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agriculture Kishan Ganga
digitization hydropower Karakoram
POK Gilgit-Baltistan Highway
Karot electricity CPEC
Dasu Hydropower Project



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DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES
मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

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

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Political Developments

‘Custodial torture, arbitrary detentions by troops a regular feature in ‘IIOJK’

Pakistan Observer, 19 June 2023

A report released by Kashmir Media Service claimed that extrajudicial killings, custodial torture, and arbitrary detentions by Indian troops have become a regular feature in ‘Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir’ (IIOJK). The report deplored that Kashmiris continue to live in dire situations created by over 1 million Indian troops and reel under ‘brutal Indian military occupation.’ It said human rights violations in the ‘occupied territory’ have witnessed an unprecedented spike since the abrogation of Article 370, claiming the RSS-backed Indian government has set new records of rights violations since 5 August 2019 when Modi-led Indian government repealed Kashmir’s special status and imposed military siege. The report said the Modi regime has turned Kashmir into a giant open-air prison, denying even basic human rights to its residents. The common man in ‘IIOJK’ is caught in daily cordons, raids, searches, repression, and torture, it added. The report said that the Indian authorities were seizing Kashmiris’ properties to break their resolve for freedom but Modi and his

henchmen must know that their cruel methods against the Kashmiris are bound to fail as Kashmiris are determined to keep the torch of freedom burning against all odds.

<https://pakobserver.net/custodial-torture-arbitrary-detentions-by-troops-a-regular-feature-in-iiojk/>

‘AJK’ police arrests 10 local human smugglers

Daily Times, 19 June 2023

The ‘Azad Jammu and Kashmir’ (AJK) police of Kotli district have succeeded in arresting at least ten local human smugglers so far, allegedly involved in the illicit trafficking of over 50 ill-fated human beings, belonging to various parts of Kotli district, who later lost their lives following the capsizing of an extremely over-loaded boat with over 800 persons on board, in the Greece Sea waters on June 14, official sources said. The Deputy Commissioner Ch. Haq Nawaz said that preliminary investigations about these missing persons revealed that these people had left their homes about 2 and half months ago for moving to Italy and Libya in search of employment unlawfully through human smugglers, who posed them as the recruitment agent minting hefty money from these ill-fated persons.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1104752/ajk-police-arrests-10-local-human-smugglers/>

‘IIOJK’ being converted into a full-fledged settler-colony of Indian ‘fascist Hindu Rashtra’

Pakistan Observer, 20 June 2023

The President of World Kashmir Awareness Forum, Dr. Ghulam Nabi Mir has claimed that under the latest onslaught, the ‘Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir’ (IIOJK) is being converted from a UN-declared conflict zone into a full-fledged settler-colony of the Indian ‘fascist Hindu Rashtra.’ Mir, representing Kashmir at all day long retreat, organized by the US Council of Muslim Organizations (USCMO) and Democracy and Human Rights Initiative (DHRI) in Washington said the largest foreign occupation since 1947, Kashmir remains the largest disenfranchised polity of the world today. He pointed out that this is happening despite several resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council with the consent of both India and Pakistan, guaranteeing a free and unfettered plebiscite, respecting the right to self-determination for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Mir claimed that then came the final human tragedy as on 5 August 2019, the Modi government shocked the Kashmiris and the world with the sudden and unilateral abrogation of the internal autonomy of the autonomous State of Jammu and Kashmir. He

warned that the Indian goal is to complete their originally conceived dream of turning Kashmir from a majority Muslim territory into a majority Hindu locality through forced demographic engineering.

<https://pakobserver.net/iiojk-being-converted-into-full-fledged-settler-colony-of-indian-fascist-hindu-rashtra/>

Kashmiri women worst victims of Indian ‘barbarities’

Pakistan Observer, 21 June 2023

In ‘Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir’ (IIOJK), women are the worst victims of Indian forces’ barbarities as New Delhi is using ‘rape as a weapon’ of war to suppress the Kashmiris’ struggle for the right to self-determination. A report by Kashmir Media Service on the occasion of International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict revealed that Indian troops had ‘sexually assaulted’ over 11,259 women during the past 34 years in the ‘occupied territory.’ The report said like Kunan poshpora mass rape, Shopian double rape and murder, and rape and murder of a minor girl in Kathua depict the brutal face of Indian forces in the ‘occupied territory.’

