# **Weekly POK News Digest**

(A weekly news digest on Pakistan Occupied Kashmir)

Volume 5 | Issue 24

09 June - 15 June 2025

POK
Police firing
Kashmir Council
strategic railway
environmental inaction
Hydropower Project
Gilgit-Baltistan
Diamer Bhasha
act of war
Pahalgam



### **Contents**

### **Political Developments**

- Indus Water Treaty
- Field Marshal Asim Munir celebrates Eid with troops at LoC
- Pakistan rejects Modi's baseless, misleading remarks during 'IIOJK' visit
- Modi opens strategic railway in 'IIOJK'
- Scars of June massacres in Punjab & 'IIOJK'
- Pakistan warns of 'act of war' if India builds storage dams on Indus River
- 'I can solve anything': Trump once again offers to be arbitrator in Kashmir dispute
- Police firing kills woman at Gilgit hospital

## **Economic Developments**

- Experts decry environmental inaction in Gilgit-Baltistan
- Rs3,550m earmarked for KA&GB and SAFRON
- Rs133.4bn tagged for hydropower, water projects
- Mohmand, Bhasha dams to be completed on emergency footing: Ahsan

### Vernacular Urdu Media

- The Kashmiri people will never allow their ideological commitment to Pakistan to wane: Sardar Atiq
- Stop disparaging 'Azad Kashmir's judiciary, warns Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider
- The nation's political and military elite share same position on the Kashmir problem
- 20 billion for wheat subsidies and 32.7 billion for the Diamer Dam

## **Political Developments**

### **Indus Water Treaty**

Daily Parliament Times, 6 June 2025

The Partition of British India created a conflict over the plentiful waters of the Indus Basin. The newly formed states were at odds over how to share and manage a cohesive network irrigation. Furthermore, geographically the Source Rivers of the Indus Basin were in India, Pakistan felt its livelihood threatened by the prospect of Indian control over the tributaries that fed water into the Pakistani Portion of the basin. On April 01, 1948 India stopped the supply of water to Pakistan from every canal flowing from India to Pakistan. Pakistan protested and India finally agreed on an interim agreement on May 4, 1948. This agreement was not a permanent solution; therefore. Pakistan approached the World Bank in 1952 to help settle the Problem permanently. Negotiations were carried out between the two countries through the offices of the World Bank. David Lilienthal, formerly the chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission visited the region to write a series of articles for "Colliers Magazine". He welcomed by both the governments of India and Pakistan.

The State Department briefed him and hoped that he could help bridge the gap between India and United States and also gauge hostilities on the subcontinent. During his visit, Lilienthal realized that tensions between the two countries were acute and can't be erased by one sweeping gesture. He wrote in his journal "India and Pakistan were on the verge of war over Kashmir. There seemed to be no possibilities of negotiating this issue until tensions abated. One way reduce hostility would be to concentrate on other important issues cooperation was possible. Progress in these areas would promote a sense of community between the two nations, which might, in time, lead to a Kashmir settlement". He Propose that India and Pakistan jointly work out a plan to operate the Indus Basin River System, upon which both nations were dependent for irrigation water.

He suggested that World Bank might use its good offices to bring the parties to agreement, and help in the financing of an Indus Development Program. Lilienthal's idea was well received by the officials at the World Bank and subsequently by the Indian Pakistani governments. Eugene R. Black, then president of the World Bank told Lilienthal that his Proposal "makes good sense all round". Black Proposed a Working Party made up of Indian, Pakistani and World Bank engineers. India and Pakistan were unable to agree on the technical aspects of allocation and distribution of waters. Finally, in 1954, after nearly two years of negotiation, the World Bank offered its own proposal. The Proposal offered India the three eastern tributaries of the

basin and Pakistan the three western tributaries.

