

# Weekly POK News Digest

*(A weekly news digest on Pakistan Occupied Kashmir)*

Volume 3 | Issue 47

20 November - 26 November 2023

new Melting Gilgit  
flights glaciers green  
POK climate airport  
Gilgit-Baltistan fund



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

No. 1, Development Enclave, Rao Tula Ram Marg  
New Delhi-110 010

## Contents

### Political Developments

- Vote for JI for Palestine and 'IIOJK's freedom: Siraj
- India making Kashmiri youth drug addicts: Attique
- PM sees no peace sans Kashmir issue settlement
- APHC-'AJK' holds protest outside Indian High Commission in Islamabad
- Kashmir's EU Week is to begin in Brussels, the European headquarters early next month
- Electricity crisis in 'IIOJK' exposes tall claims of Modi regime
- The Modi regime's plan to change the demography of Kashmir needs a serious response from 'AJK' leadership
- India attempting to defame Pakistan, Kashmiris' struggle through propaganda
- 'IIOJK' women constantly being subjected to violence by Indian troops: APHC

### Economic Developments

- PIA, CAA directed to submit a report on ATR plane's operational life
- Facing melting glaciers, Hunzais fight for the future

### Vernacular Urdu Media

- The rise in siege and search operations in 'IIOJK' region is concerning: Mahmood Ahmad Sagar
- The Australian High Commissioner met with Sirajul Haq and discussed Pakistan-Australia relations, Palestine, and the Kashmir issue
- Anjuman-e-Imamia, Ahle Sunnat-wal Jamaat organization, supported the protest movement in GB
- The 'Indian terrorist network' poses a threat to global peace: Mushaal Hussein Mullick

## Political Developments

### **Vote for JI for Palestine and 'IIOJK's freedom: Siraj**

*The Express Tribune, 20 November 2023*

Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) chief Sirajul Haq said that only his party could achieve freedom for Palestine and 'Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK) and that was why it should be voted into power in the next elections. The leadership of the so-called major political parties are silent on the oppression in Gaza, he told the participants of a march organised in Lahore by the JI to express solidarity with the Palestinian people. The JI chief maintained that PPP Co-Chairperson Asif Ali Zardari and PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif were quiet on the issue of Gaza, adding that Asif Zardari and Nawaz Sharif's agenda is personal interest and their families. The people [of Pakistan] cannot progress even for 100 years if they remain in power, he added. Hamas leader Dr Nawaf Tahriri also addressed the participants of the Gaza march online.

He maintained that India was also afraid that if the residents of Gaza succeeded despite the modern weapons and technology of Israel, then the people of 'IIOJK' would defeat New Delhi as well. Siraj said his agenda was the interest of Pakistan; the freedom of 'IIOJK' and Palestine; the return of Dr Aafia Siddiqui, the rule of the Holy Quran and Sunnah in the country, eradication of interest from the

financial system, and the establishment of justice.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2447222/Vote-for-JI-for-Palestine-and-IIOJK%E2%80%99s-freedom:-Siraj>

### **India making Kashmiri youth drug addicts: Attique**

*Daily Parliament Times, 21 November 2023*

Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan, ex-Premier of 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK), has condemned the Indian plot to make Kashmiri youth drug addicts as part of 'occupation forces' ugly plan to physically disable the younger generation in the Valley. It is outright condemnable anti-human scheming to render a population disabled, he said in his World Children's Day today being observed in Jammu and Kashmir. He urged the civilized world, and the human rights organizations to help foil Kashmiri youth drug addiction conspiracy in 'India-held' parts of Jammu And Kashmir State. Kashmiris reject the presence of 'Indian occupation' machinery as forcible aliens. Because of this open rejection, India has given control of 'held Kashmir' to over one million armed forces. India is distorting the cultural identity of the Kashmiris as part of its move to change the demography of the region.

