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Editorial Dept. Tel.: 33911561, 33110251-9

Ext.: 2334, 2336, 2337

Advertising Dept.: 33110251-9 Ext. 2336

Subscription Ext.: 2322

Facsimile: 33114228 & 33111120 Website: www.kayhan.ir/en E-mail: kayhanintl@yahoo.com

P.O. Box: 11365/9631

Address: Martyr Shah Cheraghi Street, Ferdowsi Avenue,

Tehran - Islamic Republic of Iran

In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

Iranian FM's India Visit at Sensitive Juncture

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

Though neither country has yet accepted Tehran's mediation offer in the escalating crisis in the Subcontinent following the Pahalgam terrorist attack that led to India's missile barrage on what it called terrorist bases in Pakistan, Iranian foreign minister's visit to New Delhi– after having visited Islamabad a couple of days ago - comes at a sensitive juncture.

Seyyed Abbas Araqchi's pre-planned visit, the first to India as foreign minister, is to co-chair the 20th Iran-India Joint Commission.

It is not specific to the clouds of war gathering on the Subcontinent's skies and is on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Iran-India Friendship Treaty.

Araqchi will hold talks on wide-ranging bilateral issues with his Indian counterpart Subramanium Jaishankar that will also include the necessity of firmly confronting terrorism while avoiding wars that are detrimental to the civilian population and to economic development.

The Islamic of Iran's principled stance is to avoid the use of force in intergovernmental relations, and believes diplomacy is capable of defusing tensions.

Tehran enjoys excellent relations with both New Delhi and Islamabad; hence it views military escalation between the two countries as a matter of great concern.

Hopefully, the two sides would take steps toward de-escalation and prevent further deterioration by exercising restraint, especially since outside forces, particularly the illegal Zionist entity, always tries to fish in troubled waters.

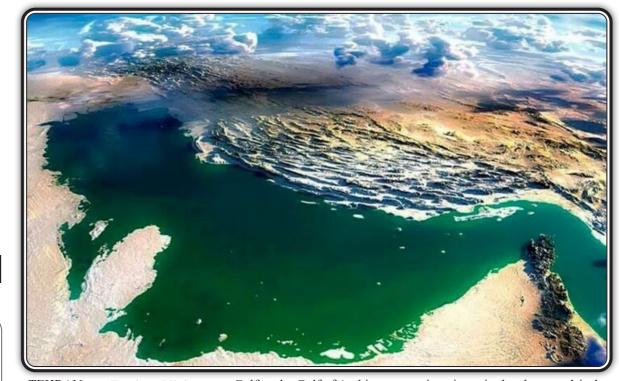
Iran as the prime victim of terrorism also faces terrorist attacks from across its eastern borders and strongly denounces the Pahalgam terrorist attack of April 22.

Araqchi's trip to India follows his one-day visit last Monday to neighboring Pakistan with which he discussed a wide range of bilateral issues including need to suppress cross-border terrorism.

World powers, including the US and Russia, as well as the UN, while condemning terrorism, have called on both the nucleararmed rivals of the Subcontinent to avoid military measures.

If the voice of reason is heeded our neighbourhood has tremendous potential to cooperate and collaborate in developmental projects, such as the joint Iran-India Chabahar projFM Araghchi's Warning to Trump:

Renaming Persian Gulf Will **Bring Wrath of All Iranians**



TEHRAN -- Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Wednesday warned of the "wrath of all Iranians" after rumors that U.S. President Donald Trump plans to rename the Persian Gulf during his visit to Saudi Arabia next week.

"Let's hope that the absurd rumors about the PERSIAN Gulf that are going around are no more than a disinformation campaign by "forever warriors" to anger Iranians all over the world and agitate them," Araghchi wrote on X.

The warning came after The Associated Press, citing unnamed US officials, said Trump planned to announce in Saudi Arabia that the United States would now refer to the Persian Gulf as the A-r-a-b-i-an Gulf or the Gulf of Arabia.

"I am confident that Donald Trump is aware that the name PERSIAN Gulf is centuries old and recognized by all cartographers and international bodies and was even used by all leaders of the region in their official communications until as recently as 1960's," Araghchi said.

"While any short-sighted step in this connection will have no validity or legal or geographical effect, it will only bring the wrath of all Iranians from all walks of life and political persuasion in Iran, the U.S. and across the world," he

Araghchi said the name Persian Gulf, like many geographical des-

ignations, is deeply rooted in human history.

"Iran has never objected to the use of names such as the Sea of Oman, Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea, or Red Sea. The use of these names does not imply ownership by any particular nation, but rather reflects a shared respect for the collective heritage of humanity,"

"In contrast, politically motivated attempts to alter the historically established name of the Persian Gulf are indicative of hostile intent toward Iran and its people, and are firmly condemned. Such biased actions are an affront to all Iranians, regardless of their background or place of residence," he added.

