

PROSPERITY IN AZAD KASHMIR OUR FOREMOST PRIORITY: MASOOD KHAN

**Islamabad; 07
January 2019:**

Sardar Masood Khan, President Azad Jammu and Kashmir, has said that ensuring development and prosperity within Azad Kashmir is our foremost priority and



the government is fully committed to achieving these goals.

The President made these remarks during a farewell dinner hosted by the President Secretariat in honour of the outgoing Chief Secretary of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Mian Wahid-ud-din here at Jammu and Kashmir House.

During his farewell speech, Mian Wahid-ud-din expressed his honour and privilege in serving the AJK Government and acknowledged the forward thinking and dynamic leadership of the State. While sharing his experience with the audience, he said that working with the AJK government and bureaucracy has made it evident upon him of their motivation for service towards its people. He said that the bureaucracy was a well-oiled machine and its commitment was evident by the writ of the government, low crime rate and high educational standards within the State. He added that being posted in AJK in a way completes his government service by giving him the opportunity to serve all the provinces of Pakistan including Gilgit

Baltistan.

President Masood Khan in his address to the audience praised Mian Wahid-ud-din's professionalism, leadership, honesty and composed nature. He said that the outgoing Chief Secretary with his vast experience and cooperation ensured the smooth working of the AJK administrative setup. He added that the Chief Secretary used to hold regular meetings with the Secretaries of various departments, and by teleconferencing sessions, he introduced effective and innovative methods in making sure all government stakeholders were on board.

The President said that Azad Kashmir has all the trappings of a State and with it comes many challenges, like development, economic prosperity, employment, justice, law and order, and education. He said that the people of AJK have the ambition of becoming self-sufficient and contributing to the prosperity of Pakistan as a whole. Azad Kashmir, he added, was industriously working towards development and will continue to do so in order to make it a model state and a showcase for the global community. He also said that AJK government and its people are also actively working towards the realisation of the right to self-determination of the Kashmiri people and will continue to advocate the legitimate and unarmed freedom struggle of the people.

President AJK on the occasion also welcomed the newly appointed Chief Secretary AJK Flt Lt (Rtd.) Daud Ahmad and Inspector General (IG) AJK Police Dr. Muhammad Naeem Khan on assuming their charge. He said that the outgoing Chief Secretary has passed the baton to his successor and we are hopeful that the relationship between government and the bureaucracy will further flourish in all benefit of the State.

The dinner was also attended by AJK Minister for Revenue Sardar Farooq Sikander, former Defence Minister Lt. General (Rtd) Naeem Khalid Lodhi, Members AJK Legislative Assembly Ms. Sehrish Qamar and Ms. Naseema Wani, former Chief of Air Staff of the Pakistan Air

Force Sohail Aman, newly appointed Chief Secretary AJK Flt. Lt. (Rtd.) Daud Ahmad, IG AJK Police Dr. Muhammad Naeem Khan, Advisors to the AJK President Sardar Ijaz Yousef and Zahid Aziz Mughal, Additional Chief Secretary (General) AJK Farhat Ali Mir, Ombudsman AJK Zafar Hussain Mirza, Vice Chancellors of AJK Public Sector Universities and other senior bureaucrats of the AJK Government.