<https://pakobserver.net/kashmiri-women-worst-victims-of-indian-barbarities/>

Modi regime dismisses two Kashmiri doctors who conducted Aasiya and Neelofar's autopsies

Pakistan Observer, 23 June 2023

The Modi-led 'fascist Indian regime' has dismissed two Kashmiri doctors who were part of the team who conducted the post-mortem of the infamous rape and murder of Asiya-Neelofar by 'Indian troops' in May 2009 in Shopian, and released a report thereafter. The dismissed doctors identified as Dr. Bilal Ahmad Dalal and Dr Nighat Shaheen Chilloo had conducted the two autopsies and released the report. Aasiya and Neelofar were abducted by Indian men in uniform on 29 May 2009, gang-raped, and subsequently killed in custody. Interestingly, the regime has accused the doctors of being pro-Pakistan. Dr Nighat's report indicated rape of both women and her findings were substantiated by a forensic report. Surprisingly, in the termination order, Dr. Nighat Shaheen has been accused of 'conspiring to defame, discredit and cause injury to the personnel of Indian army, police, and paramilitary forces.' Dr. Bilal Ahmad Dalal has been accused by CBI of 'wrongly mentioning the lacerated wound on the frontal portion of Asiya Jan's head as an incised wound.'

<https://pakobserver.net/modi-regime-dismisses-two-kashmiri-doctors-who-conducted-aasiya-neelofars-autopsies/>

Freedom of expression remains stifled in 'IIOJK:' Geneva seminar

Pakistan Observer, 23 June 2023

Speakers at a seminar in Geneva while referring to the 'ruthless suppression' of dissent in 'Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK) said that the freedom of expression remains suppressed in the territory. According to Kashmir Media Service, the seminar was organized by World Muslim Congress (WMC) on the sidelines of the 53rd session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva. The seminar titled, 'Why Freedom of Speech is Important', was attended and addressed by rights activists, law experts, journalists, and academicians hailing from different parts of the world. It was chaired and moderated by Altaf Hussain Wani, the permanent representative of WMC at Geneva, UN. The speakers said that the right to freedom of speech and expression no longer existed in Kashmir, adding that the level of suppression in Kashmir could be gauged by the fact that no one in Kashmir dares to express his/her convictions and opinions freely.

They said that since 5th August 2019, crackdown on independent journalists including those who reported critically against the Modi government's muscular policies towards Kashmiris have faced intimidation, harassment,

and long investigations. They pointed out that local and foreign journalists were not allowed to perform their duties, because of fear of coverage focusing on inhuman siege, crackdowns on Kashmiris, and human rights violations taking place in the region. The APHC-'AJK' leader Syed Faiz Naqashbandi, TV anchor Ms Naila Altaf Kiani, human rights lawyer Ms. Sabba Mousade, Ms Varn Turn, and others spoke on the occasion.

<https://pakobserver.net/freedom-of-expression-remains-stifled-in-iiok-geneva-seminar/>

Two martyred as India breaches Feb 2021 LoC truce

The Express Tribune, 25 June 2023

The Indian Army resorted to 'unprovoked firing' on a group of shepherds along the Line of Control (LoC), in the first known ceasefire violation incident since February 2021. Two civilians 'embraced martyrdom' while one other was critically injured after the Indian Army opened fire in the Sattwal sector along the LoC. Following the incident, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) in a statement said that 'driven by a newfound geopolitical patronage, Indian forces have embarked on a plan to take innocent lives to satiate their false narratives and concocted allegations.' While a strong protest is

being launched with the Indian side, the statement added that Pakistan reserves the right to respond in the manner of its choosing to protect Kashmiri's lives in the LOC belt.

