



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



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President of Turkmenistan felicitates country's leadership on Independence day

President Serdar Berdimuhamedov has felicitated the country's leadership and entire nation on Independence day and wishes for strengthening the bilateral ties between both sides. President Serdar congratulating the President, Zardari and Prime Minister, Shahbaz Sharif, and the entire nation on the occasion of the 78th National Day of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.



US Secretary, Senators congratulate Pakistan on Independence Day

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has extended warm congratulations to the people of Pakistan on Independence Day. In a statement, he said the United States deeply appreciates Pakistan's engagement on counter-terrorism and trade.

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Celebrations

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif attends flag hoisting ceremony at Pakistan Monument on Thursday.



Photo: PID

Independence Day

PM unveils Army Rocket Force Command to sharpen combat edge

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday announced the formation of the Army Rocket Force Command, saying it would further enhance the country's combat capabilities.

Speaking at a grand ceremony at Islamabad's Jinnah Ground to mark the 78th Independence Day, he said the force — equipped with modern technology and capable of striking the enemy from all direc-

tions — would be another milestone in strengthening Pakistan's conventional military power.

He said Pakistan's triumph in the Marka-e-Haq had taught India "a lesson their generations will remember until the end of time."

The prime minister said the victory in the Marka-e-Haq proved that "the freedom our forefathers achieved through immense sacrifice will be safeguarded with full capability and

resolve."

The prime minister also invited all political parties to join the "Charter of Stability", saying it is not only an economic pact but also a matter of national interest.

He said the proposed charter was not merely an economic revival plan but a framework based on broader national interest.

PM Shehbaz congratulated the nation on completing 78 years of independence, noting that

the day was steeped in history and marked by the sacrifices of martyrs.

He said Marka-e-Haq was not merely a battle for freedom but "a victory for the Two-Nation Theory."

He said India launched an unprovoked attack on Pakistan based on false accusations, believing its military might could subdue the country.

"But they forgot wars are not won by weapons alone — they

require fearless sons willing to risk their lives," he said.

Within four days, he added, India's pride was "shattered into dust" by a military backed by Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Gen Sahir Shamshad Mirza, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Babar, and Naval Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf — "leaders whose courage and skill led soldiers to teach India a historic lesson."

Continued on Page 7

Services chiefs, armed forces felicitate nation on 78th Independence Day



Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff; General Sahir Shamshad Mirza, NI (M), Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee; Admiral Naveed Ashraf, NI (M), Chief of the Naval Staff; and Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Babar Sidhu, NI (M), Chief of the Air Staff, on behalf of the Armed Forces of Pakistan, extend heartfelt felicitations to the nation on the auspicious occasion of Pakistan's 78th Independence Day — marking the triumph of unity, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to a shared vision for a brighter future.

"As we pay homage to our founding fathers, we honour their indomitable spirit, resolute determination, and unparalleled sacrifices under the visionary leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, sacrifices that paved the way for independence. Their courage, foresight and unshakable faith in the cause of freedom remain an enduring beacon of guid-

ance," said a statement issued by Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR).

The Armed Forces pay solemn tribute to the visionaries, statesmen and soldiers who laid our nation's foundations, cherishing their legacy with deep reverence and gratitude, the statement added.

As guardians of national security, we reaffirm our unwavering resolve to safeguard Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity, uphold the Constitution, and protect the values that define our national identity, the ISPR statement said.

The unbreakable bond between the Armed Forces and the people is the cornerstone of our collective strength, the statement said, adding that "on this Independence Day, let us renew our resolve to strive for peace, progress, and unity, upholding the ideals of Faith, Unity, and Discipline to realize the dream of a resilient, prosperous, and progressive Pakistan."

Pakistan Armed Forces Zindabad Pakistan Paindabad.

Apex court issues new SC Rules 2025

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court of Pakistan (SCP) has formally published the Supreme Court Rules, 2025, replacing the Supreme Court Rules, 1980. This major reform reflects the Court's commitment to modernization, digitalization, and bring justice system procedural clarity, in line with global governance of law.

Framed under Article 191 of the Constitution, the new Rules replace outdated provisions and bring court procedures in line with contemporary legal, constitutional, and technological developments. They have come into immediate effect.

To carry out this revision, the

Chief Justice of Pakistan constituted a committee comprising Justice Shahid Waheed, Justice Irfan Saadat Khan, Justice Naeem Akhter Afghani, and Justice Aqeel Ahmed Abbasi. The Committee engaged with Judges, the Pakistan Bar Council, the Supreme Court Bar Association, and other Bar Associations. The final draft was placed before the Full Court and approved after detailed deliberation.

The Supreme Court Rules, 2025 consist of seven Parts, thirty-eight Orders, and six Schedules, with approximately 280 provisions amended (including 160 from the Schedules), 60 new provisions added, and 5 outdated provisions deleted.

President confers Hilal-i-Jurat award upon Field Marshal Asim Munir

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: A ceremony was held at the President's House in Islamabad on Thursday in connection with Independence Day and Marka-e-Haq to confer awards upon the country's civil and military leaders.

Field Marshal Asim Munir and Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Babar Sidhu were awarded Hilal-e-Jurat, while others were awarded Nishan-i-Imtiaz.

Nishan-i-Imtiaz was conferred upon Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Sahir Shamshad Mirza.

Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi, Information Minister Attaullah Tarar, Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Federal Law Minister Azam Nazir Tarar, Defence

Minister Khawaja Asif, Federal Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal, Adviser to PM Rana Sanaullah and PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari were awarded Nishan-i-Imtiaz.

ISI Chief Lieutenant General Muhammad Asim Malik and Director General Inter Services Public Relations Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry were given Sitara-e-Basalt.

Sitara-i-Jurat was awarded to Wing Commanders Bilal Raza and Hammad Ibne Masood, Squadron Leaders Muhammad Yousaf Khan, Muhammad Osama Ishfaq, Muhammad Hassan Anees, Talal Hassan, Fida Muhammad Khan and Muhammad Ashhad Amir of the Pakistan Air Force.

Members of the Prime Minister's diplomatic mission were



also awarded Hilal-e-Imtiaz for effectively highlighting Pakistan's position abroad. These include: Minister for Climate Change Musadik Masood Malik, SAPM Syed Tariq Fatemi, Senator Sherry Rehman, Senator Faisal Sabzwari, Senator Bushra Anjum, Hina Rabbani Khar, Engineer Khurram Dastgir Khan, Umar Farooq, and

Ambassador retired Jalil Abbas Jilani.

The president gave the award of Nishan-i-Imtiaz to his son Bilawal. While giving away the award, he kissed his son on his cheeks.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi was awarded Nishan-i-Imtiaz for maintaining law and order in the country.

Furthermore, Hilal-e-Imtiaz was given to Minister for Economic Affairs Division Ahad Khan Cheema, Prime Minister's Advisor Dr. Syed Tauqir Hussain Shah, Attorney General Mansoor Usman Awan, Dr Fawad Assadullah Khan, and Lt General retired Muhammad Saeed.

Secretary Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Ambreen Jan and Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs Amna Baloch were amongst the recipients of Sitara-i-Imtiaz.

Leading media personalities, who were conferred with Tamgha-i-Imtiaz include Naseem Zahra, Hamid Mir, Mubejbe-ur-Rehman Shami, Javed Chaudhry, Mansoor Ali Khan, Salim Safi, Wasim Badami, Aniq Nisar, Amir Ilyas Rana, Muneeb Farooq and Nadeem Malik.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi felicitates nation on Independence Day

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Congratulating the nation on the 78th Independence Day of Pakistan, Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi, while

quoting Father of the Nation Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, said on Thursday that the creation of a separate homeland for the Muslims of the sub-continent was a result of a struggle, and not a gift, reported

24NewsHD TV channel. In his message, he said that the humiliating defeat inflicted by Pakistan on India during the recent military confrontation had once again proved that "Unity, Faith and Discipline" were still

a guarantee of the nation's freedom. "A clear message was given to our enemy that Pakistan of today is capable of defending itself. The victory over India has increased the jubilation associated with August 14th."

the President House to confer high level national awards on civil and military figures.

During the stand off between Pakistan and India, Attaullah Tarar successfully thwarted Indian propaganda by creating perfect coordination in the dissemination of information by civil and military institutions. The minister highlighted Pakistan's position in a powerful and effective manner at international forums.

Celebrating 78 Years of Pakistan: A journey of resilience

 **Bureau Report**

ISLAMABAD: President Azad Kashmir, Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry, has said that the people of Pakistan are grateful to Allah Almighty for the great blessing of freedom.

He paid tribute to the founders of Pakistan especially Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah whose unwavering struggle led to the creation of Pakistan. "It is because of their struggle and sacrifices that we live peacefully in a free and independent country", the president said.

Addressing the flag-hoisting ceremony at Aiwan-e-Sadr, on Pakistan's 78th Independence Day, the President hailed Pakistan as the voice of the oppressed across the world. "For Kashmiris, the only hope is a strong and stable Pakistan," he stated.

Recalling August 5, 2019, when India abrogated the special status of Jammu and Kashmir in violation of international law, he said Pakistan not



only extended moral and diplomatic support to the Kashmiri people but also exposed India's true face before

the world.

"Pakistan has consistently supported the right of Kashmiris to self-determi-

nation in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions," he said. Referring to the recent war imposed by India on Pakistan, Barrister Chaudhry lauded the Pakistan Armed Forces for defending the country's sovereignty and boosting the morale of oppressed nations.

"Kashmiris see Pakistan's victory as their own, and Pakistan as their ultimate destination," he remarked. He condemned India's continued oppression of minorities, including Muslims, Sikhs, and Christians. Welcoming the U. S. President Donald Trump's offer of mediation on Kashmir, he said that it brought international focus back on the issue.

