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Imran Khan
22nd PM of Islamic Republic of Pakistan



Dr. Arif Alvi
13th President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan

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Speaker, National Assembly
of Pakistan



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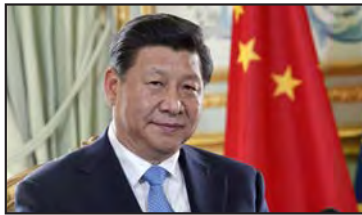


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14



26



50

10 Imran Khan sworn in as 22nd Prime Minister of Pakistan

Imran Khan has been as sworn in as Pakistan's new prime minister after his party's victory in last month's election. Pakistan President Mamnoon Hussain administered the oath at a ceremony in the capital, Islamabad.

14 BRI not meant to be 'China club' Xi stresses shared growth, dialogue among countries, win-win results

The Belt and Road Initiative does not aim at a geopolitical or military alliance, nor will it establish a small bloc or set up a "China club", President Xi Jinping said. Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remark while presiding over a meeting that marks the fifth anniversary of his proposal of the BRI.

26 13th President of Pakistan Arif Alvi elected "From today I am not just a president that was nominated by the PTI but I am the president of the entire nation and all parties": Arif Alvi

A third consecutive parliament and provincial assemblies have elected a third president in little over a decade since a return to civilian government in Pakistan. Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf's Dr Arifur Rehman Alvi was elected the 13th President of Pakistan, according to results provided by the Election Commission of Pakistan.

50 Dr. Song Jong-hwan receives Pakistan's highest civilian honor

An award ceremony held for Dr. Song Jong-hwan, former Korean ambassador to Pakistan from 2013-16, who was bestowed Pakistan's highest civilian award, the Sitara-e Pakistan, by Pakistani Ambassador to Korea Rahim Hayat Qureshi, on behalf of President Mamnoon Hussain.

PAKISTAN CELEBRATES 71ST ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE WITH TRADITIONAL ZEAL & ZEST IN COUNTRY & ABROAD MISSIONS



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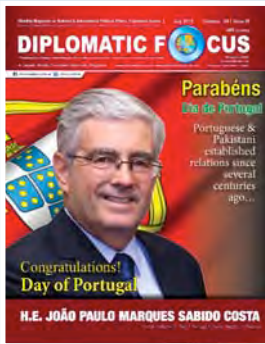
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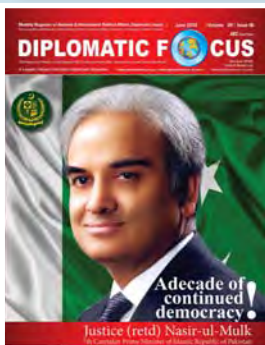
August 2018



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Our previous Issues



Mian Fazal Elahi



Khan took oath as the 22nd Prime Minister of the country at a ceremony at the Presidency which also marked an end to decades of rotating leadership between the ousted PML-N and the PPP. This brings to fruition his long struggle in politics as his party would be running affairs of the government for the next five years at the Centre, in Punjab and KP. In the speech delivered after his victory in the election of the Prime Minister in the National Assembly session, Imran Khan was once again in his original upbeat and aggressive mood but for understandable reasons. PTI based its entire political and electoral struggle on the slogan of 'change' and that is why after his election. Though he did not elaborate what changes he intends to introduce and how these would impact the common man but his firm tone sent a clear message that he has a plan and would implement it too in letter and spirit. The entire nation has now eyes on the decisions of PTI's Government. Relief to the masses can be done by putting the house in order, introducing bold institutional reforms to check massive corruption, lethargy and resorting to strict austerity measures in all spheres of life beginning from the top. Speeding up work on special economic zones to be set up under the CPEC and enhancing the ratio of direct taxes as well as bolstering exports is the way forward to free the country from the debt trap and make the country sovereign economically which will also lead to bringing improvement in the social sector and living standards of the people. The list is not over here. There is accountability, widening of tax net, reforms in FBR, civil service and police, plight of down-trodden segments of the society, speedy and inexpensive justice, creation of South Punjab province, FATA mainstreaming, resolution of Karachi problems and overhauling health and education sectors are also important issues and challenges. On the foreign policy front, the new government will have to engage meaningfully with all countries to safeguard national prestige, integrity and fundamental interests. The Government has started working but not in full gear and therefore, there is logic that critics should wait for at least three months that the Prime Minister has sought to judge the quality of governance and policies and programmes of the new regime. However, it is also to be kept in mind that opposition has its own agenda and grievances and what PTI did in the past, PML(N) is doing today but one must not lose sight of the fact that the Government has to lose more than the Opposition in chaotic and instable conditions. The Government is always supposed to be tolerant and accommodative and it should be more so in the case of PTI, which has thin majority and would be needing cooperation of the Opposition frequently to implement its agenda. We wish the new government a good start and successful tenure with the hope that it fulfils national aspirations.



Mian Assad Ullah

Important Announcement

It has been announced for the general information that Mr. Mian Assad Ullah has been appointed as Editor In Chief of the Monthly "Diplomatic Focus" for the UK/EU Edition. He is entitled to participate official /non-officials diplomatic(engagements, events, national days, social evenings/gatherings, press conferences/interviews and can be contacted for all kinds of stuff including articles, supplements and advertisements etc). It is requested to all Diplomatic missions and government high officials of UK, please contact with Mr. Mian Assad Ullah on His mailing address, 4 Ipswich Road, SW17 9RH, London. Cell number:+44-7961005954/ 2087694850, Email: uk.diplomaticfocus@gmail.com, assadmian1@gmail.com

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New Envoys of Greece, Norway presented credentials to President Mamnoon

Ambassadors-designate of Greece and Norway presented their credentials to President Mamnoon Hussain at a ceremony held here at the Aiwan-e-Sadr.

The envoys who presented their credentials included Ambassador-designate of Greece Dimitris Hatzaopoulos and Ambassador-designate of Norway Kjell-Gunnar Eriksen.

During separate meetings with the

envoys-designate, the President said Pakistan desires to further enhance diplomatic and economic relations with the both countries.

The President said Pakistan provided very conducive environment for great investment and business and hoped that investors from both Greece and Norway would avail these opportunities by investing in diverse areas.

He also stressed regular exchange of bilateral

delegations to strengthen people-to-people contacts and to forge strong political and economic linkages.

The President felicitated the newly appointed Ambassadors to Pakistan and hoped that they would work for further strengthening the existing ties of their respective countries with Pakistan.



Ambassador-designate of Pakistan to Portugal Shah Mohammad Jamal called on President

By Mian Fazal Elahi

President Mamnoon Hussain has said that Portugal is important country of Europe and Pakistan is keen to enhance its cooperation in various fields. The President said this while talking to Ambassador-designate of Pakistan to Portugal Shah Mohammad Jamal who called on him here at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad

Pak-Saudi relations will be improved in collaboration with the new government:

Dr. Awwad Saleh al-Awwad

By Mian Fazal Elahi

Saudi Information Minister Dr. Awwad Saleh al-Awwad was received by Information Minister Chaudhary Fawad Hussain on a visit to Pakistan. Chaudhary Fawad Hussain said Pakistan and Saudi Arabia share the bond of religion and brotherhood.

Saudi Information Minister said Pak-Saudi relations will be improved in collaboration with the new government.

Saudi Ambassador Nawaf Saeed Ahmad Al-Maliki hosted a reception in the honor of Dr. Awwad Saleh Al-Awwad, Minister for Culture and Information, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Saudi Information Minister Dr. Awwad Saleh al-Awwad also called on Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi and discussed the matter of mutual interests. Saudi Information Minister Dr. Awwad Saleh al-Awwad showed commitment of close working relationship of Saudi Government with new government of Pakistan. Shah Mehmood Qureshi also appreciated the stance of Saudi government and welcomed it. Pakistani Foreign Minister emphasized on the need of further improvement in economic ties between two brother countries as well as strengthening of linkages between two sides leaders. Shah Mehmood Qureshi invited Saudi investors to invest in Pakistan.

The Saudi Minister also called on Prime Minister Imran Khan. The talks was focused on bilateral relations and finding new avenues of cooperation. H.E Dr Awwad Bin Saleh Al Awwad, Information Minister of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS). Matters of mutual interest were discussed during the meeting.





Ambassador of Kingdom of Saudi H.E. Nawaf Saeed Ahmad Al-Maliki hosted a reception in the honor of Dr. Awwad Saleh Al-Awwad, Minister for Culture and Information, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.





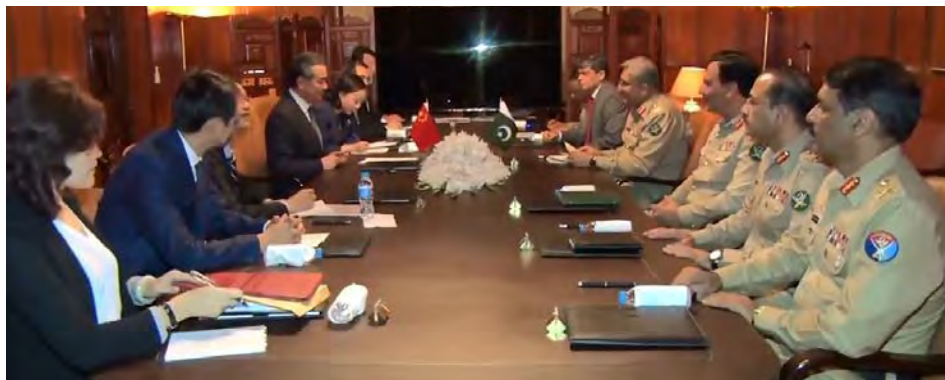
China to firmly support Pakistan's socio-economic progress, development

By Mian Fazal Elahi

Delegation-level talks led by Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi were held at Foreign Office in Islamabad. Bilateral ties, including China Pakistan Economic Corridor, economic cooperation, cultural and educational

exchanges and regional situation were discussed at the talks. Pakistan and China have agreed to strengthen bilateral ties and to maintain close communication on regional and global issues. Addressing a joint news conference along with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi in Islamabad, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said Pak-China friendship has political, institutional

and popular support in both countries. He said Pakistan is eager to collaborate with China on CPEC which is fastest growing project of One Belt One Road initiative. Shah Mahmood Qureshi said his Chinese counterpart has extended an invitation for official visit to Prime Minister Imran Khan in November, to participate in international import-export





expo as Chinese guest. He said we made substantive progress on CPEC and reassured the visiting Chinese Foreign Minister that CPEC has immense importance for Pakistan and it is priority of the government. He said priorities of our government were discussed in the meeting including eradication of poverty job creation and rooting out corruption. He said I assured that security of Chinese Officials is our priority. Foreign Minister said his Chinese counterpart

emphasized that his country fully supports Pakistan's efforts in fight against terrorism and acknowledges Pakistan's sacrifices. He said Wang Yi also urged international community to appreciate Pakistan's role in countering terrorism which is a global problem. In his remarks on the occasion, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi described his meeting with Shah Mehmood Qureshi very positive. He said his country desires to further strengthen strategic partnership with Pakistan. He said we will continue cooperation with Pakistan in every field. Wang Yi said both countries agreed to advance peace in Afghanistan. He also extended an invitation to Prime Minister Imran Khan as Guest of Honour at International Import Expo in China. Earlier, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi during his one-on-one meeting with Wang Yi, reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to further strengthen partnership with China, based on strategic cooperation between the two countries. He said China Pakistan Economic Corridor is imperative for socio-economic development of Pakistan.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi also held a meeting with Speaker National Assembly Asad Qaiser in Islamabad and discussed bilateral relations and regional and international issues. The Chinese foreign minister agreed with the suggestion of the speaker for enhanced parliamentary and people to people contacts between the two countries. The Chinese foreign minister assured to continue cooperation with Pakistan in different areas including technology, infrastructure development and alternative sources of energy. In his remarks, the speaker said that Pakistan China relations are based on the strong foundations of mutual respect and trust. He noted that there is no comparison to the relationship that exists between Pakistan and China.

Chinese FM also called on Prime Minister Imran Khan, Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa and newly elected President Arif Alvi.

The talks focused on bilateral relations, China Pakistan Economic Corridor Project, regional security situation and the Afghan peace process.

The Chinese Foreign Minister also hold meetings with the leadership of the opposition parties. The Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi along with a high level delegation was in Pakistan on a three-day official visit.

Pakistan and China have agreed to strengthen bilateral ties and to maintain close communication on regional and global issues.

His country desires to further strengthen strategic partnership with Pakistan... we will continue cooperation with Pakistan in every field: Wang Yi



Imran Khan sworn in as 22nd Prime Minister of Pakistan

Imran Khan has been sworn in as Pakistan's new prime minister after his party's victory in last month's election. Pakistan President Mamnoon Hussain administered the oath

at a ceremony in the capital, Islamabad. The ceremony, heralding the third consecutive democratic transition in the country's history, was attended by as many as 500

guests, including interim Prime Minister Nasirul Mulk, members of his cabinet, parliamentarians, chiefs of the three armed forces, foreign diplomats, senior bureaucrats and former Pakistani cricketers. A special invitee from India, cricketer-turned-politician Navjot Singh Sidhu, film star Javed Sheikh and most members of the Pakistan's 1992 cricket world cup squad also attended the ceremony. First Lady Bushra Imran also attended the ceremony, sitting in the first row next to National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser. This was her first public appearance since her marriage with Imran earlier this year. Later, Imran and the first lady met with the participants and received greetings. After the conclusion of the ceremony, PM Imran arrived at the PM House and was presented a guard of honour by a contingent of the Pakistan Army. Imran was later introduced to the staff members. Clad in an ill-fitting black Sherwani, Imran arrived at the President House. Khan was elected as the prime minister by





entail problems when it comes to legislation. Khan has many challenges on the internal front and the external front (but) Imran Khan is adamant that he will deliver.



PTI's Sardar Usman Buzdar Sworn in as CM Punjab



Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Engr. Iqbal Zafar Jhagra administering oath to newly elected Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mehmood Khan at Governor's House, Peshawar on August 17, 2018.

parliament. PTI won the most seats in the July 25 election but fell short of an outright majority. It allied with independents to form a coalition.

In the national assembly, Khan secured 176 votes, beating Shehbaz Sharif, president of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), who got 96. "In this country, before everything else, we have to make sure there is accountability," said Khan, in a speech after the vote in parliament. "Those who have looted this country and indebted it, I promise this today that no one will escape."

The long-time opposition politician takes the reins of power for the first time in his 22-year political career, having led a strenuous campaign against corruption and government mismanagement since he retired as one of

Pakistan's most popular cricketer in 1992. The federal cabinet comprising 16 ministers have taken oath in a ceremony held at the President House. President Mamnoon Hussain administered the oath at a simple ceremony. The PTI's election victory was marred by widespread allegations of irregularities in the vote counting process, and opposition parties decried the results as "unacceptable". In his speech, Khan welcomed any investigation into the election results, saying he would support the process. He also committed to empowering parliament, and attending at least twice a month to answer other lawmakers' questions.

It is going to be a difficult task for Imran. He will have an opposition that will be strong by the looks of it and that may



Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zibair Mahmood Hayat Called On Prime Minister Imran Khan at PM Office Islamabad on August 20, 2018.



Chief of the Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa calls on Prime Minister Imran Khan at PM Office Islamabad on 27th August, 2018.



Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan Called On Prime Minister Imran Khan at PM Office Islamabad on August 20, 2018.



Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi called on Prime Minister Imran Khan at PM Office Islamabad on August 28, 2018.

