

aDaily Excelsior, 3 November 2008

### **194 civilians exchangesides at Chakan-Da-Bagh**

JAMMU, Nov 3: As many as 194 civilians today crossed Line of Control (LoC) from Chakan-Da-Bagh in Poonch district in weekly Poonch-Rawlakote bus service. While 116 civilians were on board Poonch-Rawlakote bus service, 78 civilians travelled to this side from Rawlakote in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK). Out of 116 civilians, who went to PoK from this part of the State after crossing Chakan-Da-Bagh weekly cross-LoC point, 53 were first timers who left Poonch for PoK to meet their divided family members and relatives

Dawn, 3 November 2008

### **Trilateral mechanism soon on IPI project**

NEW DELHI, Nov 2: Indian External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee and Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Hossein Nozari met in Tehran on Sunday and decided to set up a trilateral mechanism at petroleum ministers' level to resolve various issues relating to the Iran-Pakistan-India gas pipeline project. Speaking at a meeting of the India-Iran Joint Commission, Mr Mukherjee said: 'We have reiterated to the Iranian government at all levels that India remains committed to the IPI project. We are working with Pakistan to resolve outstanding issues pertaining to transit and transportation tariff. With the cooperation of all three sides, it should be possible to finalise the project.'

Hindu, 3 November 2008

### **Nuclear deal not at the cost of pipeline: Pranab**

Tehran: India said on Sunday that the India-U.S. civil nuclear deal was not at the cost of the Iran-Pakistan-India gas pipeline. 'Nuclear power is one source of energy. The other important source is the Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline. One is not exclusive to the other,' External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee said at a joint press conference with Iranian Economic Minister Shamseddin Hossein. They were interacting with reporters at the conclusion of the two-day Joint Commission Meeting of the two countries

Daily Excelsior, 5 November 2008

### **India, Pak clash on Kashmir in UN panel**

UNITED NATIONS, Nov 4: India and Pakistan clashed in a key United Nations committee with New Delhi firmly telling Islamabad that its advocacy for "self-determination" for people of Jammu and Kashmir is "unacceptable" and constitutes "clear interference" in the country's internal affairs. The people of the State, India emphasised, have already exercised the right by participating repeatedly in free and fair elections and raking up of the issue by Pakistan was "unwarranted"

Hindu, 9 November 2008

### **Kashmir is a bilateral issue: Pranab**

Kolkata: External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee has said that Kashmir was a bilateral issue and India was trying to resolve matters through series of discussions. Responding to media queries on tax breaks promised by U.S. President-elect Barack Obama or the stand likely to be taken by him on Kashmir, he said : 'While I cannot comment on the tax issues relating to Mr. Obama, as and where in respect of Kashmir, I can say that this is a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan and we are trying to resolve this under the Shimla Accord and the Lahore agreement, through a series of discussions.'

Tribune, 16 November 2008

### **For them, poll a hope to unite with their families**

Kerni (Poonch), November 15 Till a few years ago, the residents here refused to publicly admit family linkages in Pakistan across the Line of Control (LoC) simply to avoid being put on the 'suspect' list of the security forces. Today, every other person is rattling out their list of relatives they have not seen since India and Pakistan were partitioned because these people remained in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK). Now, the objective is common - to tell candidates that they will only get votes if they promise to help unite separated families

Dawn, 16 November 2008

### **Gilani urges China, India to utilise Karachi port**

KARACHI, Nov 15: Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani has said that Pakistani ports could cater for the needs of India's northern and northwestern states and also China's Xinjiang province because of proximity. After inaugurating the third expansion phase of Karachi International Container Terminal (KICT) here on Saturday, the prime minister said that during pre-partition era, Karachi port used to handle a large part of cargo meant for present-day India's western province, hoping that the same could be done now

Hindu, 20 November 2008

### **Bangladeshi national arrested on suspicion of spying for Pakistan's ISI**

KOLKATA: A Bangladeshi national, Abdul Kasem, suspected to be a spy working for the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), who had been eluding the police for more than five years, was arrested from the New Market area here on Wednesday. Mr. Kasem, who was known by different names, fled from the Mekliganj court compound in West Bengal's Cooch Behar district, while in judicial custody in June 2003 after he had been charged under the Official Secrets Act, Deputy Commissioner, Detective Department (I) of the city police, Javed Shamim said

Tribune, 20 November 2008

### **Phase-I polls over, cross-LoC bus resumes**

One hundred thirty eight people today crossed the LoC as the Poonch-Rawlakote trans-border bus service resumed after it was put off for a day due to first phase of Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. The weekly movement of cross-LoC bus service which takes place every Monday was put off for a day due to polling in Poonch district. While about 91 people crossed Chakan-da-Bagh LoC point from India to Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK), 47 others crossed it from PoK to Jammu and Kashmir to meet their relatives, official sources said

Times of India, 22 November 2008

### **India strongly objects to Pakistan comments on J&K polls**

NEW DELH: India on Friday reacted sharply to certain comments by Pakistan on the Jammu and Kashmir polls, saying it indicates Islamabad is not interested in playing a responsible role in the region which it should in its own interest. ( Watch ) External Affairs Ministry spokesman Vishnu Prakash termed as most unfortunate the comments by Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman Muhammad Sadiq that polls in Jammu and Kashmir do not reflect authentic expression of aspirations of the people of the state

Times of India, 22 November 2008

### **India strongly objects to Pakistan comments on J&K polls**

NEW DELH: India on Friday reacted sharply to certain comments by Pakistan on the Jammu and Kashmir polls, saying it indicates Islamabad is not interested in playing a