<https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2023/11/21/india-making-kashmiri-youth-drug-addicts-attique/>

## **PM sees no peace sans Kashmir issue settlement**

*Dawn, 22 November 2023*

Peace in the region could not be guaranteed until the resolution of the Kashmir dispute, Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar said but stressed that Pakistan would not indulge in an arms race. Let me make it clear that there can be no peace without the settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue, the premier said in his address at the graduation ceremony of the officers at the Pakistan Air Force Academy Asghar Khan, Risalpur. Pakistan is a peace-loving nation and wishes to maintain friendly relations with all countries, especially its neighbors, he said, insisting that the country's desire for peace 'must not be understood as weakness.' He highlighted that the rapidly changing geo-strategic environment profoundly impacted Pakistan and the rest of the region. Therefore, the situation demands advancements in space networks, cyber technology, nanotechnology, and artificial intelligence, he said. He expressed satisfaction that PAF had modernised itself through the smart induction of cutting-edge technology and achieved progress in non-contact warfare through indigenous means.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1791395/pm-sees-no-peace-sans-kashmir-issue-settlement>

## **APHC-'AJK' holds protest outside Indian High Commission in Islamabad**

*Pakistan Observer, 22 November 2023*

The All Parties Hurriyat Conference-'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (APHC-AJK) chapter held a protest demonstration outside the Indian High Commission in Islamabad. The demonstration was led by APHC-'AJK' Convener Mahmood Ahmad Saghar. Speakers including Saghar reiterated the resolve of Kashmiris to take the martyrs' mission to its logical end at all costs. They said that India was committing 'systematic genocide' of Kashmiris by killing them in 'fake encounters' while the troops used drones and chemical weapons during so-called search and siege operations. The leaders said that India was trying to change the Muslim majority status of the 'occupied territory' into a minority region by 'massacring Kashmiri Muslims.'

The leaders said that without resolving the Kashmir dispute in the light of resolutions of the United Nations and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people, sustainable peace and security in South Asia will remain a distant dream. They urged the United Nations and international human rights organizations to play their role in the early release of Hurriyat leaders and activists illegally detained in the jails of India and occupied Jammu and

Kashmir. Pakistan Council for Social Welfare and Human Rights Pir Ali Raza Bukhari also spoke on this occasion.

<https://pakobserver.net/aphc-ajk-holds-protest-outside-indian-high-commission-in-islamabad/>

### **Kashmir's EU Week is to begin in Brussels, the European headquarters early next month**

*Daily Parliament Times, 22 November 2023*

The Chairman of Kashmir Council-European Union (KC-EU) Ali Raza Syed in a statement in Brussels announced the week-long event on Kashmir which includes the conduct of seminars, conferences, a media conference and debates, and a photo exhibition at the European Press Club Brussels and the European Parliament. There would also be several meetings with European officials, members of the European Parliament, and representatives of civil society and human rights organizations during the Kashmir EU Week starting on 5th December 2023. Ali Raza Syed said the week-long programs of Kashmir's EU week have been organized by KC-EU for many years and the purpose of such programs is to highlight Kashmir issues including the miseries of oppressed Kashmiris and the beauty of Kashmir's culture in Europe. He urged the international community especially the EU to put pressure on India to immediately end the crimes of Indian security forces against the people of

'occupied Jammu and Kashmir' and grant them the right to self-determination according to the UN's resolutions on Kashmir.

<https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2023/11/22/kashmirs-eu-week-is-to-begin-in-brussels-the-european-headquarters-early-next-month/>

### **Electricity crisis in 'IIOJK' exposes tall claims of Modi regime**

*Pakistan Observer, 23 November 2023*

The ongoing worst power crisis in 'India illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK) has exposed to the fullest the tall claims about development made by the Narendra Modi-led Indian government at the time of its decision to repeal the special status of the territory. According to Kashmir Media Service, the continued power cuts have caused a wave of anxiety and stress for the local populace. The people are battling the harsh cold on one hand, and coping with the mental health effects of frequent power cuts and electricity shortages, on the other. The occupied territory experiences widespread power outages during the winter months. The electricity remains missing for days, affecting the homes and businesses. The situation is particularly dire in Srinagar downtown and many rural areas, where power cuts have become an unwelcome norm.

Dr Yasir Hassan Rathar, professor at the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS), Srinagar,

said, the lack of adequate heating and lighting can worsen symptoms of Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), while the disruption to routines and social interactions can exacerbate anxiety and depression. The head of the Department of Psychiatry, IMHANS Kashmir, Dr Maqbool Dar said that light and mood have a direct connection. This is especially true during the winter months when there is less daylight. If a person doesn't receive enough light, they may experience Seasonal affective disorder (SAD), a type of depression that occurs during specific seasons, he said. On the other hand, erratic and unscheduled power cuts have wreaked havoc on the industrial sector of the 'occupied' territory, witnessing a staggering decline of over 70 percent in production. Business leaders have criticized the authorities for their failure to ensure a stable power supply.

