

Positive Post

A Publication by Department of Mass Communication & Media Studies and the Diplomatic Academy



Greenwich University
Pakistan-Mauritius

June in History

June 3, 1947: British Government decides to bifurcate British India, into two sovereign states – India and Pakistan

June 25, 1958: President Rule is proclaimed in East Pakistan.

June 14, 1961: Government takes over news agency, Associated Press of Pakistan (APP).

June 1, 1962: Soviet Union awards Lenin Prize to Faiz Ahmed Faiz for his literary contribution.

June 7, 1962: SUPARCO launches Pakistan's first weather rocket, Rebbar – I from Sonmiani.

June 8, 1962: National Assembly elected and begins its first session. Ayub Khan takes oath of first President of Pakistan under new constitution.

June 30, 1965: Pakistan and India sign accord on Rann of Kutch.

June 11, 1978: Altaf Hussain forms All Pakistan Muhajir Students Organization (APMSO).

June 21, 1980: Government starts collecting Zakat.

June 6, 1986: President Zia lays foundation stone of Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital in Rawalpindi.

June 15, 1988: President General Zia promulgates Shariat Ordinance making Sharia supreme law of the land.

June 18, 2017: Pakistan wins 2017 ICC Champions Trophy defeating India in the finals.

Pakistan's standing in the global rankings

Overview

Pakistan observed a slight improvement in the overall international rankings in 2018 covering socio-economic and political outcomes of the country. Several elements complemented the prospects including successful democratic transition, efficient counter-terrorism measures leading to enhanced peace and security, and foreign direct investment inflows under CPEC, among others. Albeit, decoupling economic growth from human development suggests that the country needs to enhance its scores in health, education and standard of living by ensuring political will, equitable financing and efficient governance to ensure parallel growth for marginalized segments as well. Civil and political liberties must grow hand in hand to ensure a conducive environment for democratic dialogue and accountability which ultimately supports its nation building process.

DEMOCRACY INDEX

Pakistan ranked 112th out of 167 countries in the Democracy Index scoring 4.17 out of 10 in 2018 compared to 4.26 in 2017.

Index from 0 (authoritarian regime) to 10 (full democracy)

Compiled based on indicators covering: Electoral process and pluralism, Civil liberties, Functioning of government, Political participation, and Political culture.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

Pakistan ranked 150th out of 189 countries in the Human Development Index scoring 0.562 out of 1.000 in 2018 compared to 0.560 out of 1.000 in 2017.

Index from 0 (low development) to 1 (very high development)

Compiled based on indicators covering: life expectancy, education, and per capita income

PRESS FREEDOM INDEX

Pakistan ranked 139th out of 180 countries in the Press Freedom Index scoring 43.24 out of 100 in 2018 compared to 43.55 in 2017.

Index from 0 (most press freedom) to 100 (least press freedom)

Compiled based on indicators covering: pluralism, media independence, environment and self-censorship, legislative framework, transparency, and infrastructure.

TERRORISM INDEX

Pakistan ranked 5th out of 163 countries in the Terrorism Index scoring 8.18 out of 10 in 2018 compared to 8.40 in 2017.

Index from 0 (lowest impact) to 10 (highest impact)

Compiled based on indicators covering : Total number of terrorist incidents in a given year, total number of fatalities caused by terrorism in a given year, total number of injuries caused by terrorism in a given year and the approximate level of total property damage from terrorist incidents in a given year.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM INDEX

Pakistan ranked 131st out of 180 countries in the Economic Freedom Index scoring 54.4 out of 100 in 2018 compared to 52.8 out of 100 in 2017.

Index from 0 (repressed) to 100 (free)

Compiled based on indicators covering: Market openness, Regulatory efficiency, Government size and the rule of law.

Positive Post is a strategic effort to project achievement and contributions of Pakistan. While showcasing Greenwich University's cultural diplomacy initiatives, it also encapsulates a compilation of different developments complementing Pakistan's socio-cultural, economic and Political outcomes.



