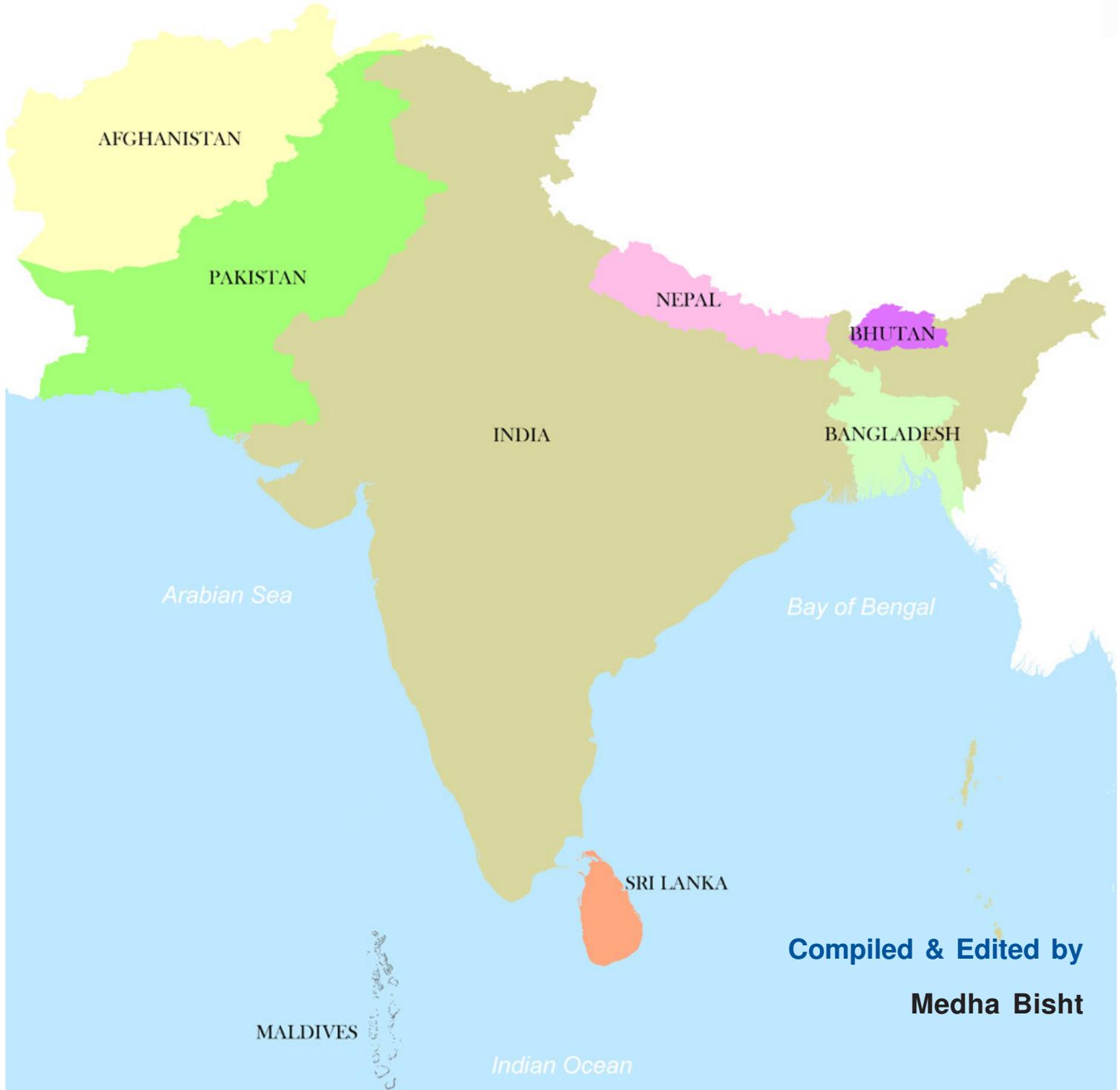


South Asia Trends is a fortnightly newsletter on South Asian affairs. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide a panoramic view of important events that shape and impact the politics of the subcontinent. The effort would be to inform our readers of the domestic, regional and international repercussions of the political debates and diplomatic engagements that take place in South Asia.



Compiled & Edited by
Medha Bisht

Editor's Note

Which countries would be the new game changers in the Afghan theatre? With the 2014 withdrawal deadline drawing closer, such questions would be occupying much space in the strategic corridors. While the nature of Chinese presence in Afghanistan is a question of further debate, there are no two views on the fact that China would be one of the most important regional actors in Afghanistan. "China is the most reliable friend of Afghanistan", this was the response of Xu Feihong, Chinese Ambassador to Afghanistan. In a recent announcement, Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister, Fu Yings, stated that the Chinese government will provide another grant of 150 million Yuan to Afghanistan. Also q deal with China on developing a small oil and gas field in northern Afghanistan has been endorsed by the Afghan cabinet. Meanwhile a trilateral between the United States, India and the Afghan government would soon take place in the coming days. Since both the US and India have signed strategic partnership agreements with Afghanistan in past, there is some anticipation apropos the issues which would be brought to the table. How the trilateral shapes up perceptions in Pakistan would be another development to be reckoned with.

The issue of Rohingyas is catching up heat along the Bangladesh and Myanmar border. A sectoral clash of communal nature between Muslims and Buddhists in Rakhine state of Myanmar, vigilance in the Cox Bazaar district has been stepped up. While, the UNHCR has urged Bangladesh government to accept the Myanmarese nationals who are seeking refuge in the country, Bangladesh so far has resisted. Both countries are however maintaining close consultations to ensure that violence in the Rakhine state does not create a trans-boundary spill-over. While both countries were on a cooperative mode a few months back, the issue of Rohingyas has always been a spoiler in normalizing relations.

While the economic crises in Bhutan might see some light of the day after the Indian government decided to give a credit line of Rs 10 billion to Bhutan, Nepal unfortunately, continues to be in a political stalemate.

The 2012-13 budget was introduced in Pakistan on June 1, 2012. The total outlay of budget 2012-13 is Rs 3,203 billion and it is 15.8% higher than the size of budget estimates 2011-12. The provincial share in federal revenue receipts is estimated at Rs 1,459 billion for 2012-13 which is 21.2% higher than the budget estimates for 2011-12. Also Rs. 545.36 billion as been kept aside for defense, Rs. 47 billion for education and Rs. 7 billion for health

Afghanistan

Hamid Karzai

New York Times, June 4, 2012.