<https://pakobserver.net/electricity-crisis-in-iiojk-exposes-tall-claims-of-modi-regime/>

### **The Modi regime's plan to change the demography of Kashmir needs a serious response from 'AJK' leadership**

*Pakistan Observer, 23 November 2023*

Leaders of the Kashmiri diaspora at a meeting in Washington have said that the contemptible plan of the Narendra Modi-led Indian government to change the demographic character of Jammu and Kashmir needs very serious strategic planning by 'Azad Kashmir',

leadership at this crucial stage in the history of Kashmir. According to Kashmir Media Service, the meeting was hosted by Sardar Zarif Khan, advisor to the president of 'Azad Kashmir, at his residence in Washington. The meeting was presided over by Shafi Khan, a well-known community leader. Sardar Zarif Khan said that it is a fact that the leadership of all political parties in 'Azad Kashmir' has exhibited strong sensitivity to the cause of Kashmir, however, the contemptible plan of the Modi Administration to change the demographic character of Kashmir needs very serious strategic planning by 'Azad Kashmir' leadership at this crucial stage in the history of Kashmir.

Zarif added that we may belong to different political parties in 'Azad Kashmir' but in Washington, we belong only to the nation and people of Kashmir. We want to be the voice of voiceless people of 'occupied Kashmir' in the corridors of power, be it Washington, New York, or else. Dr Ghulam Nabi Fai, the Chairman of the World Forum for Peace and Justice, said it is a fact that the situation in 'Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK) has dramatically changed, particularly since 5 August 2019, and it will not be an exaggeration to say that the people of the 'occupied' territory are facing an existential threat. Indian colonialist rulers have put their machinery in motion which is fast moving to accelerate the process of



genocide they have systematically put in place through their proxies since 27 October 1947. Fai stressed that the Kashmiri Diaspora leadership not only has to maintain its narrative, but the narrative should be equally coherent. We do not need to invent it. It is already there with international sanctity.

Sardar Zulfiqar Roshan Khan said upon his return to 'Azad Kashmir', he will try to contact intellectuals, scholars, journalists, and academics of 'Azad Kashmir', who have a deep and thorough understanding of the Kashmir dispute and these individuals should keep themselves well acquainted about the day-to-day happenings in 'occupied Kashmir.' Their job will be to mobilize public opinion among the civil society and the foreign diplomatic corps in Islamabad. Zulfiqar added that soon after the election in Pakistan, a person will be appointed to be the Chairman of the Parliamentary Kashmir Committee. He said he would lobby that the Chairperson of this committee should be an individual who has a strong understanding of Kashmir's history, and current situation in the realm of international scenario. This person should be very energetic, endowed with excellent communication skills, and have the freedom to include former well-reputed diplomats in the committee as advisors. Shoaib Irshad, Joint Secretary of Kashmir American Welfare Association (KAWA) stated that the people of 'Azad Kashmir' have

always stood by the Kashmiris in this endeavor, and other countries of the world should take note of the atrocities being committed by India against the people of 'occupied Kashmir.'

<https://pakobserver.net/modi-regimes-plan-to-change-demography-of-kashmir-needs-serious-response-from-ajk-leadership/>

### **India attempting to defame Pakistan, Kashmiris' struggle through propaganda**

*Pakistan Observer, 24 November 2023*

India is attempting to defame Pakistan and the indigenous freedom movement of the people of 'Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK) by resorting to malicious propaganda. A report released by Kashmir Media said India has activated its stooges within and outside 'occupied Kashmir' to discredit Pakistan and stoke anti-Pakistan feelings among the Kashmiris. It said India has a habit of unleashing unsubstantiated propaganda against Pakistan and the Kashmiris' just struggle and through its disinformation campaign is trying to criminalize the Kashmiris' resistance to its 'illegal occupation.' The report deplored that the Narendra Modi-led Indian government is using media, cyber technology, and terrorism as major hybrid tools against Pakistan and the Kashmiris and trying to equate the Kashmir freedom movement with terrorism through false flag operations and concerted propaganda.