The two countries renewed their truce in February 2021 after back-channel talks aimed at reviving the peace talks. Though the process could not move forward, the ceasefire had been held until this point. The indirect reference to Indo-US deepening defence cooperation by the ISPR added a new dimension to the conflict between Pakistan and India. The foreign office raised serious concerns over the transfer of defence technology to India, warning that such a move would trigger an arms race in the region and disturb the strategic balance.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2423398/two-martyred-as-india-breaches-feb-2021-loc-truce>

Economic Developments

India's Water Terrorism: India's Gross Violations of Indus Waters Treaty

Daily Parliament Times, 19 June 2023

Water security is one of the most security challenges that have become water terrorism in the contemporary world. India, a rival state to Pakistan in the South Asian continent, has always left no stone unturned in causing threats to Pakistan's sovereignty.

India's act of water terrorism has become the greatest terrorism for Pakistan in the twenty-first century. It is no news that in 1905, the partition of Bengal gave birth to an ongoing conflict of water sharing between India and Pakistan.

West Bengal was Hindu majority and East Bengal was Muslim majority region. West Bengal became a state of India and East Bengal, now Bangladesh, became a province of Pakistan. The region was a lucrative source of income for Hindus.

Suddenly, they lost jobs and properties after the 1905 partition. On the other hand, it was a day of joy and happiness for the Muslim majority as the East Bengal region was backward in education, health, and business. It paved the way forward for its development such as jobs opening and running businesses after holding the administrative control of the region. Moreover, partition was the basic root cause of spreading hate between two neighboring states which resulted in chronic disease of water terrorism by India in the contemporary era. During the first year of partition of India in 1947, the water of the Indus was apportioned by the Inter-Dominion accord on 4 May 1948. This accord required India to release sufficient

water to Pakistani regions of the basin. The Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) was signed in 1960; it governs six rivers that originates in India.

India already uses about 94 percent of these waters. Most of the upper reaches of the Indus basin lie in India. All these rivers combine in Mithankot in Pakistan and finally merge into the Arabian Sea near Karachi, Pakistan. Retrospectively, after the partition of 1947, ended three hundred years of colonial rule, with the creation of two independent nations: India and Pakistan. India used water terrorism against her neighboring state Pakistan specifically from a water distribution perspective. To pose a threat to Pakistan, India had started constructing more dams that aim at diverting the water from the rivers flowing towards Pakistan.

Recently, it has built the Kishan Ganga dam. It is located just 5km north of Jammu and Kashmir, with a stated capacity of 330 MW. As per the decision of the International Court of Arbitration, in 2013, 9 cusecs of the natural flow of water must be maintained by India in the Kishan Ganga River. Apropos, Pakistan is constructing the NJHPP downstream of the Kishan Ganga. The Kishan Ganga Project will divert a portion of

the Neelum River from Pakistan. It will reduce power generation at the NJHPP. Similarly, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi has ordered diverting water of Chenab River to Beas, which is a serious violation of IWT. Last but not least, another malpractice begun by India as part of water terrorism is that it usually stops or reduces the flow of water during the crop season. Pakistan is an agrarian country and it relies on the Indus and its tributaries. In 2021, agriculture contributed around 22.67 percent to the GDP of Pakistan. The principal natural resources of a country are arable land. It is saddening to know that the threats of water terrorism posed by India have left several ramifications on the country's development. It is unfortunate to apprise that the agriculture sector's performance during 2020-21 was not up to the mark as it grew by 2.77 percent against the target of 2.8 percent.