He urged the UN, OIC, and world powers to pressurise India to comply with UN resolutions, to find out a durable solution to the Kashmir problem. He warned that unresolved dispute poses a risk of war between two nuclear powers, which he said could threaten global peace.

Independence Day celebrations

MUZAFFARABAD: Mr. Justice Khawaja Muhammad Naseem, acting Chief Justice of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Supreme Court cut the cake along with others Justices during the celebrations of Independence Day .



Photo: Online

Celebrating 78 Years of Freedom: A Tribute to Pakistan

 **Bureau Report**

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has congratulated the nation on the 78th Independence Day. While addressing the central ceremony held to mark the day, the PM said it was Quaid-e-Azam's vision and leadership acumen that, on the one hand, enabled him to get the British to accept the demand for a separate country for Muslims, and on the other, helped him counter the conspiracies of the Congress.

PM Haq said the dream of Pakistan was envisioned by a Kashmiri poet, a thinker and philosopher Dr Allama Muhammad Iqbal. He recalled that during the historic meeting of March 23, 1940, the Kashmiri delegation supported the Pakistan Resolution.



On July 19, 1947, he said, the Kashmiri leadership aligned their future with Pakistan by passing the Accession to Pakistan Resolution on the platform of the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference.

Declaring the people of Pakistan and Kashmir as "two bodies with one soul," the PM said the slogan of Hurriyat leader Syed Ali Geelani Shaheed "We

are Pakistanis, Pakistan is ours" — is the voice of every Kashmiri. Referring to Kashmiris' love and faith in the state of Pakistan, he recalled that the coffins of Kashmiri martyrs draped in the national flag of Pakistan are a vivid reflection of their devotion to the country.

The ceremony was attended by Speaker Azad Jammu and Kashmir

Legislative Assembly Chaudhry Latif Akbar, Senior Minister Colonel (retd) Waqar Ahmed Noor, government ministers Sardar Javed Ayub, Chaudhry Akbar Ibrahim, Chaudhry Azhar Sadiq, Zafar Iqbal Malik, Professor Taqdees Gilani, Asim Sharif Butt, Advisor to the Government Sardar Ahmed Sagheer, Member of the Legislative Assembly and former Prime Minister Raja Farooq Haider Khan, Convener All Parties Hurriyat Conference Azad Kashmir (Chapter) Ghulam Muhammad Safi, Opposition Leader Khawaja Farooq Ahmed, Chief Secretary Azad Kashmir Khushal Khan, secretaries of the government, senior civil and military officials, and a large number of citizens. A smartly turned-out police contingent presented a salute on the occasion.

78th Independence Day Celebrated in Multan with Great Splendor



 **Zain Khan Malghani**


The joyous 78th Independence Day ceremony was held at the Deputy Commissioner's Office in Multan, attended by CPO Multan Sadiq Ali Dogar, Deputy Commissioner Multan Hamid Waseem Sindhu, and other distinguished guests. The event featured a flag-hoisting ceremony, salute by the smartly turned-out police contingent, cake cutting, and resounding chants of Pakistan Zindabad that echoed through the air.

According to details, the central Independence Day celebration organized by the Multan administration took place at the Deputy Commissioner's Office, where the alert police contingent presented a salute to the national flag during the hoisting ceremony. Participants, holding the green crescent flag in their hands, chanted Pakistan Zindabad and Pak Army Painsdabad, filling the atmosphere with patriotic fervor.

CPO Multan Sadiq Ali Dogar and Deputy Commissioner Multan Hamid Waseem Sandhu extended heartfelt congratulations to the entire nation on the 78th Independence Day of the beloved homeland. In his message, CPO Multan said:

Central Independence Day ceremony held in Hyderabad



 **Qayoom Sarohi**

HYDERABAD: Circuit House, where Divisional Commissioner Hyderabad Fayyaz Hussain Abbasi, accompanied by Mayor Hyderabad Kashif Ali Shoro, hoisted the national flag.

The event was attended by DIG Hyderabad Tariq Razaque Dharejo, Deputy Commissioner Zain-ul-Abideen Memon, SSP Adeel Hussain Chandio, Municipal Commissioner Zahoor Ahmed Lakhani, Additional Deputy Commissioner-I Gada Hussain Soomro, Additional Deputy Commissioner-II Saba Kalwar, along with officials from various departments, distinguished personalities, and a large number of citizens.

The program commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran, followed by the flag hoisting and an impressive salute by a contingent of the police. The ceremony was hosted by Information Officer Sobia Saleem. School students delivered speeches, presented patriotic songs, and performed tableaux on the themes of patriotism and Battle of Truth, earning applause from the audience. Honorary shields were also presented to distinguished personalities and officers for their outstanding services.

Addressing the gathering, DIG Tariq Razaque Dharejo said that this year's Independence Day celebrations have infused new spirit across the country. SSP Adeel Hussain Chandio noted that from August 1 to August 14, various events were organized in the city, with the public showing exemplary enthusiasm.

Sindh Shines in Independence Day Festivities

 **Qayoom Sarohi**



HYDERABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party Ladies Wing Hyderabad leader Ishrat Hassan said that the successful and memorable celebrations of Independence Day across Sindh have proven that the hearts of Sindh's people still beat with love for Pakistan, unity, and the strengthening of democracy. She said that in every city, town, and village of the province, flag-hoisting ceremonies, rallies, patriotic songs, fireworks, cultural shows, and poetry gatherings were organized on August 14, in which men, women, and children participated with great enthusiasm.

Ishrat Hassan congratulated the Sindh Department of Culture, municipal corporations, district and local bodies, civil society, artists, and all administrative teams, stating that this year's Independence Day programs carried a message of peace, love, brotherhood, and cultural harmony. She said that the PPP has always been at the forefront of promoting public festivals and cultural activities, and this celebration is clear evidence of the people's commitment and love for Pakistan.

She further said that under the leadership of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and Asif Ali Zardari, the PPP is determined to turn the dream of a Pakistan—where every citizen can live with freedom, equality, and justice—into reality.

78th Independence Day Celebrated by Cantonment Board Peshawar

 **Bureau Report**

PESHAWAR: Promoting the vision of the Director General, Military Lands & Cantonments Department, the 'ICantonment Board Peshawar (CBP) upheld its tradition by celebrating Pakistan's 78th Independence Day not just as a festivity, but as a purposeful day marked by public service, environmental betterment, and educational progress.

On August 14, 2025, a dignified ceremony was held at the CBP

office, attended by Deputy CEO Ms. Javeria Bano, Vice President CBP CPEIs' faculty and other staff members. The event began with a flag-hoisting ceremony, followed by the national anthem and a cake-cutting session. Special prayers were offered for the safety, progress, and prosperity of Pakistan, and the atmosphere echoed with spirited chants of Pakistan Zindabad!"

Under the supervision of Deputy CEO Ms. Javeria Bano, the campaign was extended to

schools, where not only were trees planted, but students and employees were educated on the importance of environmental protection.

Also on August 13, a free medical camp was organized under the "Health at Your Doorstep" program at "Parsi Graveyard in Peshawar Cantonment. From 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, a total of 105 patients were examined and treated. The medical conditions treated included:

On the occasion, the CEO CBP

stated "We want to ensure that no resident of the Cantonment is deprived of basic healthcare facilities. These medical camps will continue to be held monthly in different wards."

In celebration of Independence Day, CBP also made educational promotion a priority by distributing school bags, books, and stationery to deserving and orphaned students. This event took place at Cantonment Public Schools, where "Deputy CEO Ms. Javeria Bano personally handed



over the supplies to children and encouraged them to enlighten their lives through education



Islamabad

30° – 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 3:58 am
Zohr 12:13 pm
Asr 4:59 pm
Maghrib 6:55 pm
Isha 8:26 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

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

Pak army, FC committed to border security, promote peace, public welfare; Brig Azhar Khan

Rafiullah Mandokhel

ZHOB: Commandant Zhub Militia, Brigadier Azhar Khan, has reaffirmed that the Pakistan Army and Para military force—the Frontier Corps Balochistan are unwavering in their noble mission to safeguarding the nation's frontiers, maintaining law and order, and promoting public welfare.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the 'Independence Day cricket tournament' at Anar Jan Stadium here at Zhub Militia Headquarters, the newly appointed Brigadier Khan stressed that sustainable peace hinges on active community support.

"Zhub's historical and rich cultural importance is immense, and the dedication, passion and talent of its youth in both nation-development and sports are commendable," he expressed pleasure.

The ceremony drew a large turnout, including Wing Commander Lt Col Tanzeel, Maj Saad Tariq, principal BRC Guldar Wazir, notables Malik Abdul Sattar Mandokhel, Sardar Baz Khan Nasar, Sattar Kakar, Sardar Asmatullah Miankhel, Malik Gul Zaman Nasar, Kamal Babar, along with FC officers, journalists, BRC students, and a large number of sports enthusiasts.

CM Maryam lauds Field Marshal Asim Munir for defeating India

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has lauded Pakistan's armed forces for their decisive response to the Indian aggression in the Marka-e-Haq and said that resounding victory elevated Pakistan's stature on the global stage.

Addressing an event to mark Pakistan's 78th Independence Day, the chief minister also paid tribute to the courageous leadership of Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, commending his bold and resolute command.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz attended the ceremony as chief guest to mark 78th Independence Day. On the occasion, CM Maryam inaugurated the flag-hoisting ceremony. The provincial and district high officials also attended the ceremony in large numbers.

