

PAKISTAN WATCH

No. 11

October 2011

POLITICAL ISSUES

Iran

1. Iranian FM arrives on two-day visit to Pakistan

Islamabad, Wednesday, 7 September 2011

Foreign Minister of Iran Ali-Akbar Salehi arrived on two day official visit to Pakistan to discuss regional and international situation with the Pakistani leadership and enhance economic cooperation between the two countries.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=151771

2. To enhance cooperation with Iran in diverse fields: Naek

Islamabad, Wednesday, 7 September 2011

Chairman of Senate Farooq H. Naek said that Pakistan greatly valued its ties with Iran and was committed to further enhancing mutual cooperation in diverse fields.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=151839

3. Committee formed to share information between SECP, SEO

Islamabad, Wednesday, 7 September 2011

The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) and Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO) of Iran have formed a committee subsequent to the 2009 signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on facilitating cooperation and sharing of information between the two organizations.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=151875

4. Prime Minister for expediting Pak-Iran gas pipeline

Islamabad, Thursday, 8 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani emphasized on the importance of expediting the projects of gas pipeline and import of 1000 MW electricity from Iran to Pakistan.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152033

5. Prime Minister to visit Iran from Sunday

Islamabad, Thursday, 8 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani would visit Iran from September 11 to 13 to hold talks with the Iranian leadership and discuss regional situation.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152019

6. Hina, Salehi agree to enhance regional connectivity

Islamabad, Thursday, 8 September 2011

Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar and her Iranian counterpart Dr. Ali Akber Salehi underscored importance of regional connectivity while discussing bilateral relations including measures to strengthen economic cooperation.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152053

7. Pakistan, Iran to develop strategic alliance

Istanbul, Saturday, 10 September 2011

Former Pakistan Ambassador Shahid Amin said that Iranian Foreign Minister's visit to Pakistan indicates good relations between Islamabad and Tehran which are in the interests of both nations.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152433

8. Prime Minister to leave for Tehran on three-day visit

Istanbul, Saturday, 10 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani would leave for Tehran on Sunday for a three-day visit for talks with the Iranian leadership on further strengthening bilateral relations and exchanging views on regional issues.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152481

9. Gilani arrives in Tehran for crucial talks

Tehran, Sunday, 11 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani arrived on an official visit to Iran to hold talks with its leadership on ways and means to enhance bilateral cooperation in diverse fields especially economy and trade.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152681

10. Iran to donate US\$ 100 million for rain affected people

Tehran, Sunday, 11 September 2011

Interior Minister of Iran Mostafa Mohammad Najjar said Iran would donate US\$ 100 million for the rehabilitation of the rain affected people of Sindh.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152797

11. Iranian cabinet discusses rain devastation in Pakistan

Tehran, Sunday, 11 September 2011

As Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani arrived in Tehran Sunday on an official visit, the Iranian cabinet in its meeting discussed the devastation caused by heavy rains in Pakistan's Sindh province.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152803

12. Khar, Iranian FM discuss bilateral issues

Islamabad, Monday, 12 September 2011

Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar met her Iranian counterpart Ali Akbar Salehi in Tehran and held substantive discussions on bilateral issues and measures to strengthen bilateral economic ties.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152819

13. Pakistan, Iran vow to expedite gas pipeline project

Tehran, Monday, 12 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani and First Vice President of Iran Mohammad Reza Rahimi Monday agreed to expedite the gas pipeline and 1000 MW electricity projects.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152831

14. PM and President agree to give fresh impetus to ties

Tehran, Monday, 12 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani and President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad exchanged views to give fresh impetus to their existing bilateral cooperation in various fields ranging from trade and economy to security and intelligence sharing.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=153013

15. Agree on exchange of more delegations to foster ties

Tehran, Monday, 12 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani and Speaker of the Iranian Parliament Ali Larijani agreed that both countries should exchange more delegations of people from various walks of life to bring the two countries closer.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=153069

16. No hurdle acceptable in Pak-Iran relations: Gilani

Tehran, Monday, 12 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani said that no hurdle would be tolerated in enhancing cooperation between Pakistan and Iran for which they had decided to put in place a mechanism to facilitate the collaboration between their two peoples.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=153063

17. To build comprehensive strategic Pak-Iran partnership

Tehran, Monday, 12 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani and Iranian First Vice President Mohammad Reza Rahimi on Monday pledged to deepen bilateral ties in multifarious fields and speed up work on the ongoing joint projects.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=153059

18. PM visits Hazrat Imam Raza's shrine, offers prayers

Mashad (Iran), Tuesday, 13 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani on Tuesday visited the shrine of Hazrat Imam Raza and offered prayers there.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=153251

19. Iran to donate US\$100 million for reconstruction work

Islamabad, Wednesday, 14 September 2011

The Deputy Interior Minister of Iran Ali Abdullahi has said that his country would donate US\$ 100 million aid to Pakistan for the reconstruction of the recently flood devastated areas in Pakistan.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=153305

