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## PRESS COVERAGE

**Two-Day International Conference (14-15 November 2017)  
Regional Dynamics and Strategic Concerns in South Asia  
November 14, 2017**

### International

# FIRSTPOST.

**Pakistan says India is trying to sabotage CPEC project through intelligence agency RAW**

[India](#) PTI Nov, 14 2017 19:07:27 IST

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**Islamabad:** India is trying to sabotage the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project through its intelligence agency RAW, a senior Pakistani military officer said on Tuesday.



"RAW has established a special cell at a cost of \$500 million to sabotage the CPEC," *Geo News* quoted General Zubair Mehmood Hayat, Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (CJCSC), as saying here.

He was addressing a two-day conference on regional dynamics and strategic concerns in South Asia. Pakistani leaders routinely make charges of RAW involvement in their country.

The general said India was perpetrating terrorism in Pakistan through Taliban and Baloch separatists. "By doing so, India was playing with fire... India is stoking chaos and anarchy in the region."

In his address, the General stressed the need to resolve the Kashmir dispute. "Kashmir issue is the harbinger of a nuclear war in the region."

Pakistan's former High Commissioner to India Abdul Basit also said peace in the region was not possible unless the Kashmir issue was resolved. India, he alleged, was pushing the region towards instability, *Geo News* reported.

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## FINANCIAL EXPRESS

Business News

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### **India sabotaging CPEC through special intelligence cell: Pakistan's top Army General Zubair Mehmood Hayat**

Addressing a two-day conference here, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mehmood Hayat said that Pakistan is not "oblivious to its defence".

By: [PTI](#) | Islamabad | Published: November 14, 2017 9:01 PM



Pakistan's top Army General today alleged that India has established a special intelligence cell at a cost of USD 500 million to sabotage the strategic China- Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). (Reuters)

Pakistan's top Army General today alleged that India has established a special intelligence cell at a cost of USD 500 million to sabotage the strategic China- Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC),

according to a media report. Addressing a two-day conference here, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mehmood Hayat said that Pakistan is not “oblivious to its defence”. He accused India of stoking “chaos and anarchy” in the region, Pakistan’s state-run APP news agency reported. He alleged that Indian’s external intelligence agency RAW has established a special cell at a cost of USD 500 million to sabotage the CPEC. He also accused India of fanning terrorism in the restive province of Balochistan.

General Hayat said Pakistan will maintain minimum nuclear deterrence in the context of current regional situation. He said resolution of long standing Kashmir dispute is vital for durable peace in the region, the APP said. The nearly USD 60 billion CPEC, a flagship project of China’s prestigious One Belt One Road (OBOR), passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The CPEC links China’s restive Xinjiang region with Pakistan’s Balochistan province.



## Top Pak Army man says India sabotaging CPEC

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN | Nov 14, 2017, 21:12 IST



ISLAMABAD: One of Pakistan's top ranking Army officer blamed the Indian intelligence agency, Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), for sabotaging the multi-billion dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

General Zubair Mehmud Hayat, chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (CJCSC), said this on Tuesday while addressing a two-day conference on regional dynamics and strategic concerns in South Asia organised by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI). "India is stoking chaos and anarchy in the region. RAW has established a special cell at a cost of \$500 million to sabotage the CPEC," the CJCSC said.

Claiming that Islamabad will maintain a minimum nuclear deterrence in the context of the current regional situation, Gen Hayat said New Delhi was fanning terrorism in Pakistan through Taliban, Baloch separatists and RAW. By doing so, the General said, India was playing with fire and peace in South Asia.

Hayat also said India had become an extremist country from being a secular one.

"India's atrocities in Kashmir and attitude towards Pakistan was due to its extremist policies," he said. The General claimed that India has violated ceasefire more than 1,200 times, thereby continuing its years-old war against Pakistan. "These moves of India can result in a major war at any time," he said.

Moving on to Kashmir, he said a solution was vital for durable peace in the region. "The path to better relations with India passes through Kashmir, there is no bypass," he said and added that Kashmir issue was the harbinger of a nuclear war in the region.



## India wants to sabotage CPEC: Pakistan

— By IANS | Nov 14, 2017 06:24 pm



Islamabad: India is trying to sabotage the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project through its intelligence agency RAW, a senior Pakistani military officer said on Tuesday. "RAW has established a special cell at a cost of \$500 million to sabotage the CPEC," Geo News quoted General Zubair Mehmood Hayat, Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (CJCSC), as saying here.

He was addressing a two-day conference on regional dynamics and strategic concerns in South Asia. Pakistani leaders routinely make charges of RAW involvement in their country.

The General said India was perpetrating terrorism in Pakistan through Taliban and Baloch separatists. "By doing so, India was playing with fire... India is stoking chaos and anarchy in the region."

In his address, the General stressed the need to resolve the Kashmir dispute. "Kashmir issue is the harbinger of a nuclear war in the region."

Pakistan's former High Commissioner to India Abdul Basit also said peace in the region was not possible unless the Kashmir issue was resolved. India, he alleged, was pushing the region towards instability, Geo News reported.



## **India sabotaging CPEC through special intelligence cell**

Pakistan's top Army General today alleged that India has established a special intelligence cell at a cost of USD 500 million to sabotage the strategic China- Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), according to a media report.

Addressing a two-day conference here, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mehmood Hayat said that Pakistan is not "oblivious to its defence".

He accused India of stoking "chaos and anarchy" in the region, Pakistan's state-run APP news agency reported.

