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PAKISTAN WATCH

No. 19 June 2012

POLITICAL ISSUES

IRAN

1. Firdous calls on Iranian President

Tehran, Sunday, 20 May 2012

Federal Minister for National Regulations and Services Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan along with religious scholar Khanam Tayyaba Bokhari called on Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinejad and discussed a wide range of issues of mutual concern.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com content&task=view&id=195093

SAUDI ARABIA

2. Saudi Ambassador meets Rehman Malik

Islamabad, Thursday, May 17, 2012

Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Abdul Aziz Al-Ghadeer called on Interior Minister of Pakistan Rehman Malik and agreed to further promote and strengthen bilateral relations.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=194787

3. Pakistani ambassador, Saudi Minister discuss bilateral matters

Islamabad, Monday, May 21, 2012

Ambassador of Pakistan, Naeem Khan met Deputy Foreign Minister Saudi Arabia Prince Abdul Aziz bin Abdullah in Jeddah and both reviewed progress made on various proposals, discussed during recent visit of Prince Abdul Aziz Bin Abdullah to Pakistan in April.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195315

TURKEY

4. Turkish PM seventh world leader to address joint session

Islamabad, Friday, May 18, 2012

Turkish Prime Minister, Recep Tayyip Erdogan would be the seventh world leader to address Pakistan's Parliament during his three-day visit to Pakistan starting from May 20.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=194963

5. Turkish PM arrives for three-day visit

Islamabad, Sunday, May 20, 2012

Turkish Prime Minister, Recep Tayyip Erdogan was accorded warm welcome when he arrived for a three-day visit to Pakistan on the invitation of Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani for wide-ranging talks.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com content&task=view&id=195145

6. Nisar urges Erdogan to act as bridge between West, Islamic world

Islamabad, Monday, May 21, 2012

Leader of the Opposition in Pakistan's National Assembly, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan urged Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan to act as a bridge between the Western and Islamic worlds.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195289

7. Pakistan, Turkey ink 9 accords of cooperation

Islamabad, Tuesday, May 22, 2012

Pakistan and Turkey signed nine documents for cooperation in various fields particularly investments, energy and communications in a bid to further strengthen their bilateral relationship. The documents included an Agreement on bilateral investment, five Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) mainly on energy, education and communication and two protocols on Joint Ministerial Commission and cooperation on archives.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195355

8. Pakistan, Turkey to further boost ties

Islamabad, Tuesday, May 22, 2012

Prime Minister of Pakistan, Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan co-chaired the second meeting of High-Level Cooperation Council (HLCC) and agreed to boost bilateral relations in all sectors, particularly security, energy, communication, trade and culture

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195375

9. Turkey respects Pakistan decision on NATO supply routes

Islamabad, Tuesday, May 22, 2012

Turkey said it respects Pakistan's decision on the NATO supply routes and endorses its demand for an apology from the US over the killing of its troops at Salala check post.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195363

UAE

10. UAE envoy calls on Rehman Malik

Islamabad, Wednesday, May 2, 2012

Ambassador of United Arab Emirates (UAE) to Pakistan Isa Abdullah Al Basha Al Nuaimi and Chairman UAE Red Crescent Society Ahmed Humaid Al Mazrouie called on Interior Minister of Pakistan Rehman Malik and discussed matters of mutual interests. Both sides agreed to further promote and strengthen the bilateral relations.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com content&task=view&id=192849

11. Chairman UAE Red Crescent briefs President on projects in Pakistan

Islamabad, Friday, May 4, 2012

Chairman of Board of Directors UAE Red Crescent Ahmed Humaid Al Mazrouie called on President Asif Ali Zardari at Aiwan-e-Sadr and briefed him about various social welfare projects in Pakistan.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=193181

12. Firdous assures all support to UAE Red Crescent in Pakistan

Islamabad, Monday, May 7, 2012

Minister for National Regulations and Services, Dr. Firdous Ashiq Awan assured support to various initiatives launched by UAE Red Crescent in Pakistan for welfare of people and emphasized promotion of Pak-UAE public-private partnership.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=193493

ECONOMIC ISSUES

IRAO

13. Scope exists with Iraq in energy, construction sectors: Gilani

Islamabad, Monday, May 21, 2012

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani said there existed a lot of scope for cooperation with Iraq in the fields of infrastructure, construction and energy. Talking to Ambassador of Iraq Rushdi Mahmood Rasheed he said the cooperation would promote the interdependence of economies of the two countries.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195203

