News Digest

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27 January - 02 February 2025

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Tourismsustainable future
Aceeuum-Jhelum
Gilgit-Baltistan
CPEC Business Center
Mangla Dam Housing Authority
athoa-Haryam bridge
motorway projects
infrastructure



MANOHAR PARRIKAR INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

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Political Developments

Tourism best source of income for local population in GB

The Nation, 27 January 2025

The development and prosperity of Gilgit Baltistan (GB) were the top priority of the Federal Government and in this regard, various projects of development had been launched for the promotion of the tourism sector, health facilities, improvement in the education sector and mitigate the pressure of unemployment in this area. An official source told that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has recently announced а series of mega projects for the development development of the remote areas of the GB. He said the incumbent regime also focused on developing the road network and connectivity of slum areas with each other to facilitate the local community. The local government also upgrading the basic health units in the far-flung areas of the GB, he said. He underlined that tourism is a lucrative business of the local community and in this regard, GB government provides training facilities to the youth of the area. Tourism is the best source of income for the local population, as millions of tourists visit this area every year. He commended the federal government's efforts in promoting tourism and emphasized the need for its enhancement. He proposed the establishment of camping sites and tourism facilitation centers across all provinces aimed at facilitating tourists attractions. promoting and local

highlighted Furthermore, he the importance of extensive promotion of the Salam Pakistan portal, a dedicated platform designed to guide and assist tourists visiting Pakistan. He stressed significance leveraging the of technology to provide seamless experiences for travellers.

https://www.nation.com.pk/27-Jan-2025/tourismbest-source-of-income-for-local-population-in-gb

'Azad Kashmir' police discuss steps to arrest attackers of speaker's convoy

Dawn, 28 January 2025

Senior officials of the 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK) police held multiple rounds of meetings on Monday to ensure that suspects involved in the firing on the convoy of 'AJK' Legislative Assembly Speaker Chaudhry Latif Akbar were brought to justice.

According to a statement, Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwarul Haq condemned the attack and directed the Inspector General of Police (IGP) and the chief secretary to take swift and decisive action against perpetrators.

In the wake of the incident, SSP Muzaffarabad Riaz Haider Bukhari visited Speaker Akbar in his chamber on Monday.

"This is not about me as an individual; it is about the sanctity of the third most important constitutional office of the state. If the speaker's life is not secure, it sends a chilling message of insecurity to the common people," the speaker told the district police chief. The SSP assured him of swift action.

"I have directed the DIG and the SSP to arrest the accused and ensure merit regardless of any political consideration," Mr Jabbar told Dawn.

On Monday, the speaker's office resembled a public meeting venue as hundreds of PPP workers and wellwishers visited him to express solidarity.

Addressing them, Mr Akbar reiterated that his life was no more precious than that of an ordinary citizen.

"Our leader Zulfikar Ali Bhutto embraced the gallows to safeguard the lives and property of the people without ever compromising on his principles. Similarly, Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto knowingly faced martyrdom, but remained unwavering in her commitment to democracy and the people," he said.

Reflecting on his constituency, commonly referred to as Khawra, Mr Akbar maintained that 40 years of his political life had been dedicated to promoting a democratic culture there, and only then did he witness the spring of progress.

He lauded PPP workers and sympathisers for maintaining peace and adhering to his directives in the aftermath of the incident.

"Today, I stand with my head held high. My 40 years of struggle have borne fruit, and awareness has triumphed over ignorance." Expressing gratitude to Pakistani and Kashmiri leadership, Mr Akbar said he was deeply humbled by the outpouring solidarity and prayers of from President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Senate, the Speaker of the National Assembly, PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, and several other central leaders of his party, as well as President Barrister Sultan Mahmood, Prime Minister Haq, and regional presidents and other leaders of PPP, PML-N and PTI.

Meanwhile, the Forum of the Speakers, comprising the National Assembly Speaker, Senate Chairman, and speakers of provincial and Gilgit-Baltistan assemblies, has expressed grave concern over the attack on the convoy of 'AJK' Speaker.