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3. Dr Isharat Hussain (Institutional Reforms and Austerity)
4. Amin Aslam (Climate Change)
5. Zaheer ud din Babar Awan (Parliamentary Affairs)



Pakistan stands by Iran on Nuclear Deal issue

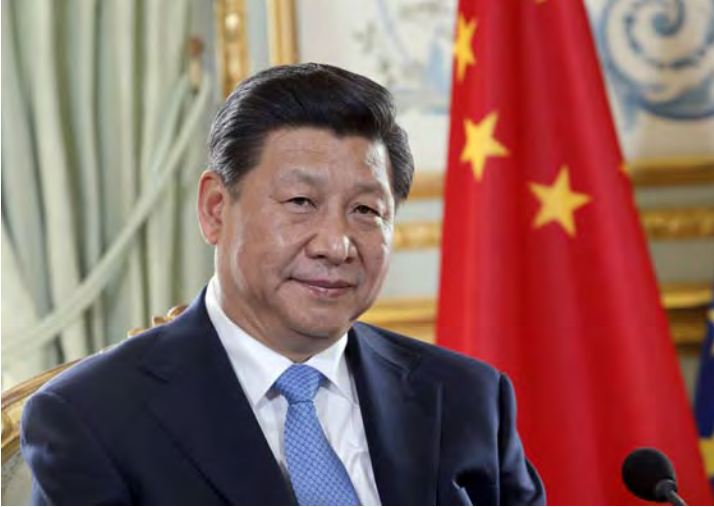
By M.Saeed Yousafzai, Monitoring

Pakistan said it supported Iran's "principled stance" on regarding its nuclear deal with major world powers. "Pakistan stands with Iran in this hour of need," Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi said during a meeting with his Iranian counterpart Javad Zarif in the federal capital. Detailed discussions were also held on regional and global issues — including the situation in Afghanistan and the US' decision to unilaterally withdraw from the JCPOA. It was agreed to host the next rounds of Bilateral Political Consultations and the Joint Economic Commission at early dates. Prime Minister Imran Khan also received Mr. Javad Zarif, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, for a meeting, who conveyed to him the greetings and best wishes of the people and leadership of Iran on assuming office. Mr. Zarif stated that Iran

wished continued progress and prosperity to the people of Pakistan. Mr. Javad Zarif delivered a message of Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, inviting the Prime Minister for the upcoming Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Summit in Iran, in October 2018. Both Pakistan and Iran are members of the organization. Iran currently holds the Chair of the organization. Welcoming the Foreign Minister, Prime Minister Imran Khan thanked the Iranian Supreme Leader's support for Kashmiri's struggle for self-determination as well as for the manner in which Pakistan Independence Day was celebrated in Iran. Prime Minister thanked the Foreign Minister for the sincere wishes. Recalling his recent telephonic conversation with President Rouhani, Prime Minister Khan said that Pakistan and Iran were connected by inseparable bonds of historic, religious and cultural affinities. He added that during his tenure, Pakistan would make all efforts to cement these relations in

various areas to the benefit of both countries. Prime Minister Imran Khan also emphasized on restoring complete peace and stability in the region. As land bridges between economically resource-rich regions, together with other regional partners, Pakistan and Iran remained the key to growth and prosperity in the region through enhancing connectivity and promoting people to people linkages. He delivered a message of Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, inviting the prime minister for the upcoming Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) summit in Iran, in October 2018. Besides formal talks with Prime Minister Imran Khan, Javad Zarif, Minister for Foreign Affairs also visited the GHQ to meet Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa. The visiting dignitary acknowledged and appreciated Pakistan's contributions for conflict prevention in the region. Mr. Javed Zarif also called on Mr. Asad Umar Minister of Finance.





By Agency

The Belt and Road Initiative does not aim at a geopolitical or military alliance, nor will it establish a small bloc or set up a “China club”, President Xi Jinping said.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remark while presiding over a meeting that marks the fifth anniversary of his proposal of the BRI.

China will uphold dialogue and coordination, pursue shared growth, seek win-win cooperation and boost communication with countries along the routes of the BRI to strengthen political mutual trust, enhance integration of economies and expand people-to-people exchanges, Xi said.

The Belt and Road Initiative, put forward by Xi in 2013, aims to build the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road to achieve policy, infrastructure, trade, financial and people-to-people connectivity and build a new platform for international cooperation.

The initiative, which reflects a sense of a community with a shared future, has provided new thoughts and solutions for the reform of the global governance system, Xi said at the meeting on Monday.

During the meeting, Xi was briefed by six government officials, two entrepreneurs and a researcher on the current situation of building the Belt and Road as well as proposals and suggestions.

China has promoted free trade and facilitated investment through jointly building the Belt and Road with other countries, Xi said, adding that China’s trade volume with countries involved in the BRI has exceeded \$5 trillion in the past five years.



Xi told the officials and entrepreneurs to have strategic views, set a global vision, have a sense of risk and at the same time seize the historic opportunity in order to move forward in the right direction when facing great changes.

The significance of jointly building the Belt and Road goes beyond economic cooperation,

BRI not meant to be ‘China club’

Xi stresses shared growth, dialogue among countries, win-win results

and it is a great way to improve the global development model and promote economic globalization, Xi said.

Saying that the BRI has gained wide support from the world, Xi added that it responded to the wishes of relevant countries, especially developing nations, to promote peace and pursue development.

Xi said that building the Belt and Road should mean pursuit of high-quality development, with focus on such things as construction of major projects in infrastructure and production capacity cooperation.

Xi required the addressing of key issues including major projects, financial support, investment environment, risk management and security in order to achieve more tangible outcomes.

Xi also required carrying out more projects that could benefit the local people along the routes of the BRI, expanding markets and investments, making efforts to ensure financial support and boosting exchanges in education, science, culture, sports and tourism.

The president called for great attention to preventing risks overseas, improving the system of security precautions and raising the capability to deal with risks overseas.





Diana

All the times Princess!

An iconic figure of the 20th century, Princess Diana (1961-1997) epitomized feminine beauty and elegance, making her one of the most photographed people of her time. She managed to make the British royal family more accessible to the masses. Diana was also respected for her extensive charity work, particularly her support of AIDS patients and campaign against landmines. Her marriage to Prince Charles produced two sons, Princes William and Harry. She and Charles divorced in 1996. Princess Diana was killed in a car accident in 1997.

One-Day Media Workshop on 'Pakistan's Relations with the US, China and Russia'

By Mian Fazal Elahi

- It is vital to turn Pakistan's strategic location from being a liability to a major driver of the country's economic uplift by overcoming political expediencies.
- The Government of Pakistan (GoP) needs to remove the choke points at Gwadar (Balochistan) by taking the Baloch and Iranians into confidence on the mutual use of Chabahar and Gwadar Ports.
- The United States (US) and India are uncomfortable with the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), hence, spreading misperceptions and propaganda, especially against CPEC to subvert the projects and foment political instability in Pakistan.
- The US is exploiting Pakistan's economic vulnerability through the International Monetary Fund and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF); while India is using hybrid warfare techniques to subvert CPEC projects.

These points were highlighted by subject experts at the second One-Day Media Workshop titled 'Pakistan's Relations with US, China and Russia' organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) in Islamabad. The workshop was attended by a large number of journalists working with leading print and electronic media.

Ambassador (R) Tajammul Altaf in his presentation on 'Pakistan-China Relations in the Perspective of CPEC Strategic Partnership' provided a brief overview of China's economic and political history from 221 BC when it emerged as a unified state to the modern-day vision of President Xi Jinping to make his country a number one economic power by 2030 and military power by 2050. Ambassador Altaf explained that Pakistan considers its friendship with China the 'cornerstone of its foreign policy' since it is a friendship which has stood the test of time. 'Both countries enjoy very close people-to-people, friendly, friction-free, robust, unique and pragmatic relations,' he said.

Discussing CPEC, Ambassador Altaf said that CPEC is aimed at China's development pathway through BRI and uplifting of Pakistan's economy through development of the Gwadar Port which will be the second deepest port in the world; energy projects of 17,000 MW; infrastructure and data communication projects; construction of Industrial Parks and 26 Special Economic Zones (SEZs), apart from

enhancing the agriculture and tourism sector. He explained that Pakistan's GDP growth is expected to rise to 7 per cent by 2020. '80,000 trucks will transport oil & gas, agricultural, industrial products and natural resources daily from Central Asia and Russia to China, Asia, Africa and Europe via Gwadar Port, with



expected annual earnings of USD 5 billion by 2022 from toll collection, which would ease out the balance of payment. The relocation of light engineering sector industries from China and international foreign direct investment in SEZs would be a major contributor to revenue, jobs and GDP growth worth USD 20 billion annually. Ambassador (R) Fauzia Nasreen gave a comprehensive presentation on 'Pakistan's Relations with Russia'. She said that in an asymmetrical world order, Russia's demand for recognition is very important. It is because of this need for recognition that the country has had a role in a series of events starting from Georgia in 2008, Ukraine in 2013 and Syria in 2015. Following the Ukraine crisis, sanctions were imposed on Russia. This is the time when Russia moved closer to Asia under its new foreign policy. Discussing the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), Ambassador Nasreen outlined that Russia is attaching greater importance to this platform under which member countries can deal with terrorism issues. According to her, connectivity is also vital for Kremlin under CPEC and the BRI, through the Eurasia Economic Union. 'Russia sees BRI and the EEU as a vehicle to integrate economic activity in the region,' she said. The Ambassador also stressed that there's growing



recognition in Russia that the Taliban may be engaged to achieve stability and security in Afghanistan. Russia wants that the Islamic State (IS) must be contained and this is where

the Pakistan-Russia interests converge. Both China and Russia can play their role in bringing Pakistan and India to the negotiating table, she concluded.

Discussing 'Pakistan's Relationship with the US', Mr Imtiaz Gul, Executive Director, Center for Research and Security Studies (CRSS), said US' super power status has led to arrogance. However, Washington has lost whatever leverage it had over Islamabad. Unfortunately, despite this, the world continues to view Pakistan through a US lens, which needs to be countered. He said that US-India nexus has squeezed Pakistan in multiple ways especially with respect to Pakistan's nuclear programme and its role in Afghanistan. Mr Gul said that Pakistan's biggest challenge is creating a balance between its relations with the US and strategic partnership with China, while simultaneously maintaining good relations with its neighbours. 'Pakistan should continue to maintain good relations with the US', he remarked.

Earlier, Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit, President IPRI, in his opening remarks, said that IPRI has initiated these workshops for journalists to build the capacity of young media professionals, as well as polish the skills of veterans about Pakistan's foreign relations and policies since there is a critical need to accelerate efforts to train the next generation of media leaders. 'We live in a world of fast and dramatic global changes and in order to stay abreast of and understand the nuances of foreign policy changes, in-depth understanding of key issues and relationships is required. I hope that such workshops will fast-track the transfer of knowledge and inspire and engage media professionals about Pakistan's foreign policy issues,' he said.

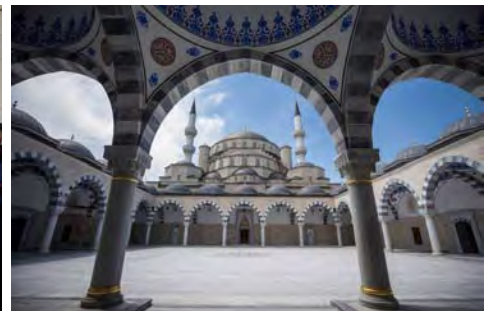
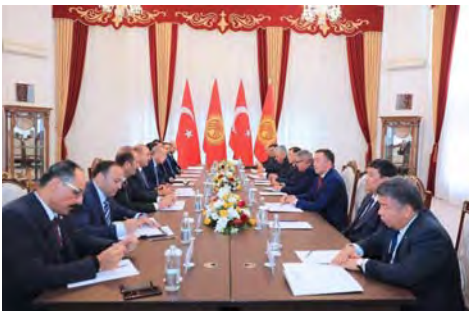
In the informal Q/A session, journalists shared that they found the workshop to be informative and hoped that this tradition of media workshops will be continued by IPRI. In answer to a question about the financial obligations of Pakistan on terms of repayment of CPEC loans, it was shared that it is a mix grant, including long-term government concessional loans, zero-interest loans and investments. Ultimately, CPEC will amplify Pakistan's pivotal role in the connectivity and provide immense economic opportunities. It was stressed that if Pakistan is able to resume dialogue with India and improve ties with Afghanistan at the same time, sustainable peace and stability may return to South Asia as a region.

Erdogan Calls for Stronger Turkish-Kyrgyz Ties

By M.saeed Yousafzai, Monitoring

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has called for closer ties with Kyrgyzstan during a two-day official visit to the Central Asian nation. Speaking after talks with Kyrgyz President Sooronbai Jeenbekov in Bishkek on September 1, Erdogan called for more commercial air travel between the two countries and a Turkish role in reconstruction work at airports in Kyrgyzstan. President Sooronbai Jeenbekov also said Bishkek is ready to upgrade relations with Ankara to a new, higher level.

During his two-day visit to Bishkek, Erdogan was scheduled to attend a Kyrgyz-Turkish business forum, open a Central Asia's largest mosque, and ceremonially launch the start of construction of a new medical department at the Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University.



Diplomatic Focus Thru Lens



Outgoing Ambassador of Norway, Mr. Tore Nedrebo paid a farewell call on President Mamnoon Hussain at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.



Ambassador-designate of Pakistan to Lebanon, Mr. Najeeb Durrani called on President Mamnoon Hussain at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.



High Commissioner-designate of Pakistan to New Zealand, Dr. Abdul Malik called on President Mamnoon Hussain at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.



Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan H.E. Mr. Nawaf Bin Said Al-Malki calls on Prime Minister Imran Khan at PM Office Islamabad.



Ambassador of China to Pakistan, H.E. Mr. Yao Jing calls on Prime Minister Imran Khan at PM Office Islamabad.



US Ambassador to Pakistan Mr. David Hale pays a farewell call on Prime Minister Imran Khan at PM Office Islamabad. Minister for Foreign Affairs Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi also present.



Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani Exchanging Views With Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan, Nawaf Bin Said Al-Malki At Parliament House Islamabad.



Ambassador of China Mr. Yao Jing called on Speaker National Assembly Mr. Asad Qaiser in Parliament House.

Diplomatic Focus Thru Lens



Ambassador of United Arab Emirates Mr. Hamad Obaid Ibrahim called on Speaker National Assembly Mr. Asad Qaiser in Parliament House.



Ambassador of People's Republic of China, Mr. Yao Jing called on Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi in Islamabad.



British High Commissioner Thomas Drew called on Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi in Islamabad.



Ambassador of Saudi Arabia, Nawaf Bin Said al-Malki Called on Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs, Asad Umar in Islamabad.



Ambassador of People's Republic of China, Mr. Yao Jing Paid a Courtesy Call on Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs, Asad Umar in Islamabad.



Pakistan's Designated Ambassador to Iran Riffat Masood Presenting her Credentials to the Iranian Foreign Minister, Mohammad Jawad Zarif.



President Diplomat International Forum, Ambassador Javed Malik with Andrew Rosindell Member British Parliament, and Prominent Businessman, Sir Anwar Parvez OBE during a special event at British Parliament.



Ambassador of Turkey to Pakistan, H.E. Mustafa Yurdakul Called on Advisor to PM on Parliamentary Affairs, Dr. Babar Awan in Islamabad.



