



Centre for Aerospace Power and Strategic Studies



Centre for Aerospace Power and Strategic Studies

Opinions and Trends

57/26

Neighbourhood Insights Series

May 2026

Pakistan Means Business

Faisal Ahmad | 04 May 2026

“The EU–Pakistan Business Forum 2026 is more than a diplomatic or economic event; it is a statement of intent. It conveys that despite economic challenges, Pakistan is not retreating but repositioning itself in the global economy.”

Read More: <https://www.nation.com.pk/04-May-2026/pakistan-means-business>

When Strategy Met Geopolitics: 88 Hours of Precision, Power and Purpose

Gp Capt VP Naik | 13 May 2026-05-22

“Operation Sindoor offered another example of modern high-intensity air conflict. Over 88 hours, the Indian and Pakistani air forces, together with their air defence systems, engaged in an intense aerial duel. India initially succeeded in striking terrorist infrastructure deep inside Pakistan, but the Pakistanis responded swiftly.”

Read More: <https://capssindia.org/operation-sindoor-revisited/>

Pakistan's Strategic Role in an Expanding Iran Conflict

Qamar Bashir | 13 May 2026

"Pakistan's role as mediator, therefore, is not just challenging—it is unprecedented in its complexity. Islamabad is not merely facilitating dialogue between two nations; it is attempting to reconcile a spectrum of actors whose interests often directly contradict one another."

Read More: <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2026/05/13/pakistans-strategic-role-in-an-expanding-iran-conflict>

The China Question in Pakistan's Economy

Suleman Zia | 19 May 2026

"Pakistan's move toward Panda bonds signals a shift from infrastructure ties to deeper financial and monetary integration with China. It may ease external pressures, but raises concentration and resilience risks."

Read More: <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2026/05/19/the-china-question-in-pakistans-economy>

CDF Asim Munir's Iran Dash Fuels Interim Deal Hopes

Kamran Yousaf | 23 May 2026

"The army chief spent three days in Tehran as part of efforts to bring the negotiations back on track. However, the proposed second round of talks could not materialise as Iran and the United States remained far apart on key issues despite the exchange of multiple proposals."

Read More: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2609642/cdf-asim-munirs-iran-dash-fuels-interim-deal-hopes>

Sins of Elites and High Energy Costs

Imtiaz Gul and Engineer Arshad H Abbasi | 23 May 2026

"When the sixth-largest global nuclear power blames the IMF or Chinese IPPs for high energy prices and austerity measures that hit the poor the hardest, something must be fundamentally wrong. The IMF did not create Pakistan's circular debt, but the suit-donning, greedy, self-serving executioners in Islamabad did."

Read More: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2609575/sins-of-elites-and-high-energy-costs>

Pakistan-Russia: Friendship or Relevance?

Muhammad Ali Ehsan | 24 May 2026

“Pakistan has not created a way out. It has created a pause - a breathing space in which peace might eventually become imaginable. Mistaking a pause for ripeness is how mediators overplay their hand and lose the trust of the very party they most need at the table.”

Read More: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2609724/pakistan-russia-friendship-or-relevance>

Energy Security

Omais Abdur Rehman | 25 May 2026

“Will the next external shock push Pakistan into yet another IMF bailout? Will the country keep tying its fate to fossil fuels whose prices are set in foreign capitals? Will the state keep taxing and stifling the most successful energy transition story of the Global South?”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/2002908/energy-security>

Sindh's War on Narcotics

Nadir Nabil Gabol | 15 May 2026

“The war on drugs is not won overnight, but the tide is turning. We are not just arresting peddlers; we are dismantling ecosystems of addiction. The Government of Sindh remains determined to transform this province into a sanctuary for our children, a place where their futures are defined by opportunity, not by the scourge of narcotics.”

Read More: <https://www.nation.com.pk/15-May-2026/sindh-s-war-narcotics>

Why Economic Growth Alone Cannot Eliminate Poverty in Pakistan?