It claimed the anti-Pakistan and anti-Kashmiris campaign has increased rapidly since Hindutva-inspired RSS took over as the new police chief in 'IIOJK.' The report said Pakistan has been raising its voice for the Kashmiris' struggle to secure their UN-pledged right to self-determination for the last seven decades. It said that India must remember that Pakistan's unshakable support has remained a morale-booster for the Kashmiri people. India is a known 'state-sponsor of terrorism' and, promoter of anti-Pakistan propaganda. The Modi regime will fail in its machinations to defame Pakistan and the Kashmir freedom struggle, it said. The report deplored that the Modi regime is also using educational institutions, and religious centers in 'occupied Kashmir' to advance the Hindutva agenda in the territory.

<https://pakobserver.net/india-attempting-to-defame-pakistan-kashmiris-struggle-through-propaganda/>

### **'IIOJK' women constantly being subjected to violence by Indian troops: APHC**

*Pakistan Observer, 26 November 2023*

The All Parties Hurriyat Conference-'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (APHC-AJK) chapter has said that Indian troops are continuously subjecting the women in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir to violence. According to Kashmir Media Service, the APHC-'AJK' Convener Mahmood

Ahmed Saghar, General Secretary Sheikh Abdul Mateen, and Secretary Information, Imtiyaz Wani in a joint statement in Islamabad, on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women expressed concern over the miserable plight of women in the 'occupied' territory. They said Kashmiri women are bravely facing the Indian brutalities and playing an important role in the ongoing freedom movement. The APHC-'AJK' leaders deplored that Indian troops are using molestation of the Kashmiri women as a weapon of war to suppress the Kashmiris' freedom struggle. They added that the Indian forces' personnel had killed thousands of people extra-judicially or subjected them to custodial disappearance, which affected thousands of women, who are known as 'half widows'.

The leaders deplored that India was indiscriminately using bullets and pellets in the territory and blinded many men and women. They claimed that India was using every brutal tactic to suppress the ongoing freedom movement but would fail in its nefarious designs and the people of Kashmir would continue their struggle till complete success. They also condemned the arrest of the wife of illegally detained APHC leader, Sarjan Barkati, in the Shopian district of occupied Kashmir by the Delhi-controlled State Investigation Agency



(SIA). They urged world human rights organizations to take cognizance of the Indian brutalities on the women in 'IIOJK.'

<https://pakobserver.net/iiojk-women-constantly-being-subjected-to-violence-by-indian-troops-aphc/>

## **Economic Developments**

### **PIA, CAA directed to submit a report on ATR plane's operational life**

*Dawn, 23 November 2023*

The Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) Supreme Appellate Court (SAC) has directed the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) to submit a report on the operational life of ATR aircraft on the Gilgit-Islamabad route and the reasons behind technical faults in these flights. Chief Justice of SAC Sardar Muhammad Shamim Khan issued the directives while presiding over a suo moto hearing related to PIA's ATR flights on the Gilgit-Islamabad route. The people of GB pleaded that the operational life of PIA's ATR planes had expired, posing an extreme risk, with frequent technical faults causing delays at Gilgit Airport. They highlighted incidents where CAA had grounded ATR flights, and two ATR aircraft had crashed in hilly areas, resulting in loss of lives.

In September, Chief Justice Shamim Khan took suo moto notice of the case, and in compliance with court orders, PIA's chief technical officer, chief commercial officer, and CAA's

controller (North) appeared before the court on Wednesday. PIA's chief technical officer told the court that ATR planes, purchased in 2006, are supposed to complete 70 thousand flight cycles, of which only half have been completed. Chief Justice Shamim Khan asked, 'Then why are technical faults emerging in ATR flights?' The CAA representative told the court that the authority has already prepared a feasibility report for a new airport in the Sultanabad area of Gilgit. Expressing dissatisfaction, Chief Justice Shamim Khan rejected it and ordered a new submission for the next hearing.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1791694/pia-cao-directed-to-submit-report-on-atr-planes-operational-life>

### **Facing melting glaciers, Hunzais fight for the future**

*Dawn, 24 November 2023*

On the steep slope of a glacier jutting through the Hunza Valley, Tariq Jamil measures the ice's movement and snaps photos. Later, he creates a report that includes data from sensors and another camera installed near the Shisper glacier to update his village an hour's hike downstream. The 51-year-old's mission: mobilise his community of 200 families in Hassanabad to fight for a future for their village and way of life, increasingly under threat from unstable lakes formed by melting glacier ice. After all the sensors are installed, village representatives will be able to monitor data through their

mobiles, Mr Jamil says. Local wisdom is very important: we are the main observers. We have witnessed many things, he added.