20. Iranian envoy calls on Interior Minister

Islamabad, Monday, 20 September 2011

Iranian Ambassador to Islamabad, Mashallah Shakeri called on Interior Minister, Rehman Malik on Monday and discussed issues of bilateral interests.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=154209

21. President appeals to assist flood-victims

Tehran, Thursday, 22 September 2011

Iranian President Ahmadinejad appealed to the world community to assist the flood-affected people of Pakistan, who had been badly affected by the recent rains and flood in south of the country.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=155117

22. Naek for enhanced Pak-Iran ties

Islamabad, Tuesday, 27 September 2011

Chairman Senate Farooq H. Naek said Pakistan is strongly committed to working closely with Tehran to enhance cooperation between the two countries in diverse fields.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=155999

23. Enhanced Pak-Iran ties for regional development

Islamabad, Wednesday, 28 September 2011

President Asif Ali Zardari said promotion of intra-regional and inter-regional connectivity was a key to the socio-economic development and stressed that Iran has a major role to play along with Pakistan due to their geo-strategic locations.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156243

24. To cooperate on security, border management

Islamabad, Wednesday, 28 September 2011

The Interior Ministers of Pakistan and Iran vowed to work together for regional peace and stability and agreed to cooperate on the issues of security and border management.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156233

25. To work together for regional peace

United Nations, Wednesday, 28 September 2011

Foreign Ministers of Pakistan and Iran vowed to work together for peace and stability in the region after a discussion of the prevailing situation in their talks at UN Headquarters in New York.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156231

26. Gilani urges expediting energy projects with Iran

Islamabad, Thursday, 29 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani on Thursday called for expediting energy projects already agreed upon in cooperation with Iran to help the country meet its energy requirements.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156535

27. Cooperation for elimination of terrorism

Islamabad, Thursday, 29 September 2011

Federal Interior Minister Rehman Malik said that Pakistan and Iran would continue their collective efforts for elimination of the scourge of terrorism from the region.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156551

Saudi Arabia

28. Saudi de-radicalization policy to be followed: Malik

Karachi, Thursday, 1 September 2011

Federal Interior Minister Rehman Malik said that the government would follow the policy of de-radicalization pursued by Saudi Arabia.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=151059

29. Jeddah forms committee for flood relief activities

Islamabad, Monday, 12 September 2011

Consul General of Pakistan in Jeddah, Abdul Salik Khan said that Pakistan has been severely affected by flood caused by heavy monsoon rains in the country.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=153023

30. Khar discusses Afghanistan, Middle East

United Nations, Thursday, 22 September 2011

Foreign Minister Hina Rabbai Khar conferred with her Saudi counterpart Prince Saud Al Faisal on the sidelines of the 66th Session of the UN General Assembly.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=154905

31. Finance ministers to strengthen trade investment ties

Washington, Thursday, 22 September 2011

Finance Minister Abdul Hafeez Shaikh discussed advancing economic cooperation with his Saudi Arabian counterpart Dr Ibrahim Al-Asaf as the two countries agreed to further bolster bilateral ties.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=155075

32. Pak-Saudi Armed Forces' Joint Exercise

Rawalpindi, Friday, 23 September 2011

A three-week long Joint Exercise (AL-SAMSAAM-IV-2011) between Pakistan Army and Royal Saudi Land Forces would be conducted by end of this month near Jhelum.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=155191

33. Pak-Saudi forces joint exercise begins

Rawalpindi, Monday, 26 September 2011

An impressive opening ceremony to start the three-week long joint Exercise (Al-Samsaam-IV-2011) between Pakistan Army and Royal Saudi Land Forces was held near Jhelum.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=155799

34. Pakistanis, Saudis bound in brotherhood: Firdous

Islamabad, Monday, 26 September 2011

Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan said that the religious and cultural identities of Pakistani and Saudi Arabian people were associated principally and bound in brotherhood beyond geographical boundaries.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=155881

35. Pakistan desires to further strengthen ties

Islamabad, Monday, 26 September 2011

President Asif Ali Zardari said that Pakistan valued its close and cordial bilateral ties with Saudi Arabia and wishes to promote their relationship.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=155871

Syria

36. Pakistan hopes Syria will be able overcome crisis

United Nations, Wednesday, 28 September 2011

Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar hoped that Syria would be able to overcome the current crisis in line with its people's aspirations when she met her Syrian counterpart Walid Al-Moualem on the sidelines of the 66th Session of the UN General Assembly.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156229

Turkey

37. Turkey to host FoDP workshop

Islamabad, Wednesday, 7 September 2011

Senator Syeda Sughra Imam would lead a Pakistani delegation to the Friends of Democratic Pakistan (FoDP) workshop on institutional capacity building hosted by Turkey in Ankara from 8-9 September.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=151773

38. US \$138m Turkish to build homes for flood-hit

Muzaffargarh, Saturday, 17 September 2011

Turkish people have raised funds to help their flood-hit Pakistani brethren and a sum of US\$ 138 million would be spent to construct 4620 homes in flood-hit parts of the country in South Punjab, Sindh and Baluchistan.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=153909