In a letter to the AJK police chief, the forum termed the act an affront to democratic institutions and highlighted reports of prior threats that were allegedly ignored by local authorities.

It called for an immediate inquiry, strict legal action against the perpetrators, and a comprehensive report within three days.

<u>https://www.dawn.com/news/1888131/azad-</u> <u>kashmir-police-discuss-steps-to-arrest-attackers-of-</u> <u>speakers-convoy</u>

Hunza Youth: From Passion to Progress

Pamir Times, 28 January 2025

In Hunza, the love for music and sports is undeniable. These activities bring

people together, create joy, and are an essential part of our culture. However, we must also ask ourselves: is this enough for the long-term development of our society?

Every season in Hunza revolves around sports and music. Winters are marked by vibrant festivals in almost every village. When spring arrives, the Hunza Sports Gala in Aliabad becomes the highlight, with tug of war, football, and volleyball engaging the youth. Summer is all about cricket and football tournaments, and even in autumn, similar events take place. This cycle repeats year after year, but is it leading us toward growth or holding us back?

Let me be clear: I am not against music or sports. They are important for recreation, unity, and passion. But we cannot allow these activities to dominate every aspect of our lives. Our focus must expand to include education, innovation, and leadership.

In Pakistan, where opportunities are scarce, can we really afford to rely solely on our interests? Can music and sports alone provide a sustainable future? The reality is, they often cannot. Society shapes who we become. If we limit ourselves to a small pond, like a shark, our growth will be stunted. But if we step into the vast ocean of possibilities, we can truly thrive.

Some might call me conservative or pessimistic for saying this, but I am simply being realistic. Hunza needs leaders, thinkers, and innovators now more than ever. Look at the issues we face today—if we don't have electricity in Hunza, isn't it a reflection of poor leadership? If we lack basic infrastructure or opportunities, who is responsible? We need individuals who can inspire change, not just through talent but through vision and action.

Our society's overemphasis on sports and music has created a comfort zone for the youth, but we must break out of it. It is time to balance our interests with practical goals that ensure growth for ourselves and future generations.

Imagine if the energy we put into organizing tournaments and festivals was directed toward educational initiatives, technological advancements, environmental or sustainability. Imagine if we empowered our youth to engineers, doctors, become entrepreneurs, or global leaders. The possibilities are endless, but only if we broaden our focus.

I am not criticizing the traditions we cherish; I am simply urging us to think bigger. Hunza has so much potential, but we need to step up. Let's celebrate sports and music, but let's also build a future where they are part of a larger, more diverse picture.

https://pamirtimes.net/2025/01/27/hunza-youthfrom-passion-to-progress/

Govt taking steps for promotion of tourism sector in GB

The Nation, 27 January 2025

The development and prosperity of Gilgit-Baltistan have been top priorities for the federal government. In this

regard, various development projects have been launched to promote the tourism sector, improve health facilities, enhance the education sector, and alleviate unemployment pressures in the region.

According to an official source, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has recently announced series of major а development projects for the remote areas of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB).He said that the current government is also focused on developing the road network and improving connectivity between remote areas to facilitate the community. The local local government is also upgrading basic health units in the far-flung areas of GB, he added.

He emphasized that tourism is a lucrative industry for the local community, and the GB government is providing training opportunities for the youth of the region. Tourism is the main source of income for the local population, as millions of tourists visit the area each year.

He commended the federal government's efforts in promoting tourism and stressed the need for further development in this area.

He proposed the establishment of camping sites and tourism facilitation centers across all provinces to facilitate tourists and promote local attractions. Furthermore, he highlighted the importance of extensively promoting the Salam Pakistan portal, a dedicated platform designed to guide and assist tourists visiting Pakistan. He stressed the significance of leveraging technology to provide seamless experiences for travellers.

https://www.nation.com.pk/27-Jan-2025/govttaking-steps-for-promotion-of-tourism-sector-in-gb

Pakistan will never compromise on issues of vital national interest including nuclear program and Kashmir issue: PM 'AJK'

Daily Parliament Times, 28 January 2025

Prime Minister 'Azad Kashmir' Ch. Anwarul Haq has said that Pakistan has been a strong proponent of Kashmiris' right to self-determination and a true advocate for Kashmiris at international forums.

