dr. Malik Abrar Hussain said that the decision



of the Punjab government to tunity to participate in the Indeextend the summer vacation is a very disappointing, wrong and anti-educational decision. The Punjab government should immediately review this decision and withdraw the decision to extend the summer vacation immediately, because it is causing educational losses to students, especially matriculation classes, which will be badly affected.

Private educational institutions in Islamabad have opened as usual since August 4, while schools in other provinces of Pakistan have also started educational activities as usual. The government should have opened schools before August 14 and given children the opporpendence Day celebrations, but the unnecessary extension of the holidays has affected the educational process.

The government should immediately reconsider the decision and allow educational institutions to open so that timely completion of the curriculum and preparation for exams can be possible. He said that Pakistan's education system is already facing serious problems due to the government's poor strategy and unjustified and illogical decisions. In such a situation, to save it from further destruction, the practice of holding daily holidays in schools should be stopped immediately.

Attock District Commissioner assures full protection for Chehlum Procession

👺 Raza Nagvi

ATTOCK: In connection with the Chehlum of the grandson of the Holy Prophet and the martyr of Karbala, Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS), and the Ahl al-Bayt, a meeting was held regarding the central procession to be taken out from Imambargah Panjtani, Attock City. Office bearers of Imambargah Panjtani, Attock City, and Imambargah Hussainia, Kamalpur Syedan, Attock Cantonment, met with the Assistant Commissioner of Tehsil Attock, Anza Abbasi, in her office.

The meeting was attended by the President of Imambargah Panjtani and Anjuman Janisaran Hussain, Syed Raza Haider Naqvi, General Secretary Syed Athar Hasnain Zaidi, Executive Body Member Qamar Abbas Jafari, General Secretary of Imambargah Kamalpur Syedan, Syed Mustajab Hussain Naqvi, SDPO Saddar Circle Attock DSP Malik Iftikhar, and SHO Model Police Station Attock City Sub-Inspector Malik Mujahid Abbas.

During the meeting, Assistant Commissioner Anza Abbasi spoke with the office bearers about any possible difficulties regarding the Chehlum procession or other national matters. She assured them that the Attock district administration would provide full protection and resolve all issues that fall within the ambit of the law. She expressed her hope that, just like the peaceful and harmonious environment during the month of Muharram, the Chehlum procession would also be held in the same manner with full cooperation from all sides.

The office bearers gave their assurance of complete adherence to the law and pledged full cooperation with the district administration. At the conclusion of the meeting, the office bearers of the Imambargahs thanked Assistant Commissioner Anza

Punjab Inter-Division Women Hockey from August 11



Sports Desk

LAHORE: Punjab Women Hockey Association President Abida Tanveer has said that Punjab Inter-Division Women Hockey Tournament will start from August 11 at the National Hockey Stadium, in which teams from all the divisions are participating. The final of the 7-day tournament will be played on August 17. Abida Tanveer shared this information while addressing a press conference at the National Hockey Stadium on Friday.

Secretary Punjab Women Hockey Association Rahat Khan, Director Tournament Chand Perveen and match official M Pervez were also present on this occasion.

Abida Tanveer said that more than 200 players and officials are participating in this tournament. The best performing players will be included in the Punjab women hockey team for upcoming First National Youth Games. She said that the winning team will be given a cash prize of Rs three lakh, runners up team will pocket Rs two lakh while the 3rd position holder team will be awarded a cash prize of Rs one lakh.

Independence Day and "Battle for Truth" Celebrations Begin in Attock

跨 Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: On the directives of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, celebrations marking Pakistan's Independence Day and the "Battle for Truth" commenced in Attock under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Rao Atif Raza. A special ceremony in connection with the events was held at the Municipal Committee Hall, Attock.

The ceremony was graced by Additional Deputy Commissioner General (ADCG) and Administrator Municipal Committee Attock, Anil Saeed, as the chief guest. It was also attended by Assistant Commissioner Anza Abbasi, Chief Officer Municipal Committee Attock Sardar Aftab Ahmed Khan, Municipal Officer Raza Elahi, and other relevant offi-

Addressing the gathering, the ADCG said that, in line with the Punjab government's directives, this year's Independence Day celebrations are being held under the theme of the "Battle for Truth" and "Operational Bunyan Al-Marsus," which will continue until August 14. He added that special events are being organized across the district, with participation from government, semi-government, and private institutions.

