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Sindh Launches Independence Day Festivities from August 1

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Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah has announced that the province will begin its Independence Day celebrations on August 1, with a series of events planned across cities to promote national pride and unity.

Speaking at a press conference at the Chief Minister House on Wednesday, Shah said the activities will be held under the theme *Marka-e-Haq* to highlight the significance of Pakistan's independence and patriotic spirit. He was joined by Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon and Energy Minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah.

The chief minister stated that the federal government's economic initiative, *Uraan Pakistan*, will also be featured during the celebrations.

A variety of public events are scheduled throughout the month. A decoration competition will award prizes to the best-adorned buildings, vehicles, and private cars. On the night between August 13 and 14, a concert and fireworks show will take place at the National Stadium in Karachi.

Other key events include:

- a concert at Rani Bagh in Hyderabad on August 8
- a public programme in Sukkur on August 10
- a cultural float procession from Sea View to Boat Basin
- a women's cycling rally from Karachi to Chaukhandi
- 114 sports events organized by the Sindh Sports Department

On August 10, a marathon and a traditional donkey cart race will take place from Sea View to Frere Hall. A cricket match between Mayor XI and Ministers XI is also scheduled. Another match between Qalandars XI and Bhitai XI at Moin Khan Academy on August 9 will feature the chief minister himself.

Additional activities include a boat race and concert at Jehangir Kothari Parade. Shah assured the business community of full provincial support for any Independence Day-related activities they plan.

August 11 will be marked as Minorities Day, with the Minorities Department organizing a central event. A large-scale programme is also planned to recognize persons with disabilities.

The chief minister also announced a protest event on August 5 against the revocation of Kashmir's special status. Other festivities include vintage car and heavy bike rallies, painting and musical contests, poetry sessions, a rickshaw rally, and the formation of a human flag.

The police and traffic departments have been directed to implement a traffic management plan, and the public has been urged to cooperate.

Shah invited all political parties to participate and confirmed that schools will remain open during the celebrations. From August 9 to 11, the annual Urs of Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai will

be observed, incorporating Independence Day themes.