Steel Cutting of Milgem Class Corvette in Turkey

New Chapter in Defence Cooperation
PNS DACCA served Pakistan Navy from 17 January 1963 to 8 April 1995 as Fleet Tanker and had the honor to serve the fleet, both during war and peace. The ship also has the pride of being the Hajj ship for the Hajj contingent for several years.

The ship was launched on 18 May 1944 as SS Mission SANTA CLARA and served as a civilian merchant ship during and after World War II. It also served as US Mission SANTA CLARA (TA 0132). Later handed over to Pakistan Navy which was commissioned as PNS DACCA (the second ship to get this name) on 17 January 1963 at Seattle, Washington.

Captain Raja Muhammad Aziz was her first Commanding Officer. She sailed from San Diego on 8 June 1963 and became the first PN ship to cross the Pacific Ocean. From Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, she made non-stop voyage of 29 days to Karachi and arrived on 18 July 1963. During the voyage, she crossed the International Date Line once and the equator twice. She was able to fuel PN Cruiser, Destroyers and Frigates at sea.

PNS DACCA participated in both 1965 and 1971 wars. The Ship took part in Ran of Kutch emergency and remained at sea for 23 days, provided fuel and stores to PN Flotilla.

After serving for 32 years, PNS DACCA was decommissioned on 8 April 1995.
Contents

02 Steel Cutting of 1st MILGEM Class Corvette in Turkey

05 German Naval Chief Visits Pakistan

06 Live Missile Firings in North Arabian Sea

08 54th Defence Day Celebrations

12 Exercise SHAMSHEER-E-BAHR VII & TARSEEL-E-BAHR II

13 Signing of MoUs between PN War College & Punjab University

14 Pakistan Navy observed World Maritime Day 2019

16 PNS ALAMGIR Visits KSA & Oman

18 5th Chief of the Naval Staff Open Shooting Championship 2019

20 JMICC; A Hub of Maritime Information
Steel Cutting Ceremony of 1st ship of MILGEM Class Corvettes being constructed for Pakistan Navy, was held at Istanbul Naval Shipyard, Turkey. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi jointly cut the metal plate of the 1st MILGEM Class Corvette.

Vice President of Turkey Fuat Oktay, Minister for National Defence of Turkey Hulusi Akar, Chief of Turkish General Staff General Yaşar Guler, Commander of Turkish Naval Forces Admiral Adnan Özbal, Ambassador of Pakistan to Turkey Muhammad Sajjad Qazi, and other dignitaries attended the ceremony which also included the induction of newly built TCG Kinaliada, the 4th MILGEM Class Corvette, into Turkish Navy Fleet.

While addressing the audience, Turkish President Erdogan termed the brotherly Pakistan-Turkey relations as exemplary and said that great potential exists for collaboration between the two countries in the field of defence production. While highlighting the situation in Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir, President Erdogan said the world needs to know about the sufferings of the Kashmiri people. Equating Kashmir with Palestine, President Erdogan further said that over 8 million Kashmiris are living in an open-air prison in their own lands facing brutalities of the occupation forces with great courage.

Earlier, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi in his opening speech termed this project as another testimony of the Pakistan-Turkey brotherhood. While updating the audience about the situation in the Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir, he mentioned the toxic
Turkish President Erdogan termed the brotherly Pakistan-Turkey relations as exemplary and said that great potential exists for collaboration between the two countries in the field of defence production.
Hindutva ideology of India and the threat it poses to regional and international peace. He said that Indian brutalities have reached to new levels after the 5th August 19 illegal actions of the Indian government which are in contravention to the UN Security Council resolutions. Admiral Abbasi thanked President Erdogan for raising Kashmir issue in his address at the United National General Assembly in New York saying the people of Pakistan and Kashmir are indebted to Turkey for its steadfast support.

Chief of the Naval Staff also acknowledged the commitment and dedication of ASFAT’s (Askeri Fabrika ve Tersane İşletme - Military Factory and Shipyard Management) team and expressed gratitude to the Turkish Ministry of National Defence and Turkish Navy for the support extended by them in this important program.