The looming withdrawal of American and NATO troops by 2014 from the still unresolved war, along with President Karzai's coming exit, is causing anxiety among the Afghan elite who have been among the war's biggest beneficiaries, enriching themselves from American military contracts, insider business deals with foreign companies, government corruption and narcotics trafficking. Mr. Karzai's family – many of whom are American citizens who returned to Afghanistan after an American-led coalition toppled the Taliban in 2001 and brought Mr. Karzai to power – are among those who have prospered the most, by the accounts of many Afghan businessmen and government insiders. They are trying to protect their status, weighing how to hold on to power while secretly fighting among themselves for control of the fortune they have amassed in the last decade.

(Source: http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/people/k/hamid_karzai/index.html)

China is Afghanistan's most reliable friend - envoy

Xinhua News Agency, June 4, 2012.

China is the most reliable friend of Afghanistan, said Xu Feihong, Chinese ambassador to the war-torn country, just days before Afghan President Hamid Karzai's visit to China. During his third ever visit to China, according to Xu, Karzai will attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit as a guest for the fifth time, after which he will meet with Chinese leaders and visit several Chinese cities and provinces such as Beijing and Hubei. "SCO has always seen Afghanistan as an important partner in the region," noted the Chinese ambassador, "We have been engaging in close coordination with Afghanistan in areas like trade, culture and fighting terrorism, secessionism, extremism and narcotics."

(Source: Xinhua News Agency, Beijing)

Tajikistan plans to import crude oil from Iran via Afghanistan

Avesta, June 4, 2012.

While participating in the work of the Tajik-Iranian intergovernmental commission in Tehran, Tajik Energy and Industry Minister Sherali Gul has told the local news agency Mehr that Tajikistan intended to purchase crude oil from Iran. The Tajik minister specifically said: "Tajikistan made a formal proposal to buy crude oil from Iran, and if such an agreement is reached, crude oil will be transported by land to the republic through Afghanistan". The Tajik energy and industry minister also expressed Tajikistan's willingness to import oil products from Iran.

(Source: Avesta website, Dushanbe, in Russian)

U.S. wants greater role for India in Afghanistan

Reuters, June 5, 2012.

U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta will encourage India to take a more active role in Afghanistan as international forces draw down after a decade of war, U.S.

officials said on Tuesday as the Pentagon chief arrived in New Delhi for two days of talks.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, acknowledged the longstanding rivalry between India and Pakistan for influence in Afghanistan but insisted that both countries had an interest in working with the international community to ensure stability in their northern neighbour. Panetta announced on Saturday during a speech at the Shangri-La Dialogue, a security conference in Singapore, that the U.S. military would rebalance its military assets so that by the year 2020 60 percent of U.S. warships would be in the region, versus 50 percent now. The officials said the United States views India as a logical partner to work with on security and stability issues in the Indian Ocean region and that India was singled out for its importance in the new strategy.

(Source: <http://in.reuters.com/article/2012/06/05/us-india-afghanistan-leon-panetta-idINDEE85408N20120605>)

NATO Supplies to be Routed Through CA

Daily Outlook Afghanistan, June 6, 2012.

NATO has signed a pact with three Central Asian countries – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan – which would provide a new land route to transport supplies to foreign troops in land-locked Afghanistan. NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said the alliance had reached an agreement on “reverse transit” from Afghanistan with three Central Asian partners. “These agreements will give us a range of new options and the robust and flexible transport network we need,” Rasmussen said in a statement.

(Source: http://outlookafghanistan.net/news?post_id=4506)

Group members wary of Afghan instability

Reuters, June 6, 2012.

A bloc bringing together China, Russia and central Asian states wants to play a bigger role in Afghanistan, Chinese President Hu Jintao said in an interview published on Wednesday, as group leaders gathered for an annual summit. The future of neighbour Afghanistan, facing the withdrawal of most foreign combat forces by the end of 2014, is likely to be a main issue at the two-day meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), whose members fear instability spilling across central Asia as the pullout goes ahead.

(Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/06/06/china-russia-hu-afghanistan-idUSL3E8H61S120120606>)

IEC Finalizes Draft Electoral Law Proposals

Daily Outlook Afghanistan, June 11, 2012.

Afghanistan’s Independent Election Commission (IEC) on Sunday said after consultations with stakeholders it had decided to recommend four key proposals for inclusion in a draft electoral law. A statement from the IEC Secretariat said a working group had come up with suggested amendments to the draft. “The

suggestions include structural and procedural changes focusing on four main areas."They include the IEC authority as envisioned in the Constitution, technical and operational changes to improve electoral administration, changes in the system and establishment of a legal mechanism to adjudicate on complaints and challenges.

(Source: http://outlookafghanistan.net/news?post_id=45)

India Invites Pakistan for Investors' Meet on Afghanistan

Daily Outlook Afghanistan, June 11, 2012.

Pakistan and China are among the countries invited for the regional investors' meet on Afghanistan, to be held in New Delhi on June 28, to discuss ways to boost international-private-sector investment in the war-torn country. Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman Syed Akbaruddin said in New Delhi that though it was largely a private-sector meet, India would also invite government entities for the conference aimed at exploring and promoting investments in Afghanistan on a long-term basis, IRNA reported.

(Source: http://outlookafghanistan.net/news?post_id=4553)

NATO chief vows not to abandon Afghanistan

Times of India, June 13, 2012.

NATO chief Anders Fogh Rasmussen Wednesday vowed not to abandon Afghanistan's foreign nations plan to transition forces out of the country after a decade of conflict.

"We will not abandon Afghanistan, we will not leave behind a security vacuum," he told a National Press Club lunch in Canberra. NATO plans to withdraw its 130,000 troops by the end of 2014, and Rasmussen said there would also be a likely political transition as Afghan President Hamid Karzai is expected to step down at the next election, due the same year. "Yes, we would expect President Karzai to abide by the Afghan constitution which... doesn't allow him to run again for president," he said.

(Source: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/middle-east/NATO-chief-vows-not-to-abandon-Afghanistan/articleshow/14084483.cms>)

Cabinet Endorses Oil Deal with China

Daily Outlook Afghanistan, June 13, 2012.

Endorsing a deal with China on developing a small oil and gas field in northern Afghanistan, the Cabinet on Tuesday agreed to the creation of a joint working committee to explore energy deposits at the Amu River basin. Last year, state-run China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) won the first oil deal in Afghanistan after signing a contract with the government to develop the oil-field in Sar-i-Pul province. Under the agreement CNPC will initially invest about \$400 million in the oil exploration project that is expected to generate \$7 billion in revenues for the war-torn nation.

(Source: http://outlookafghanistan.net/news?post_id=4574)

'India, US agree to trilateral consultations with Afghanistan'

Economic Times, June 14, 2012.

