



# PAKISTAN WATCH

No. 68

July 2016

## POLITICAL ISSUES

### IRAN

#### 1. Iran-Pakistan to enhance collaboration in border monitoring; Response to Pak's request on Indian intelligence network in Iran shared

Islamabad, Wednesday, 15 June 2016

Pakistan's Interior Minister Nisar Ali underscored the need for greater cooperation in information sharing and border security during his meeting with Iranian envoy Mehdi Honardoost., Iranian envoy conveyed his government's response to Pakistani request for details of Indian intelligence network in Iran and they were not disclosed to media.

*Source:* Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/iranian-envoy-meets-nisar/>

*See also:* The Nation, Lahore

<http://nation.com.pk/islamabad/15-Jun-2016/iranian-envoy-meets-nisar-to-improve-border-monitoring>

*See also:* Dawn, Karachi

[http://www.dawn.com/news/1265187/iran-responds-to-letter-about-indian-spy?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+dawn-news+\(Dawn+News\)](http://www.dawn.com/news/1265187/iran-responds-to-letter-about-indian-spy?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+dawn-news+(Dawn+News))

### JORDAN

#### 2. Terrorist attack near Jordan-Syria border condemned by Pakistan

Islamabad, Wednesday, 22 June 2016

Pakistan government strongly denounced the multiple car bombings in al-Rukban district bordering Syria on 21 June which resulted in death of six Jordanians, including four Jordanian soldiers, a police officer and a civil defence officer.

*Source:* Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-condemns-terrorist-attack-in-jordan/>

*See also:* Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/pakistan/general-news/305227-pakistan-condemns-terrorist-attack-in-jordan.html>

### SAUDI ARABIA

#### 3. Pakistani expatriates stranded in Dhammam due to non-payment of salary; embassy officials pursuing the matter

Islamabad, Wednesday, 22 June 2016

Pakistan embassy is coordinating with Saudi Foreign office and the officials of M/s. Saad Contracting and Construction Company in Dammam for release of unpaid dues and salaries to approximately 500 Pakistani employees. These expatriates have also requested the Pakistan government to arrange for their return home.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/embassy-in-riyadh-making-efforts-to-address-difficulties-faced-by-pakistani-workers-in-dammam-fo/>

*See also: The Nation, Lahore*

<http://nation.com.pk/national/25-Jun-2016/stranded-pakistani-workers-in-dammam-await-govt-s-assistance>

*See also: The News International, Karachi*

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/130962-Issue-of-Pakistani-workers-in-Dammam-being-pursued-FO>

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## **TURKEY**

### **4. Pak condemns terrorist attack in Istanbul**

**Islamabad, Tuesday, 7 June 2016**

Pakistan strongly condemned a car bomb in Istanbul's Beyazit district on 7 June which left seven police officers and four civilians dead, and over 30 wounded.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-strongly-condemns-terrorist-attack-in-istanbul/>

<http://www.app.com.pk/cm-condemns-blast-in-istanbul/>

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### **5. Turkey-Russia rapprochement welcomed by Pakistan**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 29 June 2016**

Pakistan's Foreign office appreciated Turkey and Russia's decision to normalize relations, after a brief period of diplomatic coldness since Turkey shot down a Russian jet in November 2015. Pakistan stated that the rapprochement would reduce regional tensions and enable all the nations to collectively combat global challenges such as terrorism.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-welcomes-steps-by-leadership-of-turkey-russia-for-mutual-rapprochement/>

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### **6. Terrorist attack at Ataturk airport denounced by Pakistan; no Pakistani casualty**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 29 June 2016**

Foreign Office and Pakistan state officials including President Mamnoon Hussain sharply criticize the attack by three attackers at Istanbul's Ataturk airport on 28 June which left at least 41 killed and 230 injured. While at least 13 of the dead were foreigners, no Pakistani casualty was reported.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-strongly-condemns-terrorist-attack-at-ataturk-airport/>

<http://www.app.com.pk/president-condemns-turkey-airport-attack/>

*See also: Business Recorder, Karachi*

<http://epaper.brecorder.com/2016/06/30/9-page/773063-news.html>

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## **DEFENCE ISSUES**

## **QATAR**

### **7. Trainer Aircraft supply deal signed between Pakistan and Qatar**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 23 June 2016**

A defence production agreement was signed by Salem Nabet, Commander Air Academy Qatar and Air Vice Marshal Arshad Malik, Deputy Chairperson of Pakistan Aeronautical Complex (PAC) in Doha on 23 June, under which PAC would supply Super Mushshak Aircraft to Qatar Air Force. The deal would open new markets for Pakistan Defence production sector and generate foreign exchange.

**Source:** *Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-to-supply-super-mushshak-trainer-aircraft-to-qatari-air-force/>

**See also:** *Dawn, Karachi*

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1266743>

**See also:** *The Nation, Lahore*

<http://nation.com.pk/national/24-Jun-2016/qatar-to-buy-super-mushshak-jets>

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**TURKEY**

**8. Pak-Turkey to enhance defence cooperation**

**Islamabad, Friday, 3 June 2016**

Turkey's National Defence Minister, Fikri Isik led a high level delegation to Pakistan to discuss geostrategic situation and areas of defence cooperation with Pakistan's civil and military leadership including President Mamnoon Hussain.

