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dailyindisb@gmail.com Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah www.dailyindependent.com.pk Gwadar

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PM directs to curb smuggling by enhancing surveillance at irregular border crossings

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday directed the Customs authorities to establish a monitoring system at irregular border crossings to prevent smuggling in the country.

He was chairing a meeting to discuss measures for discouraging smuggling and promoting trade through legal channels. He was given a detailed briefing by the Ministry of Commerce.

PM Kakar was informed about proposed plans to enhance exports volume, besides possible

steps to curb smuggling. Different modalities of trade under the Afghanistan Transit Trade Agreement were also reviewed. It was recommended to improve the system for scanning and monitoring of the traded goods.

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has underlined the need for taking more steps to fully utilize the potential of country's immense natural resources.

Chairing a high-level meeting to review performance of Petroleum Division in Islamabad Tuesday, he said road infrastructure

needs to be improved to access the natural resources.

The Prime Minister directed to take strict measures against illegal mining. He also instructed to complete all legal requirements at the earliest for appointment of the head of Oil and Gas Development Authority.

On the occasion, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar was given detailed briefing regarding the performance of the Petroleum Division.

The meeting was informed that apart from exploring more natural resources in country, the Pe-

troleum Division is working on a program to increase oil and gas production in the country. It was further briefed that projects related to laying down pipelines are being prioritized to supply oil and gas from various reservoirs.

The meeting was apprised that Petroleum Division is preparing a Mineral Sector Development Framework for exploration of oil and gas. It was told that a significant progress is being witnessed to promote foreign investment in mining sector.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting on Petroleum.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti chairing a review meeting.

Interior Minister vows to tackle illegal immigration

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti Tuesday vowed to tackle the illegal immigration issue and provide foolproof security to the foreigners.

He was chairing a meeting on law and order situation in the country here, which was attended by senior officials from the police, security agencies, and the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA).

The minister said that maintaining law and order was the top priority of the government and that miscreant activities by any individual or group would not be tolerated.

He directed the authorities to formulate a comprehensive strategy for the return of foreigners living illegally in Pakistan.

Sarfraz Bugti also or-

dered completion of the action plan to open three more border crossings on the Pakistan-Iran border.

The minister stressed the need to clearly define the scope of police and security agencies in order to improve their performance.

He also directed the authorities to provide state-of-the-art training and resources to the civil armed forces.

Regarding the security of foreigners, the minister directed the authorities concerned to ensure the implementation of the code of conduct by finalizing it.

He also ordered the provision of all possible facilities to visa applicants for business and investment.

The minister called another meeting next week to review the implementation of the National Action Plan.

FM sends to IMF new plan regarding relief in electricity bills

ISLAMABAD (Online): Finance Ministry has sent new plan regarding relief in electricity bills to IMF through which IMF has been assured that no relief out of budget will be provided.

According to government sources the additional amount allocated for IPPs can be adjusted for extending relief to electricity consumers.

Sources said over Rs 15 billion will be allocated for IPPs again on receipt of installations of the bill.

According to finance ministry sources finance ministry authorities will again talk to IMF ON NEW PLAN. In new plan IMF has been assured for not providing relief out of budget.

Earlier IMF had rejected government plan on extending relief to people on electricity bills.

IMF sought new plan to provide relief to electricity consumers.

Governor discuss political situation, law & order with Chairman Senate



ISLAMABAD (Online): Tehreek-e-Insaf President and former Punjab Chief Minister Ch. Pervez Elahi was arrested again after being released from the police line.

According to the spokesperson of the Capital Police, Pervaiz Elahi has been arrested in the case number 3/23 registered in the police station CTD.

According to sources, PTI president will be transferred to CTD police station. Parvez Elahi came out of the police lines in the car of Sardar Abdul Razaq Advocate, his lawyer Sardar Abdul Razaq Advocate and the driver were taken down and Parvez Elahi was taken along with the car.

In this regard, his lawyer Abdul Raziq Advocate said that Pervaiz Elahi was released on a court order but has been arrested again.