India and US have agreed to a formal trilateral consultations with Afghanistan, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton today said, as she highly appreciated New Delhi's role in that war-torn country. "Today we agreed to move forward with a formal trilateral consultation among our three nations (India, US and Afghanistan," Clinton told reporters at a joint news conference with External Affairs Minister S M Krishna at the conclusion of the Strategic Dialogue during which Afghanistan was one of the major topics of discussions.

Both the US and India have signed strategic partnership agreements with Afghanistan to demonstrate our enduring commitment, Clinton said. Later this month, supported by the US, India for the first time is hosting an international investor's meet in New Delhi.

(Source: <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics/nation/india-us-agree-to-trilateral-consultations-with-afghanistan/articleshow/14106558.cms>)

China will Grant 150mln Yuan to Afghanistan: Yings

Daily Outlook Afghanistan, June 14, 2012.

Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister, Fu Yings, during his visit to Afghanistan on Wednesday said that China has been an active participant in Afghanistan economic reconstruction and hope to see, as early as possible, a peaceful, stable and independent Afghanistan that enjoys development..In an exclusive interview with the Daily Outlook Afghanistan, Chinese Deputy FM said that " This year, the Chinese government will provide another grant of 150 million Yuan to Afghanistan and we hope the two sides will soon identify projects to make that it benefits the Afghans. In the last 10 years of Afghanistan's peace and reconstruction process, China has provided assistance through both bilateral and multilateral channels.

(Source: http://outlookafghanistan.net/news?post_id=4589)

Bangladesh**Bangladesh eyes JV with Qatar to build 1,000 MW gas-fired power plant**

Platts, June 4, 2012.

Bangladesh is hoping to build a 1,000 MW gas-fired power plant in the Moheshkhali islands in the Bay of Bengal in a joint venture with LNG-rich Qatar, Bangladesh Power Development Board Chairman ASM Alamgir Kabir told Platts Monday. The country's power ministry raised the issue with Qatar's Assistant Minister for International Cooperation Affairs Sheikh Ahmed Bin Mohammed Bin Jabr Al-Thani during his official visit to Dhaka last week. The Qatari minister responded positively and said he would look at the proposal seriously, Kabir said. Bangladesh is planning a floating LNG import terminal with a capacity to handle 5 million mt/year of LNG, regasification capacity of at least 500,000 Mcf/d and berthing and mooring facilities for LNG ships with a capacity of 138,000-260,000 cubic meters at Moheshkhali.

(Source: <http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/ElectricPower/7685328>)

WB terms 6.3pc GDP growth as healthy

Financial Times, June 4, 2012.

The World Bank (WB) has termed growth of Bangladesh's gross domestic product (GDP) at an estimated rate of 6.3 per cent in fiscal 2011-12 as healthy as it is higher than the developing nations' average of 5.5 per cent. "But it is lower than the South Asia average of 6.5 per cent," Dr Zahid Hussain, WB senior economist told the reporters Sunday at a media briefing on Bangladesh Economic Update, held at a local hotel. However, the GDP growth rate of Bangladesh in the outgoing fiscal will be considered impressive, given the scenario of vulnerabilities in the global economic environment, according to the WB. Mr Zahid Hussain said: "There is healthy economic growth but macroeconomic vulnerabilities remain." Heavy bank borrowing, declining trend in investment and volatile inflation are major threats to Bangladesh's macro-economic stability, the WB observed.

(Source: http://www.thefinancialexpress-bd.com/more.php?news_id=131803&date=2012-06-04)

'The transit we are talking about with India does not fall under any international definition'

The Daily Star, June 5, 2012.

The Daily Star (DS): How do you think transit facility to India, Nepal and Bhutan can benefit Bangladesh?

M. Rahmatullah (MR): Bangladesh can take advantage of trade in transport services by providing its port facility to the landlocked countries. Other than Nepal and Bhutan, the northeast region of India is virtually landlocked and they want to use our Chittagong port. Kolkatta port is getting silted up and also too congested to deal with the Indian demand. So India is also interested in using Mongla port. Transit is an economic issue, there are plenty of examples where countries have let their ports be used as transit facilities and earned revenue. Singapore has been giving this facility for many years. Iran has let its Bandar Abbas port be used by the CIS countries, which previously used Soviet ports. In Europe, Rotterdam is open to the rest of Europe, specially the landlocked countries. So from this angle, Chittagong and Mongla ports can be used as a big source of income.

DS: Is there any assessment of how much goods can be transported using transit facility?

MR: CPD and South Asia Centre for Policy Studies, I understand, had done a study in 2010 of what traffic is being channeled to Kolkata port through the chicken neck that separates the northeast region of India. We have found that 18 million tons of goods pass through this chicken neck, of which 16 million tons are for domestic consumption and 2 million for export/import. The difficulty of making any realistic projection of transportation of goods is that northeast is viable to produce goods from raw materials because of market access difficulty. For example, the distance from northeast India to Kolkata is 1,400 to 1,600 km. But if the region can use transit through Bangladesh, the distance would come down to 500 to 700 km.

(Source: <http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/news-details.php?nid=236973>)

Bangladesh to produce 5,000 MW by nuclear by 2030

Reuters, June 7, 2012.

Bangladesh will produce 5,000 megawatts (MW) of electricity from nuclear energy by 2030, Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith told parliament while presenting the budget for the fiscal year to June 2013. Listing a number of plans to augment electricity production in this energy-starved country, he said that to meet the growing demand for power, Bangladesh will import 250 MW electricity from India by 2013. "In addition, (the) import of electricity from Myanmar, Nepal and Bhutan is also under consideration," Muhith said. He said steps had been taken to construct coal-based power plants with a capacity to produce 2,938 MW electricity, under joint-venture investments, by 2016. The demand for electricity in the country now stands at 7,518 MW while it produces 6,066 MW, leaving 1,452 MW shortages a day. Bangladesh will allocate 5.0 percent of its total expenditure for power and energy, the minister said.

(Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/06/07/bangladesh-budget-power-idUSL3E8H76L220120607>)

Bangladesh alert along Myanmar border

Bangladesh News, June 9, 2012.

Bangladeshi border guards have increased patrolling as part of heightened vigilance along its border with Myanmar in the wake of a raging communal riot between the Rohingya Muslims and majority Buddhists in the neighbouring country's Muangdaw area. At least four people of Rakhaine community died in the violence on Friday, Reuters news agency reported. Amid conflicting reports of casualties, state-run MRTV reported a curfew had been imposed in Maungdaw and Buthidaung but it did not mention anything of the unrest, or who were involved in its news. Both areas are dominated by Rohingyas.

