

Weekly POK News Digest

(A weekly news digest on Pakistan Occupied Kashmir)

Volume 5 | Issue 48

24 November - 30 November 2025

POK
eco-tourism
Gilgit-Baltistan
Healthcare City Project
Green Pakistan Programme
environmental sustainability
illegal logging
tourism



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

Contents

Political Developments

- JI emir says Kashmir, Palestine are non-negotiable red lines
- Brussels: Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar's support for Kashmiris at the Indo-Pacific Forum is commendable, Says Ali Raza Syed
- Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly completes five-year tenure
- UN experts sound alarm on rights violations in occupied Kashmir after Pahalgam attack
- Kashmiri Women Face Systematic Sexual Violence as Weapon of War
- Pakistan alarmed by UN report on rights abuses in 'IIOJK'
- 'AJK' PM warns India of 'crushing defeat' in case of LoC aggression

Economic Developments

- Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly Ends Term and Approves Key Bills
- Rs. 3.6 Billion Gigatic Kort Healthcare Mirpur 'AJK' City Project Construction ok Commences
- Travel restrictions on 'Kaghan to GB' route

Vernacular Urdu Media

- 'AJK' Minister vows tough action against illegal logging, calls forests a national asset
- The government's first priority is to take the Kashmir cause forward
- Commander FCNA holds special meeting with youth and academia in Skardu
- KIU China-Pakistan Friendship Scholarships Cross 500 Mark, 95 More Students Awarded

Political Developments

JI emir says Kashmir, Palestine are non-negotiable red lines

Pakistan Today, 23 November 2025

Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) chief Hafiz Naeemur Rehman said that Kashmir and Palestine remain non-negotiable red lines for his party, underscoring his call for an independent foreign policy free from external influence. Speaking at the final day of the party's "Badal Do Nizam" public gathering at Minar-e-Pakistan, he declared that his party will not field any candidates until the schedule for national elections is announced. He criticised political parties for lacking discipline and emphasised that JI operates under a strict internal system. Rehman criticised past policies aimed at appeasing foreign powers, particularly the United States, and called for Pakistan's leaders to support the Kashmiri and Palestinian causes in unity with the public. He stressed that millions have sacrificed their lives for Kashmir and that a free Palestinian state is the only just solution for the region.

The JI chief also addressed domestic issues, highlighting the absence of local government elections in Punjab since 2015 and the exploitation of women under the current inheritance system. He called out the capitalist and feudal structures that, he said, enrich landlords and elites while pushing the poor further into deprivation. Rehman

urged youth to participate in reform movements and pledged that JI would guide and empower them to build an Islamic welfare state.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2025/11/23/ji-emir-says-kashmir-palestine-are-non-negotiable-red-lines/>

Brussels: Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar's support for Kashmiris at the Indo-Pacific Forum is commendable, Says Ali Raza Syed

Daily Parliament Times, 24 November 2025

Chairman of the Kashmir Council EU Ali Raza Syed, stated that during his address at the Indo-Pacific Ministerial Forum, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar spoke openly about Kashmir and made it clear that sustainable peace in the region cannot be established without resolving the Kashmir issue in the presence of representatives from seventy countries. Dar, who is currently on an official visit to Brussels, addressed the fourth EU Indo-Pacific Ministerial Forum. He said that we believe sustainable peace in South Asia cannot be achieved without a peaceful resolution of the decades-old Kashmir issue in accordance with the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. The European Union's High Representative/Vice-President for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Ms. Kaja Kallas, had also invited Dar to co-chair the seventh session of the Pakistan-EU Strategic Dialogue.

Raza said that Dar has presented a truth-based stance on Kashmir and defended the rights of Kashmiris, added that the Dar's address at the Indo-Pacific meeting will have a profound impact, and thus the reality of the Kashmir issue will be revealed to the world once again. He claimed that India's atrocities on Kashmiris are increasing day by day, and the world has started to learn about India's oppression. Raza emphasized that the real issue in South Asia is India's human rights violations in 'occupied Kashmir' and that the Indian oppression on Kashmiris is 'Indian state terrorism'.

He clarified that the Kashmir issue is not a bilateral matter or a regional dispute between India and Pakistan, but rather an internationally recognized issue. The world should remember that India had promised the Kashmiri people the right to self-determination, which remains unfulfilled to this day. In addition to that the United Nations Security Council resolutions exist on this issue. Raza said that in 'occupied Kashmir', many political leaders and activists have been forcibly detained or imprisoned, while severe restrictions have been imposed on human rights activists and journalists, and many of them are also in custody.

