

PAKISTAN WATCH

No. 41

April 2014

POLITICAL ISSUES

BAHRAIN

1. Bahrain's Minister called on Tariq Fatemi

Islamabad, Tuesday, 18 March 2014

Bahrain's Minister of Royal Court, Ahmed Attiullah Al-Khalifa called on the Special Assistant to Prime Minister Tariq Fatemi and discussed bilateral relations.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272239&Itemid=2

2. King of Bahrain arrived on three-day visit

Islamabad, Tuesday, 18 March 2014

King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa of Bahrain along with a high level delegation, including cabinet members, government officials and businessmen arrived on a three-day official visit to Pakistan.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272125&Itemid=2

See Also: The News International, Karachi

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-29180-Shaikh-Hamad-Al-Khalifa-arrives-on-three-day-visit>

3. Prime Minister invited Bahraini investors to invest in Pakistan

Islamabad, Tuesday, 18 March 2014

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif invited Bahraini investors to invest in Pakistan while welcoming King Hamad.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272212&Itemid=1

4. Pakistan, Bahrain signed six bilateral agreements, MoUs

Islamabad, Tuesday, 18 March 2014

Pakistan and Bahrain signed six bilateral agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) for enhancing cooperation in trade, energy, investment, agriculture and aviation.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272209&Itemid=1

See Also: The Express Tribune, Karachi

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/684254/king-of-bahrain-visits-pakistan/>

5. King of Bahrain visited Joint Staff Headquarters

Rawalpindi, Wednesday, 19 March 2014

King Hamad and his delegation visited Joint Staff Headquarters and discussed about bilateral relations and enhancing of military cooperation.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272410&Itemid=1

See Also: The Nation, Lahore

<http://www.nation.com.pk/national/20-Mar-2014/bahrain-king-holds-talks-at-joint-staff-hqs>

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1094257>

6. Ishaq Dar called on Bahraini King

Islamabad, Wednesday, 19 March 2014

Finance Minister Senator Ishaq Dar called on King Hamad and briefed him about economic situation of the country. The focus of this meeting was to encourage bilateral trade and investment in Pakistan.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272416&Itemid=2

7. Pakistan wishes to strengthen ties with Bahrain: Chaudhry Nisar

Islamabad, Wednesday, 19 March 2014

Minister for Interior of Pakistan Nisar Ali Khan stated that Pakistan valued its close ties with Bahrain and hoped for strengthening the relationship in all fields particularly in cyber crime, border security, civil defence and international crime while talking to his Bahraini counterpart Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272362&Itemid=1

See Also: The News International, Karachi

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-6-239281-Pakistan-values-its-close-ties-with-Bahrain-Nisar>

8. Pakistan, Bahrain discussed cooperation in defence, training

Islamabad, Wednesday, 19 March 2014

Defense Minister of Pakistan Khawaja Muhammad Asif called on King Hamad and discussed matters of mutual cooperation in the field of defence and defence trainings and regional security with a special focus on Afghanistan.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272458&Itemid=2

See Also: The News international, Karachi

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-29196-Pakistan-Bahrain-agree-to-enhance-military-ties>

9. President for enhanced, consolidated Pak-Bahrain trade ties

Islamabad, Wednesday, 19 March 2014

President Mamnoon Hussain during his meeting with King Hamad urged the need for regular holding of the Joint Commission's meetings, invited Bahrain's investors and businessmen to avail the investment opportunities and the incentive packages and sought Bahrain's support in early conclusion of a free trade agreement between Pakistan and the Gulf Cooperation Council.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272482&Itemid=2

10. Sartaj Aziz called on King Hamad

Islamabad, Wednesday, 19 March 2014

King Hamad while talking to Pakistan's Adviser to Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz, wished to enhance trade and investment between the two countries.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272413&Itemid=2

See Also: The News International, Karachi

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-2-239354-King-Hamad-calls-for-more-trade-with-Pakistan>

11. Bahrain desires to further strengthen ties with Pakistan: Khalid bin Ahmed

Islamabad, Thursday, 20 March 2014

While addressing a news conference along with Minister of Transportation Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed, Bahraini Foreign Minister Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa said that Bahrain wanted to further promote relations with Pakistan in different fields including defence and security.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272665&Itemid=1

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi, <http://www.dawn.com/news/1094576>

LIBYA

12. Libya wants to expand bilateral ties with Pakistan: Charge d' affaires

Islamabad, Saturday, 12 March 2014

Charge d' Affaire of Libyan Embassy Abdul Wahid Abo Gaila said that Libya wanted to enhance cooperation with Pakistan in different sectors including economic, political and other fields. He made this statement while addressing a seminar on "Pak-Libya Relations: Challenges & Opportunities" organized by Department of Politics and International Relations of International Islamic University (IIU).

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=271033&Itemid=2

SAUDI ARABIA

13. Ayaz sought Saudi, Kazakh support for Pakistan's candidate for IPU secretary general-ship

Islamabad, Tuesday, 18 March 2014

Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Speaker of Pakistan's National Assembly sought support from Saudi Arabia for Pakistan's candidature in Secretary General-ship of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) during a meeting on sidelines of the 130th IPU General Assembly meeting in Geneva. Both the counterparts assured their support and cooperation.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272161&Itemid=1

14. Pak-Saudi Arabia agreed to work for unity, welfare of Muslim Ummah

Islamabad, Tuesday, 18 March 2014

A six-member delegation of Saudi Arabia met with the Pakistan Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter faith Harmony Sardar Muhammad Yousaf and agreed to work for the unity and welfare of Muslim Ummah.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272107&Itemid=1