Canals and storage dams were to be constructed to direct waters from the western rivers (Indus, Ihelum & Chenab) and replace the eastern rivers (Sutlej, Beas & Ravi) supply lost by Pakistan. The World Bank's Proposal was more in line with the Indian plan and this angered the Pakistani delegation. They threatened withdraw from the Working Party and negotiations verged on collapse. But neither side could afford dissolution of talks. In December 1954, two sides returned negotiating table. The World Bank Proposal was transformed from a "basis of settlement" to a "basis of negotiation" and the talks continued "step and go" for the next six years". One of the last stumbling blocks to an agreement concerned financing for the construction of Canals and storage facilities that would transfer water from the eastern Indian rivers to Pakistan.

This transfer was necessary to make up for the water Pakistan was giving up by ceding its rights to the eastern tributaries. The World Bank initially planned for India to pay for these works, but India refused. The Bank responded with a plan for external financing supplied mainly by the United States and the United Kingdom. The solution cleared the remaining stumbling blocks to agreement and the Treaty was signed by the Prime

Ministers of both countries in 1960. Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (VCLT). **VCLT** is an international agreement that establishes rules and procedures for how treaties are drafted, defined, interpreted and amended among sovereign states. It applies to treaties between states including agreements between international organizations, states and international organizations. It provides a framework for disputes to be resolved. Every treaty is binding upon the parties to it and must be performed by them in good faith.

A Party may not invoke the provisions of its internal law as justification for its failure to perform a treaty. Article 62 of the Vienna Convention on the "Law of Treaties" (VCLT) concerns principle of "fundamental change of circumstances". It allows termination or Withdrawal from a treaty if circumstances that existed when the treaty was concluded have fundamentally changed, provided certain conditions are met. These conditions include the circumstances being essential to the consent of the Parties to be bound. Role of World Bank The Indus Water Treaty, brokered by the World Bank, signed in 1960, grants Pakistan control over the three Western rivers (Indus, Chenab & Jhelum), and India's control over the three eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas & Sutlej). The treaty was signed after nine years of negotiations between the two countries. The treaty divides the Indus River System's Water between the two countries, with India receiving control of 30% of the total water flow and Pakistan receiving 70%. The treaty has no expiry date and no provision for suspension. It can only be modified by mutual agreement between India and Pakistan.

https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2025/06/06/06/indus-water-treaty-3/

## Field Marshal Asim Munir celebrates Eid with troops at LoC

Daily Times, 10 June 2025

Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), visited forward positions along the Line of Control (LoC) to celebrate Eidul Azha with frontline troops. According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the visit began with Eid prayers, where special prayers were offered for the country's peace, stability, and prosperity, as well as for the martyrs who laid down their lives in defence of motherland. Extending greetings to officers and soldiers, the COAS lauded their unwavering commitment, professional excellence, dedication despite persistent challenges. He stated that celebrating Eid at the frontlines, away from families, reflects the higher national purpose of safeguarding the country.

The Army Chief praised the formation's performance during Marqa-e-Haq and Operation

Bunyaanum Marsoos, paying tribute to the martyrs and Ghazis. "You have befittingly avenged the loss of innocent Pakistani lives, including children, women, and the elderly, through your bold and effective response," he said. While interacting with the troops, Munir appreciated their high morale, operational preparedness, and vigilance countering ceasefire in violations by Indian forces. reiterated full confidence in the armed forces' ability to deter and defeat any aggression. Reaffirming Pakistan's principled position on the Kashmir dispute, the COAS said the just and valiant struggle of the Kashmiri people against 'Indian occupation' would not forgotten. stressed He importance of resolving the Jammu and Kashmir issue in line with aspirations of the Kashmiri people and relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1312910/field-marshal-asim-munir-celebrates-eid-with-troops-at-loc/

## Pakistan rejects Modi's baseless, misleading remarks during 'IIOJK' visit

Daily times, 10 June 2025

Pakistan rejects Modi's baseless, misleading remarks during IIOJK visit to the 'Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK) after the Pahalgam false flag operation. Modi arrived in Reasi in 'IIOJK', the other day, to inaugurate the Reasi rail bridge and flagged off train to Srinagar.

Addressing at a rally in Katra, he accused Pakistan of attacking 'insaniyat and Kashmiriyat' (humanity and the Kashmiri identity) in Pahalgam and went so far as to label Islamabad "an enemy of poor's bread and butter". In a strong rebuttal, the Foreign Office said: "Pakistan firmly rejects the baseless and misleading remarks made by the prime minister of India regarding the situation in 'IIOIK'. It added that such statements represented a "deliberate attempt to deflect international attention from the grave and persistent human rights violations being committed in a territory under foreign occupation."

