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Daily The Spokesman



AJK PM pays tribute to security forces for successful operations against terrorists in Balochistan

Azam Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Prime Minister, Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq had paid glowing tributes to the security forces for their successful operations in Balochistan, in which three more terrorists of the "Fitna-e-Hindustan" were killed in the Sambaza area of Zhob.



NA passes Anti-Terrorism Amendment Bill 2024

The National Assembly on Wednesday passed an amendment to the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA), 1997, which reinscribed powers granted to law enforcement authorities and the armed forces to detain "suspicious" individuals for up to three months.

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Grand Independence Ceremony

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, NI (M) join Islamabad event showcasing military might and national pride.



Photo: TV

Grand celebrations in Islamabad mark Independence Day, 'Marka-e-Haq' triumph

Naveed Ahmad Khan

Pakistan's 78th Independence Day is being celebrated with patriotic fervour across the country, coinciding with nationwide festivities marking victory in the "Marka-e-Haq".

The main ceremony is under way at Jinnah Stadium in Islamabad, attended by President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir as guests of honour.

The event has drawn the participation of the country's top civil and military leadership, federal ministers, members of parliament, foreign diplomats, and citizens.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif and Asifa Bhutto Zardari are also in attendance.

Proceedings began with the recitation of the Holy Quran and the national anthem, followed by an impressive march-past featuring the bands of all three armed forces.

President Zardari, PM Shehbaz and Field Marshal Munir joined other dignitaries in saluting the national flag.

The Pakistan Air Force enthralled spectators with aerobatic displays, while tanks, armoured vehicles, artillery, radars and other military equipment used in the 'Marka-e-Haq' are on public display at Islamabad's Shakarparian Parade Ground.

Across the nation, streets, neighbourhoods and public squares are adorned with green and white flags, reflecting a celebratory atmosphere.

Citizens in cities and towns are chanting slogans of "Pakistan Zindabad" to mark both the independence milestone and the historic victory.

Meanwhile, the National Assembly unanimously passed a resolution paying rich tribute to the armed forces for their courageous defence of the motherland during the 'Marka-e-Haq' and to the people for their unwavering support.

The resolution reaffirmed the House's commitment to safeguarding Pakistan's sovereignty and integrity, and urged citizens to work together for the nation's progress and prosperity.

Across the country, celebrations are in full swing, with streets, neighbourhoods, and cities draped in the green and white of the national flag.

PM welcomes Moody's upgraded credit rating of Pakistan

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday expressed satisfaction over global rating agency, Moody's new credit rating of Pakistan from Caa 2 and appreciated the efforts of his economic team.

The prime minister welcomed the Moody's upgraded rating about improvement in the economic outlook for Pakistan from positive to stable, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

He also reiterated that the government's team was committed to further improving the rating as it was reflective of the economic policies in the right direction.

According to its website, Moody's ratings publishes credit ratings and provides assessment services on a wide range of debt obligations, programmes and facilities, and the entities that issue such obligations in markets worldwide, including various corporate, financial institution and governmental obligations, and structured finance securities.



Ahsan urges Uraan YPDC fellows to strive for excellence

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Wednesday urged the enrolled members of the 'Uraan YPDC Skills Fellowship Program 2025' to consistently pursue excellence in their respective fields, contribute to national development and help transform

Pakistan into a \$1 trillion economy by 2035 and a \$3 trillion economy by 2047. "Never settle for less or mediocrity, as no country can progress with it. You must strive for excellence in your respective fields, which comes through discipline and hard work," he said while addressing the launching ceremony of the 'Uraan YPDC (Young Peace and Development Corps Skills Fellowship Program 2025)'.




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مبارک و معرکہ حق

78 واں یوم آزادی مبارک

ہم پاکستانی ہیں پاکستان ہمارا ہے

کشمیر بنے گا پاکستان

لائن آف کنٹرول کے دونوں اطراف اور دنیا بھر میں مقیم کشمیری مملکت خداداد پاکستان کی آزادی اور معرکہ حق میں افواج پاکستان کی کامیابی کا جشن منا رہے ہیں



تحریک آزادی کشمیر دراصل تحریک تکمیل پاکستان ہے، پاکستان کی تکمیل اس دن ہوگی جب مقبوضہ جموں و کشمیر بھارتی تسلط سے آزاد ہوگا۔ انشاء اللہ وہ دن دور نہیں جب ہم آزادی کا جشن سرینگر میں منائیں گے

وزارت اطلاعات آزاد حکومت ریاست جموں و کشمیر



People in occupied Jammu and Kashmir to celebrate Pakistan's Independence Day

Bureau Report

SRINAGAR: The people of Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have announced plans to celebrate Pakistan's Independence Day on August 14 with great fervour, while observing India's Independence Day on August 15 as a 'Black Day' marked by a complete strike.

The call was given by the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) leadership, with its Vice Chairman, Ghulam Ahmad Gulzar, declaring August 14 as a day of gratitude and joy for the Kashmiri people, and August 15 as a day of mourning.

Gulzar said India continues to occupy a large part of Jammu and Kashmir through military force, depriving its people of their fundamental rights.

"Kashmiris consider Pakistan their benefactor and representative, while India is seen as an oppressor that has snatched our right to self-determination," Gulzar said in a statement.

He added that a strong and economically stable Pakistan is in the best interest of Kashmiris, and they pray for its stability, prosperity and development.

The APHC leader urged the



people of IIOJK to stage a complete strike on August 15 and participate in anti-India rallies across the region, as well as in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan and worldwide.

"India has no moral or legal right to celebrate its Independence Day in occupied Kashmir, having usurped all political, social, economic, cultural and religious rights of the people," he added.

Meanwhile, the APHC extended warm congratulations to the people and government of Pakistan on the occasion of their Independence Day.

APHC spokesman Advocate Abdul Rashid Minhas, in a statement from Srinagar, recalled the historic struggle led by Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and the Muslims of the subcontinent that led to Pakistan's creation during the

holy month of Ramazan.

He described Pakistan's creation as a great gift from Almighty Allah for its people, adding that Pakistan is not only a key party to the Kashmir dispute but also a staunch supporter and advocate of the Kashmiri right to self-determination.

He said Pakistan has consistently provided political, diplomatic, and moral support to the Kashmiri cause.

UAJK Hosts Inter-University Competitions to Mark Independence Day and Honour Armed Forces



Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (UAJK) hosted a vibrant inter-university event on Wednesday in connection with Pakistan's Independence Day and to pay tribute to the courage and sacrifices of the country's Armed Forces in the historic "Maarka-e-Haq." The event brought together enthusiastic participation from the University of Poonch Rawalakot, Mirpur University of Science and Technology (MUST), Women University Bagh, University of Bhimber, University of Kotli and several other institutions. Competitions held on the occasion included Painting and Poster making, Urdu and English Declamation contests, Poetry and Singing of patriotic songs, providing a platform for students to showcase their talent, creativity and love for the country.

Chief Secretary Government of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Khushal Khan graced the occasion as chief guest and described the gathering as a remarkable celebration of patriotism and youth potential. He said that 14th August is not merely a day of celebration but a solemn reminder of the immense sacrifices of our forefathers.

In his concluding remarks, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Nasir Jamal Khattak expressed his delight over the enthusiasm and participation of students from across Azad Jammu and Kashmir. He urged the audience never to take patriotism, liberty and independence for granted, adding that one must ask the people of Gaza, Iraq and the Kashmiri brothers across the divide what price they are paying for the freedom that Pakistan already possesses.

The competitions concluded with impressive performances and spirited participation. In the Urdu Declamation contest, UAJK secured first position, followed by MUST and Women University Bagh. In the English Declamation contest, University of Poonch Rawalakot secured first position, Women University Bagh second and MUST third. In the Painting and Poster competition, University of Poonch Rawalakot took first place, while UAJK secured both second and third positions. In the Singing and Patriotic Songs competition, Khush Bakht secured first place, Abdullah second and Amineen Fatima third. In Poetry, UAJK clinched first position, University of Poonch Rawalakot came second and Women University Bagh secured third place.

Dialysis Unit of Children Complex Hospital Multan celebrate independence Day

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: A Special Ceremony held at the Dialysis Unit of Children Complex Hospital Multan on the occasion of Independence Day with the children admitted to the ward. A special ceremony was held at the Dialysis Unit of Children Hospital Multan with Dean Children Hospital Multan Professor Dr. Muhammad Kashif Chishti on the occasion of Independence Day with the children admitted to the dialysis ward today, in which Dean Children Hospital Professor Dr. Muhammad Kashif Chishti cut a cake with a child patient undergoing treatment in the dialysis ward.

Senior faculty members Professor Waqas Imran, Professor Sohail Arshad, Professor Rana Zulfiqar, Muhammad Naseem Shah,



Dr. Rabia Saleem and Dr. Hashim Raza also attended the occasion.

In the picture, Dean Professor Dr. Muhammad Kashif Chishti cutting a cake with a child patient admitted to the dialysis ward.



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14th AUGUST

PAKISTAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

On land, at sea, and in the skies, the Pakistan Navy stands as a multi-dimensional shield - defending maritime freedom and national sovereignty. Operations like Bunyan-um-Marsoos reflect the Navy's modern and resolute posture - a wall of steel at sea, deterring all threats. This Independence Day, all ranks of the Navy salute the founding heroes and renew their pledge to safeguard the motherland in the face of every challenge.



“There is no power on earth that can undo Pakistan”


(Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah)



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IBA Karachi's 'Marka-E-Haq' festivities honor the legacy of "Bunyan-Al-Marsoos"



News Desk

KARACHI: IBA Karachi proudly marked Pakistan's 79th Independence Day celebrations under the thematic banner of "Hum Zinda Qaum Hain - The Legacy of Bunyan-al-Marsoos and Marka-e-Haq". The celebrations were part of the "Watan Se Wafa - IBA Karachi's Tribute to Pakistan" campaign, launched earlier this month.

Festivities at IBA commenced on August 04 and 05, with over 50 members of the IBA community participating in a special patriotic video featuring national songs, poetry, and messages. Badge distribution across both campuses fostered a spirit of unity, culminating in a gathering of over 200 staff and faculty who shared reflections on

patriotism.

The "Azadi ka Sabz Paigham" Plantation Drive was held on August 06, during which 30 saplings of indigenous and fruit-bearing trees were planted. Over 110 participants, from senior management to support staff, joined in chanting "Pakistan Zindabad", reinforcing IBA's commitment to sustainability.

"Kahoot-e-Pakistan" took place on August 07, with 120 participants testing their knowledge of Pakistan's history and milestones. "Sada-e-Watan", a national songs competition, was held on August 08. The event resonated with patriotic melodies featuring ten contestants, and interactive audience voting.

"Mini Marathon" was also arranged by the IBA Sports and Community Engage-

IS Independence Day message

Building a Better Tomorrow: Chairman SM Foods

As we celebrate Pakistan's Independence Day, we are reminded of the extraordinary sacrifices that laid the foundation of our beloved homeland. This day is not only a symbol of freedom but a testament to the resilience, unity, and unwavering spirit of our people.

At SM Foods Limited, we take immense pride in being a part of Pakistan's journey for the past 25 years. Since our founding in 2000, our mission has been clear: to bring quality, innovation, and trust to every household across the nation. Today, our brands are more than products; they are a reflection of Pakistani excellence, crafted with care and guided by the values that define us as a company



and as people.

Independence is both a privilege and a responsibility. It calls upon each of us as individuals, businesses, and institutions to play our roles in shaping a better tomorrow. At SM Foods, we reaffirm our commitment to contributing to national progress through sustainable practices, economic development, and a deep-rooted belief in the potential

of our homeland.

Let us move forward with unity, purpose, and pride in our identity. May we continue to honor the legacy of our founders by building a nation defined by compassion, courage, and collective ambition. This Independence Day, let us also recognize the everyday heroes—farmers, workers, teachers, and entrepreneurs, whose dedication strengthens our nation.

Their contributions, though often unseen, are the threads weaving the fabric of our progress, ensuring that the values of sacrifice, unity, and determination remain alive for generations to come.