By Mian Fazal Elahi

PM Imran Khan 1st Address to the Nation after Sworn In

"First of all, I want to thank all my workers who started with me in this movement and jihad 22 years ago. There are two types of politics one in which one would do his pursue his career, and the second, my role model, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, who conducted politics for a mission, that our prophet Hazrat Muhammad brought revolution in the world's history by creating state of Madinah. I never thought of this politics as a career and profession. 22 years ago I joined politics with the mission to make my country, that way made as an Islamic welfare state envisioned by Allama Muhammad Iqbal which have been showcased in the comity of nations that what is real Islam. I am remembering those colleagues, especially those two who started with me, Ahsan Rasheed, and Saloni Bukhari, they joined me in this mission at the beginning and are no more in this world. I pay tributes to the workers, who walked with me even during difficult times, who were teased, people used to argue with them that which tonga party they are associated with. Thanks to all these workers. Without all these people I could not reach here today. First of all, I put it in front of my people that where we stand today and what challenges we are facing as a nation. I will also give solution of these challenges. In the history of Pakistan economic conditions were

not as bad as are today. Presently, Pakistan is burdened with a loan of Rs 28000 billion, while 10 years ago, the loan of Pakistan was Rs. 6 thousand billion, that our debt in the 60 years history. Rs. 6 thousand billion increased up to Rs 15,000 billion in 2013. And today this loan has reached Rs 28,000 billion. Debt of 60 years of domestic history is on one side and the last 10 years loan is on the other. InshaAllah, we will bring facts before you where that money has gone. What have been done with that money? Secondly, today we are borrowing money to pay the interest on those loans. In the last year of the previous PPP government foreign debt was \$ 2 billion, in the past one year, we are borrowing \$ 2 billion each month and when the Pakistan People's Party government ended in 2013 our foreign debt went to 60 billion, which is \$ 95 billion today and that is the real problem of our country that our overseas debt has increased so much and the main reason for the highest pressure on rupees is that ours Foreign loans grew so fast and we have reached today that we are facing difficulty to return back those loans. I will also come up with the solution as to how to resolve this issue. No need to be afraid of this situation. The second thing I want to tell you is that there are so many loans on us and second I want to tell you that on the other hand

there exists a society around us that spends on humans and now I want to tell you what is the condition of human beings here and this is not (juts being said by)Imran Khan, but it is a report of "UNDP". According to this report Pakistan is among those 5 countries in which most of our children die before the age of 5 due to diseases caused by contaminated water. Pakistan is also included in top 5 countries of the world where rate of female mortality is very high.

Unfortunately, we are among the top 5 countries in the world where children Die because of mal nutrition resulted in stunted growth. I have been telling people till today, but people have not understood. Today I show you a picture that shows a 2-year-old child on one side who is getting nourishing food, and has normal mental health and on the other hand, a child of 2 years has been shown with insufficient diet. His brain has not been growing completely .We are talking about 45 percent of Pakistan's children, that is, almost every other Pakistani child, suffers from this disease. I am worried because we are not able to givethemfoodcompletelyandtheyarenotgetting nutrition too, and thus they have left behind in the race of life. They cannot compete. They cannot move forward in the 21st century . what were feelings of parents of those children I am telling you just to make you realize that



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Shahid Khaqan Abbasi
(1 August 2017- 31 May 2018)



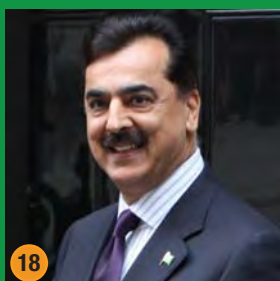
20

Muhammad Nawaz Sharif
(5 June 2013-28 July 2017)



19

Raja Pervaiz Ashraf
(22 June 2012-24 March 2013)



18

Yousaf Raza Gillani
(25 March 2008-19 June 2012)



17

Shaukat Aziz
(28 August 2004- 15 November 2007)

where are we standing in this regard and how we will change our way Insha ALLah . The Prime Minister stated that there are two paths in front of us, one which we have been following and reached here, nation in debt, which has no money to spend on its children, to raise the standard of living of its people, to help its farmers, which cannot provide clean drinking water to its citizens even children. We cannot give jobs, debts are on the rise, and on the other hand is the path of which I will tell you how to reach. Another shameful thing for us is that on the one hand are these conditions and on the other, is the life style of those in power. Pakistan's Prime Minister has 524 workers, 80 cars, of which 33 are bullet proof. The price of each is more than Rs.5 crore; helicopters, aeroplanes; the PM House is spread over 1100 canals, we have Governor Houses, Rest Houses, CMs' Houses they have cars, Secretaries 100 have 2/3 cars. Our D.Cs, Commissioners reside in large residences. On one hand is the nation in debt which cannot spend on its citizens and on the other hand are those in power who live as the Britishers lived during their rule. They, like our rulers, built huge Governor Houses. We were (their) slaves then, but now that we are free we continue to live in the same manner. We are not worried that we cannot meet the basic needs of our people, look at our life style. Just consider that the PM spent 65 crores on his foreign tours. Why do they go abroad? Where does this money go? The budget of Speaker National Assembly was 16 crores; what do they do? Are they going to conquer some country? Today I am presenting all these things in front of you, because I want you to realize that if we continue thus, we are heading towards disaster. Allah also says in the Quran that he does not change the condition of a nation if it does not make an effort itself – We will have to change our thinking. We will have to invoke kindness in our hearts as half our population cannot even get 2 times meals. We cannot feed 45% of Pakistan's children. If we do not change our way of thinking what will become of our 2.5 billion out of school children. If our population continues to increase and we cannot educate our children then obviously they will not be able to get livelihood, if conditions remain so, who will solve the water issue. We are faced with another problem that is environmen-

tal change. Pakistan is 7th among countries affected by this phenomenon. I will again ask you to change. There is only one role model who we all Muslims follow and Allah in the Quran too asks us to learn from his life. Prophet Mohammad (P.B.U.H) united the pagan Arabs Tribes who used to fight with each other – They had 2 super powers on either side – Romans and Persians. This great leader brought together these warring tribes and within the span of few years transformed them into a great nation. What were those elements? I would like to share with you which ever nation follows those principles rises. These are the principles adopted by the West – rule of law, protects weak against the powerful – A civilization that adopts these principles rises (among nations). The Prophet said that he would punish even his daughter, if she broke the law. Hazrat Ali (R.A) lost a case to a Jewish citizen, in the Court. This shows that all are equal in the eyes of law and minorities have equal rights. The PM mentioned Zakat – money paid according to position. The concept of progressive taxation is present even in the West – Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. Provisions of education to poor, justice are principles which were present in the State of Madina. Hazrat Umar (R.A) one said that he would be responsible even if a dog went to sleep hungry. A leader should be Sadiq and Ameen. This is in America and Britain – The American President was ousted for lying. In Madina, all Khulfa were honest and trustful. They presented themselves for accountability. Once Hazrat Umar (R.A) was asked about his clothes, which means that even rulers were accountable to public. When Hazrat Abu Bakr (R.A) became Khalifa, he closed down his clothes' shop as he realized that his being in that position will be disadvantageous for his counterparts. Such laws are present in the West but have we can compare what those who come to power had and what they have. These people come only to make money. But this is not so in the West. Those democracies which have progressed do not allow such practices i.e. to mint money when in power. This was the law in practice in the State of Madina, 1400 years ago. After war of Badr, the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) gave emphasis on education. When he said that every slave who would edu-

cate 10 Muslims would be set free. Telling the world that without education nations cannot progress. But look at us, our 2.5 billion children are out of school. The West is spending a lot on education, the principles which were made 1400 years ago in Madina are in practice in the West but not by us. We are not following any of the principles for which this country was made. It was not established for the reason that Hindus were moneyed or now Muslims have a lot, but it was the vision of Allama Iqbal who I consider to be the greatest Muslim in 500 years, we will put into practice the principles on which the Prophet built his State. Let me show you what we will do now. I was told that I cannot become Captain or a bowler, hospital cannot be made, and University cannot be established in private sector in rural area; there cannot be a third party in the two-party system. I have been hearing this throughout my life, but I have learnt to fight such challenges. You all will be my team; I will fight against these things, I will not live in PM house but in these two the 3 bedroom Military Secretary's House. I will use 2 servants and 2 vehicles two on account of security considerations. I had wanted to stay in my own house to cut government expenses but am going to reside here as there are threats to my life according to security agencies. We will auction the vehicles. Businessmen will be invited to purchase these expensive vehicles. The money will be deposited in the national treasury. I plan to introduce simplicity in all Governor and Chief Minister Houses. We will reduce expenditure and inform public accordingly. No Governor will stay in Governor Houses. A Committee of has been formed to decide their fate. I intend to convert Prime Minister House into a Research University where reputable scholars will be called. A Task Force under guidance of Dr. Ishrat Hussain which will ensure austerity in every department. I want to state that we have this habit of asking foreign countries for loans, wish any qualms. Our leaders ask for money from one or the other, IMF – No country can proper in this way. Loans are for a short time. Germany and Japan after world war took loan for a particular time and eventually were able to stand on their own feet. We have to stand on our own feet. Things cannot continue like this anymore, besides others are not willing to



Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain
(30 June 2004- 26 August 2004)



Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali
(23 November 2002-26 June 2004)



Muhammad Nawaz Sharif
(17 February 1997-12 October 1999)



Benazir Bhutto
(19 October 1993-5 November 1996)



Muhammad Nawaz Sharif
(6 November 1990-18 July 1993)

provide loans. I asked for money for Shaukat Khanum from my countrymen. It will be shameful for me and you if I ask some other country for money. A nation which has self-respected is respected by others. Pakistanis are after made to one while other nationals easily pass (through immigration at airports). It is unfortunate. It is our own fault not others. He said it was unfortunate that only 800,000 people of 200 million pay taxes and resolved to revive the public trust in the Federal Board of Revenue to ensure spending of people's tax money on their own. The Prime Minister advised the people to pay taxes religiously as tax evaders did nothing but to hurt the country and burden the poor. He announced to constitute a high-powered task force to ensure the repatriation of money stashed abroad through money laundering or other illegal means. He quoted a US State Department's report saying the black money worth Rs 1,000 billion was transferred abroad annually from Pakistan. He urged the masses not to elect a leader running businesses abroad and questioned as to how a person could be loyal to Pakistan and his people while having his own interests in other countries. PM announced that his government would take all-out measures to uplift national industry to boost exports, besides facilitating the SME sector and investors through one-widow operations. He said he would direct the embassies to find out Pakistani expatriates languishing in jails abroad and reasons behind their imprisonment so that they could be helped out. He urged the overseas Pakistanis to invest their money in Pakistan or deposit in US dollar accounts as the country direly needed the same to address the imbalance of payment. He also urged them to send their remittances through banks to help the country in the trying time. To cleanse the country of corruption, he said the National Accountability Bureau would be strengthened by extending all-out assistance and funding. Moreover, the government would also introduce whistleblowers act across the country as it had done in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to award the informers of any embezzlement of public money. The prime minister said he would keep the portfolio of Interior ministry with him to deal with the issues of money laundering and those related to the Federal Investi-

gation Agency. He said following the crackdown by the government, those involved in corrupt practices would make hue and cry, and propaganda of imperiling the democracy. "But you should stand by me. Either the country will survive or the corrupt people," he resolved. Imran said in order to reform the judicial system and ensure speedy disposal of civil cases within a year, the government would amend the law and requested the Chief Justice of Pakistan to hear the cases involving widows on priority. He said the government would also send lawyers' teams to prisons to know about the ordeals of poor prisoners as in some cases the poor people languished in jails just for not affording to hire counsel. The prime minister said his government was keen and committed to bring about police reforms in other provinces with the help of respective provincial governments just like the PTI-led government had introduced in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He said the PTI registered triumph in the general election in KP due to the reason that its government had made the police force to function on professional lines. He credited former inspector general of police Nasir Durrani for making the reforms feasible in the province. He said Durrani had agreed to accept an advisory role for bringing about the much needed reforms in the Punjab police. The federal government would also work with the Sindh government in that regard. He stated with regret about the rise in the child-abuse cases and referred to the heinous incident in Kasur. He dropped a hint that his government would take strict action over such cases while the Ministry of Human Rights would focus on it. About reforms in the education sector, Imran Khan said efforts would be made to improve the education standards in the government schools where the situation was not satisfactory. He said he knew how salaried people managed to send their children to private institutions to get quality education with their meager resources and by doing dual jobs. Prime Minister Imran stressed that they would have to raise standard of education in the government schools and deal with the issue of 22.5 million children out of school. The proposal for running the dual shifts in the government schools was also under consideration, he added. He said the chil-

dren studying in Madaris should also get the quality education and should be afforded opportunities to excel in different fields of life. About his other priority, he said a task force would be formed to improve the conditions in government-run hospitals. He acknowledged that in the government hospitals, bringing about swift reforms was a difficult task, however, the government was determined to take drastic steps in other provinces as it had taken in the KP. All the countrymen would be given the facility of Sehat Insaf Card in the shape of free medical services of up to Rs 500,000 at government and private health institutions like the one already introduced in the KP. He noted that the country was facing the water scarcity issues, which were impacting the rural areas and the agriculture sector. He underscored the importance of imparting proper and adequate knowledge to farmers about the use of the latest agriculture technologies, so that their crop yield could be increased without burdening them financially. He also highlighted the importance of agro-research, besides proper water rationalizing by the famers' community. The prime minister maintained that the construction of Bhasha Dam was must to face the emerging water related problems. He also lauded the Chief Justice of Pakistan for taking the initiative in that regard. The government, he said, would support all efforts to collect funds for the construction of dam with the help of expatriates. Regarding the role of civil servants in running the government affairs and accomplishment of its policies, the prime minister hinted that he would re-introduce the merit policy. He regretted that the political interferences and lack of merit policy had impinged upon the functioning of the civil service, which was once regarded as the backbone of the country. The civil service required reformation, he said and assured that there would be no interference from the PTI government. The honest and dedicated people would be accorded due respect and protection no matter whatsoever they had the political affiliations, he added. The prime minister reiterated that ordinary man should be treated equally in the society and given the due rights. He referred to Right to Public Service Act of KP, where bonuses were announced for the



11

Benazir Bhutto
(2 December 1988-6 August 1990)



10

Muhammad Khan Junejo
(24 March 1985-29 May 1988)



9

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto
(14 August 1973- 5 July 1977)



8

Nurul Amin
(7 December 1971-20 December 1971)



7

Sir Feroze Khan Noon
(16 December 1957- 7 October 1958)

departments who delivered on time whereas the others, who failed to achieve the targets, were penalized. Imran said the local government system introduced in the KP had transferred powers to the grassroots level and the same would now be strengthened across the country. He said plans were afoot in which the district nazims would be elected directly, so that there should be checks and balances. Giving an example of the Punjab province, he said in the past, all resources were accumulated in office of chief minister, and the MNAs and MPAs were given the development funds. The prime minister also unveiled his plan to construct five million low cost housing units which would create immense job opportunities for the youth as at least 50 industries would be directly benefitted from such investment. He said energies would be devoted on skill development of the youth, besides, provision of interest free loans so that they could set up their personal businesses. About the role of games in the lives of youth, the prime minister said sports facilities with proper playgrounds would be constructed for the youth across the country. For the families' recreation, parks with all facilities would be provided. The prime minister also noted with concern the issue of global warming which was affecting the country. The government would kick-start a massive tree plantation campaign all over the country to turn Pakistan green, and in that campaign, the youth would be involved. He also enumerated the environmental challenges posed by air and water pollution. He mentioned Karachi and Lahore which were affected with air pollution, besides facing the recurring issue of garbage dunes. He said campaigns would be launched to clean sea and environment which was one of his major targets. The prime minister expressed the confidence that after five years, there would be a different Pakistan. He said Pakistan was bestowed with huge tourism potential as he was one among few Pakistanis who had toured the country thoroughly. He announced that every year, four new tourist resorts would be opened to promote tourism industry. He especially mentioned the tourism potential of sea beaches and said Karachi and Gwadar beaches would be developed. The prime minister said the government would fast

track the merger of tribal areas with the KP to improve the living conditions in those areas which were hard hit by the militancy and terrorism in the past. He said the local government elections would be arranged in those areas though it was not an easy task but there was no other way. He also emphasized to develop the Balochistan province by bringing back all the estranged elements in the mainstream of life. About the South Punjab province, he said it should be created. He also linked the country's progress with the economic activities in Karachi and said for maintaining law and order there, the police reforms would be introduced with the support of the provincial government. The prime minister said the 20-point National Action Plan as agreed upon by all the political parties would be fully implemented. There would be no national progress without peace and tranquility, he added. The prime minister maintained they would strive to improve relations with all the neighbouring countries. He said it was his vision to make Pakistan 'a real welfare state' with full attention paid to pathetic conditions of street children, widows and the handicapped. Imran Khan said they had to differentiate between the human society and the life led by animals. It was the human compassion, pity and sympathy which made it distinct from the animal world, he added. The prime minister laid stress upon emulating the principles as laid down by Hazrat Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) in the creation of Madina state. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) paid full attention to lift the conditions of his people, he added. The prime minister resolved to lead a simple life marked with austerity and to fully safeguard the public money. He said he would not do any business while in office and called upon the people to identify and discourage those who stole away the public money. He said the elements, who stashed away the public money, were also his enemies though he had no personal grudge against them. It was their collective responsibility to halt such elements; he said and referred to efficacy of the social media in that regard. The prime minister said they had to save the country by giving it a top priority. He said it was his vision that one day would dawn upon the country when there would be no person to avail the Zakat

money and it would be in a position to lend financial support to other deserving countries. The prime minister at the outset thanked all the workers of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), who had stood with him during the last 22 years of his political struggle. Imran Khan said his struggle was not aimed at achieving a political career but was a mission as the Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah was his role model. His 22-year struggle was aimed at turning Pakistan into a state like Madina created by Hazrat Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him). The Holy Prophet (PBUH) brought a revolution and led the world. He said the country at present was facing multiple challenges, particularly economic problems. Imran Khan said at one hand there was huge debt and on the other, there was a poor Human Development Index (HDI)... At one hand the nation was burdened with debt and on the other, we have the elite. This system was created by the British during the colonial era to rule the masses, but even after independence the same practice was being followed," Imran Khan remarked. He said the former Prime Minister (Nawaz Sharif) spent Rs 650 million on foreign trips and the Speaker National Assembly out of Rs 160 million budget spent Rs 80 million on foreign visits. "If we did not mend our ways, then we will be heading towards a disaster".



