

TEXT OF SPEECH OF PRIME MINISTER SYED YUSUF RAZA GILANI
AT THE CEREMONY OF NATIONAL FINANCE COMMISSION AWARD
IN GWADAR ON DECEMBER 30

Respected Federal Minister Finance Shaukat Tareen, Chief Minister Punjab Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif, Chief Minister NWFP Amir Haider Khan Hoti, Chief Minister Sindh Syed Qaim Ali Shah, Federal and Provincial Ministers, Members of Parliament and honourable gentlemen and ladies.

I first congratulate Federal Minister for Finance, all ministers, provincial chief ministers, provincial ministers and their team on this historic occasion. There is a consensus that this is a great historic occasion for the whole nation. You are seeing in this hall that every political party is represented here. All the political forces are gathered in this hall. And my brothers from FATA are also present there I also welcome them. I think it is a win win for everybody. The federal government wanted that provinces should be fully empowered with provincial and financial autonomy and as we will move forward you will get more good news. Somebody said to me that if all the powers are transferred to the provinces, the federal government will weaken. I told him that the federal government would not be weakened by transfer of powers to the provinces. Because we are sincere and want the provinces to be strong. If the provinces are strong, Pakistan will be strong. And if we need money at some stage we could get loan from the smaller brothers. This success is the dividend of democracy. It is fruit of democracy. You waged a struggle, the struggle that you did for principles, and in which you succeeded and the democratic forces were successful. I think it is fruit of that. What dictatorship can't do, democracy can do. We have travelled this journey because of democracy. I want to tell that we gathered the whole nation for the war of terrorism, called an All Parties Conference and went to parliament then an operation was carried out in Malakand and the whole nation got united as a fortified concrete wall. It was fruit of democracy that all political leadership inside and outside parliament, those who contested election or not got together on a point that we have to fight with the terrorists. I pay tribute to all the leadership who in the larger interest of the country forgot their differences to counter terrorism which is a menace for the country, economy, law and order and investment. So our coming together at one point shows political maturity. It is a democratic dividend that we are together. I also want to tell you that when the incident of Mumbai happened in India, we called an All Parties Conference and all leadership of the country stood united for the defence of Pakistan and for the nation and the country's defence. They also came to know that Pakistan is an honourable nation and it rises above personal interests and gives priority to the national interest and it is united. I want to tell you that the constitution was given by Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and now a constitutional committee has been formed which is taking up the constitutional amendments in which rights of Balochistan and other provinces are discussed. We will expedite that constitutional committee so that it can soon bring its recommendations to the parliament. So the nation will hear another good news that this leadership, the political forces got together and turned the real constitution of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto to its original form. Similarly, today's NFC award which was earlier based on population as explained by the federal minister, now its criteria has been changed and the factor of backwardness