The Kingdom of Belgium is located in Western Europe, borders with Netherlands, Germany, Luxemburg and France. The population is more than 11.4 million, covers 30,688 sq.km total area. The capital and the largest city is Brussels, other major cities are Antwerp, Ghent, Charleroi and Liège. Belgium is the home of two linguistic groups; Dutch community, constitutes about 59% population and French community, constitutes about 49% population.

Belgium is the smallest but most densely populated region. It is a developed country with an advanced high income economy. It has a very high standard of living, quality life, education and health care. It ranks as one of the most safest and peaceful state in the globe.

Government

Belgium is a parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy. The federal government exercises the executive power

in the kingdom of Belgium and it is made up of ministers and secretaries of state drawn from political parties that formed the governing union. There are three levels of government in Belgium: the federal, regional, and linguistic community division with each having different responsibilities. The parliament has two houses; Senate and the Chamber of Representatives.

The head of the government is the Prime Minister who is the head of the government who is in charge of appointing the cabinet and the direction of the executive departments in of government. The cabinet is made up of the council of ministers, and they are appointed by the monarch. The monarchy is both hereditary and constitutional, and after the parliamentary elections the king appoints the Prime Minister and which must be approved by the parliament.

Culture

Belgium has contributed greatly to the European art and culture.



Contributions to painting and architecture have been especially rich. The Mosan art, the Early Netherlandish, the Renaissance and Baroque painting and major examples of Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture are milestones in the history of art. Belgium has produced several well-known authors, including the poets Emile Verhaeren, Robert Goffin and novelists Hendrik Conscience, Georges Simenon, Suzanne Lilar, Hugo Claus and Amélie Nothomb.

Food

Belgium cuisine is usually diverse and reflects the cuisines of neighboring countries; France, Germany and Netherlands. Belgium is famous for beer, chocolate, waffles and French fries with mayonnaise. The national dishes are "steak and fries with salad", and "mussels with fries. The Belgians are also chocolate-lovers, chocolate is very popular in the region, with 172,000 tons produced each year, and widely exported.



Though Belgium has many unique national dishes, many internationally popular foods like hamburgers and spaghetti Bolognese are also popular in Belgium, and most of what Belgians eat is also eaten in neighboring countries.

Religion

Although, the Belgium is a secular country but its constitution grants a right to religious freedom. Roman Catholicism has been the major religion of Belgium with 52.9% of the total population, non-religious comprises of 32%, Muslims are 6% and 2.1% population are the believers of other faiths.



Sports

Sports clubs and Federations are organized separately for lingual communities. Association football is the most popular while other popular sports are cycling, swimming, tennis, judo and basketball.

Belgium hosted the 1972 European Football Championships, and co-hosted the 2000 European Championships with the Netherlands. The Belgium national football team reached first place in the FIFA World Rankings for the first time in November 2015. Kim Clijsters and Justine Henin both were Player of the Year in the Women's Tennis Association as they were ranked the number one female tennis player and Belgian cyclist Eddy Merckx is regarded as one of the greatest cyclists of all time. Jean-Marie Pfaff, a former Belgian goalkeeper, is considered one of the greatest in the history of association football.

Belgium-Pakistan Relations

Pakistan and Belgium maintains bilateral relations between both the nations. Belgium permanent embassy is located in Islamabad and Pakistan's embassy is in Brussels. Belgium is the sixth largest European importer of Pakistani goods and the bilateral trade between the two is up to US\$600 million. During the 2010 Pakistan



floods Belgium provided aid worth €4.6 million to Pakistan. Pakistan and Belgium goes way back, with trade investment crossing US \$1 billion mark in 2017.

Belgium was one of the first countries which recognized Pakistan's independence. The embassy was opened in 1948.



Belgium built the first port in Gwadar in the 1980s. It has also assisted Pakistan in all its hours of need and donated large amounts to help the country overcome the devastations of the 2005 earthquake.