Official Dismisses Fallacious U.S. Claim

Iran Not Only Non-Nuke State With **Enrichment Program**

TEHRAN -- The spokesman for the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) has underscored the country's right to peaceful nuclear technology, dismissing claims by the U.S. administration that the Islamic Republic is the only non-nuclear weapon state running a uranium enrichment program.

Behrouz Kamalvandi made the remarks during a meeting with the guests of the 3rd Sobh International Media Festival organized by the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) here.

"AEOI Spox refutes U.S. State Sec claim that Iran is the only non-nuclear weapon state with enrichment program," the nuclear organization said in a post on its X social media account.

"Netherlands, Belgium, South

Korea, Brazil and Japan also enrich without possessing nukes," it added. "This type of comment bothers U.S. State Dept staff more than anyone else."

Kamalvandi was responding to comments by U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio insisting in a Fox News interview on Thursday that any deal with Iran would demand that it "halt the enrichment of uranium" and instead import nuclear fuel.

Acting as both Secretary of State and interim National Security Advisor, Rubio claimed that Iran's domestic enrichment program poses proliferation risks, which has on numerous occasions been dismissed by Tehran as being purely politically motivated.

Rubio also called on Iran to oversight.

"walk away" from uranium enrichment and claimed in his interview with Fox News that, "The only countries in the world that enrich uranium are the ones that have nuclear weapons."

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi hit back at Rubio's remarks, saying that "Iran has every right to possess the full nuclear fuel cycle," citing Tehran's long-standing membership of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Under the NPT, which Iran joined in 1970, non-nuclearweapon states are permitted to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, including enrichment, under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Araghchi Urges UK to Respect Rights of Detained Iranians

TEHRAN -- Iran's foreign minister has called on the UK to respect the rights of Iranians arrested in Britain, underscoring Tehran's readiness to assist investigations in the incident.

Abbas Araghchi made the call in a post on his X social media account, after the British media said seven Iranian nationals had been arrested in two major "counter-terrorism operations" across the country.

"Disturbed to learn that Iranian citizens have reportedly

been arrested by UK security

services," Araghchi wrote.

"If credible allegations of misconduct are established, Iran stands ready to assist investigations. We call on UK to ensure respect for our citizens' rights and afford them due process."

The Metropolitan Police said five men, four of them Iranian nationals, were arrested on Saturday in one operation and three other Iranians in another, without disclosing their names. Three other Iranian men were

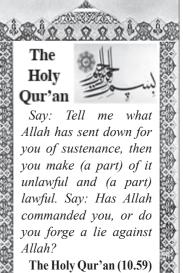
arrested in London on Saturday. In April, Iran's Foreign Min-

istry spokesman Esmaeil Ba-

ghaei rejected "baseless and unjust" accusations leveled by Britain that the Islamic Republic was connected to certain criminal groups in Europe. Baghaei said attributing the

actions of certain groups to Iran is a clear blame game meant to cover up Britain's own destabilizing activities, particularly in West Asia. The spokesman said London

repeated its unfounded claims without any evidence despite Tehran's calls for the UK to provide proof supporting its allegations.



PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr) 12:01 19:16

Evening(Maghreb)

05:05 Dawn(Fajr)" Tomorrow"

Sunrise "Tomorrow"

Iran Calls for Restraint as India-Pakistan **Tensions Flare**

TEHRAN - Iran on Wednesday expressed deep concern over escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, urging both sides to exercise restraint.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson Esmaeil Baghaei highlighted Iran's principled stance on avoiding the use of force in intergovernmental relations.

The Iranian official described the growing tensions between Pakistan and India as a serious matter of concern for Iran.

He expressed hope that both sides would take steps toward de-escalation and prevent further deterioration by exercising restraint.

He also warned against potential exploitation of the conflict by third parties, particularly the Israeli regime.

Iran, which borders Pakistan and maintains good relations with India, had offered to mediate last month.

India and Pakistan had heavy artillery exchanges along their contested frontier early Wednesday after New Delhi launched missile attacks on targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir.

Pakistan said Indian strikes had killed at least 26 civilians and wounded 46 others, and India said Pakistani artillery fire had killed 10 civilians and injured 48 others along the de facto border.

India says its missile strikes specifically targeted "militant infrastructure" in Pakistanadministered Kashmir and the eastern Punjab province of the country.

An Indian Defense Ministry statement said the operation came in the wake of the Pahalgam terrorist attack, which killed 25 Indians and one Nepali citizen on April 22.

India has blamed Pakistanbased armed groups for the Pahalgam attack, accusing Islamabad of backing them. Islamabad has denied any role in the attack.