is included in it. I think that it is a big achievement and large heartedness of the provinces that on this point they catered to those brothers who were ignored for 62 years. This is a sign of political maturity and I remember what Punjab has done. When our manifesto was being made and I was part of that process, it was the desire of Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto that in future instead of only the criteria of population other factors should also be included. So when I congratulated Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif over telephone on the NFC award that Punjab has shown magnanimity, he said with simplicity you are also from Punjab. I said I have forgotten that as I always talk of federation. When I talk of Pakistaniat and federation I forget that Balochistan is mine, or Karachi is mine or other provinces are mine, as i think that unless we all get together this country cannot make progress. I also want to request you, a lot of dictators came here and every dictator put his hand on a raw nerve that I am coming, I will come and I will end all corruption from the country, take it out from its roots. I want to take you towards history, in 1958 the leading politicians Sir Feroze Khan Noon, Khwaja Nazimuddin, Suharwardi and from your province a lot of leading elders and leaders who took part in the Pakistan movement, they made the country and they signed on declaration of Pakistan in 1940, these leading politicians were EBDDED by Ayub Khan on the basis of corruption and disqualified. From that time the country has been destabilized. Those people who were from West Pakistan or East Pakistan. All the leading names were EBDDED and disqualified and it became difficult for the under 19 team to take control. After Bhutto Sahib came, Ziaul Haq came saying that I am here for accountability. For accountability a dictator has no political party, first he holds local bodies elections and local bodies elections are held on non-party basis and those who are elected on non-party basis, they make a king's party and everybody gets into the king's party. And overnight the biggest party is that of the dictator. And they passed ten years. Similarly Musharraf Sahib came. It was the government of Mian Sahib with a two thirds majority. Nobody has the right to disqualify those were publicly elected, who have a two thirds majority on the charges that they wanted to kidnap us, and they wanted to hijack us, we were not allowed to land and there was corruption and we will end corruption. I want to ask you about those who had charges of corruption. Today I want to ask you, when his government was formed, all of those were with him or not. Everybody was with him. Those who left and came out of jail they became Bamusharraf and joined him. And those who did not compromise they are traitors. "Munzalain unko milian jo shareek-e-Safar na thae". Those who were not shareek-e-safar they ruled for nine, ten years. And today he has the wish to make a comeback. He is saying people of Balochistan are calling me, people of Punjab are calling me, people of Sarhad are calling me, people of Sindh are calling me. Nobody is calling, it is a misunderstanding. If somebody likes, he can see it by contesting elections. Bye elections are being held, Musharraf can come and contest elections. It will be known what is his position. Similarly I want to tell you that if we want to save this country it can be saved with two three things. Those who talk of corruption, once I was listening that Musharraf sahib was saying that these people become members by giving money. I want to ask chief minister Sindh whether in Sindh this time all Senators were elected unopposed or not. Now tell me where was corruption, whether these people became members by giving money. I want to ask Chief Minister Punjab whether this time in Senate all Senators were elected unopposed or not. Now tell where corruption was done. From Islamabad tell me Senators were elected unopposed or by giving money? They

were elected unopposed. I want to ask Chief Minister Sarhad whether the Senators were elected unopposed or not. Now tell me, let a dictator get people unopposed. I want to ask you who made the federation. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto laid the foundation of the federation. After the fall of Dhaka, he knew the smaller brothers, smaller provinces had a sense of deprivation. And they were doubtful and had a misunderstanding that we people did not want to give them rights. There was a unicameral system, there was only a National Assembly and there was no Senate. He formed the institution of Senate. He formed Senate to end sense of deprivation so that Punjab had same votes to that of Balochistan, Sarhad and Sindh. So if an amendment is made in the constitution it is done with the two thirds majority formed by the four provinces. No amendment can be done without it. This security was given to you. Security was given to the four provinces. Until the smaller provinces agree to an amendment, no amendment can be done to the constitution. Today I want to tell you that the committee on the constitution has at least met for forty times. There are day to day meetings and if there is any delay in consensus, as happened in the NFC it was for the smaller provinces. As the smaller provinces wanted that first there should be talk of the provincial autonomy and then other issues should be taken up. We want to take the smaller provinces along. But I want to request the smaller provinces that keep it in mind that you will get provincial autonomy, but besides this you should not accept the constitutional amendments made by the dictator. These were done by the dictator. And the dictator did this to prolong his rule but I want to request you, I belong to a political family and from my childhood I was hearing, whoever came whether he was President or Prime Minister that he wanted to see how his rule can get strengthened. Then he asks his advisers, he takes advise from his cabinet as to how he can stay longer. I said I want to say a thing away from the traditional politics. I don't want to strengthen the seat of the prime minister but I want to make the institutions strong. Because nobody could save his seat till today. How much you make it strong, the seat will not be saved as these are musical chairs. The thing that will remain are the institutions so strengthen them. If institutions will be saved we will also be rescued. So we believe that we will strengthen the institutions. We will undo the 17th amendment. We will end 58(2)B and as in the constitution we will allow a person to become prime minister for the third time so that institutions become strong. Constitution becomes strong, then Pakistan becomes strong and an individual does not become strong. As the Chief Minister Punjab said that the problem of Balochistan is of Akbar Bugti Sahib. I agree with you. I held 21 meetings on Balochistan and out of that, all those persons who came in delegations from Balochistan represented by all parties, they all said Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan will be a non-starter if you do not include the point of murder of Akbar Bugti. We have included it and if you want to take Balochistan forward, you have to look at the facts as to why Nawab Akbar Bugti was martyred. At the time of creation of Pakistan, Nawab Akbar Bugti supported Quaid-e-Azam and when Gwadar was purchased he was in that cabinet. My father was in that cabinet that purchased Gwadar. I only want to tell you that you have to see and the dictators have to see whether they committed treason against the constitution, if they murdered Akbar Bugti then they should be punished. They should get this because nobody is beyond the constitution. They should work within the limits of the constitution. I also want to request you that all the issues of Balochistan, whether constitutional, administrative, of economics and all other issues, Inshallah, will be resolved as we have started Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan movement. Today we are holding the meeting of