Belgium is also a home to a number of Pakistanis 19,247 (2012 official estimate). In 2007, 666 Pakistani citizens were granted Belgian citizenship, making them the highest Asian recipients of Belgian citizenship in 2007. Pakistani restaurants are also opened in Belgium and loved by the country's multicultural society.

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium Mr. Frederic Verheyden

Maas Foundation will represent Pakistan in the Colombo International Theatre Festival

Maas Foundation will stage its musical play, *Book of Love*, at the 8th Colombo International Theatre Festival in Sri Lanka on Aug 4.

Maas Foundation earlier performed this play at the 2nd Tamasha Festival in April, said Aamir Nawaz, the director of the play and president of Maas Foundation.

He said the Colombo festival will be organised by Inter Act Art Theatre, Sri Lanka after completing their seven successful editions since 2012. Maas Foundation was the first Pakistani theatre company to be selected for the first edition of the festival and it has been invited again to perform this year.

The theatre group has been invited by the Pakistani high commissioner in Sri Lanka, who would also be the chief guest at the festival.

More than 15 theatre companies from world over, including the US, Germany, India, Sweden, Switzerland, Iran, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, are scheduled to perform at the festival.



Book of Love is a non-verbal take on the classic boy-meets-girl tale. It showcases a couple's journey of love, family and parenthood through a child's perspective.

Five-year-old Ali once found himself alone at home. On a book shelf, he finds a book, called *Book of Love*, and starts reading it. In each section of the book, he finds an interesting event happening in the life of a couple their meetings, dates, engagement, marriage, honeymoon etc.

At the end, he finds that this story is so much like that of his own parents' whose love had disappeared from their lives.

Hassan Raza has conceptualised the play and it has been directed and light designed by Aamir Nawaz. The background score has been delivered and played by Imran Nawaz Mani, while Gulshan Majeed has choreographed it. The cast includes Gulshan Majeed, Eshah Shakeel and Hassan Raza.

The director, Nawaz, says it's not easy to portray a story on stage without dialogue, especially in the subcontinent where script-based theatre is considered practical and acceptable.

"I take it as a challenge, as in the story of *Book of Love* there were a lot of scenes which we were going to stage so technically and aesthetically it was really hard.

We had rehearsed for two months to put everything together. And finally when we did it in Lahore in January and then at the 2nd Tamasha Festival this year."

Courtesy: Dawn

Alhamra's music show Gohar-i-Nayab aims to preserve traditional music

Gohar-i-Nayab will feature young singers, who will perform classics songs of legendary singers from the '60s to '80s.

A mash-up of classic film and folk songs and ghazals rendered by the younger generation of singers will entertain the audience every three months at Alhamra as part of a new musical show, *Gohar-i-Nayab*, in the pipeline.

Alhamra Art Centre is gearing up to launch a music show featuring young singers, who would perform classics songs of legendary singers from the '60s to '80s.

"Our mission is to support and preserve the cultural diversity and heritage of all traditional and contemporary music and to bring in a new lot of singers immensely liked by music lovers on social media," said Muhammad Azam Khan, a former radio buff who worked at Radio Pakistan for four decades.

The Lahore Arts Council will initiate this musical programme with the assistance of Khan early next month and the best voices have already been chosen who would be provided with this platform to showcase their talent.

Singers Kishwar Jahan, Muhammad Zubair, Saif Ali Khan, Amanat Ali, Ali Abbas, Muhammad Hanif and Ali Bakhsh have been chosen by Mr Khan for the first programme.

During his radio journey as a producer, Mr Khan introduced legends like Nayyara Noor, A Nayyar, Ghulam Abbas, Naheed Akhtar and



Suraiyya Khanum among others.

He has to his credit some everlasting compositions as well, including 'Ay Puttar Hataan Tey Nai Vikday', 'Rung Laye Ga Shaheedon Ka Lahoo' and 'Raat Pheli Hai'.

