

Wednesday 03
September 2025

Rabi I. 09,1447

Volume No 19

Issue No 13
Pages 06

Pakistan Reaffirms Strong Ties with Uzbekistan on Independence Day

Islamabad (News Desk): Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi attended grand celebrations of the 34th Independence Day of Uzbekistan as the Chief Guest, where he joined the Uzbek Ambassador and other distinguished guests in cutting the celebratory cake and extended warm felicitations to the government and people of Uzbekistan. He noted that relations between Pakistan and Uzbekistan are not confined merely to diplomacy but are deeply rooted in shared history, cultural bonds, and fraternal ties that continue to grow stronger with mutual trust and respect. Emphasizing vast opportunities for cooperation, the minister highlighted the pivotal role of railways and transport in regional connectivity, stressing that joint projects in these sectors could bring both nations closer together. He underlined the need to expand bilateral trade volumes and create new investment avenues to complement and strengthen each other's economies, while also identifying energy and natural resources as areas where collaborative initiatives could meet future needs. In addition, he pointed out the importance of education and culture, suggesting that academic exchanges, cultural programs, and people-to-people linkages could further deepen understanding and promote stronger ties between the societies of both countries. Muhammad Hanif Abbasi Pakistan's commitment to building an even closer partnership with Uzbekistan, expressing confidence that such collaboration would not only bring prosperity and development to both nations but also contribute to peace, stability, and regional cooperation. At the conclusion of ceremony, he held constructive discussions with the Uzbek Ambassador and other dignitaries, exchanging views on matters of mutual interest and exploring

Consul General Attends PIA Networking Event; Urges Support for Flood Victims in Pakistan

avenues for future cooperation.

Dubai (News Desk): Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, attended a networking event organized by Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) and lauded the contributions of the Pakistani community in the UAE, particularly in the Northern Emirates, towards the development and prosperity of both Pakistan and the host country. He praised PIA for its vital services, especially its compassionate facilitation in transporting deceased members of the Pakistani community back to their homeland with dignity, noting that such efforts provide much-needed support to overseas Pakistanis during difficult times. Expressing sorrow over the tragic loss of lives and large-scale devastation caused by recent floods in Pakistan, the Consul General appealed to the Pakistani diaspora in the UAE to extend all possible assistance to affected families. The event was attended by Zeeshan Ahmed, Area Manager PIA Sharjah & Northern Emirates, along with prominent representatives from the travel and cargo sectors.



Beijing: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz, Sharif meets with President of People's Republic of China H.E. Xi Jinping

Pakistan, Kazakhstan discuss joint ventures to boost trade via Karachi, Gwadar Ports

Islamabad (News Desk): Pakistan and Kazakhstan held discussions to enhance business cooperation through Pakistani ports, focusing on opportunities for joint ventures and trade facilitation. In a key meeting between Kazakh Ambassador Yerzhan Kistafin and Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry, both sides expressed strong interest in expanding bilateral cooperation in the maritime sector. Minister Chaudhry suggested initiating joint ventures at the Karachi and Gwadar ports, highlighting potential partnerships within Gwadar's free zones, aimed at utilizing Pakistan's strategic port infrastructure to enhance trade access for Kazakhstan, a landlocked nation seeking wider maritime connectivity. The Kazakh ambassador welcomed these initiatives, emphasizing Kazakhstan's aim to use Pakistani ports as transit hubs not only for Kazakhstan but also for the broader Central Asian region. He also shared that a ministerial-level delegation, led by Kazakhstan's Communication Minister who also oversees maritime affairs, is scheduled to visit Pakistan soon to hold in-depth discussions with Minister Chaudhry to explore further cooperation in maritime trade and logistics. The minister stressed the critical role of Pakistani ports as gateways offering Kazakhstan and other landlocked Central Asian countries direct access to markets in the Persian Gulf, Africa, and Southeast Asia, underlining Pakistan's maritime sector's dedication to becoming a regional trade hub through innovative approaches and reinforced international partnerships. The upcoming visit of the Kazakh delegation is expected to accelerate progress on joint ventures and trade facilitation, strengthening ties through maritime infrastructure development, logistics, and the blue economy. The maritime minister noted that these efforts align with regional cooperation frameworks and Pakistan's wider goal to boost trade connectivity across South and Central Asia, adding that this collaboration aims not only to enhance Pakistan's port operations but also to position the country as a strategic trade and transit hub, benefiting from increased economic integration with Kazakhstan and the greater Central Asian region. He stated that this growing partnership highlights a shared commitment to deepen economic ties via maritime channels, transforming Pakistan's ports into key gateways for Central Asia's access to global markets.



Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry talking to Kazakh Ambassador Yerzhan Kistafin who called on him in Islamabad

UAF Initiates Agricultural and Rural Rehabilitation Plan Following Punjab Floods

FAISALABAD (News Desk) In the face of catastrophic and devastating floods in Chenab, Ravi and Sutlej that have played havoc with lives, agriculture, infrastructure and livestock sector in 2,200 villages since Aug 23, the University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) will map out agricultural and rural folks rehabilitation plan. In this regards, teams have been constituted and a team will visit affected areas in Chiniot today (Tuesday). Chairing the Deans Directors meeting, UAF Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zulfiqar Ali said that campus community will come up with recommendations and measures for agricultural recovery and support farmers in flood-affected areas. A comprehensive strategy is being developed to support the victims and revive the agriculture and livestock sector. He said that it is our responsibility to support rural folks, livestock and crops so that the villagers can get back on their feet. He added that university experts will work on rehabilitation plans and provide timely awareness and practical guidance to farmers on how to protect their crops and livestock during this difficult time. He said that the floods has ravaged vast tracts of farmland across the plains of Punjab. Mostly smallholders have been displaced, with floodwaters sweeping away crops. He said that as per initial reports farmers' losses are already running into billions. He said that the university has always played an active role at the time of natural disasters and stands with our brothers and sisters at the time of calamity.

PM Shehbaz, Praises Global Governance Initiative at SCO+ Summit in Tianjin

Tianjin (News Desk): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, addressing the SCO (Plus) in Tianjin, China, praised and reaffirmed Pakistan's resolve to support President Xi Jinping's landmark announcement of the Global Governance Initiative (GGI), declaring it a historic step toward a stronger multilateral system. He said the initiative, aligned with the UN Charter, would make the global governance system more responsive to the needs of developing countries and help address contemporary challenges facing humanity, while expressing Pakistan's willingness to actively participate. The Prime Minister congratulated President Xi Jinping on the successful conduct of the SCO Summit and appreciated the Tianjin Declaration, expressing hope it would foster the shared goal of regional peace and prosperity. Reiterating Pakistan's resolve to uphold the principles of the SCO Charter and the "Shanghai Spirit" by advancing peace, development, and connectivity, he underscored the importance of shared responsibility in addressing the climate crisis, noting that underdeveloped countries like Pakistan bear the brunt of climate-induced disasters despite contributing less than 1% to global emissions, and warning that further inaction would cause more loss of life and livelihoods. Stressing Pakistan's preference for dialogue over conflict and peaceful resolution of disputes, he condemned Israel's heinous crimes against innocent Palestinians in Gaza, called for an immediate ceasefire, and urged resolution of the issue in line with UN Security Council resolutions. On the occasion, he also welcomed Laos People's Democratic Republic for joining the SCO family as a Dialogue Partner.

Federal Minister Aurangzeb Khan Khichi Visits Flood-Affected Areas of Mailsi

Islamabad (News Desk): On the special instructions of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture Aurangzeb Khan Khichi visited the flood-affected areas of his constituency Mailsi to review the situation and relief efforts, accompanied by District Police Officer Vehari Muhammad Afzal and senior district administration officials. During the visit, the minister inspected the relief camp in Mailsi, interacted with the affected people, and was briefed in detail about ongoing rescue operations and the overall flood situation. He directed the administration to speed up relief operations and ensure immediate assistance to affected families, stressing that the biggest challenge at present is the rehabilitation of those displaced by floods. He assured that the government would fulfill its role completely and extend every possible assistance to the victims. Aurangzeb Khan Khichi reiterated that the government stands shoulder to shoulder with the people in this difficult time and announced that all available resources would be mobilized for their relief and

rehabilitation.