

### [SC can review 17th Amendment, says Chaudhry](#)

**Daily Times, 5 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry on Monday observed that the Supreme Court is completely empowered to examine or review the 17th Amendment – which is protected under Article 270-AA of the Constitution – if the need arises. Heading a three-member bench consisting of Justice Raja Fayyaz and Justice Chaudhry Ejaz – the chief justice made the observation while dismissing an appeal filed by the Capital Development Authority (CDA) seeking to cancel the allotment of a plot to an employee

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\05\story\\_5-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\05\story_5-5-2009_pg1_1)

### [Taliban using people as human shield, says ISPR](#)

**Daily Times, 5 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: The Taliban have made about 2,000 civilians in Buner hostage and are using them as human shield, the chief military spokesman said on Monday. Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director General Major Gen Athar Abbas told the state-run PTV that the Taliban had made the civilians hostage in Peer Baba and Sultan Was areas according to intelligence reports, and were not allowing them to leave.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\05\story\\_5-5-2009\\_pg1\\_5](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\05\story_5-5-2009_pg1_5)

### [US options in Pakistan limited](#)

**Daily Times, 5 May 2009**

LAHORE/ WASHINGTON: In briefings last week, senior US officials told US President Barack Obama and his National Security Council that neither a Taliban takeover nor a military coup was imminent and that the Pakistani nuclear arsenal was safe, the Washington Post has reported. For the longer term, however, the intelligence was far from reassuring. Security was deteriorating and there were signs that groups sympathetic to the Taliban were working in Punjab. The political leadership was mired in bickering; the army remained ill-equipped and unwilling to fight the insurgency.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\05\story\\_5-5-2009\\_pg1\\_10](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\05\story_5-5-2009_pg1_10)

### [Editorial: A turning point?](#)

**News, 5 May 2009**

President Zardari arrives in the US at a moment that could mark a key turning point in Pak-US relations. Days before the trip, the Pakistan civilian government had been torn apart in a searing attack from President Barack Obama himself. Another US official was quoted as implying the government in Islamabad would not survive beyond a few weeks if it failed to tackle militancy. The denials and other comments intended to soften the blow, including that from the US Special Envoy to Pakistan Richard Holbrooke, can have only partial impact under these circumstances. The task of the president and his team is thus clearly a tough one. Washington has made it quite clear it has little faith in the ability of Pakistan to deal with terror. It has also identified what it sees as multiple areas of weakness.

[http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily\\_detail.asp?id=175824](http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily_detail.asp?id=175824)

### [Sikhs banished by Taliban want to migrate to India](#)

**Asian Age, 6 May 2009**

May 5: Scores of Sikh families, banished from Pakis-tan's tribal areas by Taliban militants, want to migrate and settle in India for good, this newspaper learned. "We can't say anything openly against the Taliban as we fear for our lives. What we will prefer is to migrate to India where we will have more freedom," a Sikh, a doctor by profession, told this newspaper. He added, "We have conveyed this to the Pakistan government but they have promised us that things will change and we will be secure." The Sikhs approached by this newspaper requested anonymity fearing Taliban reprisals.

<http://www.asianage.com/presentation/leftnavigation/news/top-story/sikhs-banished-by-taliban-want-to-migrate-to-india-.aspx>

### [PML-N will consider joining federal cabinet](#)

**Daily Times, 6 May 2009**

LAHORE/ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) would consider joining the federal cabinet, the Financial Times newspaper quoted a senior party leader as saying on Tuesday. The senior politician told the newspaper that PML-N chief Nawaz Sharif wanted to assure foreign powers, including the US, that he had no intention of trying to destabilise the elected government.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\06\story\\_6-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\06\story_6-5-2009_pg1_1)

### [15 Taliban, two soldiers killed in Mohmand clash](#)

**Daily Times, 6 May 2009**

GHALANAI: Fifteen Taliban and two security force personnel were killed in a Taliban attack on Spinki Tangi checkpoint in Mohmand Agency, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Tuesday. It also said six of the troops had gone missing after the assault. The Taliban attacked the checkpoint around 3:30am on Tuesday. The security forces retaliated by pounding Taliban hideouts in Baizai and Safi tehsils of Mohmand.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\06\story\\_6-5-2009\\_pg1\\_6](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\06\story_6-5-2009_pg1_6)

### [Tripled expectations](#)

**News, 6 May 2009**

The Kerry-Lugar bill, under which US military and non-military aid to Pakistan would triple to \$1.5 billion a year, has been tabled in the US Senate. Senators John Kerry and Richard Lugar have also called for it to be processed quickly given the situation in Pakistan. The bill and its contents will naturally remain at the centre of attention as President Asif Ali Zardari begins his visit to Washington where he is to meet with President Obama. Islamabad will of course be hoping the bill meets with Senate approval. The assistance it offers would of course be eagerly received. But there must also be recognition that the proposed legislation ups the expectations – stressing that Pakistan must tackle militancy and ensure no help is offered to terrorist groups from its soil. Its failure to persuade the world of its ability to guarantee this has, so far, cost Pakistan rather heavily. It is today in danger of becoming a true outcast among nations and a focal point for the spread of global

terrorism

[http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily\\_detail.asp?id=175972](http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily_detail.asp?id=175972)

### [140 Taliban killed in 'full-scale' Swat operation](#)

**Daily Times, 9 May 2009**

RAWALPINDI: The security forces killed more than 140 Taliban as the military operation continued in the restive Swat valley on Friday. Thirteen of them were killed in a major gunbattle at Matta police station. Seven soldiers were also killed as the security forces took control of Khawazakhela and Chamtalai, ISPR Director General Maj Gen Athar Abbas said in a media briefing

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\09\story\\_9-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\09\story_9-5-2009_pg1_1)

### [Swat residents ready to pay any price for peace](#)

**Daily Times, 9 May 2009**

PESHAWAR: The 'bitter experience' of Taliban rule has hardened the local population, who are now willing to accept a higher degree of collateral damage as a price for the security forces wiping out extremist elements from Swat district. "We will rebuild our homes, but would not want to see the presence of even a single Talib after this operation," displaced residents of Mingora said upon their arrival in Peshawar on Friday

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\09\story\\_9-5-2009\\_pg1\\_4](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\09\story_9-5-2009_pg1_4)

### [Afghan Leader Says Civilian Deaths Strain Ties With U.S.](#)

**New York Times, 9 May 2009**

Afghan Leader Says Civilian Deaths Strain Ties With U.S.