The ceremony ushered in a new chapter in defence friendship between Pakistan and Turkey and is a major milestone towards induction of state-of-the-art Corvettes in Pakistan Navy. Once constructed, the MILGEM Class Corvettes will be one of the most technologically advanced surface platforms of Pakistan Navy Fleet, fitted with latest weapons, sensors, command and control systems. These ships will significantly contribute in enhancing Pakistan Navy’s capability in maintaining peace and security in our area of responsibility (AOR). Contract for construction of four MILGEM Class Corvettes has been signed with Turkey. Two of the four Corvettes will be built in Turkey while the other two will be built in Pakistan under the transfer of technology programme.
German Naval Chief (Inspector of German Navy), Vice Admiral Andreas Krause called on Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi at Naval Headquarters, Islamabad.

Upon arrival at Naval Headquarters, the visiting dignitary was received by Chief of the Naval Staff. A smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Navy presented Guard of Honour. Thereafter, the dignitary laid floral wreath at the Shuhada’s Monument. He was also introduced to the Principal Staff Officers at Naval Headquarters.

Later, Vice Admiral Andreas Krause called on Chief of the Naval Staff in his office. During the meeting, various matters of mutual interest including bilateral naval collaboration, maritime security & stability and various avenues to enhance interoperability between Pakistan Navy and German Navy were discussed. Chief of the Naval Staff also highlighted Pakistan Navy’s commitment and efforts for ensuring maritime security in the region including Pakistan Navy’s initiative of Regional Maritime Security Patrols (RMSP). Naval Chief thanked Vice Admiral Andreas Krause for participation of German Navy Observers in Multinational Maritime Exercise AMAN-19 hosted by Pakistan Navy at Karachi early this year. German Naval Chief appreciated and acknowledged Pakistan Navy’s efforts and commitments in support of collaborative maritime security in the region and successful conduct of Exercise AMAN-19. Both the dignitaries agreed to further enhance mutual interaction in diverse fields of training, mutual visits and other areas of naval collaboration.

A brief was also given to the visiting dignitary on Pakistan Navy’s perspective on security situation in the Indian Ocean Region. In the second leg of the visit, German Naval Chief is scheduled to visit Pakistan Navy War College at Lahore and other Field Commands at Karachi. The visit is expected to greatly augment bilateral cooperation between both the countries in general and the two navies in particular.
Pakistan Navy conducted Operational Exercise RIBAT-2019 to review operational preparedness of Pakistan Navy. To consolidate Fleet Fire Power, successful live missile firings were also held from surface and air platforms during the exercise, affirming the impressive war fighting capabilities of Pakistan Navy.

The exercise was aimed at validating various operational concepts and tactical war fighting procedures including joint operations involving all Pakistan Navy’s Field Commands as well as Pakistan Air Force. During the Exercise RIBAT, Pakistan Navy and Pakistan Air Force units participated in maritime operations in various domains under complex grey hybrid warfare environment. Concurrently, Pakistan Marines and Special Operation Forces (SOFs) rehearsed special operations including Coastal Defence, Air Defence and Maritime Interdiction Operations etc. The exercise displayed Pakistan Navy’s intent to maintain highest state of readiness and combat potential to ensure seaward defence and protection of maritime interests of Pakistan during peace and war.

Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi witnessed the missiles firings and expressed his utmost satisfaction on the operational readiness of Pakistan Navy. He also reaffirmed the resolve that Pakistan Navy is ready to defend its sea frontiers and would give a befitting response to any misadventure by the adversary.
The exercise displays Pakistan Navy’s intent to maintain highest state of readiness and combat potential to ensure seaward defence and protection of maritime interests of Pakistan during peace and war.
“On this day, our valiant Armed Forces through their sheer grit and resolve, routed the false ambitions of the enemy on all three fronts of land, air and sea. Pakistan Navy despite being numerically smaller, through its daring war planning and strategic initiative, struck the enemy inside its home port and reigned supreme in the Indian Ocean, throughout the war. ‘Operation SOMNATH’ wherein Pakistan Navy audaciously attacked and destroyed Indian Radar Station at Dwarka, put the Indian Navy on the defensive, right from the onset of war”

Chief of the Naval Staff
Pakistan Navy celebrated 54th anniversary of Defence Day of Pakistan with due solemnity and reverence expressing complete solidarity with their Kashmiri brethren. The day was observed to commemorate supreme sacrifices of our Armed Forces, Shuhada, Ghazis and national heroes who stood against the aggressor and numerically superior enemy with unprecedented display of unity and resolve during 1965 Indo-Pak War.