<https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2025/11/23/brussels-foreign-minister-ishaq-dars-support-for-kashmiris-at-the-indo-pacific-forum-is-commendable-says-ali-raza-syed/>

Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly completes five-year tenure

Dawn, 25 November 2025

The Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) Assembly completed its five-year tenure on Monday at midnight. During the final session, held here on Monday in the GB Assembly Hall and chaired by Speaker Nazir Ahmed Advocate, members passed a dozen bills, including one related to the management of adventure tourism, by majority vote. They also unanimously approved two resolutions. The assembly passed 12 bills, including the GB Tourism Adventure Tourism Management Bill 2025 and the GB Tobacco Control Bill. The house also unanimously approved a resolution demanding the regularization of Rescue 1122 and local council contractual employees. Speaking on the occasion, GB Assembly Speaker Nazir Ahmed Advocate said the democratic process in the region began later than in other parts of the country. We are in an evolutionary phase.

GB Assembly members are elected by the public, and over the past five years, lawmakers have attempted to solve problems faced by the public, he said. He noted that it had been difficult to conduct assembly proceedings in a natural manner. GB Minister Abdul Hameed told the house that education and health issues remained serious, and that the region could progress only by developing its tourism sector. He added that the members tried to fulfil

the responsibilities entrusted to them by the public through legislation and practical measures.

Five-year background

The GB Assembly elections were held on Nov 15, 2020 across 24 constituencies. The PTI formed the government, and Khalid Khurshid was elected chief minister. However, in July 2023, the GB Chief Court disqualified CM Khurshid. Subsequently, a coalition government was formed by members of the PTI disgruntled group, the PPP, and the PML-Nawaz, which elected Haji Gulbar Khan as the new chief minister of the region. According to Abbas Ali, deputy director information for the house, the assembly adopted 63 Acts during its five-year tenure, including one pertaining to land reforms as well as six federal ones. The GB Assembly passed 114 resolutions on various issues, including a demand that the federal government declare GB a provisional province of Pakistan. Later, GB Assembly Speaker Nazir Ahmed Advocate hosted a farewell event for all outgoing assembly members.

Caretaker CM

According to a statement released by the Prime Minister's Office, PM Shehbaz, being the "GB Council chairman, has appointed retired Justice Yar Muhammad as the caretaker GB chief minister, "in terms of Article 48-A(2) of the Government of GB Order, 2018". It added that caretaker GB chief

minister "shall take oath before entering upon the office in the form set out in the First Schedule of the Government of GB Order, 2018".

Under the GB Order 2018, elections must be held within 60 days. The GB chief minister, the opposition leader, and the Kashmir Affairs and GB federal minister are required to agree on a single name for the caretaker chief minister. "If we cannot agree on one name, the proposed names will be sent to the prime minister, who, as chairman of the GB Council, has the discretion to nominate any suitable person for the position," Minister for Kashmir Affairs and GB Amir Muqam told Dawn recently.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1957215/gb-assembly-completes-five-year-tenure>

UN experts sound alarm on rights violations in occupied Kashmir after Pahalgam attack

Dawn, 25 November 2025

United Nations experts sounded the alarm over "serious human rights violations" in 'Indian-occupied Kashmir' (IoK) by the Indian government, issuing the warning in the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack. Pahalgam is the site where gunmen on April 22 killed 26 mostly Hindu tourists. New Delhi blamed the attack on Pakistan, which strongly denied the allegations while calling for a neutral investigation, triggering a series of tit-for-tat diplomatic measures that escalated into a four-day conflict. In the

aftermath of the Pahalgam attack, Indian forces arrested more than 2,000 Kashmiris and demolished several homes in a sweeping crackdown. The arrests were carried out across multiple districts, including Srinagar, Ganderbal, Bandipora, Kupwara, Baramulla, Budgam, Islamabad, Pulwama, Shopian and Kulgam.