WASHINGTON — President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan on Friday disputed criticism by the Obama administration that his government was not doing all it could to fight corruption. He said instead that any gulf between the countries had more to do with the civilian toll of American airstrikes in Afghanistan. In a wide-ranging round table with reporters at the Willard Hotel here, Mr. Karzai called news reports of a widening chasm with Washington overblown, although he acknowledged that his relationship with President Obama had yet to warm to the levels that he shared with President George W. Bush. "With President Bush, we began this journey together," Mr. Karzai said, adding that the two had "seven years of a relationship."

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/09/world/asia/09policy.html?\\_r=1&ref=global-home&pagewanted=print](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/09/world/asia/09policy.html?_r=1&ref=global-home&pagewanted=print)

### [Pakistan Reinforcing Army in Taliban Battle](#)

**Washington Post, 9 May 2009**

Pakistan has told the Obama administration that it is sending an additional six army brigades to join a major government offensive against Taliban forces in the northwestern part of the country, and it has pledged to hold territory where extremist forces are dislodged, Pakistani and U.S. officials said yesterday. Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari said domestic support for the offensive, combined with U.S. assistance, would allow the effort to succeed where two previous military drives into the Swat Valley and surrounding territory failed.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/08/AR2009050803950\\_pf.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/08/AR2009050803950_pf.html)

### **India not a "threat" to Pakistan: Zardari**

**Hindu, 10 May 2009**

Washington (PTI): In a rare admission by a Pakistani leader, President Asif Ali Zardari has said India is not a "threat" to his country, hours after he confirmed that Islamabad had moved some of its forces from its eastern border to eliminate Taliban in its tribal belt. "Well, I am already on record. I have never considered India a threat," Mr. Zardari said in an interview on the PBS news channel's popular show "Newshour With Jim Lehrer" on Saturday.

<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/holnus/000200905101851.htm>

### **N' will be invited to cabinet after its demands met: PM**

**Daily Times, 10 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) will be asked to join the federal cabinet after the government meets its demands, including the repeal of the 17th Amendment, Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said on Saturday. He said the Pakistan People's Party had good relations with the PML-N and its leader Nawaz Sharif had provided much needed support to the government on various occasions

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\10\story\\_10-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\10\story_10-5-2009_pg1_1)

### **Scores dead as drone hits Mehsud stronghold**

**Daily Times, 10 May 2009**

TANK: Four missiles fired by a suspected US drone on Saturday killed several Taliban in South Waziristan, although exact figures could not be determined. Officials claimed 10 Taliban had been killed, a deputy Taliban commander said five were killed, the political administration claimed nine Taliban were killed, while tribesmen claimed they had counted 25 bodies.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\10\story\\_10-5-2009\\_pg1\\_3](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\10\story_10-5-2009_pg1_3)

### **Editorial: Onward march**

**News, 10 May 2009**

The Pakistan military is suddenly speaking with a new, more confident voice, as it goes after the militants in both Swat and Dir with a new vigour. The extent of the army's resolve is discernible in the fact that the COAS sat through much of Thursday night, discussing strategy with senior aides. Initial reports suggest the planning is working, with militants stated to be on the retreat. One hundred and forty have been killed in Swat, 80 in Lower Dir. We can predict several things at this point: As their desperation grows, the Taliban will attempt to strike back the only way they know how – through suicide bombings, and kidnappings and other acts of violence targeting mainly innocent people. The reports that the DIG Kohat is missing suggests they have already started out on such a line of action, hoping that by holding hostages they can blackmail the authorities into submission. The failure to stand up to the militants previously, most notably after 2001 as the groups we battle today first began to regroup and entrench themselves in the northern areas, is a mistake we are paying dearly for today

[http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily\\_detail.asp?id=176789](http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily_detail.asp?id=176789)

### [200 Taliban killed in Swat operation](#)

**Daily Times, 11 May 2009**

RAWALPINDI: The security forces said on Sunday they had killed up to 200 Taliban in 24 hours during the on-going operation in Swat as they secured the Shangla top and important towns and ridges in Dir and Buner. Troops engaged the Taliban in their Peochar headquarters and at hideouts in Kanju, Mingora, Banai Baba, Namal, Qambar, Fizagath, Tiligram and Chamtalai, the Inter-Services Public Relations directorate said in an update

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\11\story\\_11-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\11\story_11-5-2009_pg1_1)

### [44 Taliban killed as troops repel attacks in FATA](#)

**Daily Times, 11 May 2009**

PESHAWAR: Twenty-six Taliban were killed in a fierce three-hour encounter that followed a Taliban attack on a Frontier Corps camp in Ambar valley of Mohmand Agency, and another 18 were killed when troops retaliated to an attack on their convoy in South Waziristan. In Mohmand, about 150 heavily armed Taliban launched a midnight attack on an FC camp in Had, the FC said in a press release. Four FC soldiers were also injured during the ensuing battle. In South Waziristan, Taliban attacked a security convoy in Spin area south of Tanai. An officer, Captain Muneeb, also died in the attack

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\11\story\\_11-5-2009\\_pg1\\_2](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\11\story_11-5-2009_pg1_2)

### [Pakistan faces biggest migration since 1947](#)

**Daily Times, 11 May 2009**

LAHORE: Aid agencies have warned of up to 500,000 people from the country's northwest fleeing their homes. The UN said an estimated 200,000 have fled the Swat valley this week alone. Another 300,000 are poised to flee if they get the chance. This would mean a total of one million people forced away from their homes by fighting in the past 12 months – the biggest internal displacement in Pakistan since independence. "People are in shock. In some cases their homes have been destroyed. They are wondering when they'll be able to go back. Others already say they will not be able to go back," a UNICEF official interviewed in a Mardan refugee camp said

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\11\story\\_11-5-2009\\_pg1\\_8](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\11\story_11-5-2009_pg1_8)