History witnessed that in Sindh, a southern province of Pakistan and a lower riparian region, the Kharif crop is generally sowed in summer and harvested in late summer or early autumn. As a consequence of Indian malpractice of water stoppage, this crop is sowed in May. But the rivers dried up in May as the upper riparian region of Punjab received the water first whereas Sindh province did not get water until

July. It is another negative consequence of Indian water terrorism. It had left a devastating impact on the rice harvest in the country. India has been trying to establish its hegemony in the region by controlling water sources and damaging the agricultural economies of Pakistan. It has not only stopped water during the agricultural season in Pakistan but it has also released water at an alarming rate during the time of monsoon in both countries. The hostile state accumulates water by building ample dams on the rivers that flow into Pakistan and diverts the river courses during monsoons to release too much water toward Pakistan. If India opens the gates of these illegal dams, it can sink Pakistan within 48 hours. Federal Flood Commission, Pakistan reported that due to the malign attitude of India, Pakistan has witnessed 28 super riverine floods in its 75-year history. The first recorded super flood was witnessed in 1950, followed by 1955, 1956, 1957, 1959, and 1973. It is heart-wrenching to say that the country face floods every year since 2010. These floods badly affected 616,558 square kilometers of land, snatched 13,262 precious human lives, and caused hindered of thousands of losses worth over Rs39 billion to the national economy. If present trends persist by the Indian incumbent government, the

entire country may face 'water scarcity' by 2025 as well as deadly floods according to the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics.

Similarly, Bangladesh and Nepal are facing serious difficulties in the agricultural and power sector because of a water grabber in India. India has also water disputes with Nepal and Bangladesh. Critics in Bangladesh feel that Farraka Barrage initiated in 1974 as a trial run has been also wickedly manipulated by India in her favour. According to Think tanks of Bangladesh, the Southwestern region of Bangladesh is being critically affected by the hegemony of India; it allows limited water from the Ganges to Bangladesh. But Pakistan has been hit hard by such heinous techniques of India due to decades-old hostility with the Country as a result of the Partition of Bengal in 1905 and India in 1947 respectively. India is using water as an instrument of war. It aimed at converting grain-producing land of neighboring countries into deserts through inundation and trickling of water.

Pakistan had to learn a lesson from its friendly state China, whose friendship is higher than mountains, deeper than the ocean, and sweeter than honey. China, rising economic power in Asia, refused to enter into any water-sharing agreements like the IWT with its

neighbors and continues to build dams unilaterally on rivers that cross international borders. To conclude, it is high time, the United Nations and world government should convince India and Pakistan to have a dialogue. The situation facing Pakistan calls for extraordinary measures. Problems can only be resolved through dialogue, not war. Fortunately, both states enjoy the full member status of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Therefore, collective efforts are required by the incumbent government of both neighboring states to make necessary amendments in the IWT with their consent as needed in the existing situation in letter and spirit.

<https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2023/06/19/indias-water-terrorism-indias-gross-violations-of-indus-waters-treaty/>

969 MW Neelum Jhelum Project to restart generation by the end of July

The Nation, 20 June 2023

The 969-megawatt Neelum Jhelum Hydro Power Project (NJHPP) will restart power generation by the end of July, almost after a year of its closure. The NJHP power station is likely to resume electricity generation by the end of next month as the remedial works are being carried out in the tail race tunnel of the project, said the management of the NJHP project in a briefing given to

Chairman WAPDA Engr Lt Gen (r) Sajjad Ghani. Power generation from NJHPP had to be discontinued on 4 July 2022, following a malfunction that occurred in the tunnel. NJPP has two tunnels and there was a blockage in one of the three and a half kilometers long tunnels. The consultants, dilating upon the progress of rehabilitation works, briefed the chairman that concrete lining is in progress in the area that had collapsed and caused a blockade of the tail race tunnel. It was informed that the rest of the affected area is also being strengthened through lattice girders and rock bolting followed by shot Crete inside the tunnel. The contractor has been carrying out rehabilitation works round-the-clock following the guidelines of international consultants. The chairman urged the project team to complete the remedial works as per the timeline and restart the NJHP station by the end of next month without any compromise on the structural integrity of the project. It is pertinent to mention that the 969 MW-NJHP started electricity generation in April 2018. Before the blockade of its tail race tunnel last year, the project had provided more than 18 billion units of electricity to the national grid.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/20-Jun-2023/969mw-neelum-jhelum-project-to-restart-generation-by-end-of-july>

