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"Spirit of Pakistan"
week-long Independence
Day festivities started in
Birmingham to celebrate
Marqa-e-Haq"



Faisal, High Commissioner of Pakistan to the UK, along with his spouse Dr. Sarah an impressive ceremony, Naeem, in Pakistan" "Spirit of inaugurated Independence Day festivities in Birmingham. The week-long festival, organized Consulate Pakistan's General Birmingham, running from August 8th to 15th, is dedicated to showcasing the profound contributions of British Pakistanis to the UK's rich cultural fabric. Spirit of Pakistan" also celebrates the success of operation Bunyanum Marsoos and is a tribute to Pakistan's valiant armed forces. The opening ceremony was attended by Baroness Shaista Gohir OBE; Paulette Hamilton MP; Tahir Ali MP; Ayoub Khan MP; former MP Khalid Mehmood, Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Zafar Iqbal MBE; Chair "Spirit of Pakistan" Councillor Waseem Zafar MBE; Mayor of West Midlands, Richard Parker; Vice Chancellor of Birmingham City University, Professor David Community leaders, professionals, entrepreneurs, businessmen, diplomats, friends of Pakistan and a large number of Pakistani diaspora in Birmingham attended the event. In his keynote address, the High Commissioner underscored the importance of unity among the Pakistani diaspora and enhanced integration in the British social fabric. He said that celebrating "Spirit of Pakistan" is aimed not only to showcase the rich culture but also to celebrate the services & achievements of Pakistanis in UK.

Pakistan, ASEAN Member States' Artists Shine at 58th ASEAN Day Celebrations

Islamabad (News Desk) Pakistan joined the 58th ASEAN Day celebrations in Islamabad with a vibrant showcase of its cultural heritage, organized in collaboration with the Niftysphere Institute of Arts and Design. Niftysphere students captivated the audience with music, dance, and traditional art, reflecting Pakistan's rich cultural traditions. The artists from ASEAN states also enthralled audiences with their captivated cultural performance. The event highlighted the shared ASEAN-Pakistan values of understanding, political cultural cooperation, and economic partnership. The ceremony was attended by ASEAN Heads of Mission.



Islamabad: Ambassador Nawaf bin Said Al-Malky, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia called on the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on August 9, 2025.

Birmingham (News Desk) Dr. Mohammad Faisal, High Commissioner of Pakistan to the UK, along with his spouse Dr. Sarah Naeem, in an impressive ceremony, inaugurated "Spirit of Pakistan" Independence Day festivities in Birmingham. Independence Day festivities in Birmingham.

Faisalabad (News Desk) Prof Dr Zulfiqar Ali, the Vice Chancellor, University of Agriculture Faisalabad is awarded with the Academic Excellence Award in recognition of his remarkable achievements and significant contributions to Pakistani academia. The award is conferred upon him by Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at a ceremony at Governor House organised by Association of Private Sector Universities of Pakistan. Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali's leadership and dedication have not only elevated the standards of education but have also made a lasting impact on the broader academic landscape in Pakistan. He is also serving as Vice Chancellor MNS University of Agriculture Multan. The Academic Excellence Awards celebrate the exceptional achievements of Pakistani academia, and these accolades inspire a shared pursuit of innovation, research, and profound learning across the academic community. He had worked as Director Programs and Projects at OIC's specialized entity on Food Security "Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS)" at Astana, Kazakhstan. His academic excellence was recognized by President of Pakistan conferring upon him National level HEC-Best University Teacher Award 2020. His research excellence was well recognized by Pakistan Academy of Sciences awarding him Gold Medal in Biotechnology in 2017. He has been a winner of research productivity awards. He has made significant research contributions by producing numerous Impact Factor publications. He has developed the technologies including Pasta wheat; hybrid wheat for seed replacement and yield gain; Architectured multifloret wheat plant to break yield stagnation; Architectured capturing wheat plant for water saving; Architectured multifloret rice plant to break yield stagnation and Rice seed biotech for phosphorous use efficiency and water saving.