Lahore Arts Council Executive Director Athar Ali Khan said: "In today's times, we experience a daily barrage of horrific incidents, insensitive attitudes of people on roads, frustrating and overabundance of bad news. Art and music, especially classic old melodies, can bring relief to the wounds of our souls. The diverse musical talent the youth possesses in music and other art forms will celebrate the traditional and commercial music of yore through this programme."

He added that film music from the '60 to '80s in the voices Noor Jehan, Mehdi Hassan, Akhlaq Ahmed, Naheed Akhtar, Mehnaz and many others would be recreated and performed by young singers, which would be a pleasant innovation.

Courtesy: Dawn

Differently-abled persons to be provided health coverage, free assistive devices: Dr Nishtar

Chairperson of the Ehsas programme Dr Sania Nishtar on Saturday briefed the media about the measures that the government plans to implement in order to facilitate differently-abled people across the country.

Under the Ehsas programme, which was launched in March this year, the government will provide Sehat Insaf cards to differently-abled people who are registered with the National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) so that they can get free medical treatment from hospitals that are registered under the health cards, Nishtar announced.

Furthermore, government hospitals have been directed to issue certificates to differently-abled people as per United Nations classifications so that free assistive devices, such as canes, wheelchairs etc., can be provided accordingly.

The government will provide free white canes to the visually-impaired and wheelchairs to those paralysed from the waist down, she said. The



government will also provide free hearing aids to people with hearing impairment under the Tahaffuz programme, which will be launched in September, Nishtar added.

Nishtar, who was appointed as special assistant to the prime minister on social protection and poverty alleviation last month, said that according to an estimate, around five million people in Pakistan face some form of disability.

Apart from the provision of medical facilities, the government will also ensure that government institutions abide by the constitutional requirement to allocate two per cent job

quota for differently-abled persons. Nishtar regretted that the requirement was not fulfilled and said that Prime Minister Imran Khan has "taken strong notice" of the matter. The government will also reserve 1pc quota for differently-abled people in the Naya Pakistan Housing Scheme as well as in government housing societies in different cities, the Ehsas programme chairperson revealed.

As part of the Ehsas initiative, the government will also establish centres in 20 underdeveloped districts in order to assist people who require artificial limbs due to loss of arms or legs.

Nishtar said that the government has allocated funds, constituted committees and initiated the consultation process with institutions and provincial governments, but added that the implementation of the planned measures will take some time.

She also revealed that the Planning Commission of Pakistan had issued a directive to all ministries and instructed them to make sure that the PC-I forms which contain details of any project pertaining to infrastructure, production or social sectors are "disability sensitive".

"This is just the beginning," Nishtar said of the government efforts. "We will focus on how this programme can be expanded and improved. Most importantly, we will focus on how we can ensure that there is no corruption or leakages in this programme."

Before coming to power, the ruling Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf had promised to provide medical facilities, jobs and housing to differently-abled people.

Courtesy: Dawn

Sharmeen Obaid's Aagahi bags nomination at Cannes Lions International Fest

If she wins, this won't be the first time she's bringing an international trophy home.

Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy's animated awareness series, Aagahi has been nominated at The 66th Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity.

Aagahi is the first Pakistani series to ever be nominated at Cannes Lion. The two-time Academy Award winner's series is a public service campaign which aims to educate women about their legal rights in Pakistan. It has been nominated for the Sustainable Development Goals Lions in the Gender Equality category.

"Aagahi is a campaign designed to create awareness in women so they are able to navigate the police and judicial

system with confidence in Pakistan.

In the past seven months, SOC Films have released short animated films in Urdu explaining the laws which affect women on topics such as: how to file an FIR, what does the law state on instances of domestic violence, divorce, cyber-crimes and inheritance and what is the procedure for reporting issues like these and who should be approached for help. One of Pakistan's leading actresses, Aamina Sheikh has lent her voice for the series.

Over 30,000 pieces of creative and effective work from 89 countries, in 27 distinct creative disciplines, will be awarded and celebrated at the 66th Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity. Cannes Lions is committed to campaigning for creativity as a powerful force for good in the world and has partnering with the UN to support the Sustainable Development Goals through a range of creative initiatives at the Festival.