Global-level preparations to host Badminton Cup begin in Sharjah

Other speakers also addressed the ceremony.

SHARJAH: With the support of H. H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Salem bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Deputy Ruler of Sharjah and Deputy Chairman of the Sharjah Executive Council, preparations are underway for the first-ever Badminton

This event is set to take place in Khorfakkan, Sharjah, from 11th to 14th December 2025. The organising committee recently held its first meeting at the Sharjah Sports Council to discuss various topics related to the tournament.

The Badminton World Federation has announced that Sharjah will host the first-ever outdoor badminton championship, organised by the UAE Badminton Federation in collaboration with the Sharjah Sports Council.

The meeting was led by Abdulmalik Mohammed Jani, Chairman of the Organising Committee, in the presence of Noura Hassan Al Jasmi, the committee's Vice Chairman, and several other committee chairs who are responsible for various aspects of organising the tournament.

During the meeting, the team reviewed how to organise the event and divide responsibilities. They discussed the importance of developing local talent and proposed running training workshops for new referees. They also plan to hold promotional events leading up to the tournament to generate excitement and awareness.

Khorfakkan Beach has been selected as the venue for the championship, and a press conference will take place after the European and Asian Championships.

The Spokesman

Assistance

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Attaullah Tarar, attended the send-off ceremony as Chief Guest at Islamabad International Airport, joined by senior officials from the Government of Pakistan, NDMA, and the Embassy of Palestine in Islamabad on Friday.



Pakistan condemns Israeli plan for military takeover of Gaza

E City Desk

In a statement on Friday, Prime Minister said this tantamount to a dangerous escalation in an already catastrophic war against the people of Palestine. The Prime Minister said this ations will only worsen the prospect for peace in the

el's prolonged, illegal occu- and OIC resolutions. pation of Palestinian terrielusive as long as this illegal occupation endures.

people, including the right to the people of Gaza. already existing humani- to self-determination and pendent and sovereign State

this ongoing tragedy is Isra- line with the relevant UN This not only represents international efforts aimed

He urged the international tory, thus peace will remain community to intervene urgently to bring an immediate halt to Israel's unwar-Shehbaz Sharif reiter- ranted aggression, ensure ated Pakistan's unwavering the protection of innocent support for the legitimate civilians, and direly needed expansion of military oper- rights of the Palestinian delivery of humanitarian aid

Pakistan's Foreign Office grave humanitarian situtarian crisis and derail any establishment of an inde- condemns in the strongest ation and suffering of the possible terms the reported of Palestine, with Al-Quds Israeli plan for a complete Palestinian Territory, in accountable for its heinous He said the root cause of Al-Sharif as its capital, in military takeover of Gaza. addition to undermining crimes.

yet another flagrant viola- at achieving peace and tion of international law stability in the region. and relevant UN Security FO said Pakistan reiter-Council resolutions, but ates its call on the internaalso the occupying power's intention to further expand its ongoing genocidal military campaign. This highly

escalatory action will further

aggravate the prevailing

civilians in the Occupied

tional community to ensure an immediate end to Israeli impunity and its genocidal military campaign; take concrete measures for the provision of unimpeded humanitarian supplies to millions of Palestinians in dire need; and hold Israel

Australian HC Neil Hawkins calls on CM Maryam in Lahore

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Australian High Commissioner Neil Hawkins met with Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif in Lahore on Friday and discussed a range of issues

In the farewell meeting of Australian High Commissioner, Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz paid tribute to High Commissioner Neil Hawkins on the end of his distinguished service in Pakistan.

Expanding trade in textiles, food processing, minerals and IT services was also discussed in the meeting.

On the occasion, Maryam Nawaz said Pakistan-Australia bilateral relations and bilateral relations are of particular importance.

Investment, technology



transfer and long-term part- nership are being promoted under SIFC, Maryam Nawaz Sharif said.

Pakistan and Australia are pursuing a policy of cooperation to address the common global challenge of climate change, Maryam Nawaz Sharif said.