Liaquat Ali Khan
(14 August 1947-16 October 1951)



Ibrahim Ismail Chundrigar
(17 October 1957- 16 December 1957)



Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy
(12 September 1956- 17 October 1957)



Chaudhry Mohammad Ali
(12 August 1955- 12 September 1956)



Mohammad Ali Bogra
(17 April 1953-12 August 1955)



Sir Khawaja Nazimuddin
(17 October 1951-17 April 1953)



By Mian Fazal Elahi

Pakistan has yet to reach its destiny: President



Pakistanis across the country and in other parts of the world celebrated the country's Independence Day with traditional fervour and enthusiasm, as President Mamnoon Hussain emphasised on the "power of vote" in his address on the occasion.

Observing that the Independence Day and general election had fallen around the same time this year, President Mamnoon said while addressing an audience at the Convention Centre in the federal capital that he thinks a message is hidden between the two events.

"It is a reminder that the way this country had come into being with the people's will, in the same manner, the decisions regarding its fate will be made through the vote," he said, adding that the Pakistani nation had stamped this very principle on July 25.

SUPPORT FOR KASHMIRIS:

Mamnoon paid tribute to the sacrifices of the sons and daughters of the soil in establishing peace in the country and reiterated Pakistan's unswerving political and moral support for Kashmiris in Indian-occupied valley.

"Pakistan will continue to provide its political and moral support to resolve the Kashmir issue under United Nations resolutions," Mamnoon said. He called upon the international community to raise its voice to get the Kashmiri people their due rights.

Terming Pakistan a blessing of Allah, Mamnoon said, "Pakistan can overcome the economic problems and other issues it is facing by only following the teachings of the Quaid-e-Azam and Allama Iqbal in their true spirit."

The president further said, "The objective behind the formation of the country was to free

humans from the slavery of other humans so they could live their lives freely without fear of exploitation."

He said despite significant progress, "Pakistan has yet to reach its destiny and that a consensus about national objectives is imperative to achieve the goals."

President Mamnoon also urged the nation "to rise above its personal and factional differences and follow the Quaid's vision and principles for a prosperous Pakistan".

CEREMONY:

The main ceremony was hosted at Islamabad's Jinnah Convention Centre, where President Mamnoon Hussain hoisted the national flag. The ceremony was also attended by caretaker Prime Minister Nasirul Mulk, the three chiefs of the armed forces and other notable personalities and foreign dignitaries.

Commandant Pakistan Naval Academy Commodore Waqar Muhammad was the chief guest at the ceremony.

In Punjab, interim Chief Minister Hassan Askar hoisted the national flag and eulogised national heroes. A change of guard ceremony was held



Arif-ur-Rehman Alvi
born 1949 in Karachi,
Pakistan. He was a
member of the
National Assembly of
Pakistan from
June 2013 to
May 2018 and
again from August
to September 2018.
A founding member
of Pakistan
Tehreek-i-Insaf
(PTI).

13th President of Pakistan **Arif Alvi** elected

**From today I am not just a president that was nominated by the PTI
but I am the president of the entire nation and all parties: Arif Alvi**

A third consecutive parliament and provincial assemblies have elected a third president in little over a decade since a return to civilian government in Pakistan.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf's Dr Arifur Rehman Alvi was elected the 13th President of Pakistan on Tuesday, according to results provided by the Election Commission of Pakistan.

Alvi, who is now set to succeed the outgoing President Mamnoon Hussain, edged out PML-N backed chief of the Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal, Fazlur Rehman and senior PPP leader Aitzaz Ahsan in the presidential race by garnering more votes than both his rivals combined.

The ECP, in a press release, said that a total of 1,110 voters participated in the presidential polls held simultaneously at the Parliament House and the four provincial assemblies. Of the total votes cast, 27 votes were declared invalid.

After the total valid votes were treated according to the provision of paragraph 18 of the Second Schedule of the Constitution, Alvi secured 353 votes; Fazlur Rehman bagged 185, while Ahsan's tally stood at 124.

The Election Commission of Pakistan has summoned the trio or their agents to the ECP Secretariat today to witness the tabulation process, after which the official result will be announced and the winner notified. Of the 430 votes cast in the National Assembly and Senate, PTI's Alvi received 212 votes, JUI-F's Rehman bagged 131 and PPP's Ahsan garnered 81; six votes were rejected.

Of the 61 Balochistan Assembly members, 60 cast their votes, with former CM Nawab Sanaullah Zehri the sole absentee. According to provisional results, PTI's Alvi secured 45 votes, while 15 lawmakers voted for Rehman. PPP's Ahsan failed to receive any vote.

In Sindh Assembly, PPP's Ahsan garnered 100 votes, Dr Alvi bagged 56, whereas just a solitary vote was cast in the favour of JUI's Fazlur Rehman; one vote was wasted.

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly, Dr Alvi received 78 of the total 109 votes, while Rehman and Ahsan had 26 and five votes respectively to their names.

In Punjab Assembly, Dr Alvi secured 186 votes, whereas Fazlur Rehman and Ahsan received 141 and six votes respectively; 18 votes were rejected.

According to media reports, The unusually high number of rejected votes in the Punjab Assembly could be attributed to last week's

murmurs that a group within the PML-N was unhappy over the party's decision to nominate Fazlur Rehman, and even termed him a "bad choice".

"I am grateful to God that the PTI-nominated candidate has been successful in the presidential race today," Alvi said in his victory speech. "I am also thankful to Imran Khan for nominating me for such a big responsibility."

In his impending five-year term, Alvi said he hopes that the "fortunes of the poor" take a turn for the better, and that they get "food, shelter and clothing".

Alvi said that "from today I am not just a president that was nominated by the PTI but I am the president of the entire nation and all parties".

"Each party has an equal right on me," he added.

To the extent that the election is a democratic milestone and has not been marred by allegations of misconduct or rigging, the new president, Arif Alvi, and the presidential Electoral College ought to be congratulated.

A joint sitting of the Senate and the newly elected national and provincial assemblies, together known as the electoral college of Pakistan, was called to elect the country's 13th president.

In a post-18th Amendment landscape, the presidency is a wholly ceremonial office, but Mr Alvi has pledged to be a more visible president for the full federation. After the underwhelming term of the outgoing president, Mamnoon Hussain, and the intense politicisation of the presidency during Asif Zardari's term, perhaps Mr. Alvi will be able to strike a better balance. With the Constitution requiring the presidential election to be held at least a month prior to the outgoing president's final day in the office, the exercise that took place on Tuesday should have instead been held by August 9, as incumbent President Mamnoon Hussain's term will expire on September 9.

However, since the Electoral College was not complete by the constitutionally set deadline, the presidential election was subjected to delay. PPP's Aitzaz Ahsan said the matter of significance was not who from among the three candidates is elected president, but that a new head of state is going to be elected "through the democratic process". Ahsan said he had no complaints about the election process and that he would congratulate whoever emerges as the winner.

The poll also completes a full round of elections to the provincial assemblies, the National Assembly, the Senate and the presidency this year. The PTI is now firmly installed in three

provinces and at the centre and will need to quickly pivot from campaign mode to governing. Prime Minister Imran Khan has sketched an ambitious domestic reforms agenda, but thus far few strategies and road maps have been revealed.

For the combined opposition, the presidential election is yet another indication of confusion and uncertainty in its ranks. The PPP and the PML-N will need to decide relatively soon if they can work together in opposition or if separate paths are preferable.

The opposition has an important parliamentary role, but for the opposition to help strengthen democratic institutions, there needs to be consensus and coordination. The PML-N and PPP are entitled to choose their own paths; for the sake of the democratic project, they should make their choice clear now.



Chief Justice Lahore High Court Mr. Justice Muhammad Yawar Ali Administering Oath To The Office Of Punjab Governor From Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar During A Ceremony



Chief Justice Peshawar High Court Mr. Justice Waqar Ahmed Seth Administering Oath To Newly Appointed Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Shah Farman At Governor's House.



Chief Justice Sindh High Court Mr. Justice Ahmed Ali M Shaikh Administering The Oath To Imran Ismail As 33rd Governor Sindh During A Ceremony At Governor House.



Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf's (PTI) Mahmood Khan elected the new chief minister of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa.



Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf's (PTI) Sardar Usman Buzdar elected the new chief minister of Punjab.



Pakistan Peoples Party's (PPP) Murad Ali Shah elected the new chief minister of Sindh.



Balochistan Awami Party's (BAP) Jam Kamal Khan elected chief minister of Balochistan.



Pakistani Servicemen to Receive Russian Military Training Under New Deal

By Monitoring

Deputy Defence Minister of the Russian Federation Colonel General attended the first session of the Russia-Pakistan military advisory committee on defence and security in Islamabad.



The sides discussed in detail the whole spectrum of the Russia-Pakistan military cooperation including that interaction through branches and arms of the Russian Armed Forces. In particular, they highlighted the cooperation in military education. As a result, they signed a frame



contract on enrolling Pakistani servicemen in Russian military educational institutions. There is a solid legal basis enabling to organise a full training course for the Pakistani military in Russian military universities. During the visit, Alexander Fomin held a number of meetings with military and political high-ranking officials. The first Session of Russia-Pakistan Joint Military Consultative Committee (JMCC) was held at the Ministry of Defence in Rawalpindi, during which both sides exchanged views on bilateral and major international issues including the situation in the Middle East and Afghanistan. The JMCC is the highest forum of defence collaboration between Pakistan and Russian Federation.

The Secretary Defence Lt. General (retired) Zamir ul Hassan Shah represented Pakistan in the inaugural meeting of the JMCC while the Deputy Defence Minister of the Russian Federation Colonel General Alexander V. Fomin along with his delegation represented Russia. A comprehensive issue based review was also carried out during which the two Countries expressed satisfaction on the milestones achieved since the signing of ground-breaking agreement on defence cooperation in 2014. The two sides also held in-depth discussions on avenues of future cooperation. In the end, both Countries signed the Contract on Admission of Service Members of Pakistan in RF's Training Institutes.

Prior to the inaugural meeting, the visiting dignitary called on the Defence Minister Lt. General (retired) Naeem Khalid Lodhi and the Secretary Defence Lt. General (retired) Zamir ul Hassan Shah.



During the calls, the two sides discussed the present status of their bilateral defence relations with the aim to further strengthen, expand and diversify mutual cooperation.

Russian Deputy Defence Minister Colonel General Alexander V. Fomin also called on Chief of the Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa at





general headquarters in Rawalpindi.

According to ISPR, the media wing of Pakistan army, regional security situation and matters of mutual interest including enhancement of bilateral defence and security cooperation were discussed between the two sides.

The visiting deputy minister expressed his appreciation for Pakistan army's achievements against terrorism and expressed requirement of

greater cooperative and collaborative approach among global community to defeat extremism.

Colonel General Alexander V. Fomin, also visited to Navel Headquarter and called on Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi. A smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Navy presented guard of honour. During the meeting detailed discussions on bilateral defence collaboration in diverse fields were held. The visiting dignitary lauded the commitment and performance of Pakistan Navy in maintaining peace and stability in the regional maritime domain.

It is expected that the visit will further enhance defence collaboration and strengthen defence ties between the two countries in general and navies in particular.

Deputy Defence Minister of Russian Federation



Colonel General Alexander Vasilievich Fomin visited Air Headquarters.

He called on Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan in his office. Both the dignitaries remained together for some time and discussed matters of professional interest. Regional security situation and various matters of bilateral defence cooperation were also discussed during the meeting.

CJCSC attends SCO Chiefs of General Staff meeting in Moscow



Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) Committee, General Zubair Mahmood Hayat, attended Chiefs of General Staff Meeting of SCO member states in Moscow, Russia. According to Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), the forum was briefed on international

geo-political situation and activities of transnational terrorist organizations in various crisis regions of the world by the host country. Moreover, CJCSC while addressing the forum highlighted contributions of Pakistan Armed Forces towards peace and

immense sacrifices in the war against terror. On the sidelines of event he also met General Li Zoucheng, Chief of Joint Staff of Peoples Liberation Army and Lieutenant General Sobirzoda Emomali Abdurahim, Chief General Staff Armed Forces of Tajikistan.



I am Pakistan: A Pure Land

By Khalid Mahmood Yousafzai

“The Story of Pakistan, its struggle and its achievement, is the very story of great human ideals, struggling to survive in the face of great odds and difficulties.”

Quaid-e-Azam Address to the people in Chittagong, 23rd March, 1948

Pakistan's Independence Day, which is annually held on August 14, celebrates the country's independence from the British rule on that date in 1947. This day is an occasion to promote patriotism and national unity.

The festivities began with gun salutes in the capital of Islamabad and in each of the four provincial capitals.

People all over Pakistan celebrate Independence Day with patriotic zest. Many people who attend the Independence Day parades dress up in green and white, which are the Pakistani flag's colors. People visit national monuments and places of national significance to celebrate Independence Day. This is also a time to meet relatives, exchange gifts and visit recreational spots.

Pakistan's national flag is hoisted on public,

private buildings, residences and monuments at dawn. Official buildings, including Parliament House, are decorated and colorfully lit. The prime minister and president address and congratulate the nation and talk about the day's significance. Streets and houses are decorated with candles, oil lamps and pennants. Firework shows are put together on the eve of Independence Day.

Pakistan's Independence Day also pays homage





to people who devoted their lives for Pakistan's freedom movement and made sacrifices to attain Pakistan's independence. A change of guard takes place at national monuments, including the mausoleums of Muhammad Iqbal, who was a poet, philosopher, and politician, and Muhammad Ali Jinnah, who is considered by many as Pakistan's founder and Quaid-i-Azam (supreme leader).





**Green and white are
Pakistan's official colors.
White represents peace while
green symbolizes prosperity
and good fortune.**

Events held during the day include special theatre shows, national song competitions, concerts, and Independence Day pageants. Radio and television stations broadcast national songs and specially prepared Independence Day programs.

Independence Day is an official holiday in Pakistan on August 14. All governmental, non-governmental offices, organizations, educational institutions, post offices, and major markets are closed. Public transport remains unavailable on all major routes. Traffic congestion is common due to Independence Day parades.

The Indo-Pak subcontinent remained a British colony from 1849–1947. The subcontinent's inhabitants did not approve of the British rule in united India. An uprising that occurred in 1857 eventually formed the shape of a freedom movement, which exemplifies the efforts of the people of British India in gaining their independence.