TURKEY

15. Turkish delegation called on Prime Minister

Lahore, Thursday, 6 March 2014

A two-member Turkish delegation called on Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and discussed investment opportunities in Pakistan.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=270040&Itemid=2

16. Turkey-Afghanistan-Pakistan held Trilateral Political Consultations

Islamabad, Tuesday, 18 March 2014

Turkey-Afghanistan-Pakistan trilateral political consultations at the technical-level were held and discussed recent economic and political developments on the region and ways of enhancing cooperation in the areas of economy, trade, energy and infrastructure.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272251&Itemid=2

17. Pakistan and Turkey close relations benefiting two people: Turkish minister

Islamabad, Tuesday, 25 March 2014

At a reception to honour Pakistan National Day, Turkish Minister for Environment and Urbanization Idris Gulluce stated that Pakistan and Turkey had close political, commercial and military relations.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=273545&Itemid=2

UAE

18. Pakistan ambassador to UAE presented credentials

Islamabad, Monday, 3 March 2014

Ambassador of Pakistan to UAE, Asif Durrani presented his credentials to Shaikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=269395&Itemid=2

19. Pakistan's Ambassador called on UAE Foreign Minister

Islamabad, Thursday, 13 March 2013

Pakistan's Ambassador to the UAE Asif Ali Khan Durrani called on Abdullah Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, Foreign Minister of the UAE and discussed ways of enhancing bilateral relations.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=271228&Itemid=2

ECONOMIC ISSUES

BAHRAIN

20. FPCCI proposed FTA with Bahrain

Islamabad, Wednesday, 19 March 2014

Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) suggested that Bahrain should partner with Pakistan in business opportunities with a special focus on project-based financing and Islamic banking. President of FPCCI Zakaria Usman also focused on having a trade treaty.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272401&Itemid=49

21. Pakistan, Bahrain signed 15 MoUs, 2 agreements to boost trade and investment

Islamabad, Wednesday, 19 March 2014

Pakistan and Bahrain signed 15 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) and two agreements to increase bilateral trade and investment relations in different sectors at the conclusion of a day-long Pakistan-Bahrain Business Forum.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272359&Itemid=2

SAUDI ARABIA

22. Poultry import to Saudi Arabia to boost economy: PPA

Islamabad, Sunday, 16 March 2014

Chairperson of the Pakistan Poultry Association Muhammad Aslam said that the permission to import Pakistani poultry products to Saudi Arabia was given after the Saudi delegation's visit to Pakistan and this decision would help enhancing investments in this sector.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=271780&Itemid=49

TURKEY

23. Turk energy company delegation met Shahbaz Sharif

Lahore, Tuesday, 18 May 2014

Punjab Chief Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif welcomed investment by Turk investors in various sectors while talking to a three-member delegation of Seul Energy Company of Turkey.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272260&Itemid=2

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

IRAN

24. Iran, Pakistan discussed enhancement of road transportation

Islamabad, Monday, 17 March 2014

Iranian and Pakistani officials emphasized on increasing road transportation between the two states. The Iranian official referred to setting up of Taftan border terminal and providing service facilities along with facilitating customs formalities and road transportation, less control and extra checking as provisions of the mutual agreement.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=271885&Itemid=2

OMAN

25. Pak-Oman agreed to promote culture of tolerance

Islamabad, Tuesday, 25 March 2014

A four-member delegation of Oman met with Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Sardar Muhammad Yousaf and discussed about ways to develop bilateral relations and promote culture of tolerance through Islamic teachings.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=273605&Itemid=2

QATAR

26. Pak 'A' to play visiting Qatar cricket team

Lahore, Tuesday, 25 March 2014

Pakistan 'A' cricket team had a T-20 series with Qatar in Lahore on 26 March 2014. This would be the first home series in Pakistan after 2009.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=273629&Itemid=1

SAUDI ARABIA

27. Saudi Arabia to launch relief projects for calamity hit people in Pakistan

Islamabad, Thursday, 20 March 2014

Saudi Arabia announced that it would initiate several relief and construction projects to help calamity hit districts of Pakistan. The relief projects include 23 tons of food items for drought affected families in Sindh.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=223555

TUNISIA

28. 58th National Day of Tunisia celebrated

Islamabad, Thursday, 20 March 2014

The 58th National Day of Tunisia was celebrated in Islamabad and Minister for Information and Broadcasting Pervaiz Rashid and Minister of State for Interior Baleegh-ur-Rehman were present along with Tunisian Ambassador in Islamabad.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272725&Itemid=2

See Also: The News International, Karachi

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-6-239619-Tunisian-Independence-Day-celebrated>

TURKEY

29. Anusha assured complete support to Turkish telecom investors

Islamabad, Tuesday, 4 March 2014

Minister of State for Information and Technology of Pakistan Anusha Rahman stated that support would be given to Turkish delegation of Mobile Operators who would visit Pakistan to study market in context of forthcoming auction. This was stated in a meeting with Turk Cell delegation on the sideline of Mobile World Congress held in Barcelona.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=269533&Itemid=2

30. Turkish band to perform as part of Punjab Youth Festival

Lahore, Thursday, 20 March 2014

Sports Board Punjab hosted a special event to strengthen Pak-Turkey friendship at Al-Hamra Cultural Complex near Qaddafi Stadium where a Turkish Military Band performed.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=272692&Itemid=2

UAE

31. Pakistan's cultural diplomacy in UAE

Islamabad, Wednesday, 12 March 2014

While being the chief guest at a special art exhibition organized in the UAE Prime Minister's special envoy Ambassador Javed Malik observed that Pakistani art, cultural heritage and rich traditions could be excellent mediums for Pakistan's soft and positive image to the world.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=271036&Itemid=2

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