Hassanabad is part of the UN-backed Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) II project to help communities downstream of melting glaciers adapt. When glacial lakes overflow or their banks become unsound, they burst, sparking deadly floods that wash out bridges and buildings and wipe out fertile land throughout the Hindu Kush, Karakoram, and Himalayan mountain ranges. Himalayan glaciers are on track to lose up to 75 percent of their ice by the century's end due to global warming, according to the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD). Amid a shortfall in funding for those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, village residents say they urgently need increased support to adapt to threats of glacial lake floods.

Over the past three years, residents repeatedly evacuated just in time to avoid loss of life, and many fear a flood while they sleep. Others struggle financially as their land and homes were destroyed, most recently in 2022. Seeking international funding, they aim to expand the barrier wall 20-fold. Additionally, they seek interest-free loans for rebuilding homes with stronger materials and enhancing mobile reception for improved monitoring feed access. The needs are

enormous, said Karma Lodey Raptan, Regional Technical Specialist for Climate Change Adaptation at the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Pakistan is the only country to receive adaptation funding from the Green Climate Fund Paris Agreement's key financing pot to ease the risk of such floods. The \$36.96m GLOF II initiative, concluding this year, serves as a global model for regions confronting glacial lake flood threats, including the Peruvian Andes and China, following Bhutan's collaborative efforts. Since 2017, weather stations and sensors, managed by Islamabad and UNDP, monitor factors like rainfall and water levels. GLOF II employs village speakers for warnings and infrastructure-like barriers.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1792016/facing-melting-glaciers-hunzais-fight-for-future>

### [From Vernacular Urdu Media](#)

**The rise in siege and search operations in 'IIOJK' region is concerning: Mahmood Ahmad Sagar**

*UrduPoint, 21 November 2023*

Mahmood Ahmad Sagar, convener of the All-Party Hurriyat Conference- 'Azad Kashmir' (APHC-AJK) branch, has voiced despair over the siege and search operations, as well as the escalation in house raids by India in 'Indian Illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK)'. He stated that

egregious abuses of human rights in the region are obvious evidence that India is determined to convert Jammu and Kashmir into a graveyard. He stated that the Hindutva government, its army, and police cannot change the internationally recognised disputed status of Jammu and Kashmir through 'brutal tactics' because there are several United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions on the Kashmir issue that guarantee Kashmiris' political protection and right to determine their future. He claimed that the unresolved issue of Kashmir is not only the most significant impediment to long-term peace and development in South Asia, but also the root cause of carnage, poverty, and the region's arms race. He also expressed grave concern over the escalating 'Indian state terrorism' in the region, as well as heartfelt grief and remorse over the death of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq's aunt.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/islamabad/national-news/live-news-3814571.html>

### **The Australian High Commissioner met with Sirajul Haq and discussed Pakistan-Australia relations, Palestine, and the Kashmir issue**

*Urdupoint, 22 November 2023*

Australian High Commissioner Mr Neil Hawkins paid a visit to Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) chairman Sirajul Haq. The two leaders discussed bilateral relations as well as issues of mutual interest concerning both the country.

The JI Foreign Affairs Director Asif Luqman Qazi was also present. Haq encouraged the visiting ambassador to use diplomatic pressure to stop the slaughter in Gaza, emphasizing the necessity for an immediate ceasefire in the war-torn region. He expressed confidence in Australia's ability, as a nation that defends justice and human rights, to play a critical role in putting an end to the violence in Gaza. Haq delivered Hawkins a letter addressed to Australian Prime Minister, Anthony Norman Albanese describing the catastrophic situation in Palestine and requesting Australia's aid. He emphasised that Israeli forces were responsible for the deaths of civilians, including children and women, resulting in a staggering death toll of 13,000 persons in Israeli strikes. He said that Palestinians have the right to fight the invaders of their land, citing rights provided to them under international law. The meeting also focused on the Kashmir issue and Pakistan's economic position. Hawkins praised the JI for its efforts in promoting peace.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/islamabad/national-news/live-news-3815862.html>

### **Anjuman-e-Imamia, Ahle Sunnat-wal Jamaat organization, supported the protest movement in GB**

*Dailyk2, 23 November 2023*

The Awami Action Committee's (AAC) Coordinating Committee met with leaders of Anjuman-e-Imamia led by

Ahle Sunnat-wal Jamaat and informed them about the government's intentions regarding the abolition of wheat subsidies, price increases, and electricity load shedding, after which the Anjuman-e-Imamia announced its support for the AAC on public issues. The AAC coordination committee delegation and the leaders of the Ahle Sunnat-wal- Jamaat led by the vice president and general secretary of Anjuman-e-Imamia, declared support for any such movement that supports and fights for the public benefit. While the chief leader of Anjuman-e-Imamia, Maulana Khalil Qasmi, was not there, he was reached by phone and promised the AAC his full support. The leaders of Anjuman-e-Imamia and AAC have urged the people of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) to attend the rally scheduled on 24 November 2023.

