



# PAKISTAN WATCH

No. 70

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## POLITICAL ISSUES

### ARAB-LEAGUE

#### 1. Pak reaches out to Arab-league to highlight Kashmir issue

Islamabad, Thursday, 11 August 2016

Foreign Affairs advisor Sartaj Aziz wrote a letter to Arab League's Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit, highlighting current disturbances in Indian-administered Kashmir and urging the Arab League to intervene.

*Source:* Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/sartaj-invites-arab-leagues-attention-towards-horrendous-indian-atrocities-in-iok/>

*See Also:* Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/pakistan/313560-sartaj-invites-arab-leagues-attention-towards-horrendous-indian-atrocities-in-iok.html>

### BAHRAIN

#### 2. Pak envoy invites Bahrain's interior minister to visit Pakistan

Islamabad, Friday, 12 August 2016

Pakistan's envoy to Bahrain Javed Malik held a meeting with Interior Minister Rashid bin Abdullah to discuss problems facing Pakistani expats in Bahrain, and invited the minister to visit Pakistan.

*Source:* Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistans-envoy-calls-on-bahrain-interior-minister/>

### IRAN

#### 3. Pak-Iran to add two new border points

Islamabad, Sunday, 21 August 2016

Iran's Department of Border Affairs announced opening of two new exit and entry points at Rimadan and Pishin in Iranian cities of Chabahar and Saravan respectively with the view to boost bilateral trade.

*Source:* Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

<http://www.app.com.pk/iran-pakistan-add-new-entries-to-joint-border-lines>

*See Also:* Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/general-news/172:pakistan/78182:iran-pakistan-add-new-entries-to-joint-border-lines/?date=2016-08-22>

### SAUDI ARABIA

#### **4. Consistent efforts being made to resolve immigrant issues; Pak minister visits Saudi Arabia**

**Islamabad, Monday, 15 August 2016**

Syed Rashidi, Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, paid a five-day visit to Saudi Arabia to resolve salary and work-related issues facing Pakistani immigrants in 20 camps in Riyadh, Jeddah, Taif etc. During the visit, Saudi Health minister assured free delivery of Medicare facilities to all stranded Pakistan expatriates.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/overseas-minister-leaves-for-saudi-arabia/>

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

<http://www.radio.gov.pk/14-Aug-2016/minister-for-overseas-pakistanis-leaves-for-saudi-arabia-on-monday>

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### **TURKEY**

#### **5. Pak Parliamentary delegation meets Erdogan in Turkey**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 18 August 2016**

Turkish President Recep Erdogan applauded Pakistan's support to Turkish government during the July coup attempt while holding a meeting with an eight-member Parliamentary Delegation from Pakistan at his residence in Ankara.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/turkish-president-meets-pak-parliamentary-delegation-says-to-visit-pakistan-soon/>

*See Also: Business Recorder, Karachi*

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/front-top/314660-turkish-president-meets-pak-parliamentary-delegation-says-to-visit-pakistan-soon.html>

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#### **6. Pak criticizes attacks in four Turkish cities**

**Islamabad, Friday, 19 August 2016**

Foreign Office strongly denounced series of terrorist attacks in Turkey, targeting security personnel, in South Eastern city of Diyarbakir on 15 August and three cities of Van, Bitlis and Elazig on 18 August, killing at least 15 people and several injured.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-condemns-terrorists-attacks-in-turkey/>

*See Also: The Nation, Lahore*

<http://nation.com.pk/national/19-Aug-2016/pakistan-strongly-condemns-terrorist-attacks-in-turkey>

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#### **7. Terrorist attack at a wedding party in SE Turkey condemned**

**Islamabad, Sunday, 21 August 2016**

Pakistan condemned a suicide bombing attack by a child at a Kurdish wedding at 11 pm local time in Gaziantep, a Turkish town near the Syrian border, killing over 50 people.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

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

*See Also: The Nation, Lahore*

<http://nation.com.pk/islamabad/22-Aug-2016/pakistan-strongly-condemns-terrorist-attack-in-turkey>

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### **MULTILATERAL**

#### **8. Terrorist attack in Baluchistan's capital city condemned by U.A.E. Yemen**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 11 August 2016**

Governments of UAE and Yemen condemned the terrorist attack in Quetta's Civil Hospital on 8 August resulting in over 70 casualties, mostly lawyers who had gathered to mourn the death of Baluchistan Bar's president.