Muslims ruled the subcontinent before the British incursion and suffered due to the 1857 uprising against the British East India Company. Leaders such as Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Syed Ameer Ali worked diligently for the Muslim people's political advancement.

The Indian National Congress was formed in 1885, which later on became British India's largest political party. Major Muslim political leaders, including Muhammad Ali Jinnah, were members of the Indian National Congress and worked towards Hindu-Muslim unity and India's independence.

The All India Muslim League was founded on December 30, 1906. There was growing demand for an independent Muslim state in India. In 1930 Muhammad Iqbal presented the idea of a separate Muslim state that would geographically consist of the Muslim majority areas in the subcontinent. The word Pakistan is a conjunction of two words Pak meaning Pure and Stan meaning Land, a name coined by Choudhary Rahmat Ali.

Strong Hindu nationalism gave birth to the Two Nation Theory, an ideology that is accredited as being the basis for Pakistan's creation. In 1940 the Pakistan Resolution was passed in Lahore demanding greater Muslim autonomy in British India.

After World War II, it was expected that the British colonies would soon disintegrate. The Pakistan Movement, spearheaded by Muhammad Ali Jinnah, resulted in creating a Muslim state. Pakistan gained independence from the British rule on August 14, 1947.



PAKISTAN NAVY CELEBRATES 71ST ANNIVERSARY OF PAKISTAN WITH TRADITIONAL ZEAL & ZEST



An impressive Change of Guard ceremony was held at mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah as the entire nation celebrated 71st anniversary of Independence of Pakistan. Smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Naval Academy cadets, clad in ceremonial dresses, assumed ceremonial guard duties at Mazar-e-Quaid with traditional spirit, customary enthusiasm and military manners to mark the Independence Day celebrations.

Commandant Pakistan Naval Academy, Commodore Viqar Muhammad graced the occasion as Chief Guest and reviewed the guard. The Chief Guest and smartly turned out cadets of Pakistan Navy presented Qaumi Salam to the Father of the Nation, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. The ceremonial Guard mounting was followed by laying of floral wreath at the Mazar-e-Quaid by the Chief Guest on behalf of Chief of the Naval Staff, officers

and men of Pakistan Navy. Later on, the Chief Guest offered Fateha and recorded his remarks in the visitor book and paid rich tribute to our beloved Quaid.

Earlier, the day dawned with Gun Salutes and special prayers were offered in all Naval mosques for solidarity and progress of the country and particularly for the success of Kashmiri struggle. Pakistan Navy Ships and Establishments were illuminated in Navy's traditional manner. Flag hoisting ceremonies were held at Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore and Coastal Area at designated Units of Pakistan Navy.

Various other activities including singing of national anthem at naval units/establishments in the morning, PN Band Display and Flag Hoisting Ceremony at Pakistan Maritime Museum, boat rallies at Karachi Harbour as well as various sports fixtures were also a part of day long celebrations. Independence Day celebrations at Pakistan Navy educational institutions were also held where school children presented tableaux on national songs and declamation contests were held highlighting the importance of Independence Day.

Numerous Independence Day ceremonies were also held by PN units at Ormara, Pasni, Gwadar, Jiwani, and Turbat and other coastal areas, including fishing boats special rallies.



An Independence Day walk and race was also organized in Ormara in which a large number of locals participated with zeal. On the occasion of Pakistan Day, the President of Pakistan has also approved military & civil awards to Officers, CPOs/ Sailors and Civilians of Pakistan Navy. The awards include 03 Hilal-e-Imtiaz (Military), 14 Sitara-e-Imtiaz (Military), 12 Tamgha-e-Imtiaz (Military) and 08 Tamgha-e-Basalat.

In addition, 10 awards of Imtiaz Sanad and 61 awards of Tamgha-e-Khidmat (Military) have been approved upon Master Chief Petty Officers, Chief Petty Officers and Sailors. Letter of Commendation from Chief of Naval Staff has also been awarded to 58 Officers, Master Chief Petty Officers, Chief Petty Officers/Sailors and civilians.

PAKISTAN NAVY SHIP ASLAT VISITS TO HAMBURG GERMANY

Pakistan Navy Ship ASLAT, a F-22P Frigate with embarked helicopter, called on Hamburg, Germany as part of Overseas Deployment to Mediterranean and European Countries for a 3 day visit.



Upon arrival at Port, PNS ASLAT was warmly welcomed and received by representative from Pakistan's Mission at Germany and officials of the Hamburg Regional Command. Ship's Port Call was fully capitalized in terms of professional and social interactions with the host country. PN Mission Cdr along with Commanding Officer and Naval Attaché held meetings with Vice Admiral Andreas Krause Chief of German Navy, Rear Admiral Thorsten Kahler, Chief of Staff German Navy, Councilor of State of Hamburg and Commanding Officer Regional Command Hamburg. H.E Ambassador of Pakistan to Germany was also present on

the occasions. Moreover, Mission Commander along with Commanding Officer and Naval Attaché laid wreath at Naval Memorial Laboe, Kiel. The ceremony was attended by large number of Officers/ CPOs and Sailors from the ship. During the interactions, enormous goodwill and warmth was expressed by German authorities for the people of Pakistan in general and Pakistan Armed Forces in particular. Ship also hosted a reception at Hamburg which was attended by large number of notable Pakistani and German officials. Vice Admiral Joachim Ruhle, Vice Chief of Defence Staff, Vice Admiral Axel Schimpf Former Chief of German Navy, Director Material Command and Control Services German Navy, H.E Ambassador of Pakistan, Counsel Generals of Argentina, China, Colombia, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Venezuela, Defence Attaches of

Kuwait, South Korea and Ukraine, Desk Officers Military Policy (Asia Pacific and South Asia), prominent local community and Pakistan Diaspora along with students undergoing various graduation programs in Germany attended the Dinner. Ship was also opened for visitors and a large numbers of local populace and Pakistani expatriates visited the ship. Naval Forces have historically played a pivotal role in strengthening the bonds of friendship between nations through goodwill visits and port calls. In the same context, maiden Port Call to Hamburg, Germany by ASLAT will not only prove supportive in achieving Pakistan's Foreign Policy Objectives but also foster Navy to Navy relations and will go a long way in improving diplomatic and military ties between Pakistan and Federal Republic of Germany.



STEEL CUTTING CEREMONY OF OFFSHORE PATROL VESSEL-II FOR PAKISTAN NAVY HELD AT ROMANIA

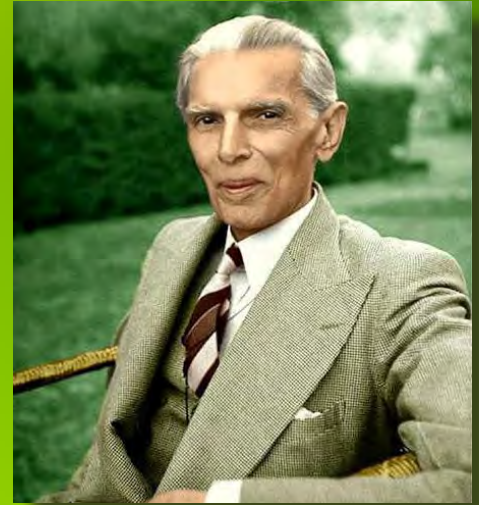
Steel Cutting Ceremony of 2nd Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV-II) being constructed for Pakistan Navy was held at M/s DAMEN Shipyard Galati, Romania. His Excellency Mr. Safdar Hayat, Ambassador of Pakistan to Romania, graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The ceremony was also attended by Rear Admiral Faisal Rasul Lodhi, Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff (Operations) along with officials from the Ministry of Defence Production and Naval Headquarters. Senior management of M/s DAMEN Shipyards, Gorinchem (Netherlands) and Galati (Romania) were also present during

the ceremony.

Contract for 02 state of the art, multi-purpose Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPV-I & II) for Pakistan Navy, was signed between Ministry of Defence Production and M/s DAMEN, Netherlands in 2017. OPVs will significantly enhance the combat capabilities and capacity for peace and war time operations of Pakistan Navy. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest highlighted that 14th August is a historic and important day for Pakistan as we are celebrating 71st Independence Day. On this auspicious day, steel cutting ceremony of 2nd OPV has added more colour to national celebrations. The Ambassador further highlighted that after induction, both OPVs will further augment the initiative of PN for independently conducting Regional Maritime Security Patrol of Indian Ocean Region for protection of national and international shipping against threats of Maritime terrorism, piracy, narcotics, arms smuggling and human trafficking etc.



Pakistan & Quaid-e-Azam



We are starting with this fundamental principle that we are all citizens and equal citizens of one State.

(Presidential Address to the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan on 11th August, 1947.)

You are free; you are free to go to your temples. You are free to go to your mosques or to any other places of worship in this State of Pakistan. You may belong to any religion, caste or creed --that has nothing to do with the business of the State

(Presidential Address to the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan on 11th August, 1947.)

Our object should be peace within, and peace without. We want to live peacefully and maintain cordial friendly relations with our immediate neighbours and with the world at large.

(Lahore, August 15th, 1947.)

There is no power on earth that can undo Pakistan.

(Speech at a Mammoth Rally at the University Stadium, Lahore on 30th October, 1947.)

Do not forget that the armed forces are the servants of the people and you do not make national policy; it is we, the civilians, who decide these issues and it is your duty to carry out these tasks with which you are entrusted.

(Quaid-e-Azam to Armed Forces; Aug 14, 1947)

No nation can rise to the height of glory unless your women are side by side with you. We are victims of evil customs. It is a crime against humanity that our women are shut up within the four walls of the houses as prisoners.

(Speech at a meeting of the Muslim University Union, Aligarh March 10, 1944.)

Independence Day of Pakistan celebrated in Astana



The Independence Day of Pakistan was celebrated in Astana (Kazakhstan) on 14 August 2018 with traditional zeal, passion and enthusiasm. Ambassador Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad Kazi hoisted the National Flag at the Embassy Residence in the morning of 14 August. Messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan received on the occasion were also read out on the occasion. In his address, the Ambassador thanked the community for their participation in the ceremony and praised their role in Kazakhstan. Recalling the sacrifices of our forefathers for Pakistan, he urged all Pakistanis to play their role for to achieve the goals for posterity. Members of the Pakistani community, Embassy officers and staff along with their families attended the event.



Flag Hosting Ceremony at Embassy of Pakistan, Belgrade



Ambassador Syed Adil Gilani hoisted national flag at the Embassy of Pakistan, Belgrade on 14 August 2018. He unveiled the bust of Quaid-e-Azam. He also address the Pakistani community.



Independence Day of Pakistan marked in Dakar

To mark Independence Day of Pakistan, an impressive flag hoisting ceremony was held at the Embassy of Pakistan, Dakar (Senegal). The event started with the recitation of Holy Quran. Mr. Shams-uz-Zaman, Charge d' Affairs a.i. hoisted the flag with the national anthem of Pakistan. The messages of the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan were read by the Charge d' Affairs a.i. Both the President and the Prime Minister paid special tributes to Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Allama Muhammad Iqbal and our other ancestors for their struggle to achieve separate homeland for the Muslims of Sub-Continent. In their messages, they also felicitated the

nation on this happy occasion. The Charge d' Affairs a.i. thanked the community members for attending the ceremony along with the families. He expressed the hope that Pakistan would remain successful in its efforts to get rid of the menace of terrorism. He also highlighted and condemned the brutalities and atrocities of the Indian occupied forces against the innocent Kashmiris and urged the community members to project Kashmir issue as they can. A large number of Pakistani community members and locals along with their families from Senegal and six other concurrently accredited countries attended the flag hoisting ceremony.



Pakistan's Independence Day marked in Ottawa



High Commissioner Tariq Azim Khan hoisted the national flag at the High Commission for Pakistan to mark Anniversary of Pakistan's Independence. The ceremony begun with the playing of National anthem on the occasion. While addressing the event the High Commissioner said that this day provides us an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to the ideals of our founder Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. Former Chairman Senate Mr. Nayyar Hussain Bukhari on a private visit to Ottawa also attended and addressed the flag hoisting ceremony. To commemorate Pakistan's Independence Day at the Canadian Parliament, the Canadian Armed Forces presented ceremonial guard. A huge number of Canadians and community members were also present on the occasion. Earlier the messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan were read in the ceremony



Anniversary of Independence day of Pakistan Marked in Mexico



To mark the auspicious occasion of Independence Day of Pakistan, a Flag Hoisting ceremony was held at the Embassy of Pakistan in Mexico. Messages of the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan



were read out on this occasion by Ambassador Tasawar Khan. A large number of community members attended the ceremony. Ambassador Tasawar Khan, unfurled the Pakistani flag to the tunes of National Anthem.



Independence Day Anniversary Celebrated At Beijing



Pakistan's National Flag was flown at full mast in a flag hoisting ceremony to mark the Independence Day of Pakistan at the Embassy of Pakistan, Beijing on 14th August, 2018. The event was celebrated with patriotic fervor and the valiant founding fathers of the nation were remembered. The messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan were also read out by the Ambassador. The President in his message said, "National days are celebrated with the purpose of educating society, particularly the new generation about the objective and the struggle for the attainment of Pakistan. I believe that the objective of

developing the country and rekindling its glorious past can only be achieved if we work single mindedly keeping aside our personal interests. The Prime Minister in his message said, "Our beautiful country is blessed with every gift of the nature. From an ideal geo-strategic location to the most talented and progressive youth, we have all the ingredients to carve out our own destiny and rise as a successful nation of the world. Unswerving commitment to the ideals of the Quaid and following the principle of 'Unity, Faith and Discipline' would certainly help us overcome our present-day challenges and make Pakistan a self-reliant, economically

vibrant and a prosperous country". Ambassador Masood Khalid, while addressing the Pakistani community, congratulated them on the auspicious occasion and urged them to take pride in being citizens of an independent nation. He also mentioned that Pakistan has recently successfully completed the political transition. He highlighted the significance of Pakistan-China ties which have grown from strength to strength. Ambassador heralded China-Pakistan Economic Corridor as a beacon of prosperity and shared future. National songs were performed by the Pakistani children and a cake was cut on this occasion.



Pakistan's Independence Day in Singapore Marked

Independence Day of Pakistan was celebrated in Singapore on 14th August 2018, with traditional fervor and national spirit. The families of High Commission's staff and a cross section of Pakistani community attended the flag hoisting ceremony at the Embassy Residence. Independence Day messages of the President and the Prime Minister were read out on the occasion by Mr. Nasrullah Khan, High Commissioner of Pakistan in Singapore.





Pakistan Embassy in Denmark Celebrates Independence Day



The Independence Day of Pakistan was celebrated with a colourful ceremony at the Pakistan Embassy. The flag-hoisting at the Chancery was performed by Ambassador Syed Zulfiqar Gardezi. The Pakistani community comprising professionals, academicians, media men, politicians, poets and students from



Copenhagen and other regions of Denmark attended the event in large numbers.

Messages of the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out on the occasion by Ambassador Zulfiqar Gardezi and Ismat Hassan, Head of Chancery respectively.



In his remarks on the occasion, the Ambassador highlighted that with dedication and sincerity, Pakistan had emerged as a respectable member of the international community. Pakistan's steadfast support to the Kashmir cause was reaffirmed. The tangible success achieved in law and order and the rising economic growth rate of the country will get a fresh boost with the swearing in of a new Parliament and Government.

Ambassador Gardezi pointed to the growing challenges of water scarcity in Pakistan and urged the community to contribute generously



to the Diamer Basha and Mohmand Dams Fund established by the Government, for which the Embassy had opened a separate account.

The Ambassador highlighted the progress achieved in Pakistan-Denmark relations since his assumption of office last year. Bilateral trade between the two countries had also



increased correspondingly. The Ambassador hoped that with greater integration in the mainstream Danish society, the community would contribute to Pakistan-Denmark ties. Ambassador Gardezi expressed pleasure at the large turnout of community members especially the ladies and younger members and thanked them for the cooperation extended to him and the Embassy team. He reiterated equal treatment to all Pakistanis living in Denmark and assured them of continued stress on service delivery. He indicated that the Embassy will continue its cultural activities programme in the months ahead.

