

**Netanyahu 'has Become A Problem,' Says Danish PM As She Calls For Russia-style Sanctions Against Israel**



BRUSSELS, (UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News / WAM - 17th Aug, 2025) Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has become a “problem,” his Danish counterpart Mette Frederiksen said Saturday, adding she would try to put pressure on Israel over the Gaza war. “Netanyahu is now a problem in himself,” Frederiksen told Danish media, adding that the Israeli government is going “too far” and lashing out at the “absolutely appalling and catastrophic” humanitarian situation in Gaza and announced new homes in the West Bank.

**UAE Welcomes Alaska Summit Hosted By President Donald Trump**

ABU DHABI, (UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News / WAM - 16th Aug, 2025) The United Arab Emirates welcomed the summit held in Alaska between Donald Trump, President of the United States of America, and Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, expressing appreciation for President Trump’s efforts to promote dialogue and advance peaceful solutions. The UAE considers the summit an important step toward strengthening international peace and security and fostering a climate of trust in Europe. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) commended this historic meeting, stressing that constructive dialogue remains the most effective means of bridging differences and resolving disputes. The Ministry further emphasised that the joint efforts of the two presidents to end the Ukraine crisis represent a source of hope for advancing global peace and stability.

**GCC Secretary-General, Czech Deputy FM Discuss Upcoming Gulf-European Ministerial Meeting In Kuwait**



PRAGUE, (News Desk) The upcoming Gulf-European joint ministerial meeting, scheduled to be held in Kuwait this October, was at the forefront of discussions between Jassem Mohamed Jassem Mohamed AlBudaiwi, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, Eduard Hulicius, during their meeting in Prague, the Czech capital. The two sides discussed ways to enhance bilateral Gulf-Czech relations, particularly in the fields of tourism, medicine and healthcare, and energy. A number of regional and international issues of mutual interest were also discussed, and views were exchanged on them.

**Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque Centre In Abu Dhabi Welcomes Over 4.3 Million Guests In H1 2025**

ABU DHABI, (News Desk) The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque Centre in Abu Dhabi witnessed a significant increase in visitor numbers during the first half of 2025, welcoming a total of 4,346,831 guests, marking a 5 percent growth compared to the same period in 2024, reaffirming the mosque’s position as a leading religious and cultural destination on the global stage. The guest count included 1,948,482 worshippers and fasting guests, 2,355,165 visitors from various nationalities, and 43,184 users of the Mosque’s Jogging Track. The mosque hosted 127,672 worshippers during Friday prayers, 346,671 during daily prayers, and 575,372 during the holy month of Ramadan and Eid Al-Fitr. Notably, the mosque recorded its highest number of worshippers on the 27th night of Ramadan (25 March 2025), with 72,710 worshippers, including 11,483 for Taraweeh prayers and 61,050 for Tahajjud prayers, in an atmosphere of serenity and spiritual reflection. As part of the “Our Fasting Guests” initiative, the Centre collaborated with the Erth Zayed Philanthropies and its strategic partner Erth Hotel to distribute Iftar and Suhoor meals. The hotel prepared approximately 2.6 million meals, of which 898,767 were distributed at Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi, 442,345 at Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Grand Mosque in Al Ain, 1,160,000 in labour cities across Abu Dhabi, and 105,935 in various areas of the Emirate. During the Eid Al-Adha holiday, the mosque welcomed 96,497 guests, including 41,385 worshippers—12,740 of whom performed Eid prayers—54,751 visitors, and 361 Jogging Track users. The number of vehicles that used the mosque’s parking facilities reached 988,411. According to the Centre’s statistics, 82 percent of visitors came from outside the UAE, while 18 percent were UAE nationals and residents. This reflects the mosque’s growing prominence as a global cultural tourism landmark. In terms of regional distribution, Asia accounted for 49 percent of visitors, followed by Europe with 35 percent, North America with 10 percent, Africa with 3 percent, South America with 2 percent, and Australia with 1 percent. The top visiting countries were India (20 percent), China (9 percent), Russia (8 percent), USA (7 percent), Germany (4 percent), followed by France, UK, Italy, Philippines, and Poland, each contributing 3 percent of the total visitors.