“We unequivocally condemn the brutal terrorist attack on a tourist area and extend our condolences to the victims, their families, and the Government of India. However, all governments must respect international human rights law while combating terrorism,” the experts said in a press release issued on India’s response to the attack. They noted that Indian authorities launched sweeping operations across the territory in the attack’s wake, resulting in the arrest and detention of around 2,800 individuals, including journalists and human rights defenders. They pointed out that some were detained and charged under the Public Safety Act or the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, which permitted prolonged detention without charge or trial and contained “vague and overbroad definitions of terrorism.”

The experts noted that some detainees were allegedly tortured, held incommunicado, and denied access to lawyers and family members. “We condemn reports of arbitrary arrests and detentions, suspicious deaths in custody, torture and other ill-treatment, lynching’s, and

discriminatory treatment of Kashmiri and Muslim communities,” the experts said. They further highlighted reports of punitive house demolitions and forced evictions and arbitrary displacement, targeting families of individuals perceived as supporting freedom fighters, and carried out without court orders or due process. They also expressed concern at communication blackouts and restrictions on press freedom, saying that authorities reportedly suspended mobile internet services and blocked around 8,000 social media accounts, including those of journalists and independent media outlets.

They remarked that India’s response to the attacks was “also felt elsewhere in India”, with Kashmiri students subjected to surveillance and harassment, following government directives requiring universities to collect their personal data. “Hate speech and incitement to violence increased against Muslims, inflamed by political figures in the ruling party. Demolitions were reported in Gujarat and Assam, where thousands of Muslim homes, mosques, and businesses were destroyed.” “Nearly 1,900 Muslims and Rohingya refugees were also expelled to Bangladesh and Myanmar, often without due process,” the press release said.

The experts stressed that such expulsions violated the international obligation of non-refoulement, which prohibited returning individuals to

countries where they risked persecution, arbitrary deprivation of life, torture, or other serious harm. They further highlighted what they said was the “persistent nature of violations” in the territory with several human rights defenders, including Irfan Mehraj and Khurram Parvez, being arbitrarily detained for years under draconian security laws.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1957103/un-experts-sound-alarm-on-rights-violations-in-occupied-kashmir-after-pahalgam-attack>

Kashmiri Women Face Systematic Sexual Violence as Weapon of War

Daily Parliament Times, 26 November 2025

On the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Friends of Kashmir International and Kashmir Media Service (KMS) organised a webinar under the theme “Violence Against Kashmiri Women: A Tool to Suppress the Kashmir Movement.” The webinar brought together prominent Kashmiri women leaders, human-rights defenders, academics, lawyers and journalists from both sides of the Line of Control and the diaspora. Senior Hurriyat leader Shamim Shawl, delivered a chilling account of how Indian occupation forces deliberately use rape and sexual violence as instruments of war. She highlighted the 1991 Kunan-Poshpora mass rape and numerous other documented cases that have been presented to the United

Nations, European Parliament and South Africa, yet no perpetrator has ever been punished.

“Thousands of widows, half-widows and orphans are the direct result of zero accountability of Indian forces,” Shawl said, adding that despite exhaustive documentation, the international community continues to remain silent. Human-rights activist Mughiza Intiyaz described sexual violence against Kashmiri women as “systematic and state-sponsored”, citing Kunan-Poshpora and the Shopian double rape-murder of Asiya and Neelofar as proof of official policy. “Half-widows live in perpetual agony not knowing if their husbands are alive or dead. Silence is no longer an option, inaction is complicity,” she declared. Journalist and activist Afshan Kiyani stated that since 1989 thousands of Kashmiri women have suffered rape, torture and harassment during cordon-and-search operations. “When Indian troops fail to find male family members, they target women to break the resistance,” she said.

The webinar concluded with a unanimous call to move beyond emotional webinars to aggressive, sustained and result-oriented international diplomacy, including a major conference at the United Nations to present collected testimonies of Kashmiri women. Speakers expressed deep gratitude to Pakistan for its unwavering political, diplomatic and moral support, and praised KMS for

consistently providing a platform to Kashmiri voices.

<https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2025/11/26/kashmiri-women-face-systematic-sexual-violence-as-weapon-of-war/>

Pakistan alarmed by UN report on rights abuses in 'IIOJK'

Pakistan Observer, 27 November 2025

Pakistan expressed grave concern over the latest findings by a United Nations Special Procedures experts report regarding 'India's illegal measures' in the 'Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK). The report, issued on November 24, 2025, once again underscored the severe and systematic human rights violations endured by the Kashmiri people under 'Indian occupation', says a Foreign Office statement. Pakistan noted with alarm the experts' observations that India's actions have resulted in the extensive, arbitrary arrest and detention of nearly 2,800 individuals, including journalists, students, and human rights advocates.