She also praised the Pakistan Air



Force, noting that its brave eagles shot down six Indian fighter jets. "A new

Pakistan has emerged on the world map after this historic victory against

India," Maryam Nawaz added. The chief minister also emphasised the

nation's unity, saying that we all stand as an impregnable wall for the sovereignty and defense of our country.

CM Maryam vowed to combat divisive and disruptive mindsets and said, "We will win the war against those spreading chaos and discord in our nation."

In her address, the chief minister also offered prayers for the protection of Pakistan and its armed forces. "Our prayers are with our forces and our nation. May Allah safeguard Pakistan." She also prayed for the martyrs, stating, "May Allah elevate the ranks of our martyrs."

Students expressed their love for the country by singing national songs. Women and children participated enthusiastically in other Independence Day celebrations in Lahore.

The city resonated with the songs of independence and slogans of Pakistan Zindabad.

Mismanagement

ISLAMABAD: A view of the massive traffic jam on Express Way due to the parking of people, who are visiting the parade ground for Military Exhibition in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

UJK reaffirms commitment to national unity on Independence Day

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (UJK) celebrated Pakistan's Independence Day with patriotic fervor, holding a series of events that reflected the institution's deep commitment to national unity and the Kashmir cause. The day began with the hoisting of the national and state flags at the Administration Block by Registrar Prof. Dr. Saadat Hanif Dar, Controller of Examinations Prof. Dr. Wajid Aziz Lone, and Director Finance Prof. Dr. Muhammad Basharat. Faculty members, administrative staff, and university employees gathered to mark the historic occasion, offering special prayers for the stability, peace, and prosperity of Pakistan and for the early freedom of the Kashmiri people in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Later, the main campus programme featured



speeches, patriotic songs, and a cake-cutting ceremony. Chief Guest Midhat Shehzad, Additional Chief Secretary (General), said that true appreciation of freedom comes from contrasting life in Azad Jammu and Kashmir with that in Indian-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, terming freedom "a great blessing from Allah Almighty" that must be

honored with gratitude and responsibility.

Meritorious Professor Dr. Syed Nadeem Haider Bukhari, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences underscored that for humankind honored as Ashraf-ul-Makhloqat—no blessing is greater than freedom.

Earlier, Registrar Prof. Dr. Saadat Hanif Dar opened the

proceedings by describing freedom as a blessing earned through immense sacrifices by the nation's forefathers and reminding that "it is now our responsibility to contribute to the country's progress and development."

The event was moderated by Additional Registrar Sardar Zaffar Iqbal and concluded with a cake-cutting ceremony.-

Rescue 1122 Attock Celebrates 78th Independence Day with Great Zeal and Enthusiasm

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Rescue 1122 Attock, like the rest of the country, celebrated the 78th Independence Day with great national spirit and enthusiasm. On the occasion of Independence Day, all Rescue offices across the district were beautifully illuminated with decorative lights. The celebrations began on 14th August with flag-hoisting ceremonies. The main event was held at the Rescue 1122 office in Attock, where District Emergency Officer Ali Hussain hoisted the national flag. The smartly dressed contingent of Rescue 1122 presented a salute to the national flag, and a cake-cutting ceremony was also held.

The district administration organized a flag-hoisting ceremony at the District Council Hall Attock, attended by Deputy Commissioner Rao Atif Raza, other district officers, contingents of Rescue 1122, Police, and Civil Defence, who presented a salute to the national flag and participated in the dignified ceremony.

Pakistan Independence Day Celebrated at Cardiology Institute



Kiran Asim

MULTAN: The event was graced by the presence of key officials and staff members, reflecting a collective sense of unity and national pride. Dr. Mujtaba Ali Siddique, Executive Director, Dr. Riaz Mastoi, Medical Superintendent, Dr. Farhan Khan, Director Technical, All Additional and Deputy Medical Superintendents (AMS & DMSs),

Staff nurses, paramedical staff, support staff and their children were participated on the occasion.

The day began with a flag hoisting ceremony, symbolizing respect and honor for the national flag and the country's independence.

National anthem of Pakistan played with active participation of all staff and their children.

The event concluded with renewed commitment among staff and management to serve the nation with dedication and compassion in the healthcare sector.

"Maarka-e-Haq" Independence Day Celebrations at Foundation University

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Foundation University Islamabad (FUI) celebrated Pakistan's Independence Day with patriotic zeal under the theme "Maarka-e-Haq." Flag hoisting ceremonies were held simultaneously at both constituent schools — the Foundation University School of Health Sciences (FUSH) and the Foundation University School of Science and Technology (FUSST). At FUSH, the flag hoisting was led by Maj Gen Qudrat Ullah Malik, HI (M) (Retd), Director FUSH, while at FUSST, the ceremony was officiated by Prof. Dr. Qaisar Ali Malik, Acting Director FUSST. Faculty, staff, and students from both campuses participated with great enthusiasm, as the national flag was raised to the sound of the National Anthem.

The event concluded with a live national song performance by students, receiving a standing ovation, followed by an Independence Day cake-cutting ceremony and group photographs.

Independence Day is a Time to Renew the Pledge: Ayub Marriani

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: President of the Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ayub Marriani, while addressing a ceremony held to mark Independence Day, said that the occasion is a time to renew the pledge for national unity, economic self-reliance, and development. This day not only reminds us to value our freedom but also provides an opportunity to commit ourselves to collective efforts for the country's economic growth and prosperity. He emphasized that a strong economy is the guarantee of a strong Pakistan, and for this, it is essential to reform the tax system, promote investment, and diversify exports.

The President of the Quetta Chamber of Commerce said that the mineral resources, agriculture, and trade corridor opportunities in Balochistan can revolutionize the country's economy if utilized under the right strategy. He added that the business community will continue its efforts to safeguard the fruits of independence, create employment opportunities, and involve the youth in economic development.

Attock celebrates Pakistan's 78th Independence Day with central flag-hoisting ceremony

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: The central flag-hoisting ceremony in connection with Pakistan's 78th Independence Day was held at the District Council Hall, Attock. Member of the National Assembly Sheikh Aftab Ahmed was the chief guest, while Deputy Commissioner Attock Rao Atif Raza, District Police Officer Sardar Mavarhan Khan, Additional Deputy Commissioner General Anil Saeed, SSO Artillery Centre Major Farhan, and a large number of people from various walks of life attended the event.

At the scheduled time, the chief guest hoisted the national flag on the District Council lawns, followed by salutes presented by police and Rescue



1122 contingents. Addressing the ceremony, MNA Sheikh Aftab Ahmed said Pakistan is a great nation, the result of tireless efforts by Quaid-e-Azam

Deputy Commissioner Rao Atif Raza, in his speech, said this year's Independence Day was being observed in the spirit of Ma'rakah-e-Haq and Opera-

tion Biyan-ul-Marsous. He said special events were being organised across the district and reminded that Pakistan is the foundation of national security.

On the occasion, guests also planted saplings as part of the monsoon tree plantation drive. Sheikh Aftab Ahmed, DC Rao Atif Raza, and DPO Sardar Mavarhan Khan visited the mausoleum of Shaheed Asfandyar Bukhari and laid floral wreaths.

To mark the day, the Deputy Commissioner inaugurated a public park at Bab-e-Attock, while car and motorcycle rallies were also organised. Rao Atif Raza attended various events at the National Aerospace City Attock and the University of Agriculture Attock as chief guest, where he also planted trees.

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KP Pollution: A growing threat to human health

Urban pollution has emerged as one of the most critical environmental and public health challenges in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) exposing thousands to ailments and exert extra financial burden on provincial kitty.

Cities across the province including Peshawar, Mardan, Bannu, Dera Ismail Khan, Abbottabad, Swat and so on are grappling with toxic air, contaminated water, plastic and domestic and untreated hospital and industrial waste.

Experts link this growing menace to rapid urbanization, deforestation, increasing vehicle traffic, unregulated industrial activities, brick kilns and a lack of proper waste management system.

Among all urban centers, Peshawar has been the hardest hit city with Air Quality Index (AQI) frequently exceeding the safer limits of particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10) levels set by the National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS).

“PM2.5 pollution increases age-specific mortality risk. Residents of Peshawar are highly vulnerable due to emissions from unregulated traffic, brick kilns, marble units and chipboard factories,” said Professor Dr. Muhammad Nafees, Chairman Environmental Sciences Department, University of Peshawar.

He explained that PM2.5 consists of microscopic particles that linger in the air and when inhaled, can damage heart, lungs and respiratory system. “These particulate matter also become a cause of high blood pressure, asthma, cancer, stroke and chronic respiratory diseases.”

“Peshawar’s air quality is poor — WHO recommends a PM2.5 concentration of no more than 25 µg/m³, but current levels are much higher,” he added.

Studies show that smoke and dust in Peshawar hover at heights between five and ten feet, with PM2.5 levels nearly four times above NEQS standards — a cause for serious concern.

According to these studies, emissions from the transport sector account for 58.5% of Peshawar’s urban pollution, roadside dust contributes 17.7%, domestic burning shares 11.7%, industries accounts 6.6%, waste burning 4.1% and commercial burning 1.4%.

Nitrogen dioxide levels have also exceeded NEQS limits in several areas, leading to increased risks of lungs irritation and respiratory infections.

“The health impacts are severe. Respiratory diseases like asthma, bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and even lung cancer are becoming more common,” said Dr. Fazal Sattar, former head of ENT Department, Khyber Teaching Hospital.

“Most of our patients reporting respiratory distress and COPD related issues come from Peshawar,” he noted.

Urban noise pollution often from traffic, construction and use of heavy machinery also contribute to rising cases of mental health, stress and sleep disorders in densely populated areas.