In his message on the occasion, Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi paid rich tribute to the Shuhada and Ghazis who rendered immense sacrifices while the nation stood united behind its soldiers, sailors and airmen. On this day, our valiant armed forces, through their sheer grit and resolve, routed the false ambitions of the enemy on all the three fronts. Expressing complete solidarity with the Kashmiri brethren, the Admiral said that Indian actions in Occupied Kashmir have endangered the peace of the whole region. He reiterated that Pakistan would continue to support the just and rightful struggle of Kashmiris on all fronts.

The Admiral urged that this day demands from us a renewed pledge to work selflessly for a brighter and better tomorrow. By anchoring our unswerving faith in Allah SWT and drawing strength from the glorious traditions of our predecessors, we must commit to do our utmost to transform Pakistan into a prosperous and vibrant Islamic state.

The day dawned with special prayers offered in all Naval mosques for progress, integrity and prosperity of the country and particularly for the success of Kashmir struggle, expressing solidarity with the people of Kashmir. Quran Khawani was held for eternal peace of Shuhada of the 1965 war. Wreath laying ceremonies and Fateha Khawani were also held at Shuhada’s memorials across the country. Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Kaleem Shaukat laid floral wreath at Shuhada’s Monument at Naval Headquarters Islamabad, interacted with the families of Shuhada and offered Fateha. Besides this, a host of events were held in units/establishments and educational institutions of Pakistan Navy which included flag hoisting ceremonies, Commanding Officers’ addresses and laying of floral wreath on Shuhdas’ Monuments and other colourful activities.

A special get-together was also held with the families of Shuhada at Karachi in which Commander Karachi paid rich tribute to those who laid down their lives in the line of duty. Families of the Shuhada also shared their views and golden memories of our national heroes and their loved ones. Lady Welfare Officers alongwith reps from Logistic Command visited houses of the families of the martyrs in Karak, Gujrat and Sargodha, offered Fateha, expressed solidarity with the families. Officers from Commander Central Punjab also paid visit to the houses of families of the martyrs in Lahore. Station Commander Navy, Lahore addressed the student of Punjab Group of Colleges on importance of the day. Special visits to War College, Army Museum
and PN pavilion were also arranged for the families of the martyrs. Officers and reps from Commander North also held interactions with the families of the martyrs living within or outside the Naval Residential Complex. A Bara Khana was also arranged with the families of Shuhada living within Naval Residential Complex at PNS zafar.

Flag hoisting ceremonies were held at all Naval units and establishments wherein Commanding Officers of all units and establishments addressed special gatherings of officers and men and highlighted significance of the day. All ships and establishments were decorated and illuminated in accordance with Naval traditions. Other activities of the day included various colourful sports activities and Declamation/ Quiz/ Milli Naghma competitions held at various Navy units/ establishments and PN administered schools/ colleges. Moreover, Defence Day Fishing Boats Rallies/ Races were held in Karachi, Ormara, Gwadar and other Coastal areas. ❄️
The debrief session of Pakistan Navy’s war game SHAMSHEER-E-BAHR VII and Logistic Exercise TARSEEL-E-BAHAR II was held at Karachi. Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

Upon arrival, the Chief Guest was received by Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff (Operations), Rear Admiral Faisal Rasul Lodhi who was also the Officer Conducting the Exercise (OCE). While presenting the overview, the OCE outlined salient objectives of the exercise; concepts tried during the war game and recommendations pertaining to PN employment and developmental strategies.

Speaking at the occasion, Chief of the Naval Staff highlighted the significance of war games in reviewing naval war plans in sync with military & national security policy while also exploring operational concepts and refining developmental strategy. The Chief Guest mentioned that evolving geopolitical environment in our region is marred with complexities especially due to recent illegal annexation of Indian Occupied Kashmir (IoK) by Indian government and the intense oppression and atrocities by Indian Armed Forces in the valley. He said that the present Indian leadership is a product of Hindutwa ideology of RSS and is likely to follow radical oppressive policies in IoK which may lead to a conflict with Pakistan to divert world attention from Kashmir. Therefore, prevailing environment is likely to continue posing challenge to our national security in foreseeable future. Pakistan Navy in sync with govt policies and other armed forces is ready in all respects to give a befitting response to any misadventure by the enemy.

He further emphasized that it is incumbent upon us to maintain highest state of readiness, remain poised and maintain combat potential to ensure seaward defence and protection of maritime interests of Pakistan during peace and war. He expressed complete satisfaction over conduct of the war game and the recommendations presented to refine operational plans and developmental strategy.