### [Editorial: Tackling Balochistan](#)

**News, 11 May 2009**

The prime minister is said to have given directions for a constitutional package to be worked out which can address the sense of deprivation of the people of Balochistan. It is not yet clear what the package will consist of, but it will need to incorporate concerns about financial resources available to the province and the degree of autonomy it enjoys. The question will be whether the package can undo the damage inflicted by the harsh comments made a few weeks ago by the interior adviser who, with astonishing insensitivity, slammed Baloch nationalists. Sometimes one wonders if those who make up the government sit together and determine policy, before making statements. Too often it seems individuals act on their own initiative and that

the Islamabad setup as a whole lacks a clear-cut line of collective action

[http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily\\_detail.asp?id=176844](http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily_detail.asp?id=176844)

**[10 dead in Darra Adam Khel suicide attack](#)**  
**News, 11 May 2009**

PESHAWAR: Ten people have been killed and more than 15 including women injured in a suicide attack at FC checkpoint in semi tribal area of Darra Adam Khel. According to sources, eight civilians and two security men have been killed when a suicide bomber blown up himself at FC checkpoint in Sabina police station jurisdiction. The injured have been shifted to Hyattabad Medical Complex. Security forces have cordoned off the area after the blast

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/updates.asp?id=77339>

**[Troops heading towards Mingora from two directions : Army ready for house-to-house combat: ISPR](#)**  
**Daily Times, 12 May 2009**

LAHORE: The military is prepared for house-to-house combat to flush out the Taliban from their urban strongholds in Swat. "We have prepared for house-to-house fighting but if the militants leave Mingora, then we will avoid it," Maj Gen Athar Abbas said. He said forces were heading towards Mingora from two directions. They would link up before assailing the city in force.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\12\story\\_12-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\12\story_12-5-2009_pg1_1)

**[India kept in the loop on AfPak: Holbrooke](#)**  
**Hindu, 13 May 2009**

May 12: Describing India as a "great regional power", a senior official of the Obama administration told the US Congress on Tuesday that New Delhi as being kept "fully informed" on all policies of the American government on Pakistan and Afghanistan. Richard Holbrooke, special US representative for Pakistan and Afghanistan, however, refrained from making much comment on India's role and US government expectations from New Delhi in this regard. Mr Holbrooke had recently visited the region, including India

<http://www.asianage.com/presentation/leftnavigation/news/top-story/india-kept-in-the-loop-on-afpak-holbrooke.aspx>

**[NA echoes with support for Swat operation](#)**  
**Daily Times, 13 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: Members of the National Assembly on Tuesday unanimously backed government and army efforts aimed at crushing the Taliban and those challenging the writ of the state in troubled areas. Members from almost all major parties – the ruling PPP, the PML-N, the PML-Q, the MQM, the ANP – and independents who took part in a discussion on the situation in Swat and Malakand assured the government and the armed forces of their full support in the military operation.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\13\story\\_13-5-](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\13\story_13-5-)

2009\_pg1\_1

### [UK, France stand by Pakistan](#)

**Daily Times, 13 May 2009**

NEW YORK: French and British foreign ministers on Monday assured Islamabad of their countries' support for Pakistan's drive against extremism, after they separately met President Asif Zardari. French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner lauded the leadership demonstrated by Zardari during the challenging times, a press release by the Pakistan mission said. British Foreign Secretary David Miliband reiterated Britain's backing for Pakistan's policies, hoping Islamabad succeeds in overcoming its challenges.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\13\story\\_13-5-2009\\_pg1\\_2](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\13\story_13-5-2009_pg1_2)

### [School blown up in Jamrud](#)

**Daily Times, 13 May 2009**

JAMRUD: Unidentified men on Tuesday blew up a boys' primary school in Ali Masjid area of Jamrud tehsil in Khyber Agency. During the last two days two schools have been destroyed in the region. The Taliban have claimed responsibility for both attacks. Separately, security forces demolished two houses owned by Taliban leaders, Yahya Hijrat and Muhammad Amin, in Ghundai area of the tehsil. Talking to Daily Times, a political administration official said Hijrat was arrested during operation Darghnam while another wanted man, Rahimullah, handed himself over to the administration

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\13\story\\_13-5-2009\\_pg1\\_7](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\13\story_13-5-2009_pg1_7)

### [Editorial:IDP issues](#)

**News, 13 May 2009**

The NWFP government says there are now at least 700,000 IDPs in the country. Many have yet to be registered. While concern is growing over their plight, and agencies including the UNHCR and the ICRC have made appeals for immediate help, there are many issues that need to be considered. One of these is that the vast majority of IDPs are opting to move in with relatives or rent out accommodation, even when the rates are exorbitant given that many of those forced out of homes are no longer working and have only limited savings. This means the strategy of setting up camp villages which have already appeared in Mardan, Swabi and other places across NWFP is somewhat less effective than it may have been in other circumstances. There are cultural reasons linked to the behaviour of the IDPs. Even though some concede they would have better access to food and other forms of relief at camps, they argue that their women observe 'pardah' and cannot be put up in tents living next door to strangers.

[http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily\\_detail.asp?id=177329](http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily_detail.asp?id=177329)

### [Commandos dropped into Taliban headquarters](#)

**Daily Times, 14 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: In a major development in the military operation in Swat, army helicopters dropped soldiers into the key Taliban stronghold of Peochar valley on Tuesday. "Their mission is to conduct search and destroy operations," Major General Athar Abbas told a news conference

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\13\story\\_13-5-2009\\_pg1\\_6](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\13\story_13-5-2009_pg1_6)

### **No transit rights to India under Pak-Afghan agreement**

**Hindu, 14 May 2009**

Islamabad (PTI): Pakistan on Thursday said that no transit rights have been granted to India under an MoU Islamabad has signed with Kabul for concluding a trade pact and the agreement was strictly a bilateral matter with Afghanistan. Foreign Office spokesman Abdul Basit said the MoU signed between Pakistan and Afghanistan in Washington envisages the finalisation of a transit trade agreement between the two countries by the end of the year.