Independence Day: The Battle of Truth and the Sacred Trust of the Martyrs

August 14 is not merely a historical date it is a radiant symbol of a nation's sacrifices, unwavering struggle, and firm conviction. It marks the dawn that pierced through the darkness of slavery to grant a people the light of freedom. This day reminds us that the creation of Pakistan was not just the result of geographic partition; it was a revolutionary transformation spiritual and ideological founded upon the eternal creed: La ilaha illallah (There is no god but Allah). This creed was the foundation of a just struggle that propelled millions towards migration, sacrifice, and ultimately martyrdom.

The Pakistan Movement was not merely a political struggle it was a comprehensive revolution. Millions relinquished their homes, lands, families, and even their lives to create this homeland. The bloody migration of 1947 stands as a harrowing chapter in history, where the soul shudders in reflection. Daughters were violated, caravans were butchered, and elderly parents were slain with their shattered dreams yet on their lips remained only one cry: What does Pakistan mean? There is no god but Allah.

This slogan was not just a call for freedom it was a covenant. A pledge that this new state would embody the golden principles of Islam: justice, equality, brotherhood, tolerance, and compassion. Yet, as we celebrate independence, we must deeply reflect: Have we fulfilled the dreams of our martyrs? Is today's Pakistan the ideological state for which millions laid down their lives? Are we safeguarding this freedom with the same spirit with which it was earned?

Preserving freedom is often more

complex, enduring, and sacrifice-laden than attaining it. Since its inception, Pakistan has remained under constant threat. From 1948 to 1965, 1971, Kargil, and the recent waves of terrorism our sovereignty and ideology have been consistently challenged. Yet, each time, our valiant armed forces, security institutions, and the resilient public stood firm, offering their lives in defense of the motherland.

In the 1965 war, martyrs like Captain Sarwar, Rashid Minhas, Major Tufail, and Major Aziz Bhatti proved that Pakistan's borders are not guarded by barbed wires alone, but by a wall cemented with the blood of martyrs. The tragedy of 1971, fueled by internal conspiracies and global interference, cost us dearly. But from that defeat, we learned and with renewed resolve, we moved forward.

Post-9/11, Pakistan was thrust into an unconventional war the war against terrorism. In this complex battle, both external interference and internal betrayal wreaked havoc. From Karachi to Khyber, Waziristan to Balochistan no region was spared. Schools, mosques, markets, funerals, and worship places nothing was safe. Yet, the nation never wavered. Through decisive operations like Rah-e-Rast, Rah-e-Nijat, Zarb-e-Azb, and Radd-ul-Fasaad, the Pakistan Armed Forces broke the back of terrorism.

The 2014 Army Public School massacre in Peshawar was a chilling testament to the enemy's intent to destroy our future generations. But this blood-

soaked tragedy awakened the soul of the nation. The martyrdom of innocent children forged unity. Under General Raheel Sharif's leadership, continued military operations, the formulation of the National Action Plan, and ideological education among the youth revived national morale.

In 2025, when India launched a new offensive under the codename “Operation Sindoor,” Pakistan responded with a decisive military campaign named Bunyan al-Mansur (The Fortified Foundation). This operation shifted the balance of power in South Asia. The Pakistan Air Force downed India's French-made Rafale jets, dealing a severe blow to the adversary. More than a counter-attack, this operation symbolized Pakistan's ideological and strategic superiority. Bunyan al-Mansur was the embodiment of national unity and determination a declaration that the nation, like a wall of reinforced steel, stood unyielding against its enemies and always shall.

We are engaged in a perpetual Battle of Truth. On one front are internal enemies: economic instability, political discord, corruption, inflation, and unemployment. On the other, foreign adversaries India, Afghanistan, Israel, and certain global powers continue their propaganda, psychological warfare, and cyber operations against us. The new battlefield is no longer fought with bullets, but with news cycles, digital trends, memes, and narrative warfare. Our youth are being ideologically disoriented. Religion, national

history, and identity are being distorted to breed mental servitude.

This too is a war an intellectual and cultural war. Its martyrs are the teachers who speak the truth, the journalists who uphold integrity, the parents who raise their children in the light of faith, and the youth who resist false narratives online. We must remember all these martyrs those on the battlefield, in the minds, through the pen, and with the sword of truth.

As we celebrate Independence Day today, it is not merely a festive occasion it is a national renewal of our oath. A moment of collective introspection, educational reform, and reverent tribute to the sacrifices of our past. It is a reminder that the journey of freedom has not ended it continues in every classroom, every courtroom, every street, and every frontline.

We must once again refresh our vision and mission. We must cultivate unity, discipline, honesty, and a renewed spirit of sacrifice. Only those who have suffered the humiliation of slavery can truly appreciate the value of freedom. We must give thanks for this blessing and guard it with our lives.

If we wish for our children and future generations to live in a dignified, independent, self-reliant, and prosperous Pakistan, then this Battle of Truth must continue on every front: with our pens, our actions, our convictions, our service, and our unrelenting commitment to sacrifice.

This is the demand of the blood of our martyrs.

This is the soul of Pakistan.

And this is the true message of Independence Day.



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

Pakistan’s month at the helm of UN Security Council

Pakistan, a nonpermanent member of the UN Security Council, assumed the presidency of the council in July. This was not just another rotation of a customary role. It was a demonstration of what principled, proactive and inclusive leadership looks like at a time of great global turbulence. By firmly placing the focus on multilateralism, respect for international law and the pacific settlement of disputes, Pakistan steered the council's work with clarity of purpose and a sense of urgency.

That Pakistan was able to deliver concrete results reflects the strength of its diplomatic credentials. This is the eighth time that Pakistan has been elected by the UN membership to serve on the Security Council as a nonpermanent member. There is a long tradition of excellence and leadership that the Pakistani delegation has been able to draw from. From peacekeeping to peacebuilding, Pakistan has always remained a forceful voice calling for dialogue and diplomacy, championing the rights of the unrepresented, underprivileged and marginalized.

From Day 1, Pakistan's approach has been anchored in its long-standing commitment to the principles and purposes of the UN Charter. As president, Pakistan's brief to the council was rooted in familiar themes: upholding transparency, remaining constructive, and promoting cooperation to deliver the fundamental elements of the UNSC's mandate. Pakistan effectively used both formal and informal spaces to press for concrete outcomes.

Pakistan convened two signature events during its month-long presidency. The first

was the high-level open debate on “Promoting International Peace and Security through Multilateralism and the Peaceful Settlement of Dispute,” chaired by Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammed Ishaq Dar. The meeting underscored the UN's collective commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes and greater utilization of the tools available in the UN Charter to address various ongoing challenges.

The Security Council also adopted by consensus the Pakistan-sponsored Resolution 2788 that reflected this common objective.

The second key event was a briefing on the collaboration between the UN and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, also chaired by Pakistan's deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The briefing contributed to amplifying the Islamic world's collective voice at the UN. It also resulted in a presidential statement calling for deeper and more structured engagement between the two organizations. This initiative reflected Pakistan's long-standing belief that regional organizations are indispensable partners in achieving peace and stability.

Both these marquee events, as well as the open debate of the UNSC on the Middle East and the Palestinian question organized by the Pakistani presidency, provided an ample opportunity for UN member states to highlight the plight of the people of Gaza, who are braving the worst atrocities in recent memory at the hands of an occupying power. These formal meetings augmented pro-Palestinian voices and gave them a platform to urge for more concrete and urgent efforts to end the genocide in Gaza.

The Palestinian cause has always been a

top priority for Pakistan. It is a sacred trust for every Pakistani diplomat, not only in the UNSC but around the world. Notwithstanding the obvious deadlock in the council, Pakistan was able to leverage its leadership role to shine a spotlight on the plight of the besieged people of Gaza.

In his official pronouncements, Dar insisted on three urgent priorities: an immediate ceasefire, unhindered humanitarian access and the protection of civilians under international humanitarian law. We also lobbied, together with other like-minded countries, and coordinated closely with Saudi Arabia and members of the Joint Arab-Islamic Ministerial Committee to further the case for Palestinian rights, including the early establishment of an independent, viable and contiguous Palestinian state based on internationally agreed parameters. Both within the council's hallowed chamber, as well as during numerous closed-door consultations, Pakistan's message has remained clear and unambiguous: silence in the face of suffering is complicity.

Pakistan's leadership of the UNSC offered a timely reminder that multilateralism remains the most reliable way to address our collective challenges — both imminent and distant. Pakistan's focus was not on picking sides but on building bridges. We are committed to remaining the leading voice in support of dialogue and diplomacy, especially in cases of foreign occupation and the denial of fundamental human rights. Along with other members of the council, as well as our regional and international partners, Pakistan will continue its efforts to preserve and promote international peace and security, focusing on international law and the UN Charter.

Author is Pakistan's ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Malicious game of India & Israel in Balochistan

Balochistan, the heart of Pakistan, is rich in natural resources and crucial both geographically and strategically. For decades, the malicious game of Hindus and Jews has been

ongoing in Balochistan, aiming to harm nuclear Pakistan. On March 31, 2011, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made his nefarious intentions clear in an interview with Israeli journalist Dana Weiss, stating that preventing a militant Islamic government from acquiring nuclear weapons—or nuclear weapons joining such a government—was the greatest mission, referring to Iran and Pakistan. A clear indication of this is Israel's assistance to India with modern military technologies in the recent Pakistan-India war, including airborne early warning systems, air defense systems and advanced combat equipment to target sensitive installations in Pakistan. Meanwhile, Zionist aggression against Iran and RAW-Mossad terrorism continue to raise serious concerns.