The session was attended by a large number of senior officials of the three Services, and concerned ministries. 

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SHAMSHEER-E-BAHR-VII & EXERCISE TARSEEL-E-BAHAR-II
Pakistan Navy War College (PNWC) has signed two MoUs with University of the Punjab (PU) to foster academic and research collaboration with Centre for South Asian Studies (CSSA). In line with vision of PN to promote maritime awareness particularly amongst the academia, PNWC has been pursuing prominent universities for academic collaboration and signing MoUs to draw cooperative framework. The ceremony was held at CSSA, PU Campus Lahore.

Commodore Syed Wajeeh Ul Hassan, the Deputy Commandant PN War College signed the MoUs on behalf of Pak Navy where as Director CSSA and Chairperson Department of Political Science signed on behalf of their respective institutions. Vice Chancellor Punjab University Dr Niaz Ahmad Akhtar endorsed the MoUs and while speaking on the occasion, he highly appreciated the initiative taken by PNWC. He remarked that the academic interaction between PNWC and PU would increase maritime awareness amongst the academia. Deputy Commandant PNWC acknowledged the research initiative of PU and stated that the MoUs would establish a crucial linkage between the theorists and practitioners helping project the objective picture, particularly in maritime perspective, in the academic world. Signing of the MoUs with universities is not only enhancing the academic outreach of PN War College in the academia but it is also assisting the CMs in their research work. To date 22 faculty members of various universities have shown willingness to act as External Resource Persons (ERPs) for assisting CMs in their research assignments. Conversely 5 members of PNWC research faculty will be assisting students from various universities in their research assignments particularly on the maritime subjects. In order to ensure smooth academic interaction between External Resource Persons and CMs; an SOP has also been put in place.

The MoUs signing ceremony was attended by faculty members from both the institutions.
Pakistan Navy observed World Maritime Day (WMD) 2019 in coordination with International Maritime Organization (IMO). World Maritime Day is observed internationally during last week of September every year under the auspices of IMO. The theme adopted by IMO for this year’s World Maritime Day was ‘Empowering Women in Maritime Community’ aimed at creating environment and developing career opportunities for women in the maritime domain.

In his message on World Maritime Day, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi said that with renewed impetus on maritime sector following the development of CPEC, maritime activities in Pakistan are bound to increase manifolds. Therefore, building capacities to capitalize on the economic opportunities offered by maritime sector, especially participation of
women constituting about half of our population, is considered vital for accruing benefits offered by our maritime potential. There is a need to create environment and career development opportunities for women in maritime administration, ports and maritime training institutions which has become a fundamental imperative for long term development.

Events like World Maritime Day play an important role in enhancing maritime awareness in the country. On the occasion of WMD-2019, Pakistan Navy undertook a range of activities to underscore the importance of maritime sector with special emphasis on the contribution of women in this field in line with the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals. A colourful Maritime Gala at Pakistan Maritime Museum, a seminar on the topic of ‘Empowering Women in Maritime Community’ by National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA) and to raise awareness about protection of marine environment harbour cleaning activity were carried out at Karachi.

The officers of Pakistan Navy also delivered lectures at Bahria University and Kinnaird College Lahore about significance of Maritime Sector and opportunities available for women in Maritime domain. A tree plantation campaign titled “One Child-One Tree” was also carried out by students of Bahria Model College Gwadar. Other activities held in various Pakistan Navy’s units/establishments and Pakistan Navy’s administered schools and colleges included Beach Cleaning Campaigns, Awareness Lectures, Prize Essay and Water Sports Competitions, Talk Shows and Social Media Campaigns on significance of the day.

On World Maritime Day - 2019, Pakistan Navy pledges its full support towards development of maritime sector in Pakistan and empowerment of women in various maritime related fields. Growth in maritime sector would be a step towards attaining self-sufficiency to accrue true dividends of our Blue Economy.
Pakistan Navy Ship ALAMGIR with embarked Alouette helicopter, visited Port Salalah, Oman and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia as part of Overseas Deployment for Regional Maritime Security Patrols (RMSP); aimed to ensure safety and security of international shipping along critical choke points. PNS ALAMGIR is fitted with state of the art weapons and sensors; capable of undertaking wide range of maritime operations in a multi-threat environment.