"We are deeply dismayed that the Indian prime minister has once again chosen accuse Pakistan to involvement in the Pahalgam attack, without presenting a single piece of credible evidence," FO said in its statement. "Jammu and Kashmir remains an internationally recognised disputed territory, the final status of be which is to determined accordance with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and the will of the Kashmiri people," it said, adding that no amount of rhetoric could change the legal and historical reality. "Claims of development in IOJK ring hollow against the backdrop of an unprecedented military presence, suppression of fundamental freedoms, arbitrary arrests, and a concerted effort to alter the region's demography in international violation of law,

including the Fourth Geneva Convention," FO said.

Pakistan called upon the international community, including the UN and human rights organisations, to hold India accountable for its oppression and to ensure that the "Kashmiri people are allowed to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination, as enshrined in the relevant UN Security Council resolutions." "Pakistan remains steadfast in its principled support for the people of Jammu and Kashmir in their just struggle for their rights and dignity," FO said.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1312859/pakistanrejects-modis-baseless-misleading-remarks-duringiiojk-visit/

# Modi opens strategic railway in 'IIOJK'

Pakistan Today, 10 June 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi made his first visit to 'Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK) on Friday, after a conflict with its archrival Pakistan, opening a strategic railway line to the contested region. Modi launched a string of projects worth billions of dollars for the 'occupied Muslim-majority' territory, the centre of bitter rivalry between Pakistan and India since their independence from British rule in 1947. Nuclear-armed India and Pakistan fought a four-day conflict last month, their worst standoff since 1999, before a ceasefire was agreed on May 10. "Friends, today's event is a grand festival of India's unity and firm resolve," Modi said after striding across the soaring bridge to formally launch it for rail traffic. "This is a symbol and celebration of rising India," he said of the Chenab Bridge which connects two mountains.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1312210/modi-opensstrategic-railway-in-iiojk/

# Scars of June massacres in Punjab & 'IIOJK'

Pakistan Observer, 11 June 2025

Month of June is known for two ironic state-sponsored massacres in India one each against the Sikhs and the Kashmiri Muslims in Amritsar and Srinagar respectively. BJP, with her third term in power, has made minority persecution more intense systematic. However, India was never a normal secular state prior to the BJP tenure as well. In the first week of June 1984, Indian forces attacked sacred Sikh Gurdwara 'Golden Temple' grade weapons military during operation 'Blue Star'. Thousands of Sikh worshippers gathered on the anniversary of Guru Arjun Dev lost their lives. On 11 June 1991, Indian troops mercilessly killed 32 Kashmiri innocent civilians in Chotta Bazar Srinagar in a fire raid. Victims of both incidents are still awaiting justice. Golden Temple Consequences of than the massacre were severer assessments.

Though government accepted approximately 455 causalities Golden Temple however death toll claimed by Sikh community crossed the figure of 5000. Chilling facts about post- massacre inhuman disposal of dead bodies from Golden Temple have been revealed in a story published by BBC Urdu on 7th June 2025. Shocking disclosures of Municipal corporation official Keval Kumar have further dented the already dubious claims of Indian government about operation Star. Nobody could imagined that iconic congress leader Indira Gandhi would pay the price of violent misadventure with her life. Not only the India but whole world was shocked with the assassination of sitting Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Unexpectedly, two of personal Sikh body guards killed Indira Gandhi in retaliation to the desecration of Golden Temple and merciless killing of Sikh Subsequent worshippers. violence from extremist Hindu quarters compelled the oppressed Sikhs to migrate from birth places. Thousands of victim Sikh families got settled in UK, US and European countries. Victim Sikhs are now striving to seek freedom from 'Indian occupational' regime and conducting Khalistan Referendums across the Europe. Srinagar Chotta Bazar massacre, which took place on 11 June 1991, is one of the most blatant acts of extra judicial killings committed by security forces in the 'IIOJK.' During fake security operation, CRPF troops

went berserk and opened indiscriminate firing all the way from their camp to the densely populated downtown area of Chotta Bazaar.