CPEC success story reflected in Karot power project, say Senators

Pakistan Observer, 20 June 2023

A Parliamentary delegation visited the Karot Hydropower Project to commemorate its first anniversary and celebrate the 10 years of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the 10 Years of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The delegation was led by Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman Pakistan-China Institute (PCI), and Mustafa Hyder Sayed, Executive Director of PCI. This was the first of its kind cross-party parliamentary delegation to have visited the Karot Hydropower Project (KHP) which included Senator Waleed Iqbal, and Senator Taj Haider among others including the students. The Parliamentary delegation expressed admiration for the commitment of the KHP to clean energy generation and its contribution to Pakistan's development agenda. The delegation was warmly welcomed by Mr. Wang Minsheng, CEO of China Three Gorges South Asia Investment Ltd (CSAIL), who delivered an introductory speech emphasizing the significance of the Karot Project and the operations underway to boost Pakistan's energy sector.

He said that the KHP is the flagship project of CPEC, featuring sincere cooperation and mutual benefit between China and Pakistan. He said that with an annual generating capacity of about 3.2 billion kWh, the project is expected to save about 1.4 million tons of standard coal and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 3.5 million tons each year, meeting the electricity needs of 5 million people in Pakistan.

In an interview given to CCTV, Xinhua, and Phoenix TV, the head of the parliamentary delegation, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed appreciated the project team for the effective operation and maintenance of the KHP. Additionally, he emphasized the importance of CPEC as the backbone of Pakistan's economic growth – voicing optimism regarding the CPEC and regional connectivity to ensure course correction to lessen Pakistan's dependency on IMF. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed also appreciated the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives taken by the Three Gorges Company, in which the company supported a 60-bed THQ Hospital Kahuta, which serves 30,000 patients per month.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-success-story-reflected-in-karot-power-project-say-senators/>

SCO is all set to revolutionize the digital landscape of Mirpur Tehsil of 'AJK'

Pakistan Observer, 21 June 2023

Special Communications Organization (SCO) a leading telecom organization in 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK) and Gilgit Baltistan (GB) is committed to ushering 'AJK' into a new era of innovation by driving digitization efforts across the region. Mirpur stands fortunate as the first tehsil to experience the benefits of digitization through high-speed optical fiber internet. Currently, the fiber cable work has been completed 100% in all the districts of Mirpur. This initiative is set to revolutionize education, foster online businesses, and open up opportunities for online jobs, bringing the region on par with global standards. In the initial phase, 40% of all villages in 'AJK' will be provided with reliable digital infrastructure. This development holds immense significance for the local population, and it marks a pioneering endeavor in Pakistan as a whole. As approximately 60% of Pakistan's population, including 'AJK', is below 25 years old, this mega project by SCO holds tremendous potential to empower the youth and offer them valuable opportunities.

<https://pakobserver.net/sco-all-set-to-revolutionize-digital-landscape-of-mirpur-tehsil-of-ajk/>

'AJK' govt presents Rs 232 billion budget

Business Recorder, 22 June 2023

The 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK) government unveiled its more than 232 billion rupees budget with a development outlay of Rs 42 billion and a deficit of the same amount allocated for development expenditures. Senior Minister, who was allotted the portfolio of Finance last night, Col Waqar Noor (retd) presented the budget in the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal year 2023/24 after approval by the three-member cabinet. The Minister in his budget speech said that the government is committed to the liberation struggle of 'Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK), besides achieving the development goals and well-being of the people of 'AJK' by setting a target to achieve 85 percent literacy rate in the region during the coming fiscal year, which is 70 percent at present. Noor also announced an increase in the salaries of government employees and pensions of retired employees by following the formula of the federal government in his budget speech.