It is necessary to increase parliamentary ties and economic cooperation between Pakistan and Australia, Maryam Nawaz

She said we considers the protection of the lives and property of minorities in her province and country as an important duty.

Maryam Nawaz Sharif said Pakistan is a land rich in mineral resources and we want to ensure their better

Australian High Commissioner Neil Hawkins said Australia and Pakistan are trusted friends and important economic partners.

UN Security Council's failure emboldens Israeli occupation's genocidal plans

№ News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates has launched a global campaign urging the international community to confront the grave consequences of the Israeli cabinet's decision to fully occupy and impose control over the Gaza Strip. The Ministry warns that these decisions endanger the survival of Palestinian civilians, exposing them to mass killing, starvation, and forced displacement. Over one million people face immediate uprooting, while more than two million risk being confined to less than 10% of the Strip's area, a clear step toward their eventual forced expulsion in various forms.

The Ministry considers these decisions a stark revelation of the true nature of the occupation's war on Gaza's residents and Palestinian civilians, a war waged without justification. The continued failure of the UN ians, and stop the use of starvation as and annexation.



Security Council to enforce an immea weapon has provided cover for the diate ceasefire, secure the release of occupying government to pursue its hostages and detainees, protect civil-

plans of genocide, forced displacement,

The Ministry calls for urgent international intervention to halt the war and immediately implement the New

York Declaration. Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

Security forces kill 33 India-backed terrorists in Zhob infiltration attempt



Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Security forces foiled an infiltration attempt by Indiabacked Fitna al Khawarij terrirusts along the Pak-Afghan border in Zhob, killing 33 members of the outlawed militant group in an overnight operation, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on

According to the military's media wing, a large movement of militants was detected on the night of August 7-8 in the Sambaza area of Zhob district in Balochistan.

The group, described as Indi- activity.

an-sponsored terrorists of the proscribed "Khawarij" network, was attempting to enter Pakistan from Afghanistan.

Troops responded swiftly and effectively, eliminating 33 militants and seizing a large cache of weapons, ammunition, and explosives.

A clearance operation is ongoing in the area to ensure no remaining

ISPR stated that Pakistan's security forces remain committed to defending the motherland and will continue operations until the elimination of all India-backed terrorist

DPM Dar stresses fast-tracking Pak-Türkiye projects to deepen strategic partnership



👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister (DPM/ FM), Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Friday called for fast-tracking the implementation of already agreed-upon proposals and development projects, emphasizing the need for timely action and coordination across relevant ministries under Pakistan-Turkiye partnership.

The deputy prime minister chaired a high-level meeting of the Committee on Enhancing Pakistan-Türkiye Bilateral Engagement, a DPM's Office news release said.

During the meeting, the Committee was briefed on progress in multiple areas of bilateral collaboration, including economy, trade, industry, education, health, energy, officials from relevant departments.

defence, infrastructure, and connec-

Highlighting the significance of the Pakistan-Türkiye partnership, DPM Dar reaffirmed Pakistan's strong resolve to advance strategic cooperation with Türkiye across a wide range of sectors.

"It is imperative that we move swiftly to translate our commitments into tangible outcomes. Pakistan remains fully committed to expanding multifaceted cooperation with Türkiye for the mutual benefit of our two brotherly nations," said Senator Dar.

The meeting was attended by the Foreign Secretary, as well as Secretaries of the Economic Affairs Division, Health, Water Resources, Petroleum, and Power, along with senior

426 accused arrested for selling drugs in educational institutions, NA informed

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Interior and Anti-Narcotics has submitted a report in the National Assembly regarding drugs sales around educational institutions and, according to which, 1,425 kilograms of narcotics were impounded in 269 operations and 426 accused were arrested for selling and usage of drugs in educational drugs in educational institutions, reported 24NewsHD TV channel

The report said the Pakistan comprehensive survey, which will be completed in 2026 and which will contain complete data about

the supply and usage of narcotics.



institutions is not available in the country

It said the government conducted a narcotics use survey Bureau of Statistics will conduct a 12 years ago in 2013, but the use of drugs in educational institutions was not included in that survey.

The report further said the Prime Minister directed to conduct of a The report admitted that national survey about the supply authentic data about the supply and use of narcotics in the country.