<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/holnus/001200905142011.htm>

### **Pakistan wants 'ownership' of US drones: Zardari**

**Daily Times, 14 May 2009**

LONDON: Pakistan has asked Washington for 'ownership' of US drones conducting attacks on its territory, President Asif Ali Zardari said on Wednesday. "We've asked for the ownership of the drones," he said. He said the fight against the Taliban would be a long-term struggle, and underlined the importance of defeating them, AFP reported. Earlier, Pakistan and the UK agreed to broaden their cooperation by establishing strategic dialogue through four points to promote mutual prosperity and stability

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\14\story\\_14-5-2009\\_pg1\\_2](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\14\story_14-5-2009_pg1_2)

### **Editorial: Helping hands**

**News, 14 May 2009**

The Special Representative for Pakistan and Afghanistan Richard Holbrooke has made an ardent appeal for help for Pakistan. He and Senator John Kerry have made renewed attempts to push through the Kerry-Lugar bill, under which military and non-military aid for Pakistan would go up. Urgent meetings are also on at the White House on how to help the millions displaced in Pakistan. Latest reports state this figure may be approaching the 900,000 mark. Pakistan will of course be hoping the aid packages come through fast. Early reports from Mardan state the conditions at the camp set up there are dismal, with many of those forced to live in flimsy tents that offer no protection from heat already falling sick. High heat adds to their misery. One can only imagine what conditions will be if massive help is not offered

[http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily\\_detail.asp?id=177403](http://thenews.jang.com.pk/daily_detail.asp?id=177403)

### **47 Taliban killed: Foreigners fighting alongside Taliban in Malakand: ISPR**

**Daily Times, 17 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: Claiming significant achievements in the ongoing military operation against Taliban in Malakand division, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) on Saturday confirmed the presence of hardcore foreign militants fighting alongside the Taliban against security forces. ISPR spokesman Maj Gen Athar Abbas told reporters during the daily press briefing that 47 terrorists had been killed in various areas during the last 24 hours. Maj Gen Abbas said some 'key' foreign intelligence agencies were also involved in the insurgency

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\17\story\\_17-5-2009\\_pg1\\_5](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\17\story_17-5-2009_pg1_5)

### [Drone slaughters 29](#)

**Dawn, 17 May 2009**

MIRAMSHAH, May 16: Twenty-nine people were killed when a US drone fired two missiles at a residential compound in the Mirali tehsil of North Waziristan tribal region on Saturday. Residents said the remotely piloted aircraft fired the missiles at the house of Hikmat Roshan in Khaisore village. The house was reduced to rubble while a nearby religious seminary was damaged. They said it was the third drone attack in Khaisore village, about five kilometres south of Mirali town. Khushali Torikhel clan of the Wazir tribe is predominant in the village

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/drone-slaughters-29-759>

### [400 foreigners among militants in Swat: ISPR](#)

**Dawn, 17 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD, May 16: The army claimed on Saturday that hundreds of foreign nationals were among the militants battling security forces in Swat. "These are militants from countries bordering Afghanistan," military spokesman Maj-Gen Athar Abbas told a press briefing, but did not name the countries. He said that about 4,000 militants were fighting in Swat and 10 per cent of them (about 400) were foreign militants. He said that infiltration from countries bordering Afghanistan was also taking place

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/400-foreigners-among-militants-in-swat-ispr-759>

### [Zardari seeks drone technology: Pakistan to take Taliban war into Tribal Areas](#)

**Daily Times, 18 May 2009**

LAHORE: Pakistan will soon extend its war on the Taliban to the Tribal Areas bordering Afghanistan, President Asif Zardari said on Sunday. "We're going to go into Waziristan, all these regions, with army operations," he told The Sunday Times in an interview. "Swat is just the start. [There's] a larger war to fight."

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\18\story\\_18-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\18\story_18-5-2009_pg1_1)

### [Waziristan next, says Zardari](#)

**Dawn, 18 May 2009**

LONDON, May 17: Pakistan is to extend its war on the Taliban beyond Swat into the fiercely independent tribal areas bordering Afghanistan where Osama bin Laden and the Al Qaeda leadership are believed to be hiding. "We're going to go into Waziristan, all these regions, with army operations," President Asif Ali Zardari told The Sunday Times in an interview. "Swat is just the start. It's a larger war to fight."

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/waziristan-next,-says-zardari-859>

### [All options open on securing Pak nukes: Obama](#)

**News, 18 May 2009**

WASHINGTON/NEW YORK: US President Barack Obama has voiced confidence in the safety of Pakistan's nuclear assets. But at the same time, he made it clear that he could consider all options to secure the nuclear weapons, if the country got less stable. "Pakistan's nuclear arsenal is safe," he said in an interview with the Newsweek magazine. "I don't want to engage in hypotheses around Pakistan, other than to say we have confidence that Pakistan's nuclear arsenal is safe; that the Pakistani military is equipped to prevent extremists from taking over those arsenals. As commander-in-chief, I have to consider all options, but I think that Pakistan's sovereignty has to be respected," he said

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22184](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22184)

### **[US believes Pakistan rapidly expanding nukes](#)**

**Daily Times, 19 May 2009**

WASHINGTON: Pakistan is rapidly expanding its nuclear arsenal, raising questions in the US Congress whether proposed military aid to the country could be diverted to its nuclear programme, The New York Times reported late on Sunday. The newspaper said members of Congress had been told about Pakistan's nuclear by Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff – who denied on Tuesday that Pakistan was using US funds to expand its nuclear programme

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\19\story\\_19-5-2009\\_pg1\\_4](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\19\story_19-5-2009_pg1_4)

### **[Editorial: A broader front against Taliban](#)**

**Daily Times, 19 May 2009**

President Asif Ali Zardari said Sunday that the Pakistan Army would be going into other tribal areas of the country in the hunt for the Taliban. He explained that the army had 150,000 troops there and it was already costing a billion dollars; an expansion would depend on how much the world would want to help. The collateral fallout will include more refugees, but then their quick return would depend very much on the success of the army operations. And for all this the world would have to help financially because Pakistan was in the eye of a global Taliban threat

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\19\story\\_19-5-2009\\_pg3\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\19\story_19-5-2009_pg3_1)