The minister said that the social and production sectors had been given priority in the coming fiscal year budget by an allocation of 14 percent of

funds for the production sector compared to 11 percent of the current fiscal year budget and 31 percent for the social sector compared to 25 percent of current fiscal year budget. He said funds for infrastructure development had been reduced to 55 percent in the coming fiscal year budget instead of 65 percent of the current fiscal year budget allocation as his government believed that real progress was possible through investment in social and production sectors. He also announced to ensure fair use of public vehicles, saying only entitled officers will use one vehicle for official use only and all other vehicles will be collected back from the offices to the transport pool for their disposal in the public interest. He said that the government was devolving powers at the lower level to ensure better dispensation to the people including the financial resources and budgets being allocated at police stations, primary schools, and dispensary levels so that the functioning of basic units could be improved.

<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40249183/ajk-govt-presents-rs232bn-budget>

Stage-I of the Dasu Dam completed

The Express Tribune, 22 June 2023

In a major development for the Dasu Hydropower Project, stage-I of the concrete-starter dam has been

completed upstream of the main dam. As per its design, the starter dam will be completed in two stages. Stage-I of the dam has been elevated up to 785 meters while stage-II will be enhanced to 798 meters above the mean sea level. The stage-I of the dam has been completed in the current month before the high flow season, which is a landmark, said a press release. As the high flow season has started, the Indus River is flowing through the two diversion tunnels completed earlier this year, while some of the river water is overtopping the concrete-starter dam as designed. After the high flow season, construction of the starter dam's stage II will be carried out in October. This stage is scheduled for completion during the low-flow season. The Dasu project is a vital component of the least-cost, green, and clean energy generation plan of the Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA).

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2422946/stage-i-of-dasu-dam-completed>

Chinese investment in GB will be strongly encouraged: GB CM

Dailyk2, 22 June 2023

A delegation from Pakistan, including the provincial ministries of tourism, agriculture, water and power, law, and local administration, was led by the

chief minister of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), Khalid Khurshid, during the festival's closing ceremony in Kashgar, Xinjiang. Senior Chinese government officials, the governor of Xinjiang, as well as delegations from 20 other nations, attended the festival. The Ministry of Commerce of China and the Administrative Committee of Kashgar put together the festival. While addressing the festival, Khalid Khurshid emphasized the strong friendship between Pakistan and China. He expressed gratitude to the Chinese government for their assistance during the recent floods in Pakistan, highlighting the significance of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) for Pakistan's geographical importance. He stated that Pakistan takes pride in its friendship with China and also underlined the opportunities in sectors such as hydroelectricity, agriculture, tourism, and minerals in GB, inviting Chinese investors to explore investment opportunities in the region. He stressed that GB can generate more than 40,000 megawatts of electricity through hydropower and emphasized the potential for collaboration with China in agriculture, minerals, and hydroelectricity, utilizing China's advanced technologies. He also pledged to foster strong cooperation

and provide facilities to Chinese investors in GB. He extended an invitation to the Governor of Xinjiang and Chinese investors to visit GB.

<https://www.dailyk2.com/Post/15149>

Protesters block Karakoram Highway over 'misuse' of flood-aid money

Dawn, 23 June 2023

Flood-affected people from Jaglot blocked the Karakoram Highway to stage a protest against the alleged misuse of rehabilitation funds. According to the protesters, glacial lake outburst flooding caused a blockage of the Hunza River last year, which diverted the water toward residential areas. This caused property damage, submerging eight homes, cultivated land, fish farms, and shops. They claimed that the Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) government promised to rehabilitate the affected areas which included the channelisation of rivers, reconstruction of homes, and construction of protective walls to make the area safe from disasters through a 13 million allocation. However, they said the promises were not fulfilled and the affected people were still living in tents. The protesters, including women and children, also demanded a thorough investigation into the alleged mismanagement of Rs3 billion funds approved by the prime minister. The

Karakoram Highway is a national highway that extends from Punjab to the Khunjerab Pass in GB and ends on the border with China. This highway serves as a connection between Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, GB, and China's Xinjiang region.