Pakistan Zindabad!
Choudhary Zulfikar Ali Anjum
Chairman, SM Foods Limited

A Future of Innovation: SM Foods' Promise to Pakistan

In a message Mian Salahuddin, GM Sales & Marketing, SM Foods Limited said, our journey has always been fueled by a deep sense of purpose to deliver quality, innovation, and trust to every household across Pakistan. Since 2000, we have remained focused on enhancing our production capabilities, embracing new technologies, and offering products that meet the evolving needs of our consumers.

Our commitment to excellence continues to define who we are and what we stand for.

As we commemorate Independence Day, we honour the sacrifices and vision that gave birth to our nation. The 14th of August is not just a celebration of



freedom; it is a reminder of the values that bind us as a people: resilience, unity, and an unwavering drive to progress. At SM Foods, we take this

moment to reflect on our role in nation-building through the impact we create across communities.

Today, we reaffirm our commitment to contributing to Pakistan's prosperity with dedication, responsibility, and pride. Together, let's move forward toward a future shaped by innovation, self-reliance, and shared success. As we celebrate, let's remember that our work impacts lives far beyond business. Every innovation, every improvement, and every decision we make contributes to shaping a stronger Pakistan. With shared purpose and steadfast resolve, we can turn challenges into opportunities and dreams into lasting realities for future generations.

Pakistan Zindabad!

IS 14th August 1947

The Fruit of Our Forefathers' Eternal Sacrifices and Tireless Struggle

14th August 1947 – The Fruit of Our Forefathers' Eternal Sacrifices and Tireless Struggle 14th August 1947 is a golden chapter in the history of the Muslims of the Indian subcontinent. It is not merely a date on the calendar but a milestone that reminds us that freedom was not

given under Hindu domination. The journey to Pakistan was far from easy. Countless challenges came in the way—political pressures, conspiracies, financial shortages, and the pressing urgency of time. After the Second World War,

when the British decided to leave the subcontinent, Hindu leaders tried their utmost to derail the Muslim demand for independence. Yet, the determination of our forefathers stood stronger than mountains. Millions of



Analysis

Muhammad Asif

living under Hindu domination. The journey to Pakistan was far from easy. Countless challenges came in the way—political pressures, conspiracies, financial shortages, and the pressing urgency of time. After the Second World War, when the British decided to leave the subcontinent, Hindu leaders tried their utmost to derail the Muslim demand for independence. Yet, the determination of our forefathers stood stronger than mountains. Millions of

social freedom. Our forefathers did not give these sacrifices only for their own time but for the generations to come. Their aim was to build a society where justice, equality, tolerance, and brotherhood would prevail. Today, decades after independence, we must ask ourselves—have we fulfilled their dream? Have we honored the sacrifices they made for us? Sadly, at many points, we have deviated from their vision. Corruption, injustice, sectarianism, and intolerance have weakened our social fabric. Yet, history teaches us that no obstacle can stop a united nation from achieving its goals. The greatest blessing of freedom is the right to make our own decisions—a privilege denied to enslaved nations. Our ancestors gave everything to secure this right for us. Now it is our responsibility to safeguard it, to value it, and to ensure it is never lost. This requires loving our country, working for its progress, respecting the law, and teaching future generations the true worth of independence. 14th

Flag Hoisting Ceremony at RCCI on Independence Day and “Marka e Haq” Celebrations

The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) marked Pakistan's 78th Independence Day with a flag hoisting ceremony and “Marka e Haq” celebrations. Federal Minister for Finance, Muhammad Aurangzeb, attended as the chief guest. The event also featured the cutting of an Independence Day cake.

Upon arrival, the Finance Minister was warmly received by RCCI President Usman Shaukat, Senior Vice President Khalid Farooq Qazi, Vice President Fahad Barlas, former presidents, executive committee members, representatives from trade associations, and a large number of chamber members. Additional Director General ML&C Rana Manzoor Ahmad, Chairman of Tehreek-e-Naujawan Pakistan Abdullah Gul, and other dignitaries were also present.



A documentary highlighting the Chamber's ongoing initiatives was screened.

In his address, RCCI President Usman Shaukat thanked the Finance Minister for his presence and lauded Pakistan's journey of resilience, sacrifice, and hope over the past 78 years. He saluted the armed forces for their recent victory in Marka-e-Haq. Highlighting recent improvements in economic

indicators, he urged the government to further lower interest rates to single digits, reduce electricity and gas tariffs, and cut tax rates to stimulate business activity and job creation.

Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb welcomed the Chamber's suggestions, affirming that the government, under Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's leadership, is prioritizing a business-friendly environment. Addressing the business community, he noted that consumer confidence is at its peak, economic growth is at record levels, and privatization of state-owned enterprises will accelerate this year. He reported record-high foreign exchange reserves, an improved domestic business climate, and called for unity to move the country forward.



direction of the Pakistan Movement emerged when Allama Muhammad Iqbal, in his historic 1930 Allahabad Address, presented the vision of a separate homeland for Muslims. This was not merely a political statement, but a profound ideological declaration that Muslims were a separate nation, with a distinct religion, culture, history, and values, different from those of the Hindus. Thereafter, under the leadership of Quaid-



Muslims migrated, leaving behind their homes, lands, and businesses, sacrificing everything for the sake of their faith and freedom. During this migration, thousands were martyred, women were dishonored, and children orphaned—but the caravans kept moving forward, holding firmly to the dream of Pakistan. These sacrifices form a chapter of history that words can never fully capture. When the Pakistani flag was hoisted for the first time on 14th August 1947, it was not merely a national emblem—it was soaked in the prayers, tears, and blood of those who had struggled for freedom. It symbolized the dawn of a new era where Muslims could live according to their faith, nurture their language, culture, and traditions, and shape their destiny as a free nation. On this occasion, Quaid-e-Azam made it clear that Pakistan had been created to establish a welfare state based on the golden principles of Islam, where all citizens would enjoy religious and

August is not merely a day of celebration—it is a day of self-reflection. We must remember that Pakistan came into being with a clear ideology—Islamic principles as its foundation. To keep this ideology alive, we must preserve our national and religious identity, spread education, ensure justice, and promote equality in society. This is the only way to fulfill the dream of our forefathers. In the end, we must pledge that we will never forget the sacrifices of our martyrs and elders. We will protect Pakistan's freedom, work for its progress, and make every corner of it a cradle of peace, love, and brotherhood. This is the true legacy of our ancestors and the trust we must pass on to future generations. The 14th of August 1947 is not only a memorable date but also a constant reminder that only through sacrifice, unity, and hard work can we preserve our freedom and give Pakistan an honorable place in the world

(siratif786@gmail.com)

Independence Day and “Battle for Truth” celebrations held at Attock

ATTOCK: On the instructions of the Chief Minister of Punjab, Maryam Nawaz Sharif, this year's Independence Day and “Battle for Truth” celebrations were held at Government Graduate College for Women, Attock, and Government Graduate College, Attock. The chief guest at these events was Deputy Commissioner Attock, Rao Atif Raza. The ceremonies were also attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner (Finance) Nausheen Israr, Principal Dr. Saubia Ishrat, Dr. Syed Muhammad Imran, Deputy Director Colleges Professor Arshad Khan, former Principal Khalid Javed Siddiqui, and other relevant officials.



Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Almass Ayoub Sabir
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Head Editorial Advisory Board: Amjad Mehmood
Bureau Chief Karachi: Khurram Jaffrani (jaffrani@adpluse.pk)
Bureau Chief Lahore: Syed Afraz Ali Nazish (afrazalishah@gmail.com)
Head Office: AIMS Building, Street No. 4, H-8/1, Islamabad. spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com
Phone: +92 51 2227123, WhatsApp +92 346 5008408
Karachi office: A111, Block C, Gulsha-e-Jamal, PRECHS, Karachi Phone:021-33399390 Email: spokesmankarachi@gmail.com
Lahore Office: 7-E,Samanberg, Johar Town. spokesmanlahore@gmail.com
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Happiest birthday, our most beloved Pakistan. Infinite best returns of the day

What is Pakistan to us? It's not only a philosophical question, but rather it actually defines us. Today, our beloved mother is 78 years old. A ripe, mature age. Although a serious debate exists whether we have really matured or are still caught up in a vortex but that debate is left for some other time. Today, let's just celebrate the birth of the best country and our great homeland, Pakistan.

We tend to forget the birth pangs of 1947. It was not a caesarean birth but rather the mother of all caesarean operations. The killings, the refugees, the duplicity of the British, the Boundary commissions intentional violation of international law, the worsening health of the great Quaid-A-Azam, the hatred of India and the non-provision of our share, the stoppage of our water and the Kashmir war, to name few of the mega challenges and the existential threats, one shudders to think of what we went through in the first year of our birth. But we survived. And we progressed, albeit slowly, but we did.

Having lost Father of the Nation in 1948, we were orphaned at age 1. Just look around and see kids who have lost their fathers in childhood and the impact it has had on them. We groped in the dark without a Constitutional framework to define the contours of the relationship between the State and the people and within the Judiciary, Legislature and Executive branches of government. We had a galaxy of leaders who did everything but lead. The musical chairs game played in the Capital with 7 Prime Ministers in the first 10 years of Pakistan's life says it all. In the 11th year, we had our first Martial Law.

Although Pakistan progressed economically but as it happens every time a dictator rules a Country, divisive forces became stronger. The 1965 war and the lack of genuine grassroots democracy took a toll, and we ended up losing our twin brother, East Pakistan, in 1971. Without going into the reasons, suffice to say that it was the saddest day in our Mother's life as she lost one of her children.

Then the pendulum swung back towards democracy. At last, we got our 1973 Constitution, finally. But Pakistan didn't find peace. The internal fissures continued to worsen. Baluchistan started to get sick. Governance suffered. Nationalisation wrought havoc. And amidst all this turmoil, we had our Second Martial law in 1977.

It was tough. An elected Prime Minister was hanged. Pakistan became the epicentre of the Islamic jihad being fought in Afghanistan starting in 1979. Other seismic international developments took place, which shook our foundations. The card of religion was used. Sham elections occurred. Sectarian and ethnic terrorism blossomed, roasted on the fire unleashed by trans-national terrorist networks.

In 1988, democracy returned, but it was the same story. The

Continued on Page 7

Pakistan Air Force — Always Second to None

This Independence Day holds extraordinary significance for Pakistan, especially considering the resounding success of Operation Banyan-ul-Marsoos—a landmark military achievement that demonstrated not only strategic brilliance but also national resolve. The operation reinvigorated patriotic fervour and reminded the world of Pakistan's unwavering commitment to safeguarding its sovereignty. As the country marks its 78th year of independence, August 14th becomes more than a commemoration of freedom; it becomes a reaffirmation of strength, unity, and dignity on the global stage.

The roots of Pakistan's air power trace back to 1948, when Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, during a visit to the PAF Academy in Risalpur, stressed the vital role of air dominance in national defence. His words still echo with timeless clarity:

When war broke out in 1965, the PAF was fully prepared. Under Air Marshal Noor Khan's leadership, the PAF swiftly established air superiority. Its pilots carried out bold and precision-based missions that halted the Indian advance. The war birthed legends, none more iconic than Squadron Leader M. M. Alam, who famously shot down five Indian aircraft in under a minute—an unmatched feat in air combat history. The PAF's performance during the

1965 war earned global admiration and cemented its reputation for excellence.

Entering the 21st century, the PAF faced new threats—this time from within. In the post-9/11 landscape, the focus shifted to counterterrorism and internal security operations. Precision airstrikes in FATA and Swat, supported by intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) assets, showcased the PAF's ability to conduct surgical operations with minimal collateral damage—earning recognition from allies and adversaries alike.

On February 27, 2019, the PAF once again proved its combat effectiveness during Operation Swift Retort, a response to the Balakot airstrikes. In a calculated and measured retaliation, the PAF shot down two Indian jets, capturing Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman. The event sent a clear message: Pakistan's airspace is sacrosanct, and any violation would be met with swift consequences.

In 2025, amidst escalating tensions, the PAF reportedly downed six Indian aircraft within 48 hours, marking one of the most decisive air engagements in the region's recent history. This success was not merely tactical—it was technological. The PAF employed next-generation radar systems, BVR (Beyond Visual Range) missile technology, and integrated command-and-control networks to ensure dominance.

Operation Banyan-ul-Marsoos exemplified the PAF's evolution into a multi-dimensional force capable of meeting both conventional and hybrid threats. Today, the PAF plays a pivotal role as the air-based leg of Pakistan's nuclear triad, contributing to strategic stability in South Asia. The integration of air-launched cruise missiles like Ra'ad and Ra'ad-II ensures credible minimum deterrence without fuelling an arms race.