The persistent application of draconian legislation, such as the Public Safety Act (PSA) and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), has facilitated indefinite and unjustifiable detentions. Instances of torture, custodial deaths, incommunicado detention, denial of due legal process and family contact, punitive demolitions and forced evictions, recurring communication blackouts, and suppression of press freedom

including the blocking of 8,000 social media accounts as well as the rise in hate speech, lynching, and harassment directed at Kashmiris and Muslim communities across India, are equally deplorable and deeply troubling, the statement added. These findings reaffirm Pakistan's longstanding concerns regarding state-sponsored persecution of Kashmiri Muslims as well as discrimination against minorities across India, the Foreign Office stated.

Pakistan called upon India to cease its coercive measures and to unconditionally release all those arbitrarily detained in 'IIOJK.' "We further urge India to take concrete steps to end the persecution of all religious minorities, particularly Muslims and Christians," the statement said. Pakistan reiterated its commitment to a peaceful, just, and enduring resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, in accordance with the relevant UNSC resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. "We urge India to halt its repressive policies, reverse demographic and legal alterations, restore fundamental freedoms, and engage sincerely in meaningful dialogue," the Foreign Office spokesperson said. Pakistan will continue to extend moral, political, and diplomatic support to the Kashmiri people in their just struggle against foreign occupation, it added.

<https://www.breorder.com/news/40394534/pakistan-alarmed-by-un-report-on-rights-abuses-in-iiojk>

‘AJK’ PM warns India of ‘crushing defeat’ in case of LoC aggression

Dawn, November 30 2025

‘Azad Jammu and Kashmir’ (AJK) Prime Minister Faisal Mumtaz Rathore reminded India that it had always faced humiliating defeats whenever it resorted to aggression along the Line of Control (LoC), warning that it would meet the same fate at the hands of Pakistan’s armed forces, fully backed by the local population. “It is by the grace of Allah that we breathe in free air. Pakistan’s armed forces are protecting us by rendering countless sacrifices and the people along the ceasefire line (LoC) have consistently stood behind the army,” he told media persons in Chilyana on the first day of his maiden two-day tour to Neelum Valley after assuming office. Chilyana overlooks the famous town of Titwal in ‘Indian-occupied Kashmir’ on the left bank of the Neelum River, which serves as the divide between the two sides along much of the nearly 200-kilometre-long valley.

“The people living along the LoC are neither afraid of Indian aggression nor will they ever hesitate to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Pakistan Army,” the ‘AJK’ premier said. “India will continue to face crushing defeats at the hands of our valiant armed forces and equally resolute population,” he added. Paying tribute to the people of ‘occupied Kashmir’ for their unyielding struggle in the face of

severe military suppression, he said India was “deeply mistaken” if it believed it could police people’s thoughts. “India has turned occupied Kashmir into a military garrison and its display of fake normalcy is a deceptive façade,” he remarked, adding that the Kashmiris’ struggle would not go in vain.

Addressing reception gatherings in several areas, the prime minister pledged accelerated steps to address long-standing local issues. “Our government has restored people’s trust by bridging the gap between the state and its citizens. The doors of the PM House and PM Office will remain open to the public, and both the cabinet and the civil administration will remain available among the people,” he said in Kundal Shahi. “The government is working to put administrative matters on a fast track and will soon announce a health and education package,” he added.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1958177/ajk-pm-warns-india-of-crushing-defeat-in-case-of-loc-aggression>

Economic Developments

Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly Ends Term and Approves Key Bills

Daily Times, 25 November 2025

The Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly completed its five-year term after passing 12 key bills on its last day. Lawmakers approved tourism and tobacco control bills and supported the

regularization of Rescue 1122 and council staff. The speaker said democratic progress in GB is still developing. He added that members tried to address public issues throughout the term. Officials admitted that education and health problems remain serious. They stressed that tourism development is essential for economic growth. Lawmakers said they worked to meet public expectations. They also noted that running the assembly smoothly was often difficult. The region saw major political changes since the 2020 elections. PTI formed the government first, but its chief minister was later disqualified. A new coalition then elected Haji Gulbar Khan as chief minister. The assembly passed 63 Acts and adopted 114 resolutions, including a call for provisional provincial status.

