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## Militants Attack Frontier Corps Posts in Lower Dir, Forces Repel Assault

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Late Wednesday night, August 6, 2025, militants carried out a coordinated attack on four combined police and Frontier Corps (FC) checkpoints in the Lal Qila area of Maidan, Lower Dir district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The attackers, armed with heavy weapons, struck the checkpoints located in Sarlara, Lal Qila, Kohiray, and Gumbat Banda. One FC soldier, identified as Naik Shakoor, was injured during the assault. He was immediately transported to a nearby hospital, where medical staff reported his condition as stable. Security forces engaged the attackers and forced them to retreat before they could cause further damage.

This incident came only two nights after another attack in the same district, where militants targeted the Zimdara Gul police post in Maidan and injured a member of the

Elite Force. The repeated assaults have left local residents concerned about the rising frequency of militant activity in the area.

Lower Dir has experienced recurring security challenges due to its proximity to the Afghan border and its history as a hotspot for militant movements. In late July 2025, armed assailants opened fire on police personnel in the Lal Qila-Maidan region, resulting in multiple fatalities among officers. In mid-2024, security sources reported clashes between FC troops and militants along the Pak-Afghan border in Maidan. Although those earlier reports did not confirm casualties, they highlighted the ongoing tension in the region.

Security analysts note that these attacks demonstrate the ability of militant groups to plan and coordinate strikes against multiple targets in a short time frame. While no group has officially claimed responsibility for the August 6 attack, past incidents of a similar nature have often been linked to the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), a banned organization known for targeting security installations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Authorities have not publicly confirmed any suspects in this case, and investigations remain ongoing.

The Frontier Corps, tasked with both border security and counterterrorism operations, has been a frequent target of such assaults. The coordinated strikes on August 6 appear aimed at undermining security operations and creating instability in the district.

In response to the latest incident, security forces have increased patrols in Lower Dir and strengthened defenses at vulnerable checkpoints. Officials have assured the public that measures are being taken to prevent further attacks, emphasizing that the safety of both civilians and security personnel remains a priority. Despite the challenges, the government maintains that it will continue its efforts to root out militant networks and restore lasting peace to the region.