**Source:** *Press Information Department, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.pid.gov.pk/?p=21228>

**See also:** *Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-turkey-reiterate-to-further-ties-in-defence-sector/>

**See also:** *The Nation, Lahore*

<http://nation.com.pk/national/04-Jun-2016/pakistan-turkey-vow-to-further-enhance-defence-ties>

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**9. Pakistan Air Force participates in Turkish Air Force's multinational exercise**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 8 June 2016**

Pakistan participated in Turkish Air Force's multinational exercise Anatolian Eagle in Turkey, held in Konya from 26 May 26 to 10 June with its fleet of six F16 fighter aircraft and 90 personnel including air crew and technicians.

**Source:** *Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-air-force-takes-part-in-multinational-exercise-in-turkey/>

**See also:** *The News International, Karachi*

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/126278-PAF-participates-in-multinational-Anatolian-Eagle-air-exercise>

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**10. Pakistan submarines to be upgraded by Turkish firm**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 23 June 2016**

Ankara based STM Savunma Teknolojileri Muhendislik signed a contract with Pakistan's Ministry of Defence Production for mid-life up gradation of Khalid-class submarines.

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

<http://www.radio.gov.pk/23-Jun-2016/turkish-firm-to-upgrade-submarines-fleet>

**See also:** *Dawn, Karachi*

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1266665>

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**MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES**

## **BAHRAIN**

### **11. Special dinner at Pak embassy in Bahrain to honour Pakistani expats**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 30 June 2016**

Pakistan's expat community in Bahrain was honoured with a special Iftar dinner at Pakistan embassy on 29 June as a part of "open door to the community" initiative. Expat community's economic contribution in the form of foreign remittances was acknowledged by Ambassador Javed Malik who further ensured full commitment and support for them.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-embassy-bahrain-adopts-a-policy-of-being-accessible-and-approachable/>

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

<http://www.radio.gov.pk/01-Jul-2016/pak-embassy-in-bahrain-accessible-to-community-javed-malik>

*See also: The News International, Karachi*

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/132044-Pakistan-Embassy-in-Bahrain-opens-doors-to-community>

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## **EGYPT**

### **12. Pakistan players participate in snooker championship in Egypt; victory retained**

**Islamabad, Monday, 20 June 2016**

Four Pakistani players represented their country at the International Billiards and Snooker Federation held at Sharm-el-Sheikh in Egypt from 20 June to 30 June. Pakistan maintained the victory against Hong Kong, UAE and Egypt in the event which witnessed participation of 145 players and 65 teams from 26 countries.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistanis-vie-for-honor-in-6-red-ball-snooker-team-championship-in-egypt/>

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## **SAUDI ARABIA**

### **13. OIC Secretary General meets PM Advisor on Foreign Affairs**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 1 June 2016**

Secretary General of Organization of Islamic Cooperation Iyad Madani met Pakistan's Foreign Affairs Adviser Sartaj Aziz during his visit to attend 15<sup>th</sup> session of General Assembly of COMSTECH, OIC Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. Pakistan's role in enhancing scientific cooperation in Muslim countries was discussed during the meeting.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/oic-secretary-general-calls-on-sartaj-aziz/>

*See also: Daily Times, Lahore*

<http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/01-Jun-16/oic-secretary-general-calls-on-sartaj>

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### **14. Heads of the state of Iran and Saudi Arabia enquire about Nawaz Sharif's condition post surgery**

**Islamabad, Saturday, 18 June 2016**

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and Saudi king Salman Al Saud telephonically enquired about Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's health condition after he was discharged

from Harley Street Clinic in London on 6 June, where he underwent an open-heart surgery on 31 May.

*Source:* Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/king-salman-iranian-president-telephones-pm-sharif/>

<http://www.app.com.pk/president-rouhani-inquires-after-pms-health/>

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## **TURKEY**

### **15. Punjab CM lauds Turkey's cooperation in Punjab police training**

**Islamabad, Sunday, 19 June 2016**

Punjab's Chief Minister Shehbaz Sharif held a meeting with delegation of Turkish National Police officers led by Additional IG Nail Aydin in Lahore and acknowledged and lauded the role played by Turkish police in training the officers and jawans of Punjab police.

*Source:* Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/turk-national-policemen-delegation-meets-shehbaz/>

*See also:* Times of Islamabad, Islamabad

<https://timesofislamabad.com/turkish-national-policemen-delegation-meets-cm-shehbaz-sharif/2016/06/20/>

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### **16. Pakistan-Turkey to enhance cooperation in educational and vocational field**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 23 June 2016**

The need to enhance and explore newer areas of collaboration in the field of vocational and technical training was discussed between Turkish envoy Sadiq Girgin and Executive Director of National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC) Zulfiqar Cheema in a meeting held in Islamabad. The areas of collaboration identified envoy included automotives, textile designing, milk processing, industrial goods etc.

*Source:* Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/turkish-envoy-calls-on-zulfiqar-cheema/>

*See also:* The Nation, Lahore

<http://nation.com.pk/business/24-Jun-2016/turkish-envoy-calls-on-navttc-s-cheema>

*See also:* Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/pakistan/general-news/305556-turkish-envoy-calls-on-zulfiqar-cheema.html>

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