On the sidelines, a photographic exhibition on the freedom movement of Pakistan was organized. Rare pictures of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah, Allama Mohammad Iqbal and other founding leaders of Pakistan as well as scenic sights of the country attracted positive

comment from the large gathering.

The Independence Day celebrations continued in the evening with a 'MANGO MELA' organized by the Embassy in collaboration with the Pakistani community, in central Copenhagen. At this public event, Pakistani mangoes were presented to participants.

Independence Day

Celebrated at the Embassy of Pakistan Brussels



To celebrate Independence Day of Pakistan, Flag Hoisting Ceremony took place at the Embassy of Pakistan Brussels, Pakistani community in Belgium and Luxembourg participated in large number, with full enthusiasm. Pakistan's Ambassador to the European Union, Belgium and Luxembourg Mrs. Naghmana A. Hashmi raised the flag while national anthem played in the background. In her address Ambassador Hashmi called upon following Quaid-i-Azam's principles of Unity, Faith and Discipline in better interest and spirit for achieving respect in community of nations.

She said that our identity remains Pakistani no matter where we go in the world. Ambassador Hashmi paid rich tributes to people of Pakistan. An exhibition of pencil sketches of Quaid-i-Azam by an Antwerp based Pakistani artist Tajammul Hussain was also arranged on the occasion. A painting competition of children on the theme "Mera Piyara Pakistan" was also arranged. Messages of President and Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out by Minister Economic Mr. Omar Hameed and Minister Press Syeda Sultana Rizvi respectively.



Pakistan's

Independence Day

Marked in Paris



A simple yet dignified flag hoisting ceremony was held at the Pakistan Embassy in Paris to celebrate Pakistan's Independence. Members of Pakistani community, officers and officials of the Embassy, their families and media persons attended the ceremony in large number. Special messages of the President and the Prime Minister felicitating the Pakistani nation on this auspicious occasion were read out by Ambassador Moin ul Haque. He expressed confidence that all the Pakistanis whether living in Pakistan or abroad would work together for the country's growth and development and to realize the vision of our founding fathers for making Pakistan a modern and prosperous state. Later, three bright French students of Pakistan origin were awarded Jinnah Scholarships for outstanding academic achievements.

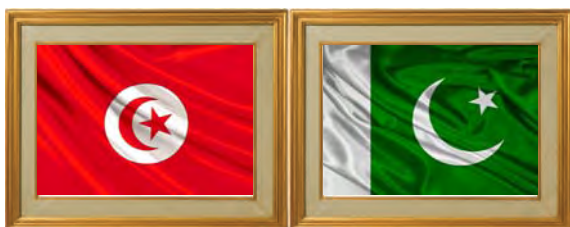




Independence Anniversary of Pakistan Celebrated in Cairo



A flag Hoisting ceremony was held in Embassy of Pakistan Cairo to mark the Independence Anniversary. Pakistani community living in Egypt and representatives of local print and electronic media participated in the event. Messages of President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan, on the occasion, were read out to the audience by Ambassador Mushtaq Ali Shah.



Independence Day of Pakistan marked in Tunis



To mark the Anniversary of Independence Day of Pakistan, a flag hoisting ceremony was held in Embassy of Pakistan, Tunis in the morning of 14 August 2018. The ceremony was attended by a large number of the Pakistani community in Tunis, officials of the Embassy and their family members. Ambassador Muhammad Hassan read out the messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan. The Ambassador urged them to continue to hold Pakistan's flag high in Tunisia and work harder to promote Pakistan-Tunisia relations.



Independence Day marked at Pakistan High Commission, London



To mark the auspicious occasion of 72nd Independence Day of Pakistan, a Flag Hoisting ceremony was held at the Pakistan High Commission, London. Messages of the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out on this occasion. A large number of community members, especially women and children, as well as British friends of Pakistan attended the ceremony. Sahebzada Ahmed Khan, Pakistan High Commissioner to the UK, unfurled the Pakistani flag to the tunes of National Anthem. In his address on the occasion, the High Commissioner felicitated the community in the UK and all Pakistanis around the world. He paid glowing tributes to the untiring struggle of Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Allama Iqbal and other heroes of the



new era in Pakistan." He said people of Pakistan have spoken for socio-economic justice, in a pluralistic and progressive Pakistan, which is in fact the Pakistan as envisioned by the Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. People of Pakistan want to reclaim the Quaid's Pakistan, added the High Commissioner. The High Commissioner read out several quotes of the Quaid-i-Azam on democracy, rights of minorities, and human rights of the citizens of Pakistan irrespective of caste, creed or religion. He said: "Let's sincerely pledge today to rebuild and reclaim Pakistan which is economically stronger and prosperous; politically inclusive and accommodative; and socially just and tolerant." Highlighting the issue of scarcity of water in Pakistan the High Commissioner called upon the community to



proper channels. The High Commissioner termed the Pakistan-UK relations excellent and said we would further strengthen these relations through enhanced bilateral trade. He called 1.3 million diaspora as the Ambassadors of Pakistan and appreciated their role in cementing the Pakistan-UK relations. Speaking about Kashmir, the High Commissioner condemned the ongoing gross human rights abuses in Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK). He stated that Pakistan would continue its political, diplomatic and moral support to the people of Kashmir till they achieve their right to self-determination. Live patriotic songs sung by local Sufi opera singer Saira Peters, Qawwal Sohail Salamat Ali, and child singers Muhammad



Pakistan Movement. Giving an overview of the country, the High Commissioner termed the recent democratic transition "a dawn of the

donate generously to the Fund created for the construction of dams. He urged the community to send their remittances to Pakistan through

Hassan and Ismal Khan enthralled the audience. The cultural component added extra colour to the ceremony. Guests were served with brunch of traditional Pakistani cuisine. Similar Independence Day events were held at all the four Consulates of Pakistan in Birmingham, Bradford, Glasgow and Manchester.



Independence Day of Pakistan

Celebrated In Ankara



Independence Day of Pakistan was celebrated in Ankara with traditional fervor. The Ambassador of Pakistan, Muhammad Syrus Sajjad Qazi, hoisted the national flag on the tune of national anthem in the presence of the Pakistani community, students, and Embassy officials and their families. The special messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out on the occasion. In his remarks on the occasion, Ambassador Syrus Qazi said 14th August is an important date in the history of the Sub-continent, as on this day, the dream of an independent Pakistan became a reality. He said overseas Pakistanis play an important role in promoting relations with host countries. He termed Pakistan community as a vital bridge for promoting Pakistan-Turkey relations and appreciated their role in further strengthening brotherly ties between Pakistan and Turkey. The Students of Pakistan Embassy School (PEISG) in Ankara presented special performance composed of milli songs. Afterwards, flanked by Pakistani children, Ambassador Syrus Qazi and his spouse Dr. Shaza Syrus cut the Independence Day cake.



Independence Day celebrated in Tehran



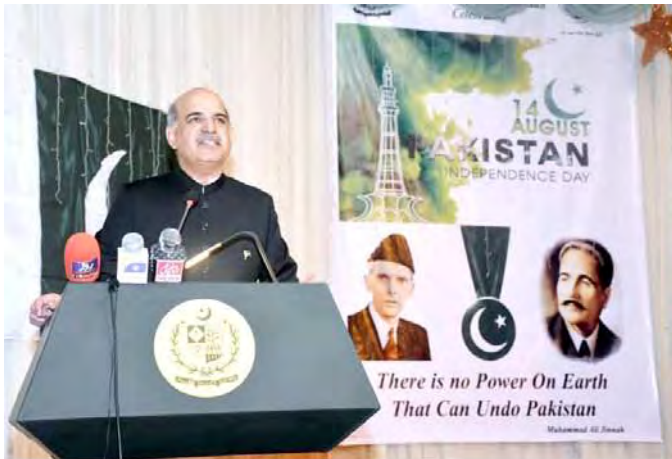
Pakistan Independence Day was celebrated in Tehran with traditional fervor. An impressive ceremony was held in this morning at the Residence of Ambassador of Pakistan in which a large number of members of Pakistani community from all walks of life participated. The ceremony commenced with hoisting of the national flag by Ambassador Riffat Masood. The messages of the honourable President and Prime Minister were read out. Ambassador Riffat Masood,

in her address, extended felicitations to members of the Pakistani community living in Iran on the Independence Day and urged them to renew their pledge to serve their country with dedication. Referring to the Kashmir issue, the Ambassador said Pakistan will not leave the Kashmiri brothers alone and would continue to stand with them extending full support in their just struggle to achieve self-determination. Saying that several posters have been placed on billboards in Tehran and Mashhad with congratulatory message of Iran's Supreme leader on the occasion of Pakistan's Independence Day, the Ambassador described it as a sign of deep Pakistan-Iran friendship. The ceremony ended with prayer for peace and prosperity of Pakistan.

Pakistan

Independence Day celebrated in

Saudi Arabia



Pakistan's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Khan Hasham Bin Saddique hoisted the national flag in a ceremony held at Pakistan Embassy Riyadh on Tuesday to commemorate the country's Independence Day. The ceremony was attended by hundreds of people from Pakistani expatriate community along with families. Messages of the president and the care taker prime minister were read out to all present, a message received here from Riyadh said. He expressed his gratitude for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for always supporting Pakistan and its people. Further, he talked about the special place of Saudi Arabia in the heart of every Pakistani. Consulate General of Pakistan in Jeddah celebrated the Pakistan Independence day with national zeal and fervour. The Consul General of Pakistan Mr. Shehryar Akbar Khan raised the Pakistani flag, to mark the day, in front of large number of Pakistani community who had arrived from different part of

Jeddah to participate in the event. A smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Army and Pakistan Navy was also present at the occasion. The Consul General said that 3rd consecutive peaceful transfer of power in Pakistan has strengthened the democratic norms in Pakistan. He also said to remember the Kashmiri brethren on this auspicious day who are facing human rights violation in Indian occupied Kashmir. The Consul general also thanked His Royal Majesty King Salman bin Abdul Aziz and the Saudi Government for hosting a large number of Pakistani community and providing them opportunity to play their constructive role in development of both the countries. Earlier Mr. Shaiq Bhutto Deputy Consul General and Mr. Najeeb Ahmad, Welfare Consul read out the message of President of Pakistan and Prime Minister of Pakistan for the occasion.

Independence Day of Pakistan celebrated in UAE



With the national flag hoisting ceremonies held at Pakistan Embassy and Consulate General in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, respectively, the Independence Day of Pakistan was celebrated in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with national zeal and fervour.

A large number of UAE-based Pakistanis including women and children attended the ceremonies, a message received here from UAE said.

Moazzam Ahmad Khan, Ambassador of Pakistan hoisted the national flag in Pakistan Embassy, Abu Dhabi. Independence Day Messages of President Mamnoon Hussain and Prime Minister Justice (R) Nasir-ul-Mulk were read out.

In his address, Ambassador Moazzam A Khan, while felicitating the Pakistanis on the auspicious occasion of Independence Day, recalled the great sacrifices rendered by our forefathers for the creation of a separate homeland. He also talked about the ideals which serve as the guiding principles for the nation's march to peace and progress.

Referring to the role of Pakistani community in UAE, Ambassador appreciated their contribution in the development of UAE and the role they are playing in supporting the national economy and improving ties between Pakistan and the UAE.

He particularly appreciated the UAE leadership's special affiliation towards Pakistan and said the leaders of the two countries were keen on further strengthening bilateral relations. Moreover, children from Pakistani schools and members of the Christian community sang national songs with enthusiasm.

Another flag hoisting ceremony in UAE was held at the premises of Pakistan Consulate in Dubai. Brig (R) Syed Javed Hassan, Consul General hoisted the National Flag while the National Anthem was played.

He hoped that Pakistan's relations with the UAE will continue to grow from strength to strength under the visionary leadership of the incoming / new Prime Minister of Pakistan, President of UAE, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum.

Cake-cutting ceremonies were held at both places to commemorate the Independence Day. Independence Day ceremonies concluded with prayers for progress, prosperity and solidarity of the country.



Pakistan's Independence Day in New York



Pakistan's Independence Day was celebrated with fervor and enthusiasm at Pakistan House. The national flag was hoisted by the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the UN Ambassador Maleeha Lodhi, as the national anthem was played. Ambassador Maleeha Lodhi told the gathering that Pakistan has achieved another milestone in its journey of democratic consolidation.



The successful conclusion of general elections once again showed the commitment of the Pakistani people to strengthening democracy. Ambassador Lodhi read out the Independence Day message of President while Mr. Naeem Cheema, Acting Consul General New York read out the message from Prime Minister. Expressing solidarity with the people of Jammu and Kashmir, Ambassador Lodhi voiced the

hope that the people of Jammu and Kashmir will one day also be able to achieve their fundamental right to self-determination, as enshrined in numerous UN Security Council resolutions. She declared that Pakistan will continue to extend all moral, diplomatic and political support to the people of Jammu and Kashmir for the attainment of this goal.



Pakistan's Independence Day Celebrated in Washington DC

In the morning of 14th August 2018, Ambassador Ali Jehangir Siddiqui hoisted the national flag in the Embassy courtyard with the National Anthem playing in the background. Special messages from President and Prime Minister were read out. Greetings messages on Pakistan's Independence Day were also received from senior elected officials across the United States including U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo. The event was attended by around 500 people including Ambassador Alice Wells, Acting Assistant Secretary of State for South & Central Asia, senior officials from State Department, Department of Defence, USAID, Ambassadors, Deputy Chiefs of Mission

and Defense Attaches from a number of diplomatic missions based in Washington D.C. as well as prominent members of the Pakistani American diaspora. Ambassador Siddiqui conferred a Medal of Excellence on Ustad Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, in recognition of his outstanding contributions in the field of music. Flag hoisting ceremonies commemorating Independence Day were also held at Consulates General of Pakistan in New York, Chicago and Houston. A special flag hoisting event was held at California's State Capitol building in Sacramento, California which was attended by Consul General of Pakistan, Los Angeles





Flag hoisting ceremony in the Pakistan High Commission in Dhaka



To mark the Anniversary of Independence Day of Pakistan, a flag hoisting ceremony was held in the Pakistan High Commission in Dhaka in the morning of 14 August 2018 where a large number of the Pakistani community in Bangladesh, officers, officials and their family members participated in the ceremony. Pakistan National Anthem was played while the Charge d' Affaires Mr. Shah Faisal Kakar hoisted the national flag. The messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out. Charge d' Affaires Mr. Shah Faisal Kakar, in his speech, felicitated the Pakistani community on the auspicious occasion of the Independence Day of Pakistan. He emphasized upon the need for collective efforts to achieve the ultimate goal of the creation of separate homeland for the Muslims of sub-continent which is only possible by following the golden principles of "Faith, Unity and Discipline" as laid down by the Father of the Nation, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. He remarked that under the great leadership of Quaid-e-Azam our fore-fathers achieved homeland for us and now it is incumbent upon all of us to serve and safeguard the national interest of Pakistan.



Pakistan Independence Day celebrated in New Delhi



Independence Day of Pakistan was celebrated with national spirit and enthusiasm at the Pakistan High Commission, New Delhi.

The Pakistan flag was raised by High Commissioner Sohail Mahmood at an elegant and impressive flag-hoisting ceremony held on the Chancery's lawns.

High Commissioner Sohail Mahmood extended warm felicitations and lauded the zeal with which the broader Pakistan high commission family, and Pakistani students and nationals in India, were participating in the festivities.

Recalling the freedom struggle, he said the sacred day of 14th August 1947 dawned primarily due to the unflinching resolve, unprecedented struggle, and countless sacrifices of our forefathers.

He noted that peaceful relations with all of Pakistan's neighbors, including India, were accorded high priority in the foreign policy vision outlined by the incoming leadership in Pakistan. Earlier, Deputy High Commissioner Syed Haider Shah read out the Independence Day messages from the president and prime minister of Pakistan.