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

<http://www.app.com.pk/yemen-condemns-quetta-terrorist-attack-expresses-solidarity-with-pakistan/>

**See Also:** *Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?mm=NDA4Mg>

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## DEFENCE ISSUES

### SAUDI ARABIA

#### 9. Saudi Defence minister visits Pak

**Islamabad, Monday, 29 August 2016**

Saudi Defence Minister Abdul Aziz interacted with high-ranking officials including Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Army Chief Raheel Sharif to discuss bilateral ties and regional security situation, during his one-day visit to Islamabad.

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

<http://www.app.com.pk/saudi-defence-minister-meets-coas-discusses-middle-east-situation/>

**See Also:** *Pakistan Observer, Islamabad*

<http://pakobserver.net/pm-warmly-receives-saudi-defence-minister/>

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## ECONOMIC ISSUES

### TURKEY

#### 10. Turkish Airlines announces special discounts for business travels

**Islamabad, Thursday, 11 August 2016**

During a meeting with President of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) in Rawalpindi, General Manager of Turkish Airlines Yunus Mert announced a special discounted package for Pakistan's business community, and both the sides discussed prospects of signing a bilateral travel agreement.

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

<http://www.app.com.pk/turkish-airlines-announces-concession-fares-for-traders/>

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#### 11. Turkey investment company meets Pak Board of Investment

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 24 August 2016**

A six-member delegation of Turkish investment company, KOC Holding led by CEO Levent Cakiroglu held a meeting with Chairman of Board of Investment, Miftah Ismail to explore investment opportunities in various sectors of Pakistan economy including automobile, power, energy etc.

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

<http://www.app.com.pk/turkish-delegation-visits-board-of-investment/>

**See Also:** *Business Recorder, Karachi*

<http://www.brecorder.com/business-and-economy/189:pakistan/79022:turkish-delegation-visits-boi/?date=2016-08-25>

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## MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

### IRAN

#### 12. IPIS delegation from Tehran visits Islamabad

**Islamabad, Monday, 8 August 2016**

A five-member delegation of Institute for Political and International Studies, Tehran visited Pakistan for the 13<sup>th</sup> round of bilateral dialogue between IPIS and the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) to discuss bilateral ties and role of think tanks in enhancing relations.

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

<http://www.app.com.pk/fatemi-for-frequent-pak-iran-exchanges-of-think-tanks-increase-bilateral-trade/>

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

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/141191-Fatemi-Iranian-delegation-discuss-bilateral-ties>

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**MULTILATERAL**

**13. Punjab CM attends inauguration of Selim bridge in Istanbul**

**Islamabad, Saturday, 27 August 2016**

Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif witnessed the inauguration of Yavuz Sultan Selim Bridge in Istanbul on 26 August. Also known as third Bosphorus Bridge, it is Turkey's third bridge connecting Asian and European sides.

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

<http://www.app.com.pk/cm-attends-inaugural-ceremony-of-yavuz-sultan-selim-bridge-in-istanbul/>

**See Also:** *Business Recorder, Karachi*

<http://www.brecorder.com/business-and-economy/189:pakistan/79915:yavuz-sultan-selim-bridge-shahbaz-attends-inaugural-ceremony-in-istanbul/?date=2016-08-28>

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**UAE**

**14. Pakistan Association Dubai to launch expansion projects in Dubai**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 11 August 2016**

Pakistan Association Dubai an organization of Pakistani community in Dubai proposed a social-welfare project named 'Pakistan Centre' under which facilities such as medical centre, gym, restaurant, mosque, and a play area for children would be made available for the expat community.

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

<http://www.app.com.pk/pad-to-launch-a-common-center-for-pakistani-community-in-dubai/>

**See Also:** *Business Recorder, Karachi*

<http://www.brecorder.com/pakistan/general-news/313510-pad-to-launch-a-common-center-for-pakistani-community-in-dubai.html>

**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](mailto:divyaidsa@gmail.com)

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