But modern warfare has evolved beyond kinetic engagements. The PAF has embraced the era of 5th generation warfare—defined by cyber operations, psychological warfare, AI-driven targeting, and UAV technology. A PAF pilot today is not just a combat aviator but a data warrior, operating in a battlespace shaped by information dominance and rapid technological adaptation.

From intercepting enemy bombers on the night of Eid in 1959 to neutralizing modern threats in 2025, the Pakistan Air Force has consistently demonstrated courage, innovation, and resilience. Each era has brought new challenges, but the core ethos remains unchanged: duty, discipline, and excellence.

As Pakistan celebrates its 78th Independence Day, the PAF stands not just as a guardian of the skies—but as a symbol of what vision, resolve, and sacrifice can achieve. Recognized globally for its combat acumen and strategic foresight, the Pakistan Air Force in 2025 is not only relevant—it is indispensable in the evolving matrix of modern warfare.

Author is HI (M), Knight (Geneva) and also Director in Sundas Foundation

Tensions Between Trump, Putin, and Ukraine: The World Watches Alaska

In recent weeks, global headlines have been dominated by the news of a highly anticipated summit between former U. S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin, scheduled to take place in Alaska. While summits between world leaders are not unusual, this meeting has captured exceptional attention due to the volatile backdrop of the ongoing war in Ukraine and Trump's controversial proposal of a "territorial swap" to resolve the conflict. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has categorically rejected the idea, calling it unacceptable and a betrayal of Ukraine's sovereignty. The combination of political personalities, high-stakes diplomacy, and unresolved war has made this summit the focal point of global political discourse.

The tension began when Trump, in a pre-summit interview, suggested that Ukraine and Russia could negotiate a "territorial swap," potentially allowing Russia to retain control over certain occupied regions in exchange for a ceasefire and peace agreement. While Trump framed this as a "pragmatic" step toward ending the bloodshed, critics saw it as a dangerous concession that could embolden Moscow and undermine international law.

However, critics argue that holding the meeting on U. S. soil may give Trump, who is seeking political relevance ahead of the next American election, a platform to present himself as a global dealmaker. It also raises questions about whether the summit could be used for political theater rather than genuine conflict resolution.

Following Trump's comments, Zelen-

skyy intensified his diplomatic outreach. He held urgent consultations with NATO leaders, the European Union, and key partners like Canada and Japan. His message was consistent: any deal must preserve Ukraine's internationally recognized borders and ensure security guarantees to prevent future aggression.

Zelenskyy also used the moment to rally public opinion. In a televised address, he warned that compromising on territory would set a dangerous precedent, encouraging other aggressor states to invade weaker neighbors in the hope of negotiating land in return for peace. "Today it is Ukraine. Tomorrow it could be any other nation," he said. His firm stance has earned him both praise and criticism—praise from those who admire his uncompromising defense of sovereignty, and criticism from voices who believe some form of compromise might be necessary to end the war.

Vladimir Putin's reaction to the proposed "territorial swap" has been notably restrained. Kremlin officials have avoided confirming whether such an idea would be acceptable, instead reiterating Russia's demand for Ukraine to recognize its annexation of Crimea and other occupied territories. Analysts believe Putin sees the summit as an opportunity to present Russia as a reasonable actor willing to negotiate, even if Moscow's real aim remains solidifying control over its gains.

Russian state media has seized on Trump's remarks, portraying them as

evidence that even prominent American figures see Ukraine's territorial integrity as negotiable. This narrative could strengthen Putin's domestic position, allowing him to argue that Western unity is weakening.

The international response to Trump's proposal has been mixed. NATO's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg reaffirmed the alliance's commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, warning that "any peace deal must be just and sustainable." The European Union echoed this sentiment; with several leaders expressing concern that even floating the idea of territorial concessions undermines Kyiv's position in ongoing diplomatic efforts.

On the other hand, some analysts and commentators, particularly in the United States, have argued that a negotiated settlement—even one involving territorial compromise—might be the only realistic path to ending the war and saving lives. They point to the immense human cost of the conflict, the strain on global economies, and the risk of escalation if fighting continues indefinitely.

The Alaska meeting will be closely watched not only for its diplomatic content but also for the optics and tone between the two leaders. Trump, known for his unconventional style and willingness to challenge U. S. foreign policy norms, may seek to present himself as the man who can "make a deal" where others have failed. Putin, equally skilled at political stagecraft, will likely aim to

appear open to dialogue while maintaining his hardline stance.

For Ukraine, the greatest risk is being sidelined in discussions about its own future. While Zelenskyy is not expected to attend the Alaska summit, Ukrainian diplomats will be working intensively behind the scenes to ensure Kyiv's perspective is not overshadowed by U. S.-Russia dynamics.

The Trump-Putin summit is shaping up to be a defining moment for global diplomacy in 2025. It will test the resilience of Western unity, the credibility of international law, and the willingness of great powers to respect the sovereignty of smaller nations. Whether it results in a breakthrough, a stalemate, or simply a media spectacle, its impact will be felt far beyond the snowy landscapes of Alaska.

For millions around the world, the stakes are personal. In Ukraine, families are still separated by the war, cities lie in ruins, and soldiers face daily danger on the frontlines. In Russia, citizens live under the weight of sanctions, censorship, and a war that many do not fully understand. In the West, governments are grappling with the political and economic costs of supporting Ukraine, while balancing domestic priorities.

As the summit approaches, one thing is certain: the conversation about Ukraine's future, and the principles that will shape the post-war order, is far from over. In Alaska, amid the cold winds and vast horizons, two leaders will meet—but the true outcome will depend on whether the world chooses compromise, confrontation, or a path yet unimagined.

Author is senior analyst and he can be reached at sirasif786@gmail.com



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmi. (Courtesy of Asharq Al-Awsat)

‘Independence Day: A Metaphor for the Struggle for Truth’

In Pakistan, August 14 is not merely a calendrical date—it is a luminous symbol of national identity, selfhood, and sacrifice, which made the dream of an ideological state a reality. As with every passing year, preparations for celebrating Independence Day across the country are once again reaching their peak. The streets are adorned with national flags, the air resonates with patriotic songs, and the spirit of nationalism pervades every corner, reminding us once more of that monumental struggle which culminated in 1947 with the opening of a new chapter in the subcontinent's history. Yet, in reviewing both the historical backdrop and contemporary relevance of this celebration, it becomes imperative that we do more than merely rejoice; we must also contemplate the reasons, objectives, and current realities tied to this great struggle.

Today, as we celebrate Independence Day in every street, town, and city, a crucial question arises: Have we truly understood the philosophy of this sacrifice? Have we turned Pakistan into the realization of the dream envisioned by its founders? Celebrations are a cherished national tradition, but they must be coupled with introspection. Corruption, poverty, class disparity, educational decline, and institutional degradation are stark reminders that we remain far from our foundational objectives.

Pakistan in 2025 stands at a critical crossroads. On one side, it faces severe challenges: rising inflation, energy crises, political instability, and institutional friction between the judiciary and the parliament. On the other, a wave of political awareness and public engagement is emerging. The active participation of youth, widespread use of social media, and commendable performances across various sectors suggest that the nation is yearning for a return to its ideological roots.

The true spirit of Independence Day will remain alive only when our younger generations comprehend its deeper meaning. While school, college, and university events foster patriotic sentiment, these institutions must also inculcate knowledge of national history, constitutional awareness, democratic values, and Islamic principles. Raising flags and singing anthems are symbolic acts but awakening the national

conscience is essential.

This year, the Government of Pakistan has decided to observe Independence Day under the theme of "A New Resolve." Official celebrations include illuminated public buildings, military parades, tributes to national heroes, and speech and essay competitions in academic institutions. Yet, alongside these ceremonial events, the state must prioritize resolving public grievances. The essence of freedom will only be realized when citizens are guaranteed employment, education, healthcare, and justice.

Freedom is not a static concept; it is a dynamic reality that must be safeguarded in every era. Today's Pakistan faces new and complex threats: foreign policy dilemmas, shifting regional alliances, and internal instability. From India's continued oppression in Kashmir to the volatility in Afghanistan and geopolitical shifts in the Middle East, Pakistan must exercise strategic wisdom and foresight to protect its sovereignty and independence.

In the print, electronic, and digital media, special programming, documentaries, and addresses by national leaders during Independence Day have become a positive tradition. However, media institutions must also create space for meaningful discourse on the real demands of freedom, national challenges, and developmental agendas so that public opinion may be guided in a constructive and enlightened direction.

Independence Day is not merely a moment of jubilation—it is a day of national recommitment. We must pledge to fulfill the dreams of Quaid-e-Azam and Allama Iqbal by upholding our individual and collective responsibilities. To preserve the blessings of freedom, we must make education, justice, equality, and integrity core components of our national identity. If we succeed in integrating this spirit, awareness, and philosophy of sacrifice into our lives, Independence Day will no longer remain a ceremonial occasion, but become a living and dynamic force—a reminder of our ideals and a guide for our future.

This is the resolve that can transform the "struggle for truth" into a lasting triumph.

Author is Ph. D, senior analyst and he can be reached at muhammadtayyabk775@gmail.com

CASS-PISA Joint Seminar: Cyber Security - Pakistan Vision 2047

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS), Islamabad, in collaboration with the Pakistan Information Security Association (PISA), hosted a seminar titled 'Cyber Security: Pakistan Vision 2047' on Tuesday, 12 August 2025. The event convened leading defence experts, technologists, policymakers, academics, private sector representatives, and international partners to deliberate on Pakistan's long-term cybersecurity strategy at CASS. As an independent think tank, CASS regularly arranges academic events for academia and practitioners interested in National Security in its wider context.

The two sessions of the seminar examined the transformative potential of cyber technologies while addressing the growing complexities of the cyber threat landscape. Speakers observed that cyberspace had evolved into the fifth domain of warfare—alongside land, sea, air, and space—posing

unprecedented challenges to the protection of national institutions, critical infrastructure, and financial systems from increasingly sophisticated attacks. There was accordingly a need for Pakistan to formalise its vision and goals in Cyber Security for 2047.

In the opening remarks, the speakers emphasised that the integrity, security, and sovereignty of digital infrastructure had become foundational to both national defence and economic development. They stressed the need for comprehensive strategies to leverage cyberspace and technological advancements to secure Pakistan's digital future while positioning the country as a competitive player in the innovation-driven global economy.

Panel discussions addressed a range of key themes, including cybersecurity as a pillar of economic resilience and global credibility, the integration of cutting-edge technologies and digital governance for sustainable growth, building indigenous capabilities to

strengthen national defence and overcome developmental challenges, and institutional and policy frameworks for long-term cyber resilience.

In his concluding remarks, President CASS Air Marshal Javaid (Retd) emphasised that, for a Pakistan of 2047, the cyber domain represents not only a defensive necessity but also a strategic enabler for economic transformation. By integrating advanced technologies, fostering secure innovation ecosystems, and implementing robust policy measures, the nation could turn cybersecurity into a catalyst for development.

The seminar concluded with a consensus on the urgent need for coordinated efforts between government, industry, academia, and civil society to safeguard Pakistan's digital sovereignty. Participants agreed that a unified, forward-looking approach would be critical for ensuring the country's cyber resilience in an increasingly interconnected and contested digital landscape.



ISSI Celebrates Pakistan's 78th Independence Day

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) marked Pakistan's 78th Independence Day with a celebratory event to pay homage to the vision and courage of the founding fathers and to honour the nation's rich history, indomitable spirit, and unshakeable resolve. The Institute's leadership, research faculty, staff, and Interns participated.

In his remarks, DG ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood extended heartfelt felicitations to everyone on this joyous occasion. He said Independence Day was always a moment to reflect on the sacrifices rendered by the founding generations for Pakistan's creation; to reaffirm our commitment to the principles of unity, faith, and discipline; and to reiterate our resolve to fully realize the Quaid's vision for Pakistan's progress and prosperity. Ambassador Sohail noted that Pakistan has time and again demonstrated its resilience in the face of daunting challenges, drawing strength from its people's determination, enterprise, and unrelenting efforts for a brighter future. He stated that these qualities have enabled the nation to emerge stronger through every test. Pakistan's success in the recent Marka-e-Haq was a compelling testimony to



this reality. He also especially lauded the role of Pakistan's youth, which was to shoulder the responsibility in the future to carry forward the Quaid's mission. As part of the celebrations, ISSI's

research Interns presented short documentaries creatively showcasing Pakistan's history, culture, and achievements across various fields. The presentations offered a vivid portrayal of the

country's resilience, diversity, and rich heritage, and were warmly received by the participants.