Troops barged into the shops, gathered people on the streets and killed them randomly. Four people were shot in a motor mechanics' workshop and four others were shot outside a medical college. Some rickshaw drivers and bystanders were also shot by the troops. The indiscriminate firing took lives of 32 innocent civilians whereas 22 persons got critically injured. As a cover-up measure, a probe under Justice Mufti Jalaluddin was ordered. Advocate Jaleel Andrabi pursued the case vigorously for which he was also killed by Indian forces. The inquiry went into oblivion with the transfer of Justice Mufti Jalaluddin. Millions of Kashmiris and Sikhs are striving hard to get rid of majoritarian Hindu State. Bleak history of June massacres is more relevant for Sikhs and Muslim Kashmiris who are living under the Hindutva influenced extremist rule of BJP.

https://pakobserver.net/scars-of-june-massacres-inpunjab-iiojk/

# Pakistan warns of 'act of war' if India builds storage dams on Indus River

Pakistan Today, 11 June 2025

Federal Minister for Climate Change Musadik Malik accused India of manipulating the flow of the Indus River system to disrupt Pakistan's crop patterns and food security. In an interview with Bloomberg, stated that India had been holding and releasing water, creating conditions that prevent water from reaching Pakistan when needed for crop sowing. He explained that this move aimed to disturb Pakistan's agricultural stability, though the government has yet to assess the full extent of the crop damage. Malik referred to India's unilateral suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty following the militant attack in Pahalgam in 'IIOJK' on April 22. He emphasized that, while India had cut the flow of water from the Chenab River by nearly 90%, it has not yet been able to significantly affect Pakistan due to a lack of storage dams on its side. However, he warned that if India proceeds with building storage dams, it would be considered an "act of war."

The minister also stated that while Pakistan had responded to India's requests to renegotiate the treaty, India failed to outline the specific clauses it wanted to address. Malik added that the international community, including the US, UK, Saudi Arabia, and UAE, played a key role in brokering a ceasefire following the recent military clashes between Pakistan and India. Malik is part of the Bilawal Bhutto-led delegation currently in London to present Pakistan's perspective on the ongoing tensions with India.

https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2025/06/11/pak istan-warns-of-act-of-war-if-india-builds-storagedams-on-indus-river/

# 'I can solve anything': Trump once again offers to be arbitrator in Kashmir dispute

Dawn, 12 June 2025

United States President Donald Trump once again offered to arbitrate the Kashmir dispute between Pakistan and India, echoing comments made by the US State Department a day prior. Trump had offered to work on the Kashmir issue after he brokered a ceasefire between the two nuclear powers following their most intense military confrontation in decades. In a message lauding the countries' leaders for achieving peace, he remarked, "I will work with both of you to see if, after a 'thousand years', a solution can be arrived at concerning Kashmir." Responding to a question on the steps the US plans to take in the wake of Trump's offer, State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce noted, "[Trump] has been the only one to bring certain people to the table to have conversations that nobody thought was possible," remaining hopeful that the Kashmir issue can also get resolved.

Fielding questions after a bill-signing ceremony, the US president said that he "stopped a war" between Pakistan and India. "Eventually they were gonna go nuclear ... and I stopped it, I called each leader ... and I spoke to them and talked about trade," Trump said. "I said, 'you're not trading with us if you go to war ... if you're going to start throwing nuclear weapons around.

"They were both unbelievable. They understood it exactly, they stopped. I stopped that war with phone calls and trade," Trump added. He further said that India is negotiating a trade deal in Washington, and a Pakistani delegation would arrive "I think next week".