the cabinet here. The federal cabinet is sitting here and we are meeting. Why we have selected Balochistan? We have selected Balochistan because it is a backward area. Balochistan is ignored and Gwadar where we are holding the cabinet meeting is a remote area. The NFC award signing ceremony is also held in a small remote area. So it becomes part of history that the federation and the four provinces are equal part of the progress of Balochistan. We want that there should be progress in Balochistan and we wanted that when we come to Gwadar port, it should get international publicity. Gwadar port can become a big milestone in the progress of Balochistan and progress of Pakistan. I think that National Finance Commission Award was a formula of division of resources which was not resolved for the last many years and the democratic governments resolved it. Here they wanted to tell those who have a doubt and concern that the federation or Punjab does not want an increase in resources of Balochistan. So we want to prove. The federation is present here. Punjab is present here and the small provinces are present and we want to tell that for your progress we are praying. We want you to progress. There are many problems in Balochistan. I talked of provincial autonomy. Now I talked of Nawab Akbar Bugti. The biggest problem is unemployment. For unemployment I have advertised posts. I have advertised 5000 posts. Chief Secretary will tell that 20000 people gave applications. From those 20000 applications, 3500 applications were given by women. I am announcing that we will give jobs to all of them. All the graduates will be given jobs. We started a programme, but there was a problem that as people of Balochistan lack opportunities so I relaxed the age limit to 35 years so a youth of 35 years can also give application, which is relaxation of rules. I am giving one time waiver. You should know that if I spent five years in jail, it was because of giving jobs to the people. And I am again committing this sin. Secondly, for the coast guards we do not get people with matric so I have set the education level of middle for them so that they can also give applications. Similarly, for the youth employment we have given an incentive, 10000 youth will get employment and how it will be done? We will give them incentives, education and stipends so that they can complete their education. Similarly, we will appoint people in police. Labour Minister Khurshid Shah announced that they will set up a technical training institute so that the boys who get training from there will be given jobs abroad. NAVTEC institution works under me and I want to establish an institution of NAVTEC so that it gives technical training and education. I also announced in Gwadar that all the jobs should be given to locals. The local people should get jobs. Gwadar has its problems. I have a purpose of staying here in Gwadar for two days. Now more than locals I know problems of this place. First I took a briefing here for an airport. We have said that as the funds for it are sanctioned, these should be released properly so that the project of three years is completed in time. Similarly the biggest issue is of connectivity. Till the Gwadar port is not connected to Punjab, progress cannot take place here. 60 percent work on it has been done. For the 40 percent I will ask Shaukat Tareen to make the releases so that the road is completed immediately. Similarly another big issue is of electricity. With Iran we did an agreement on electricity. We will expedite it. I ask Minister for Water and Power to expedite the power project of 110 megawatt so that power is given here. Here the biggest problem is of water and for it I have already constituted a committee comprising Deputy Chairman Planning Commission and Khurshid Shah so that they can see from where water can be secured in a better, suitable and cost effective manner. Today you have identified that here already is a gas scheme

which is incomplete. I will ask the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources to immediately examine and expedite it. Today I announce to approve a girls college. The girls college will have a hostel and girl students can take education here. They will get job opportunities. And I have also got a complaint about Benazir Income Support Programme that it has not been reaching here to a large number of people. So I will give directions to Chairman BISP Farzana Raja to visit the area immediately and resolve issues related to the programme. In the same way, more demands were made here which I have noted and I will try to resolve these issues straightaway. In the end, above all I want to thank the Chief Minister Balochistan for the way he has hosted this event and made it historic. I commend him and we thank him for his hospitality. I also thank the media that you are with us on an occasion in which a historic achievement is made and you are a witness to it. Minister for Overseas Pakistanis also want to make announcement for a girls college and we thank him for that. I will request the federal ministers to not only come with me but also come alone and stay here. **END**