The event concluded with a special cake-cutting ceremony.

MY University's Independence Day Celebration Ignites Patriotic Spirit

Pakistan's independence linked with it's strong defense: speakers

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: MY University celebrated Independence Day with great enthusiasm, honoring Pakistan's journey and future. The event, organized by the Department of International Relations, began with a solemn flag-hoisting ceremony and the singing of the national anthem, filling the campus with a sense of national pride.

Speeches from university officials highlighted the significance of the day. Prof. Dr. Saeed ul Hassan Chishti,



Vice Chancellor of MY University, spoke about the immense

sacrifices made by our ancestors for independence, urging students and faculty to work diligently for the nation's progress.

Dr. Waseem Khokhar, Head of the Department of International Relations, highlighted the significance of the 14th August. He focused on the theme of 'Marqa-e-Haq,' emphasizing the strong link between national independence and a robust defense. Dr. Muhammad Munir, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, delivered an inspiring speech on patri-

otism and unity, encouraging everyone to cherish their freedom and collaborate for a stronger Pakistan. Additionally, Dr. Bilal Khan, the university's Registrar, spoke about the responsibilities citizens have in preserving the nation's sovereignty. The event was moderated by Ms. Anjum Gul Mughal, a lecturer in the Department of International Relations.

The festivities concluded with a cake-cutting ceremony, leaving all attendees with a renewed commitment to national development

Expert urge to unlock Pakistan's \$100 Bln maritime potential amid celebrating 78th Independence Day



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Experts at a joint session ahead of 78th Independence Day Celebrations on Wednesday called for urgent, coordinated action to harness Pakistan's vast maritime resources, describing the blue economy as a "full-fledged economy in itself" with the potential to contribute over \$100 billion annually to national growth.

Opening the session jointly hosted by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and Blue Economy Services titled "Unlocking Pakistan's Blue Economy: Harnessing Maritime Potential for Sustainable Growth", SDPI Associate Research Fellow Engr Ahad Nazir said the aim was to bring together policymakers, maritime experts, environmentalists, and security professionals to chart a way forward for the country's neglected but critical maritime sector.

SDPI Executive Director Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri recalled that Pakistan had declared 2020 the "Year of the Blue Economy," but progress stalled during the COVID-19 pandemic. "The blue economy is more than ports—it includes untapped maritime resources, carbon sinks, and mangroves. We must address environmental sustainability alongside infrastructure development," he said.

Co-host Nadir Mumtaz, a former Karachi Port Trust chairman and CEO Blue Economy Services, highlighted that Karachi once served as the nation's aviation and marine hub. He urged investment in mega shipping, commercial shipyards, offshore oil exploration, ferry services, and digital infrastructure. "Pakistan freight owns only 13 ships compared to 36 in the past. We must revive Karachi as a regional trade and maritime hub," he said, stressing that coastal development could unlock food and energy security, boost seafood exports, and expand digital trade through additional submarine internet cables and a proposed "Digital CPEC Corridor."

Vice Admiral (Retd) R. Ahmed Saeed, President of the National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA), underscored that 80–90% of world's trade moves by sea. "Efficient, transparent ports are critical to global supply chain integration. We must digitize operations, ensure competitive tariffs, and align with international performance benchmarks," he said.

Former IGP Dr. Syed Kaleem Imam warned that drug trafficking via maritime routes undermines economic prospects and called for on-port forensic labs, regional cooperation, and stronger digital tracking systems.

Dr. Hassan Daud Butt, Senior Professor of Bahria University and former PD CPEC stressed the transformative role of robotics, AI, and satellite technology in maritime trade, urging "Green Port" development and leveraging CPEC Phase II for blue growth.

IUCN Pakistan's Mahmood Akhtar Cheema and Ministry of Climate Change's Naeem Ashraf Raja emphasized mangrove conservation, marine protected areas, and youth engagement as essential to a sustainable blue economy.

Dr. Shahid Mahmood of Technopolis Limited outlined shifting global trade patterns, predicting Africa and Asia will account for 82% of the world's population by 2100. He urged Pakistan to position itself as a competitive maritime link for Central Asian Republics, OIC states, and Russia.

78 Years of Freedom: Reflections from the City of Iqbal

Sadaf Dilawar

Once again, on 14 August, as the green flag with its star and crescent flutters proudly in the wind, I find myself in the streets of the City of Iqbal, reflecting on what freedom truly meant then and what it means now.

Nations are not built in a day or a month, they take decades of struggle, resilience, and sacrifice. From 14th August 1947 to 14th August 2025, Pakistan's journey spans 78 years of freedom.

Freedom is not merely about breaking the chains of slavery, it is about having your own identity, preserving your dignity, and living by a code of life. It means living in a place where your existence has purpose, where you have your own constitution, your own system, and a flag

that is more than just a piece of fabric, one that tells a story of meaning and pride. It is a place where Allama Iqbal's triangle of Faith (the spiritual foundation), Thought (the intellectual awakening), and Discovery (the drive to explore, innovate, and achieve) can truly flourish. For him, these were the key elements of a strong nation.

I am not here to narrate Pakistan's history in detail, it is told in every book and taught in every classroom. We all know Pakistan came into being on 14th August 1947 through countless sacrifices, tireless struggles, and the vision of Muhammad Ali Jinnah under the motto: Unity, Faith, and Discipline. We know that under our constitution, this land proudly bears the name 'Islamic Republic of Pakistan,' yet we have forgotten our duty.

As celebrations sweep across the country, the spirit is at its

peak in the City of Iqbal. Streets glow with lights, flags flutter from every rooftop, and patriotic songs echo from every corner. In a park lit in green and white, I see two children with innocent smiles, hands clasped, dressed in our national colours, pinning small flags to their pockets and singing, 'Dil Dil Pakistan, Jaan Jaan Pakistan'. I walk over and ask, 'As we celebrate Independence Day, what does freedom mean to you?' The boy replies, 'A place where we have our own land,' and the girl adds, 'A place where we can go to school without fear and return safely.' Their words strike me. Let us pause and think.

From innocent smiles to confident voices, tomorrow's leaders are in the making.

These children are our future, the true backbone of Pakistan. It is our responsibility to equip them with knowledge, wisdom,



and values so they can carry forward our progress, just as the crescent on our flag symbolises progress and the star symbolises knowledge. Here, knowledge means not only education, but also awareness, and character building. Progress means securing their future, developing

their skills, creating opportunities, and empowering them. Pakistan's tomorrow depends entirely on how well we prepare our children today. The real celebration of freedom is not in fireworks but in shaping the future of our kids.

We live in the first Islamic country with nuclear power, the 6th largest army in the world by active military personnel. PAF is ranked among the top ten air forces in the world and a land blessed with some of the greatest natural wonders, including the world's second-highest mountain. We have given the world the youngest Microsoft-certified professional, achieved outstanding achievements in sports, and are home to one of the oldest civilizations.

Let us not forget our brave sisters who have played a pivotal role in nation-building: Sher sisters who passed the CSS

exams, Sana Mir, the first Pakistani cricketer inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame, Asma Jahangir, renowned human rights lawyer and activist, Nigar Johar, the only woman in Pakistan's history to reach the rank of lieutenant general, Naila Kiani, Pakistani high-altitude mountaineer and Maryam Mukhtar, Pakistan's first female fighter pilot.

Yet, with such a blessed and resourceful homeland, our nation should prevail as a symbol of peace. Our diversity: Punjabi, Sindhi, Balochi, Saraiki, should be our strength, not a source of division. We must rise above sectarian divides: Shia, Sunni, Barelvi, Wahabi. Terrorism and intolerance should find no place here. We must stop killing in the name of honour and stop disrespecting women. Instead, we must give them dignity and opportunities so they can

contribute to nation-building, just as Fatima Jinnah, the Mother of the Nation, once did.

Independence is not just about one day of fluttering flags, parades, and anthems, it is about fulfilling the responsibility we owe to the next generation.

True freedom will be achieved when our unity is stronger than our differences, and when the dreams of Iqbal and the struggles of Quaid-e-Azam are alive in every corner of Pakistan. Let these reflections reach every citizen that independence is more than just a celebration. Let it be a promise, a promise to be fulfilled, and a faith that;

"No power on earth can undo Pakistan".

"With faith, discipline, and selfless devotion to duty, there is nothing worthwhile that we cannot achieve".

Let us give meaning to the slogan: Long Live Pakistan!

Unique Independence Day



Operation Bunyan Marsoos was far more than simply a military campaign; it was a profound statement of strategic brilliance and undeniable moral clarity. Pakistan's response was meticulously planned and surgically executed with extraordinary precision. Over two dozen Indian military installations, including major airbases, critical logistics hubs, and vital command centers, were specifically targeted and effectively disabled with remarkable accuracy. The operation was designed not just to retaliate but to unequivocally restore deterrence, uphold national dignity, and send an unmistakable message that Pakistan's sovereignty was absolutely inviolable. The strategic use of indigenous weapons systems such as the Fatah-I and Fatah-II ballistic missiles, state-of-the-art modern drones, and sophisticated electronic warfare tools powerfully demonstrated the significant advancements in Pakistan's defense capabilities. More than just cutting-edge technology, it was the exceptional coordination across the Pakistan Army, Air Force, Navy, and Cyber Command that vividly reflected an extraordinarily high degree of operational integration and professional excellence. This was

emphatically not the Pakistan of the past, reactive and vulnerable. This was a nation thoroughly prepared, profoundly united, and supremely confident in its inherent ability to protect its people.

What made these events even more extraordinary was the pivotal role of Marka-e-Haq, the overarching strategic doctrine that had been quietly and meticulously evolving within the defense and diplomatic circles of Pakistan. Translating to "The Battle of Truth," Marka-e-Haq was not limited to mere kinetic warfare; it was a truly multidimensional campaign encompassing precise military action, compelling media engagement, extensive diplomatic outreach, and vital internal cohesion. The doctrine powerfully emphasized the inherent righteousness of Pakistan's cause, firmly rooted in self-defense, impeccable ethical conduct, and the unwavering protection of innocent civilians. This was not a war of conquest, but a resolute fight for justice and survival. Throughout the intense campaign, Pakistani leaders maintained exemplary transparency with the public, diligently ensured that military targets were exclusively selected to avoid any collateral damage, and simultaneously launched a comprehensive global diplomatic effort to clarify Pakistan's legitimate position and expose Indian aggression. International media outlets, once skeptical or even indifferent, began to acknowledge the undeniable legitimacy of Pakistan's stance, especially as overwhelming evidence mounted of Indian disinformation campaigns and egregious human rights violations.

The culmination of these extraordinary efforts came with an unprecedented act in Pakistan's military history—the well-deserved elevation of General Asim

Munir, Chief of Army Staff, to the distinguished rank of Field Marshal. This rare honor, only the second of its kind in decades, was bestowed not merely as a recognition of one man's exceptional leadership, but as a profound tribute to the entire armed forces, the steadfast civilian leadership, and the resilient people of Pakistan who stood united in one of the most testing moments of the country's post-independence history. The government officially declared May 16 as Youm-e-Tashakur—the Day of Gratitude—celebrated nationwide to express profound thanks to Allah for the resounding success of the operation, to honor the fallen martyrs, and to deeply appreciate the remarkable solidarity shown by the entire populace. Streets across Pakistan, from the bustling avenues of Karachi to the serene valleys of Gilgit-Baltistan, were filled with joyous celebrations, patriotic songs, and vibrant processions. Mosques resonated with fervent prayers of thanks, and social media buzzed with heartfelt messages of unity and immense pride.