Courtesy: Dawn

Six Iranian fishermen released by Pakistan



Pakistan has released six Iranian fishermen who were detained by the Maritime Security Agency (MSA) for fishing in Pakistani waters, Iranian media and local sources said on Friday.

Radio Farda while quoting Mehr News Agency said that all the six men released on Thursday reached their homes the same day. "The sailors were arrested on the charges of illegal entry into Pakistan's waters."

It said this was the fourth group of

Iranian fishermen jailed in Pakistan over the past two years. Pakistan had so far released 41 other Iranian fishermen on three occasions, reported the agency.

A security source said that like Indians, Iranian fishermen were often caught by the marine authorities while fishing in Pakistani waters and booked by the police under Sections 3/4 of the Foreign Act and 3/9 of the Fishery Act.

Courtesy: Dawn



First British Airways flight to Pakistan in 11 years lands in Islamabad

British Airways resumed operations to Pakistan, over a decade after they were suspended in Sept 2008 in the wake of the Marriott Hotel bombing in Islamabad.

British Airways' Boeing 787 Dreamliner departed from Heathrow, London, with 240 passengers on board, and touched down at Islamabad International Airport (IIA) at 9:15am this morning.

The airline will fly thrice weekly between London and Islamabad.

Minister for Aviation Ghulam Sarwar Khan, Adviser to Prime Minister on Commerce Abdul Razak Dawood, Special Assistant on Overseas Pakistanis Zulfi Bukhari and senior officials of the Aviation Division and British High Commission welcomed the passengers at the airport.

"The resumption of flight operation of British Airways is great. Today is a good day for both Pakistan and Britain and we are also happy about



the better security situation in the country," said British High Commissioner Thomas Drew.

Unprecedented security, including more than 600 police, Quick Response Force units and snipers were in place at the time of the flight's arrival.

"Return of British Airways is the first step. We will offer and facilitate other airlines to increase international connectivity in Pakistan," Bukhari said while speaking to Radio Pakistan.

The same aircraft departed for Heathrow at 11:10am with passengers on board from Islamabad.

Courtesy: Dawn

Motorcycle Girl will be screened at Stanford University

Motorcycle Girl won our hearts as it shared the story of Zenith Irfan, a young woman who biked all across the northern areas of Pakistan.

While she broke barriers for women across the country, Irfan just added another milestone as the movie will be showcased at Stanford University as a part of their Global Studies Summer Film Festival.

An excited Zenith posted the excited news on her Facebook:

"AAHHHHHHH I AM CRYING WITH HAPPINESS RIGHT NOW. Stanford University is showcasing my biopic. My life story this July. This is huge. This is big news. I cannot even express my joy. I just dont know what to say. This is unbelievable. Ya Allah tera lakh shukar hay" read her caption.

The film will be screened on Wednesday, July 31, 2019 and the screening is part of the annual Stan-



ford Global Studies Summer Film Festival. This year's festival features 10 films from around the world that focus on the theme "Earth: Habitat for All."

Motorcycle Girl was directed, written and co-produced by Adnan Sarwar. It is the second installment in Sarwar's thematic Hero trilogy, the first one being Shah.

Zenith Rehman's role was played by Sohaili Ali Abro; the cast also included Ali Kazmi and Samina Peerzada.

Courtesy: Dawn

Minhajul Quran launches interest-free loan project

Minhajul Quran, a sister wing of the Pakistan Awami Tehreek (PAT), on Saturday launched "interest-free" Al-Muwakhat Islamic Micro-Finance Project designed to provide small loans to those who want to start their businesses.

Speaking at the launch ceremony, Hassan Mohiuddin Qadri, son of PAT head Dr Tahirul Qadri, said the basic purpose of the effort was to help people create economic life-line for the beneficiaries.