Separately, a drawing/painting competition on the theme of 'World Environment Day' was organized among the students of Pakistan School. An "Independence Cup" Volleyball Tournament was also organized among the officers and staff of the Pakistan High Commission as part of the celebrations. High Commissioner Sohail Mahmood distributed prizes to the winners and lauded the efforts of all participants of the painting competition.

Pakistan's Independence Day Celebrated In Sri Lanka



The High Commission of Pakistan and the Pakistani community based in Sri Lanka celebrated the Independence Day of Pakistan with national zeal and enthusiasm and the commitment to protect the country against perils. The Acting High Commissioner of Pakistan, Janbaz Khan hoisted the national flag in a distinctive ceremony held at the High Commission premises on 14th August 2018.

The Acting High Commissioner read out the message of the President of Pakistan H.E. Mamnoon Hussain and Caretaker PM. The Acting High Commissioner said that Pakistan had established diplomatic relations with Sri Lanka, immediately on her independence, in 1948. Since then these relations, which are based on mutual understanding and common interest, have flourished continuously.

He underscored that Pakistan has always supported Sri Lanka in her quest for national security, promotion of democracy, rule of law and economic progress. The ceremony was attended by a large number of participants from various walks of life including members of the Sri Lanka Pakistan Friendship Association, Sri Lanka-Pakistan Business Council and the Pakistani community based in Sri Lanka.



Pakistan Independence day marked in Nepal

A graceful event was held in Nepal to celebrate Pakistan National Day. Vice President of Nepal Mr. Nanda Bahadur Pun was the Chief Guest. More than 500 people from different walks of life attended. Reception was followed by a Pakistan Music show by Sara Raza Khan and her team. The audience greatly appreciated the performance. Sara Raza also sung a ghazal written by former King of Nepal and had first been sung in the King's palace by Ghulam Ali



The dinner at Pakistan Ambassador's residence held to honor H.E. Song Jong-hwan



A dinner reception hosted by the Ambassador of Pakistan to the Republic of Korea, Excellency Rahim Hayat Qureshi, in honor of H.E. Song Jong-hwan upon award of Presidential Award, Sitara-e-Pakistan. H.E. Song Jong-hwan was served for some years as Ambassador of Republic of Korea to Pakistan in Islamabad. His splendid services are, further deepening and strengthening the relations and

cooperation between Pakistan and Korea.

H.E. Song Jong-hwan is the first Korean to receive a civil award by the Government of Pakistan since the founding of Pakistan in 1947.

H.E. Song Jong-hwan noted in a guest book of residence as follows:

Eid Mubarak!

Congratulations on the dual celebrations of Pakistan and Korea's Independence days on August 14th and 15th respectively. I will continue to make efforts to encourage greater cooperation between our two countries in trade, investment, culture, education and tourism.

PAKISTAN AND KOREA ZINDABAD

Dr. Song Jong-hwan receives Pakistan's highest civilian honor



The Pakistani Embassy, in collaboration with the Korean government and Pakistan Business Association Korea organised "Azadi Mela" in connection of celebration of Independence Day. The event drew some 2,000 people, mostly Pakistanis and



Koreans, and featured the two nations' traditional cuisines, costumes and handicrafts, as well as music and dance performances.

One of the event's highlights was an award ceremony for Dr. Song Jong-hwan, former



Korean ambassador to Pakistan from 2013-16, who was bestowed Pakistan's highest civilian award, the Sitara-e Pakistan, by Pakistani Ambassador to Korea Rahim Hayat Qureshi, on behalf of President Mamnoon Hussain.



Kicks off in Copenhagen



In the spirit of freedom, unity and all things “Mango Mela 2018” organized by Embassy of Pakistan in collaboration with the Pakistani Community especially the Danish Affairs Council at Copenhagen, Denmark in connection of Independence Day of country. Different flavors and varieties of Pakistani Mangos placed. Along with Pakistani diaspora large number of people visited the event and praised the taste of Pakistani Mangos.

Ambassador Zulfiqar Ali Gardezi thanks to visitors.





RCCI's delegation visit to Romania, Brussels and Spain

By Mian Fazal Elahi

Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) has taken initiative to promote Pakistan's trade potential through exhibitions and visits of delegations of businessmen around the world. Under this initiative, RCCI chief Zahid Latif Khan led a delegation to Romania where it held meetings with Romanian Chamber of Commerce and signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) to promote bilateral trade and enhance close cooperation through exchange of delegations.

Secretary General RCCI Irfan Manan Khan and vice chairman regional trade Khurshid Barlas were also present during the B2B meetings. Pakistan Ambassador to Romania hosted a dinner in Bucharest in honor of RCCI delegation where leading businessmen and representative from multinational companies attended the dinner.

The RCCI delegation also called on Minister of Business Mr. Stefan Gabriel Vainea, Foreign Affairs Department, Bucharest Romania. The minister assured full support and assistance from his office in improving bilateral trade and business opportunity conference in Romania. During the second leg of business tour, RCCI delegation organized Second Pakistan – Belgium Business and Investment Conference

in Brussels, Belgium.

President RCCI Zahid Latif Khan while briefing media on the eve of second Pakistan- Belgium Business and Investment Conference informed that RCCI being the oldest chamber of commerce in the country has geared up its efforts by arranging visits of delegations of Pakistani businessmen to various parts of world for exploring opportunities of enhancing trade and investments. This year various business delegations have visited UK, Qatar, Azerbaijan, Romania and Belgium under the auspices of RCCI.

Furthermore the chamber had been organizing Rawal Exhibition for years which has now become an international event participated by traders from around the globe. Khan informed that during the last visit to Belgium on the occasion of First Business and Investment Conference in May, some ground breaking work was materialized in the form of signing of memorandum of understanding between RCCI and Brussels Enterprise for Commerce and Industry (BECI) and also getting connected to importers of Halal meat from Pakistan, a sector that remained unattended till now due to lack of awareness about markets and some technical deficiencies, he added.

Referring to exports of edible products, RCCI chief informed that adopting modern

technology was important in processing of food to maintain shelf life and quality adding that businessmen in Pakistan were gradually becoming aware of these aspects. He further said that improvement in law and order situation and supply of electricity have been helpful in easing situation for trade. He also referred to huge potential of exports of Pakistani sports goods of outstanding quality. The use of Pakistan made football in FIFA tournaments endorsed this recognition.





He informed that Pakistan has not only huge untapped potential of exports but at the same time it's growing market with population of around 200 million, offered excellent opportunities for bilateral trade. In addition to this China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

particularly for European technology thus opening up venues of bilateral trade between Pakistan and European countries.

The Second Pakistan-Belgium Business and Investment Conference was organized by RCCI and the Brussels Enterprises Commerce

aspects for trade and investment between the two countries. Around 30 members of RCCI representing different business sectors arrived in Brussels for the conference. President RCCI appreciated the role of Embassy of Pakistan in Brussels for facilitating the visits and making arrangements for the conference. Ms. Naghmana A Hashmi Ambassador of Pakistan in Belgium also hosted a dinner reception for RCCI delegation.

During the last leg of tour the RCCI delegation visited Pakistan embassy in Madrid Spain and held meetings with Ambassador Khayam Akbar. Commercial counselor Dr. Hamid Ali, first secretary Umair Ali and head of chancellery Danish Mahmood was also present on the occasion. The ambassador appreciated RCCI role in promoting regional trade and assured his full support and assistance in organizing exhibitions and business opportunity conference in Spain.



also offered great opportunities for investment and cooperation in energy sector in Pakistan

& Industry (BECI) which was facilitated by Embassy of Pakistan, focused on the technical



Emerging Pakistan a Lucrative Destination for Business:

Ambassador Hashmi

By M.MUZZAMMILULLAH MAAN

Bureau Chief Brussels

The Second Pakistan - Belgium Business and Investment Opportunities Conference jointly organized by the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) and Brussels

participated in the conference.

The RCCI and BECI had signed a Memorandum of Understanding at the conclusion of First Business and Investment Conference held in Brussels in May this year. Both the chambers are keen in promoting trade and investment for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

economically but also socially and politically". She said that the recently held general elections in Pakistan have proved strengthening of democratic values in Pakistan. She further pointed out that with the improvement in law and order situation and tackling of energy crises to a greater extent, people of Pakistan have started looking for expanding business ties with



Mrs. Naghmana Alamgir Hashmi, Ambassador of Pakistan to Belgium, the European Union and Luxembourg addressing at the Second Pakistan - Belgium Business and Investment Opportunities Conference Brussels.

Enterprises Commerce and Industry (BECI) took place. A 30member strong delegation of RCCI led by its president Mr. Zahid Latif Khan and businessmen from different regions of Belgium

Speaking on the occasion Pakistan's Ambassador to Belgium, the European Union and Luxembourg Mrs. Naghmana Alamgir Hashmi said "Pakistan is emerging not only

outside world and the world has also started approaching Pakistan. She reckoned surge in the number of tourists visiting Pakistan, as 2017 saw an increase of 30% in the number tourists who visited Pakistan.

Ambassador Hashmi appreciated the initiative of RCCI for bringing Business delegations to Belgium on regular basis. Highlighting the



Mrs. Naghmana Alamgir Hashmi, Ambassador of Pakistan to Belgium, the European Union and Luxembourg presented made in Pakistan official football of FIFA tournament 'Telstar' to Secretary General BECI as a memento at the Second Pakistan - Belgium Business and Investment Opportunities Conference Brussels.



Mr. Zahid Latif Khan, President Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) speaking at the Second Pakistan - Belgium Business and Investment Opportunities Conference Brussels.



Mr. Zahid Latif Khan, President Rawalpindi - Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) exchanging memento at the Second Pakistan - Belgium Business and Investment Opportunities Conference Brussels.

significance of Belgium in Pakistan's trade scenario she informed that, as Pakistan's 9th largest export destination globally, Belgium remained important for exploring more opportunities for business and investment. She said that a second visit of RCCI within two months reflects seriousness of both sides to increase trade relations.

Pakistan's exports to Belgium have increased by 6% since 2015 and stood at 421 Million EUR in 2017. Pakistan's exports mainly constitute home textiles, surgical goods, sports goods, apparel, leather, cotton and food items especially rice. Ambassador Hashmi called for diversifying exports and also to tap opportunities for investments in Pakistan.

Talking about areas of collaboration Ambassador Hashmi said that Belgium could help Pakistan by transfer of technology in the fields of pharmaceuticals, agriculture machinery, dairy products, processing of fruits and vegetables, fisheries and mineral development. Besides this huge potential existed for technical assistance from Belgium in port handling, dredging, science and technology, she added.

Secretary General BECI Mr. Jan de Brabanter

welcomed the delegation of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In his presentation he pointed out that due to its central location Belgium serves as the heart of Europe for exports to other destinations. President RCCI Mr. Zahid Latif Khan in his address informed about the business and investment opportunities in various sectors in Pakistan. He said that reality is different in Pakistan against what is portrayed in media and there was a need for more visits

Pakistan's exports to Belgium have increased by 6% since 2015 and stood at 421 Million EUR in 2017.

of Belgian businessmen to Pakistan in order to acquaint themselves with real potential of the country. He referred to Investment Policy of Pakistan which allows 100% foreign ownership in manufacturing and social sectors and exemption from customs duty on import of plant, machinery and equipment under various schemes. He further pointed out that Special Economic Zones (SEZs) were being set up in all the provinces and regions of Pakistan including AJK, GB and FATA. Khan said that immense potential for investment and collaboration existed in the areas of energy, light engineering, steel manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, textile, food processing, IT and halal food industry. During the conference documentaries on 'Emerging Pakistan' and 'Investment Regime of Pakistan' were also screened. Both the sides exchanged mementos. Ambassador Hashmi also presented made in Pakistan official football of FIFA tournament 'Telstar' to Secretary General BECI as a memento.

Ambassador Hashmi appreciated the initiative of RCCI for bringing Business delegations to Belgium on regular basis.





Written by: **Nayab Nasir**

Winner of Serena Hotels Creative Writing Competition

It was 2028, 10 years after the infamous elections of 2018. Even though the new government could not perform any miracles but a significant positive change was seen among the masses. Life has a strange way of teaching us lessons, sometimes the storms set the sails right. After years of deprivation, it seemed as if the people of Faisalabad had finally woken up to the reality that in order to change the circumstances one has to stand up for one's self. The public was starting to take responsibility for their actions and change was evident at the micro-level of the society. Who would have imagined a decade ago that a city plagued with rampant pollution, corruption and economic devastation would one day be ranked among the Top 10 Environment-Friendly Cities of the World. But the change was slow and gradual besides nothing sustainable happens overnight. Lost in thoughts, Ejaz was sitting in the corner office of the tallest skyscraper among the

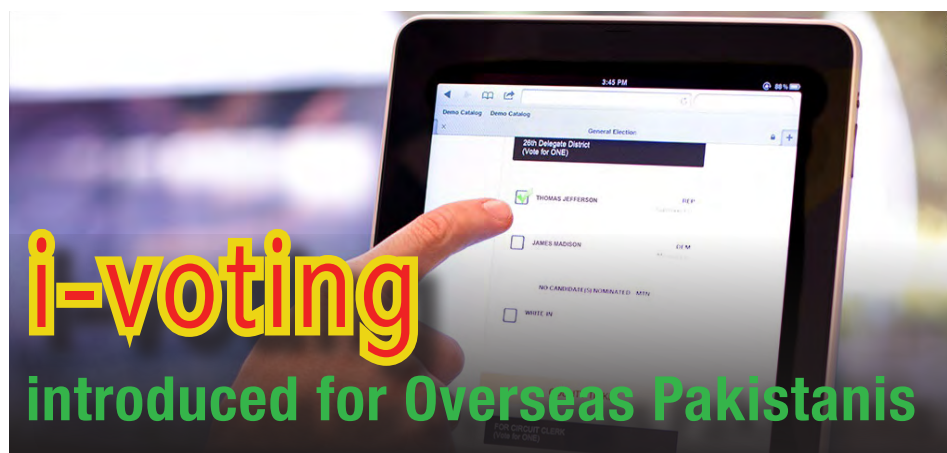
FAISALABAD IN 2028

cluster of eco-friendly buildings rising around the famous Clock Tower. In a few years, the area was transformed into a corporate hub providing technological solutions along with incubation centers for entrepreneurial ventures and Research & Development facilities. He was the CEO of Solar Energy Solutions, a startup aimed at providing low-cost installment-based solar energy systems for domestic and commercial use. His company aimed at transforming Faisalabad into a zero-carbon emitting city and strived to provide people with renewable energy resources. Since Faisalabad received sunlight almost 9 out of 12 months solar energy was deemed as a viable solution. A knock on the door disrupted his train of thoughts as the secretary informed him of the arrival of a delegation from Japan. He was keenly looking forward to this meeting as the Japanese had proposed an Artificial Intelligence-based educational-support system for students. The idea was to provide personalized assistance to students thus eliminating the need for academies and tuition centers. It was a great initiative since as a kid Ejaz always despised

having to go to coaching centers when he could use that time to practice his soccer skills. Moreover, it was an additional financial burden on his middle-class family. Several of such startups were mushrooming in the city mostly financed by the local business tycoons. It was no surprise that Faisalabad was starting to be known as the city revived by its people. After a successful meeting, Ejaz had planned to give the Japanese delegation a tour around the city. His guests were surprised by the cycle stands on every signal as they were told about the latest initiative that gave bi-cycles on rent through an App. Users could easily rent a cycle from their cell-phones and leave it on any of the numerous stands built around the city. The government had further supported this venture by building dedicated cycling tracks all around the city. An immense feeling of pride took over Ejaz when the Japanese appreciated the abundance of trees in the city. Coming from a place where one could not breathe without a mask on Japanese were surprised at the clean fresh air that surrounded them. Although it was unimaginable a decade ago yet after a yearlong persuasion from the public government decided to draft a Good Business Practices Policy. As a rudimentary step manufacturing industries were shifted on the outskirts of the city. And a comprehensive guideline was issued that included practices like proper waste management system, water stewardship programs and plantation of trees in the factory vicinity. The green revolution also encouraged citizens to plant trees outside their houses while organizations were required to build rooftop gardens. Another initiative that the government took was establishing a waste management system that encouraged recycling. Each locality was given three separate bins for arranging waste into easily recyclable items such as plastic, paper, glass and food items.



