

PAKISTAN WATCH

No. 43

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POLITICAL ISSUES

BAHRAIN

1. Pakistan, Bahrain enjoyed similarity of views on bilateral issues

Islamabad, Wednesday, 7 May 2014

Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Dhahrani, Speaker of Bahraini parliament called on Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and the latter Minister said both countries enjoy similarity of views on bilateral, regional and international issues, and promised to continue contributing in Bahrain's prosperity, security and stability.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=280367&Itemid=1

See Also: *The Dawn, Karachi*

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1104782>

2. President for further cementing Pakistan, Bahrain strong fraternal bonds

Islamabad, Wednesday, 7 May 2014

President Mamnoon Hussain during his meeting with Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Dhahrani, Speaker of Bahrain urged the need of substantive economic and trade partnership between the two countries.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=280340&Itemid=2

See Also: *Business Recorder, Karachi*

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/108-pakistan-top-news/171278-president-for-further-cementing-pakistan-bahrain-strong-fraternal-bonds.html>

IRAN

3. Iranian minister called on General Raheel

Rawalpindi, Tuesday, 6 May 2014

Iranian Minister for Interior Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli called on Chief of the Army Staff General Raheel Sharif and discussed matters of mutual interest, including measures to improve security along the Pakistan-Iran border.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=280181&Itemid=2

See Also: The News International, Karachi

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-30189-Iranian-minister-calls-on-Gen-Raheel-Sharif>

4. Pakistan, Iran to strengthen cooperation on security, border issues

Islamabad, Tuesday, 6 May 2014

Minister for Interior Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan, in a meeting with an Iranian delegation, said both countries agreed to establish a hotline to resolve border issues. Iranian Interior Minister Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli said Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan will hold a trilateral meeting for increased security cooperation.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=280139

See Also: The News International, Karachi

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-30169-Pakistan,-Iran-agree-to-set-up-hotline>

5. PM Nawaz to visit Iran from 11 May 2014

Islamabad, Saturday, 10 May 2014

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif would pay a two-day official visit to Iran from 11-12 May, on the invitation of President Hassan Rouhani.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=280907&Itemid=2

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1103943>

6. PM met former Iranian president Rafsanjani

Tehran, Sunday, 11 May 2014

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif met former President of Iran and Chairperson Expediency Discernment Council Ayatollah Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and discussed matters relating to mutual interest.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=281018&Itemid=2

See Also: Pakistan State Times, Karachi

<http://www.pstimes.com/2014/05/12/pm-meets-former-iranian-president-rafsanjani/>

7. Pakistan, Iran agreed to give impetus to gas pipeline project

Tehran, Sunday, 11 May 2014

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and President of Iran Hassan Rouhani agreed to continue with the Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline project and both sides signed eight MoUs to enhance cooperation in fields like transferring of offenders, anti-money laundering, statistical cooperation, cultural exchange programme, sports cooperation, cooperation in preventing and combating pollution from ships and establishment of Joint Border Commission.

Source *Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=280997&Itemid=2

Source *Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=281012&Itemid=2

See Also: *The Dawn, Karachi*

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1105620>

See Also: *The Nation, Lahore*

<http://www.nation.com.pk/national/12-May-2014/pakistan-iran-to-give-impetus-to-gas-pipeline>

8. PM met Iran's Supreme leader

Tehran, Monday, 12 May 2014

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif met the Supreme Leader of Iran Syed Ali Ayatollah Khamenei and discussed issues relating to mutual and bilateral interest.

Source *Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=281081&Itemid=2

See Also: *The Express Tribune, Karachi*

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/707405/pak-iran-ties-nawaz-meets-ayatollah-khomeini/>

JORDAN

9. Jordan appreciated Pak army for fighting against terrorism

Rawalpindi, Wednesday, 28 May 2014

King Abdullah II and the Prime Minister of Jordan Abdullah Ensour appreciated the sacrifices of the armed forces of Pakistan in fighting terrorism.

Source *Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=284207&Itemid=2

OMAN

10. PM for enhanced ties with Oman

Islamabad, Wednesday, 28 May 2014

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said in a meeting with Major General Mattar Bin Salim Bin Rashid Al Balushi, Commander of Royal Army of Oman that the geographical proximity can offer them a great scope to step up their bilateral relations.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=284087

See Also: Business Recorder, Karachi

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/108-pakistan-top-news/174901-pm-for-enhanced-ties-with-oman.html>

UAE

11. Sartaj Aziz visited UAE

Islamabad, Thursday, 22 May 2014

Advisor to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz visited Abu Dhabi on the invitation of Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Foreign Minister of the United Arab Emirates. During the meeting, the two discussed bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues of common interest.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=283007&Itemid=2

ECONOMIC ISSUES

IRAN

12. Tehran, Islamabad discussed to boost trade to US \$ 5 billion

Islamabad, Friday, 30 May 2014

Iran and Pakistan discussed measures to boost the annual trade between the two countries from currently around US\$1 billion to US\$5 billion.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=284447&Itemid=2

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=284447&Itemid=1

TURKEY

13. Pak-Turkey agreed to form technical working group in energy sector

Islamabad, Thursday, 1 May 2014

Pakistan and Turkey agreed to form a technical working group in the energy sector for close collaboration. This was decided in a meeting between Secretary of the Ministry of Water and Power Saifullah Chattha with Turkish officials in Ankara.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=279431&Itemid=2

See Also: The Dawn, Karachi

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1103532>

See Also: The Express Tribune, Karachi

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/702938/energy-matters-pakistan-turkey-to-collaborate-in-power-sector/>

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

TURKEY

14. PM condoled deaths of Turkish miners; day of mourning to be observed on Thursday

Islamabad, Wednesday, 14 May 2014

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif wrote a letter to his Turkish counterpart and expressed his condolences on the death of workers in the coal mine explosion in Turkey.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=281456&Itemid=2

See Also: The Nation, Lahore

<http://www.nation.com.pk/islamabad/15-May-2014/pakistan-condoles-turkey-mine-deaths>

See Also Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=281765&Itemid=2

15. Pakistan observed National Mourning Day over mine tragedy in Turkey

Islamabad, Thursday, 15 May 2014

The government of Pakistan observed National Mourning Day in solidarity with the Government and people of Turkey for the deceased of mine incident.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=281645&Itemid=2

See Also: Daily Times, Lahore

<http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/national/15-May-2014/pm-expresses-grave-shock-over-tragic-incident-turkish-coal-mine>

16. Turkish company to lift garbage in Rawalpindi, Murree

Islamabad, Tuesday, 27 May 2014

Rawalpindi Waste Management Company (RWMC) and Albayrak, a Turkish company signed a contract of US\$ 81.390 million to lift solid waste from Rawalpindi and Murree, and dump it at selected landfill sites.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=283985&Itemid=2

UAE

17. Sheikh Nahyan reaffirmed strong bonds of Pak-UAE friendship

Karachi, Tuesday, 20 May 2014

Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, UAE Minister for Culture, Youth Affairs and Community Development hosted a lunch for a 21-member delegation of Pakistan's National Management Course (NMC) where he reaffirmed strong bonds of friendship between the two countries.

Source Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad

http://www.app.com.pk/en/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=282581&Itemid=9

See Also: Pakistan State Times, Karachi

<http://www.pstimes.com/2014/05/21/sheikh-nahyan-reaffirms-strong-bonds-of-pak-uae-friendship/>

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