In an interview to a private TV channel, the 'AJK' premier said that Kashmiris reserve the right to fight for their rights so long denied to them by India. Commenting on alleged interference by Pakistan in 'occupied Kashmir', the PM Haq said that India has been in the habit of doing malicious propaganda against Pakistan and its national institutions.

Lauding Pakistan for its fearless advocacy of Kashmir cause at global level, he said, "Pakistan will never compromise on the issues of vital national interest including nuclear program and the Kashmir issue". global war of Referring to the narratives, he said, "Indian agencies have invested billions of rupees to promote a war-narrative in 'Azad Kashmir' to weaken the relationship between 'Azad Kashmir' and Pakistan". He said that the people of

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the liberated territory were aware of the venomous propaganda being made by India against Pakistan. "Our ancestors have sacrificed their lives for the ideology of Pakistan", he said.

Citing Chief of the Pakistan Army General Asim Munir's policy statement on Kashmir, he said that the reiteration of Pakistan's principled stance and continued support to Kashmiris' legitimate struggle by the army chief had cleared the fog of doubts on the issue of Kashmir issue caused by India's 5th August 2019 move.

On accomplishment ongoing of development 'Azad projects in Kashmir', he said work was underway on the Rathua Haryam and Jagran Power Projects. The projects, he said, will be completed soon. Terming establishment of the first ever Danish Bhimber as School in а great achievement, he said that the state-ofthe-art project was a guarantee of a bright future. In response to a question, he said that the relationship of the people of 'Azad Kashmir' with the state of Pakistan was based on the KALIMA.

About formation of the Forward Block, he said that it was formed within the basis party (PTI) on the of disagreement over the governance issues. He said that the people's tax money should be spent on the welfare of people. He said that his government had taken landmark initiatives to improve governance, eradicate corruption and improve lives of ordinary citizens of the state. He,

however, maintained that years of deprivation cannot be ended in moments. The present government, he said, has restarted work to complete leftover work on the Rathoa-Haryam bridge, which he said was pending since past 17 years.

"Steps have been taken in collaboration with the federal government to prevent the climatic effects of the Neelum-Jhelum Hydel Power Project on the region's environment", he said. Replying to another query, he said, international law allows Kashmiris to wage an armed struggle against India.

https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2025/01/28 /pakistan-will-never-compromise-on-issues-ofvital-national-interest-including-nuclear-programand-kashmir-issue-pm-ajk/

Evolving Concepts of Security in the 21st Century

Pamir Times, 29 January 2024

The concept of security has undergone significant changes in the 21st century. In ancient times, people's understanding of security was limited to natural causes, such as death due to illness or natural calamities like earthquakes and floods. These were considered inevitable realities of life, and individuals were mentally prepared to accept them. Death, after all, is a universal truth that no one can deny. However, with the rapid advancement of technology and the onset of industrialization, the scope of security has expanded, and new challenges have emerged. These changes demand a shift in mindset and

preparedness, especially in rural areas where traditional beliefs still dominate.

Historically, people lived in simpler societies where the primary threats natural disasters or were the inevitability of death. Life revolved around basic survival, and external threats were limited to environmental factors or occasional conflicts. There was little awareness of other potential dangers because technology had not yet introduced risks such as road accidents, electric shocks, or industrial hazards. This traditional mindset shaped a worldview where security was perceived as something largely out of human control.

The advent of technology and industrialization brought has tremendous benefits to human life but has also introduced new dimensions of insecurity. Fifty years ago, road accidents and electric shocks were rare occurrences, particularly in regions like Pakistan. Today, they are frequent and claim thousands of lives annually. For example, poorly maintained roads, reckless driving, and the increasing use of electrical appliances without proper safety measures have become significant contributors to accidental deaths.