A farewell event was held for all outgoing members. The prime minister appointed retired Justice Yar Muhammad as caretaker chief minister. The appointment followed the Gilgit-Baltistan Order 2018. Elections must be held within 60 days. Officials said the chief minister, opposition leader, and federal minister must agree on a caretaker name. If they fail, the prime minister will choose. These steps aim to ensure a smooth transition.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1406744/gilgit-baltistan-assembly-ends-term-and-approves-key-bills/>

Rs. 3.6 Billion Gigantic KORT Healthcare City Project in 'AJK's Mirpur: Construction Work Officially Commences

Daily Parliament Times, 29 November 2025

The Kashmir Orphan Relief Trust (KORT) has achieved another historic milestone as construction work on the KORT Healthcare City – set to become 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir's most advanced and state-of-the-art healthcare facility – officially began in the Kashmiri expatriate hub of Mirpur. The groundbreaking ceremony commenced with a heartfelt dua and sadqa, seeking Allah's blessings for the successful and timely completion of this transformative project that promises to revolutionise healthcare services for the people of 'AJK', KORT Founding Chairman Chaudhry Muhammad Akhtar told local media.

With the award of the Rs. 3.6 billion contract for Phase-I, construction is now progressing at full pace. KORT remains firmly committed to delivering world-class, accessible, and compassionate medical care to communities across 'AJK' and Pakistan, Akhtar said. He expressed profound gratitude to all existing supporters and donors whose generosity has brought this dream closer to reality. At the same time, Chairman Chaudhry Muhammad Akhtar made a passionate appeal to philanthropists, businessmen, and the

Kashmiri diaspora worldwide to donate generously and become part of this noble, life-changing initiative so that the project can be completed without delay.

<https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2025/11/26/rs-3-6-billion-gigantic-kort-healthcare-mirpur-ajk-city-project-construction-work-commences/>

Travel restrictions on 'Kaghan to GB' route

Dawn, 27 November 2025

The district administration of Mansehra has imposed a complete ban on travelling between Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) via the Kaghan Valley until next summer. We have now completely restricted passenger vehicles, motorists and tourists from travelling to neighbouring GB for their safety, Assistant Commissioner Balakot Hasrat Khan told reporters. He said the decision to impose a travel ban between KP and GB was taken in a meeting attended by the heads of all relevant departments. The AC said that the Chilas (GB) district administration and police were in contact with Mansehra's administration, and they too had imposed a ban on travel along Mansehra-Naran-Jalkhad road. We have decided to allow tourists to travel only up to Battakundi and Saiful Muluk between 11am and 3pm, and only with chained tyres, as vehicles cannot move safely on icy roads before or after the four-hour period," Mr Khan said.

He clarified that no restrictions had been placed on travel up to Naran until the next spell of snowfall. The official said most of the indigenous community settled in Barawai, Battakundi, and other areas beyond Naran had already migrated, while the remaining people were expected to leave within a week or after the second snowfall in Kaghan valley. He stated that police posts in the upper reaches of the valley had also been closed for the winter. We expect the Kaghan-Babusar Top section of the MNJ road to reopen in early May next year, and until then the valley will remain completely closed to movement, he said.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1957608/travel-restrictions-on-kaghan-to-gb-route>

From Vernacular Urdu Media

'AJK' Minister vows tough action against illegal logging, calls forests a national asset

UrduPoint, 26 November 2025

'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK) Minister for Forests, Wildlife and Fisheries Sardar Javed Ayoub reiterated the government's zero-tolerance stance against illegal logging. Speaking during a visit to the Forest Department's central office on Bank Road, he emphasized the use of modern technology, strengthened monitoring, and enhanced staff capacity to combat deforestation. The minister received detailed briefings from Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Dr Sardar Iftikhar Ahmed, CCF

Territorial Malik Asad Mahmood, and Upscaling Green Pakistan Programme Project Director Dr Zakir Hussain. Officials highlighted ongoing development schemes, reforestation efforts, plantation success rates, and emerging challenges in forest management. Calling forests a national asset, Mr Ayoub noted their critical role in combating climate change. "Forests are the backbone of our state and protecting them is both a duty and a religious obligation," he said. He stressed the importance of using technology to detect illegal logging, enhancing staff skills, and ensuring strict monitoring at check posts.