He alleged that Indian's external intelligence agency RAW has established a special cell at a cost of USD 500 million to sabotage the CPEC. He also accused India of fanning terrorism in the restive province of Balochistan.

General Hayat said Pakistan will maintain minimum nuclear deterrence in the context of current regional situation.

He said resolution of long standing Kashmir dispute is vital for durable peace in the region, the APP said.

The nearly USD 60 billion CPEC, a flagship project of China's prestigious One Belt One Road (OBOR), passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

The CPEC links China's restive Xinjiang region with Pakistan's Balochistan province.



## DAWN

### 'RAW running \$500 million cell to sabotage CPEC,' says Gen Zubair Hayat

[Dawn.com](http://Dawn.com) November 14, 2017



Chairman Joint Chiefs of the Staff Committee, Gen Zubair Mahmood Hayat — *DawnNews*

The Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, Gen Zubair Mahmood Hayat, on Tuesday alleged that India's Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) had established a cell in 2015 dedicated to sabotaging China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects in Pakistan.

While addressing a seminar in Islamabad, Gen Hayat revealed that: "RAW established a new cell with a special allocation of over \$500 million in 2015 to sabotage CPEC projects [in Pakistan]."

"India's indirect interference in Pakistan is manifested in sponsoring Tehreek-i-Taliban-Pakistan, Baloch and other sub-nationalist outfits and many other terrorist groups," he added.

"India has set up a Balochistan operational cell under RAW to devise a radical force for subversion and terrorist activities in the province," Gen Hayat further revealed, adding that the arrest of Kulbushan Jadhav from Balochistan had been the "proverbial smoking gun" in the matter.

Speaking about India's growing aggression toward's Pakistan, he said: "I believe India continues to engage Pakistan through an asymmetric strategy and ploys."

He added: "It is even making an endeavour to subsume conventional methods, such as surgical strikes — phantom or otherwise — into the realm of sub-conventional war."

"Add to this India's growing [military] force and 80 per cent Pakistan-centric force potential — India is playing with fire," Gen Zubair concluded.

Talking about establishing lasting peace in South Asia, Gen Hayat said that the road to peace in the region leads through Kashmir and that bypassing the issue will only hinder the peace process.

# THE EXPRESS TRIBUNE

## **India spending \$500 million to sabotage CPEC: Gen Zubair**

By News Desk

Published: November 14, 2017



Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mahmood Hayat. PHOTO: AFP / FILE

Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJSC) General Zubair Mehmood Hayat said on Tuesday that India was aiming to sabotage the multi-billion dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project through its premier intelligence agency RAW.

“RAW has established a special cell at a cost of \$500 million to sabotage the CPEC,” the CJSC said while addressing a two-day conference in Islamabad. “India is stoking chaos and anarchy in the region.”

Claiming that Islamabad will maintain a minimum nuclear deterrence in the context of current regional situation, General Zubair said New Delhi is also fanning terrorism in Balochistan.

During his address, the CJSC stressed the need to resolve the longstanding Kashmir dispute which, he said, was vital for durable peace in the region. “Kashmir issue is the harbinger of a nuclear war in the region,” he said.

# The Nation

## Enduring peace only possible through resolution of Kashmir issue: Gen Zubair Hayat

3:10 PM, November 14, 2017



### APP

Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) General Zubair Mahmood Hayat here today said enduring peace could be achieved in South Asia only through resolution of Kashmir dispute. He was speaking at an international conference on the topic of “Regional Dynamics and Strategic Concerns in South Asia” organized by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) in collaboration with Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF).

He said South Asian region was defined by the volatile nature of Pakistan-India relations.

The resolution of Kashmir issue was important to reduce any chances of strategic miscalculations, he noted.

Gen Zubair said in Asia, future prospects of global peace and prosperity would be determined, adding United States and China had a central role to play in influencing geo-strategic direction of the region.

He said global powers had an interest in the region due to their grand designs, adding South Asian region had the lowest rank on the human development index.

He pointed that collective narratives were being used to influence state behavior.

He said Afghanistan was important for regional connectivity and a gateway to Central Asia. Instability in Afghanistan hampered the path to regional economic integration, he stated.



He said the reasons for instability in Afghanistan were violence, ethnic divisions, weak governance, warlordism and drug trafficking.

Pakistan will remain friendly to Afghanistan, he said adding conflict in Afghanistan affected Pakistan, which sought a just and enduring closure on Afghanistan issue.

Talking about India, Gen Zubair said India was committing atrocities in occupied Kashmir and had a belligerent attitude towards Pakistan.

India continued to suppress Kashmir's indigenous freedom movement through use of brute force, human rights violations, rape and torture.

He said 7,700 Kashmiris had partially lost their eyesight because of use of pellet guns.

Only in the year 2017, India committed 1200 ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (Loc), the highest in the last ten years, he told.

President IPRI ambassador Abdul Basit said the primary objective of Pakistan's foreign policy was to have peace in the region and beyond.

"We cannot fully undertake our economic agenda without peace in the region."

He said Pakistan and Afghanistan should stop mutual recriminations and serious efforts should be made for moving forward the process of reconciliation.

Abdul Basit said Pakistan wanted to have normal relations with its neighbours.

"We want to hold dialogue with India on all outstanding issues including Jammu and Kashmir." As a responsible nuclear state, Pakistan was not interested in an arms race in the region, he stated.

In his remarks, Charge d affaires of Germany embassy Dr Jens Jokisch said confrontation could be avoided through mutual engagement.

He said tensions could be resolved through constant dialogue, adding South Asian region needed confidence building measures and "we have to create a win win situation for all."