The project, he said, would be "product based," meaning thereby that the loans would not be provided in cash, but kind only. "If someone needs a rickshaw, he will be provided the vehicle and not cash. The organisation will not charge any interest on loan but only small administrative charges covering cost of service provision," he said.

He conceded that this was not going to be a unique plan as many such were already in vogue. But the only difference is "dignity of the loanee would not be at stake."

Similarly, the Minhajul Quran students who want to set up their own businesses would also get the benefit.



This, he said, is a pilot project. Soon, the organisation would decide how it plans to expand in future: whether it would involve donors or the organisation itself would generate funds for expansion.

He also distributed keys of 10 motorcycles for which the loan would be recovered in 18 installments.

About the recovery in one-and-a-half months, a party spokesman said a lot of research had gone into the recovery period fixation. After comparison with other such institution, it was found workable time-frame, he said.

The organisation also plans to launch a business and technical training plan in the university. It would also encourage its student to conceive business plans and the organisation would try to help them set it up.

Courtesy: Dawn

Army helicopter rescues stranded mountaineers in Ishkoman Valley

A Pakistani mountaineering official said on Tuesday that an army helicopter has rescued four Italian and two Pakistani climbers stranded after being hit by a snow avalanche in the Ishkoman Valley.

A seven-member Pakistan-Italian friendship expedition comprising four Italian climbers led by Tarcisio Bellò, Nadeema and Shakeela, students of Karakoram International University, and a guide namely Mohammad Imtiaz from Shimshal valley, had started their adventure to climb an unknown 5,300-metre peak in Hindukush mountain range in Ishkoman valley on June 2.

Mohammad Imtiaz, a Pakistani member of the expedition, was killed, while six, including foreigners, were injured by a snow avalanche.

Karrar Haidri, secretary of the



Alpine Club, told The Associated Press that the six rescued climbers were lifted on Tuesday to a hospital in Gilgit for medical treatment.

The climbers were at an altitude of around 17,390 feet in Ishkoman Valley in the Ghizar district.

Officials say all the rescued mountaineers were listed in a stable condition and none had life threatening injuries.

Courtesy: Dawn

Abida Parveen's son Sarang Latif pays tribute to her legacy in a new web series

I've always wanted to experiment with Ammi's music, says Sarang

The youngest child of legendary Sufi singer Abida Parveen and renowned Radio Pakistan producer Ghulam Hussain Sheikh, Sarang Latif was born into a family with deep ties to the musical realm.

It was inevitable then that he'd be drawn into the world of music as well, a journey he started in 2013 as a producer. He has since worked with various artists and multinational companies. Now he is pouring his passion for the craft into a new project, *Bazm e Rang*, which premiered this Eid.

Conceived, directed and produced by Sarang himself, the venture takes the shape of a series of songs that feature his mother as the main artist. The set will find Abida Parveen performing her tracks both as a solo artist and in collaboration with other renowned singers.

The idea for the project was born out of admiration for Abida Parveen's music.

"Ammi has done more than 138 albums, MashaAllah," Sarang gushes, "and I had always wanted to experiment with her music. I had been planning *Bazm e Rang* for the last five to six years but just couldn't put together all the pieces of the puzzle until now. I guess there's a time for everything!"



The first chapter of *Bazm e Rang* comprises 10 songs, starting with the track 'Parda Dari' featuring Atif Aslam (above). Other names that will lend their vocals to upcoming releases include Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, Waqar Ehsan, Jabir Abbas, Khurram Waqar, Qasim Azhar, and the band Khamaaj.

"Ammi was always strict and really busy, but it was always inspiring to see her work so hard," says Sarang as he recalls his childhood. "Her dedication towards her work had a positive impact on me and I've long dreamt of working with passion like hers."

"I wanted different renowned music artists to collaborate with Ammi, singing her very own compositions," says Sarang. "Unfortunately, what most people still don't know is that 99% of the kalaams that my mother has sung in her entire life were composed by her, and she has set a world record for having composed hundreds of kalaams."

A quest to revisit those kalams and see them in a new light as well as the chance to create new songs led to the production of the web series. The words of celebrated ancient poets and Sufis will form the basis of the songs.