This so-called project is part of a hybrid warfare campaign against Pakistan, fought not along borders but in social and informational arenas. In this age of fifth-generation hybrid warfare, the enemy is present not only at our borders but also in our screens and digital spaces, against which Pakistan has been fighting for over two decades. Unity within the country and harmony with other brotherly countries, including Afghanistan and Iran, is the path for Pakistan to thwart such hybrid threats. The enemy has created a deceptive narrative under the guise of “Baloch rights” to divide the public. These so-called projects are not only an insult to the sacrifices of the Baloch people but also a psychological and ideological assault against Pakistan.

The MEMRI organization was founded in

1997 by former Mossad officer Carmon Yigal Wurmser. A glance at its website, showcasing coverage of complex issues like Balochistan, makes it evident that MEMRI is not an academic

institution by any standard but a self-serving group dressed as a think tank that generates propaganda, fabricated reports and conspiracy theories against the Muslim world to serve long-term Israeli interests. The organization claims to be an American non-profit “press monitoring organization.” Many neutral intellectuals, including the editor of The Guardian, have highlighted the undeniable fact that the Middle East Studies Institute is, in fact, promoting the narrative of the Israeli state.

Due to its geostrategic significance, Balochistan has long been a focal point of attention and external intervention. Gwadar port, located at the opening of the Strait of Hormuz—through which 40% of the world's oil passes—adds to its importance. In the changing political and geo-economic environment, imperial powers are making every effort to impede Balochistan's (Gwadar) development to safeguard their interests. This is concerning, especially with the US President announcing a deal with Pakistan for oil exploration in Balochistan. On one hand, America seeks oil; on the other, China has invested billions in Gwadar and the energy sector under CPEC. Is Balochistan part of the global great game? The US, viewing China as a strategic adversary, uses all means—especially through India—to counter it. Platforms like the “Balochistan Studies Project” aim to spread a negative narrative against Pakistan. Pakistanis must recognize these intentions, thwart conspiracies with unity and respond strongly to enemies exploiting Balochistan's name.

WWF’s Grand Marka-e-Haq Independence Day Celebration

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Under the leadership of the Secretary Workers Welfare Fund (WWF), a grand and dignified ceremony was held to mark the occasion of Marka-e-Haq Independence Day, featuring flag hoisting, cake cutting, and a solidarity walk.

The event celebrated patriotism, national unity, and the unwavering commitment to Pakistan's Armed Forces.

The ceremony was graced by Brigadier Muhammad Waqas as the Chief Guest, who, along with WWF officials, staff, and distinguished guests, paid tribute to the everlasting sacrifices made for the independence of the motherland.

The proceedings commenced with the hoisting of the national flag. This was immediately followed by a cake cutting ceremony, symbolizing unity, joy, and national pride. On this

occasion, participants renewed their resolve to continue playing an active role in the welfare of industrial workers and the development of Pakistan.

In his address, Secretary WWF Zulfiqar Ahmed paid rich tribute to the Founder of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, stating: "The freedom we celebrate today is a priceless gift from Almighty Allah, earned through the unparalleled sacrifices and tireless struggle of our forefathers. He said, If this country exists, we all exist."

He further said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Marka-e-Haq's victory is a proud moment, and Field Marshal General Asim Munir deserves the highest praise. He reaffirmed that the entire staff of WWF and industrial workers, under the leadership of Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis

and Human Resource Development Chaudhry Salik Hussain and Federal Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry, stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the Pakistan Army.

Speaking on the occasion, Brigadier Muhammad Waqas also paid glowing tribute to Field Marshal Asim Munir for the historic victory in the Battle of Bayanan-um-Marsoos. He commended the tireless efforts and excellent arrangements of WWF, calling the Independence Day celebration a source of national pride, and congratulated the Secretary WWF for its successful organization.

The celebrations concluded with a solidarity walk from the WWF Secretariat, aimed at honoring the sacrifices of the Pakistan Armed Forces and highlighting their unforgettable role in safeguarding the sovereignty of the nation.



Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

LONDON: Pakistan High Commis-

sion, London celebrated 78th Anniversary of the Independence Day with traditional zeal and enthusiasm today.

The day also marked the success of Operation Bunyanum Marsoos and celebration of Marqa-e-Haq. High

Pakistan High Commission, celebrates Marqa-e-Haq and 78th Anniversary of Independence Day of Pakistan

Commissioner of Pakistan to UK, Dr. Mohammad Faisal hoisted Pakistan flag to the tune of National Anthem. The special ceremony commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran. Messages of the President, the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister / Foreign Minister of Pakistan were read.

In his address, High Commissioner Dr. Mohammad Faisal paid homage to the founding fathers who fought and sacrificed for a homeland. He said that our founding fathers remained united for a cause and achieved freedom for the Muslims of the Sub-continent in the form of a seprate homeland, Pakistan.

In the same spirit, the entire Pakistani Nation remained united and along with valiant Military Forces overcame an enemy, bigger in size and resources, during Operation Bunyanum Marsoos.

The High Commissioner said that we owe our freedom to the Shuhuda and Ghazis as debt that can never be repaid. Dr. Faisal reaffirmed Pakistan's support at all fora for the Kashmiri brethren who are striving for their right to self-determination.

During the ceremony, the High Commissioner, on behalf of the President of Pakistan, conferred Sitara-e-Imtiaz (Military) to Commodore Jawad Khawaja, Pakistan Navy,

presently posted as Defence & Naval Advisor, Pakistan High Commission, London.

Special prayers were held for prosperity and development of Pakistan. National songs, soulful music performances and a Painting Competition for Children were also part of the celebrations. Later, the High Commissioner, along with his spouse and guests performed cake cutting to celebrate Independence Day of Pakistan.

The event was attended by UK parliamentarians, diplomats, members of the Pakistani community, media personnel, and the officials of Pakistan High Commission with families.

Business community always played a significant role in Pakistan’s economic development

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The business community has consistently played a prominent role in Pakistan's economic development and national stability. From the freedom movement to the establishment of Pakistan, they have organized business activities and contributed meaningfully. The business community is the backbone of Pakistan's economy.

Pakistan is dear to us with all our heart and soul. In every time of difficulty, we have stood and will continue to stand with our armed forces and the nation.

On the occasion of Independence Day, the central leadership of the Rawalpindi Restaurants, Caterers, Sweets, and Bakers Association — including President Muhammad Farooq Chaudhry, Chairman Mumtaz Ahmed, and Patron-in-Chief Chaudhry Muhammad Naeem stated in a joint message that even before and after the partition, the food and restaurant sector played a distin-



guished role in Pakistan.

Association President Muhammad Farooq Chaudhry said that after independence, restaurants and food stalls were established in public places where people would gather and engage in dialogue on various issues. This led to the awakening of national unity among the people.

Chairman Mumtaz Ahmed stated that the evolution of Pakistani cuisine after independence played a crucial

role in the development of a unique cultural identity, which was important in the context of nation-building.

Patron-in-Chief Chaudhry Muhammad Naeem said that the services of the restaurant sector in economic stability cannot be overlooked. The restaurant and food business has helped promote social harmony among various communities, something especially important in the post-independence era.

NBP Marks 78th Independence Day with Heartwarming Performance

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) celebrated Pakistan's 78th Independence Day with great enthusiasm and pride. The event brought together NBP's leadership, employees and their families for a day filled with patriotic spirit.

Festivities included the hoisting of the national flag, singing of the national anthem, and a cake-cutting ceremony at the NBP headquarters. This year, the national anthem was made even more special as children from the Deaf Reach School joined in using sign language.

Their participation was a powerful reminder that patriotism goes beyond words; it is about unity, inclusion, and love for the country in every form.

Speaking on the occasion, Rehmat Ali Hasnie, President, NBP, said: "Independence Day is a time to honor the resilience, courage, and determination of our people. We take immense pride in our country's achievements and remain dedicated to playing our role in



its economic and social progress. This day is an opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who fought for Pakistan's independence and to renew the commitment to safeguarding the values and principles on which the country was founded." "By facilitating access to financial services, developing entrepreneurship, and supporting sustainable growth, the bank aims at contributing meaningfully to building a

stronger, more prosperous Pakistan for future generations," he added.

As Pakistan marks 78 years of independence, National Bank of Pakistan reaffirms its commitment to contributing to the nation's growth, prosperity, and unity. The celebration was a reminder of the sacrifices made by our forefathers and the responsibility we all share in building a better future for generations to come.

Labour leaders are the crown jewel of the Railways, Railway Workers’ Unity Alliance

Commerce Desk

RAWALPINDI: On the occasion of Independence Day, a dignified ceremony was organized at the Rawalpindi Railway Station under the auspices of the Railway Workers' Unity Alliance, attended by a large number of labour leaders. The event was presided over by Raja Shaukat, General Secretary of Mazdoor Mahaz (Labour Union). The ceremony began with the recitation of the Holy Quran. During the event, slogans of workers' unity were raised and a renewed pledge of solidarity with the nation was

made.

Railway labour leader Mubarak Hussain hosted the event. In his speech, he emphasized: "If Pakistan exists, then so do we. We speak not of divisions, but of collective interests. We must set aside our mutual differences and think about Pakistan. Shaukat Awan stated that "Quaid-e-Azam was a labour leader who served as President of the Railway Postal Organization in Al India. He played a significant role in establishing railway laws."

Labour leader Shaukat Khan Jadoon said: "We must

prioritize character-building. We have pledged to stand by our fellow workers in difficult times. Shaukat Ali Awan said that "Workers' issues should be addressed on a priority basis. Advocate Fazeel Ahmed Abbasi remarked that "Our workers are the pride of the nation. Any railway employee who serves for more than ninety days should legally be made permanent."