NATIONAL ROADMAP FOR TRANSITION OF INFORMAL BUSINESSES INTO FORMAL SECTOR DISCUSSED

Lahore (News Desk) The Technical Working Group (TWG) of the Ministry of Industries and Production (MoIP)) on Business Formalization reviewed an initial draft of the National Roadmap, proposed by the International Labor Organization's Consultants, for transition of informal businesses into formal businesses. The review meeting was held at the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) head office today in Chair Mr. Saif Anjum, Secretary MoIP. The meeting was attended by Mr. Asad Islam Mahni, Additional Secretary Industries and Production, Mr. Socrat Aman Rana, CEO SMEDA, ILO Consultants Mr. Usman Khan and Mr. Muhammad Awais, besides senior officials of SMEDA. The other members of the TWG from private and public sectors joined the discussion on zoom. CEO SMEDA Mr. Socrat Aman Rana, while welcoming the participant, informed that Over 84% of Pakistan's workforce operates informally within SMEs and home-based working sector, which creates obstacles for businesses and workers alike, hindering access to critical markets, financing, social protections, and skill development. He informed that the Project is an outcome of an earlier mapping study by ILO and SMEDA, which identified the need of developing a national roadmap for formalizing SMEs and home-based workers, removing barriers to registration and simplifying processes of regulations and operation.

Multan Cantonment Board Clears Pending Pensions Of Retired Staff

MULTAN (News Desk) - The Multan Cantonment Board announced on Sunday that it had released pending pensions and dues totaling Rs 60 million to 51 retired employees and their heirs, which had been delayed for a long time due to the Board's limited financial resources. The issue was resolved after Cantonment Executive Officer Sardar Atif Sultan and the Cantonment Board President took personal interest in the matter. A special ceremony was held at the Cantonment Board office where cheques were handed over to the beneficiaries. Speaking on the occasion, Sardar Atif Sultan said that the pension of a retired government employee their most valuable asset and acknowledged that retired colleagues and their families had endured financial strain due to non-payment. "By the grace of Allah, I feel deep satisfaction in fulfilling this obligation today," he remarked, adding that addressing the Board's pressing challenges remained his top priority. The event was attended by Cantonment Board Member Muhammad Yaqoob Shera, Principal of Cantonment Board School Ms. Baneesh Saeed, Mian Shahid Akhtar, Chaudhry Zaheer Ahmad, Waqar Khalil, Habibullah Babar, Mall Muhammad Amjad, and other dignitaries.

PIA Country Manager Reveals Direct Flights From Riyadh To Sialkot & Multan Featuring Enhanced Passenger Comfort

ISLAMABAD (News Desk) -Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) Country Manager for Saudi Arabia Malik Bilal Ahmed disclosed on Sunday that PIA will soon commence direct flights from Riyadh to Sialkot and Multan, focusing on passenger comfort by offering state-of-the-art in-flight entertainment, seamless booking, and efficient check-in processes to ensure a hasslefree journey. In an exclusive interview with PTV, Malik Bilal Ahmed revealed that over 14 weekly direct flights from Riyadh to Sialkot and Multan are scheduled to resume starting October. These flights have been designed to meet the high travel demand, as around 200,000 passengers travel annually from Riyadh to Pakistan, making these routes particularly significant. He stated that this initiative is part of PIA's efforts to enhance connectivity and better serve the large Pakistani expatriate community in Saudi Arabia. The increased number of flights will not only improve travel convenience but also provide passengers with upgraded facilities, including modern in-flight entertainment, seamless booking systems, and efficient checkin services aimed at a comfortable and stressfree journey. The resumption of these flights reflects PIA's commitment to strengthening the ties between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia while addressing the growing demand for reliable air travel options among the

Pakistani diaspora in the region.