

PAKISTAN WATCH

No. 54

May 2015

POLITICAL ISSUES

EGYPT

1. Egyptian Minister of Defence and Defence Production called on President

Islamabad, Tuesday, 7 April 2015

President Mamnoon Hussain while talking to Minister of Defence and Defence Production of Egyptian Armed Forces General Sedqy Sobhi Sayed called for further strengthening of bilateral relations, including defence cooperation.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=331568&Itemid=2

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1174614>

IRAN

2. Pakistan-Iran to find peaceful solution to Yemen crisis

Islamabad, Wednesday, 8 April 2015

Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif emphasized the need for a political solution than a military one as suggested by Saudi Arabia to the Yemen conflict during his meeting with Prime Minister's adviser on foreign affairs Sartaj Aziz.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=331841&Itemid=2

See Also: Daily Times, Lahore

<http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/national/09-Apr-2015/pakistan-iran-to-join-hands-on-yemen-crisis>

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1174693>

3. PM urged Muslim countries to promote restraint on Yemen's issue

Islamabad, Thursday, 9 April 2015

Talking to Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif called upon all Muslim countries to influence positively on the Yemen issue.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=331919&Itemid=2

See Also: Daily Times, Lahore

<http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/national/09-Apr-2015/pm-urges-muslim-countries-to-promote-restraint-on-yemen-s-issue>

OMAN

4. Pakistan, Oman agreed to further strengthen ties in various fields

Islamabad, Wednesday, 8 April 2015

Pakistan and Oman agreed to further increase its cooperation in economy, trade, manpower, defence and security during the fifth round of political consultations.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=331754&Itemid=2

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1174826>

5. Grand Mufti of Sultanate of Oman called on President

Islamabad, Wednesday, 29 April 2015

President Mamnoon Hussain while talking to Grand Mufti of the Sultanate of Oman Sheikh Ahmad Bin Hamad Al-Khalili said that the Muslim community should be united to counter misguided elements.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=335648&Itemid=2

See Also: Daily Times, Lahore

<http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/national/29-Apr-2015/grand-mufti-of-sultanate-of-oman-calls-on-president>

SAUDI ARABIA

6. Army, citizens to protect Saudi integrity, Harmain Shareefain's sanctity: Pervaiz

Islamabad, Monday, 13 April 2015

Minister for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage Senator Pervaiz Rashid said army and Pakistani citizens were committed to protect integrity of Saudi Arabia and sanctity of Harmain Shareefain.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=332411&Itemid=2

See Also: The Nation, Lahore

<http://nation.com.pk/national/14-Apr-2015/army-citizens-to-protect-saudi-integrity-pervaiz>

7. High level visit to Saudi Arabia

Islamabad, Wednesday, 15 April 2015

A delegation led by Chief Minister of Punjab Shahbaz Sharif visited Saudi Arabia for consultations with the Senior Saudi Officials.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=332636&Itemid=2

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1176303>

8. Pakistan welcomed end of air campaign in Yemen

Islamabad, Wednesday, 22 April 2015

Pakistan's Foreign Office welcomed the announcement by Saudi Arabia regarding the end of four weeks of air campaign in Yemen.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=334028&Itemid=2

9. PM met Saudi leadership; President of Yemen

Riyadh, Thursday, 23 April 2015

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif met the King of Saudi Arabia Salman along with the Crown Prince, Deputy Crown Prince and Defence Minister. The situation of Yemen and matters of mutual interest were discussed in these meetings. The prime minister also met President of Yemen Mansour Hadi in Riyadh.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=334352&Itemid=2

See Also: Daily Times, Lahore

<http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/national/24-Apr-2015/nawaz-talks-yemen-crisis-with-saudi-king-yemen-s-president>

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1177861>

TURKEY

10. Sharif, Davutoglu discussed Yemen's situation

Ankara, Friday, 3 April 2015

During his day-long visit to Turkey Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif met his Turkish counterpart Ahmed Davutoglu and expressed concern over the overthrow of Yemen's government by non-state actors and pledged to work together for a peaceful solution.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=330926&Itemid=2

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1173845>

See Also: The Express Tribune, Karachi

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/864171/yemen-crisis-pakistan-turkey-work-peaceful-solution/>

See Also: The Nation, Lahore

<http://nation.com.pk/national/04-Apr-2015/pakistan-turkey-to-stand-by-saudi-arabia>

11. Turkish President telephoned PM

Islamabad, Saturday, 11 April 2015

President of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan telephoned Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and agreed to resolve the situation of the region through peaceful means. Emphasis was on illegitimate overthrowing of a legitimate government in Yemen and on violation of the territorial integrity of Saudi Arabia.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=332207&Itemid=2

See Also: The Frontier Post, Lahore

<http://www.thefrontierpost.com/articleprint/281627/turkish-president-telephones-pm/>

12. Pakistan's envoy, Speaker Turkish Grand National Assembly discussed Pak-Turkey ties

Islamabad, Thursday, 16 April 2015

Pakistan's Ambassador to Turkey Sohail Mahmood called on the Speaker of the Turkish Grand National Assembly Cemil Cicek and exchanged views on bilateral relations and cooperation between the two parliaments.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=332720&Itemid=1

See Also: Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/1-front-top-news/238471-pakistans-envoy-speaker-turkish-grand-national-assembly-discuss-pak-turkey-ties.html>

13. President arrived in Turkey on four-day official visit

Istanbul, Wednesday, 22 April 2015

President Mamnoon Hussain received warm welcome upon his arrival on a four-day official visit to Turkey.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=334133&Itemid=2