KIU staff protest

On the other hand, employees at Karakoram International University (KIU) in Gilgit boycotted the classes and administrative operations to record their protest against the decision to pay half their salaries for June. University Road was blocked by the protesters as they gathered for a sit-in at Globe Chowk. The employees claimed that the university has been severely affected by the financial crisis lately which has led to the salary cuts for all staff members, adding that they have staged several protests before but HEC ignored their plight and did not provide any financial assistance. The affected employees demanded immediate attention from the GB government and Higher Education Commission. They called on HEC to provide a special bailout package of Rs200 million, similar to the support extended to universities in other provinces.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1761234/protesters-block-karakoram-highway-over-misuse-of-flood-aid-money>

From Vernacular Urdu Media

Australia should play its role in resolving Kashmir issue: 'AJK' President

Urdupoint, 19 June 2023

The President of 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK), Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry in his meeting with the Australian High Commissioner, Mr. Neil Hawkins said that Australia should participate in resolving the Kashmir dispute. Mehmood noted that following Australia's strong human rights record and being a common friend of India and Pakistan, Australia can play a better role in resolving the Kashmir dispute. He further claimed that the Indian 'occupation troops' have been violating the human rights of Kashmiris on an unprecedented scale in the 'Indian-occupied' territory of Jammu and Kashmir. He said that it was high time that Australia should use its political and diplomatic clout to help resolve the dispute that has been the main cause and consequence of violence in the region.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/islamabad/kashmir/live-news-3624458.html>

Over 40,000 Kashmiri refugees are compelled to live in despair as a result of Indian state aggression

Urdupoint, 20 June 2023

Since Jammu and Kashmir have been 'illegally occupied' by India, thousands of Kashmiris have been forced to flee their homes in the past 34 years and live as refugees outside the 'occupied area' as a result of Indian 'state terrorism.' According to Kashmir Media Services (KMS) in its report commemorating World Refugee Day, more than 40,000 Kashmiris, including men, women, and children, are being forced to live as refugees. The KMS claimed that 'Hindu extremists' from the Dogra army and the RSS forcibly removed hundreds of Muslims from Jammu in 1947 and that more than 25 lakh Kashmiris have sought asylum outside of their home country since 1947 in places including 'Azad Kashmir', Pakistan, and the United Kingdom. According to the report, forceful evictions intended to change the region's population composition and transform it into a Hindu state are putting the survival of the Muslim majority in 'occupied' Jammu and Kashmir in jeopardy. The report urged the international community to pay attention to India's

'sinister anti-Kashmir objectives' in 'occupied' Jammu and Kashmir.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/islamabad/kashmir/live-news-3625217.html>

Amit Shah's visit to 'IIOJK' tantamount to rubbing salt on the wounds of the Kashmiri people: APHC leader

Jammu and Kashmir Times, 23 June 2023

Mehmood Ahmed Saghar, the convener of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference's 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (APHC-AJK) chapter, claims that the upcoming visit of Indian home minister Amit Shah to 'Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK) tantamount to rubbing salt on the wounds of the Kashmiri people. Saghar claimed that Amit Shah's visit is a 'political drama' intended to advance the 'Hindutva agenda' by dividing the population. He said by such political gimmick, the Indian government is trying to cover up the grave human rights situation in 'occupied' Jammu and Kashmir. He claimed that Amit Shah is the mastermind of Articles 370 and 35A abrogation, which snatched away the basic rights of people and gave a free hand to the 'Indian forces' to silence the political voices in Jammu and Kashmir with brute force.

He alleged that the 'illegal detention' of thousands of people including APHC

leadership, attachment of their properties and land, and other anti-Kashmir moves of the Indian government and their collaborator in 'IIOJK' will be challenged and resisted. He added that no one would be allowed to suppress the Kashmiris' righteous political demand for the right to self-determination. He said that the intensification of state terrorism and atrocities would neither deter the Kashmiris from continuing their struggle for the right to self-determination nor would such tactics affect United Nations Security Council resolutions on Kashmir. He said that the Kashmiris are demanding their right to self-determination recognized by the international community through the UN resolutions, stressing that India must be pressurized to honour international commitments on Kashmir and that an unresolved Kashmir dispute has put a question mark on UN's credibility.