Elahi arrested again after being released from police line

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ECP notifies 20 victorious candidates for reserve seats in Balochistan district councils

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) Tuesday notified the names of 20 elected members for women's reserved seats in the local government elections held on August 23, 2023, encompassing the district council seats in six Balochistan's districts.

The notification includes the following districts: Pishin, Nushki, Dera Bugti, Kacchi, Kalat, and Panjur.

The returned candidate for the District Council in Pishin includes Bibi Hajira, daughter of Ihsan Ullah, representing JUI-P. Bibi Guldasta, daughter of Syed Abdul Kabeer from PKMAP, and Bibi Sajida, daughter of Rozi Khan from JUI-P, have also been notified.

Additionally, Bibi Salma, daughter of Noor Uddin, Bibi Rubina Tareen,

and Bibi Pari Gul, daughter of Jahangir Shah, all from JUI-P, have been officially announced as returned candidates.

Women received official notifications as the returned candidates for reserved seats from district council Nushki.

This includes Bibi Samina, representing JUI-F and daughter of Muhammad Yousaf, along with Hanain Mengal, daughter of Muhammad Rahim, representing BNP, for the Nushki District Council.

In the case of the Dera Bugti District Council, the female candidates who have been officially notified are Shehzadi, an Independent candidate and daughter of Sher Dil, as well as Bakhtu Bibi and Salehat, both from BAP and daughters of Dhalak Khan and Raja respectively.

SC reserves judgment in NAB amendment case

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has reserved judgment on PTI chairman Imran Khan petition against NAB amendment.

Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial has remarked it can be estimated from the reasons for withdrawing NAB amendment that tilt is towards where.

He gave these remarks while presiding over a 3-member bench during hearing of Chairman PTI petition against NAB amendment here Tuesday.

The other two members of bench are Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan and Justice Mansoor Ali Shah.

At the inception of hearing of the case counsel for chairman PTI told the court written submissions have been filed.

The CJP Umar Ata Bandial while inquiring remarked have you read NAB report, NAB has told the reasons in respect of the references which were returned till May. It can be

assessed from the reasons for returning the reference tilt is towards where. All have come on record the references of which personalities have been returned.

The CJP remarked one amendment came in May and second in June in section 23 of NAB law. The references which were returned before May are still held by NAB. Who will give reply to these questions from NAB side.

NAB special prosecutor said in his reply to question that additional prosecutor general will reach within some time.

Khawaja Haris said several pending cases were returned after amendments.

The CJP remarked too much work of NAB has been finished after amendment. The CJP inquired has NAB legal powers to send the cases.

Lawyer Khawaja Haris replied NAB has no powers to deal with the cases after NAB amendment. NAB has no legal powers to send the cases.

Govt to pay compensation to heirs of deceased youngster, assures Jan Achakzai

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Provincial government would pay the financial compensation to the deceased youngster killed allegedly during firing incident near Imdad chowk in Quetta the other day.

This assurance was made by the caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai while speaking to the protestors who blocked the Airport

road against the incident on Tuesday afternoon.

The protestors including heirs were protesting against the killing of a youngster as a result of firing.

While the airport road was blocked by the protestors, long queues of vehicles were seen there causing disruption in traffic.

The people particularly the students and passengers faced problems due to suspension of traffic due to protest.

However, the road was opened and traffic restored after successful negotiations between the caretaker Minister Information and protestors.

Jan Achakzai said that the protestors have been assured to meet their demands.

Meanwhile, the caretaker Minister also met the Collector Customs on the issue and discussed with him the matter.

Messages on Defence day of Pakistan: We have to make pledge on Defence Day not to let sacrifices of martyrs waste: CM Domki

Governor calls for creating spirit of September 6, 1965 to tackle today circumstances facing country: Says "let's make conscious efforts for stability and development of the country together after forgetting our mutual differences"

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has stated that we have to make pledge on this Defence Day of Pakistan not to let waste the great sacrifices of our martyrs, and would always play our role as patriotic Pakistani for defence, development and stability of the country.

also said that that was the historic day when our armed forces had defeated the enemy defending successfully the country.

He said that the Pak army had foiled the nefarious designs of the Indian army by successfully defending the geographic frontiers of the country.

He said that our brave forces have been rendering sacrifices for the country and nation since its inception, and thus saved it.

