

Pakistan gets \$1.1 bn US aid for terror war

Pakistan received \$1.1 billion from the US in its fight against terrorism, including its military operations in the troubled Waziristan and other tribal areas along the Durand line last year, the Dawn reported Wednesday.

According to a recent report of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Pakistan received about \$1.1 billion from the US for logistical support in 2005.

The US disbursed about \$3.7 billion to Pakistan for counter terrorism operations from January 2002 to August 2005, said a report of the Congressional Research Services (CRS), the public policy research arm of the US Congress.

Another \$900 million would be provided to Pakistan during the current year and \$739 million next year.

The next year's amount is likely to be reduced by \$150 million to about \$590 million owing to a reduction sought by the US House Appropriations Committee, the CRS report said.

The US Senate Appropriations Committee called for redirecting of the requested \$739 million economic aid to Pakistan towards development and democracy promotion programme.

Pakistan's official budget documents give no details of these receipts.

The report showed that Pakistan was provided with \$300 million in 2005 and would get a similar amount during the current year under the foreign military financing alone.

A total of more than \$15 billion in US economic and military assistance went to Pakistan from 1947 through 2005, the report said.

The Bush administration offered a \$3 billion five-year aid package to Pakistan for becoming a front line ally in the war against terror.

Annual installments of \$600 million each, split evenly between military and economic aid, began in 2005.

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