

President Zardari appreciates Italian NGO interested in studying GB glaciers

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PT Report

ISLAMABAD, May 4: President Asif Ali Zardari has stressed the need for scientifically studying the glaciers of Gilgit – Baltistan. He termed the glaciers of GB as ‘vast reservoirs of water and their movement needs to be studied scientifically for a better understanding of the water and environmental issues’. He said this during a meeting with Agostino Da Ploenza, a renowned mountaineer and President of an NGO called EvK2CNR.

The Italy based NGO headed by Ploenza works on scientific projects for carrying out research on glaciers movement in Himalaya, Karakorum and HinduKash.

The President also told the visitors that the government is focussing on development and uplift of the people of Gilgit-Baltistan and welcomed private initiatives in this regard.

The President also reportedly said that he would recommend to the Government to consider setting up a political committee to examine issues in water, environment and energy in Gilgit-Baltistan to suggest measures for optimal utilization of the areas’ natural resources.

The President urged for further enhancing the Pak-Italy bilateral cooperation in all fields, particularly trade and economic sectors.

President of EvK2CNR, Agostino Da Ploenza, appreciated the President’s interests in glaciers studies in Gilgit-Baltistan and said that his organization would collaborate with local institutions to materialize scientific monitoring of glaciers and conducting scientific research in the HKH region.

Also accompanying Ploenza during the meeting were Dr. Aziz Ali Najam, ex VC of Karakoram International University and two officials of EvK2CNR.