He also said that the people of Balochistan are also the strong arms of brave forces and security agencies. He also paid homage to all martyrs of the country on Defence Day.

He said that it is our resolve to provide peaceful and conducive environment for conducting free and fair general elections in the province.

Meanwhile the Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has stressed that the circumstances being faced by the country today requires that the whole nation may create the same spirit, unity and solidarity again, which was demonstrated during the war of 1965.

The Governor stated

so in a message issued here on eve of the Defence day of Pakistan being observed today (Wednesday).

In his message, the Governor said that we are observing the day today when our brave and daring armed forces had successfully defended the country by knocking out the enemy on its aggression against it.

Our brave forces had then created a new history and the whole nation had fought against the naked aggression of the enemy together with the armed forces.

The nation had demonstrated complete unity and backed its armed forces, adding the Governor recalled. Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar said that the today's circumstances of country make requirement of that the whole nation demonstrate the same spirit and unity once again.

The Governor expressed the belief that the whole nation would fully counter the aggression if done by anyone in future as well. He said that let's make conscious efforts for stability and development of the country together after forgetting our mutual differences.

This was stated by the caretaker Chief Minister in a statement issued here marking the Defence Day of Pakistan observed today (Wednesday).

The caretaker Chief Minister said that 6th September is such a day in history of Pakistan that gives us lesson to maintain national spirit and resolve for safety, stability and defence of our beloved country, which had been demonstrated by the whole nation during the war of September 6, 1965.

He said that on that day, our brave armed forces and whole nation had proved with unity that the majority of weapons or number don't have meaning in front of the unity and power of belief.

Mir Ali Mardan Domki



QUETTA: Senator Danesh Kumar meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

Pakistan to mark Defence Day with national spirit, pay homage to nation's martyrs

ISLAMABAD (APP): Determined to thwart any aggression against the motherland, the nation will hold the annual 'Defence Day of Pakistan' celebrations on Wednesday with a reinvigorated pledge to safeguard its geographical and ideological boundaries in every situation and at all cost.

The historic day of September 6 will be commemorated with an un-mutilated vigor and enthusiasm, sending a message loud and clear to hostile India that the Pakistani nation and armed forces were fully prepared to frustrate any designs against the country's sovereignty and integrity.

A number of activities will be held across the country, reaffirming the nation's resolve not to let anyone cast an evil eye at the homeland, achieved on August 14,

1947 after great sacrifices rendered by Muslims of the sub-continent.

The day will dawn with special prayers in the mosques for the well-being and prosperity of the country, besides 31-gun salute at the federal capital and 21-gun salute at provincial capitals.

The change of guard ceremony will take place at the Mazar-e-Quaid in Karachi in the morning. 'Fateha' and Quran Khawani will be held for all those who sacrificed their lives while defending the motherland.

Wreath laying ceremonies will be held at the mausoleums of the recipients of Nishan-e-Haider (the highest gallantry award), which will be attended by the senior officials of the respective areas across the country. The national media, both print and electronic,

have chalked out comprehensive coverage plans of the events to be held in connection with the day.

Newspapers will publish special supplements, while electronic media will telecast special programmes, highlighting the importance of the day in Pakistan's military history.

The media will also carry special messages of the President, Prime Minister, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly in relation to the significance of the day.

Special talk shows will be aired on the state-run and private television channels and radio stations across the country, paying homage to the sons and daughters of the soil who laid down their lives and endured the vagaries of war while defending the motherland.



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Information Minister Jan Achakzai distributing awards among heirs of Shahuda during Shah-e-Pakistan CMAward 2023 ceremony



September 6: A day of national pride in Pakistan's military history



On September 6, 1965, Pakistan faced a grave challenge to the sovereignty and integrity, which the nation and its valiant armed forces met with great courage and determination, defeating the sinister designs of much-larger enemy – India. Since then, the nation has been observing the Defence Day every year with great zeal, seeking Allah Almighty's blessing and support for the country's integrity, prosperity and independence.

The day is commemorated to revive the national spirit and renew the pledge of defending the country against all sorts of threats, paying homage to the sons and daughters of the soil who laid down their lives and endured the vagaries of war in defending the motherland.