"Ammi has selected poetry by the likes of Hazrat Bedam Shah Warsi r.a, Hazrat Shah Niaz Barelvi r.a, Hazrat Baba Bulleh Shah r.a, Hazrat Baba Zaheen Shah Taji r.a, Hazrat Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai r.a, Hazrat Amir Khusro r.a, Hazrat Maulana Rumi r.a, Hazrat Moinuddin Chishti r.a, Faiz Ahmad Faiz sahab, Gulzar sahab, Hazrat Ghalib, and Sabir Zafar sahab. Amanat Ali and myself have arranged the music for the whole project."

Sarang Latif with his legendary mother Abida Parveen

The series really was a labour of love for the producer who says he took the initiative all on his own, and executed the whole project without

any sponsors whatsoever. Unable to find the appropriate venue for filming the performances, Sarang, along with his wife Shireen Benazir Bijarani, came up with the idea of building the set at his own studio hall. The production was handled by his friends at Placid Films, who "understood the concept really well and worked extremely hard at odd times" to make the series happen.

The songs are being released online not just because of the high expenses that would have been required to release the set on television, but because the producer feels that "people are more into YouTube and Facebooking rather than watching TV, so it felt more appropriate to release it online so that people can watch it whenever they want."

Sarang says that working on the project was a remarkable experience, not just for himself but clearly for everyone else who was part of the team as well. "There are many memorable incidents that happened during the project, but the one that touched my heart the most was during a shoot, when Ammi was singing. One of the cameramen, Tayyab, left his camera unintentionally and started listening to her, forgetting his job totally and then all of a sudden everybody noticed him sitting down without his camera, lost in Ammi's soulful voice."

Courtesy: Dawn

In pictures: Cricket brings together Pakistani, Indian fans across borders

Given the frosty ties between both countries, the teams have recently only played each other in major world tournaments.

Pakistan vs India matches are hotly



anticipated by cricket fans on both sides of the border as well as around the world. Given the two countries' frosty relations, the two teams have only been playing each other in major world tournaments, making this World Cup clash a rarity.

The World Cup 2019 group stage match between the two teams was sold out just hours after the tickets went on sale for the 26,000-capacity Old Trafford Stadium in Manchester. Millions more were tuned in to catch the action broadcast on TV sets and cellphones.

Courtesy: Dawn

Pakistan Army wins international military drill competition in UK

Pakistan Army has won an international military drill competition held at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in the United Kingdom.

"Pakistan Army won an international military drill competition, known as Pace Sticking Competition, held today at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, UK," a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR).

The military's media wing added that Pakistan Army team has been the winner for the second consecutive year.

Last year, Pakistan Army participated for the first time in the event.

According to ISPR, Pakistan Military Academy team represented Pakistan Army in the competition.

In October 2018, an 11-member Pakistan Army team won gold medal in Cambrian Patrol competition held in Wales.

Members of the team were all brave soldiers of a battalion of Northern Light Infantry and hailed from Gilgit-Baltistan.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

Tour de Khunjerab 2019: one of the highest altitude cycling competitions is underway in GB

More than 70 local and international cyclists are taking part in the Tour de Khunjerab cycling race one of the world's highest altitude cycling competitions that started on Thursday and will end on June 30.

The event has been organised by the Gilgit-Baltistan government in collaboration with Pakistan Cycling Federation to promote tourism in the region. The first phase of the event came to an end on Thursday in which 138 contestants paddled 67 kilometres from Gilgit to the Rakaposhi base camp.

The cyclists are expected to arrive on Sunday at



the highest placed international border between Pakistan and China at an altitude of 16,000 feet, covering a distance of 27 kilometres in four stages.

The first stage was from Gilgit city to Rakaposhi base camp of Nagar district. The second stage is from Rakaposhi base camp to Karimabad in Hunza, third at Sust and the race will end at Khunjerab pass.

Courtesy: Dawn

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