IRAN

${\bf 14.\ Iran-Pakistan\ Gas\ project\ interim\ front\ end\ engineering\ design\ completed}$

Islamabad, Thursday, May 3, 2012

Interim Front End Engineering Design (FEED) of Iran-Pakistan Gas Pipeline Project has been completed and according to official sources, the Interim Bankable Feasibility Study of the project had also been finalized.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=192949

15. FPCCI calls for promotion of bilateral trade with Iran

Peshawar, Thursday, May 24, 2012

Vice president of Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) Zubair Ali has said that Pakistan and Iran and are not only good neighbours, but also tied in the strong bond of religion and that promotion of trade relations between both countries can usher economic revolution in the region.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com content&task=view&id=195691

OMAN

16. SECP and Capital Market Authority Sultanate of Oman signed MoU

Islamabad, Tuesday, May 15,2012

The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) and Capital Market Authority (CMA) of Oman, recognizing the increasing international activity in the financial markets and the corresponding need for cooperation between the relevant national authorities, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=194471

TURKEY

17. President Zardari urges early conclusion of Pak-Turkey Preferential Trade Agreement

Chicago, Monday, May 21, 2012

President Asif Ali Zardari has called for the creation mechanisms for private entrepreneurs of Pakistan and Turkey for achieving the mutually agreed trade target of US\$2 billion by the end of this year and stressed on an early conclusion of a Preferential Trade Agreement and the opening of the bank branches in each others' countries.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195325

18. Turkish investors to finance energy sector

Islamabad, Monday, May 21, 2012

Turkish government expressed its interest to invest in the power sector in Pakistan and assured to encourage investors to resolve energy issue faced by Pakistan. The official offer was made by Turkish Minister for Energy and Natural Resources Taner Yildiz during his meeting with Minister for Water and Power Syed Naveed Qamar.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195263

19. Pak Turkey discuss investments in Pakistan

Islamabad, Monday, May 21, 2012

Zafer Calayan, Minister of Economy, Republic of Turkey called on Minister of State/Chairman Board of Investment (BOI) Saleem H. Mandviwalla and discussed the interests of the Turkish companies for investment in Pakistan.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com content&task=view&id=195217

20. Makhdoom Amin Fahim stresses early operationalization of Pak-Turkey PTA Islamabad, Monday, May 21, 2012

Senior Minister for Commerce, Makhdoom Amin Fahim stressed the need for early operationalization of Pak-Turkey Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) to boost trade activities between the two countries.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195215

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

IRAQ

21. Iraq, Tunisia, Pakistan for enhancing cooperation in education sector

Islamabad, Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Ambassador of Iraq to Pakistan Rushdi M. Rasheed and Ambassador of Tunisia to Pakistan Mourad Bourehla called for enhancing cooperation in the education sector between their countries and Pakistan. The Ambassadors made these observations in their separate visits to National University of Modern Languages (NUML).

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=193653

JORDAN

22. PM greets Jordanian counterpart on Independence Day

Islamabad, Friday, May 25, 2012

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani has sent a message of greetings to Prime Minister of Jordan, Fayez Tarawneh on the independence day of his country being celebrated on May 25.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195761

LEBANON

23. PM greets Lebanese counterpart on Independence Day

Islamabad, Friday, May 25, 2012

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani has sent a message of greetings to Prime Minister of Republic of Lebanon Najib Mikati on the Independence Day falling on May 25

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195759

PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

24. U-22 squad off to Palestine for Al-Nakba Int'l Football Tournament

Islamabad, Sunday, May 13, 2012

Pakistan Under-22 football team flew to Palestine from Lahore on Sunday to feature in the Al-Nakba International Football tournament to be held during 14-24 May.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=194205

OATAR

25. Qatar, Kuwait National teams to feature in Champions Cricket League

KARACHI, Monday, May 7, 2012

Kuwait and Qatar national teams will be taking part in the second edition of Pakistan Champions Cricket League which will come into action from May 21.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=193503

TURKEY

26. Turkish Prime Minister conferred PhD degree

ISLAMABAD, Tuesday, May 22, 2012

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan was conferred honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations from the Quaid-e-Azam University. The doctorate degree was conferred to honour his efforts in promoting understanding between civilizations, interfaith harmony, tolerance, freedom, democracy and human rights as reflected in Turkey's dynamic foreign policy under his leadership.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com content&task=view&id=195425

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