# Pakistan OBSERVER

## RAW spending \$500m to sabotage CPEC: Gen Zubair



India fanning terror in Balochistan  
Zahid Chaudhary  
Islamabad

Indian intelligence agency RAW has established a special cell at a cost of \$ 500 million to sabotage multi billion dollars China Pakistan Economic Corridor Project, said Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCS) General Zubair Mehmood Hayat on Tuesday while addressing a two-day conference in Islamabad. “India is stoking chaos and anarchy in the region, he said adding New Delhi is also fanning terror in Balochistan. He said Pakistan will maintain a minimum nuclear deterrence in the context of current regional situation.

He said the path to better relations with India pass through Kashmir, there is no bypass. However, he added, India was perpetrating terrorism in Pakistan through Taliban, Baloch separatists and RAW. By doing so, India was playing with fire and the peace of South Asia, the general said.

The CJSCS said political and strategic differences have been causing conflict in South Asia, and India was fostering the conflict. He added India was doing so by, for instance, making claims such as those of the ‘surgical strike’.

General Zubair said, India has become an extremist country from being a secular one, an

example of which lay in the atrocities in occupied-Kashmir and attitude towards Pakistan. There is one soldier for 20 Kashmiris. 94,000 Kashmiris have been martyred while more than 7,700 have lost their eyesight, he added.

The general said India so far martyred 1,000 Pakistani citizens and 300 soldiers. He said India has violated the ceasefire for more than 1,200 times, thereby, continuing its years-old war against Pakistan.

“These moves of India can result in a major war at any time,” General Zubair said. While speaking about Afghanistan, General Zubair said the country is a gateway to central Asia, which is why instability there is perilous for the entire region.

However, he added, factors such as weak governance and a flawed reconciliation process are some of the causes of instability in Afghanistan. At the same time havens of terrorists on Afghan soil were also a matter of grave concern. “It is Pakistan that is paying a high price for instability in Afghanistan,” he added.

Nevertheless, Pakistan wishes for lasting peace in Afghanistan, the CJCS said. Therefore, in view of the circumstances, Pakistan will keep minimum nuclear deterrence, he added.

## INTERNATIONAL **THE NEWS**

### **Path to peace between Pakistan, India passes through Kashmir: Gen Zubair**

**ISLAMABAD: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mahmood Hayat on Tuesday said Kashmir issues still remains a flash point for a nuclear war between Pakistan and India.**

Speaking at an international Conference, the CJCS said the path to relations between Islamabad and New Delhi passes through Kashmir. “There is no bypass,” said he. Criticizing India's international ambitions, the general said New Delhi policies are becoming a cause of instability in South Asia.

He stressed the need to take into consideration strategic, economic and political affairs of South Asia. He said the political and strategic issues in South Asia were intensifying disputes in the region, adding Pakistan would maintain strategic balance and equilibrium in the field of conventional weapons because imbalance always gives birth to disputes.

He said the struggle to become guarantor of peace in the region holds strategic significance. Commenting on the situation in Afghanistan, he said the war stricken country was an important region between South Asia and Central Asia. He said Islamabad supports a peaceful Afghanistan.

He said South Asia is being destabilized through non-state elements whole and instability in Afghanistan was harmful for the region.

Pointing towards weak governance in Afghanistan and fragile peace process in the country, he said Pakistan was paying a heavy price for instability in Afghanistan.

Highlighting Kashmir issue, he said lasting peace was not possible in South Asia without resolving the issue of Kashmir. “Pakistan wants resolution of Kashmir and Afghan issues. We want similar progress on all the issues”.

He said Pakistan was aware of its responsibilities without ignoring its defence. “Pakistan will maintain minimum nuclear capability considering the circumstances”.

Commenting on rapidly growing extremism in India, General Zubair said India has turned into extremist state. He said India continues its sub conventional war against Pakistan and New Delhi’s Surgical strike mantra was an important example in this regard.

The Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee said India has committed over 1200 ceasefire violations in which 1000 Pakistani civilians and 300 soldiers lost their lives. “This Indian behavior can turn into a big war,” he warned.

He also accused India of carrying out terror activities in Pakistan through Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan and Baloch separatists. He said Indian conspiracies against CPEC were also no secret , adding that New Delhi has allocated 500 million dollars to sabotage the CPEC.

He said India was rapidly increasing its missile defence technology, nuclear weapons and conventional weapons. He said India is also diverting Pakistan’s share of its waters. “India is playing with fire and peace of South Asia,” Geo News quoted him as saying.



## **RAW has allocated \$500 million to sabotage CPEC: Gen Zubair**



CJSC General Zubair Hayat - screen grab

ISLAMABAD: The path to better relations with India pass through Kashmir, there is no bypass, Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (JCSC) General Zubair Mehmood Hayat said on Tuesday.

However, he added, India was perpetrating terrorism in Pakistan through Taliban, Baloch separatists and RAW.

By doing so, India was playing with fire and the peace of South Asia, the general said further.

General Zubair was addressing a two-day international conference on regional dynamics and strategic concerns in South Asia organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute at Serena Hotel.

He also shared with the participants that the Indian intelligence agency, RAW, has allocated \$500 million to carry out sabotage activities against the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

The CJSCS said political and strategic differences have been causing conflict in South Asia, and India was fostering the issue. He added India was doing so by, for instance, making claims such as those of the 'surgical strike'.



Moreover, he said, India has become an extremist country from being a secular one, an example of which lied in the atrocities in held-Kashmir and attitude towards Pakistan.