(Source: <http://bdnews24.com/details.php?id=226121&cid=2>)

Bangladesh steps up security along Myanmar border

Bangkok Post, June 11, 2012.

Bangladesh stepped up security along its border with Myanmar following outbreaks of sectarian violence between Rohingya Muslims and Buddhists in the neighbouring country, officials said Sunday. Dhaka's border troops beefed up patrols in the Cox's Bazaar district, while police were being especially vigilant in the district's refugee camps, home to around 300,000 Rohingya, government administrator Jasim Uddin said. The move comes after seven people were killed, 17 wounded and nearly 500 houses destroyed during two days of clashes between Rohingya Muslims and Buddhists in western Myanmar, the country's state media said. Bangladeshi officials fear the violence

(Source: <http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/asia/297545/bangladesh-steps-up-security-along-myanmar-border>)

Accept Myanmar refugees: UNHCR

Daily Star, June 12, 2012.

The UNHCR has urged Bangladesh government to accept the Myanmarese

nationals who are seeking refuge in the country from sectarian violence in Rakhine state."We have had discussions with various government officials for the last few days over allowing the refugees to the country," UNHCR country representative Craig Sanders told The Daily Star on Tuesday. The government, however, is yet to reply to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)'s request. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) made the request a day after Bangladesh border and coast guards pushed back 11 boats carrying around 500 Myanmar nationals as they tried to enter Bangladesh through Cox's Bazar crossing Naf River for refuge.

(Source: http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest_news.php?nid=38351)

Bangladesh, Myanmar in talks to prevent refugee crisis

Daily Star, June 12, 2012.

Bangladesh and Myanmar are maintaining close consultations to ensure that violence in Myanmar's western Rakhine state does not create a trans-boundary spill-over.

A press statement issued by the foreign ministry on Tuesday further said, "The local administration and the law enforcing agencies in the border area have been advised to remain alert and increase vigilance." Although the press release hints at preventing a refugee crisis, UNHCR has urged Bangladesh to allow refugees into Bangladesh.

The press release said Bangladesh expressed its hope that Myanmar government would be able to deal with the violent situation in the best possible way and restore normalcy in the region in the shortest possible time. The Bangladesh government has been watchful over the situation in the neighbouring Rakhine state of Myanmar and is particularly saddened by the loss of lives and property resulting from the ongoing incidence of violence, it said.

(Source: http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest_news.php?nid=38352)

No trans-boundary spillover, Dipu reiterates

Daily Star, July 13, 2012.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni has reiterated that there would be no trans-boundary spillover following the ongoing sectarian violence at the Rakhine state of Myanmar. She made the comment to reporters after a programme at Cirdap auditorium on Wednesday a day after United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in a briefing urged the government to accept refugees from the neighbouring country. Replying to a query, the minister said the United Nations was yet to place any formal proposal to the government. "Border Guard Bangladesh and other responsible agencies have been kept on high alert at all the coastal districts across the country," Dipu Moni said. She hoped that Myanmar would be able to control the violence between Muslims and Buddhists and save the lives and properties of their people.

(Source: http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest_news.php?nid=38380)

Trawlers seized with 114 refugees

Daily Star, June 13, 2012.

Bangladesh border and coast guards seized three trawlers and a boat carrying 114 Myanmar nationals on Wednesday after they entered Bangladesh through Cox's Bazar for refuge from sectarian violence in Rakhine state. The trawlers and the boat were seized between 12midnight and 7:00am today, reports our Chittagong correspondent, quoting second-in-command of BGB 44 battalion Maj Shafiqur Rahman. After seeing an empty boat floating in the Naf river in the midnight, Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) personnel went close to it and found a one and a half months old baby alone on the vessel.

It took two and a half hours to the BGB men to go close to the boat and rescue the baby, said Maj Md Saiful Wadud, operation officer of BGB, Teknaf said. The team handed over the baby to one Kabir, a local people, for taking care of it, he said. BGB seized a trawler carrying 44 Myanmarrese near Gularchar of Teknaf around 4:00am while a patrol team of Bangladesh Coast Guard seized another trawler with 39 passengers at St Martin.

(Source: http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest_news.php?nid=38369)

Bangladesh turns back refugees amid sectarian violence in Myanmar

CNN, June 14, 2012.

Hundreds of Muslims fleeing sectarian violence in Myanmar tried to enter Bangladesh on Wednesday, but many were turned away by the authorities. Bangladesh has reinforced its border with Myanmar, amassing border guards and coast guards who were keeping watch on the River Naf, where rickety fishing boats were filled with Rohingyas, ethnic Muslims from Myanmar's Rakhine State. Bangladeshi Foreign Minister Dipu Moni on Wednesday said her country was not willing to give shelter to Rohingya refugees, despite international calls for opening the border to people fleeing the clashes between Muslims and Buddhists in western Myanmar.

(Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2012/06/13/world/bangladesh-myanmar-refugees/index.html>)

Bhutan

Japan plans embassy in Bhutan

Japan Times, June 3, 2012.

Japan has decided to open an embassy in Bhutan, possibly in 2014, following a request last year from the Himalayan country's king, diplomats said. To maintain peace and a neutral stance on the world stage, Bhutan has not established diplomatic relations with any of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. It only has official ties with about 30 countries and the European Union. At present, only India, Bangladesh and Kuwait have embassies in the country, and the Japanese Embassy in India is currently accredited to Bhutan, according to the Foreign Ministry.

(Source: <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/text/nn20120603a2.html>)

Throwing good money after bad?

The Kuensel, June 3, 2012.

With irregularities of more than Nu 44M amounting from mismanagement, Bhutan National Bank's ever-greening loan sanctioning system has come under audit scrutiny. According to the 2011 annual audit report, an ever-greening of loan occurred, when the bank sanctioned additional loans to clients to clear off the overdue interests. Such practices amounted to more than Nu 11M irregularities. This, auditors have pointed out, was against the royal monetary authority's prudential regulations, as the bank deducted money to repay their interest, the moment the loan is sanctioned. "Such practices inflated the profit of the bank," audit report stated. The bank, audit report stated, also sanctioned several service and tourism loans to a single borrower for different projects; but as the loan accounts had become defaulting, additional loans were sanctioned beyond repayment capacity of the borrower to clear the interest and principal overdue. Such practices are also against RMA's prudential regulations, as the loan becomes bad and reduces its non-performing assets.

(Source: <http://www.kuenselonline.com/2011/?p=31922>)

Another New political party comes forward

The Bhutanese, June 6, 2012.