Upon arrival at Salalah, Oman the ship was given a warm welcome. DA (P) Muscat was also present at the occasion. During the stay at the port, Commanding Officer PNS ALAMGIR called on Southern Naval Area Commander and Deputy Commander 11 Infantry Brigade of Royal Army of Oman and conveyed sincere regards from Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi, Chief of the Naval Staff to the Royal Navy of Oman and highlighted that the visit of PNS ALAMGIR is a manifestation of the multifaceted long term collaboration that exists between the two navies.

During the stay at the Port, a reception dinner was also hosted onboard, which was attended by prominent members of Pakistani expatriates and officers and men of the Sultan’s Armed Forces. Southern Naval Area Commander graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Officers and men of PNS ALAMGIR also remained engaged in various interactions with RNO during the port visit. Later, the ship was opened for visitors during which RNO personnel and members of Pakistani expatriate community visited the ship. In the last part of the visit, the ship also conducted joint exercises with RNOV AL-RASIKH while enroute to deployment area.
Upon arrival at Jeddah Port, the ship was given a warm welcome. During stay at the port, Commanding Officer PNS ALAMGIR called on Deputy Western Fleet Commander Royal Saudi Naval Forces (RSNF) and conveyed sincere regards and felicitations on 89th National Day of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi, Chief of the Naval Staff to the Royal Saudi Naval Forces and highlighted that the visit of PNS ALAMGIR is a manifestation of the multifaceted long term collaboration that exists between the two navies. During stay at the Port, a reception dinner was also hosted onboard, which was attended by prominent guests including diplomats from Russia, Turkey, Somalia, Kazakhstan, South Africa, Philippines, Cameroon, Egypt, Thailand, and Eritrea.

Pakistan Navy Ship ALAMGIR’s visit to brotherly countries was in pursuance to policies of the Government of Pakistan to further enhance friendly ties and explore new vistas for future collaborative initiatives between the brotherly countries. The visit also aimed at strengthening the bonds of friendship.
5th CHIEF OF THE NAVAL STAFF Open Shooting Championship 2019
Closing ceremony of 5th Chief of the Naval Staff Open Shooting Championship 2019 was held at Pakistan Navy Shooting Range, PNS BAHADUR at Karachi. Commander Coast, Vice Admiral Muhammad Fayyaz Gilani graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

Pakistan Navy, being the defending champions, once again clinched the title of CNS Open Shooting Championship 2019 with 33 Gold, 32 Silver and 23 Bronze medals whereas Sindh secured the Runners Up position. Almost 400 shooters from all over Pakistan participated in the week long Championship.

During the championship, a total of 24 events were contested in Pistol, Rifle and Shotgun categories for Men, Women and Youth on different ranges. In order to promote the game of shooting among youth and for interest of local Shooting Clubs at Karachi, few festival events in Big Bore Pistol & Big Bore Rifle categories were also held which were Non-Scoring towards overall points of the championship. All events were held smoothly under the supervision of qualified officials and Juries as per the International Sports Shooting Federation’s latest rules and regulations and no protests were lodged during the entire championship.

The Championship also served as a platform to facilitate selection of National Shooting team for the forthcoming South Asian Games through fair trials. Apart from Pakistan Navy, teams of Pakistan Air Force, Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan, KPK, HEC, WAPDA, Federal Rifle Association, ASF, Sindh Rangers, Sindh Police also participated in the championship and displayed their skills in the sport of Shooting.

At the end, the Chief Guest awarded medals and trophies to the winners of the championship. The CNS Open Shooting Championship is a biennial sports event; first edition of which was introduced back in 2008. Pakistan Navy has hosted and won all 4 previous Championships consecutively.

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Pakistan’s Maritime compulsions are countless; its geostrategic location, the hegemonic ambitions of its eastern neighbor, the presence of international Naval Forces in its vicinity and extent of piracy till Gulf of Oman (GOO) add to the current maritime security matrix. With a more than 1000 Km long coastline stretching to 350 nautical miles of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and 95 percent of its trade and 100 percent of its oil imports being transported via the sea route, the maritime sector becomes the bedrock of Pakistan’s national economy. Pakistan’s trade through sea routes, especially the oil imports are also growing with every passing year, thus the importance of maritime security in order to safeguard the maritime interests of Pakistan will continue to increase in future. The three commercial ports of the country constitute the trading nucleus of Pakistan in which Gwadar port is gradually coming up to the desired operational state. Any act of terrorism or sabotage by the non-state actors on this infrastructure can result in severe economic and security repercussions like increased insurance premiums, risk surcharges besides tarnishing country’s image in the International maritime community.