Muhammad Sheharyar Khan | 18 May 2026

“Growth without distribution is just a number. Higher GNP has always been at the cost of a select few people in Pakistan: landlords, industrialists, and urban professionals while the needs of rural workers, the needs of the daily-wage labourers and the needs of females have always been neglected.”

Read More: <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2026/05/18/why-economic-growth-alone-cannot-eliminate-poverty-in-pakistan>

Rethinking Governance

Hafiz Ahsaan Ahmad Khokhar | 20 May 2026

“The real debate, therefore, is not whether Pakistan needs another constitutional amendment. The real debate is whether Pakistan is prepared to honestly reform the structural governance weaknesses that continue to obstruct constitutional stability and national progress.”

Read More: <https://www.nation.com.pk/20-May-2026/rethinking-governance>

BISP is Not Welfare, It is Pakistan's Social Contract

Tariq Malik | 21 May 2026

“Before Pakistan treats BISP as just another line item to trim, it must answer a more fundamental question: What does a state owe its citizens? And when the state struggles financially, who should bear that burden first: the powerful or the poor?”

Read More: <https://www.thefridaytimes.com/21-May-2026/bisp-welfare-pakistan-s-social-contract>

Pakistani Youth and the Crisis of Institutional Trust

Kamran Fiaz | 22 May 2026

“What they distrust is not the idea of accountable government. They distrust the specific and repeatedly demonstrated failure of Pakistani institutions to deliver it. This distinction matters because the policy responses that follow from the wrong diagnosis are worse than useless.”

Read More: <https://www.thefridaytimes.com/22-May-2026/pakistani-youth-crisis-institutional-trust>

Climate Justice at Home

Zeba Sathar | 23 May 2026

“Climate debates routinely cite Pakistan's grim paradox: we are among the world's countries most exposed to climate shocks, yet we have contributed little to the emissions that drive them. Pakistan has rightly called out this injustice, as well as the failure of international recognition to translate into financing at the required scale.”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/2002455/climate-justice-at-home>

A Major Blow to Militancy and a Test of National Resolve

Dr. Hamza Khan | 25 May 2026

“Cross border militancy, ideology-based extremism and armed networks taking advantage of tough terrain and vulnerable communities have always been a challenge in Pakistan’s security environment. Chaos, fear and misinformation is what drives groups like Fitna al-Khawarij.”

Read More: <https://www.eurasiareview.com/25052026-a-major-blow-to-militancy-and-a-test-of-national-resolve-oped/>

Stealing the Future

Maleeha Lodhi | 25 May 2026

“It is axiomatic that the young will determine the country’s future. Preventing 22m young Pakistanis from choosing their government means depriving them of a voice on decisions that will affect their future. Their disenfranchisement will mean robbing them of their future.”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/2002912/stealing-the-future>

From Chaos to Contradictory Positions, Afghan Resettlements have Never been “Dignified”

Ali M. Latifi | 04 May 2026

“As Afghanistan barrels towards the fifth anniversary of the Taliban’s return to power, Western governments are vowing to return thousands of Afghans back to their now Taliban-run homeland, even though not one of them recognises the Islamic Emirate as a legitimate government.”

Read More: <https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/editors-take/2026/05/04/chaos-contradictory-positions-afghan-resettlements>

The Strange Stability Between Tehran and the Taliban

Mahboob Shah Mahboob | 10 May 2026

“The Taliban also hope Iran will eventually recognize their government formally. Tehran, however, appears determined to keep recognition as leverage. For now, necessity binds Tehran and the Taliban more tightly than ideology divides them. But the relationship rests less on trust than on a volatile region in which both sides fear isolation more than each other.”

Read More: <https://www.iranintl.com/en/202605104285>

Europe's Losing Bet: The High Stakes of Engaging the Taliban

Shegofa Ghafoori | 23 May 2026

"The European Commission frames the meeting as a "technical" dialogue on migration management. But sending human beings back to a country where they face serious human rights violations, whether in Afghanistan or Syria, is anything but technical."