In the recent months there had been speculation of a political party organized primarily by a working consultant that would soon announce itself as the 'Fifth party'. This would be the fifth party after the four known parties of the ruling Druk Phuensum Tshogpa, the opposition People's Democratic Party and the two new parties of Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa and Druk Mitsheer Tshogpa. However, before this mysterious fifth party could announce itself, its fifth position was usurped by Druk Chirwang Tshogpa (DCT) who unexpectedly announced themselves in an exclusive story in The Bhutanese on Saturday. The DCT comprised of new members and some who broke away from the Druk Mitsheer Tshogpa and claimed to have 300 members and 12 candidates with a possible woman President.

(Source: <http://www.thebhutanese.bt/another-new-political-party-comes-forward/>)

India gives Bhutan Rs 3.61B

Kuensel, June 7, 2012.

The Indian government yesterday handed over 11 cheques working out to Rs 3.61B to the Bhutanese government. Of the total amount, Rs 2.5B was for the ongoing 10th plan and remaining Rs 1.11B was the excise duty refund for 2009. Further, out of the Rs 2.5B, Rs 1.33B was for small development projects, which include construction of basic infrastructure like schools, hospitals, water supply and farm roads. Rs 0.82B was for project-tied assistance, such as construction of sub-district court, supreme court and Gelephu-Trongsa highway, and the remaining INR 0.35B was a programme grant, used wherever the government had a deficit. Handing the cheque over to finance minister Wangdi Norbu at Tashichhodzong yesterday, the Indian ambassador, Pavan K Varma, said, despite current fiscal and financial difficulties in India, the fund was in line with GoI's commitment for expeditious

release of funds for various schemes and projects of Indo-Bhutan bilateral cooperation.

(Source: <http://www.kuenselonline.com/2011/?p=32071>)

Alstom and Druk Green Power in Bhutan hydro JV

Water Power, June 7, 2012.

Alstom and Druk Green Power Corporation are to establish a state-of-the-art hydropower service centre in Jigmeling, Gelephu under Sarpang Dzongkhag, Bhutan, to provide repair services for hydro runners and other underwater parts of hydropower plants.

This strategic partnership will be implemented as a joint venture with a shareholding of 49% for Alstom and 51% for Druk Green. The Service Centre – the first in the country – is expected to employ 62 employees in the first year of operation with plans to ramp up to 160 employees when the Centre reaches its full capacity utilization. Construction of the centre is expected to take just over two years.

(Source: <http://www.waterpowermagazine.com/story.asp?sectioncode=130&storyCode=2062492>)

GoI approves 10bn Credit Line

The Bhutanese, June 8, 2012.

The economic affairs minister, Khandu Wangchuk who recently visited the Indian Capital to follow-up on the increase in the Line of Credit announced that the Indian Government has assured the increase from Rs 3bn to 10bn, in a press conference yesterday. "India itself is going through a lot of financial problems. And in many ways this was not the best timing to go to India- the political and economical and also Indian dignitaries were very busy. Despite all these problems, when it came to Bhutan the Indian leadership were really supportive," said the minister. Bhutan had a credit line of 3bn at 5% interest rate. Initially, the Bhutanese government requested an increase in the credit line from 3bn to 6bn last year. Again this year in the month of March, on the account of rupee crisis the line moved to 10bn. This comes in the light of the Rupee borrowings by the RMA through the overdraft facility from the State Bank of India (SBI) had reached its limit of Rs 10bn and the other line of credit from the government of India (GoI) of Rs 3bn limit got exhausted last year. The interest on SBI borrowings stands at 9.5% and 5% on the latter.

(Source: <http://www.thebhutanese.bt/goi-approves-10bn-credit-line/>)

Land Bill 2012 gives 'Kidu' powers to Cabinet

The Bhutanese, June 8, 2012.

The Land Bill of Bhutan 2012 even before being introduced in the Parliament has already created much controversy. National Land Commission officers accused the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests and the Cabinet of virtually hijacking and rewriting the entire Bill to give ministers power over land administration and

distribution. Some Ministry of Agriculture and Forest officials who drafted the bill passed the buck to the cabinet who they say introduced some of the most sensitive changes in the Bill. Despite requests by this paper for them to come on record officials from both agencies spoke on the condition of anonymity fearing repercussions. One of the major changes is that the cabinet under Section 230 of the new Land Bill 2012 will have the power to grant resettlement land. This is a major change as under Section 71 of the current Land Act 2007 it is only the Druk Gyalpo who can grant resettlement or rehabilitation land. This section says 'Granting of Kidu and rehabilitation land shall be the royal prerogative of the Druk Gyalpo.'

(Source: <http://www.thebhutanese.bt/land-bill-2012-gives-kidu-powers-to-cabinet/>)

Two tribal militants held in lower Assam

Business Standard, June 9, 2012.

Two tribal militants were arrested by security forces from near the Indo-Bhutan border in lower Assam today. In a joint operation the Sashastra Seema Bal SSB and police arrested the duo from Kumarikata area near the Indo-Bhutan border, police said. The youths hail from Tamarhat in neighbouring north Bengal belong to little known Santhal National Liberation, which is active in some parts of lower Assam. Their interrogation is on, the police said.

(Source: <http://www.business-standard.com/generalnews/news/two-tribal-militants-held-in-lower-assam/18915/>)

Mamata to write to PM on Indo-Bhutan joint river panel

IANS, June 9, 2012.

West Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee will write to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, calling for making the Indo-Bhutan Joint River Commission effective. "The Indo-Bhutan Joint River Commission was a brainchild of then union water resources minister Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi. But the commission has now become virtually defunct," state Irrigation Minister Manas Bhuniya told reporters. A large number of rivers flowing through north Bengal and the country's northeastern states originate in Bhutan. "So we need to activate the Indo-Bhutan Joint River Commission to control floods in the north Bengal districts in line with the Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission," Bhuniya said. He said the joint river commission can also play an important role in the preparation of a master plan for controlling floods in north Bengal. "Our chief Minister Mamata Banerjee will write to the prime minister in this regard," he said.

(Source: http://twocircles.net/2012jun08/mamata_write_pm_indobhutan_joint_river_panel.html)

The biggest of all in the pipeline

Business Bhutan, June 9, 2012.

The Kuri-Gongri hydroelectric project will be the biggest hydropower project in the country with an installed capacity to churn out 2,800 Mega Watt (MW) of power, overtaking Sunkosh hydropower project after it was downsized to

2,560MW. The pre-feasibility study on Kuri-Gongri hydroelectric project conducted by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) offered five alternatives to the project's stakeholders – the Department of Hydropower and Power Systems (DHPS), Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC), and Bhutan Power Corporation – to choose from. In the first three alternatives, the NHPC projected the installed capacity of Kuri-Gongri at 2,710MW but with cost variation and other factors.