There is one soldier for 20 Kashmiris – 94,000 Kashmiris have been martyred while more than 7,700 have lost their eyesight, he added.

The general said India so far martyred 1,000 Pakistani citizens and 300 soldiers. He said India has violated the ceasefire for more than 1,200 times, thereby, continuing its years-old war against Pakistan.

"These moves of India can result in a major war at any time," General Zubair said. While speaking about Afghanistan, General Zubair said the country is a gateway to Asia, which is why instability there is perilous for the entire region.

However, he added, factors such as weak governance and a flawed reconciliation process are some of the causes of instability in Afghanistan.

Moreover, he said, havens of terrorists on Afghan soil were also a matter of grave concern. "It is Pakistan that is paying a high price for instability in Afghanistan," he added.

Nevertheless, Pakistan wishes for lasting peace in Afghanistan, the CJCS said. Therefore, in view of the circumstances, Pakistan will keep minimum nuclear deterrence, he added.

### **Pakistan wants to hold talks with India: Abdul Basit**

Earlier, while giving the opening speech, Islamabad Policy Research Institute chief Abdul Basit said Pakistan is determined to restore peace in Afghanistan, but both the countries should bolster the process.

Basit has also served as Pakistan's high commissioner to India. However, Basit too believes peace in the region is not possible unless the Kashmir issue is resolved.

He said Pakistan wants to hold talks with India, but that requires the latter country to come to the table.

Until then, he added, India is pushing the region towards instability.



## **RAW aims to sabotage CPEC with \$500 million cell: General Zubair**

November 14, 2017  
By: [Samaa Web Desk](#)

**ISLAMABAD: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mehmood Hayat says Pakistan is not oblivious to its defense.**

Addressing a two day conference in Islamabad on Tuesday, he said India is stoking chaos and anarchy in the region.

He said Indian intelligence agency RAW has established a special cell at a cost of 500 million dollars to sabotage the China Pakistan Economic Corridor. He said India is also fanning terrorism in Balochistan.

The Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee said that Pakistan will maintain minimum nuclear deterrence in the context of current regional situation.

He said resolution of long standing Kashmir dispute is vital for durable peace in the region. – APP



## Peace without Kashmir impossible: Gen Zubair Hayat

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Last Updated On 14 November,2017 06:42 pm



Hayat said South Asian region was defined by the volatile nature of Pakistan-India relations.

ISLAMABAD: (APP):Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) General Zubair Mahmood Hayat here Tuesday said enduring peace could be achieved in South Asia only through resolution of Kashmir dispute.

He was speaking at an international conference on the topic of “Regional Dynamics and Strategic Concerns in South Asia” organized by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) in collaboration with Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF).

He said South Asian region was defined by the volatile nature of Pakistan-India relations. The resolution of Kashmir issue was important to reduce any chances of strategic miscalculations, he noted.

Gen Zubair said in Asia, future prospects of global peace and prosperity would be determined, adding United States and China had a central role to play in influencing geo-strategic direction of the region.

He said global powers had an interest in the region due to their grand designs, adding South Asian region had the lowest rank on the human development index.

He pointed that collective narratives were being used to influence state behavior.

He said Afghanistan was important for regional connectivity and a gateway to Central Asia. Instability in Afghanistan hampered the path to regional economic integration, he stated.

He said the reasons for instability in Afghanistan were violence, ethnic divisions, weak governance, warlordism and drug trafficking.

Pakistan will remain friendly to Afghanistan, he said adding conflict in Afghanistan affected Pakistan, which sought a just and enduring closure on Afghanistan issue.

Talking about India, Gen Zubair said India was committing atrocities in occupied Kashmir and had a belligerent attitude towards Pakistan.

India continued to suppress Kashmir's indigenous freedom movement through use of brute force, human rights violations, rape and torture.

He said 7,700 Kashmiris had partially lost their eyesight because of use of pellet guns.

Only in the year 2017, India committed 1200 ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (Loc), the highest in the last ten years, he told.

President IPRI ambassador Abdul Basit said the primary objective of Pakistan's foreign policy was to have peace in the region and beyond.

“We cannot fully undertake our economic agenda without peace in the region.”

He said Pakistan and Afghanistan should stop mutual recriminations and serious efforts should be made for moving forward the process of reconciliation.

Abdul Basit said Pakistan wanted to have normal relations with its neighbours.

“We want to hold dialogue with India on all outstanding issues including Jammu and Kashmir.”  
As a responsible nuclear state, Pakistan was not interested in an arms race in the region, he stated.

In his remarks, Charge d affaires of Germany embassy Dr Jens Jokisch said confrontation could be avoided through mutual engagement.

He said tensions could be resolved through constant dialogue, adding South Asian region needed confidence building measures and “we have to create a win win situation for all.”



## Gen Hayat says India fanning terrorism in Balochistan



By [Web Desk](#)

Posted on November 14, 2017



**ISLAMABAD: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) General Zubair Mehmood Hayat emphasized on Tuesday that the resolution of the decades-old Kashmir dispute is the only road to enduring peace in the region.**

Addressing a two-day conference in Islamabad, he said India is promoting chaos and anarchy in the region.

Gen Hayat said Indian spy agency has established a special cell at a cost of 500 million dollars to sabotage the China Pakistan Economic Corridor ([CPEC](#)). India is also fanning terrorism in Balochistan, he added.

He said that Pakistan will maintain minimum nuclear deterrence in the context of a current regional situation.