Fifty-five years back, it was the first full-fledged war with India after a clash in 1947-48 on the core issue of Kashmir, which unfortunately still remained unresolved even after the passage of more than 70 years, besides becoming a nuclear war flashpoint. Later, the two armies also fought in 1971 and 1999 and remained eyeball-to-eyeball several times.

The latest episode took place in February, 2019 when Indian aircraft intruded Pakistani airspace after the Pulwama incident, whom the Pakistan Air Force gave a befitting reply by gunning down its two fighter jets and arresting a pilot.

Initially, the Indian forces intruded Pakistani area in the Rann of Kutch in April 1965, whom was ejected in a sharp and short conflict. Both the armies had fully mobilized, with eyeball-to-eyeball contact. Pakistan proposed cease-fire, India accepted, following which an agreement was signed and the forces were disengaged.

Past midnight on September 5-6, without a formal declaration of war, Indian army crossed the international border and attacked Lahore and Kasur fronts. Pakistan Army and Air Force halted the attack in its tracks, inflicting heavy casualties on the aggressor. On September 7, a single Pakistan Air Force (PAF) Pilot, Squadron Leader Muhammad Mahmood Alam, Sitara-i-Juraat, in his F-86 Sabre, shot down five Indian Air Force (IAF) attacking Hunter aircraft in a single sortie, an unbeaten world record till date.

At night, three teams of Pakistan's Special Services Groups were parachuted on the IAF bases at Pathankot, Adampur and Halwara to neutralize them.

To relieve pressure on Lahore front, on September 7-8 night, after crossing two major water obstacles in a bold thrust, Pakistan's armoured and mechanized formations supported by artillery and PAF overran area Khem Karn, six to eight miles inside Indian territory. Vital Indian positions at Sulemanki and across Rajasthan and Sindh were also captured in bold and swift attacks.

On the same night, one Corps of Indian Army launched its main effort east of Sialkot with one armoured and three infantry divisions on Pakistan's extended 15 Division front, screened only by gallant 3 Frontier Force and B Company 13 Frontier Force (Reconnaissance & Support). The 24 Infantry Brigade, led by Brigadier A.A. Malik, Hilal-i-Juraat, which was on the move in area Pasrur, rushed 25 Cavalry under Lieutenant Colonel Nisar Ahmad, Sitara-i-Juraat, on 8 September to delay and disrupt enemy thrusts.

ence of India's one Armoured Division was confirmed, Pakistan Army rushed forward to stop the onslaught on a 30-mile front. The biggest tank battle since World War-II was fought on the Chawinda front by 6 Armoured Division, under command 24 Infantry Brigade Groups and valiantly supported by 4 Corps Artillery led by Brigadier A.A.K. Choudhry, Hilal-i-Juraat.

Pakistan Air Force (PAF) support helped turn the tide of the battle. Before a counter offensive by 6 Armoured Division on 22 September could be launched, India asked for cease-fire in the United Nations. India's aggression against Pakistan's international borders without a formal declaration of war, had cost it, apart from heavy personnel, material and

extraordinary role in defending the Lahore Bedian area in 1965.

Where the country's armed forces proved their mettle, despite being short in number and having limited resources, the whole nation stood by them shoulder-to-shoulder in thwarting the attack.

otic songs to defend the motherland. Some of the evergreen heart-warming national songs include "Aye Watan Key Sajecley Jawano, Ae Mard e Mujahid Jaag Zara, A Putter Hatan Tey Nai Wekday, Ae Rahe Haq Key Shaheedo", "Mere Dhool Sipahayya", Rang Laye Ga Shaheedon Ka

Pakistan armed forces were fighting a war to defend the territorial integrity of the country against a formidable enemy. They did defend the country in a befitting manner. When the war ended Lahore and Sialkot were far away from the reach of the enemy. The enemy suffered heavy losses in terms of military hardware.



economic losses, 1617 square miles of territory as compared to 446 square miles of Pakistan's open and undefended territory. Many of our martyred national heroes were given awards for their gallantry and bravery. The highest military award of Nishan-i-Haider was awarded to Major Raja Aziz Bhatti, for his

