



**Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan, Vice Chief of the Air Staff along with Chief Secretary Gilgit Baltistan after the stone laying ceremony of chairlift at PAF Ski Resort, Naltar. (03-05-2013)**



**Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan, Vice Chief of the Air Staff praying for the success of the project after the stone laying ceremony of chairlift at PAF Ski Resort, Naltar. (03-05-2013)**



**Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan, Vice Chief of the Air Staff with other officers, after the stone laying ceremony of chairlift at PAF Ski Resort, Naltar. (03-05-2013)**

## **STONE LAYING CEREMONY OF CHAIRLIFT AT PAF SKI RESORT, NALTAR**

**ISLAMABAD 03 MAY, 2013:-** To overcome the infrastructure limitation, Ski Federation of Pakistan (SFP) with the full support of Pakistan Air Force has launched the Naltar Development Project which also includes installation of a chairlift. Stone Laying Ceremony for the installation of chairlift was held at Naltar, Gilgit Baltistan. Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan, Vice Chief of the Air Staff and President Ski Federation of Pakistan was the Chief Guest on the occasion. After the earth breaking ceremony, the President Ski Federation of Pakistan declared the project as of strategic importance for development and promotion of skiing in the country. Talking on the occasion he said that the completion of project besides providing international standard ski facility would become a source of socio-economic uplift of the area by attracting national and international tourism. He said that Pakistan Air Force would continue to support the Federation to promote ski sport in the country. On the occasion he appreciated the members of the team working on the project and highlighted the support of the Chief Minister Gilgit Baltistan which is of vital importance for successful completion of the project. He also appreciated the help of Pak Army Units located in the area.

Air Commodore Mussarat Ali, Secretary General SFP, briefed the audience present on the occasion about the salient features of the Chairlift Project. He said that the project includes extension of existing ski slope from 600 to 1500 metres and installation of chairlift which has been provided on gratis basis by Télé Villars-Gryon, a Ski Resort in Switzerland. Installation of chairlift would increase the capacity of the slope from existing 60 to 500 skiers per hour thus providing world class ski facility to hundreds of keen athletes. He further said that after the completion of the Project training camps would be arranged at Naltar under the supervision of International Ski Federation (FIS) qualified foreign coaches and international competitions would be organized in collaboration with the FIS.

Pakistan Air Force is making extra efforts for uplift of the area in terms of enhancing education of local children. PAF School at Naltar offers free education, computer lab and equipment for conducting Ski training. It is worth mentioning that almost all Ski athletes working in Govt/Semi Govt/ private organizations have been trained by PAF Base Naltar.