Gen Hayat said the resolution of long-standing Kashmir dispute is vital for durable peace in the region. “The festering Kashmir issue runs the risk of the outbreak of nuclear war in the region.” He said about 90 thousand Kashmiris have been martyred in Indian brutalities in the held Kashmir region.

Instability in the South Asia was the result of hegemonic policies, he said, adding that non-state actors want instability in the region.



The CJCS opined that the issues like climate change and water shortage have added to the complex challenges facing the region. Any irresponsible behavior could expose the nuclearised region to dangers, he added.



## Two-day international conference organised by IPRI starts

DNA News | [November 14, 2017](#)



ISLAMABAD, NOV 14: Participants of International seminar organised by IPRI in a group photo with Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mahmood Hayat on Tuesday. DNA

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) Asia's resurgence is on the horizon and the world should no longer doubt the rise of the Greater Asia, which includes South Asia, China and Central Asian Republics. South Asia is the emerging centre of power in the new multi-polar world order. While peace processes may be faltering, peace dividends are huge. These were the unanimous views of the speakers at the Two-Day International Conference 'Regional Dynamics and Strategic Concerns in South Asia' organized by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) in collaboration with the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), Islamabad. The upgradation of India from a "major power" to a "linchpin" of the US strategy extending from the Western Pacific and East Asia into the Indian Ocean and South Asia was also seen as problematic by many of the speakers.

In his Welcome Address, **Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit**, President, IPRI, shared that as one of the oldest think-tanks in Islamabad, IPRI remains committed to contributing meaningfully towards enhancing understanding of the challenges facing South Asia and exploring middle grounds for peace and prosperity. He said that Pakistan understands that unless we have normal and mutually beneficial relations with all our neighbors, the country cannot fully realize its economic potential and development agenda. 'We are trying our best to help achieve reconciliation in Afghanistan, and are also open to a sustained and meaningful dialogue with India with a view of resolving all the bilateral issues, especially the Jammu and Kashmir Dispute', he said.

**Dr Jens Jokisch**, German Charge D’Affairs in his Opening Remarks said that the conference was testimony of Pakistan and Germany’s strong commitment to promoting frank and focused discussions on topical issues. He hoped that the deliberations would ‘help put things in their correct perspectives and come up with tenable solutions to the many complex challenges which South Asia is facing.’

According to **General Zubair Mahmood Hayat**, NI(M), Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), Joint Staff Headquarters, Pakistan, ‘the road to peace in South Asia is the road through Kashmir. There is no bypass. The future prospects of global peace lie within and in Asia.’ In his Inaugural Address, he stressed that Pakistan gives preference to cooperation over conflict and confrontation, and discussed that while there has been increased emphasis on regionalism in South Asia, the region is unfortunately engulfed in inter- and intra-regional conflicts, fanned primarily by India. He highlighted the importance of understanding South Asian construct as the region’s stability is pivotal in determining global peace. ‘While Afghanistan is seen as an extension of South Asia, with constant instability in the country, Pakistan continues to bear the brunt of terrorism’, he shared, referring to the death of two soldiers at the Pak-Afghan border on 13 November. ‘Sponsoring TTP and Baloch insurgents and the capture of Indian RAW agent *Kulbhushan Yadav* from Balochistan is the smoking gun of India’s sinister designs being hatched in Pakistan.’ He also referred to Indian efforts of gradually manipulating and undermining the Indus Water Treaty. ‘Nonetheless, despite India’s belligerence, Pakistan has called for engagement with all regional countries as stability can be achieved through peaceful means by engaging all stakeholders’, he emphasized.

In the first session on ‘Regional Dynamics of South Asia’ **Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed**, Chairman, Senate Committee on Defence, Parliamentary Committee on CPEC and Pakistan-China Institute, stressed that Pakistan has been in the eye of the storm for past several decades, whether it has been as host to the world’s largest refugee population for the longest time or as a partner in fighting the global War on Terror. ‘Pakistan has fought the longest and most successful in-land war against terrorism. It is a country with the highest soldier to officer ratio of casualties in the world’, he shared. The Senator pointed out that the people of South Asia have collectively stood against Indian hegemony in the region which it has been trying to enforce on all its smaller neighbors. ‘India has failed miserably in isolating and demonizing Pakistan in the region which is now the hub of new wave of regionalism of which CPEC is the centerpiece’, he concluded.

In his presentation on ‘Assessment of Socio-Political Trends in South Asia’ **Admiral Dr. Jayanath Colombage**, Former Chief of Sri Lankan Navy and Director, Pathfinder Foundation, Sri Lanka, described the South Asian maritime domain as a region of three ‘S’- Strategic Competition; Strategic Convergence; and Strategic Dilemma. According to the Admiral, the major conflicting situation in the region is mistrust between India and Pakistan. China’s Belt and Road Initiative and maritime infrastructure investments in the region are also seen with suspicion by other major players. Great powers rivalry between China, the US, India and Japan, has created a security dilemma in the Indian Ocean Region. ‘This competition for power and influence has put smaller less powerful states in a strategic predicament since they are compelled to choose among the major powers -some try to benefit and some hedge one against the other hampering economic progress’, he analyzed.