This year, as Pakistan proudly marks its 78th Independence Day, the national mood is distinctly one of profound renewal and unwavering resilience. The majestic green and white flag flies higher than ever before, not just as a poignant reminder of the past but as a bright beacon of a hopeful future. Children are reciting patriotic poems with a deeper, more visceral understanding of what independence truly means. Veterans are being saluted not only for their past valiant service but for their continued invaluable inspiration. The immense sacrifices of the armed forces are being honored with a renewed, unwavering commitment to national defense, while the compelling

stories of strategic brilliance and exceptional bravery during Operation Bunyan Marsoos will undoubtedly become an integral part of the curriculum and the collective national consciousness. This celebration is not merely for a free Pakistan—it is for a strong, undeniably sovereign, and truly self-reliant Pakistan.

Furthermore, this Independence Day stands as a rare and significant moment of political unity. Across all party lines, leaders have unequivocally acknowledged the imperative need to preserve national cohesion, to steadfastly prioritize national interests above any personal or partisan agendas, and to assiduously foster an environment where democracy and security can genuinely coexist. The transformative events of 2025 have powerfully reinforced a crucial truth—that while internal disagreements may certainly exist, when the sacred integrity of the nation is at stake, Pakistan stands as one. Civil society organizations, dynamic youth groups, respected religious scholars, and influential media professionals have all played a critically important role in shaping this collective national response, definitively proving that the inherent strength of Pakistan lies not just in its formidable weapons but, more importantly, in its indomitable people.

Even the extensive Pakistani diaspora, often geographically distant from the daily realities of life in the homeland, has engaged in this year's Independence Day celebrations with unusually fervent energy. In major global cities like London, New York, Toronto, Dubai, and Sydney, Pakistani communities are enthusiastically organizing rallies, vibrant cultural programs, and inclusive interfaith prayers to celebrate the country's renewed strength and to honor



the cherished memories of those who ensured its survival. The global Pakistani identity has become noticeably more cohesive, more visibly proud, and more vocally expressive. Pakistani flags wave not only on the bustling streets of Islamabad, Lahore, and Peshawar, but also prominently in front of consulates and cultural centers across continents, representing a people no longer passive observers, but actively engaged participants in their nation's remarkable journey.

In every conceivable way, then, the Independence Day of 2025 stands out as a truly defining chapter in Pakistan's rich and complex story. It is a rare and powerful fusion of heartfelt remembrance and invigorating renewal, of profound gratitude and resolute assertion, of solemn grief for the fallen and

joyous triumph for the resilient. The indomitable spirit of 1947 has found a profound new manifestation in the exceptional courage and strategic clarity of 2025. It serves as a powerful reminder that independence is not a singular, one-time event but a continuous, unwavering struggle to protect and uphold the fundamental values for which the nation was so bravely created. The unequivocal lesson of Marka-e-Haq and Operation Bunyan Marsoos is abundantly clear: that truth, when powerfully backed by unity, meticulous preparation, and unwavering faith, becomes absolutely invincible. As the iconic green crescent proudly flutters in the sky this August 14th, it carries with it the weighty legacy of history and the invigorating winds of a confident, promising future.

Photo by Sultan Bashir

78th Independence Day Celebrated with Great Zeal at S. M. Group of Industries



On the joyous occasion of Pakistan's 78th Independence Day, a dignified and grand ceremony was held at the head office of S. M. Group of Industries. The surroundings were adorned with the green and crescent flags, and the fragrance of patriotism filled the air. The lively event was organized by the General Manager of Marketing & Sales, Mr. Salahuddin.

The chief guest, Chairman of S. M. Group of Industries and renowned industrialist, Chaudhry Zulfikar Ali Anjum, formally inau-

gurated the ceremony by hoisting the national flag in the factory courtyard. Upon his arrival on stage, flower petals were showered to warmly welcome the distinguished guest. After the recitation of the Holy Qur'an, he was invited to deliver his address.

In his spirited speech, Chaudhry Zulfikar Ali Anjum said "Today, we are celebrating the blessing of freedom that we attained through countless sacrifices, unwavering struggle, and the strength of faith. August 14 is not just a date; it is the identity of our existence and the guarantee of our future."

He emphasized that to make the nation green and prosperous, economically strong, morally upright, and respected worldwide, we must adopt hard work, honesty, and unity as our guiding principles.

"Our factories and industries succeed only when Pakistan succeeds. Today, we pledge to light our share of the lamp—be it in education, the environment, or employment. Pakistan exists, there-



fore we exist, and Pakistan shall always live on." Paying tribute to the sacrifices of the Pakistan Army, he said, "Pakistan is ranked sixth in the world in terms of population, and with dedication and hard work, we can also achieve that level in the race for progress."



After his speech, Chairman S. M. Foods, Chaudhry Zulfikar Ali Anjum, cut the cake to mark Pakistan's 78th anniversary and planted a sapling in the office courtyard, officially launching the monsoon tree plantation drive.

The ceremony concluded with a collective prayer for Pakistan's prosperity and prestige, followed by resounding chants of "Pakistan Zindabad!"

Strict and effective security arrangements were in place

throughout the event to ensure maximum safety for all participants. This responsibility was overseen and executed by Major (R) Abdul Rauf Khan with utmost professionalism and vigilance. Under his leadership, the security team maintained thorough monitoring at entry and exit points, ensured the safe arrival and departure of guests, and preserved complete peace and order during the ceremony—allowing the event to proceed with dignity and without interruption.

78 Years of Broadcasting

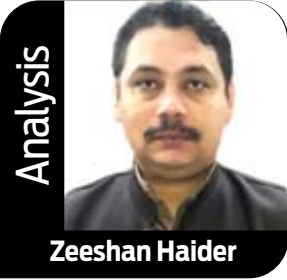
It is a universal truth that Announcement of creation of Pakistan was made from the microphone of Radio Pakistan when Mustafa Ali Hamdani Announced from Lahore Radio Station between 13 and 14 August 1947 that this is Pakistan Broadcasting service "Azadi Mubarak". This fact cannot be denied that Pakistan and Radio Pakistan came into being at the same time. With independence on 14th August-1947, Radio Pakistan also came into existence by parting ways with the then All India Radio. At the time of creation of Pakistan there were three Radio Stations in Pakistan including Peshawar, Lahore and Dhaka. After rendering the service of around 26 years, Radio Pakistan was converted into a statutory body through a parliamentary ACT in 1973 and Radio Pakistan became PAKISTAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION. The purpose of enacting Radio Pakistan as a "corporation" was to disseminate impartial news and analysis, besides education, information and entertainment, to general public through a vast network of broadcasting and transmitting equipment installed in large cities of the country with its headquarters in capital city, Islamabad.

Radio Pakistan is the largest media network which covers 98 % population and 80 % of the area of Pakistan. In addition, the aims and objectives of this public sector state broadcaster include, promoting soft image of the country in terms of Islamic, social and cultural values in and outside its territorial boundaries. In the war of 1965 and 1971 the role of this oldest broadcasting heritage is part of history. Radio Pakistan has played a meritorious role to sensitizing the young generation about the rationale behind the creation of Pakistan, and promoting patriotism and national harmony. Radio Pakistan has a historical role to build the nation which cannot be denied.

It is an incontestable fact that Radio Pakistan has largest net work of media in Pakistan. Now, 30 Broadcasting Stations are broadcasting local and regional languages programmes from all over the country towards his FM 101, FM 93, FM 94, FM 98 (Pak China dosti channel). No doubt Radio Pakistan is a largest and oldest medium of media, its called mother of media. Radio Pakistan is currently broadcasting programmes in 23 national and international languages i.e. English, Urdu, Punjabi, Saraiki, Balochi, Potohari, Pashto, Hindko, Kashmiri, Balti, Barahvi, Chines, Dari, Persian, Tamil Nipali and others. Now FM 97.6 English Channel Pakistan has also started its transmission and most popular channel of this historical broadcasting institution. Now its listeners can easily listen the transmission of Radio Pakistan in all over the world through internet.

Recently, A Turkish department TIKa a subordinate department of Ministry of culture and tourism has established a museum at Radio Pakistan Headquarters Islamabad, this museum is one of the best museum of the Pakistan. in this museum Radio Pakistan has saved his tradition, culture and other historical broadcasting instruments i.e. an old transmitter made by Marconi (founder of Radio) from this transmitter first Announcement was made that congratulation Azadi Mubarak at 13 and 14 August 1947 midnight. This museum has also saved Chair of 1st Prime Minister of Pakistan, 1st Magazine Ahang, famous signers instruments along with voices, Microphone used by Founder of Pakistan Quid-E-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Quid E Azam Muhammad Ali instructions regarding broadcasting measures, scripts of Ashfaq Ahmed and other famous artists of Radio Pakistan. There are millions of voices comprising on songs, speeches of National and international leaders, famous poets and Artists have been saved in Radio archive). Radio Pakistan museum supports students of Mass Communication, thousands of students of different universities has been visited this museum. This is a bitter reality that this old broadcasting institution is being ignored by the previous Governments, there are old transmitters which have been required for replaced with digitalization, as our neighbor country India has installed latest technology based transmitters and spreading propaganda against Pakistan.

Pakistan is also need to upgrade its transmitters with latest technology; there is no doubt that Radio is the guardian of ideology of boards. Despite of several private TV channels and Social media Radio is still an effective source of communication, Government requires to boost up with latest technology.





SECP's supervision division root of the problems

Wrong decisions destroying SECP's credibility

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has overturned the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan's (SECP) ban on Crescent Star Insurance Limited's (CSIL) guarantee business, terming the regulator's action illegal.

Legal and market observers are viewing the judgment as a significant rebuke of the regulator's enforcement culture. The implications of the SECP's flawed decision and the IHC ruling are still being debated in corporate and financial circles.

The court found that the SECP's December 2024 order barring CSIL's guarantee business violated the Insurance Ordinance, 2000. It stressed that the regulator is legally bound to allow an insurer to submit a compliance plan before taking coercive action, a safeguard that was ignored in this case.

The court also noted that CSIL's guarantee business is a recognised form of non-life insurance and that its use of facultative reinsurance was a lawful commercial practice not subject to additional reinsurance requirements.

The ruling underlines that regulators must operate within their legal boundaries; otherwise, they risk eroding



the very market confidence they are mandated to protect, said a lawyer. The decision has reinforced the perception among some businessmen that the SECP's investigative and adjudicatory arms often act in haste, disregarding legal requirements.

The SECP had accused CSIL of issuing guarantees worth Rs229 billion without valid collateral or reinsurance,

alleging misrepresentation after a reinsurance company denied any agreement. However, the court dismissed these claims, citing procedural lapses. Since the ruling, CSIL has resumed operations and informed the Pakistan Stock Exchange.

Some stakeholders, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the case must prompt an internal review at

the SECP. They warned that arbitrary enforcement decisions make Pakistan appear high-risk to investors, driving capital away. The damage, they stressed, is systemic, not case-specific. They said the SECP's Supervision Division has become a significant obstacle for businesses and the regulator's credibility.

Frequent court rejections of its decisions point to unprofessional conduct and institutional failure. Key assignments should be entrusted to professionals who uphold the law and operate without personal or hidden agendas.

Analysts believe the decision could help deter regulatory overreach but caution that without structural reforms at the SECP, similar disputes are likely to recur. The episode, they say, is a reminder that in Pakistan's fragile investment climate, regulatory missteps can be just as damaging as corporate misconduct.

They argue the case should prompt lawmakers and senior authorities to strengthen oversight of the SECP's decision-making processes. Without transparent enforcement and consistent application of rules, Pakistan risks further weakening its already fragile investment environment, deterring both local and foreign capital at a time when economic recovery remains uncertain.

Fatima Fertilizer Ignites Patriotic Fervor with 'Dil Se Sarsabz' Milli Naghma Competition on Independence Day

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a heartfelt celebration of Pakistan's Independence Day, Fatima Fertilizer brought together the power of music and national pride through its first-ever 'Dil Se Sarsabz' Milli Naghma Competition, held in Islamabad. The campaign invited individuals from across the country to record and share their renditions of classic patriotic songs on TikTok using the hashtag #DilSeSarsabz.

From hundreds of digital entries, ten finalists were shortlisted to perform live in front of a distinguished jury panel at the grand event. The legendary singer and music producer Haroon Rashid joined as a juror, lending his expert judgment to select the top three winners.

The event was attended by senior leadership of Fatima Fertilizer, including Rabel Sadozai, Director of Marketing and Sales, and Asad Murad, Chief Operating Officer, who lauded the participants and shared their thoughts on the campaign's success.