Social activist Ms. Samina said: "The struggle of the working class will bear fruit, but our workers are deprived of basic rights."- Jawaad leader of the Inqilabi Party, said: "We stand with the

Railway Alliance." He congratulated Mubarak Hussain and others for organizing an excellent program. Nadeem Cheeda said: "We have always advocated for workers' rights. Imran Aziz, organizer of the Inqilabi Party, said: "True freedom means access to fundamental rights for the people. Sharafat Hussain stated: "We are proud of the Pakistan Armed Forces. At the end of the ceremony, children who recited the Quran and performed Naat were awarded trophies for their outstanding performance. An Independence Day cake was also cut.



Bull & Bears

PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
146,529.30	147,005.32
Day's High	Day's Low
147,892.25	146,417.80
Index Value	Change
29,702,905,916	−476.02
Percentage	Time
−0.32%	13 Aug, 2025 4:30 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
9,177.24	+ 12.01
Percentage	Time
+0.13%	14 Aug, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
44,744.81	− 177.46
Percentage	Time
−0.40%	14 Aug, 11:40 am GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
42,649.26	− 625.41
Percentage	Time
−1.45%	14 Aug, 3:45 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	184.1	189.1
Bahrain Dinar	751.65	754.15
Canadian Dollar	205.1	210.1
China Yuan	39.2	39.60
Danish Krone	43.6	44
Euro	330.30	332.30
Hong Kong Dollar	35.95	36.3
Indian Rupee	3.13	3.22
Japanese Yen	1.9000	2.0000
Kuwaiti Dinar	918.35	926.45
Malaysian Ringgit	66.5	67.1
NewZealand \$	165.22	167.22
Norwegians Krone	27.32	27.62
Omani Riyal	736.30	738.80
Qatari Riyal	77.25	77.95
Saudi Riyal	75.75	76.05
Singapore Dollar	219.2	224.2
Swedish Korona	29.10	29.40
Swiss Franc	348.5	351.25
Thai Bhat	8.65	8.8
U.A.E Dirham	77.3	77.55
UK Pound Sterling	380.65	382.85
US Dollar	284.1	285.6

Pakistani business community, Jeddah, celebrated the Independence Day

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: The Pakistani business community settled in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Thursday celebrated the auspicious occasion of Pakistan's Independence Day on August 14 in a befitting and dignified manner.

According to a message received here today, the event was graced by leader of visiting delegation of Pakistan Food Exporters led by Shahid Imran Convener Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry regional committee on food, prominent businessmen, community leaders, and their families, to reaffirm their love and devotion to the motherland. The venue was adorned with national flags, green and white balloons, and patriotic banners, creating a festive and vibrant atmosphere.

Speakers on the occasion Shahid Imran paid rich tributes to the founding fathers and martyrs who rendered immense sacrifices for the creation of Pakistan.

PBF holds ceremony to celebrate Independence Day

LAHORE: The Pakistan Business Forum (PBF-Lahore chapter) held a ceremony to celebrate Independence Day of Pakistan, bringing together key figures from the business community, government, and civil society to commemorate the country's rich legacy and progress, here at a local hotel.

Punjab Minister for Finance Mian Muhtaba Shuja-ur-Rehman was the chief guest while Patron-in-Chief of United Business Group (UBG) SM Tanveer and PBF Chief Organiser Ahmad Jawad were guests of honour. PBF Lahore President Sajid Aziz Meer, the forum's Provincial Chairpersons Talat Suhail, Naseer Malik, and Shabnum Zafar, along with Amjad Chaudhry, President of Lahore Small Chamber of Commerce were also present.

Historic victory in Operation Bunyan-um-Marsoos and Marka-e-Haq amplifies

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) hosted a dignified national ceremony to commemorate Pakistan's 78th Independence Day.

The event featured the hoisting of the national flag and a tree plantation drive. The ceremony was graced by FPCCI President Atif Ikram Sheikh, FPCCI Regional Chairman and Vice President Zain Iftikhar Chaudhry, UBG Patron-in-Chief S. M. Tanveer, Brig. (R) Nadir Mir, and FPCCI Vice Presidents Zaki Aijaz and Tariq Mehmood Jadoon.

Addressing the gathering, FPCCI President Atif Ikram Sheikh said: "I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire nation on this momentous Independence Day. The historic victory in Operation Bunyan-um-Marsoos and the Marka-e-Haq has greatly enhanced the joy of this year's celebrations. The business community across the country, including FPCCI, deeply acknowledges the immense sacrifices of the Pakistan Armed Forces."

He further remarked that following the remarkable triumph in the Marka-e-Haq, Pakistan's effective diplomacy under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir not only dismantled India's

false and baseless narrative but also successfully projected Pakistan's soft image on the global stage.

"We salute our armed forces for their valiant victory against our eternal adversary under the visionary leadership of the Field Marshal," he said. Mr. Sheikh added that 65% of the country's population comprises youth under the age of 30, and these young citizens are determined to shape Pakistan's future.

To transform Pakistan into a great nation, he emphasized, investment in youth and women is essential so they can play a more effective role in



the country's development.

"If Pakistan exists, we exist — Pakistan is our identity, and our hearts beat with it. On this day, we renew our pledge to make sound decisions that will place our country on the path to sustainable economic progress. True independence can only be achieved by building a strong and resilient economy."

Independence Day

ISLAMABAD: Artists are performing on stage during the event regarding "Independence Day" at Pakistan National Council Arts, in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

SECP's silence on its own misinformation draws criticism

Billions in investment, thousands of jobs at risk over SECP inaction

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Billions in losses and lasting reputational damage continue to mount for a private company employing five thousand people after Pakistan's financial regulator removed — but did not publicly retract — a press release later deemed both legally unsound and factually inaccurate.

The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) took down the disputed statement from its website in compliance with a recent court order. However, the allegations, first circulated through the regulator's official channels, remain accessible on mainstream media platforms, with no corrective notice issued.

Legal experts note that merely deleting the content from an official portal does not erase its impact. "Unless the regulator takes proactive steps to publicly withdraw the information, the harm remains," one practitioner said, pointing to legal principles that oblige state bodies to rectify their own errors.

Sources familiar with the case say the original release, which accused the company of business violations, was issued without adequate verification and ran counter to judicial findings at Islamabad High Court that invalidated specific enforcement actions. The absence of follow up communication to

correct the record, they warn, risks undermining both market integrity and public trust in financial oversight.

Sources have urged parliamentary scrutiny into post litigation compliance practices, arguing that regulators must be held accountable for misinformation they originate. They contend that statutory safeguards should explicitly require public retractions in cases where official statements are later found unlawful or inaccurate.

Analysts caution that such inaction can erode investor confidence, particularly among foreign stakeholders sensitive to governance risks. If regulatory bodies are perceived as unwilling to correct their mistakes, capital inflows will suffer, one market strategist observed, noting the broader economic implications.

The episode has also reignited debate within the legal community over whether Pakistan's financial sector laws sufficiently protect against reputational harm from premature or unverified regulatory announcements. Several commentators have called for reforms to embed corrective disclosure obligations into the regulatory framework.

Observers caution that without systemic reform, Pakistan's regulatory framework will remain vulnerable to repeat episodes

where reputations are damaged before facts are established, forcing affected parties into expensive and protracted litigation for redress. They stress that embedding a clear legal obligation for timely public corrections into enforcement protocols would not only protect individual businesses but also serve the wider economy by signalling accountability and fairness.

In an era where capital is mobile and investor confidence fragile, such measures could help reassure both domestic entrepreneurs and international stakeholders that Pakistan's markets are governed transparently. Analysts add that decisive statutory change would project stability, reinforce the rule of law, and demonstrate that regulatory authority is matched by a duty to rectify its own missteps without delay.

Repeated requests for comment from the SECP on whether it plans to issue a public clarification or request retractions from media outlets went unanswered at the time of filing.

Billions in investment are now in jeopardy as regulatory inaction by the SECP fuels uncertainty. The stalemate is also placing thousands of jobs on the line, heightening concerns over market stability. Observers warn the combined economic and human cost could deepen if corrective measures are not taken soon.

PSO Celebrates 78th Independence Day with Commitment to Progress



Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Pakistan State Oil (PSO) marked the 78th Independence Day of Pakistan with a grand ceremony, highlighting its dedication to the nation's progress and growth.

The event was led by PSO's Managing Director & CEO, Syed Taha, who emphasized the company's commitment

to outstanding performance, technological innovation, and environmental stewardship.

The event was made special by a soul-stirring performance by students from the Karachi Vocational Training Centre.

As the company looks to the future, it remains focused on delivering value to its stakeholders while contributing to the nation's prosperity.

IT Lead Zohaib Khan Recognized as Pride of Pakistan



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Zohaib Khan, the former chairman of Pakistan's IT industry association P@SHA, has been recognized as the Pride of Pakistan for his services to the country's IT industry.

His announcement was made on the eve of the 78th Independence Day Celebrations at Jinnah Stadium, Islamabad.

Muhammad Zohaib Khan was the only P@SHA Chairman and one of a few businessmen from the IT industry who were given this recogni-

tion. He has been associated with the IT industry for over two decades and has represented Pakistan at various global platforms in different capacities, receiving numerous titles for his dedication and service to the nation.

The celebration ceremony of Marka-e-Haq was attended by Prime Minister Mian Shahbaz Sharif, Field Marshal General Asim Munir, Chiefs of Armed Forces, diplomats and other dignitaries. Several other personalities were also recognized as pride of Pakistan for their services in different field.



Field Marshal Asim Munir, A Visionary Leader for Pakistan's Future: Iftikhar Malik

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry former President Iftikhar Ali Malik Thursday lauded the COAS Field Marshal Asim Munir for his highly successful and result-oriented visits to the United States, a turning point in further cementing the geo-strategic partnership and unlocking fresh avenues for bilateral trade, investment, and economic cooperation.