The minister underscored the need for community involvement in forest protection, encouraging students, civil society, and local forest protection committees to participate. He also promoted eco-tourism and planting fruit-bearing, climate-compatible species to support environmental sustainability and local economic development. He directed officials to vigorously pursue land encroachment cases and warned that strict legal action would be taken against violators. He concluded that safeguarding 'AJK's lush forests is vital for environmental protection, climate mitigation, and economic survival, emphasizing that protecting natural resources is a shared responsibility of the government, communities, and future generations.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/muzaffarabad/kashmir/live-news-4630991.html>

The government's first priority is to take the Kashmir cause forward

Jammu and Kashmir Times, 27 November 2025

A delegation from the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC), headed by its Convener Ghulam Muhammad Safi, met 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' Prime Minister Faisal Mumtaz Rathore to extend congratulations on his assumption of office. In a comprehensive discussion, both sides exchanged views on raising greater international awareness about the Kashmir dispute, the prevailing situation in 'Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK), and the continuing struggle of Kashmiris for their inalienable right to self-determination. Prime Minister Rathore reiterated that projecting the Kashmir issue in its true perspective is the highest priority of the PPP-led government in 'AJK.' He announced that a coordinated joint strategy would be devised in close consultation with Hurriyat leadership to pursue the cause more effectively.

Recalling the Pakistan Peoples Party's longstanding and principled stand on Kashmir, he said the party was founded by Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto with the Kashmir question as one of its core founding principles. He highlighted that Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto not only introduced

Hurriyat leaders to the international community but also forcefully raised the Kashmir issue on global platforms during both her tenures as Prime Minister of Pakistan. He also lauded President Asif Ali Zardari and PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari for consistently advocating the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination at every international forum. Assuring the delegation of his government's unwavering support, Prime Minister Rathore expressed serious concern over the deteriorating political and human-rights situation in 'IIOJK' and called upon the international community to take serious notice and ensure implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions on Kashmir.

Paying rich tributes to the courageous struggle of incarcerated Hurriyat leaders, he said India was using prolonged and illegal detention as a weapon to suppress the legitimate Kashmiri leadership. He underlined the importance of unified and continuous consultation among all segments of the Kashmiri resistance to formulate a strong, collective roadmap that takes the ongoing freedom movement to its logical end. The Hurriyat delegation expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister and pledged its complete cooperation. The delegation comprised Syed Faiz Naqshbandi, Mahmood Ahmed Sagar,

Advocate Pervez Shah, Mushtaq Ahmed Butt among others.

<https://jammukashmirtimes.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Resize-of-FRONT-PAGE-27.jpg>

FCNA Commander holds special meeting with youth and academia in Skardu

Dailyk2, 29 November 2025

A special meeting between Force Command Northern Areas (FCNA) Commander and the youth and academia was organized in Skardu. During the session, Commander FCNA briefed the participants on the prevailing peace and stability in the region, national security, and the strategic importance of GB. Addressing the gathering, Commander FCNA highlighted that GB is endowed with abundant natural resources and offers immense tourism potential, from which the youth can greatly benefit. He emphasized that the youth are the future of the nation and must play an active role in maintaining peace and fostering social harmony. The young students and teachers highly appreciated the interactive session and requested that such sessions be organized in the future as well, as they help raise awareness among students. The participants added that many of their misconceptions and doubts had been cleared, and they gained valuable insight into the Pakistan Army's role in defending the country.

<https://dailyk2.com/ur/?p=74488>

KIU China-Pakistan Friendship Scholarships Cross 500 Mark, 95 More Students Awarded

Urdupoint, 26 November 2025

Karakoram International University (KIU) distributed scholarship cheques to 95 additional PhD, MS, and BS students under the China-Pakistan Friendship Merit-cum-Need-Based Scholarship Program, bringing the total number of beneficiaries since 2022 to over 500. The cheque-distribution ceremony was attended by senior university officials, faculty members, and the scholarship recipients. Addressing the ceremony, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Attaullah Shah reaffirmed KIU's commitment to supporting students' education. He urged the recipients to utilize the scholarship funds exclusively for educational purposes and to remain focused on their studies. In an interview with Gwadar Pro, Dr. Shah described the scholarships as a testament to the goodwill of the Chinese government and the personal support of the Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan. He highlighted that academic exchange programs with Chinese universities under the Belt and Road Initiative would further strengthen bilateral relations and foster mutual understanding between the people of the two countries. The Vice Chancellor also praised the Financial Aid Office of KIU for efficiently managing this fully China-funded program, which is

sponsored by the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/gilgit/national-news/live-news-4631172.html>

From Social Media

Sheikh Tahir Hanif
@SheikhTahi98335

28 November 2025

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif unveils the plaque of groundbreaking of Danish School in Harighel-Bagh in 'Azad Jammu Kashmir', on 20 November 2025.