Read More: <https://8am.media/eng/europe-taliban-engagement-gamble/>

Afghanistan's Stability?

Omay Aimen | 09 May 2026

"The alarming statistics reflect a decaying society nurtured under a suppressive regime that has no regard for its own people when it comes to the extension of its perverted ideology and illegal rule. A society sustained by a war economy and the exclusion of half of its population from mainstream national life is destined to decay."

Read More: <https://www.nation.com.pk/09-May-2026/afghanistan-s-stability>

Badakhshan: The Crossroads of Hidden Rivalries

Abdul Nasir Noorzad | 20 May 2026

"The region is a meeting point for multiple actors, ranging from local Taliban and the Kandahar circle to the ISKP, al-Qaeda, extremist groups linked to Central Asia, and even elements tied to Chinese security interests. Each of these players, with distinct objectives, is competing to control the region's underground resources, strategic terrain, and channels of influence."

Read More: <https://8am.media/eng/badakhshan-hidden-rivalries-crossroads-afghanistan/>

Taliban Rule in Afghanistan

Dr. Shahzaib Khan | 25 May 2026

"Afghans are deserving of more than living in terror. Their rights should be recognized, they should be educated, they should be given justice, they should be given freedom from ideological coercion. The world needs to hear the voices of Afghan women, journalists, activists, minorities and victims who continue to resist despite being under great risk."

Read More: <https://www.eurasiareview.com/25052026-taliban-rule-in-afghanistan-oped/>

Bangladesh's Shipbuilding Industry Sets Sail

Jianbo Wu | 08 May 2026

"Bangladesh's industrial expansion will require reliable inputs from the Indo-Pacific, particularly energy, marine-grade steel and plate and specialised components, such as engines and navigation systems, creating opportunities for established regional suppliers."

Read More: <https://eastasiaforum.org/2026/05/08/bangladeshs-shipbuilding-industry-sets-sail/>

Navigating the Naf: A Security Reassessment

Mohammad Abdur Razzak | 17 May 2026

"Eight years have passed since more than 700,000 Rohingya fled across the Naf River into Bangladesh, what the UN officials called "a textbook example of ethnic cleansing" has hardened into a protracted geopolitical trap. A credible horizon of repatriation is not in sight."

Read More: <https://en.prothomalo.com/opinion/op-ed/y2vjnbdp95>

Bangladesh-India Relations: Delhi Signals a New Chapter after a Period of Strain

Raheed Ejaz | 21 May 2026

"It is no secret that relations between the two close neighbours deteriorated significantly during the interim government's tenure. Since the February elections, Delhi has been prioritising the advancement of its ties with Dhaka."

Read More: <https://en.prothomalo.com/opinion/op-ed/0oj9n1qegf>

Rohingya Gen-Z Breaks the Silence

Shafiur Rahman | 13 May 2026

"For years, power in the Rohingya camps has flowed in one direction -- downwards. Armed actors, refugee camp authorities, and security agencies exercised that power. Refugees had to navigate, endure, and survive."

Read More: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/opinion/longform/410075/rohingya-gen-z-breaks-the-silence>

Green Economy is a Necessity for Bangladesh's Sustainable Development

Shahiduzzaman | 15 May 2026

“For Bangladesh, the transition to a green economy is no longer simply an option. It has become a national necessity. Bangladesh is one of the most climate vulnerable countries in the world and faces growing environmental and economic challenges caused by climate change, rapid urbanization, industrial pollution, and overuse of natural resources.”

Read More: <https://en.prothomalo.com/opinion/op-ed/s87ktj666i>

Is Bangladesh's Food Security a Paradox?

Ezaz Mamun | 20 May 2026

Bangladesh's success in agriculture deserves recognition for feeding its population despite significant challenges. However, the upcoming challenge is more complicated. Bangladesh can produce sufficient food, but the real question is whether it can develop a resilient system capable of maintaining that accomplishment.”