The first prize was awarded to Tahir Ali Khan from Chakwal for an emotionally moving performance, the second prize winner was Shumaila Fareedon from



Islamabad, and Mehtab Ali Talpur from Khairpur secured the third position. In addition, the top three most engaging TikTok entries received exciting surprise gifts, recognizing their digital creativity and audience engagement.

Speaking on the occasion, Rabel Sadozai, Director of Marketing and Sales at Fatima Fertilizer, said, "With 'Dil Se Sarsabz', we aimed to create a platform where the voices of young

Pakistanis could echo their love for the country. The overwhelming response we received shows that the spirit of patriotism is very much alive, and through music and digital platforms, it can inspire a whole new generation."

Asad Murad, Chief Operating Officer of Fatima Fertilizer, added, "As a proud Pakistani brand, Fatima Fertilizer is committed to nurturing not only our lands but also the patriotic spirit of our

people. 'Dil Se Sarsabz' was not just a competition; it was a celebration of identity, unity, and pride."

Fatima Fertilizer's initiative has set a new benchmark for Independence Day celebrations by blending traditional patriotic expression with the digital enthusiasm of today's youth. 'Dil Se Sarsabz' proves that the future of patriotism lies in meaningful, creative engagement, and this campaign proudly led the way.



Celebrating 78 Years of Pakistan: A Journey of Resilience

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Former President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Multan, Mian Rashid Iqbal, while congratulating the nation, said that the historic victory of the struggle of truth against the enemy on the 78th Independence Day has doubled the enjoyment of this great day and the entire nation is celebrating this 14th August as a victor. He further said that the fluttering green crescent flag is

the heartbeat of every Pakistani, the battle of Banyan Marsus made the awe of the Pakistan Army over the enemy an established reality and there is no doubt that this feeling of victory is due to the inspiring leadership of Field Marshal and Chief of Army Staff of Pakistan Asim Munir. Mian Rashid Iqbal said that in 78 years, the Pakistan Army has hoisted the flags of victory on every front and it is still present in the battlefield to root out the enemy elements, especially terrorists, inside and outside the

beloved homeland. He said that Pakistan has come into existence to remain permanent until the Day of Judgment and we all need to say "Every individual is a member of the nation" for the national dignity and the glory of the beloved homeland. We must follow the advice of "Star of Destiny". He said that there is still a lot to be done for the development and progress of the dear homeland and we have to rely on the capabilities of the young generation to adapt to the modern era.

Happiest birthday, our most beloved Pakistan. Infinite best returns of the day

Continued from Page 4

government oscillated between two parties. State actors played their role. Governance suffered. Terrorism grew into a Frankenstein monster. Talk of an existential threat to Pakistan grew louder. But our mother was resilient. She fought back. The common Pakistani understood the threat better. Somehow, we survived.

And then 28th May 1998 happened. We became a nuclear power. India was stunned. The world was shocked. We were equally in awe of our Mother. From the depths of despair, we arose like a phoenix and changed the World stage, maybe forever, becoming the first Muslim Country to have a nuclear bomb.

But then Kargil happened. And because of a host of additional factors, we had our 3rd Martial law in 1999. Thank God, no Prime Minister was hanged this time. And then 9/11 occurred, and again we became the epicentre of the War on Terror. We paid a colossal price. Our Mother's sovereignty suffered. Her sons and daughters died in thousands, with more than 100 billion dollars in damage to the economy. She felt hapless. One crisis led to another. And the haemorrhaging went on and on. But she survived. How is a miracle to say the least.

The political journey was severe. The fissures unleashed by years of neglect, internal squabbling and international

occurrences continued. And then in February 2019, again our Mother stunned India and shocked the World when IAF suffered its biggest loss after the 1965 war. The elation we felt is indescribable. And we knew that despite a host of issues, we would survive.

The political canvas became very harsh. Governance suffered. The State-citizen relationship became stressed. Our Mother was in pain. Inimical forces tried to play havoc with her. But then, 7th-10th May 2025, occurred. We gave a beating to India, and it will never forget. Akhand Bharat was buried. India became a laughing stock in the world. Operation Bunyan al-Marsoos devoured the regional hegemon. The excite-

ment, pride and satisfaction felt by every Pakistani of whatever background or political bent was unmatched since 1965.

Tenacity is the top quality of our Mother. As very briefly mentioned above, despite huge odds starting from its first breath, she has weathered the severest storms but has not only survived but rather progressed. Catering to nearly 250 million people, the 5th largest population on the planet is what only our Mother could do. Yes, there are problems. Yes, lots of them are because of our own follies, but look around the world. Which Country is problem-free? And for a second, my dear Pakistanis, close your eyes and think of the Muslims living in Modi's India. It sends shudders down

the spine. We are free. We are independent. Freedom is the biggest gift of life, and we have it.

But it's high time we put our house in order. A mother is the greatest gift bestowed on a human. We have no right to hurt her. If something happens to her, we will become total orphans. If she is strong, so are we.

So, let's resolve to do our bit to give her strength and take care of her needs. She is 78 and will be 100 years old in no time. The biggest happiness she can have is to have a calm, peaceful and progressive populace, who believe in inclusivity and freedom of thought. That would indeed be the best present for her.

We love you, our beloved Pakistan. Pakistan Zindabad.

Independence Day being celebrated with spirit of 'Ma'arka-e-Haq' against India: Murad Shah



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Wednesday said this year's Independence Day is being celebrated with the spirit of "Ma'arka-e-Haq" against India, and that special children

are also taking part in the celebrations.

He expressed these views while attending the Grand Festival for Special Children organized by Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPD) and Noor Ali Trust.

The Chief Minister said that special children are the shining stars of Sindh and a source of boundless inspiration. "Today's festival is a declaration of inclusion, equality, and human dignity," he said.

Speaking at the event, CM Shah said it was an honor and a matter of pride for him to address special children, adding that the day symbolizes not only celebration, but also a reaffirmation of Sindh's commitment.

"Sindh is committed to inclusion, equality, and the respect of every individual," he noted. "The presence of special children and their families is a symbol of courage."

Highlighting recent developments, the Chief Minister stated, "Together, we have defeated India in such a way that has reignited our spirit of independence." He added that the province has decided to observe 14 days of Independence Day celebrations to mark this symbolic victory.

He also announced plans to visit the mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah on Thursday (August 14) to pay his respects.

"We are ready to make every kind of sacrifice for the freedom of our country," the CM declared.

During the event, CM Murad Ali Shah visited stalls set up by and for special children and appreciated their efforts. He emphasized that the 1973 Constitution, given by Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto to our country, guarantees the rights of differently-abled persons under Articles 25 and 38 and also protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

He also pledged partnership with civil society and relevant institutions for inclusive development.

Disability is not a limitation—it is a valuable part of human diversity, he added.

Earlier, on arrival at the ceremony, the CM was welcomed by Minister for Religious Affairs Riaz Shah Sherazi, Secretary Taha Farooqui, and other officials. On this occasion, Murad Shah was seen wearing a shirt featuring the national flag, symbolizing the spirit of Independence Day celebrations.

SECP has issued the Notification of Final Amendments in the Public Offering Regime

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has notified the final amendments to the public offering regime. The regime—comprising the Public Offering Regulations, 2017 and the Public Offering (Regulated Securities Activities Licensing) Regulations, 2017—governs the offer of equity securities, debt instruments, and units of REIT schemes to the general public.

The revamped regime has become effective from the date of notification, i.e., August 6, 2025. Future IPO transactions shall be executed in accordance with the amended regulations.

The SECP had earlier approved amendments to the public offering regime following wide-ranging stakeholder consultations. The updated regulations aim to optimize the IPO experience for issuers and investors by promoting competition, leveraging technology, improving transparency, and introducing a more robust and inclusive price discovery mechanism in the capital market.

Key changes include permitting banks and DFIs to act as Consultants to the Issue for equity offerings, as well as introducing a more transparent price discovery process by replacing the single book runner model with the concept of "Eligible Participant", enabling wider investor participation.

Attock DPO Visits Virtual Women Police Station, Marks Independence Day with Cake Cutting

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: District Police Officer Attock, Sardar Mavarshan Khan, visited the Virtual Women Police Station, City Attock, established under the vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz. During the visit, he directed police officers to treat all visiting women with dignity and respect, emphasising that misbehaviour with any citizen will not be tolerated.

The DPO stated that these police stations, set up under the special instructions of the Chief Minister, aim to empower women in society. Later, he, along with the staff of the Protection Centre, Khidmat Markaz, and Virtual Women Police Station, participated in a cake-cutting ceremony to mark the 14th August Independence Day celebrations.

"Silent Surges and Assessing the impacts of climate change in Northern Areas of Pakistan"

Eman Fatima

I writing for the deep concern about the growing frequency and intensity of Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) in Pakistan's northern regions especially Gilgit Baltistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The current signals for floods compounded by means of heavy monsoon forecast aren't isolated incidents but alarming signs of Pakistan's growing climate fragility. Regularly unfolding without immediate caution these "silent surges" are the end result of unexpectedly melting glaciers.

While these regions play a crucial role in tourism and biodiversity, Pakistan is domestic to over 7,000 glaciers making it rather reliable to climate-triggered failures. Greater than 3,000 glacial lakes have made in Gilgit-Baltistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with 33 diagnosed as high danger. A state of emergency was declared (August 1, 2025) across 37 flood affected areas of Gilgit Baltistan. At least 10 deaths mostly tourists 4 injuries and 10-15 still missing bodies not yet recovered. Infrastructure losses estimated at PKR 20 billion. We lack good enough early caution structures, emergency infrastructure and recognition campaigns in a lot of those high-chance zones.

These all are occur due to poor environment planning they need urgent public awareness and government action needed to protect local communities and protect natural environment. (emanfatimahilzq380@gmail.com)

Called on

RAWALPINDI: Colonel General Karim Valiyev, First Deputy Minister of Defence and Chief of the General Staff of the Azerbaijan Army, called on Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff (COAS), at General Headquarters (GHQ).



Photo: ISPR

Pakistan, Azerbaijan vow to advance defence, security cooperation

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Colonel General Karim Valiyev, First Deputy Minister of Defence and Chief of the General Staff of the Azerbaijan Army, called on Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff (COAS), at General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi on Wednesday.

According to an ISPR statement, the meeting encompassed discussions on matters of mutual interest, with particular focus on the prevailing global and regional security landscape.

The COAS reaffirmed Pakistan's deep fraternal bonds with Azerbaijan and reiterated the resolve to further consolidate bilateral relations.

The COAS also congratulated the visiting dignitary on the successful

conclusion of the peace agreement between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

The visiting dignitary praised Pakistan Armed Forces for their professionalism and success in Maarka-e-Haq, Operation Bunyanum Marsoos.

The delegation also extended best wishes for the upcoming Independence Day and Victory celebrations. The COAS thanked Azerbaijan's leadership and people for standing together with the people of Pakistan during Maarka-e-Haq and also for sending the Azeri contingent for participating in the Independence Day ceremony.

Both military leaders expressed a shared commitment to advancing defence cooperation and promoting joint efforts for regional peace and stability.

On the occasion, Colonel General Karim Valiyev conferred upon Field

Marshal Asim Munir, Azerbaijan's prestigious Patriotic War Medal for "Services in the Field of Military Cooperation", on behalf of President Ilham Aliyev, in recognition of his exceptional contributions in Azerbaijan-Pakistan bilateral military cooperation.

He commended Pakistan's unwavering efforts in combating terrorism and reaffirmed Azerbaijan's determination to enhance collaboration in defence and security. The visiting dignitary conveyed gratitude for Pakistan's warm hospitality and steadfast support for Azerbaijan.

Earlier, upon arrival at GHQ, Colonel General Karim Valiyev was presented with the guard of honour by a smartly turned-out contingent of the Pakistan Army. He also laid a floral wreath at the Yadgar-e-Shuhada.

Ambassador of Japan felicitates Pakistani People on the Independence Day

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: H. E. Mr. Akamatsu Shuichi, the Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, has extended his heartfelt felicitations to the Government and the people of Pakistan on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on August 14.