### **[The march of folly: Obama's four-word AfPak strategy](#)**

**Asian Age, 20 May 2009**

By Brahma Chellaney

May 20 : Now that the national election is over, Indian diplomacy will face demands to aid US President Barack Obama's strategy on Afghanistan-Pakistan (AfPak). To win greater Pakistani military cooperation on the Afghan frontier, Mr Obama is seeking New Delhi's assistance on at least two fronts — border-troop reductions and a resumption of "peace" talks with Islamabad. India can assist to the extent that its own interests are safe. India has no offensively-configured troop formations along the Pakistan border, and any cut in border deployments must not provide the Pakistani military an opening to infiltrate more armed terrorists into India. New Delhi has no quarrel with Pakistan's fledgling civilian government, but a renewed bilateral dialogue can be meaningful only if Islamabad goes beyond cosmetic measures against its military-nurtured, India-directed Punjabi terror groups, like the Lashkar-e-Tayyaba and Jaish-e-Mohammad

<http://www.asianage.com/presentation/leftnavigation/opinion/op-ed/the-march-of-fully-obama's-four-word-afpak-strategy.aspx>

### [Troops fight Taliban on Swat streets](#)

**Daily Times, 20 May 2009**

RAWALPINDI: A major and three soldiers were killed in the ongoing military operation in Swat as security forces killed 16 more Taliban in fierce street battles in 24 hours. With the area surrounded by the forces, Major Abid was hit in an exchange of fire with the Taliban inside Matta. Casualties: "Operation Rah-e-Rast is making headway as planned, and in last 24 hours, 16 Taliban were killed ... an officer and three soldiers also died," said the ISPR in a statement

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\20\story\\_20-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\20\story_20-5-2009_pg1_1)

### [Location of all Pakistan nukes not known: CIA](#)

**Dawn, 20 May 2009**

LOS ANGELES, May 19: CIA Director Leon Panetta has said the United States does not know the location of all of Pakistan's nuclear weapons but is confident they are secure. Mr Panetta spoke days after the top US military officer told Congress there was evidence Pakistan was adding to its nuclear weapons systems and warheads. Pakistan, however, denies this. The CIA director was asked about Pakistan's nuclear programme at a forum organised by the Pacific Council on International Policy on Monday. "We don't have, frankly, the intelligence to know where they all are located," Mr Panetta said, adding "the US is confident the Pakistani government has a "pretty secure approach to try to protect these weapons"

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/location-of-all-pakistan-nukes-not-known-cia-059>

### [The transit trade controversy By Ijaz Hussain](#)

**Daily Times, 20 May 2009**

The Pakistani government should absolutely seek a quid pro quo from India for the right to transit trade. The argument that this right is no longer important for India because it has found an alternative route from the Chahbahar port is without much substance. The Memorandum of Understanding on transit trade that the Gilani government recently signed with the Afghan government in Washington is proving to be a hot potato. Opposition political parties are out to wreck it on the ground that through this MoU, the government has granted India the right of transit trade to Afghanistan and beyond. The PMLN has threatened street agitation if the government does not back down on the issue

### [US pledges \\$110m for IDPs](#)

**Dawn, 20 May 2009**

WASHINGTON, May 19: The United States on Tuesday announced a \$110 million relief package to help those displaced during the military operation in Swat and the adjacent valleys. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who announced the package at a White House briefing, described it as a new US initiative to support the Pakistani people, their government and the military in their fight against the terrorists. "We are confident that the government of Pakistan and the citizens will succeed if the international community helps" them overcome this problem, the secretary said. "We are prepared to do more if the situation demands."

[http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/us-pledges-\\$110m-for-idps-059](http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/us-pledges-$110m-for-idps-059)

### [Rs8bn relief and rehabilitation package for IDPs](#)

**Dawn, 21 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD, May 20: The government announced on Wednesday a Rs8 billion relief package for the internally displaced people. Relief work will be carried out by various agencies and each family displaced from Swat and other parts of Malakand division will get a one-time grant of Rs25,000. The package was approved at a meeting presided over by President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/rs8bn-relief-and-rehabilitation-package-for-idps-159>

### [Editorial: France as strategic partner?](#)

**Daily Times, 21 May 2009**

training centres, and reviewed the status of NATO's main supply route to landlocked Afghanistan.

Is this some kind of fallout from the "distancing" of the United States from France and possibly Germany in the European Union, signalling a differentiation of global perspectives within the Atlantic alliance? Is this a continuation of the bad blood created in Europe by the Bush administration when it attacked Iraq in the face of some of the most lucid and determined opposition from France inside the UN Security Council? Or is this a "sharing of the burden" between two NATO allies? (Note reference to NATO's supply route to Afghanistan.) What President Bush achieved with India with the nuclear deal was not universally acclaimed inside the US. Has it been decided to let France bear the burden of "balancing" the US-India strategic partnership with a Pak-French strategic partnership?

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\21\story\\_21-5-2009\\_pg3\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\21\story_21-5-2009_pg3_1)

### [200 Taliban die in Maidan operation](#)

**News, 21 May 2009**

TIMERGARA: Security forces on Wednesday claimed to have killed over 200 militants during the ongoing military operation in Maidan area of Dir Lower since the launch of the offensive. Operational Commander Brigadier Amal Zada, in charge of the ongoing military operation in Dir Lower, told reporters here at the Dir Scouts Headquarter that over 200 Taliban militants had been killed so far, while 14 security forces personnel were martyred and 30 others injured

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22251](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22251)

### [Commander surrenders in Mohmand: Taliban agree to leave parts of Lower Dir](#)

**Dawn, 22 May 2009**

TIMERGARA, May 21: Taliban in Adenzai tehsil of Lower Dir district agreed on

Thursday to wind up their camps and pull out of Asbanr and Gulabad areas within two days. According to sources, the assurance was given to a jirga at a joint gathering of local people and Taliban. The jirga representing the people of Asbanr held talks with the Taliban at government primary school.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front->

### **Thousands flee as Waziristan tense**

**Daily Times, 22 May 2009**

PESHAWAR: Residents of South Waziristan are fleeing the agency amid a build up of forces by the army and the Taliban. "Mehsuds are leaving their areas in Sarwakai and Ladah tehsils for fears of an operation," local sources told Daily Times. Former tribal MNA Maulana Mirajuddin confirmed "hundreds of thousands" of people were on the move

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\22\story\\_22-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\22\story_22-5-2009_pg1_1)

### **Nine killed in Tank suicide blast**

**Daily Times, 22 May 2009**

TANK: At least nine people – four civilians and five security personnel – were killed and 25 injured in a suicide attack near an FC fort in Jandola area of Tank on Thursday evening, a private TV channel reported. The channel said an explosives-laden truck was rammed into the FC camp – damaging several nearby shops and the fort