Read More: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/opinion/op-ed/410696/is-bangladesh%E2%80%99s-food-security-a-paradox>

The Economics Behind Education Choices in Bangladesh

Shamsad Mortuza | 23 May 2026

“Discourses on madrasa education adhere to the binary of modern versus religious, secularism versus spirituality, and the Western model of schooling versus traditional madrasa. But what is amiss is not the theological component but its economic factors. The binary pivots on affordability.”

Read More: <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/blowin-the-wind/news/the-economics-behind-education-choices-bangladesh-4182236>

A Fistula-Free Bangladesh is within Reach

Catherine Breen Kamkong | 23 May 2026

“Bangladesh has rolled out its Third National Strategy to End Obstetric Fistula (2023-2030), providing a detailed roadmap for action, including active case detection, which, if fully implemented, can yield the desired results.”

Read More: <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/news/fistula-free-bangladesh-within-reach-4182241>

The Cotton Gambit

Khadem Mahmud Yusuf | 23 May 2026

“When the US-Bangladesh Agreement on Reciprocal Trade was signed in February 2026, attention focused on what Bangladesh was conceding: Labour reforms, intellectual property commitments, export-control alignment, and broader strategic obligations. Those concerns are real.”

Read More: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/opinion/op-ed/410912/the-cotton-gambit>

Land, Faith and Fear: How Jamaat’s Pakistan-Backed Networks are Systematically Dispossessing Minorities

Ashu Mann | 24 May 2026

“The documented hostility of Jamaat to secular norms and minorities, combined with its longstanding ideological links to Pakistan, raises serious concerns that Bangladesh could become a more permissive environment for extremist networks.”

Read More: <https://www.eurasiareview.com/24052026-land-faith-and-fear-how-jamaats-pakistan-backed-networks-are-systematically-dispossessing-minorities-oped/>

Sri Lanka’s IMF-Led Debt Restructuring and Lessons for Senegal

Ahilan Kadirgamar | 23 May 2026

“In undertaking such debt restructuring, the Central Bank of Sri Lanka was itself in a situation of conflict of interest as it was both the custodian of retirement funds like the EPF and actively restructuring them to the detriment of their returns.”

Read More: <https://www.dailymirror.lk/opinion/Sri-Lankas-IMF-led-Debt-Restructuring-and-Lessons-for-Senegal/172-341009>

17 Years After the War: Unfinished Search for Peace

KKS Perera | 15 May 2026

“While the war ended in 2009, the peace that followed remains incomplete. The guns fell silent, the island was reunified under one State, and one of Asia’s longest and most violent insurgencies came to an end. Yet the deeper task of reconciliation, political, social, and psychological, remains unresolved.”

Read More: <https://dailynews.lk/2026/05/15/general-opinion/995124/17-years-after-the-war-unfinished-search-for-peace/>

Credibility, Conviction and Democratic Leadership

Mahim Mendis | 20 May 2026

“The real question is not whether Sajith Premadasa should be replaced, but whether Sri Lanka can afford to weaken the most credible opposition leader at a time of profound national uncertainty. He has shown consistency, restraint, and the determination to build an alternative political movement rooted in social democratic values.”

Read More: <https://www.dailymirror.lk/news-features/Credibility-Conviction-and-Democratic-Leadership/131-340694>

Chasing our Tail

Kusum Wijetilleke | 24 May 2026

“Sri Lanka has spoken often of energy transition and has retained ambitious targets, including generating 70% of electricity through renewables by 2030. Yet progress has been uneven. Policy reversals, tariff uncertainty, procurement delays, grid limitations, and inconsistent political commitment have all weakened momentum.”