See Also: The News International, Karachi

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-37147-President-Mamnoon-arrives-in-Turkey-on-four-day-official-visit>

14. Turkish President, other leaders met President

Istanbul, Thursday, 23 April 2015

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan along with other world leaders met President Mamnoon Hussain during the Peace Conference held on the occasion of the centenary remembrance of Canakkale Battles in Turkey and exchanged pleasantries.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=334403&Itemid=2

See Also: Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/109-world-top-news/239495-turkish-president-other-leaders-meet-president.html>

15. Pakistan, Turkey called for early resolution of Yemen crisis

Islamabad, Saturday, 25 April 2015

President Mamnoon Hussain in a meeting with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan expressed his concerns over Yemen's situation and emphasized early resolution of the crisis while mentioning Pakistan's commitment to Saudi Arabia's sovereignty and territorial integrity. The two leaders also discussed on economic collaborations.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=334796&Itemid=2

See Also: The Frontier Post, Lahore

<http://www.thefrontierpost.com/articleprint/288158/pakistan-turkey-call-for-early-resolution-of-yemen-crisis/>

ECONOMIC ISSUES

IRAN

16. Pakistan offered PTA to Afghanistan, FTA to Iran: Khurram

Minister for Commerce Khurram Dastgir Khan said that Pakistan offered Free Trade Agreement (FTA) to Iran for enhancing trade with both the countries.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=335198&Itemid=1

See Also: Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/1-front-top-news/239863-pakistan-offers-pta-to-afghanistan-fta-to-iran-khurram.html>

TURKEY

17. Pak envoy for enhancing cooperation with Turkey in agriculture livestock

Islamabad, Wednesday, 15 April 2015

Pakistan's Ambassador to Turkey Sohail Mahmood in a meeting with Turkish Minister for Food, Agriculture and Livestock Mehmet Mehdi Eker noted the progress on the on-going joint projects in the agriculture sector and called for further development.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=332639&Itemid=2

See Also: The Express Tribune, Karachi

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/870572/ties-with-turkey-envoy-calls-for-enhanced-cooperation/>

18. Pakistan, Turkey to collaborate in agricultural sector, agro-based industry

Islamabad, Monday, 20 April 2015

Pakistan and Turkey in the second meeting of the Turkey-Pakistan Agricultural Steering Committee in Ankara decided to collaborate in agriculture sector, agro-based industry, livestock improvement programmes and designing rural development projects.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=333674&Itemid=1

See Also: The Nation, Lahore

<http://nation.com.pk/business/21-Apr-2015/pakistan-turkey-to-collaborate-in-agri-sector-agro-based-industry>

DEFENCE ISSUES

EGYPT

19. Egyptian Defence Minister visited Joint Staff Headquarters

Rawalpindi, Tuesday, 7 April 2015

Minister of Defence and Defence Production General Sedqy Sobhi Sayed visited Joint Staff Headquarters Chaklala and called on the Chairperson of Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Rashad Mahmood. He also held meetings with Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif and Minister for Science and Technology Rana Tanvir.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=331625&Itemid=2

See Also: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=331901&Itemid=2

20. Egyptian Defence Minister called on General Raheel Sharif

Rawalpindi, Tuesday, 7 April 2015

Egyptian Minister of Defence and Defence Production General Sedqy Sobhi Sayed visited General Headquarters and called on Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif to discuss matters of mutual interest, regional security and military-to-military bilateral relations.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=331628&Itemid=2

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1174504>

21. Defence Secretary held meeting with Egyptian Army Chief

Rawalpindi, Monday, 20 April 2015

Federal Secretary Defence, Lt. General (Retd.) Muhammad Alam Khattak held one-on-one meetings with Egyptian Army Chief Mehmood Hegazi and Minister of Defence and Defence Production General Sedqi Sobhi Sayed in Cairo on the sidelines of the 9th Military Cooperation Committee meeting.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=333542&Itemid=2

See Also: Daily Times, Lahore

<http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/national/20-Apr-2015/defence-secretary-holds-meeting-with-egyptian-army-chief>

IRAN

22. Iranian FM, COAS discussed evolving situation in Middle East

Rawalpindi, Thursday, 9 April 2015

Iran's Foreign Minister Javed Zarif met with the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Raheel Sharif and discussed regional security including the evolving situation in the Middle East, Pak-Iran border management and defence and security cooperation.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=331877&Itemid=2

See Also: The News International, Karachi

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-180897-COAS,-Iranian-FM-discuss-situation-in-Middle-East->

See Also: Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/108-pakistan-top-news/237575-iranian-fm-coas-discuss-evolving-situation-in-middle-east.html>

JORDAN

23. Jordanian Air Force Commander called on General Raheel Sharif

Rawalpindi, Monday, 27 April 2015

Commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force Major General Mansour Salim Aljobour called on the Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif while visiting Pakistan General Headquarters and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=335147&Itemid=38

See Also: The News International, Karachi

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-37225-Jordanian-air-force-commander-calls-on-General-Raheel-Sharif>

SAUDI ARABIA

24. Pakistan's delegation reached Riyadh for talks with leadership of Saudi Arabia Islamabad, Wednesday, 1 April 2015

Pakistan's delegation, headed by Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif committed to deploy limited number of troops inside Saudi Arabia in case its territorial integrity comes under threat following its decision to stay away from the military coalition against Houthi rebels in Yemen as it may complicate Pakistan's relation with Iran.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=330470&Itemid=2

See Also: The Express Tribune, Karachi

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/862216/yemen-imbroglio-pakistan-mulls-limited-mission-for-saudi-security/>

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