(Source: <http://www.businessbhutan.bt/?p=9962>)

Bhutan proposes two water routes for transit cargoes

Financial Express, June 13, 2012.

Bhutan has proposed two water routes for transporting transit cargoes and bilateral trade, officials said Monday. Of the two routes, one is Chittagong-Chandpur-Mawa-Aricha-Sirajgonj-Chilmari-Doikhagua, and another is Mongla-Kawkhali-Barisal-Chandpur-Mawa-Aricha-Sirajgonj-Chilmari-Doikhagua. Indian Dhubri port is located opposite to Doikhagua through which Bhutan will receive the transit cargo.

(Source: http://www.thefinancialexpress-bd.com/more.php?news_id=132873&date=2012-06-13)

An almost threefold increase over the last decade

Kuensel, June 14, 2012.

The number of vehicles in the country nearly tripled in the past decade, according to statistics in the annual info-comm and transport statistical bulletin, released by the information and communications ministry, earlier this week. Between 2001-11, a total of 40,180 new vehicles were added to Bhutanese roads, it is stated. In 2011 alone, 9,325 new vehicles were added, taking the grand total to 62,707 vehicles in Bhutan. The years 2011 and 2010 experienced higher vehicle growth rates of 16 percent, as compared to 11 percent in earlier years. Privately owned vehicles number 57,258, while the government owns 5,309, followed by diplomat and BHT vehicles numbering 70 each.

(Source: <http://www.kuenselonline.com/2011/?p=32421>)

Nepal

Interview, There is no alternative to elections: Baburam Bhattarai

The Hindu, June 3, 2012.

Q. Can you tell us what exactly happened on May 27?

A. Contentious issues like citizenship, form of government, and electoral system had got more or less settled. The most important issue was state restructuring. When the negotiations started on May 27, my understanding was that NC and UML would realise that the Madhesis, Janjatis and other oppressed classes and regions would not accept a constitution without federal restructuring on the basis of national or ethnic or linguistic identity. I had hoped they would realise this and at least settle for 10 states based on what we call, national, and they term, ethnic, or linguistic identity. Unfortunately they didn't accept that reality.

(Source : <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/interview/article3486846.ece>)

Will the Maoist party split at last?

Republica, June 6, 2012.

The name of the country's largest political party is Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist), but it might not remain 'unified' for very much longer, going by recent developments. The rift this time is not limited to the party's Central Committee as in the past, but has reached down to the party's lowest organizational structure - the cell committees. Marxism is the guru-mantra keeping the Maoist party united. But this time, the establishment faction led by Maoist Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal and the rebel faction led by Senior Vice-chairman Mohan Baidya differ fundamentally over the interpretation of that basic mantra. The Dahal faction now says that Baidya has interpreted Marxism as religious scripture that can never be changed. Baidya, however, argues that Marxist class struggle is not class coordination and accuses Dahal of deviating from the party's earlier stance.

(Source: http://www.myrepublica.com/portal/index.php?action=news_details&news_id=35999)

PM Bhattarai 'dangerously' moving ahead: CP Gajurel

Republica, June 6, 2012.

UCPN (Maoist) Secretary CP Gajurel said on Wednesday that Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai should be removed from his office immediately as he has been moving ahead in a 'dangerous' way. Speaking at a program organized by Rafat Club in Bhaktapur, Gajurel, a key leader in the dissident Mohan Baidya faction, said the PM's announcement of fresh polls of Constituent Assembly (CA) was an outcome of the influence of foreign powers.

Previously, external powers used to choose the prime minister but under Bhattarai's leadership even ministers have been picked by foreign powers, Gajurel charged. Criticizing the declaration of fresh CA polls, Gajurel said that CA elections on November 22 is not possible. Reacting to Maoist Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal's statement that CA can be reinstated, he flatly ruled out any resurrection of the CA.

(Source: http://www.myrepublica.com/portal/index.php?action=news_details&news_id=36016)

Baidya now agrees to meet Dahal

Republica, June 12, 2012.

Senior Vice-chairman of Maoist party Mohan Baidya, who has been leading a dissident faction in the party, has finally agreed to a request by Maoist Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal for a meeting to discuss contentious issues between them.

Dahal had called Baidya Monday morning to seek an appointment for meeting but Baidya again asked him to create proper atmosphere for talks. Later, politburo meeting close to Baidya faction finalized agenda for talks, according to Khadga Bahadur Bishwakarma. According to him, the main agenda of the meeting would be reviewing the decisions and 'mistakes' made by Dahal. Another agenda will deal with forming a new tactical line of the party and transforming the party.

(Source: http://www.myrepublica.com/portal/index.php?action=news_details&news_id=36255)

Leaders conclude power lust behind statute fiasco

The Himalayan Times, June 12, 2012.

Leaders of various political parties have said the Constituent Assembly (CA) was dissolved without promulgating the new constitution due to the major political parties' power hungry political nature. Speaking at the talk programme organised by Martin Chautari in the capital today, politburo member of the UCPN (Maoist) Lokendra Bista Magar said that promulgating the constitution within May 27 was not made possible as the major political parties centered their activities for government change than writing constitution. Bistamagar, who was also the President of the Committee on State Restructuring of the CA said senior leaders of the political parties never turned up in the meeting of the CA committee though the committee invited them to attend the meeting.

(Source: <http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/fullNews.php?headline=Leaders+conclude+power+lust+behind+statute+fiasco&NewsID=335768>)

Too many splits spoil Madhes cause

Hindustan Times, June 14, 2012.

Splits and parties from Madhes, the Terai region in Nepal along the Indo-Nepal border, are almost synonymous in this Himalayan nation. This week, another Madhesi party witnessed a split. Over a dozen leaders from Madhesi Peoples' Rights Forum (Democratic), the second biggest party in the ruling Maoist-Madhesi government, resigned in the past few days. Accusing chairman Bijay Kumar Gachchadar of being autocratic and making compromises on the Madhesi cause, this disgruntled lot sided with Sarat Singh Bhadari, an expelled leader who announced formation of another outfit this Monday. With the fresh split, the number of parties from Madhes has risen to 18 from the original six that entered Nepal's first Constituent Assembly after a historic election in 2008.

(Source: <http://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/Nepal/Too-many-splits-spoil-Madhes-cause/Article1-871162.aspx>)

Pakistan

Pakistan Fiscal Budget 2012-13

Dawn, May 31, 2012.