Read More: <https://www.themorning.lk/articles/u8VTxUa53HHroa2XV18H>

AKD, JVP/NPP Govt. Face First Major Economic Test with Rupee Crisis as Opposition Senses Political Opening

Capt. Vasabha | 24 May 2026

“The political challenge is larger than currency management. The memory of the 2022 economic crisis remains fresh, and even modest exchange rate instability now creates public anxiety over inflation, living costs, and economic security.”

Read More: <https://www.themorning.lk/articles/l0buP8DQTfk5fvE7sDF6>

Energy Transition: What Sri Lanka Must Do Now

Prof. Udayanga Hemapala | 24 May 2026

“Sri Lanka is at a fork in the road on energy, and it has been standing there too long. The decisions made, or left unmade, over the next 12–18 months will determine whether the country moves towards a secure, affordable, and self-reliant energy future, or remains trapped in a familiar cycle of power shortages, tariff shocks, and dangerous dependence on imported fossil fuels.”

Read More: <https://www.themorning.lk/articles/3TFkgSxvf9ze9jXeknAW>

Balen's Politics of Silence and Absence: Not a Harbinger of Good Omen

Jiba Raj Pokharel | 20 May 2026

"The government of Balen Shah has been lately riddled by many such controversies. The verdicts of the Supreme Court declaring its actions one after another as illegal is a pointer to this direction. The organisation of rallies and demonstrations against it throughout the country is symbolic of its mishandling of the situations."

Read More: <https://thehimalayantimes.com/opinion/balens-politics-of-silence-and-absence-not-a-harbinger-of-good-omen>

New Mandate, New Risks: Nepal's Foreign Policy under Scrutiny

Kanak Mani Dixit 21 May 2026

"The Government of Prime Minister Balendra Shah, with its parliamentary power and political momentum, must work to address unresolved and emerging international issues that impact Nepal's wellbeing. Rather than a swashbuckling style and attitude, the management of foreign affairs requires sobriety, historical sensibility, and long-term outlook."

Read More: <https://myrepublica.nagariknetwork.com/news/nepals-foreign-affairs-risks-and-recommendations-25-93.html>

How the Dynamics of Power and Creativity Shape Nepal's Literary Landscape

Abhi Subedi | 23 May 2026

"It is easier to analyse the current political change in Nepal, but making a literary assessment is neither straightforward nor predictable. The electoral event and the dynamics of interim change have shaped the current politics. No such predictable events have occurred in literature."

Read More: <https://kathmandupost.com/columns/2026/05/23/how-the-dynamics-of-power-and-creativity-shape-nepal-s-literary-landscape>

Kazakhstan and Türkiye Recast their Eurasian Role

Assel Satubaldina | 16 May 2026

"Ambitions surrounding the Middle Corridor still face major limitations, including infrastructure bottlenecks, customs inefficiencies and regional instability stretching from the South Caucasus to the Middle East."

Read More: <https://astanatimes.com/2026/05/kazakhstan-and-turkiye-recast-their-eurasian-role/>

Middle Powers and the “Voice of the Region” – Is Central Asia Becoming a Coordinated Actor?

Timur Serikuly | 19 May 2026

“Regional dynamics remain highly sensitive to any attempt by a single state to assert leadership. As a result, inclusivity and equality are likely to remain essential conditions for the long-term sustainability of the C5+Azerbaijan framework.”

Read More: <https://timesca.com/middle-powers-and-the-voice-of-the-region-is-central-asia-becoming-a-coordinated-actor/>

Balanced Vision of Turkic Cooperation

Dávid Biró | 19 May 2026

“The Turkistan summit strengthened Kazakhstan’s image as a responsible regional actor that can combine civilizational leadership with pragmatic diplomacy. By hosting the meeting, proposing actionable initiatives, and anchoring the discussion in both the spiritual and technological dimensions of Turkic unity, Kazakhstan helped shape an OTS agenda.”

