

PAKISTAN WATCH

No. 20

July 2012

POLITICAL ISSUES

EGYPT

1. President Zardari congratulates Egypt's president-elect

Islamabad, Monday, 25 June 2012

President Asif Ali Zardari congratulated President-elect Muhammad Mursi upon being elected as the President of Egypt. In his felicitation message, President Zardari said Mursi's victory was clear manifestation of the confidence of the people reposed in his leadership.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=199921&Itemid=1

IRAN

2. Iranian Foreign Minister delivers NAM Summit invitation to President

Karachi, Friday, 1 June 2012

Foreign Minister of Iran, Dr. Ali Akbar Salehi called on President Asif Ali Zardari at Bilawal House and extended invitation to the President to participate in the 16th NAM Summit to be held in Tehran in August 2012.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=196881&Itemid=1

Also see: *Dawn, Karachi*

<http://dawn.com/2012/06/02/ahmadinejad-invites-zardari-to-nam-summit/>

SAUDI ARABIA

3. PM condoles with Saudi King on death of Crown Prince Nayef

Islamabad, Saturday 16 June 2012

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani expressed his condolences with King Abdullah bin Abdul-Aziz al Saud, over the passing away of Crown Prince Nayef bin Abdul-Aziz.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=198899&Itemid=1

4. President Zardari condoles death of Prince Nayef

Islamabad, Saturday, 16 June 2012

President Asif Ali Zardari has expressed deep sorrow and grief over the demise of Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Prince Nayef bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=198871&Itemid=1

5. Prime Minister Gilani attends funeral of Saudi Crown Prince Nayef

Mecca, Sunday, 17 June 2012

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani attended the funeral prayers of Crown Prince Nayef bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=198971&Itemid=1

6. Saudi Arabia praises Pakistanis' contributions

Riyadh, Sunday, 24 June 2012

The newly-appointed crown prince of Saudi Arabia, Prince Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, has said that Saudis consider Pakistanis to be their brothers and value the Pakistani community's contribution towards the development and progress of the kingdom.

Source: *Dawn, Karachi*

<http://dawn.com/2012/06/25/saudi-arabia-praises-pakistanis-contributions/>

ECONOMIC ISSUES

IRAN

7. Pak, Iran agree to vigorously pursue IP gas pipeline project, supply of electricity

Beijing, Thursday, 7 June 2012

President Asif Ali Zardari and Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad met and agreed to vigorously pursue the Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline project as well as supply of electricity to Pakistan. Both Presidents met in Beijing on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization SCO Summit.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=197575&Itemid=1

Also see Dawn, Karachi

<http://dawn.com/2012/06/07/iran-ready-to-finance-gas-pipeline/>

8. Zardari meets Hu, Ahmadinejad: Major energy plans discussed

Beijing, Thursday, 7 June 2012

President Asif Ali Zardari met his Chinese and Iranian counterparts on the sidelines of

the SCO summit and discussed with them major energy projects.

Source: *Dawn, Karachi*

<http://dawn.com/2012/06/08/zardari-meets-hu-ahmadinejad-major-energy-plans-discussed/>

SAUDI ARABIA

9. Saudi Arabia to streamline hirings

Riyadh, Friday, 15 June 2012

With an emphasis for skilled labour, the Saudi Labour Ministry will conduct a study to streamline recruitment of workforce from a number of Asian countries including Pakistan.

Source: *Dawn, Karachi*

<http://dawn.com/2012/06/16/s-arabia-to-streamline-hirings/>

TURKEY

10. Turkey ready for joint ventures

Lahore, Friday, 15 June 2012

Turkish businessmen are ready to initiate joint ventures with their Pakistani counterparts in a number of sectors, including energy, textiles and construction. President Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEIK) Dr Akkan Suver said this while meeting a 37- member LCCI delegation headed by its president Irfan Qaiser Sheikh in Turkey.

Source: *Dawn, Karachi*

<http://dawn.com/2012/06/16/turkey-ready-for-joint-ventures/>

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

BAHRAIN

11. U-22 football squad off to Bahrain

Lahore, Monday, 11 June 2012

Pakistan's 23-member U-22 football squad, accompanied by four officials, left for Bahrain to take part in a three-match friendly series against Bahrain as part of final preparations for the AFC Asian Championship 2013 qualifiers group 'B' round.

Source: *Dawn, Karachi*

<http://dawn.com/2012/06/12/u-22-football-squad-off-to-bahrain/>

SAUDI ARABIA

12. Saudi's manhandling: Police want to include ASF officials in probe

Rawalpindi, Tuesday, 5 June 2012

The police enlarged the scope of the probe into the manhandling of Saudi military official at Benazir Bhutto International Airport and wrote a letter to Ministry of Defence seeking permission to involve Airport Security Force (ASF) personnel, who were on duty at the time of the incident, in the investigation.

Source: *Dawn, Karachi*

<http://dawn.com/2012/06/06/saudis-manhandling-police-want-to-include-asf-officials-in-probe/>

13. Saudi official's manhandling: Probe report sent to PM

Rawalpindi, Friday, 8 June 2012

An investigation report about the manhandling of a Saudi military official by Airport Security Force (ASF) personnel at the Benazir Bhutto International Airport on May 31 has been sent to the prime minister and the ministry of defence.

Source: *Dawn, Karachi*

<http://dawn.com/2012/06/09/saudi-officials-manhandling-probe-report-sent-to-pm-2/>

UAE

14. Pakistanis sending remittances from UAE to get commendation certificates

Islamabad, Friday, 29 June 2012

Pakistan's Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates Jamil Ahmed Khan will present certificates of commendation to the Pakistanis on account of remittances sent to their homeland.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=200385&Itemid=1

Compiled by Paulami Sanyal

Paulami Sanyal is pursuing research at the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi Email: paula_kolkata@yahoo.co.in

As part of the policy, the MEI@ND standardizes spellings and date format to make the text uniformly accessible and stylistically consistent. The views expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views/positions of the MEI@ND. Editor, MEI@ND P R Kumaraswamy