Pakistan's artists including Mehdi Hassan, Alam Lohar, Noor Jehan, Saleem Raza and others also played their part and made the whole nation realized that Pakistanis as a nation would not be ill-willed by the designs of adversary. They warmed the hearts and souls of armed forces personnel and civilians with patri-

Laho, Yeh Hawaon Key Musafir, Umeed-e-Fatah Rakho, Apni Jaan Nazar Karoon, Ab Fatah-e-Mubeen Hai, Khitta-e-Lahore Tere Jaan Nisaaron Ko Salaam, Hum Haidery Hain, Toheed Key Matwalon and Jung Khed Nahi Hundi Zanaayaan Di."—APP feature

Defence Day: For honour and inspiration



By Arif Iftikhar

Very often we take for granted our freedoms as citizens of an independent country and the peaceful surroundings of our city and other places in Pakistan that we visit. This freedom and peace is ensured by the military and security agencies that work round the clock to protect our country from foreign and other kinds of domestic threats. Their role is to work for the defence and security of the country under the guidance of the civilian government; and their personnel make great sacrifices, if necessary, in the course of their duty.

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Defence and security of the country under the guidance of the civilian government; and their personnel make great sacrifices, if necessary, in the course of their duty.

The contributions of the defence services provided by our military forces are marked by the annual celebration of the national Defence Day in our country. Defence Day, as the name suggests, commemorates the day when our national armed forces successfully defended the attack of Indian forces on our country in the 1965 war. It is a tribute to our armed forces and all the martyrs of the war. It is celebrated on September 6 each year. The enemy attacked

our borders on September 6, 1965, with a view to invade the attacked areas. It was a reaction to stop the advance of Pakistani military in India Occupied Kashmir. They mainly attacked the regions of Lahore, Sialkot and the desert areas of Sindh. The battle lasted till September 22, 1965, when both sides accepted the United Nations-administered ceasefire.

Our military was successful in defending not only the areas attacked but also in protecting the lives of thousands of civilians and their homes. As such, we owe a duty to honour and respect all the military personnel of our country who gave up their lives so that we, our relatives and our fellow countrymen could live peacefully. This respect and honour should also extend to all those military personnel who supported our martyrs, risked their lives and lived to tell the tale.

Many of our martyred national heroes were given awards for their gallantry and bravery. The highest military award of Nishan-i-Haider was awarded to Major Raja Aziz Bhatti, for his extraordinary role in defending the Lahore Bedian area in 1965.

He is among a handful of other gallant and brave military personnel who were martyred and awarded the same award in other battles and wars. They gave the ultimate sacrifice of their lives in the defence of Pakistan.

Reminiscing the 1965 War

By Taj MKhattak

President Ayub Khan's brief address to the nation on 6th September 1965 was a moment when history of Pakistan took a turn. It was a moment we remember for exactly what we were doing and where we were when it



happened. On that day, a few minutes past eleven in the morning, and barely seventeen years old, I found myself entering office of the President Inter Services Selection Board Kohat as an officer candidate. Just then Ayub's authoritative words 'Mere aziz hum watano' (my dear countrymen) from a small transistor boomed across the room – words which electrified an entire nation for defense of their motherland.

President Ayub spoke of how Indian army had attacked Lahore that morning at three different places with an infantry division, three armor regiments and that Pakistan was at war with India. But the Indian attack

was blunted and attackers were stopped dead in their tracks by a much smaller force.

At sea Pakistan Navy was about to write history of its own as every ship in its flotilla - PNS Babur (with Captain M AK Lodhi in command), Khaibar (Captain

accomplishment which will be hard to match today. From the operations branch, if there is one person who deserves a mention, it would be Commodore Saleemi, who as the previous Commodore Commanding Pakistan Navy Flotilla during Rann of

Kutch emergency, had worked up the ships to the pinnacle of operational readiness, which is why their response was so swift and speedy.

