



PAKISTAN WATCH

No. 66

May 2016

POLITICAL ISSUES

IRAN

1. Delegation to visit Iran in May for pipeline talks

Karachi, Friday, 22 April 2016

The visit by a Pakistani delegation has been proposed by the Senate to resume Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline project talks for receiving 750 MMdft of gas from Iran.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/delegation-to-visit-iran-in-may-for-talks/>

See Also: Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/pakistan/general-news/291854-delegation-to-visit-iran-in-may-for-talks.html>

2. Iran-Pakistan interactive session organized by Karachi Council on Foreign Relations

Karachi, Thursday, 28 April 2016

An interactive session on “Pakistan-Iran Relations in the New Millennium” was organized by Karachi Council on Foreign Relations (KCFR) 28 April to highlight emerging business potential in Iran and avenues of bilateral cooperation between the two neighbours.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/iran-offers-prospects-for-development-projects-iranian-envoy/>

See Also: Daily Baluchistan Times, Quetta

<http://dailybalochistantimes.com/%EF%BB%BFiran-offers-prospects-for-development-projects-iranian-envoy/>

LEBANON

3. Pak envoy meets Lebanon's economy minister

Islamabad, Wednesday, 20 April 2016

Pakistan's Ambassador in Beirut Aftab Khokher held a meeting with Lebanon's Minister for Economy and Trade Allain Hakim to brief him about Pakistan's economic profile, and explore avenues and potential of bilateral trade.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/ambassador-khokher-meets-lebanese-economy-minister-in-beirut/>

SAUDI ARABIA

4. Planning-Development minister visits Saudi Arabia

Islamabad, Sunday, 24 April 2016

Pakistan's Minister for Planning, Development and Reform Ahsan Iqbal held a meeting with Saudi delegation led by Prince Turki Al Faisal to deliberate initiatives for enhancing financial, strategic, cultural and religious cooperation.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/pak-saudia-enjoy-time-tested-bilateral-relations-ahsan/>

See Also: *Business Recorder, Karachi*

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/pakistan/292177-pak-saudia-enjoy-time-tested-bilateral-relations-ahsan.html>

See Also: *Radio Pakistan, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.radio.gov.pk/24-Apr-2016/pakistan-saudi-arabia-enjoy-time-tested-bilateral-relations-ahsan>

TURKEY

5. Turkish Parliamentary delegation visits Pakistan

Islamabad, Tuesday, 12 April 2016

Turkish parliamentary delegation led by Ismail Kahraman, Speaker of Turkish Assembly emphasized on enhancing anti-terrorism cooperation during their meeting with Pakistani president Mamnoon Hussain.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/president-stresses-close-pak-turk-collaboration-in-fighting-terrorism/>

See Also: *Business Recorder, Karachi*

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/pakistan/290158-president-stresses-close-pak-turk-collaboration-in-fighting-terrorism.html>

See Also: *The News International, Karachi*

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/112368-President-stresses-close-Pak-Turkin-fighting-terrorism>

See Also: *Daily Times, Lahore*

<http://dailytimes.com.pk/islamabad/12-Apr-16/mamnoon-stresses-close-pak-turk-collaboration-in-fighting-terrorism>

6. President visits Turkey to attend 13th Islamic summit; Pak-Turkey FTA to be signed in September

Islamabad, Friday, 15 April 2016

President Mamnoon Hussain underscored the challenges facing Muslim community while addressing the 13th Islamic Conference of Organization of Islamic Countries held in Istanbul on 14-15 April. Referring to his meeting with his Turkish counterpart, he stated that Free trade agreement between the two nations would be finalized by September.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/president-leads-pakistan-delegation-in-13th-oic-summit/>

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-turkey-to-finalize-fta-by-september-president/>

Source: *Radio Pakistan, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.radio.gov.pk/16-Apr-2016/pak-turkey-to-finalize-fta-by-sept-this-year-president>

See Also: *Daily Baluchistan Times, Quetta*

<http://dailybalochistantimes.com/%EF%BB%BFpakistan-turkey-to-finalize-fta-by-september-president/>

DEFENCE ISSUES

SAUDI-ARABIA

7. Pak Air Chief meets Saudi Defence Minister; visits King Faisal Air Academy in Riyadh

Islamabad, Tuesday, 26 April 2016

Chief of Pakistan's Air Staff, Sohail Aman discussed bilateral Air-force training related issues with Saudi Air Chief Ahmed Alshaa'lan and Defence Minister Prince Salman Al-Saud during his visit to Royal Saudi Air Operations Centre. During his visit, he also interacted with instructors and ground crew at King Faisal Air Academy in Riyadh.

Source: Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/pakistan/general-news/292609-paf-chief-meets-saudi-counterpart-discusses-training-matters.html>

See Also: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/paf-chief-meets-saudi-counterpart-discusses-training-matters/>

See Also: Daily Times, Lahore

<http://dailytimes.com.pk/islamabad/28-Apr-16/air-chief-meets-saudi-defence-minister>

ECONOMIC ISSUES

QATAR

8. Qatar-Pakistan discuss investment opportunities

Islamabad, Tuesday, 12 April 2016

Pakistan's Finance Minister Ishaq Dar briefed a Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) delegation about scope and procedure of various investment opportunities in Pakistan.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/opportunities-for-qia-to-invest-in-pakistan-ishaq-dar/>

See Also: Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/pakistan/290069-opportunities-for-qia-to-invest-in-pakistan-ishaq-dar.html>

See Also: Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1251486>

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

ISRAEL

9. Pak questions Israel's policies in Occupied Territories at Moscow International conference

Islamabad, Wednesday, 27 April 2016

Pakistan's Defence Minister Muhammad Asif drew attention towards Israel's activities in the occupied territories and highlighted the plight of Palestinian refugees worldwide while speaking at the International Security Conference on Terrorism held in Moscow on 27-28 April.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/palestinianskashmiris-being-subjected-to-worst-atrocities-asif/>

See Also: Radio Pakistan, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.radio.gov.pk/27-Apr-2016/palestinians-kashmiris-being-subjected-to-worst-atrocities-asif>

See Also: The News International, Karachi

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/115927-Kashmiris-suffering-like-Palestinians-says-Khawaja-Asif>

UAE

10. Twelve drinking water supply projects completed in FATA region with UAE collaboration

Islamabad, Tuesday, 26 April 2016

As a part of its Programme in water assistance plan for Pakistan, the UAE established clean drinking water facility in 12 villages of North Waziristan in Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/uae-completes-12-water-supply-projects-in-pakistan/>

COMPILED BY DIVYA MALHOTRA

Divya Malhotra is a doctoral candidate in the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Email: divyaidsa@gmail.com

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