39. Turkey to start food assistance for flood affected people

Ankara, Monday, 19 September 2011

The Turkish Red Crescent Society (*Turk Kizilayi or Kizilay*) will start distribution of food, tents, and hygiene items in the flood affected areas of Southern parts of Pakistan shortly.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=154315

40. Pakistan-Turkey joint exercise

Rawalpindi, Thursday, 29 September 2011

The closing ceremony of a weeklong Pakistan-Turkey joint training exercise ATTATURK-VII-2011 was held at Cherat.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156537

UAE

41. Outgoing UAE envoy calls on Foreign Minister

Islamabad, Wednesday, 14 September 2011

The outgoing Ambassador of United Arab Emirates Ali Saif Sultan Al-Awani called on Foreign Minister Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=153335

42. Fehmida calls on UAE Minister of Foreign Trade

Islamabad, Thursday, 15 September 2011

Speaker of the National Assembly Dr. Fehmida Mirza called on United Arab Emirates Minister of Foreign Trade Shaikha Lubna bint Khalid Al Qasimi in Abu Dhabi.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=153529

43. Rehman thanks UAE for flood victim help

Islamabad, Tuesday, 20 September 2011

Minister for Interior Rehman Malik expressed his gratitude on behalf of people of Pakistan for the assistance provided by UAE government and its organizations for relief of flood victims in his country.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=154475

44. Pakistan intends to expand bilateral ties with UAE

Islamabad, Thursday, 22 September 2011

Chairman of the Senate Farooq H Naek said that Pakistan is interested in further expanding bilateral cooperation with UAE in the field of manpower.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=154949

45. UAE Ambassador pays farewell call on PM

Islamabad, Thursday, 22 September 2011

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani said that Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates have special fraternal ties and will continue their close multidimensional cooperation in various fields. He was talking to the outgoing UAE ambassador.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=154945

46. Ambassador Jamil welcomes Al Noaimi's appointment

Islamabad, Monday, 26 September 2011

Ambassador to the UAE Jamil Ahmed Khan said the appointment of Essa Abdullah Al Noaimi as UAE's new ambassador to Pakistan would help to strengthen ties between the two countries.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=155773

47. Ambassador-designate of UAE arrives in Islamabad

Islamabad, Tuesday, 27 September 2011

Essa Abdulla Al Basha Al Noaimi, a seasoned diplomat and Ambassador-designate of the UAE to Pakistan arrived in Islamabad.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156045

Economic Issues

Kuwait

48. Pakistan expatriates in Kuwait pledge for flood victims

Islamabad, Wednesday, 28 September 2011

The representatives from prominent business groups and associations on Wednesday met with Ambassador of Pakistan to Kuwait Iftikhar Aziz and pledged to donate Rs. two million for the ongoing flood relief efforts in Pakistan.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156339

Saudi Arabia

49. Al-Tuwairqi Holding Company to make investments

Islamabad, Friday, 9 September 2011

Chairman of the Al-Tuwairqi Holding Company of Saudi Arabi Dr. Hilal Hassan Al-Tuwairqi called on Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani here on Friday and offered that his company was ready to undertake heavy investment in Pakistan despite the perception of security situation in the country

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152287

Iran

50. Pakistan, Iran agree to promote bilateral trade

Islamabad, Wednesday, 7 September 2011

Pakistan and Iran would sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to further promote bilateral relations in the field of agricultural products trade.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=151965

51. Pak-Iran Joint Economic Commission kicks off

Islamabad, Wednesday, 7 September 2011

Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs Dr. Abdul Hafiz Shaikh is leading the Pakistani delegation to the two-day 18th Session of Pak-Iran Joint Economic Commission.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=151961

52. Pak-Iran agree to enhance bilateral trade

Islamabad, Thursday, 8 September 2011

Pak-Iran Joint Economic Commission (JEC) concluded with a resolve to increase bilateral trade to US\$5 billion by exploiting their potentials and resources during next three years besides timely completion of Pakistan-Iran Gas Pipeline project.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152203

53. Zardari stresses on working hand in hand with Iran

Karachi, Thursday, 8 September 2011

President Asif Ali Zardari Thursday emphasised on Pakistan and Iran working hand-in-hand for socio-economic development of the people and called for substantially increasing the quantum of trade between the two countries.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152203

Sports Issues

Kuwait

54. Pakistan football squad leaves for Kuwait on Saturday

Islamabad, Friday, 9 September 2011

The Pakistan team will be leaving for Kuwait to participate in Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Under-16 Championship 2012 qualifiers from September 12-22. Pakistan has been placed in Group-B with the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Yemen, Kuwait, Maldives and Afghanistan.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152247

Iran

55. Pak Kabaddi team to leave for Iran on Thursday
Islamabad, Monday, 19 September 2011

A 15-member Pakistan squad will leave for Iran to participate in the first circle style Asian Kabaddi Championship that will be held from September 24 to 28 in Tabriz.

Source: *Associated Press of Pakistan*

http://ftpapp.app.com.pk/en/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=154257

Compiled by Dipanwita Chakravortty

Dipanwita Chakravortty is an Intern in MEI@ND. Email: dipa.chaks@gmail.com

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