In his video message, Ambassador Akamatsu said "My dear Pakistani friends, heartiest congratulations to all of you on Pakistan's Independence Day. Japan stands side by side with you for a strong and prosperous Pakistan. Happy Independence Day to all of you. Long Live Japan-Pakistan Friendship"

To mark this special festive occasion, Japanese and the Pakistani staff of the Embassy sang the iconic national song of Pakistan "Jeevay Jeevay Pakistan" to express their joy and solidarity with the people of Pakistan celebrating Independence Day festivities.

CM Maryam pays respect as Data Ganj Bakhsh urs begins

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif paid her respect on the beginning of the 982nd Urs celebrations of Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh (RA).

In her statement, Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif ordered to ensure peace and security during the Urs of Data Ganj Bakhsh (RA) and Chehlum of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA).

The Chief Minister directed to make foolproof security arrangements on the occasion of the Chehlum of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) and the Urs of Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh (RA).

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif directed to continue the traditions of wonderful hospitality for pilgrims visiting the Urs of Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh.

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif further directed to make more facilities in the arrangements of langar and saabel for pilgrims.

Maryam Nawaz directed to pay special attention to security and traffic management around Data Darbar.

Maryam Nawaz said the pilgrims visiting the Urs of Data Ganj Bakhsh are our valued guests and they should

Azerbaijan envoy calls on President Zardari, discusses bilateral ties



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has reaffirmed Pakistan's firm resolve to further deepen its brotherly ties with Azerbaijan, built on mutual trust, shared values and common aspirations.

He was talking to the Ambassador of Azerbaijan Khazar Farhadov in Islamabad on Wednesday. He said Pakistan views Azerbaijan as a key partner and contribute to shared prosperity. Asif Ali Zardari congratulated the Ambassador on the historic peace agreement with Armenia and asked him to convey his felicitations to President Ilham Aliyev and the people of Azerbaijan.

The President underscored that enhanced trade links, investment partnerships and improved regional connectivity would bring the two countries closer and contribute to shared prosperity. Asif Ali Zardari congratulated the Ambassador on the historic peace agreement with Armenia and asked him to convey his felicitations to President Ilham Aliyev and the people of Azerbaijan.

He said the agreement will usher in lasting peace, stability, and prosperity for the region. The President said Pakistan believes in resolving issues and conflicts through dialogue and peaceful means, based on mutual understanding and respect.

Russian Embassy extends Independence Day greetings to Pakistan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Russian Embassy in Pakistan has extended warm felicitations to the people of Pakistan on the country's Independence Day.

In a statement, the embassy's spokesperson congratulated Pakistan on 78 years of independent development, noting the nation's achievements in various fields and its strengthened standing in the international arena, even highlighting its contributions

to space exploration.

The message praised the resilience of the Pakistani people, who, despite numerous challenges, remain committed to their traditional values and the vision of the country's founders, Allama Muhammad Iqbal and Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. The embassy added that Pakistani citizens can "rightfully be proud of their country" and wished them continued success, prosperity, and well-being.

Iranian ambassador hails Pakistan's resilience, unity on Independence Day

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Iran's Ambassador to Pakistan, Dr. Reza Amiri Moghadam, has extended heartfelt greetings to the government and people of Pakistan on the nation's 78th Independence Day, praising the country's resilience, unity, and achievements.

He, in his congratulatory message, said, "On behalf of myself, the Government, and the people of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I extend my warmest and sincere congratulations to the esteemed Government and the honourable nation of our friendly, neighbouring, and brotherly country, Pakistan."

Paying tribute to the values of the Pakistani nation, he noted that August 14 marked a moment of pride, cele-

brating the country's "indefatigable and extraordinary resilience, unity, and remarkable achievements."

The envoy highlighted the deep-rooted bonds of friendship, mutual respect, and cooperation between Iran and Pakistan, stating that strong leadership on both sides and the collective efforts of all sectors had ushered in "a new era of hope and optimism" in bilateral relations, marking a "historic turning point" in all-round ties.

Reaffirming his commitment to strengthening the partnership, Dr. Moghadam expressed his wishes for Pakistan's continued prosperity, stability, and progress, adding, "We wholeheartedly pray for the enduring friendship between our two great nations to grow ever stronger."

14 اگست

پاکستانی عوام کو 78 واں یومِ جشنِ آزادی اور معرکہ حق کی فتح مبارک 14 اگست 2025

چیف ایگزیکٹو فیئر فیض اللہ ڈاہری کی قیادت میں جسکو انتظامیہ کی جانب سے صاف دوست سروس پالیسی کے تحت لوڈ شیڈنگ سے آزادی کی خوشخبری

8 عدد 11 کے وی فیڈرز روڈ شیڈنگ ZERO کر دیئے ہیں۔ لوڈ شیڈنگ سے آزادی

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1۔ یکن سمانی | 2۔ بینس | 3۔ شاد نالی امری | 4۔ ہڈا سنگیم |
| 5۔ نعمان کاوٹی ٹیرو آدم | 6۔ سکارپ شہداد پور | 7۔ پانی 1 | 8۔ ساگر مٹی 1 |

روشنیوں کا سفر جشنِ آزادی کے ساتھ جاری رہے گا۔

دن و ناکسٹروس پالیسی کے تحت مکمل پکیریاں سکریٹریٹ سٹارٹ اپ ایٹا میٹر اپنی ریڈنگ دوبارلایم کی بہت قاسم ہارمین کے میرٹ کے پروموشن

آپریشن سب ڈویژن کے لئے گاڑیاں فراہم کرنا صیگو کی طرح میں مکمل مرتبہ بیڈ انٹرن شپ پالیسی کا آغاز غریب رانڈا مرز کی جگہ سے رانڈا مرز لگانے کی پالیسی

ان تمام اقدامات کو عوام نے بے حد سراہا اور جسکو انتظامیہ پر اعتماد کیا ہے، مکمل تعاون بھی کیا ہے شکر یہ عوام

حیدر آباد الیکٹرک سپلائی کمپنی (حیسکو) HESCO شہر تعلقات عامر

PID(H) 73-A/2025

Hamdard Pakistan Celebrates Independence Day with Pride

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Hamdard Pakistan marked the 14th August Independence Day with zeal and patriotic fervour by organising a special cake-cutting ceremony yesterday at Hamdard Corporate Head Office, featuring national songs and the hoisting of the national flag.

Ms Sadia Rashid, President of Hamdard Pakistan, attended as the chief guest and cut the cake. Also present were Ms Fatema Munir Ahmed—Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer; Mr Faisal Nadeem, Chief Operating Officer; Abu Talib Bhutto—Group Director HR, along with senior management and staff members, who prayed for the safety and progress of the country.

Ms Sadia Rashid said, “14 August is a day when we pay tribute to the struggle and sacrifices of our forefathers and elders, who, under the leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, remained steadfast in achieving the creation of Pakistan. On this day, we must reaffirm our commitment to serve and contribute to the progress of our country. Hamdard Pakistan’s valuable contributions in the fields of health and education reflect the institution’s patriotism, selflessness, and determination.”

She also said “Hamdard Pakistan was founded by the Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said with the resolve to



serve the nation. Therefore, all national days, including 10th Ramazan (Youn-e-Bab-ul-Islam) and 27th Ramazan (Laylatul Qadr), are commemorated with religious devotion and national spirit. We must pledge to uphold the

golden principles of “Faith, Unity, Discipline” and the saying of Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said, “Love Pakistan, Build Pakistan.”

Hamdard workers also paid tribute to the founder, Shaheed Hakim

Mohammed Said, recalling his dream of a bright and prosperous Pakistan, his vision of enlightening young minds, his acts of public service, and his outstanding contributions to the health sector.

CTO Rawalpindi appoints Chaudhry Naeem as City Traffic Police Ambassador

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: CTO Rawalpindi Farhan Aslam was congratulated on assuming office by Chaudhry Muhammad Naeem, Patron-in-Chief of the Restaurants, Caterers, Sweets, and Bakers Association, along with President Chaudhry Muhammad Farooq and Senior Vice President Chaudhry Zahid Mahmood. They presented him with a bouquet of flowers to mark the occasion.

On this occasion, CTO Rawalpindi appointed Chaudhry Muhammad Naeem, founder of Savour Foods, as the Ambassador of City Traffic Police and appreciated the Association for responsibly fulfilling its duties. He stated that the police will continue to support the association as always and expressed hope that, like in the past, the association will continue to cooperate in maintaining the discipline of the city.

Chaudhry Muhammad Naeem thanked CTO Farhan Aslam and



expressed his best wishes for him.

On the occasion, Association President Chaudhry Muhammad Farooq stated that the city of Rawalpindi has always needed dutiful officers. Police officers are our pride, and without the police administration, the rule of law

cannot be upheld. He paid tribute to the Pakistan Armed Forces and all police officers, including CTO Farhan Aslam, who defend Pakistan’s borders selflessly, without regard for their own lives. He further affirmed the Association’s full support for the police and

assured continued solidarity with their police brothers.

Senior Vice President Chaudhry Zahid Mahmood, fully agreeing with the Association President’s remarks, also welcomed CTO Farhan Aslam on behalf of the Association.

Independence Day is being celebrated as a victory and triumph in the “struggle for truth”: Syed Tanveer

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: On the occasion of Independence Day, August 14, a cake cutting ceremony was organized by the Professional Photographers Association at the D-Ground to mark the victory in the struggle for truth. Chairman Syed Tanveer Hussain Zaidi, President Muhammad Ahmed, General Secretary Qasur Munir Sheikh, Vice Presidents Muhammad Shahid, Muhammad Asif Makhani, Information Secretary Rao Mubashir, Photojournalist Abdul Majid, Shahzad Bhatti, Muhammad



Shakeel, Muhammad Afzal, Muhammad Shahid, Muhammad Hussain, Shakeel Naik, Tariq Mahmood Iqbal,

Sheikh Nadeem, Muazam Yaqoob, Manan, Malik Amjad and others were present at the event. Speaking

to the media on this occasion, President Muhammad Ahmed said that if the God-given state of Pakistan is to be included in the ranks of dignified countries, then politicians will have to sit together and sign a new agreement in the light of Muhammad Ali Jinnah’s thoughts. Institutions will have to return to their limits. Civilian supremacy will have to be given priority. If the real rule is that of the people, then the country will gallop on the highway of development. Finally, prayers were also offered for the progress and achievements of the Pakistan Army and the country of Pakistan.

National unity and reaffirmation of founding principles must be promoted, says Zahid Bakhtawari

City Desk



RAWALPINDI: Zahid Bakhtawari, Chairman of Tehreek-e-Difah-e-Pakistan, extended heartfelt congratulations to the nation on Independence Day. He said that August 14 is a day to promote unity and reaffirm the founding principles of the nation. “We must remember that freedom was not handed to us on a silver platter. Our forefathers sacrificed their lives, wealth, and honor so that we could breathe freely in an independent Muslim state today,” he said.

Expressing his thoughts on the occasion of Independence Day, Bakhtawari stated that August 14 marks the end of British colonial rule. “This day reminds us how our leaders and ancestors turned the dream of a separate Muslim homeland into reality. The sacrifices of those who fought for the creation of Pakistan will always be remembered.”

Zahid Bakhtawari also stressed that the people of Pakistan should reflect on the reasons why independence was necessary in the first place. “If we drift away from our core objectives, it will become easier for enemies of the nation to wipe us out. He warned that Pakistan is a Muslim state with a unique identity, and many enemies are lying in wait for us to falter. If we still fail to learn from our mistakes, I fear it may soon be too late.

He concluded by saying, “We must all unite and reaffirm our commitment to the ideals of democracy, justice, and progress.”

NBP Protectorate Sub-Office Branch, Rawalpindi, celebrated Jashn-e-Azadi



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: NBP Protectorate Sub-Office Branch, Rawalpindi, a cake-cutting ceremony was held to celebrate Jashn-e-Azadi under the patronage of the Operations Chief, NBP Rawalpindi, Syed Anjum Naseer.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of the Chief Guest, renowned senior journalist Mohsin Raza, along with Director Protectorate Rawalpindi/Islamabad Farrukh Jamal, senior citizens, and staff members.

Concluding the event, Syed Anjum Naseer offered prayers for the success and prosperity of the nation. He emphasized that the National Bank of Pakistan and the Overseas Immigration Office must continue working together to strengthen foreign remittances, thereby playing a vital role in the country’s economic growth.