<http://jammukashmirtimes.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Resize-of-front-page-6.jpg>

'AJK' PM denounces the Indian Army's targeting of innocent civilians in the Satwal sector of the Line of Control

Urdupoint, 24 June 2023

While 'condemning' the Indian forces' 'unprovoked firing' that 'targeted innocent civilians' in the Satwal sector

of the Line of Control (LoC), Prime Minister of 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK), Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has appealed to the Security Council, the United Nations, and other international organisations to take effective notice of India's 'blatant aggression.'

He claimed that India is now exposed on the international stage due to the poor political and human rights situation in 'occupied Kashmir.' While referring to India's 'unjustified firing' on the LoC resulted in the 'martyrdom' of two people and the serious injury of one, he praised the sacrifices made by those who reside along the LoC, saying that Kashmiris have endured the brunt of fire along the LoC with the utmost bravery. He claimed that despite Indian firing, Kashmiris who live close to the LoC fight alongside the Pakistani Army to protect the nation's territorial integrity. Anwar-ul-Haq also praised the extraordinary sacrifices made by the Pakistani military.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/muzaffarabad/national-news/live-news-3631329.html>

[Social Media \(tweets\)](#)

israruddin israr @israruddinisrar

Flood affectees in Guru Jiglote Gilgit staged a protest against arrest of their committee members. They have been

protesting in favour of their demands for the last one year. Instead of fulfilling their demands the local administration has arrested their leaders.

Images in the link.

<https://twitter.com/israruddinisrar/status/1671729007685935107>

ShabbirMir Shina @ShabbirMir

23 June 2023

The much awaited first "press conference" from PTI in Gilgit comes today as Provincial Vice President Bushra Pirzada announced parting ways with PTI and @ImranKhanPTI. Condemning May 9, she said she could not go along with Imran Khan's anti-state narrative anymore!

<https://twitter.com/ShabbirMir/status/1672204660818554880>

Basharat Issa @BasharatIssa

23 June 2023

Mining mafia is active throughout Gilgit-Baltistan fooling innocent locals with the help of local facilitators. This is something not talked about much but is an alarming situation disturbing the fragile ecology of GB.

#GilgitBaltistan #Mafias #ClimateCrisis.

<https://twitter.com/BasharatIssa/status/1672120125242191872>

HRCP AJK @HRCPAJK*24 June 2023*

We condemn the joint statement of India and America against Pakistan. India has been involved in human rights violations in Occupied Kashmir for the past seven and a half decades. India has deprived the people of Occupied Kashmir of their right to self-determination. US President @JoeBiden should have bothered to ask Indian Prime Minister @narendramodi why India is not restoring the constitutional status of Occupied Kashmir? Muslims, Christians and Sikh minorities in India suffer from insecurity. India itself is involved in serious human rights violations.

@amnestysasia @UNHumanRights
@UN @hrw @hrc @hrf

<https://twitter.com/HRCPAJK/status/1672523011503828992>

Sohaib Khan @iamsardarsohaib*25 June 2023*

Indian army opened fire on three innocent citizens of so-called AJK. Pakistan army stopped locals to go down to help the injured. The injured lay there for half an hour as the Pakistan Army did not allow people to go for help. One of them died there. Locals resisted, after resistance of one &

half hours, locals managed to go down by sidelining the Pakistan army. When locals rescued them, there was no facility of first aid in Tatrinoth govt hospital. There was no ambulance available, injured carried on Shahzor to Hajira.

<https://twitter.com/iamsardarsohaib/status/1672677648366018567>

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Compiled by

Mohd. Usman Bhatti and Muneeb Yousuf

Edited By

Dr. Smruti S Pattanaik

Disclaimer

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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