@DrTariqFazal @sgqadir

<https://x.com/SheikhTahi98335/status/1994667796400324999>

Hilal Digital@digital_hilal

28 November 2025

A free medical camp in Changaan village, led by the Pakistan Army with the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, brought vital healthcare to Neelum Valley Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

#PakistanArmyCares#HealthcareForAll#NeelumValley#FreeMedicalCamp#Army

https://x.com/digital_hilal/status/1993714209218310531

Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan
@SardarQayyumJK

28 November 2025

Islami Jamiat-i-Tulba (IJT) thugs broke into a reading circle about the recent

spike in Indian atrocities in 'IOJK' post-Delhi blast, organised by students from 'Azad Jammu & Kashmir' at IIU-Islamabad. The IJT criminals violently attacked the students and damaged private property. Our students were brutalised, their books were stolen, and the Azad Jammu & Kashmir flag, the symbol of our identity was desecrated and disrespected. We will not tolerate this lawlessness and will respond with appropriate force if the authorities don't act in a reasonable way.

<https://x.com/SardarQayyumJK/status/1994365774392414281>

Shahid Yousuf@ShahidYousuf

1 December 2025

Gilgit-Baltistan's law-and-order crisis is a symptom of deeper rot: officers sidelined, politics meddling, police demoralized, and governance failing. Former CM Hafeez ur Rehman sheds light on #GilgitBaltistan failing law-and-order system.

Vieo link:

<https://x.com/ShahidYousuf/status/1995394431994974314>

Zeeshan Shah @zeeshan_shah_dc

29 November 2025

Again there's been talk/trial balloons released in Pakistan about the need to create new provinces either on divisional lines or even more that. This is nothing more but "one unit in reverse" as it will do nothing but to create more bureaucracy & not address

governance issues. All that needs to be done is to give provincial status to Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Kashmir, create a southern Punjab province, and to devolve power from the provinces to local governments at the city and district level.

https://x.com/zeeshan_shah_dc/status/1994885726547087813

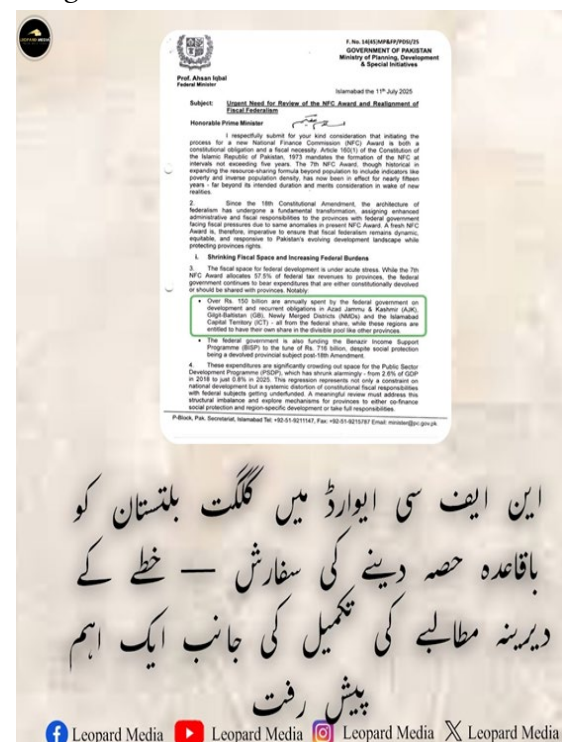
**Syed
Hoseini@S_MehdiHoseini**

Mehdi

29 November 2025

Ahsan Iqbal's letter to the Prime Minister for including Gilgit-Baltistan in the NFC share is a great step. It shows commitment to fair development and giving GB its rightful share. PML-N always delivers for GB...

Image link:



https://x.com/S_MehdiHoseini/status/1994852741873897912/photo/1

Weekly POK News Digest

Volume 5 | Issue 48

24 November - 30 November 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