Looking at Pakistan and India’s SCO membership and its impact on their future relations, **Dr. Boris Volkhonsky**, Associate Professor, Institute of Asian and African Studies, Moscow State

University, Russia, outlined that the historic decision taken at the SCO summit in Astana, Kazakhstan, in June 2017 bears significance reaching far beyond the boundaries of the 8 member states. ‘With the accession to SCO of India and Pakistan, total population of the organisation reaches 45% of the global total, with the collective GDP exceeding one third of the global one. This fact in itself makes the Organisation a game changer and an important (or, even decisive) factor in the new emerging multi-polar world order.’ He pointed out that the ‘real aims of the Global West and its vanguard, the USA, in Afghanistan is neither eradicating terrorism or drug trade, nor bringing peace and stability to the country, but rather maintaining a situation of uncertainty which would enable them to have a foothold in close vicinity to America’s biggest geopolitical rivals, that is Russia and China.’ He was of the view that the role of SCO in the future of Afghanistan rises immensely. ‘With Daesh attempting to gain foothold in the country, there is an urgent need to work out a collective approach to the issues of Afghanistan on the win-win basis with the joint participation of India and Pakistan along with all others despite all existing differences between them,’ he urged.

Speaking on non-traditional security challenges in South Asia, **Mr. BiswasBaral**, Op-Ed Editor, Republica National Daily, Kathmandu, Nepal emphasized that the time had come to mainstream climate change into the SAARC process and to work out regional and sub-regional cooperative frameworks to deal with its transnational effects. ‘SAARC efforts to tackle climate change so far have been patchy and even when there have been agreements, they have not been implemented. As climate change contributes to the fragility of nation-states, by undercutting state legitimacy, it is important that all our national and regional plans and policies incorporate climate change,’ he stressed.

**Mr Didier Chaudet**, Editing Director, Center for the Analysis on Foreign Policy, France discussed that ‘China does not use only “classical” tools to gain geopolitical advantages, but has been a forerunner of using geo-economic policy to succeed as a great power,’ he explained. According to him, China’s geo-economics in South Asia in general, and in Afghanistan and Pakistan in particular is all about stabilizing those countries, which are neighbors, because it is in their interest as much as it is in its own interest. ‘A stable Pakistan equals a stronger ally, and a source of economic benefits over time; a stable Afghanistan means no security-related risks for Central Asia, Pakistan, and Xinjiang, territories where China has important national interests. India, on the other hand, opposes China’s geo-economics and policy in South Asia as it means the rise in influence of another power than itself.’

In his paper on ‘US-China Relations: Prospects and Challenges’, **Dr. Wei Zongyou**, Professor, Center for American Studies, Fudan University, China explained that with Donald Trump elected as US President and his America First foreign policy mantle, and Xi Jinping emerging from the newly-ended 19<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Communist Party of China even more powerful and vowing to rejuvenate China, Sino-US relations have entered a period of turbulence and uncertainty. He said that as no-apology preachers of China Dream and America First, both Xi and Trump vow to see their policy and agendas set in motion under their watch. How these two different visions with heavy dose of nationalist flavors can proceed smoothly against each other, especially at the backdrop of an emerging power transition, is an open question. However, for all the challenges and alarms, there’s still room for optimism of the future of China-U.S. relations. First, Xi’s China Dream does not necessarily collude with Trump’s America First. Xi’s China Dream is fundamentally based on domestic development and modernization, to make the economy more domestic driven and consumption oriented. China-U.S. economic relations is not zero-sum, but a win-win set,’ he concluded.

Discussing America's strategic interests and priorities in South Asia, **Mr. Andrew Small**, Senior Transatlantic Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States (Asia Program), Washington DC, outlined that the US and China have a multidimensional relationship that cuts across increasingly large swathes of each other's economic, diplomatic, and security interests. The relationship is characterized by a mix of competition and cooperation, with the balance of those elements varying by issue and region, and fluctuating according to broader trends in the bilateral relationship. 'The two sides are deeply embedded in a global economic order that requires the free movement of commerce and capital, providing a significant shared interest in the fundamental stability of the international system, from energy supplies to global finance. However, translating these higher order interests into practical cooperation has proved difficult, given the other ideological and strategic differences between the two sides.' According to Mr Small, China's primary regional focus is its immediate neighborhood in East Asia, and recent years have seen intensification in the competitive elements of the U.S.-China relationship there. He pointed out that Sino-US competition is less acute in other regions, where Beijing's military reach is more modest and its economic activities are often beneficial. South Asia largely falls under this umbrella, and, except during times of exceptional crisis, has been a second order issue in the relationship.

**Professor Dr. Syed Rifaat Hussain**, Head, Government & Public Policy, National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) looked at the risks to strategic stability in South Asia. According to his analysis, offense-dominant thinking and aggressive Indian-mindset is one of the biggest threats facing the region. He pointed out that Indian commitment to pursue extremist, exclusionary *Hindutva* ideology poses a threat to strategic stability. 'By propounding and practicing extremist Hindu beliefs, BJP under Modi, is cultivating a hostile Indian mindset against Muslims everywhere. This not only bodes ill for rational handling of future crises between India and Pakistan but also allows free rein to forces of death and destruction. Another source of threat in South Asia is Indian arms conventional build up along with the expansion of its nuclear and missile programme', he warned.

While looking at Russian engagement, **Dr. Shabir Ahmed Khan**, Associate Professor, Area Study Center, University of Peshawar highlighted that recent deeds and agreements between Russia and Pakistan confirm that there is an obvious change in Russia's South Asia policy in favor of Pakistan. 'Russia recognizes Pakistan's importance for peaceful political settlement in Afghanistan and linking Eurasian Union with South Asia, Indian Ocean and beyond. Russia has stopped viewing India as a counter weight to China in the region', he explained. In contemporary regional geopolitical environment, Pakistan needs to take positive and correct course of action through diversification of foreign relations, importantly by having close relations with Russian Federation to enhance her bargaining power in international dealings. The session was chaired by **Ambassador (R) Zamir Akram**, Former Ambassador of Pakistan and Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva.