In his special Independence Day message here today he said on the

auspicious occasion of August 14, the entire nation feels immense pride in the epoch-making achievements of Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir.

He said the visits demonstrated Pakistan's diplomatic strength, strategic clarity, and ability to build mutually beneficial alliances in a rapidly evolving global order. "Such engagements not only bolster our defence and security cooperation but also pave the way for enhanced market access, technology transfer, and new trade opportunities," he

added.

Iftikhar Ali Malik outlined that Independence Day reminds every Pakistani of the sacrifices of forefathers and the duty to safeguard national sovereignty at all costs. "The combination of strong military leadership and proactive economic diplomacy is the need of the hour, and Field Marshal Asim Munir has set a shining example," he concluded, expressing hope that Pakistan will continue to rise as a self-reliant, prosperous, and respected member of the international community.

Punjab Sports Department holds impressive Independence Day and Marka Haq ceremony at National Hockey Stadium

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Punjab Sports Department organized an impressive Independence Day and Marka Haq ceremony at National Hockey Stadium on Thursday. Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry, who was the chief guest on this occasion, unfurled national flag and cut a cake to celebrate 78th Independence Day of the country.

Olympian Manzoor ul Hasan, Director Sports Rana Nadeem Anjum, Deputy Directors Tariq Khanzada, Chand Perveen, Yasmeen Akhtar, Divisional Sports Officer Lahore Tanveer Abbas, several international players, hundreds of Punjab Sports Department employees and officers were also present on this occasion.

National Anthem was also presented at the ceremony. The gold medalist players of the Sports Endowment Fund also participated in the Independence Day ceremony. The participants chanted slogans of 'Pak Army

Zindabad' 'Pakistan Zindabad' at the ceremony.

Talking to media on this occasion, Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry said that today is a historic day and we should renew our commitment with our motherland. He also congratulated the entire nation on Independence Day.

Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry said that the entire nation is proud of Pakistan Army. "Pakistan has been blessed with abundance of talent in every field and we are quite upbeat that our country will scale new heights in multiple fields in future".

Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry said this day served as a reminder of courage, unity, and sacrifices that led to the creation of Pakistan. He also paid homage to martyrs of Pakistan Movement for their struggle and great sacrifices.

Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry

said that Punjab Sports Department is also going to organize Azadi Family Fun Race on August 23 at Nishtar Park Sports Complex in which hundreds of boys, girls and women are expected to participate.

Punjab Sports Department also organized hockey and cricket matches in connection with Independence Day. Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry also participated in the Independence Day hockey match and netted a beautiful field goal for Sports Board Punjab (SBP) team against Veterans XI.

SBP team defeated Veterans XI by a margin of 3-2 goals. Former international hockey players such as Masoodur Rehman, Qasim Khan and Amir Sheikh were the members of Veterans XI while Director Sports Rana Nadeem Anjum appeared for SBP team.

In the women hockey match, Pakistan Green XI emerged winners against Pakistan White XI by a narrow margin of 2-1 goals. The Independence Day cricket match was played between



SBP XI and Directorate XI in which SBP XI defeated Directorate XI by

16 runs. Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal

Chaudhry also witnessed the exciting cricket clash.

Pepsi National PD T20 Cricket Championship: Multan Cruise into Final

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Multan booked their place in the final of the Pepsi National PD T20 Cricket Championship after defeating Lahore by seven wickets, recording their third consecutive victory of the tournament. In the final Multan will face the winner of the second leg.

The championship, organised by the Pakistan Physical Disability Cricket Association (PPDCA), continued on the third day at the Rashid Latif Cricket Academy (RLCA) Ground in Karachi, featuring two more matches.

In the day's opening fixture, Lahore batted first and posted 123 for six in 20 overs, with Shahid Wattoo scoring 33, Ateeq Jutt 31, and Muhammad Anees 18. For Multan, Jehanzaib Tiwana claimed 2 wickets for 29 runs, while Asif Khicchi and Muhammad Asif took one wicket each. Chasing the target, Multan reached 124 for three in 17.2 overs. Muhammad Zaman Ali starred with an aggressive 60 with six fours and two sixes, supported by Matloob Qureshi's 31 and Jehanzaib Tiwana's 17. For Lahore, Muhammad Bilal took two wickets and Muhammad



Arsalan one. Muhammad Zaman received Player of the Match Award from RLCA Zone 2 President Muhammad Jamil.

In the second match, Karachi posted 138 for nine in 20 overs. Arifeen Arshad top-scored with 54 off 40 balls with the help two fours and four sixes,

while Nooruddin Sheikh added 22 and Kamran Khan 14. Quetta's Mithal Khan took 3 for 22, Ali Gachizai bagged two wickets, and Nazimuddin, Muhammad Irfan, and Nusratullah took one wicket each. In reply, Quetta managed 129 for seven. Saifullah led the resistance with 54 off 43 balls with eight fours and two

sixes, Nusratullah contributing 23 and Amir Habib 22. For Karachi, Kamran Khan and Ishaq Junior picked up two wickets apiece, while Malik Sher and Ali Askar claimed one each. Former first-class cricketer Zafar Ahmed presented Arifeen Arshad Player of the Match award.

Among the attendees were PPDCA President Imran Balwani, Secretary General and Event Director Amiruddin Ansari, Head Coach Sabih Azhar, Quetta Region Head Aslam Badich, Lahore-Sialkot Region Head Javed Ashraf, and PPDCA founder and director Muhammad Nizam.

Matches were supervised by Waseemuddin and Muhammad Rehan, with Shakeel Sajjad officiating as match referee. The championship's second phase will be staged in Islamabad.

Photo Caption: Chief guest Zafar Ahmed presents the Player of the Match award to Muhammad Zaman of Multan during the Pepsi National PPD T20 Cricket Championship. Also present are PPDCA President Imran Bulwani, Head Coach Sabih Azhar, Aslam Barich, and Muhammad Nizam.

Abdul Samad, Nafey and Yasir half-centuries give Shaheens a winning start

Asim Tanveer

DARWIN: Half-centuries from Abdul Samad, Khawaja Mohammad Nafey and Yasir Khan, followed by a combined seven wickets from the spinners, helped Pakistan Shaheens defeat Bangladesh 'A' by 79 runs in the opening match of the Top End T20 series at the TIO Stadium in Darwin on Thursday evening.

Shaheens, electing to bat first, scored 227 for four in 20 overs. Openers Khawaja Nafey (61, 31b, 8x4s, 2x6s) and Yasir Khan (62, 40b, 7x4s, 2x6s) provided a brilliant stand of 118 runs in just 11.1 overs. Abdul Samad then played an unbeaten innings of 56 runs off 27 balls (1x4, 5x6s), adding 36 runs for the fourth wicket with captain Mohammad Irfan Khan (25, 12b, 1x4, 3x6s) to take the total past the 200-mark.

As a result, Bangladesh 'A' got off to a brisk start despite losing their first wicket in the opening over, reaching 92 for one in seven overs. Left-arm spinner Moaz Sadaqat dealt the decisive blow in the eighth over, removing opener Jashn Alam (33, 17b, 5x4s, 1x6) and breaking the 86-run stand for the second wicket.

From there, the Shaheens' spinners took



control. Faisal Akram (3-19) and Saad Masood (3-30) led the charge, while fast bowler Mohammad Wasim Jr. took 2-24 to bowl out Bangladesh 'A' for 148 in 16.5 overs.

Shaheens will now face Scorchers in their next match on Saturday, August 16 at



the same venue. The first ball of the match will be bowled at 4pm local time.

Pakistan Shaheens defeated Bangladesh A by 79 runs.

Pakistan Shaheens 227-4, 20 overs (Yasir Khan 62, Khawaja Mohammad Nafi 61, Abdul Samad 56 not out,

Mohammad Irfan Khan 25)

Bangladesh 'A' 148 all out, 16.5 overs (Mohammad Saif Hasan 57, Jashn Alam 33; Faisal Akram 3-19, Saad Masood 3-30, Mohammad Wasim Jr 2-24)

Player of the Match - Yasir Khan (Pakistan Shaheens)

PM unveils Army Rocket Force Command to sharpen combat edge

Continued from Page 1

Sharif lauded the bravery of Pakistan's troops, saying their mothers send them to the battlefield with prayers to protect the nation's honour at all costs.

"Such a nation can never be defeated," he said. He credited Field Marshal Asim Munir's "brilliant and bold strategy" for neutralising India's aggression.

He added that just as a new independent state was born on August 14, 1947, a new nation emerged on May 10, 2025.

The Marka-e-Haq proved that the

freedom won through the sacrifices of our forefathers can be fully defended with our capability and strength.

The premier emphasised Pakistan's nuclear capability as a purely defensive measure against India's arsenal, reaffirming a commitment to peace but readiness for defence.

PM Shehbaz thanked Pakistan's allies — including China, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, UAE, Iran, and Azerbaijan — for standing by the country diplomatically during the conflict.

He also acknowledged US President Donald Trump's role in brokering a

ceasefire and expressed hope Trump would work towards resolving the Kashmir dispute per UN resolutions.

Ceremony highlights
The ceremony began with the recitation of the Holy Quran and the national anthem, followed by an impressive march-past by contingents from the Pakistan Army, Navy, Air Force, Punjab Rangers, and FC. SSG commandos, and units from Türkiye and Azerbaijan, also participated.

President Asif Ali Zardari, PM Shehbaz Sharif, and Field Marshal Asim Munir led the salute to the

national flag.

Pakistan Air Force aircraft performed aerial manoeuvres, drawing cheers of "Pakistan Zindabad" from the crowd.