<https://www.dailyk2.com/Post/18538>

### **The 'Indian terrorist network' poses a threat to global peace: Mushaal Hussein Mullick**

*Jasarat, 23 November 2023*

Mushaal Hussein Mullick, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister for Human Rights and Women's Development, has expressed concern about the rapid expansion of the 'Indian worldwide terrorist network' after foiling a plot to attack Sikh separatists on American soil. She argued that death squads in India have become a threat to global peace.

Mullick emphasised that the international community should use pressure strategies on the Indian Hindutva dictatorship to end the murdering and genocide of Indian minorities. She said that the recent foiled plan to assassinate Sikh leader Hardeep Singh Nanjar in Canada and another prominent Khalistani leader Gurpatwant Singh Pannu is proof of India's growing terrorist network.

<https://www.jasarat.com/2023/11/23/mashal-malik-10/>

### **From Social Media**

**PAMIR TIMES ® @pamirtimes**

*21 November 2023*

Karakoram International University has been temporarily closed for an unspecified period, according to a press statement from the Director of Public Relations, Mir Taazeem Akhtar. The decision has been taken to preempt any 'untoward incident' says the press release. It is pertinent to note that groups of students have been protesting against fee hikes at the university for several days.

The press release says that regular activities for faculty and staff will resume from 27 November 2023. Students will continue their education through an online blended learning management system, as outlined in an official notification following a high-level meeting chaired by the Vice-Chancellor. The temporary closure also

encompasses closure of the university's girls' hostel. All three campuses of the university will continue their academic and research activities throughout this period.

<https://twitter.com/pamirtimes/status/1727010810537406771>

**Basharat Issa @BasharatIssa**

22 November 2023

Karakorum University could have been the best opportunity for providing quality education to students in Gilgit-Baltistan at their doorstep but it has been turned into a mess due to incompetent management, sectarianism & militarisation. Sad to see so many students suffering.

<https://twitter.com/BasharatIssa/status/1727232205628575980>

**WAJAHAT ALI @wajahatgilgiti**

23 November 2023

Member GB Assembly, Raja Zakaria Khan said that even in 1988, the situation worsened after the visit of an American officer/diplomat to GB. Last month, the American ambassador visited GB and now again there is a possibility of deterioration of situation.

*Video link:*

<https://twitter.com/wajahatgilgiti/status/1727724597850853389>

**Gilgit Baltistan Tourism**  
**@GBinPictures**

24 November 2023

The construction work of Diamer Bhasha Dam, which was started by the former Prime Minister of Pakistan @ImranKhanPTI. The biggest mega project in the country's history, is being built in Diamer district of Gilgit-Baltistan. Diversion of river Indus towards diversion tunnel has been tried. The water of the Indus River, which has been passing through the same place for centuries, will be diverted on November 30, 2023 at Diamer Bhasha Dam. I believe this century will also be a great historical miracle.

*Video link:*

<https://twitter.com/GBinPictures/status/1728028937828061670>

**Basharat Issa @BasharatIssa**

26 November 2023

Three major protests in Gilgit-Baltistan and you won't see any on mainstream Pakistani media.

1. Protests for wheat Subsidy
2. Protest of Karakorum University students against fee hike
3. Paramedics protesting for better service structure

All you see on is the exoticisation!

<https://twitter.com/BasharatIssa/status/1728481267312988436>

# Weekly POK News Digest

Volume 3 | Issue 47

20 November - 26 November 2023

**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.*



**MANOHAR PARRIKAR INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES**

No. 1, Development Enclave, Rao Tula Ram Marg  
New Delhi-110 010

Telephone: 91-11-26717983; Fax: 91-11-26154191

Website: [www.idsa.in](http://www.idsa.in); Email: [pokdigest@gmail.com](mailto:pokdigest@gmail.com)