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## AJK PM reaffirms Kashmiris' commitment to continue freedom struggle despite all challenges

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Published on July 27, 2025

Document Date: Sat, Jun 13 2026 11:18:10 pm

Category: ,English,Kashmir - ~ ,Snippets

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MIRPUR (AJK): July 26: Reiterating that the right to self-determination is a non-negotiable right of the Kashmiri people, the AJK Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Chaudhry affirmed the commitment to continue the freedom struggle despite all challenges.

He was talking to a 105-member delegation of the 16th Balochistan National Workshop, which led by Brigadier Bilal Ghafoor, called on him at the state metropolis on Saturday.

The delegation discussed current Kashmir situation besides the matters of mass public welfare progress and prosperity in the state, official sources said.z” During the meeting, the Prime Minister briefed the delegation on the prevailing political and human rights situation in Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, as well as the key initiatives his government has undertaken to ensure good governance and the rule of law in AJK”, am AJK Government spokesman later told APP Correspondent late Saturday.

Referring to the UN Charter, he stated that Kashmiris reserve the right to self-defense against Indian aggression.

Terming Jihad as an irrefutable reality, the PM said, “We should not shy away from discussing it”.

Referring to Kashmiris’ commitment to the state of Pakistan, he said, “Pakistan is part of the faith of the Kashmiri people.”

Condemning India for sponsoring terrorism in Pakistan, he described the “Fitna-ul-Kharij” as “Fitna-ul-Hindustan,” saying that India was also spending billions not only to destabilize Pakistan but also fomenting trouble in Azad Kashmir. He pointed out that India was running

global disinformation campaigns through fake social media accounts to malign AJK and Pakistan.

The Prime Minister said that India's new war doctrine aims to create chaos and manipulate young minds through misinformation. He said that Indian-funded terrorist networks in Balochistan were using sophisticated weapons. "The question is where are these advanced weapons coming from? Who is supplying them?" he asked.

While acknowledging the people's right to protest for their legitimate demands, he stressed that it must remain within constitutional limits. He warned that the state would act firmly if anyone tried to impose their ideology through force.

On cross-LoC trade, the PM made it clear that no trade with India could take place from AJK until India abandons its aggressive posture and adopts a path of peace. "We must reject all externally sponsored agendas to ensure the development of the state," he emphasized.

Highlighting his government's focus on merit and transparency, he noted that his administration had faced regular protests but resolved issues through dialogue and prudent decision-making.

Speaking on public subsidies, the PM revealed that the government was spending Rs. 71 billion on subsidized flour and electricity, yet the state was running a surplus of Rs. 19 billion. "We have taken significant steps in the past two years, including action against corruption and mafias," he

added.

“We have broken a decades-long status quo and prioritized merit. When I took office, the Prime Minister’s Secretariat budget was Rs. 640 million—today, it stands at Rs. 290 million,” he said.

“Serving people is my mission; power is divine trust, not a privilege,” he remarked, stressing that public service was not possible under an exploitative system.

He further shared that the Public Service Commission had been reactivated and nearly 3,000 teachers were recruited through NTS on merit.

Expressing deep concern over the deteriorating human rights situation in Indian-occupied Kashmir, he said Indian atrocities had escalated since the abrogation of Article 370. He voiced hope that the sacrifices of the Kashmiri people would eventually bear fruit and the region would be freed from Indian occupation.

Ministers Pir Muhammad Mazhar Saeed Shah, Abdul Majid Khan, and Mian Abdul Waheed were also present at the meeting.