'responsible role' in the region which it should in its 'own interest'. ( Watch ) External Affairs Ministry spokesman Vishnu Prakash termed as 'most unfortunate' the comments by Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman Muhammad Sadiq that polls in Jammu and Kashmir do not reflect 'authentic' expression of aspirations of the people of the state

Daily Times, 23 November 2008

### **Zardari proposes nuclear-free S Asia**

NEW DELHI: Pakistan is in a position to turn South Asia into a nuclear weapon-free zone, President Asif Ali Zardari said on Saturday. Addressing the Hindustan Times Summit 2008 through video-conferencing from Islamabad, Zardari asked, 'I can get around my parliament to this view, but can you get around the Indian parliament to this view.' Asserting he was against the use of nuclear weapons and that Pakistan would not use them first, the president said, 'We do not hope to get into any position where nuclear weapons have any use.'

Hindu, 25 November 2008

### **India may share Samjhauta probe details with Pakistan**

ISLAMABAD: India may share with Pakistan, at talks between the Home Secretaries on Tuesday, the latest developments in its investigations into the February 2007 Samjhauta Express fire bombing. Home Secretary Madhukar Gupta arrived here on Monday for the talks that are part of the eight-subject composite dialogue process. The Home Secretaries deal with security issues including terrorism, drug trafficking and fake currency notes, issues relating to prisoners from the two countries in each other's jails, and visa regulations

Indian Express, 25 November 2008

### **Opinion: Too quiet on the western front By C Rajamohan**

India is not a stranger to American diplomatic activism on Jammu and Kashmir. Over the last six decades, New Delhi has fobbed off many previous American initiatives on Kashmir. In the end, the Obama administration's policy on Kashmir might be a lot less consequential than what New Delhi could do on its own with Pakistan. That brings us to the question whether the Congress Party has the political courage to take forward the peace process with Pakistan launched by the BJP-led Government under leadership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Or should we conclude that big breakthroughs with Pakistan must await the return of the BJP to power in New Delhi?

Dawn, 26 November 2008

### **Accord with India to fight terror together: FIA, CBI to work in concert; visa regime to be liberalised**

ISLAMABAD, Nov 25: Pakistan and India on Tuesday agreed to boost cooperation between their civilian investigation agencies to control cross-border terrorism, illegal immigration, influx of fake currency and liberalise the visa regime under a joint anti-terrorism mechanism. Officials of the interior ministry said the decisions were taken during the composite dialogue, which reviewed proposals by President Asif Ali Zardari for a treaty to make South Asia a non-nuclear region and an economic hub

News, 26 November 2008

### **Opinion: An Indian in every Pakistani? By Shireen M Mazari**

So when President Zardari offers a "no-first use" (NFU) of nuclear weapons to India, there is a design behind it a US design. The problem is we have short memories and have forgotten that India has actually reneged on its limited NFU declaration it had made earlier in its overt nuclear life! When India declared its strategic doctrine and

stated its intent of using nuclear strikes against any WMD threat from anywhere, it effectively adopted a "first use" doctrine similar to that of the US. As for Pakistan, given our limited conventional capability, we cannot afford to remove the ambivalence we are maintaining regarding NFU. In this we are no different from the much mightier NATO. Is it not time for our security managers and strategists to inform the president that one does not bandy about NFU offers whimsically or because one hates the idea of nuclear weapons. No one loves nukes and no one loves war apart from Mr Bush and the neocons but there are realities that need to be considered; and one does not bandy about strategic doctrines simply as appeasement tools. Our declared posture of nuclear weapons as weapons of last resort and a deliberate ambivalence on NFU must not be compromised

Hindu, 28 November 2008

### **Three Lashkar fidayeen captured**

MUMBAI: Maharashtra Police investigators say they have evidence that operatives of the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba carried out the fidayeen-squad attacks in Mumbai - a charge which, if proven, could have far-reaching consequences for India-Pakistan relations. Police sources said an injured terrorist captured during the fighting at the Taj Mahal hotel was tentatively identified as Ajmal Amir Kamal, a resident of Faridkot, near Multan, in Pakistan's Punjab province.

Hindu, 29 November 2008

### **Decision to send ISI chief to India draws flak**

ISLAMABAD: The decision by the Pakistan People's Party-led government to send the Director-General, Inter-Services Intelligence, to India has drawn flak from Opposition parties, which dubbed it as 'hasty' and tantamount to an 'admission of guilt.' Only the rare voice has come out in support of the decision, which is being more widely perceived as an affront to established diplomatic procedures between two countries

News, 30 November 2008

### **Pak troops to move to Indian border if tensions escalate**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan would divert troops to its border with India and away from fighting militants on the Afghan frontier, if tensions erupt in the wake of the attacks on Mumbai, a senior Pakistani security official said on Saturday. The next two days would prove crucial to relations between the nuclear-armed rivals, a second official said, after India blamed 'elements' from Pakistan for the coordinated assault on its financial capital. 'If something happens on that front, the war on terror won't be our priority,' the senior security officer told journalists at

News, 30 November 2008

### **Rice call prompted hasty decision to send DG ISI**

ISLAMABAD: US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's not much publicised telephone call to President Asif Ali Zardari on Thursday evening is understood to have led to the government's hasty announcement on Friday to send the head of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) to New Delhi to help in the probe into the Mumbai terrorist attacks for which the Indian government pointedly blamed Pakistan