Industrialization has further complicated the concept of security by introducing workplace hazards, environmental pollution, and health risks associated with urbanization. As technology continues to advance, these risks are becoming more pronounced, requiring individuals and communities to adopt new strategies for mitigating them.

Pakistan. In rural areas of the traditional mindset still prevails. People are often unprepared to accept the new dimensions of insecurity technological brought about by advancements. When a loved one dies suddenly due to an electric shock or a road accident, families face severe emotional and psychological shocks. tragedies These are particularly devastating because they contradict the long-held belief that death is primarily caused by natural events.

Several factors contribute to this lack of preparedness in rural areas. First and foremost is many rural communities lack access to information about the risks associated with modern technology. Educational campaigns on road safety, electrical hazards, and other contemporary threats are scarce. Secondly, poorly constructed roads, absence of traffic regulations, and lack of proper safety standards for electrical installations exacerbate the risks. Lastly, traditional beliefs and cultural norms often hinder the acceptance of new ideas. People may view safety measures as unnecessary or overly cautious.

To address these challenges, it is essential to shift the mindset of individuals and communities. Adapting to the new realities of security in the 21st century requires a multi-faceted approach. The first step is to acknowledge that the concept of

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security has evolved. People must understand that risks such as road accidents. electric shocks. and industrial hazards are now part of daily life and require proactive measures to prevent them. Secondly, educational campaigns can play a vital role in raising awareness about modern safety risks. Schools, community centers, and local media should be utilized to disseminate information about road safety, electrical hazards. and emergency preparedness. Moreover, governments and local authorities must invest in improving infrastructure in rural areas. This building safer includes roads. traffic regulations, enforcing and ensuring proper installation and maintenance of electrical systems.

The 21st century has redefined the concept of security, introducing new that were previously dimensions unimaginable. While these changes have brought challenges, they also offer opportunities for growth and adaptation. In rural areas of Pakistan, where traditional beliefs often clash with modern realities, it is essential to promote awareness, improve infrastructure, and foster a culture of preparedness. By accepting the inevitability of change and embracing the tools and knowledge available, communities can mitigate the risks associated with modern life and build a safer, more resilient future. Death may remain an unavoidable reality, but the manner in which we address its causes and impacts can make a profound

difference in the quality of life for generations to come.

https://pamirtimes.net/2025/01/29/evolvingconcepts-of-security-in-the-21st-century/

Two injured in attack on 'AJK' Speaker Latif Akbar's convoy

Express Tribune, 27 January 2025

The convoy of 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK) Assembly Speaker Chaudhry Latif Akbar was attacked near Muzaffarabad, leaving two people injured. However, the speaker remained unharmed.

According to Express News, he was on his way to a political meeting in the outskirts of Muzaffarabad, near Khawara, when the shooting occurred. He confirmed the attack in a phone call, stating that his convoy was fired upon while he was en route to a political gathering.

Akbar informed Express News that just three days prior to the attack, his opponents had issued threats on social media, which he had reported to the administration and police. However, no preventive action was taken. The two injured individuals were taken to the hospital.

Following the incident, tensions escalated, leading to exchanges of gunfire between police and members of the Muslim Conference party as they attempted to control the situation.

Assistant Commissioner Rural Hamad Bashir stated that the administration is taking measures to control the situation, and that a few individuals had attacked the speaker's convoy with gunfire and stones.

According to AC Rural, a Pakistan People's Party worker was injured by both a bullet and a stone. Authorities are actively working to apprehend those responsible for the shooting, and the attackers later began firing at the police, though no casualties were reported.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Asif Ali Zardari strongly condemned the attack on the speaker's convoy, calling it a cowardly act. The PM directed the relevant authorities to ensure the swift capture of the attackers and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2524666/two-injuredin-attack-on-ajk-speaker-latif-akbars-convoy

Irregularities claim in the cricket trial of PCB in 'Azad Kashmir'

Daily Parliament Times, 29 January 2025

The worst rigging made in the cricket trial by PCB in 'Azad Kashmir'. Candidates were selected based on recommendation and political basis instead of performance. PCB Regional Coach Khan's appointed representative and local coordinator involved in collusion. The victims have appealed to PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi to resume the trial, otherwise they will be forced to protest in Islamabad.