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\22\story\\_22-5-2009\\_pg1\\_3](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\22\story_22-5-2009_pg1_3)

### **Afghan troop surge may destabilise Pakistan: US**

**Daily Times, 22 May 2009**

WASHINGTON: The top US military officer said on Thursday he is concerned that the US troop build-up to roust insurgents from Afghanistan could further destabilise neighbouring Pakistan. However, Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Adm Mike Mullen, speaking to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said the military planning is under way to try to avoid that. Mullen said he believes the upcoming increase of 21,000 US forces in Afghanistan "is about right" for the new strategy of trying to quell the insurgency and speed up training of Afghan security forces. Mullen urged the US lawmakers to support military and economic assistance programmes for Pakistan in a manner that helps build trust with the South Asian nation and advance US goals to get rid of Al Qaeda threat in the region

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\22\story\\_22-5-2009\\_pg1\\_4](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\22\story_22-5-2009_pg1_4)

### **[Pak ready to phase out nuclear arms, if India does the same](#)**

**Times of India, 23 May 2009**

WASHINGTON: Stating that Pakistan's nuclear weapon is a "deterrent" against India, the country's top diplomat to the US on Friday expressed willingness to enter into an agreement with New Delhi to phase out all atomic arms possessed by the two countries. Appearing on the CNN to make a public appeal to the Americans to donate USD five each through cell phone for the refugees of Swat Valley, Pakistan Ambassador to the US Hussein Haqqani insisted that the nuclear weapons of his country are safe and there should be no concern about their security

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Pak-ready-to-phase-out-nukes-if-India-does-the-same/articleshow/4568227.cms>

### **[Troops trapping Taliban in Mingora, Peochar: army](#)**

**Daily Times, 23 May 2009**

RAWALPINDI: The army is trapping Taliban in Mingora and Peochar, the AP news agency quoted a senior commander as saying on Friday as the ISPR said three troops – including an officer – and 17 Taliban had been killed in the Swat operation. Also, a private TV channel reported that 19 Taliban had been killed in fresh fighting in Dir, with the group on the retreat in Lower Dir's Adenzai tehsil. The channel said the Taliban – in a deal with a jirga – had agreed to wind up their camps in Asbanr and Gulabad areas of Lower Dir

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\23\story\\_23-5-2009\\_pg1\\_5](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\23\story_23-5-2009_pg1_5)

### **[17 militants die in fierce clashes](#)**

**Dawn, 23 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD, May 22: Seventeen militants and three security personnel were killed in fighting in various areas of Swat on Friday. Ten security men were injured. According to an official announcement, troops are consolidating their positions and expanding their control over the valley. In Shangla, troops took control of Bainsi Baba Ziarat, Nazarabad, Uchraisar, and Wanai Ridge. During clashes, three militants and a JCO were killed

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/17-militants-die-in-fierce-clashes-359>

### **[Army mounts new phase of offensive in Swat : Security forces enter Mingora](#)**

**Daily Times, 24 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: Troops stormed into Mingora and fought street battles with the Taliban on Saturday, in a bid to wrest the main Swat town from Taliban control. Seventeen Taliban including a commander were killed as the new and most important phase of Operation Rah-e-Rast commenced, chief military spokesman Major General Athar Abbas said in a daily briefing

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\24\story\\_24-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\24\story_24-5-2009_pg1_1)

### [Kalabagh dam scrapped: minister](#)

**Dawn, 24 May 2009**

HYDERABAD, May 23: Federal Water and Power Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf has said that Kalabagh Dam project has been scrapped and that he is making this statement with authority. He was talking to journalists at a rest house here on Saturday after addressing a workers' gathering.

"Kalabagh Dam project has been scrapped and I am making this statement as minister of water and power. The government has rejected this project," he said when his attention was drawn to a statement of Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission Sardar Aseff Ahmed Ali that Kalabagh Dam project had not been scrapped

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/kalabagh-dam-scrapped-minister-459>

### [Four killed in Karachi strike-related violence](#)

**News, 24 May 2009**

KARACHI: Four people were killed and more than 15 vehicles torched from late Friday night till Saturday morning following a shutter-down call given by the Jeay Sindh Qaumi Mahaz (JSQM) against allowing the internally displaced persons (IDPs) to settle in Sindh. The call was supported by the Muttahida Qaumi Movement and nationalist parties. A complete shutter-down strike was observed throughout Karachi on Saturday

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22317](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22317)

### [Pakistan, Iran sign framework for gas pipeline accord](#)

**Dawn, 25 May 2009**

TEHRAN, May 24: President Asif Ali Zardari and his Iranian counterpart Dr Mahmoud Ahmadinejad signed on Sunday an inter-governmental framework declaration to support a gas pipeline agreement between the oil ministries of Pakistan and Iran. According to APP, a gas sale-purchase agreement was signed by the managing directors of the National Iranian Oil Company and the Inter-State Gas System (ISGS) under which Iran will provide 750 million cubic feet of gas a day to Pakistan over the next 25 years

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/pakistan,-iran-sign-framework-for-gas-pipeline-accord-559>

### ['Tehran Declaration' pledges to combat extremism, drugs](#)

**Dawn, 25 May 2009**

TEHRAN, May 24: President Asif Ali Zardari, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Afghan President Hamid Karzai expressed on Sunday their resolve to combat religious extremism and drugs smuggling. They signed the 'Tehran Declaration', pledging to work for security in the region. "All three nations, by relying on their strengths, good organisation and cooperation, can resolve these issues (extremism and smuggling)," Mr Ahmadinejad said at the summit's closing session

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/tehran-declaration-pledges-to-combat-extremism,-drugs-559>

### **15 killed in Orakzai aerial blitz**

**Daily Times, 25 May 2009**

KALAYA: Thirteen militants and two civilians were killed, while 38 others, including 24 students of a religious seminary, were injured when jet fighters shelled different areas of the Orakzai Agency on Sunday. Sources said security forces launched an aerial blitz on the hideouts of militants in Bizotkhel, Utmankhel, Sturikhel, Ferozkhel, Kalaya, Mushtikhel, Sangarha, Dabori, Ghiljo, Khadikhel and Mamozai areas of the agency. According to reports, 13 militants were killed and 38 others, including students of a religious seminary, were injured in the shelling. A militant commander Maulana Nazeer was also reportedly critically injured in the shelling