Heavy fines were also imposed on littering which further assured cleanliness of the city. Soon it was time for lunch and one of Ejaz's childhood friends was going to join them. Ali was the founder of Blockchain Technology Solutions a startup aimed at providing cloud data storage services for financial institutions and corporations. His company strived to reduce financial discrepancies, tax evasions, money laundering and the time and effort required for annual audits. Japanese were already excelling in blockchain systems while it was in its initial phases in Pakistan. The delegates offered technical support and capacity building of the workforce which Ali was glad to accept. After lunch, the guests challenged Ejaz and Ali to show them something that the Japanese can never forget. Ejaz and Ali gave each other an amused look, both knew what they were thinking. The guests were taken to a nearby theater that was specially designed for the international audience. The seats were installed with headphones that translated the play dialogues into various languages in real-time. Japanese are known for their seriousness and dedication mainly attributed to the hardships the country faced when it fell to ashes. But little did the guests know that Faisalabadians were known for their sense of humor and wittiness. The stage drama being performed today had some of the most respected artists of the country but that did not mean they were any less witty. Spotting the Japanese in the audience the actors cracked a joke about how they could not poke holes in the famous Pakistani snack 'Gol Gappay'. The other performer challenged the guests to laugh while keeping their eyes open. The Japanese guests couldn't help but laugh through the entire play. A focus on ethics and morals had revived every aspect of Faisalabad including bringing back the glory of comedy stage-plays. Today visiting theaters had become a weekly entertainment for families. On a happy note and with promises and aspirations for a successful partnership Ali and Ejaz bid farewell to the delegation. Later Ejaz dropped Ali at his office and after parking the car in his building's parking lot he started walking towards the mass-transit system. The comfort, efficiency and low-cost of the public transport had motivated the general public to use less personal cars. Besides Ejaz liked to utilize the traveling time to read or ponder over new ideas and solutions since he was an entrepreneur. Looking outside the train he could see water- filtration and recycling plants providing the city with drinking and domestic-use water in two separate pipelines. Overwhelmed by how much the people of Faisalabad had accomplished together he knew his city and country still had a long way to go. But in a country with a large population of passionate youngsters, he also knew that change though slow was inevitable.



By M.Saeed Yousafzai

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has launched its i-voting online platform, to allow around 7.9 million Pakistanis living abroad to cast their vote in the upcoming bypolls scheduled for October 14. The ECP is holding by-elections in National Assembly's 11 and provincial assemblies' 26 constituencies on the said date.

Under the i-voting system, overseas Pakistanis can register to vote on the ECP's website, based on the constituencies in which they were previously registered as voters.

The ECP issued a schedule for overseas Pakistani voters after the Supreme Court in its verdict allowed Pakistanis living abroad to vote in by-elections.

Registration for i-voting opens on Saturday, September 1 and is scheduled to end on September 15. Overseas Pakistanis possessing valid machine-readable passports can register as voters within the stipulated time.

Speaking to media, ECP Spokesman Qasim said that the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) will facilitate voters through its online system.

Qasim said that the NADRA has also issued a video for guiding overseas voters. He said that after the registration process, the polling lists will be given to the Returning Officers. Qasim added that the impression that illiterate people cannot cast vote is wrong. The report of the overseas voting will be presented before the parliament, said the ECP spokesman.

According to the rules, it is mandatory that the ECP is satisfied over the pilot project, he said. On August 14, the ECP said pilot projects would be initiated for voting rights to overseas Pakistanis, which would not affect the results of by-elections. The ECP said the decision on the use of i-voting would be made after several tests and pilot projects would be initiated in a limited area instead of an entire constituency. It said the IVTF was formed on the orders of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, adding that the task force comprises officials of NADRA and the ECP's Law and IT Wings.

Pakistanis based abroad who wish to cast their votes can access the Overseas Voting System through the internet and create an account using these credentials: name, email address, password of his choice, mobile phone number (optional), and his country of stay.

A confirmation email of the created account would be then forwarded by the system to the applicant at his given email address and by clicking on the link therein the voter shall be prompted to provide the number of his MRP with its tracking identity and the NICOP number along with the date of its issuance.

Once the account is successfully registered, the second verification process would be initiated wherein random questions regarding voter's identity information would be asked by the system and upon correct reply a message of "successfully verified" would be displayed by the system.

A unique "voter pass" will be emailed to the voter by the system, which he would be required to provide on polling day to be able to cast his vote.

Dean of the diplomatic corps Honored Outgoing & New Envoys

Dean of the diplomatic corps, Turkmenistan's Ambassador H.E. Atajan Movlamov, hosted a lunch reception to bid farewell to two envoys and welcome two new ones. Norwegian Ambassador H.E. Tore Nedrebo and Sri Lanka's High Commissioner H.E. Jayanath Lokuketagodage were both leaving after about three-year postings to Pakistan. In their speeches, both envoys expressed gratefulness to fellow diplomats and the Pakistan authorities for a great time in the country. The dean also welcomed the recently arrived Greek Ambassador Dimitris Hatzopoulos and the Ambassador of Lebanon Ghassan El Khatob, who arrived in spring.



A troupe from Shaanxi province of China Presented Cultural performance for Pakistan Independence Day celebrations at PNCA

A troupe from Shaanxi province of China left the audience spell bound with its performance at Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA). On stage as part of Independence Day celebration, Shaanxi Yulin Coal Sea Art Group of China enthralled audience at jam packed auditorium of PNCA. National Performing Arts Group (NPAG) of PNCA presented the cultural dances of Pakistan.





Turkish Victory Day celebrated in Islamabad

The ambassador of Turkey H.E. Mustafa Yurdakul and Defence Attaché Lt. Col. Hakan Buke hosted a reception at Serena hotel in Islamabad. Federal Minister for Human Rights Dr Shireen Mazari graced the occasion as the Chief Guest while Federal Minister for Information & Broadcasting Fawad Chaudhry, Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua were among the prominent guests. The event was attended by politicians, ambassadors, diplomats, businessmen and media. Turkish Victory Day is celebrated on 30th August. The day commemorates the victory of Turks in the Battle of Dumlupinar against the Greek forces in 1922. This year the 96th anniversary of the glorious Victory day marked.





Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of Universities



By Mian Fazal Elahi

COMSATS and Higher Education Commission, Pakistan organized a Seminar on Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of Universities, at Serena Hotel Islamabad. Inaugural speakers of the seminar were included Dr. S M Junaid Zaidi H.I., Executive Director COMSATS; Dr.

Tariq Banuri, Chairperson, Higher Education Commission, Pakistan; Mr. Neil Buhne, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative; and Dr. Shamshad Akhter, Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue, and Economic Affairs, Government of Pakistan. Mr. Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui, Secretary, Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms, Government of Pakistan has incorporated

SDGs in its National Goals and said Pakistan is in the right track in achieving SDGs. Mr. Neil Buhne, UN Resident Coordinator, highlighted the importance of bringing politicians together with universities in relevant Policymaking process. Ms. Sadia Bashir, CEO Pixel Art Games Academy presented a case study on Video Game industry during the seminar. Prof. Dr. Masoom Yasinzai, Rector, International Islamic





University, Islamabad (IIUI), recommended all universities to join hands with government organizations, think tanks and NGOs, and to adopt frontier technologies so as to ensure attainment of SDGs by 2030. Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmed Khalid, Vice Chancellor, University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore mentioned



Dean, Management Sciences Comsats Institute of Information Technology-Official highlighted that academia can contribute not only to SDG-04, but to all SDGs. Prof. Dr. Javed Ashraf, Vice Chancellor, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, emphasized that attainment of sustainable development goals is possible



Abdul Aziz Irfan Mufti, Dean, Faculty of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, UET Peshawar, Dr. Max Paoli, Programme



that research and moving to new technology should be relevant in solving the problems of local communities. How should Universities think about how to think about SDGs, help implement them, & prioritize innovation to tackle developmental challenges? Dr. Adil



with tolerance. He highlighted the need of syncing of developing nations with the Global Village. Dr. Abid Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), said universities need to incorporate interdisciplinary nature in their education



Coordinator TWAS, Dr. Asma Haider, Member, Social Sector Planning Commission Pakistan, Mr. Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, Chief Executive Officer, LEAD Pakistan and Dr. Umer Saif, Vice Chancellor, Information Technology University.



Najam, Dean at Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, Boston University, raised these questions in the seminar on SDGs. Dr. Umer Saif, Vice Chancellor; Information Technology University gave insights on two of the projects of ITU: vaccination project in Pakistan, and Crop Detection and Yield estimation. Dr. Khalid Riaz,



system. Among other prominent speakers were Dr. Sania Nishtar, President Heartfile, Prof. Dr. John Thwaites, Chair of Climate Works Australia and the Monash Sustainability Institute, Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman, Rural Support

Programmes Network, Prof. Dr. Muhammad



A momentous Sustainable Development Agenda, which integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental, was adopted by the 193 Member States of the United Nations on 25th September 2015. The Sustainable Development Goals are the first Member State-led global development guide in history, laying out 17 aspirational objectives with 169 targets for countries to meet by 2030 with achievements monitored periodically to measure progress.

Diplomatic Focus Thru Lens



Ambassador-designate of Pakistan to Ireland, Mr. Shuja Alam called on President Mamnoon Hussain at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.



Ambassador-designate of Pakistan to Portugal, Mr. Shah M. Jamal called on President Mamnoon Hussain at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.



H.E. Mr. Kazuyuki Nakane, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan pays a courtesy call on Prime Minister Imran Khan at PM Office Islamabad.



Ambassador of UAE, Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salem Al-Zaabi Called on Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi in Islamabad.



State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Kazuyuki Nakane Called on Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi in Islamabad.



Bosnian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Pakistan, Sakib Foric called on Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Qamar Javed Bajwa at the General Headquarters (GHQ).



Ambassador of Saudi Arabia in Pakistan, Nawaf Saeed Bin Al Malkiy in a group photo with Ambassador of Pakistan to Saudi Arabia Khan Hasham Bin Saddique at Embassy of Pakistan in Riyadh.



Ambassador of Turkey to Pakistan, H.E. Mustafa Yurdakul Called on Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, Shafqat Mahmood in Islamabad.

Diplomatic Focus Thru Lens



Advisor to The Prime Minister on Commerce, Textile, Industry & Production and Investment, Abdul Razak Dawood in a Meeting With Chinese Ambassador, Yao Jing in Islamabad.



Advisor to the Prime Minister on Commerce, Textile, Industry & Production and Investment, Abdul Razak Dawood in a Meeting with Ambassador of Turkey to Pakistan, H.E. Mustafa Yurdakul in Islamabad.



Japanese State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kazuyuki Nakane Called on Federal Minister for Finance Asad Umar in Islamabad.



Ambassador of China to Pakistan, H.E. Mr. Yao Jing Called on Federal Minister for Railways, Sheikh Rashid Ahmed in Islamabad.



Finance Minister Asad Umar and Japanese State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kazuyuki Nakane Witness the Signing Ceremony of Two Agreements for Installation of Weather Surveillance Radar in Multan City and Human Resource Development Scholarship.



UAE Dy. Head of Mission to Pakistan, Mr. Abdul Aziz al Al-Neiyadi Called on Advisor to PM on Climate Change, Malik Amin Aslam in Islamabad.



Acting Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mushtaq Ghani talking to Chen Wei, Counselor; Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Islamabad at Governor's House, Peshawar.



Federal Minister for Human Rights, Dr Shiree M Mazari talking to the Country Representative of UN Women, Jamshed M Kazi who called on her in Islamabad.

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سندھ کی وزارت اعلیٰ کے منصب پر دوبارہ فائز ہونے کی مبارکباد قبول فرمائیے۔
محترم وزیر اعلیٰ: ملک میں جنم لینے والی خبروں اور مختلف معاشی، اقتصادی اور عوامی مسائل حکومت کے سامنے آجا کر کرنا ایڈیٹروں کا فرض ہے اور کنسل آف پاکستان نیوز سپر ایڈیٹرز (سی پی این ای) ملک بھر کے اخبارات کے ایڈیٹروں کی واحد نمائندہ تنظیم ہے۔ اس وقت ہم اپنے اخبارات کے مسائل کے حوالے سے آپ کے علم میں کچھ حقائق لانا چاہتے ہیں۔

- 1- سندھ بھر کے دوسو سے زائد اخبارات کے واجبات گزشتہ کئی برس سے سندھ حکومت کے ذمے واجب الادا ہیں۔ واجبات کی رقم ڈیڑھ ارب روپے سے بھی زائد ہے۔ یہ واجبات ان اشتہارات کی مد میں ادا ہونے ہیں جو سندھ حکومت نے گزشتہ دور حکومت میں شائع کرائے تھے۔
- 2- ان اشتہارات میں براہ راست جاری ہونے والے اشتہارات بھی ہیں اور اشتہاری ایجنسیوں کے ذریعے جاری کئے گئے اشتہارات بھی۔ واضح رہے کہ ان اشتہاری ایجنسیوں کا تقرر بھی سندھ حکومت نے ہی کیا تھا۔
- 3- یہ بھی واضح رہے کہ سی پی این ای نے بے شمار مرتبہ سندھ حکومت سے تحریری اور زبانی درخواست کی کہ ان واجبات کی ادائیگی کا کوئی راستہ نکالا جائے، تاکہ ہزاروں اخباری کارکنوں کو تنخواہیں بروقت ادا کی جاسکیں لیکن ہمیں افسوس ہے کہ اندرخواستوں کا کوئی مثبت جواب سندھ حکومت نے نہیں دیا۔
- 4- جناب وزیر اعلیٰ! آپ جانتے ہیں کہ گزشتہ حکومت بھی آپ ہی کی پارٹی کی تھی اور آپ ہی وزیر اعلیٰ تھے، جبکہ گزشتہ سے پیوستہ حکومت بھی آپ کی جماعت نے بنائی تھی۔ یوں سندھ پر گزشتہ دس برس آپ کی جماعت کی حکومت تسلسل سے قائم ہے اور اب حالیہ انتخابات میں بھی آپ کی جماعت نے کامیابی حاصل کی ہے۔
- 5- یہ بھی ظاہر ہے کہ ان واجبات کا تعلق آپ کے سابقہ دور سے ہی ہے۔ اس لئے ان کی ادائیگی کی ذمہ داری کسی اور سے زیادہ آپ کی حکومت کے سر پر آتی ہے۔ محترم وزیر اعلیٰ! واجبات کی ادائیگی نہ ہونے سے دوسو سے زائد اخبارات کے لگ بھگ دس ہزار سے زائد کارکن شدید متاثر ہوئے ہیں۔ ان میں اخبارات میں کام کرنے والے کارکنوں کے ساتھ ساتھ طباعت، تقسیم اور دیگر ذیلی صنعتوں میں کام کرنے والے کارکنان بھی شامل ہیں جن کی روزی روٹی ہی اخباری صنعت سے وابستہ ہے۔
- 6- جناب وزیر اعلیٰ! واجبات نہ ملنے کے باعث اخباری کارکنان اور خود اخبارات کی انتظامیہ بھی شدید مشکلات کا شکار ہیں جن کی براہ راست ذمہ دار سندھ حکومت ہے۔

اس لئے آپ سے گزارش ہے کہ واجبات کی ادائیگی کو جلد از جلد ممکن بنائیں، تاکہ اخبارات اور ان کا عملہ سراپا احتجاج ہونے پر مجبور نہ ہوں۔

ہمیں امید ہے کہ آپ صورتحال کی سنگینی کا بروقت ادراک کرتے ہوئے واجبات کی ادائیگی کا فوری بندوبست کریں گے۔



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