According to the details, in the regional trial conducted by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) in 'Azad Kashmir', the recommendation made instead of the performance. The coach Arshad appointed by PCB and his representative Atiqur Rehman along with the local cricket association selected the candidates on the basis of recommendations and bribes.

In this regard, in Muzaffarabad, Bagh, Rawalakot, under-15, under-17 and under-19 participated in the last week's trial, neglected the ability and talent.

PCB rules were also ignored and no video of the trial was made. In Bagh and Muzaffarabad, the current and former government ministers also selected their boys on political grounds through pressure on the PCB coach, while tap ball players and inexperienced players were selected.

This is the reason that's why the appointed coach of PCB and his representative Atiqur Rehman kept the results of the trial hidden till the last moment and those who did not join the trial were selected later and their attendance was marked on the register.

It also had the support of the local cricket association in this disgusting game, while the director of sports in Bagh, Muzaffarabad and his assistant were also involved in this collusion.

In this regard, the affected Muhammad Aamir, Rizwan, Amad Ahmed, Muhammad Majid and others have said that the top officials of PCB should take responsibility for this abuse. They had complete evidence that merit has been violated in all regions of 'Azad Kashmir'. They added that they will contact the action committee and lawyers in this regard and will also protest if the PCB authorities do not remedy this.

https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2025/01/29 /irregularities-claim-in-the-cricket-trial-of-pcb-inazad-kashmir/

Economic Developments

Three major projects will start soon: President 'AJK'

Daily Parliament Times, 27 January 2025

President 'Azad Kashmir' Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has said that three major projects including construction of an international airport at Mirpur, construction of the Mirpur-Muzaffarabad, Mansehra motorway project and establishment of the CPEC Business Center would now be among his top priorities.

He made these assertions, while addressing an inauguration ceremony of his secretariat at Chatrapati. Reiterating his commitment to get these mega projects executed, he said, "Work on these projects will start soon and all our resources will be utilized to ensure timely completion of the projects".

Urging his voters and supporters to get ready for the upcoming elections, he said, "There is no need to rely on others, I will issue tickets for all the 13 constituencies of the Mirpur division with my own hands in the upcoming elections". Barrister Chaudhry expressed the optimism that his ticket holders from Mirpur division would win the election thumping majority." I have formally launched a public outreach campaign by inaugurating my secretariat today", he said, adding that the scope of this outreach campaign would soon expand to every nook and cranny of the state. Referring to 3 big promises he had made during the last election campaign, Barrister Chaudhry said that the Rathoa Haryam Bridge project has started. He said that PC-1 of the Mangla Dam Housing Authority regarding accommodation of sub-families has been approved in the 20th Board of Governors meeting while construction of the parking plaza project was in the final stages.

On the occasion, the 'AJK' President expressed his profound gratitude to the people of Mirpur for their consistent support and electing him as a member of the assembly nine times. Pertinently, Barrister Chaudhry is the only politician from 'AJK' who has the honour and privilege of being elected as a member of the assembly nine times.

Terming development of his constituency as his first and foremost priority, he said that he has the honour to launch major development projects in the city." Major projects like removal of illegal encroachments from the city, widening of roads, establishment of Lorry depot, vegetable market and Mian Muhammad Bakhsh Library were initiated during my tenure", he maintained.