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22336](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22336)

### **Editorial: Reaction to IDPs in Sindh**

**Daily Times, 25 May 2009**

Just as the army was engaged in battle with the Taliban inside Mingora in Swat, the internally displaced persons (IDPs) from the region were facing hostile reaction in Sindh. At the call of the MQM, the Jeay Sindh Qaumi Mahaz and other "nationalist" forces, the province of Sindh experienced a virtual shutdown on Saturday in response. Outside Karachi, the strike was more or less peaceful, except in Hyderabad where there was heavy firing reported from many localities; a coaster and a car were set ablaze in Tandojam, and an agriculture department jeep was torched in Qasimabad. Scores of JSQM activists were arrested in Khairpur, Nawabshah and Mirpurkhas for forcing shopkeepers to close their shops

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\25\story\\_25-5-2009\\_pg3\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\25\story_25-5-2009_pg3_1)

### **'All except Geelani supported K-deal'**

**Greater Kashmir, 26 May 2009**

'All except Geelani supported K-deal'

Lahore, May 25: Former Pakistan foreign minister, Khursheed Mehmood Kasuri, has said India and Pakistan had reached an agreement on Kashmir in 2006 and the Kashmir leadership had also supported the deal, except Syed Ali Geelani. "We agreed on how to define Kashmir units on both sides, the de-militarization of borders, and formation of a mechanism that included Pakistan, India and Kashmiris. All Kashmiri leadership was with us on this issue, except Syed Ali Geelani," Kasuri said in an interview with Najam Sethi on Dunya News

[http://greaterkashmir.com/today/full\\_story.asp?Date=26\\_5\\_2009&ItemID=55&cat=1](http://greaterkashmir.com/today/full_story.asp?Date=26_5_2009&ItemID=55&cat=1)

### **Police desertions in Malakand**

**News, 26 May 2009**

PESHAWAR: Almost 75 per cent desertion has been reported in Buner district police force while over 40 per cent are staying off the duties in Swat after deterioration in the law and order in Malakand division, a source confided to 'The News'. Over 30 per cent of the total strength of Malakand police has either quit jobs or cops are not reporting to their police stations concerned and offices for the past several months. Not only the constabulary but senior officers are also avoiding posting in Malakand

for the past two years

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22356](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22356)

### [Security forces secure Malam Jabba](#)

**News, 26 May 2009**

PESHAWAR/CHAKDARA: After encountering hard battles with the Taliban militia, security forces on Monday claimed to have secured the training centre and logistic base of militants in the Malam Jabba area of the Swat Valley. The forces also killed four militants in operations in Fizagat and Peuchar areas and arrested eight others. According to Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), security forces faced stiff resistance from the militants in Malam Jabba

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22350](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22350)

### [A nuclear deal that isn't By Asif Ezdi](#)

**News, 26 May 2009**

The divergence between Pakistan and France over what was supposedly agreed between the two sides in the field of nuclear cooperation at Zardari's meeting with French president Sarkozy on May 15 is so wide that one can hardly speak of an agreement. While the French maintain that they only offered to help Pakistan improve its "nuclear safety" capability, the Pakistani side claims that the French leader agreed to transfer civilian nuclear technology to Pakistan to help the country overcome its energy shortage

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/daily\\_detail.asp?id=179500](http://www.thenews.com.pk/daily_detail.asp?id=179500)

### [Editorial: IPI becomes 'peace pipeline'](#)

**Daily Times, 26 May 2009**

The big dividend from the tripartite Iran-Afghanistan-Pakistan meeting is the Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline deal announced on Sunday. President Asif Ali Zardari and President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad signed a "framework" agreement in Tehran which will lead to a formal agreement on the building of a pipeline in a fortnight. The pipeline project has taken 14 years to materialise because of the political vicissitudes of the region and, one has to admit, inexperience on the part of the parties concerned of the culture of pipelines.

### [26 killed in Lahore car-bomb attack ISI colonel, 15 cops among dead; 400 injured;](#)

**News, 28 May 2009**

LAHORE: Twenty-six people, including an ISI colonel and 15 police officials, were killed and around 400 people injured when an explosive-laden vehicle on Wednesday rammed into the Rescue 15 building here. The explosion also damaged the adjacent office of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) on Lawrence Road

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/arc\\_default.asp](http://www.thenews.com.pk/arc_default.asp)

### [Complexities of nuclear risk reduction in South Asia by Michael Krepon](#)

**Hindu, 29 May 2009**

The key to nuclear risk-reduction on the subcontinent may now lie in governments' ability to trust each other to share intelligence against common terrorist threats. The Indian electorate has now voted into office a very strong coalition government led, once again, by the Congress party. Pakistani domestic politics, on the other hand,

have produced a weak civilian government that faces extraordinary internal security challenges. In due course, dialogue between Islamabad and New Delhi will resume, but it will be hard for leaders to make significant progress on bilateral disputes given existing disparities in domestic political circumstances and the certainty that new acts of mass casualty terrorism will occur

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/29/stories/2009052954910900.htm>

### [Suicide bomber kills 3 policemen near Peshawar](#)

**Daily Times, 29 May 2009**

PESHAWAR: Three policemen were killed and three others injured when a suicide bomber rammed his explosives-laden vehicle into a police van on the outskirts of the provincial capital on Thursday, according to hospital sources and police. Police said the bomber targeted the police van near Sra Khawra checkpoint on Indus Highway, some 20 kilometres from Peshawar. A bomb disposal squad official said at least 70 kilogrammes of explosives were used in the attack. The injured were shifted to Lady Reading Hospital for treatment. The attack on the outskirts of the city was carried out as twin bombings ripped through a historic bazaar in Peshawar

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\29\story\\_29-5-2009\\_pg1\\_2](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\29\story_29-5-2009_pg1_2)

### [Editorial: Baitullah retaliates in Lahore](#)

**Daily Times, 29 May 2009**

After the Taliban accepted responsibility late Wednesday night for the suicide-bombing of the Police Rescue-15 and ISI offices in Lahore, it is obvious that the Taliban are feeling the heat of the Swat Operation and want to show that the battle is joined on their side too. The Wednesday blast was a "hybrid" one, mixing the techniques employed in the Lahore FIA headquarters and the Manawan Police Training School cases. The explosive-laden vehicle was most probably targeting the ISI office in front of the Rescue-15 building. It was prevented from reaching its target and had to be exploded prematurely