Maritime security is an integral part of comprehensive national security paradigm. In Post 9/11 scenario, the concept of maritime security has come under unprecedented focus worldwide due to increase in probability of Maritime Terrorism; Piracy; Narco-Arms and Human Smuggling; Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Toxic Waste Dumping and other sources of environmental degradation. These threats/challenges have the potential to create strategic effects due to heavy international reliance on maritime trade.

Joint Maritime Information Coordination Center (JMICC) is a national platform, to deal with all maritime related activities occurring in Pakistan Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), primarily for information sharing and interdepartment/agency coordination. JMICC is an integral part of Pakistan Navy and is located at Manora, Karachi. This Center was inaugurated in February 2013 and is directly responsible to Commander Coast, at Karachi. JMICC is manned 24/7 by
a competent Ops Team including reps of relevant stakeholders who serve as a bridge to their respective parent agency, facilitating seamless sharing of information with JMICC. The infrastructure available at this Center provides a network-aided environment for budding Maritime Common Operating Picture (MCOP) to enhance Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) for early identification of potential threat and to Coordinate response amongst concerned stakeholders to counter illicit activities at sea. JMICC also assists in smooth transition of responsibility from one agency to the other across respective domains, while dealing with any challenge/threat.

Mission
Besides day to day guidance from HQ & feedbacks from Stakeholders, JMICC is working on the lines as per following objectives:

- **Achieve enhanced MDA of AOR**
- **Timely sharing of information amongst all stakeholders involved in matters related to maritime security**
- **Coordinate response amongst concerned stakeholders to counter illicit activities**
- **Develop Achieve Data for analysis**

The domains JMICC deals with are as vast and varied as the maritime domain itself. These include:

- **Maritime Terrorism & Coastal Security**
- **Piracy Narco, Weapon Commodity & Human Smuggling**
- **Protection of EEZ Marine Pollution**
- **Search & Rescue**
- **Protection of Submarine Cable**

JMICC has been established with the vision to strengthen maritime security in the region and beyond by building a common coherent maritime picture and acting as a maritime hub in the region. Stepping up into this domain demands a recognized international visibility and outreach with regard to attracting and blending international clients associated with maritime activity. Occurrence of diverse maritime incidents and criticality of JMICC AoI which transcends beyond EEZ will keep the region in discrete focus of global maritime stakeholders in foreseeable future. Therefore, knitting up of other regional coordination centers and prominent maritime stakeholders with JMICC through effective advertising strategy is crucial.
and identifying such potential organizations for their integration remains a continuous job of JMICC.

Since its establishment in 2013, JMICC has come a long way in maintaining requisite level of info-sharing as well as interactions with various national as well as regional stakeholders relevant to the maritime domain of Pakistan. Over a short span of 6 years, 48 national agencies have become the stakeholders connected with JMICC which significantly assists in achieving Maritime Domain Awareness. It needs no further emphasis that Maritime security being an integral part of comprehensive national security paradigm requires focused attention due ever-changing dynamics of threat as well as associated challenges.

Accordingly, JMICC is not only making earnest efforts but so far had made significant strides to facilitate all national LEAs in maintenance of good order at sea, especially within our own AOR. It is noteworthy to highlight that the centre identified 64 x inter national MRCCs and has established two-way communication with 47 x regional and trans-regional maritime coordination centers. A new JMICC operations room with state of the art equipment and Joint Maritime Information Sharing Software (JMIS) are scheduled to be commissioned by January 2020.

It may be noted that in collaboration with JMICC, Pakistan Maritime Security Agency has launched and android based mobile application namely; Assistance, Anytime, Anywhere at sea (AAAS) to facilitate compound upon AAAS application to facilitate safety and security of seafarers.

It may be noted that JMICC coordinated with relevant authorities in 244 SAR Operations, saving nearly 1815 precious human lives and recovering 198 dead bodies.

The increase in maritime threats and challenges that are trans-boundary in nature poses a new challenge to maritime security agencies, where no single entity has the necessary resources to deal with the maritime threats / challenges by itself. The key to dealing with the full range of security matrix in the maritime domain lies in strong inter-agency cooperation and greater collaboration. Such efforts include accurate and timely information sharing among all stakeholders on a multilateral basis for implementing preventive measures or to cue necessary operational responses when required. JMICC with the support from all stakeholders will continue to play a key role in fostering collaboration to overcome the full spectrum of maritime threats and challenges.