**UAE Leaders Congratulate President Of Gabon On Independence Day**



ABU DHABI, (News Desk) President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan has sent a message of congratulations to President Brice Oligui Nguema of the Gabonese Republic on the occasion of his country’s Independence Day. His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, and His Highness Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice President, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Presidential Court, dispatched similar messages to President Brice Oligui Nguema.

**UAE Offers Exceptional Summer With Safe, Premium Tourism**



ABU DHABI, (News Desk) The United Arab Emirates is witnessing a distinguished summer tourism season, attracting residents and visitors from across the world to enjoy a wide range of cultural, heritage, and entertainment festivals and events. This comes amid the country’s climate of safety, stability, tolerance, and openness to diverse cultures and peoples. The UAE has successfully overcome the challenges of hot weather, transforming summer tourism into a thriving season that draws large numbers of visitors to spend their holidays. This success

is supported by major promotional campaigns, attractive hotel offers, discount seasons, and large-scale indoor entertainment events, underpinned by world-class infrastructure. Preliminary data indicates a notable rise in hotel occupancy across the UAE during the current summer season, ranging from 60 to 70 percent in July and the first half of August. Sheikh Dr. Saeed bin Tahnoon bin Mohammed Al Nahyan affirmed that the UAE is experiencing an exceptional summer tourism season, underscoring its distinction as a global destination that combines modernity, comfort, and security, thanks to a fully integrated environment that ensures premium tourism, smart infrastructure, and meticulous organisation. He added that these achievements are the result of the wise vision of the UAE’s leadership, led by President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, who is keen to consolidate the country’s position as a prosperous and secure nation that embraces innovation across all sectors and places people at the heart of its priorities through investments in quality of life and societal stability. The UAE this summer is hosting a wide variety of cultural and entertainment events across its emirates, including seasonal festivals, shopping promotions, family activities, and tourism initiatives targeting visitors from the region and the world. Cities such as Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and Sharjah have become leading travel destinations, offering a balance between heritage and modernity. What distinguishes the UAE experience is not only the diversity of tourism choices, but also the safety and stability that the country guarantees around the clock.

**12 Dead, Missing In Northern China Floods**

EIJING, (News Desk) At least eight people have died in floods in northern China, while rescue teams continue to search for four others reported missing, according to local media reports today. The flooding swept away 13 people on Saturday in the Inner Mongolia region during a camping trip, with one person rescued. China had issued warnings yesterday of heavy rainfall, mountain floods, and geological disasters in several areas.

**15-member Chinese Delegation Calls On Ch Shafay**



LAHORE, (APP - UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - 16th Aug, 2025) Provincial Minister for Industries & Commerce Chaudhry Shafay Hussain met with a 15-member delegation of China’s Letin Auto Group here at PSIC House on Saturday. The delegation was led by the Group’s General Manager, Mr Shu Xin. Letin Auto Group will establish an EV small car manufacturing plant in Punjab. The Chinese group also expressed interest in installing solar charging stations. The provincial minister assured the group of full cooperation and facilitation for investment in Punjab. Chaudhry Shafay Hussain said that investors in Punjab’s Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are being provided with special incentives. If the Chinese group sets up its plant in any SEZ of Punjab, it will enjoy a 10-year income tax exemption and a one-time facility of duty-free import of machinery. He added that due to the conducive environment in Punjab, investors from China and other countries are setting up industries, which is not only strengthening the economy but also creating employment opportunities for local people. The provincial minister highlighted that there are vast investment opportunities in Punjab’s EV sector, while the government’s focus is also on promoting electric vehicles. The meeting was also attended by Dr Imran Hashmi, Director, Punjab board of Investment, while the Chinese investors’ delegation included the Group’s Production Manager Zhong Wei, R&D Director Zhao Shuang, and other officials of the company.

**Public-Private Collaboration Vital For Expanding Digital Economy: Nasir Qureshi**

ISLAMABAD, (News Desk) The leadership of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), including President Nasir Mansoor Qureshi, Senior Vice President Abdul Rehman Siddiqui, and Vice President Nasir Mehmood Chaudhry, has emphasized the urgent need to accelerate digital transformation to strengthen the e-commerce sector and enhance the country’s competitiveness in the global marketplace. They noted that digital commerce has become a major driver of economic growth worldwide, but Pakistan’s share in the global e-commerce economy remains far below its potential, said release issued here on Saturday.