The Conference concludes tomorrow with Deputy Secretary-General, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) discussing the reconciliation process in Afghanistan and the role of SCO; Dr. Attaullah Wahidiyar from Ministry of Education in Kabul discussing ingress of Daesh; and Dr. Christian Wagner from Germany looking at the role of global powers in building cooperative security order in South Asia.



# سیاست The Siasat Daily

## India wants to sabotage CPEC: Pakistan

November 15, 2017, 10:21 AM IST

Islamabad: India is trying to sabotage the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project through its intelligence agency RAW, a senior Pakistani military officer said on Tuesday.

“RAW has established a special cell at a cost of \$500 million to sabotage the CPEC,” Geo News quoted General Zubair Mehmood Hayat, Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (CJCSC), as saying here.

He was addressing a two-day conference on regional dynamics and strategic concerns in South Asia. Pakistani leaders routinely make charges of RAW involvement in their country.

The General said India was perpetrating terrorism in Pakistan through Taliban and Baloch separatists. “By doing so, India was playing with fire... India is stoking chaos and anarchy in the region.”

In his address, the General stressed the need to resolve the Kashmir dispute. “Kashmir issue is the harbinger of a nuclear war in the region.”

Pakistan’s former High Commissioner to India Abdul Basit also said peace in the region was not possible unless the Kashmir issue was resolved. India, he alleged, was pushing the region towards instability, Geo News reported.

IANS

## Kashmir OBSERVER

Islamabad—Alleging India was trying to sabotage the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project through its intelligence agency RAW, a senior Pakistani military officer Tuesday warned India that ‘it was playing with fire’.

"RAW has established a special cell at a cost of \$500 million to sabotage the CPEC," Geo [News](#) quoted the, Gen Zubair, Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee (CJCSC), as saying here.

The general said India was perpetrating terrorism in Pakistan through Taliban and Baloch separatists. "By doing so, India was playing with fire... India is stoking chaos and anarchy in the region."



He was speaking at an international conference on the topic of “[Regional](#)Dynamics and Strategic Concerns in South Asia” organized by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) in collaboration with Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF).

He said South Asian region was defined by the volatile nature of Pakistan-India relations. Pakistani leaders routinely make charges of RAW involvement in their country.

The General noted the resolution of Kashmir issue was important to reduce any chances of strategic miscalculations.

Stating that ‘enduring’ peace can only be achieved in South Asia through the resolution of Kashmir dispute, Gen Zubair said India was “committing atrocities in occupied Kashmir” and had a “belligerent” attitude towards Pakistan.

"Kashmir issue is the harbinger of a nuclear war in the region," he said. Gen Zubair said in Asia, future prospects of global peace and prosperity would be determined, adding United States and China had a central role to play in influencing geo-strategic direction of the region.

He said global powers had an interest in the region due to their grand designs, adding South Asian region had the lowest rank on the human development index.

He pointed that collective narratives were being used to influence state behaviour. He said Afghanistan was important for regional connectivity and a gateway to Central Asia.

Pakistan's former High Commissioner to India Abdul Basit also said peace in the region was not possible unless the Kashmir issue was resolved. India, he alleged, was pushing the region towards instability, Geo News reported.

He alleged India continued to suppress Kashmir’s indigenous freedom movement through use of brute force, human rights violations, rape and torture. “Some 7,700 Kashmiris had partially lost their eyesight because of use of pellet guns,” he said.

Abdul Basit said Pakistan wanted to have normal relations with its neighbours.

“We want to hold dialogue with India on all outstanding issues including Jammu and Kashmir.” He said tensions could be resolved through constant dialogue, adding South Asian region needed confidence building measures and “we have to create a win win situation for all.”

# NHT

## NATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

### Regional Dynamics and Strategic Concerns in South Asia

by RAJA JAVED ALI BHATTI

The armed confrontation in Afghanistan which, despite the efforts of the country's central government and external forces supporting it (including SCO members) remains the main destabilizing factor in South Asia. This was stated by His Excellency Mr Vladimir Potapenko, Deputy Secretary-General, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) at the second day of the international conference organized by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute and the Hanns Seidel Foundation here in Islamabad today. Addressing the session on 'Strategic Situation in Afghanistan and its Regional Implications', he said that the SCO member states are interested in Afghanistan as a peaceful and neutral country that respects and observes human rights and freedoms, and maintaining friendly relations with its neighbors. Outlining SCO's vision, Mr Potapenko, highlighted that the Astana declaration resolutely supported the efforts of the Government and the people of Afghanistan aimed at asserting a peaceful and stable state free of terrorism, extremism and illegal drug trafficking based on the United Nations' central coordinating role in international efforts to stabilize the country and ensure its development. He informed the packed hall that Kabul is being provided wide-scale assistance in areas as defense, law enforcement, transport development, energy, anti-drug operations, training national experts, etc., both on bilateral and multilateral bases. The SCO members take



an active part in a number of important international regional projects that also involve Afghanistan. However, the presence of Islamic State (ISIS) militants in Afghanistan, many of whom are originally rooted from SCO member states, causes additional concern. The return of militants, who fought on the side of international terrorist organizations, to their home countries can add to regional instability', he warned. Sharing Pakistan's concerns on India's influence in Afghanistan, Ambassador (R) Rustam Shah Mohmand, Former Ambassador of Pakistan to Afghanistan, said that the ongoing conflict has multi-dimensional implications for the former - from a stabilized border to acts of terrorism; decrease in the volume of bilateral trade to the plight of both refugees and returnees. He opined that 'ignoring the cost of not inviting attention to the root cause of the insurgency and the continuance of a conflict that has robbed the region of huge