The Pakistan People's Party led coalition government marked a new milestone on Friday, June 1, when Finance Minister Dr. Abdul Hafeez Sheikh presented the Federal budget for the next financial year 2012-13 in the National Assembly. This was the first time in Pakistan's history that a democratic government presented its fifth national budget during its tenure. The total budget outlay for 2012-13 has been estimated at Rs3.203 trillion.

Budgetary proposals include the creation of one hundred thousand new jobs in the economy, special measures to address the ensuing energy crisis and the construction of water reservoirs and infrastructure across the country. What these new 'special measures' are will be revealed with Friday's budget speech. Moreover, the government claims that no new tax will be imposed in the budget and relief would be given to the masses, while government employees are also expected to get raises in their salaries.

(Source: <http://dawn.com/2012/05/31/pakistan-budget-fiscal-year-2012-13/>)

As elections approach, govt boosts development spending by a fifth

Express Tribune, June 2, 2012.

Under the Public Sector Development Programme, an amount of Rs350 billion has been set aside for the Federal Development Budget – Rs60 billion or 20% higher than the amount budgeted for the outgoing fiscal year. Meanwhile, an amount of Rs513 billion has been allocated for provincial annual development plans, which is Rs83 billion or 19.3% higher than the development budget for the outgoing financial year. Out of the latter, Punjab will spend Rs206 billion, Sindh Rs188 billion, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Rs78 billion and Balochistan Rs41 billion. The government has also sanctioned Rs10 billion for the Earthquake Rehabilitation Authority, which has reportedly become a ‘permanent concern for the military establishment’. The government has allocated Rs80.4 billion for the Water and Power Development Authority (Wapda) and the National Highway Authority (NHA). The allocation is Rs8 billion – or 11% – higher than this year’s budget. An amount of Rs29.7 billion has been sanctioned for Wapda, against Rs32.5 billion for the current year – a reduction of 8.3% or Rs2.7 billion. The NHA’s budget has been enhanced to Rs50.7 billion – which amounts to an increase of 27% or Rs10.8 billion.

(Source: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/387692/as-elections-approach-govt-boosts-development-spending-by-a-fifth/>)

Al-Qaida No. 2 dies in US drone strike in Pakistan

The State, June 5, 2012.

A U.S. drone strike in northwest Pakistan has killed al-Qaida’s second-in-command, officials from both countries confirmed Tuesday, the most significant victory so far in the controversial bombing campaign and the biggest setback to the terror network since the death of Osama bin Laden. Abu Yahya al-Libi was considered a media-savvy, charismatic leader with religious credentials who was helping preside over the transformation of a secretive group based in Pakistan and Afghanistan into a global movement aimed at winning converts - and potential attackers - from Somalia to the Philippines.

(Source: <http://www.thestate.com/2012/06/05/2304534/al-qaida-no-2-dies-in-us-drone.html>)

Kashmiris fear hydro scheme could leave city high and dry

Alert Net, June 5, 2012.

Residents and environmental experts in Muzaffarabad, Pakistani-administrated Kashmir’s main city, fear the diversion of a major river to generate hydroelectric power will deprive local people of water for drinking and waste disposal, and could alter the region’s climate. The Neelum River gushes down into Muzaffarabad from the Indian-controlled part of the disputed Himalayan territory, running through the middle of the city. It transports away urban sewage discharged into it and provides the inhabitants’ water supply. But Pakistan’s largest hydropower project of recent decades threatens to lower the river level, leaving too little water to deliver those vital services. “How we can live here if this river is reduced to a

stream with sewage abandoned on its bank?" asks Shoukat Nawaz Mir, who owns a three-storey house on the banks of the Neelum River.

(Source: <http://www.trust.org/alertnet/news/kashmir-city-fears-hydro-scheme-to-leave-it-high-and-dry/>)

US to keep up attacks on al Qaeda in Pakistan: Panetta

Express Tribune, June 6, 2012.

Pentagon chief Leon Panetta said Wednesday that the US would continue to attack al Qaeda in Pakistan despite complaints from Islamabad that the drone strikes violate its sovereignty. "We have made it very clear that we are going to continue to defend ourselves," Secretary of Defence Panetta said in India a day after the US announced the killing of al Qaeda's number two Abu Yahya al-Libi. "This is about our sovereignty as well," Panetta added, arguing that al Qaeda militants who orchestrated the September 11 attacks on the United States were in Pakistan's tribal areas.

(Source: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/389656/us-india-must-overcome-pakistan-problems-panetta/>)

Senate session: PPP rejects agriculture tax proposal

Express Tribune, June 7, 2012

The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) rejected a proposal to tax the agriculture sector in fiscal 2012-13, placing itself squarely against not just the opposition Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party, which had tabled the proposal on Monday, but also its own ally Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) who floated the idea first. "Punjab can collect tax on agriculture ... but we will not - at least in Sindh and Balochistan," Ghani said. He also accused the Punjab government of not recovering Rs23 billion that went missing during the last fiscal.

(Source: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/390005/senate-session-ppp-rejects-agriculture-tax-proposal/>)

Boosting ties: Pakistan, China sign agreement, three MoUs

Express Tribune, June 7, 2012.

Pakistan and China signed three memoranda of understanding and an agreement on Wednesday as President Asif Ali Zardari attended the 12th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Beijing. The MoUs encompass the supply of water from Tarbela to Islamabad, the establishment of a special economic zone in Zulfikarabad and the building of 6,000 apartments in I-15 sector on private public partnership basis, as well as an agreement for the de-silting of canals and barrages in Sindh.

(Source: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/390037/boosting-ties-pakistan-china-sign-agreement-three-mous/>)

Clinton backs drones after Qaeda death

lol News, June 7, 2012.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Thursday implicitly defended

Washington's use of drone strikes to kill suspected militants, just days after one of the aircraft killed one of al Qaeda's most powerful figures in Pakistan. The killing of Libyan-born Abu Yahya al-Libi has fuelled an increasingly fierce debate about the legality and morality of the drones, which have become one of the chief US weapons against al Qaeda but which opponents say stretch the definition of the legitimate use of lethal force. The strikes by the remotely piloted unmanned craft have also angered Pakistan's government and contributed to unrelenting tension between Washington and Islamabad, which says they kill civilians and violate its sovereignty.

(Source: <http://www.iol.co.za/news/world/clinton-backs-drones-after-qaeda-death-1.1314128#.T9HpYbDkDp8>)

Diamer-Bhasha Dam ADB mission satisfied with on-site social, engineering work

The News, June 9, 2012.