Expressing satisfaction over the incumbent government's performance, he said the coalition government was

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performing well and doing its every bit to solve public problems." A historic health package has been approved for better provision of health facilities to citizens in the State", the president said, adding that the package would bring revolutionary changes in the health sector. He said that the government would soon announce a historic education package.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by Minister for Electricity Chaudhry Arshad Hussain, Minister for Physical Planning and Housing Chaudhry Yasir Sultan, Minister for Public Works Chaudhry Azhar Sadiq, and a large number of workers and supporters of the president.

https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2025/01/27 /three-major-projects-will-start-soon-president-ajk/

'Revival of construction industry is vital for boosting employment'

Business Recorder, 29 January 2025

The construction industry often referred to as the backbone of Pakistan's economy, its revival is essential for boosting employment, economic growth, driving and attracting investment stated by Nazir Hussain, President Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) during a think tank session held at PCJCCI Secretariat Tuesday.

He added that this critical sector influences 72 interconnected industries which play a central role in driving economic growth, creating employment opportunities, and attracting significant investments. With the potential to unlock \$100 billion in investments and create millions of jobs, the revival of the construction industry is vital for Pakistan's economic recovery.

He also stressed that supportive government policies will play a crucial role in unlocking the full potential of construction the industry. Tax reductions, affordable mortgage schemes, and streamlined regulatory processes are essential for creating an environment conducive to growth. By addressing sectoral barriers, the government can pave the way for increased investment and industrial development. These measures, coupled with CPEC's infrastructure projects, will lay the groundwork for sustainable progress.

Brig Mansoor Saeed Sheikh (Retd) Senior Vice President PCJCCI shared that China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) provides an unparalleled opportunity to rejuvenate the construction industry and boost the nation's economy.

As a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative, CPEC has been a driving force behind infrastructure development in Pakistan.

From roads and bridges to industrial zones and housing projects, the partnership between CPEC and the construction industry promises to accelerate growth, attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), and introduce advanced technologies. Additionally, CPEC's focus on enhancing regional connectivity will boost trade and commerce, creating a ripple effect across multiple sectors.

Zafar Iqbal, Vice President PCJCCI said that the construction sector's resurgence will have a far-reaching impact, invigorating a wide range of industries such as cement, steel, ceramics, real estate, and IT solutions.

Core construction materials, energy providers, interior finishing, and smart technology are just a few examples of the 72 interconnected industries poised to thrive alongside a revitalized construction sector.

This interconnected network will generate a multiplier effect, strengthening Pakistan's economic foundation and ensuring long-term resilience.

Salahuddin Hanif, Secretary General PCJCCI shared that the revival of Pakistan's construction industry is not just a sectoral priority it is a national imperative. Its growth will eliminate unemployment, boost industrial output, and enhance the quality of life for millions of Pakistanis.

Policymakers, industry leaders, and stakeholders must collaborate to advocate for reforms that will rejuvenate this critical sector and capitalize on the opportunities presented by CPEC. Together, these efforts can ensure a robust and sustainable economic future for Pakistan.

<u>https://www.brecorder.com/news/40345153/revival</u> <u>-of-construction-industry-is-vital-for-boosting-</u> <u>employment</u>

From Vernacular Urdu Media

A grand solidarity march for Kashmiris to be held in capital city of Muzaffarabad on February 2: Dr. Mushtaq

Jammu and Kashmir Times, 28 January 2025

The head of Jamaat-e-Islami, 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' and Gilgit Baltistan, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Khan said that from February 1 to February 5 in solidarity of Kashmiris, multiple functions will be organised. On February 2, in the capital city of Muzaffarabad, a grand solidarity march in favour of Kashmiris will be taken out. In this march, head of Pakistan, Hafiz Jamaat-e-Islami Naveem ur Rehman will also join in as special guest. For participating in the march and to show solidarity with all Kashmiris, political leaders of all orientations, social and religious lawyers, personalities, traders, students, and women are requested to participate in bigger numbers for the solidarity of Kashmiri's who are busy in fighting a liberation movement. This march is to tell the Kashmiris that they are not alone and entire Pakistan and Kashmiris are with them. Dr. Mushtaq said that the Kashmiri's struggle for freedom is a case of life and death for them for which Kashmiri's have given countless lives. He further said that India is killing Kashmiri's and has forcibly 'occupied' Kashmir. Condemning the Indian security forces human rights violations, he urged upon the international community to

take notice of the deteriorating situation in the region.