economic opportunities, Islamabad has instead remained preoccupied with India's role in the West Asian country, and not formulated a robust approach for peace-making in Afghanistan.' While Pakistan's apprehensions about India's increasing role in Kabul are natural, there can be no compromise on Islamabad insisting that Afghan soil should not be used covertly or overtly against its territory or people. At the same time, Afghanistan's right to formulate its own policies both internal and external must also be acknowledged and respected. But no such policy that creates space for any force or country to operate against Pakistan's interest should be allowed to practice', he stressed. Dr. Attaullah Wahidiyar, Senior Advisor from the Ministry of Education, Kabul, discussing the ingress of non-state actors in South Asia was of the view that Daesh, Islamic State or ISIS are all part of the same 'terrorism industry'. However, he felt that while the entire globe hosts such agar plates

like the Islamic State of Iraq, Asia in general and central Asia specifically seems to be more generous where ISIS has over 8000 recruits. IS is focusing on conquering weak states and weakening strong states and to address this challenge a two-dimensional approach is needed - reform in social architecture of societies; and popular Muslim scholarship needs to come forward and reinforce the true message of Islam by clarifying the true meaning of Jihad. 'We as nation states need to recognize that shared security is more secure than ensured security. Investment in violent non-state actors for achieving state objectives has historically failed and any state which pursues such policies will suffer sooner or later', he cautioned. He clarified that Pakistan should not be concerned about Indo-Afghan relations. 'While Kabul welcomes economic assistance from any side, these relations with India will never be at the cost of Pakistan's security'. Ambassador (R) Mohammad Sadiq, Former National Security

Secretary and Ambassador of Pakistan to Afghanistan, Government of Pakistan, while chairing the session 'Strategic Situation in Afghanistan and its Regional Implications' said that while the stalemate in Afghanistan is not going to end soon, there are clear ethnic fault-lines which the Taliban cannot cross. 'No one knows what the US policy in Afghanistan will be under the Trump administration but there is no likelihood of a permanent pull-out of America from the region.' He stressed that Pakistan should not object to India's economic assistance to Afghanistan, rather Pakistan, should also offer the same. In the session on 'Addressing Security Concerns in South Asia: A Way Forward', Professor Dr Pervaiz Iqbal Cheema, Dean, Faculty of Contemporary Sciences, National Defence University provided a comprehensive overview of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and said that in the aftermath of the cold-blooded murder of Burhan Muzaffar Wani, a wave of carnage has been unleashed by India across the occupied Valley. According to him, the US's ever increasing cooperation with India and its lukewarm response to Islamabad's call, is yet another factor, which encourages New Delhi to adopt an offensive behavior towards Pakistan. Modi's Kashmir policy has resulted in failure, causing dependency among the people of the Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK). He said that an unresolved Kashmir issue is a historical fact, which cannot be sidelined and ignored for too long. Even a minor miscalculation by India, in pursuit of its foreign poli-

cy objectives for undermining Islamabad's will to resist, could put the entire region in trouble. India and the international community should, therefore, realize that none of the strategies other than 'dialogue' involving all the stakeholders would succeed in resolving this core issue. He warned that India's decision to pursue an aggressive foreign policy to subdue Pakistan and its tactic to implement such policy entails a perilous course of action. 'Under the prevailing security and political situation in the region and beyond, no single-track approach by Pakistan would work against India. Pakistan will have to evolve a simultaneous response aggressively to include diplomatic maneuvers and security counter measures', he concluded. Dr. Christian Wagner, Senior Fellow from the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Germany was of the view that while South Asia is still one of the most conflict-prone regions in the world, the role of global powers in building a cooperative security order here will remain limited. 'Global powers pursue their own strategic interests which are not necessarily in accordance with regional powers. There is a divergence in the threat perceptions between global powers and regional powers on nuclear issues and terrorism. These differences will limit the role of global powers', he shared. 'It remains the responsibility of regional states to establish new forms of cooperation in order to tackle common security threats', he urged. This session was chaired by Lt. General (R) Naem Khalid Lodhi, III (M) Former Secretary Defence and

Member, Advisory Board of the Center for Strategic and Contemporary Research (CSCR), Islamabad. Sharing the views about the Hanns Seidel Foundation, Mr Ormer Ali, Programme Coordinator of HSF said that their mandate is informed by the very particular German experience which is to break through traditional perspectives and at times apply innovative, previously unthinkable approaches with regards to formulating policies. 'This started off with the Franco-German rapprochement, and has culminated in a number of transnational bodies, the most important of which certainly would be the European Union, which might soon replace the nation-state through continuous supra-national integration', he explained. Mr Ali hoped that the concerned authorities in Pakistan will assess all those bits and pieces which have been presented in a very condensed manner during this two-day international conference, and draw conclusions as to where Pakistan can move, and subsequently make a normative move and say where it should move.' In his concluding Vote of Thanks, Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit, President, IPRI was optimistic that the deliberations which emerged out of the conference had the potential to chalk out future trajectories for Pakistan's foreign policy in a highly dynamic geographic and strategic environment. The Kashmir issue remains the core bone of contention between Pakistan and India - peace in the region is dependent on its amicable and just resolution', he concluded.

National Herald Tribune, Thursday, November 16, 2017