In response to another question, Trump said, "We're going to get them together. I told them, India and Pakistan ... they have a longtime rivalry over Kashmir. I told them 'I can solve anything.' "I will be your arbitrator. I will be your arbitrator. I can solve anything." Pakistan and India have been at odds since the Pahalgam attack in occupied Kashmir, which saw the killing of 26 tourists. New Delhi, without any evidence, blamed Islamabad for the attack, while the latter strongly denied the claims and offered a neutral probe. The two nations then fought a four-day conflict before the US brokered a ceasefire on May 10.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1916758/i-can-solveanything-trump-once-again-offers-to-be-arbitratorin-kashmir-dispute

# Police firing kills woman at Gilgit hospital

The News International, 13 June 2025

A woman was shot dead late Wednesday night inside City Hospital Gilgit after police opened fire while chasing a suspect involved in a narcotics case. The fatal shooting triggered widespread outrage prompting Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) on Thursday to suspend senior police officers and order the arrest of the suspects. CCTV footage of incident shows police firing near emergency ward, where a woman holding her newborn baby was shot. According to eyewitnesses the police pursuing a suspect wanted in a narcotics case, entered the Hospital and fired multiple rounds in the presence of patients and medical staff.

Reacting to the public backlash, Chief Minister Haji Gulbar Khan suspended the SSP Gilgit and the local SHO. He termed the police action as "highly unprofessional and unacceptable." The CM also announced setting up a Joint Investigation Team. A case under the Anti-Terrorism Act was also registered, and the suspected police officials were taken into custody. The hospital administration also filed an official complaint and demanded the dismissal of the police officials. The medical staff have also warned of protests if decisive action is not taken.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1320775police-firing-kills-woman-at-gilgit-hospital

# **Economic Developments**

# Experts decry environmental inaction in Gilgit-Baltistan

Dawn, 7 June 2025

The World Environment Day remained largely ignored in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB),

as no major event was held across the region this year. However, some national and international nongovernmental organisations marked the day in various areas, though with limited public attention. **Environmentalists** expressed reservations over the lack importance given to the day in this ecologically sensitive region, and called for urgent action to reduce disaster risks stemming from environmental degradation and climate change impacts. An event related to the day was held at Rakaposhi Viewpoint in the Ghulmet area of Nagar district. It was organised by the Mountain Area Development Network (MADN) in collaboration with WWF-Pakistan. Activities included a cleanliness drive at Rakaposhi Viewpoint, an awareness walk to highlight the importance of the day, and an exhibition of eco-friendly products showcasing sustainable alternatives to plastic. Safdar Hussain, a representative from WWF, said that while such local efforts are essential, it is more important to reflect on the broader environmental challenges, particularly in GB, one of Pakistan's ecologically fragile most regions. Pakistan Red Crescent Society (GB branch) organised a cleanliness drive in Gilgit's Raja Bazaar area. A rally was taken out from the Gilgit Municipal Office, passing through different parts of the city and concluding at the Gilgit Press Club.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1915919/expertsdecry-environmental-inaction-in-gilgit-baltistan

# Rs 3, 550m earmarked for KA&GB and SAFRON

Daily Times, 11 June 2025

The federal government has allocated a sum of Rs. 3,550 million for completing ongoing and also for new projects of Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan (GB) and SAFRON under the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) during the upcoming financial year 2025-26. According to a budget document, an amount of Rs. 1750 has million earmarked for Strengthening Institutions for Refugees Administration (SIRA). The government has allocated Rs. 1800 million for the Hosing Community Support Program (HCSP).

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1313350/rs3550mearmarked-for-kagb-and-safron/

# Rs133.4bn tagged for hydropower, water projects

Business Recorder, 11 June 2025

The government has allocated Rs 133.4 billion for hydropower and water sector projects for the fiscal year 2025-According **Public** Sector to Development Plan 2025-26, billion has been allocated for Dasu Hydropower project (stage-1), Rs 3.4 billion for 1410MW Tarbela Extension Hydropower Project, Attabad lake Hydropower project (54MW), Rs 500 million, refurbishment and up-gradation of generation units of Mangla Power Station enhancing the capacity from 1000MW to 1310MW.