Pakistan Navy's only submarine PNS/M Ghazi (with Commander K R Niazi in command) had sailed from Karachi three days earlier on 3rd September and on 4th September, she was ordered to shift her patrol to within a radius of 50 miles off Bombay (Mumbai). Pakistan Navy was the first to field a submarine in Indian Ocean in 1965 just as it was the first in the world in 1973 to induct Exocet missiles on its helicopters in its nascent naval aviation which dramatically altered battlefield disposi-

tion. This speaks volumes about vision of naval leadership as prudent deployment of Ghazi radiated strategic effects and kept Indian Navy bottled up in various ports and naval bases for entire duration of the war.

Just as war clouds were gathering in August 1965, intelligence reports suggested presence of Indian Navy heavy cruiser INS Mysore, frigates Beas and Brahmaputra at Calcutta. Soon they were ordered to proceed to west coast to join other destroyers and frigates and were tracked by PN through HF/DF all the way till Cochin. The aircraft carrier INS Vikrant and another heavy cruiser INS Delhi were refueling at Bombay while carrier borne aircraft had all been shifted to Jammagar by 5th September.

Around noon on 7th September, all PN ships at sea were alerted about an attack on Dwarka that night, which was about 200 nautical miles from Karachi. They were ordered to assembly point by sunset from where they were to proceed towards Dwarka and on completion of shore bombardment, withdraw to their arc of patrol off Karachi. The force was cautioned about possible presence of some enemy surface combatants and air threat.

There has been some debate as to why Dwarka was chosen for the strike. The intended objectives in the preva-

lent environments of 1965 were, a) to draw enemy units out into barrier laid by PNS/M Ghazi, b) destroy the IAF's only bomber guidance beamer in the area for directing strikes from Jammagar against Karachi, c) to cause alarm and confusion along the Indian coast since Dwarka was the centre business in the region, d) possible diversion of air effort from land operations towards seaward defense of Indian coast and lastly to gain psychological advantage by striking deep into Indian territorial waters. This was a perfectly logical rationale as within 36 hours after the war broke out, Pakistan Navy struck deep into Indian territorial waters, wrested the initiative as well as psychological advantage and put an end to all further air attacks on Karachi by destroying radar and beamer installations at Dwarka.

To achieve this, it was essential to retain an element of surprise. By using a combination of restrictions and relaxations in Electronic Emission Policy on various communication circuits and radars, the force succeeded in keeping its location disguised as it steamed towards target on a south easterly heading at best possible speed. There was no luxury of GPS in those days and war records mentions circumcumulus clouds scudding across the sky making it impossible to do an evening star shoot. With darkened ships,



navigational lights switched off, restrictions on navigational radar, difficulties were experienced in station keeping but ships crews did an excellent job in getting to the firing line in a timely manner.

The Bombardment Orders required units to be in position south south west of Dwarka Light at a distance of six miles and steer north westerly course. Due to restrictions on communication circuits, Bombardment orders were passed to ships either by heaving line or visual signaling. The ships were to be seven cables apart in what was called formation 'Whisky 81' – one of the sequences worked out by Commodore Saleemi for quickly assuming a formation best suited to PN for surface action instead of relying on NATO's tactical publications in use in the Flotilla. Similarly there was a formation

worked out for air defense based on ships weaponry and gun ranges.

The task force finally approached firing position a few minutes past midnight and after sorting out ranging issues one last time, 'Operation Somnath' was executed which authorized each ship to fire fifty rounds of high explosive ammunition. Those who participated in the operation remember the firing as disciplined which on an average, took three minutes to complete. There were some flashes from shore which were initially assumed as coming from Indian shore battery but later evaluated as own HEDA fall of shots.

The Indian Navy official version acknowledged the damage caused as a result of this action. The report stated that around midnight on

8th September some shells fell directly on Naval Radar Facility destroying most of the infrastructure. About fifty persons were officially reported dead with many more injured. The Naval Air Station at Dwarka used for test flights for INS Vikrant also received shells on the runway and was rendered ineffective for the next two months.

After the war, questions were asked in Indian parliament as to why Indian Navy didn't respond to this daring attack by Pakistan Navy, especially after President's Ayub's speech left no doubt that Pakistan was at war with India. The Indian Defense ministry maintained that defense of Andaman and Nicobar Islands against an attack from Indonesia was more important than engaging Pakistan Navy.