Kashmiris to celebrate Pakistan’s Independence Day, reaffirm call for Kashmir’s freedom: Altaf Ahmed Bhat

MIRPUR: Senior leader of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) and Chairman of the Jammu and Kashmir Salvation Movement (JKSM), Altaf Ahmed Bhat, has extended heartfelt felicitations to the people of Pakistan and the country’s civil and military leadership on the occasion of Pakistan’s Independence Day.



In an interview with APP on Wednesday, Bhat said the bond between Pakistan and Jammu and Kashmir is rooted in shared faith, culture, and a historic struggle for freedom. “Pakistan’s independence is incomplete without the freedom of Kashmir. The promise made on July 19, 1947, through the Resolution for Accession to Pakistan, remains our guiding principle,” he stated.

He urged the Government of Pakistan to intensify political, diplomatic, and moral efforts for the liberation of Jammu and Kashmir and to ensure the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions on the dispute. “Diplomatic steps by the Government of Pakistan are crucial for the freedom of Kashmir, and it is imperative that all political leadership of Pakistan craft decisive and innovative diplomatic strategies to advance this cause,” he emphasized. Referring to U. S. President Donald Trump’s remarks on mediation, Bhat said international facilitation should be pursued to bring lasting peace to the region. Bhat highlighted that after the recent conflict with India—which Pakistan won with resilience, Alhamdulillah—Kashmir has re-emerged as the most dangerous flashpoint in South Asia. He condemned India’s ongoing oppression in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), where young people are being martyred daily to silence the voice of freedom.

GCWUF Marks 78th Independence Day with Patriotic Zeal

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Government College Women University Faisalabad (GCWUF) celebrated Pakistan’s 78th Independence Day and Marka-e-Haq 2025 victory with a vibrant series of activities blending patriotism, environmental awareness, innovation, and creative expression.

The day began with the inauguration of a patriotic poster display, with Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Kanwal Ameen (T. I.) as the chief guest. She commended the students’ creativity in portraying the sacrifices of the nation’s heroes and emphasized the role of such activities in instilling pride in Pakistan’s history and values.

A seminar on Freedom of Speech, the Constitution of Pakistan, and Safeguarding National Security followed. Guest speaker Brig. (R) Dr.

Abdul Hameed, Sitara-e-Imtiaz (Military), highlighted the sacrifices made for independence and urged responsible use of social media, while Prof. Dr. Humayun Abbas discussed the role of Paigham-e-Pakistan in fostering unity.

The Vice Chancellor praised the seminar for promoting national spirit, encouraging students to use their skills for the country’s progress and to promote positive digital content. She also appreciated the Directorate of Student Affairs for organizing meaningful activities that ignite patriotism.

Other highlights included a monsoon plantation drive with environmental partners, a bilingual speech competition on Marka-e-Haq, and a Tech Exhibition & Competition showcasing innovative projects in digital defense, gaming, AR/VR, and Islamic tech heritage.



The celebrations reflected GCWUF’s commitment to nurturing patriotism, innovation, and social responsibility among youth.

Telenor Pakistan Secures No. 1 position in Cybersecurity with PTA Awards 2025

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Telenor Pakistan has once again received top honors at the Telecom Cyber Security Awards 2025, organized by the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA). The company was recognized in Category (1)—industry’s benchmark for cyber threat defense, information security, and resilience—for its outstanding compliance with the Critical Telecom Data and Infrastructure Security Regulations (CTDISR). This achievement follows PTA’s rigorous annual audit and revalidation process, which assesses operators on their adherence to stringent cybersecurity protocols safeguarding Pakistan’s national telecom infrastructure. Telenor Pakistan achieved one of the highest compliance percentages in the industry, reaffirming its position as a leader in cybersecurity readiness. The award was presented to Awais



Vohra, Chief Technology Officer and Shan ul Haq, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer at Telenor Pakistan, by Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja, Federal

Minister for IT & Telecommunication, during a ceremony attended by senior government officials, the PTA Chairman, and industry leaders from

the telecom and technology sectors. Commenting on the recognition, Awais Vohra, Chief Technology Officer, Telenor Pakistan said: “Winning this award for the second year in a row reflects Telenor Pakistan’s strong commitment to protecting our customers’ data, network, and systems from evolving cyber threats. We ensure that security is embedded from the design phase whenever we develop a product or service, enabling us to build trust and resilience from the ground up. We will continue to strengthen our security measures, work closely with industry partners, and introduce new solutions to help create a safer digital future for Pakistan.” This consecutive win underscores Telenor Pakistan’s commitment to setting new industry standards for cybersecurity excellence and its continued contribution to building a secure, resilient, and trusted digital ecosystem in Pakistan.

Colourful lights

KARACHI: Decorated view of the KPT Building with colourful lights signifies its participation in national celebration and fosters a sense of shared pride and unity with the theme of “Maarka-e-Haq” (Struggle for Right) profoundly resonant for Pakistan’s Independence Day.



‘Cheezious Celebrated Independence Day 2025 with “Dil Se Cheezious, Dil Se Pakistani”

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Cheezious, Pakistan’s leading food brand, marked the nation’s 78th Independence Day with an exclusive internal celebration at its Head Office, held under the patriotic theme “Dil Se Cheezious, Dil Se Pakistani,” the event was attended by CEO Imran

Ijaz alongside notable personalities, paying tribute to Pakistan’s heritage and values. “Independence Day is not just a date on the calendar; it’s a reminder of who we are and what we stand for as Pakistanis,” said Imran Ijaz, CEO of Cheezious. “As a homegrown brand, we take pride in serving from the



heart, celebrating our heritage, and giving back to the community. ‘Dil Se Cheezious, Dil Se Pakistani’ is more than a theme — it’s our way of life.” The celebration featured a flag-hoisting ceremony, inspiring speeches, and a reflection on Cheezious’ journey

as a proudly Pakistani brand. It fostered employee engagement, unity, and national pride, while reinforcing the brand’s commitment to quality, innovation, and social responsibility — delivering “Cheezy Khushiyan” to communities nationwide.

Pak-Qatar Group Partners with NDS Technologies to Power Digital Transformation

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Pak-Qatar Group is pleased to announce the signing of a strategic agreement with NDS Technologies (Pvt.) Ltd. to deploy H3C’s cutting-edge Hyper-Converged Infrastructure (HCI) solution as the foundational pillar of its evolving IT ecosystem. This partnership was officially formalized during a ceremony at the Pak-Qatar Head Office, signifying a major advancement in the company’s digital transformation journey. Under the terms of the agreement, Pak-Qatar Group will integrate H3C’s advanced HCI technology across its core platforms. The adoption of this solution is expected to substantially enhance operational efficiency, streamline resource utilization, and



enable seamless scalability. These capabilities will ensure the organization remains agile and adaptive

in a dynamic business environment, while supporting continuous innovation and improving customer-centric

service delivery. By embracing H3C’s HCI, Pak-Qatar Group aims to bolster its data security, simplify IT governance, and reduce system complexity, laying the groundwork for future digital initiatives and responsive service delivery. This strategic collaboration underscores Pak-Qatar Group’s forward-looking strategy to maintain leadership in technological advancement within the Islamic financial services sector. By leveraging H3C’s high-performance infrastructure, well known for its robust architecture, unified management, and enhanced virtualization capabilities, the organization is poised to deliver more secure, seamless, and reliable experiences to its participants nationwide.

Message from President Faisalabad Chamber on Independence Day

Abdul Majid



FAISALABAD: President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Rehan Naseem Bharara, while congratulating the nation on the 78th Independence Day, stressed the need for coordinated efforts for the security and development of the dear homeland. In his special message, the President of the Chamber said that during the Pakistan Movement, our ancestors made unparalleled sacrifices, due to which today we are breathing in free air. He said that this Independence Day is an occasion of double happiness for us because the armed forces of Pakistan also demonstrated their military superiority in response to the cowardly attack of India under the leadership of Field Marshal Hafiz Asim Munir while also achieving great successes diplomatically. He said that now Pakistan is fully ready to start a new journey on the economic front and we are confident that our dear homeland will soon be among the developed countries. He said that the world is currently facing serious threats of environmental pollution. Despite its small contribution to climate change, Pakistan is among the top affected countries. He urged the youth to celebrate this day by removing the silencers of their motorcycles, refraining from one-wheeling and playing the bajaj, and to plant at least one sapling on this Independence Day so that Pakistan can be truly made a pollution-free and green country.

PFC and ChenOne jointly celebrated Independence Day



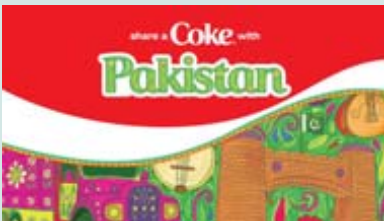
Commerce Desk

LAHORE: The Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) and ChenOne Wednesday jointly celebrated Independence Day in a befitting manner, reaffirming their commitment to the nation’s progress and prosperity. The event, held at head office of PFC and ChenOne flagship store, was decorated in vibrant green and white, symbolizing the spirit of freedom and unity. Participants, including PFC leadership, ChenOne executives, staff, and customers, joined in national songs, flag-hoisting, and cake-cutting ceremonies to mark the auspicious occasion. Speaking on the occasion, PFC Chief Executive Mian Kashif Ashfaq praised the resilience, hard work, and unity of the Pakistani people, stressing the importance of economic growth and self-reliance. Ms Maria Tauqir, GM Interiors Chenone said special discounts and promotional offers were announced at ChenOne outlets nationwide to honor customers and share the joy of Independence Day. Both organizations reiterated their resolve to continue contributing to Pakistan’s economic and social development, particularly by supporting local artisans and industries. The celebrations concluded with prayers for peace, stability, and prosperity of Pakistan, reflecting the collective hope for a brighter future for the nation.

Share a Coke with Pakistan: Coca-Cola’s Tribute to Pakistan’s Rich Cultural Heritage

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Coca-Cola Pakistan is celebrating the country’s Independence Day by integrating its iconic ‘Share A Coke’ campaign with Pakistan’s rich cultural motifs. “Share a Coke with Pakistan” features beautifully designed floats and carts, offering fans Independence Day-themed bottles and eye-catching billboards across the country adorned with traditional icons.



Sunay Sanlı, General Manager of Coca-Cola İçecek (CCI), Turkish bottling partner of Coca-Cola Pakistan, said, “For decades, Coca-Cola Beverages Pakistan has been woven into the very fabric of this nation, connecting deeply with its culture, people, and economy. “Share a Coke with Pakistan” campaign celebrates this enduring bond that transcends business. With thousands of Pakistanis integral to every level of the Coca-Cola System’s value chain, this partnership embodies the profound friendship between Pakistan and Türkiye. Through Coca-Cola İçecek’s comprehensive bottling, distribution, and retail network, we don’t just serve refreshment – we continue our journey as a cherished part of Pakistani households and a living symbol of Turkish-Pakistani friendship.”

Sami Wahid, General Manager of Coca-Cola Pakistan, expressed his excitement about the campaign, saying, “Six years after independence, in 1953, Coca-Cola Pakistan became a part of this nation and has since been present on all major occasions, including Independence Day celebrations.

“Share a Coke with Pakistan” builds on this legacy by incorporating block-printed ajrak patterns of Sindh, colorful embroidery from various regions, flamboyant truck art that is a hallmark of Pakistani roads, delicate floral and geometric designs of Mughal miniature paintings, and the stunning blue pottery from Multan and Hala. It is a testament to the beautiful journey that Coca-Cola and Pakistan are on together.

Scattered showers, humid weather forecast for Lahore

LAHORE: Scattered showers with humid conditions were recorded in the city on Wednesday, with the MET Office forecasting similar weather over the next 24 hours. Rain began early in the morning and continued intermittently until noon across various localities. According to MET officials, a seasonal low persists over north Balochistan, while moist currents from the Arabian Sea are affecting the upper parts of the country. Hot and humid weather is expected to continue over most plain areas, though partly cloudy skies with rain, wind, or thundershowers are likely at isolated spots in northeast Punjab, the Pothohar region, upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Kashmir, and Gilgit-Baltistan. Rain was also reported in Kotli, Garhi Dopatta, Muzaffarabad, Malam Jabba, Kakul, Sialkot, Murree, Narowal, Gujranwala, Faisalabad, and Babusar. The highest temperature on Tuesday was recorded in Dalbandin at 45°C, while Lahore registered 38°C.