In a positive and remarkable development, a three-member review team of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) that is to give Pakistan \$5 billion for the most strategic Diamer-Bhasha dam visited the project site and appreciated on-ground engineering and social work being done by Wapda, a senior official in the Ministry of Water and Power told The News. The United States has also intimated that it would give \$1 billion for the dam in five years – \$200 million each year, the official said. To a question, he said, the US agreement to give \$1 billion would pave the way for major international financial institutions to provide more funding for the project.

(Source: <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-2-113368-Diamer-Bhasha-Dam-ADB-mission-satisfied-with-on-site-social-engineering-work>)

Budget: Energy crisis claims 330,000 jobs in Punjab

Express Tribune, June 10, 2012.

In the summary on the budget, it is claimed that more than 1,300 small to medium sized industrial units have been forced to shut down because of the energy crisis. Terming Punjab as the province mainly hit by load-shedding, the budget document said that Punjab in particular, continued to face disproportionately high load-shedding of electricity and gas in 2011-12 which besides creating operational problems for the existing industries and business in the province, discouraged new private investments and impeded the process of employment generation. It said that according to the findings of a study – Medium Term Fiscal Framework, cost of load shedding to the province in terms of losses and higher costs of industrial production are as large as Rs250 billion which is equal to 3% of gross domestic product.

(Source: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/391471/budget-energy-crisis-claims-330000-jobs-in-punjab/>)

Pakistan and India in new talks over Siachen standoff

The National, June 11, 2012.

Pakistan and India will begin a fresh round of talks to discuss demilitarisation of a

border area where a massive avalanche in April killed 126 Pakistani soldiers and 11 civilians, prompting the Pakistan army to call for a quick settlement. Pakistan's army chief General Ashfaq Kayani called for the demilitarisation of Siachen after the avalanche wiped out an entire military base on April 7. Defence secretaries of the two countries will meet behind closed doors in Islamabad for two days to discuss the region. "This is not a difficult issue. All they need is the political will and flexibility to resolve it," said Talat Masood, a retired Pakistani general.

(Source: <http://www.thenational.ae/news/world/south-asia/pakistan-and-india-in-new-talks-over-siachen-standoff>)

Rs577 billion allocated for Sindh budget 2012-2013

Express Tribune, June 11, 2012.

The Government of Sindh will unveil a Rs577 billion budget for the fiscal year 2012-13, a copy of the budget obtained by Express News revealed on Monday. Provincial Finance Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah will announce the budget. Entailing a capital of Rs570 billion and a deficit of Rs7 billion, the budget has allocated Rs20 billion for local governments which neither been restored nor dissolved under the Sindh Assembly Act. An amount of Rs12 billion has been allocated for the health sector, while Rs9 billion will be spent on education. Rs35 billion has been reserved for foreign projects, while Rs14 billion has been allocated for the projects funded by the federal government.

The budget has shown a growth of 40%, breaking the record of all the previous budgets. Several announcements are also expected to be made in the budget, including the announcement of 40,000 jobs for the unemployed.

(Source: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/392021/rs577-billion-allocated-for-sindh-budget-2012-2013/>)

Budget: Balochistan allocates Rs172 billion for 2012-13

Express Tribune, June 11, 2012.

Finance Minister Asim Kurd, who announced the budget on Monday, said that the province did not take any foreign loans in the past four years. He added that when the provincial government came into power, the government had an overdraft of Rs19 billion, but there is no overdraft anymore. The income of the province was Rs3 billion in 2009, which has now increased to over Rs5 billion, Kurd added.

(Source: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/392026/budget-balochistan-allocates-rs172-billion-for-2012-13/>)

Post-budget press conference: 'Budget for welfare of poor, youth and women'

Express Tribune, June 11, 2012.

They said that the budget included special packages for agriculture and social welfare. They said that Rs34 billion had been allocated for removing the economic problems of lower income classes, which amounted to a record subsidy for the poor. They said they were confident the budget would usher in real and sustainable

development. Khosa and Rehman said that the budget reflected the people-friendly policies of the PML-Nawaz. They said that the budget was drawn up by public representatives, not bureaucrats. The government began consulting assembly members on the budget in February and Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif monitored the entire process. Many experts were also consulted.

(Source : <http://tribune.com.pk/story/391755/post-budget-press-conference-budget-for-welfare-of-poor-youth-and-women/>)

Commission's report says Haqqani behind controversial memo

Dawn, June 12, 2012.

The memo commission's report submitted in the Supreme Court stated that Pakistan's former ambassador to the US, Husain Haqqani, was not loyal to the country and that the memo seeking US support was indeed real and authored by Haqqani, DawnNews reported. A nine-member larger bench of the Supreme Court was on Tuesday hearing constitutional petitions about the controversial memo delivered to former US military chief Admiral Mike Mullen reportedly by Haqqani. The bench, headed by the chief justice, comprised Justices Mian Shakirullah Jan, Jawwad S. Khawaja, Khilji Arif Hussain, Tariq Parvez, Asif Saeed Khan Khosa, Amir Hani Muslim, Ijaz Ahmed Chaudhry and Azmat Saeed.

(Source: <http://dawn.com/2012/06/12/sc-takes-up-memo-case/>)

Pakistan not 'gouging' over NATO's Afghan routes: Khar

Express Tribune, June 13, 2012

Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar said on Tuesday difficult talks with the United States to repair frayed ties and re-open Nato supply routes to Afghanistan were not being thwarted by a Pakistani demand for high tariffs on the supplies. Pakistan cut the routes for Nato supplies in November last year to protest against the death of 24 Pakistani soldiers killed in cross-border fire from Nato aircraft. The supply lines for goods shipped in to the Pakistani port of Karachi and trucked in to landlocked Afghanistan have been vital for US-led forces over their more than 10-year involvement in Afghanistan.

(Source: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/393046/nato-says-still-hopes-for-pakistan-transit-agreement/>)

Hafiz Saeed still using Pakistan for 'hate India' campaign: SM Krishna

Express Tribune, June 14, 2012

Indian Minister for External Affairs SM Krishna, referring to the Pakistan-India peace process, said Hafiz Saeed was still using the country for a 'hate India' campaign, adding that to normalise relations, Pakistan has to help "checkmate" terrorists groups, the Associated Press reported on Thursday. Krishna said that the leadership of Pakistan had assured India that the former's territory was not going to be used for 'anti-India' activities, but it was apparent from watching Pakistani television that Jamaatud Dawa (JuD) founder Hafiz Saeed was still free.

(Source: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/393599/hafiz-saeed-still-using-pakistan-for-hate-india-campaign-sm-krishna/>)