The government has earmarked Rs 25 billion for Diamer Basha Dam project (inclusion of Tangir Hydropower Project) and Rs 7.787 billion for Diamer Basha Project - acquisition of land and resettlement (2nd revised). An amount of Rs 35.724 billion has been allocated for Mohmand Dam Project (800MW) and Rs 4.412 billon for revised PC-1 for installation of Telemetry System for real time discharge monetary at 27 key sites on Indus Basin Irrigation System (IBIS) and Rs 10 billion for water requirement for K-IV **Project** improvement of Kalri Baghar Feeder and Keenjhar Lake- plain cement concrete (PCC) lining of Kalri Baghar Feeder upper phase-1.

An allocation of Rs 200 million has been made for capacity enhancement of Chitral Hydel Power Station from 1MW to 5MW, Rs 500 million for rehabilitation of Dargai Hydroelectric power station, Rs 1.0 billion for 34.5MW Haro Hydropower Project, Skardu GB, Rs 845 million for Warsak Hydroelectric power station (2nd rehabilitation), Rs 600 million for construction of 100 dams in -III Balochistan-package (20)dams)(revised), Rs 691 million for construction of Chashma Akhora Khel Dam, Karak, Rs 700 million for construction of Gish Kaur Dam, Rs 1.2 billion for construction of Panjgur Dam 220 (revised), Rs million for of Shehazanik construction Gwadar, and Rs 800 million for Sunni Gar Dam.

The government has also earmarked Rs 150 million for detailed engineering design, preparation tender of documents and PC-1 for Hingol Dam Project, Rs 1.671 billion for Grauk storage Dam district Kharan (2nd revised PC-1), Rs 3.209 billion for Greater Karachi bulk Water Supply Scheme (K-IV) 260 MGD (Phase-I (modified PC-1), Rs 100 million for Kachhi Canal Project (remaining works of phase-1) Rs 976 million for Kaitu Weir Irrigation & and power project component -1 Kurram Tangi Multipurpose Dam (revised), Nai Gaj Dam Project (2nd revised -PC-1) Rs 300 million for Naulong multipurpose dam project modified 2nd revised PC-1, Jhal Magsi, Rs 1.875 billion for remodeling of Pat Feeder Canal System in Balochistan, district Naseerabad.

https://www.brecorder.com/news/40367126/rs1334 bn-tagged-for-hydropower-water-projects

# Mohmand, Bhasha dams to be completed on emergency footing: Ahsan

The Nation, 13 June 2025

Federal Minister for Planning, Ahsan Iqbal, has said that as India has weaponized water and on the face New Delhi's bad intentions, the government of Pakistan has decided to complete Diamer-Bhasha and Mohmand hydropower projects on an emergency footing. "India's intentions are not good, they have weaponized the water and can affect Pakistan's water flows,"

Ahsan Iqbal noted. The minister said in the upcoming Public Sector Development Programme, Rs 33 billion have been allocated for Bhasha, while Rs 35 billion for Mohmand dams. Ahsan Iqbal said that Afghanistan is being included in China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). In the upcoming CPEC JCC, the second phase of the CPEC will be approved.

The Minister unveiled the strategic direction and priorities Government of Pakistan through the Budget 2025–26, reaffirming nation's collective resolve to transition from crisis to stability and sustained growth. Two years ago, we couldn't even pay for ongoing development projects. Today, we are paying for our defence expenditures and servicing debt obligations from our own resources — and very soon, we will development finance our independently. The GDP growth has rebounded from a negative trajectory to 2.7% in the current year, with a target of 4.2% for 2025–26," he added.

The Minister said, "We are targeting 4.5% growth in agriculture through Rs. 4.2 billion investments in crop productivity and livestock, modernization, and mechanization, backed by provincial initiatives such as the Punjab Kissan Card. Industry is projected to grow at 4.3% through lower tariffs, better energy supply, and revitalized construction. The services sector will rise by 4% through IT

exports, digitized retail, and expanded digital finance. The IMF has approved \$1.4 billion under the RSF — first time ever for Pakistan.