A special enclosure hosted Pakistan's "heroes" from various walks of life, while performances by famed drummer Gumby and singer Shafqat Amanat Ali added to the festive spirit.

Across the country, streets and neighbourhoods were adorned with green and white flags. At Shakarparian Parade Ground, military equipment used in Marka-e-Haq was put on public display.



Central park Sports Department Celebrating the 78 independence day and organized different types Sports Activity in Central park Housing society sports Complex

National Youth Games: Trials for Karachi's boys and girls hockey teams announced

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Trials for the formation of Karachi's boys and girls hockey teams for the National Youth Games will begin tomorrow. The Karachi Hockey Association has announced a selection committee in this regard. According to the schedule, the boys' trials will be held on August 16 (Saturday) at 11 am at the Olympian Hanif Khan and Dr. Junaid Ali Shah Sports Complex, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, while the girls' trials will be held on August 17 (Sunday) at the same venue. The announced selection committee includes Olympian Iftikhar Syed as the chairman, while the members include Olympian Wasim Feroz, International Laiq Lashari, Tasneem Usmani, Salman Sheikh, Sameera Naseem, Batool Kazim while DSO Ismail Shah as the coordinator. Only boys and girls players born between 2008 and 2011 will be eligible. Can participate in trials.

Mahad Khan & Sara Amin Khan Crowned Champions at Kazakhstan Junior Open Golf Championship 2025

**Sports Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's rising golf stars delivered a historic performance at the Kazakhstan Junior Open Golf Championship 2025, held at the renowned Zailjau Golf Club, Almaty, with Mahad Khan winning the Boys Category and Sara Amin Khan securing victory in the Girls Category.

In the Boys division, Mahad Khan showcased exceptional skill and consistency to outplay a competitive international field, while Zayd Omer Arshad secured the Runner-up position with an equally commendable performance. In the Girls division, Sara Amin Khan displayed great composure under pressure to lift the championship trophy, marking a proud moment for Pakistan.

The Pakistan Team also claimed two special accolades:

Longest Drive – Mahad Khan (remarkable distance and power)
Closest to Pin – Zayd Omer Arshad (precision and accuracy)

The President of the Pakistan Golf Federation (PGF) congratulated both champions, the runner-up, and the entire team for bringing glory to Pakistan, and praised the Secretary PGF for his excellent team selection and preparation. He described this victory as a beautiful Independence Day gift to the nation on 14 August 2025.

The championship saw enthusiastic support, with many parents traveling to Kazakhstan to witness their children compete. A large crowd of international spectators warmly applauded the team's outstanding performance among participants from multiple countries.

Media Caution & Advisory:

While celebrating these remarkable achievements, PGF underlines the importance of sustained hard work, sports discipline, and adherence to international rules. Players, coaches, and parents are reminded to remain vigilant against any prohibited substances, uphold the spirit of fair play, and balance academic responsibilities with athletic ambitions. This success should serve as both a source of national pride and a motivation for future excellence.

Duties

KARACHI: Pakistan Naval Academy Cadets take over duties of Ceremonial Guard at Mazar-e-Quaid on 78th Independence Day on Thursday.



PM orders early completion of IT Park in Islamabad



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday expressing displeasure over the slow pace of construction of the Technology Park, directed that the IT Park should be completed as soon as possible.

"This project must be completed within the time frame specified in the initial instructions," prime minister said during his visit to the under-construction Technology Park here.

He further instructed that the provision of facilities in the project must meet international standards. "All responsible stakeholders

should accelerate their efforts for the completion of this project," the prime minister stressed.

Briefing the prime minister, the officials informed that the IT Park consisted of two underground floors, a ground floor, and nine upper floors.

The Park will include offices, an incubation center, a business support center, R&D laboratories, a Level III data center, an auditorium, and parking for 1,200 vehicles.

The prime minister was further told that objective of the IT Park was to create jobs for youth, boost economic growth, enhance global IT competitiveness, and bridge the digital divide.

Pakistan created after matchless struggle by forefathers led by Quaid-e-Azam: Engr Amir Muqam

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Federal Minister Engr Amir Muqam here Thursday said that Pakistan had been created after matchless struggle by forefathers led by Quaid e Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah on August 14, 1947 and it was spirit of age to work tirelessly for its progress and development.

Addressing Pakistan Independence Day cake cutting ceremony here at PMLN Secretariat, Engr Amir Muqam extended congratulations to the entire nation on the occasion of Independ-



ence Day and the glorious and historic success in the battle of truth.

Engr Amir Muqam said the entire nation has recognized the great leadership abilities

of the Commander-in-Chief and the Field Marshal Gen Syed Asim Munir, as well as the capabilities of the Pakistan Army and PAF.

He said current military

power of Pakistan is well known globally and all Pakistanis should thank Allah that the honour, prestige and importance of our country and nation have increased across the world.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, he said the country is moving on the path of progress.

"Talks of bankruptcy are now a thing of the past, and Pakistan has now joined the ranks of emerging economies courtesy to PMLN Govt."

He said Field Marshal COAS General Asim Munir

also played a significant role in the country's economic and defense progress.

Engr Amir Muqam regretted that there is, however, a party that celebrates "Imran Khan Day" on the occasion of Kashmir Exploitation Day, adding instead of expressing solidarity with the Kashmiris, this party celebrates the day of their leader.

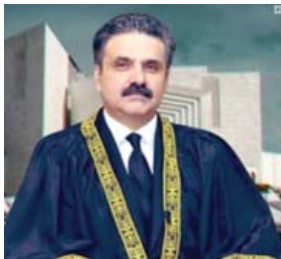
Without naming PTI, Engr Amir Muqam claimed that today, on August 14 being a day of immense joy, success, and vision that the same party is busy dividing the people.

CJP Afridi's reply to Justice Mansoor's letter made public

City Desk

For the first time after the 26th Amendment, the Supreme Court (SC) on Thursday made public minutes of the judges' committees' meetings held between October 31, 2024 and May 29, 2025, reported 24NewsHD TV channel.

The minutes also included Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Yahya Afridi's reply to Justice Mansoor Ali Shah's



letter.

The CJP wrote in his reply that under Article 191A of the



constitution, only the constitutional bench was empowered to hear the application related

to 183/3, while the constitutional committee of judges was authorized to fix the hearing of the application.

CJP Afridi further wrote that the judges committee was constituted under the Act of 2023. "I can understand the concern shown by my fellow judges," he said, adding, "I myself sought an opinion from 13 judges of the apex court on placing the amendment before a full court. Out of 13 judges,

nine judges said that the 26th Amendment should be placed before the constitutional bench, not the full court."

Being a CJP, Afridi went on to say, he did not deem it proper to convene a full court meeting.

Justice Mansoor and Justice Muneeb Akhtar, at a meeting held on October 31, 2024, had decided to place the 26th Amendment before a full court on November 4, 2024.

Ahsan says nation marks Independence Day with pride Maarka-e-Haq victory, vision for 2035

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday said that the nation was celebrating its Independence Day with a renewed sense of pride, demonstrated by the success of Maarka-e-Haq under Operation Bunyan al-Marsoos (Iron Wall)—a testament that no enemy could dare cast an evil eye on Pakistan.

"Independence Day is a day of joy and pride. Today, we thank Allah Almighty and celebrate the victory in Maarka-e-Haq, during which the nation proved that no enemy can cast a malicious eye on Pakistan," he said



in his Independence Day message. The minister affirmed that the

armed forces were fully capable of delivering a decisive response to any

aggression, adding that the political leadership, under Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, has demonstrated its unwavering commitment to defending the honor and dignity of Pakistan.

Ahsan Iqbal praised the armed forces for their readiness and strength, highlighting the country's unyielding resolve to protect its sovereignty.

He also commended the government's leadership, saying "The political leadership has shown it will not waver in making bold decisions for Pakistan's honor."

He expressed pride in Pakistan's growing international recognition, saying "The world is looking at Pakistan with admiration."

Traffic diversions issued for Chehlum procession in Capital



Waseem Khokhar

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Traffic Police (ITP) has finalised a comprehensive plan for the 19th Safar Chehlum procession to ensure smooth flow of traffic and avoid inconvenience to motorists.

As part of the plan, Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) Syed Zeeshan Haider has deployed Islamabad Traffic Police (ITP) teams at key points to ensure public convenience and smooth traffic flow.

An ITP official told APP on Thursday that the central Chehlum procession will start from the main Imambargah in Sector G-6/2, and after passing through its designated route, will culminate at the same location.

During the period, Fazal Haq Road from Poly Clinic to Kulsoom Plaza will remain closed for general traffic, while commuters may use Jinnah Avenue from Kulsoom Plaza to China Chowk as an alternative route.

The 7th Avenue from Daman-e-Koh Chowk to Chand Tara Chowk via Blue Area Outer Loop, and from

7th Avenue Chowk to Suhrawardy Road, will remain closed in both directions.

Motorists are advised to use Jinnah Avenue, Suhrawardy Road, and Margalla Road as alternate routes.

Similarly, Saddar Road from Iqbal Hall to Melody Chowk will be closed to all traffic, with Aabpara and Suhrawardy Road serving as alternatives.

Municipal Road from Lal Masjid to Shohada Chowk and GPO Chowk will also be closed in both directions, with Shaheed Millat Road as the recommended detour.

In addition, Luqman Hakeem Road from Polyclinic to Iqbal Hall will be closed, and traffic will be diverted to Jinnah Avenue.

The Chief Traffic Officer urged citizens to avoid illegal parking along the procession route, use only designated parking areas, and cooperate with traffic police officers deployed for guidance.

He stressed that public cooperation is essential to maintain smooth traffic flow and ensure safety during the Chehlum procession.