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\29\story\\_29-5-2009\\_pg3\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\29\story_29-5-2009_pg3_1)

### [Nine killed as DIK, Peshawar bombed](#)

**Daily Times, 29 May 2009**

PESHAWAR: Two bomb blasts killed at least six people and injured 100 in the historic Qissa Khawani Bazaar in Peshawar on Thursday as a suicide bomber – according to various news agencies – rammed his explosives-laden vehicle in a security checkpoint in Dera Ismail Khan, killing three and injuring 13

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\29\story\\_29-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\29\story_29-5-2009_pg1_1)

### [Engaging Pakistan: task for new government by Chinmaya R. Gharekhan](#)

**Hindu, 30 May 2009**

The political leadership will have to assess whether the people are ready to forget Mumbai and forgive Pakistan, and whether we can resume the composite dialogue. One of the messages the Indian electorate conveyed during the recent Lok Sabha elections is that the people do not want the government to engage in adventurism in the form of military intervention in our neighbourhood. No one seriously suggested

intervening — again — in Sri Lanka, but there were a few proposals for doing so in Pakistan. The 26/11 Mumbai attack generated a two-fold sense of frustration and anger among the citizens: at the government for the disastrous failure of intelligence and lack of instant preparedness to deal with such incidents, and against Pakistan for mounting such an audacious attack on the financial capital of India. In the weeks and months following Mumbai, the public's bitter resentment at having been let down by the government has probably not diminished by much. But the change of guard in the Home Ministry and the decision to revamp the intelligence set-up might have assuaged the public's anger to some extent

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/30/stories/2009053053870800.htm>

### **[Forces secure Peuchar, Bahrain](#)**

**News, 30 May 2009**

RAWALPINDI: Security forces cleared Peuchar and Bahrain areas of the troubled Swat Valley on Friday, killing 28 insurgents, including six commanders, besides arresting seven others during the last 24 hours in the ongoing operation Rah-e-Rast, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Friday. The ISPR media update said five soldiers and two civilians were also injured during clashes in various parts of the valley. The six militant commanders, who were killed in a search operation in Kalpani area of Dir Lower, were identified as Qadir, Noor Hameed, Aftab, Yousaf, Iftikhar and Bakht Buland. Two more militant commanders, identified as Hameed and Miraj, were arrested

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22431](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22431)

### **[N-deterrence to be retained at all costs: PM](#)**

**News, 30 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Friday said nuclear weapons were the cornerstone of Pakistan's deterrence strategy, which has complete national consensus and support. The prime minister said this while chairing a meeting of the Strategic Planning Division (SPD) at the Prime Minister House here on Friday in which he was briefed on the qualitative upgrades in the nuclear programme. Referring to an orchestrated campaign against Pakistan's nuclear programme, he said: "We are determined to retain nuclear deterrence at all costs and no compromise will be made on our core security interest."

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22433](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22433)

### **[US pays \\$447 million to Pakistan](#)**

**News, 30 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: The Obama administration has provided two instalments totalling \$447 million to Pakistan in shape of military reimbursement bill against the services rendered by the Pakistan Army to flush out the Taliban from its volatile tribal areas, it was learnt. Against the forwarded bill of \$1.5 billion by authorities in Pakistan, the US has provided \$447 million in two instalments that have been received by the State Bank. Of \$447 million, one instalment worth \$50 million was received on Friday while \$397 million was received just a couple of days ago. When contacted, Adviser on Finance Shaukat Tarin confirmed receiving \$447 million from the US. "We expect the US authorities to release the remaining \$1 billion before Sept 2009," he added

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22441](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22441)

### [Number of displaced persons exceeds three million](#)

**Dawn, 30 May 2009**

PESHAWAR: The number of internally displaced persons (IDP) has crossed the three million mark, according to the NWFP government. Information Minister Mian Iftikhar Hussain said at a press conference at the Officers' Mess here on Friday that the number of IDPs now stood at 3.4 million — 2.8 million of them from Malakand division alone. He said the provincial government was determined to provide all possible facilities to the displaced people and a substantial number of lady doctors had been deputed to look after them

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/news/pakistan/11-number-of-displaced-persons-exceeds-three-million-11-09>

### [Lahore court bench poser to A-G: Why was India not bound to implement UN resolutions on Kashmir?](#)

**Hindu, 31 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: If Pakistan was bound to implement the UN Security Council resolution on Jamat-ud-Dawa chief Hafiz Saeed, why was India not bound to implement UN resolutions on Kashmir, a full bench of the Lahore High Court wanted to know from Pakistan Attorney-General Latif Khosa on Saturday. The observation came during the hearing of a petition by Mr. Saeed and another JuD leader Colonel (retired) Nazir Ahmed against their house arrest since December 2008

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/31/stories/2009053154760800.htm>

### [Mingora cleared](#)

**Daily Times, 31 May 2009**

ISLAMABAD: Security forces have cleared Mingora city of the Taliban and destroyed the stronghold of the insurgency commanders, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director General Major General Athar Abbas said on Saturday. Addressing a joint press conference with Information Minister Qamar Zaman Qaira, he said 25 Taliban were killed during the last 24 hours, including commanders Abu Saeed Misbahud Din and Sultan Khan. He said security forces had successfully secured Nawagai and Najigram, and seized a large cache of arms and ammunition

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\31\story\\_31-5-2009\\_pg1\\_1](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\31\story_31-5-2009_pg1_1)

### [Buner, Lower Dir now safe, IDPs can go back: Malik](#)

**News, 31 May 2009**

LAHORE: Interior Minister Rehman Malik has said Buner and Lower Dir have been completely cleared of the extremists and the IDPs can go back to their homes. Talking to media persons after visiting the Rescue-15 blast victims at the Services Hospital on Saturday, he said the operation to clear all areas of the extremists was now a matter of only a few weeks. Malik said he found all the blast victims in high morale and "it's a good omen that today the nation is united and has the courage, which was seen in 1965."

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22455](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22455)