He reiterated that "this year's priority is completing what we've started and investing where the need is greatest, Balochistan, Gilgit-Baltistan, merged districts. Rupees 42 billion are being provided for KP's merged areas under AIP, with significant allocations for solar energy, FATA University, and policing infrastructure. Highlighting infrastructure, he announced, "Major projects include Diamer Bhasha Dam (Rs. 33 billion), Mohmand Dam (Rs. 35 billion), Quetta-Karachi Highway (Rs. 100 billion), M-6 Motorway, N-55 Indus Highway, and Eastbay Expressway Phase II. In water and energy, over Rs. billion has been allocated, including 12 hydropower projects and the 1,200 MW Sindh Solar Project. On youth and education, the Minister "Danish Schools and new noted, university campuses are being launched in underserved areas like Muzaffargarh and Rajanpur. Over training slots, 23,000 ΙT internships, and 100,000 laptops will prepare our youth for a digital economy. National Centres and the Quantum Valley initiative will place Pakistan on the global tech map.

https://www.nation.com.pk/13-Jun-2025/mohmand-bhasha-dams-to-be-completed-onemergency-footing-ahsan

## From Vernacular Urdu Media

The Kashmiri People will Never Allow their Ideological Commitment to Pakistan to Wane: Sardar Atiq

*Urdupoint, 10 June 2025* 

Sardar Atiq Ahmed Khan, the former prime minister and president of the All **Jammu** and Kashmir Muslim Conference alleged that the Indian soldiers are committing worse crimes against the Kashmiri population in the Kashmir Valley. He claimed that by changing the region's geographical status and depriving the Kashmiri people of their identity, India is gravely violating international law. He further stated that the Kashmiri people will always protect their beloved country and will never allow their ideological ties to Pakistan to erode, added that Pakistan has unquestionable defense capabilities. He congratulated the new Muslim Conference members advised the workers to remain united. With roots in the people, the Muslim Conference is a party of the present, past, and future. Today we are humiliating those who are undermining the Muslim Conference. He stated that the workers of the Muslim Conference ought to carry out their duties.

https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/muzaff arabad/kashmir/live-news-4453781.html

# Stop disparaging 'Azad Kashmir's judiciary, warns Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider

*Urdupoint, 10 June 2025* 

Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider Khan, former Prime Minister of 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK), has called for an end to the ongoing mockery of the 'AJK' judiciary. He criticized the issuance of a notification appointing an Acting Chief Justice, describing it as an affront to the judiciary, especially after the approval of a permanent Chief Justice for the High Court. He urged the 'AJK' Bar Council and other bar associations to take full responsibility addressing this issue. Khan expressed concerns over the actions of the Islamabad-based Kashmir Council, which he believes are fostering mistrust and suspicion in 'AJK.' He warned that such actions have already caused significant ideological damage, which the region can ill afford.

Khan questioned why decision-makers in Islamabad engage in actions that create doubt and suspicion in 'AJK', noting that these moves have inflicted considerable intellectual and ideological harm. He accused the Kashmir Council of perpetuating a long-standing practice of making arbitrary decisions regarding 'AJK' judges, often under pressure, and delaying critical judicial appointments. These actions, he stated, are straining between Islamabad relations Muzaffarabad. Khan also highlighted

past instances where attempts were made to appoint a permanent Chief Justice to serve specific agendas. Notably, it took seven years for the Supreme Court of 'AJK' to appoint a permanent Chief Justice, further underscoring the issue.

https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/muzaff arabad/kashmir/live-news-4453780.html

# The nation's political and military elite share same position on the Kashmir problem

Nawaiwaqt, 11 June 2025

On the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif called the leaders of Muslim nations, including those in Malaysia, Turkey, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Kuwait, Uzbekistan, Bahrain, Jordan, Iran, Kazakhstan. He Oman, and congratulated them on the occasion and thanked them for their efforts to maintain peace during the recent Pakistan-India conflict. In a similar vein, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, who visited the front lines on the Line of Control on the first day of Eid-ul-Adha, expressed gratitude for the officers' and military soldiers' unwavering dedication, professionalism, and steadfast service in the face of ongoing challenges. He stated that celebrating Eid while away from their families on the front lines is the realization of the supreme national goal of nation's defense, for which we are prepared at all costs.