<u>https://jammukashmirtimes.com/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2025/01/Resize-of-FRONT-</u> <u>PAGE-28.jpg</u>

Prime Minister 'Azad Kashmir' condemns attack on Latif Akbar's convoy

Jammu and Kashmir Times, 28 January 2025

Prime Minister 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir', Chaudhary Anwar ul Haq took notice of the attack on Latif Akbar's convoy and ordered that those behind the attacks be sternly dealt as per law. The speaker of 'Azad Jammu Kashmir' Assembly, and (AJK) Chaudhry Latif Akbar, who was on a visit to his constituency faced attack on his convoy but fortunately remained unharmed. Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq condemned the attack on Speaker Latif Akbar's convoy and sought a detailed report of the incident from the Chief Secretary and Inspector General of Police.

https://jammukashmirtimes.com/wpcontent/uploads/2025/01/Resize-of-FRONT-PAGE-28.jpg

Progress of state is impossible without making its women successful and independent: Tanveer Ilyas

Jammu and Kashmir Times, 29 January 2025

Masrat Kiyani led a delegation of women and met with former Prime Minister of 'Azad Kashmir' and President of Istekam Pakistan Party 'Azad Kashmir', Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan. During the meeting, 'occupied Kashmir', political situation of 'Azad Kashmir', and different challenges faced by the women in 'Azad Kashmir' were discussed at great length. On this occasion, former prime minister of 'Azad Kashmir' said that for the progress and development of 'Azad Kashmir', women's role remains crucial. Without women's success and independence, prosperity and development cannot be achieved. For ease in travel of women, Ilyas Khan during his tenure had started pink bus services. After 32 years he gave people their democratic rights and started the local bodies elections. Despite shortage of resources, we conducted peaceful local bodies elections, he said. Through а well thought out conspiracy, I was removed from the seat, Khan told Kiyani. Even I increased reservation seats for women in the local bodies elections. And if I was in power, I would have increased reservation seats for women for the assembly elections, too. On this occasion Masrat Kiyani and other women thanked Tanver Ilyas.

<u>https://jammukashmirtimes.com/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2025/01/Resize-of-PAGE-03-1-</u> <u>22.jpg</u>

From Social Media

JAMIL NAGRI @jamilnagri

2 February 2025

Climate change is an existential threat to people of #Gilgit_Baltistan. It is still being considered a myth even after having experience of it devastation.

Link to the tweet:

https://x.com/jamilnagri/status/188613682338402 7389

WAJAHAT ALI @wajahatgilgiti

29 January 2025

Gilgit-Baltistan is a part of Pakistan. Those who are running a movement are enemies of GB, says Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Amir Muqam.

#pakistan #gilgitbaltistan #pmln

Link to the video:

https://x.com/wajahatgilgiti/status/1884338937314 812211

PAMIR Times @pamirtimes

27 January 2025

Hunza Youth: From Passion to Progress

Link to the tweet:

https://x.com/pamirtimes/status/188389861582929 1106

WAJAHAT ALI @wajahatgilgiti

28 January 2025

Khalid Khurshid lashes out at the institution that made him the Chief Minister. PTI is an expert in turning truth into lies. Iman Shah explodes. #gilgitbaltistan #pti #chiefminister
#imrankhan #politics #advisor
#establishment

Link to the tweet:

https://x.com/wajahatgilgiti/status/1884265186527 437081

Weekly POK News Digest

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27 January - 02 February 2025

Compiled by Mohd. Usman Bhatti and Muneeb Yousuf

> **Edited By** Dr. Smruti S Pattanaik

Disclaimer

PoK weekly News Digest is a collection of news reports and press releases published in various newspapers and local media related to Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK), referred to as 'Azad Kashmir' and 'Gilgit Baltistan' by the government of Pakistan. The news reports have been edited and abridged to provide clarity. MP-IDSA is not responsible for the accuracy and authenticity of the news items.



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