In the meantime, he declared his complete faith in the military's readiness for war and stated that they are always prepared to successfully stop and defeat any aggression. Munir stated that he will continue to back the Kashmiris in principle, highlighting Pakistan's moral stance. We will never forget the Kashmiri people's brave and just fight against 'Indian occupation.' Similarly, at a press conference in Washington, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, leader the parliamentary of delegation, stated that India complicit in terrorism in Pakistan and that Pakistan desires peace. India is using water as a weapon, but we are prepared to discuss any topic with them. It is open aggression to deny 240 million people access to water; no nation has the right to unilaterally revoke the Indus Water Treaty.

It is a fact that peace cannot be guaranteed in the region until the Kashmir issue is resolved in accordance with the resolutions and the wishes of the Kashmiris. Bilawal is absolutely correct when he says that the Pakistan-India conflict has the potential to escalate into a nuclear war, which would impact not only both countries but also other powers in the region. For the sake of regional and international peace, Pakistan has consistently called for and desired a resolution to the Kashmir dispute, and it is prepared to engage in negotiations with India in this respect. international The

community should also play a part in this.

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/11-Jun-2025/1901987

# 20 billion for wheat subsidies and 32.7 billion for the Diamer Dam

Dailyk2, 11 June 2025

The federal government's budget for the fiscal year 2025–2026 allocates Rs80 billion for non-developmental expenditure in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB). To ensure affordable wheat prices for residents, the wheat subsidy has been increased by Rs4.5 billion, raising the allocation from Rs15.5 billion to Rs20 billion for the upcoming fiscal year, budget documents. according to Additionally, Rs4 billion has been allocated for the Prime Minister's special package. The budget includes Rs6.5 billion for Karakoram Highway and Rs32.7 billion for the Diamer-Bhasha Dam project. Furthermore, under the Ministry of Information's initiatives, Rs133 million designated to replace, and refurbish 50 kW upgrade, transmitters at radio stations in Gilgit and Skardu.

https://www.dailyk2.com/?p=5602

## From Social Media

## Ahmed Ali @rajahmedalikhan

11 June 2025

If it's about Languages why India claims Gilgit and Azad Kashmir we

don't speak Hindi nor do we want India. Why is India afraid of plebiscite that Nehru promised to the people of Jammu and Kashmir? Cuz they know they are occupiers and people hate them.

https://x.com/rajahmedalikhan/status/1932662338 949185569

#### Mansoor Ahmed Qureshi @MansurQr

12 June 2025

Flags of Bangladesh, Pakistan, Turkey & Azad Kashmir wave proudly in Neelum Valley, unity in the face of oppression.

Video link:

https://x.com/MansurQr/status/193304067031640 4925

#### Sultaan @Sia\_Goosh

15 June 2025

Member of the Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly and leader of the Balawaristan National Front, Nawaz Khan Naji, visited Chuinj village in #Chitral to offer condolences to the family of #sanayousaf, the young girl tragically murdered in Islamabad.

https://facebook.com/share/p/171LBNVmdR/?mibe xtid=wwXIfr

#### @pamirtimes

https://x.com/Sia Goosh/status/193426293103151 1143

#### Sanam @EchoArchLines

14 June 2025

Any attempt to betray Gilgit-Baltistan will be met with fierce public resistance. Oppressive rulers have no place here. This is not merely a protest—it marks the beginning of a movement. Let the rulers know: Gilgit-Baltistan is not for sale.

#downwithstaterepression

Images link:

https://x.com/EchoArchLines/status/193385348062 9719310

### SAMRIBackup @SamriBackup

13 June 2025

Pro-Iran #Shia groups in #Skardu, #Gilgit-#Baltistan, #Pakistan protest against #Israel's strikes on #Iran.

https://x.com/SamriBackup/status/1933916276377 715018

#### Ahmed Ali @rajahmedalikhan

13 June 2025

Very sad to hear the news. We people of 'Azad Kashmir' stand with Iran and our students from Jammu Kashmir. If they want to come back home we are ready to facilitate them through Pakistan and Azad Kashmir.

https://x.com/rajahmedalikhan/status/1934286614 315823207

# **Weekly POK News Digest**

Volume 5 | Issue 24

09 June - 15 June 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.



#### 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; Email: pokdigest@gmail.com