Read More: <https://astanatimes.com/2026/05/balanced-vision-of-turkic-cooperation/>

Why Kazakhstan is Moving Ahead in GDP Per Capita

Dr. Robert M. Cutler | 22 May 2026

“Kazakhstan has moved from post-Soviet recovery to resource-backed accumulation. It now faces the harder task of converting accumulated wealth into a more competitive, rules-based, and socially credible economy. The GDP per capita figure is an accomplishment but not a triumph; yet it gives grounds for conditional confidence.”

Read More: <https://timesca.com/why-kazakhstan-is-moving-ahead-in-gdp-per-capita/>

Iran’s Iraqi Front

Abdulrahman Al-Rashed | 21 May 2026

“Tehran has grown accustomed to circumventing direct understandings by escalating conflicts through proxy arenas, which makes the militia file an organic part of the regional security equation, not a separate issue.”

Read More: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2644503>

The Economic Shock of the Iran War will Hit the World in Four Waves

Umair Waqas | 21 May 2026

“The framework peace agreement, when it comes, will be photographed, signed and described as the end of the war. It will be the end of the war only for those who fought it. For the economies on whose backs the bill is being written, the war would be just beginning.”

Read More: <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2026/5/21/the-crises-caused-by-the-iran-war-will-hit-the-world-in-four-waves>

Iran Runs Dry as Islamic Republic Funds Ideology and Foreign Proxies

Mohammad Nayeb Yazdi, Mehdi Ketabchy and Saeed Ghasseminejad | 08 May 2026

“The constraint is neither technical nor financial: it is political. As long as the current regime remains in power, resources that could stabilize and modernize Iran’s water systems will continue to be diverted toward non-productive ideological ends.”

Read More: <https://www.iranintl.com/en/202605082666>

Iran War: Peace Hangs by a Fragile Thread; the Poor Suffer Consequences

Ameen Izzadeen | 22 May 2026

“Iran’s position suggests readiness for another round of fighting if US attacks. With both sides upping the ante, much like boxers before a professional encounter, frustration builds across both developing and developed economies as leaders struggle to prevent currency slides and rising hardships for their people.”

Read More: <https://timesca.com/middle-powers-and-the-voice-of-the-region-is-central-asia-becoming-a-coordinated-actor/>

The Unbroken Spirit of Zahedan: How 54 Years of Sacrifice Defies the Mullahs’ Execution Machine

Matin Karim | 24 May 2026

“The Resistance Units made it clear that their struggle is a fight against any form of tyranny, blocking any attempt to hijack the Iranian revolution. In public spaces across Zahedan, activists displayed signs reading, “A dictator is a dictator, whether with a turban or a crown,” and “No to shah no to mullahs. The people of Iran desire a democratic republic.”

Read More: <https://www.eurasiareview.com/24052026-the-unbroken-spirit-of-zahedan-how-54-years-of-sacrifice-defies-the-mullahs-execution-machine-oped/>

Iran Did Not Win the War. It Won Something More Dangerous

AJ Jaff | 24 May 2026

“If Iran survives this war with its institutional architecture intact, the demonstration effect for every mineral-rich developing nation currently calculating whether to align with Washington or hedge toward Beijing is more strategically consequential than any military outcome.”

Read More: <https://www.jpost.com/defense-and-tech/article-897084>

How the Gulf Energy Crisis is Reshaping Asian Economies

Morgan D. Bazilian | 14 May 2026

“The most immediate impact was the severance of crude supply to Asian refiners. Tanker traffic through the Strait fell to less than 10 percent of pre-war levels within weeks of the closure. Brent crude surged from approximately \$68 per barrel in mid-February to above \$120 per barrel by mid-March and the price that Asian and Middle Eastern importers pay for delivered crude reached \$132 per barrel by early April.”

Read More: <https://www.e-ir.info/pdf/111964>

Barghouti’s Election Shows Fatah Congress Matters

Daoud Kuttab | 22 May 2026

“While the Palestinian leadership has largely been shunned by Israel (except for security coordination) and by the US (at the request of Israel), the fact that a popular, uncorrupt leader mustered such a high vote count while imprisoned dismisses the regularly repeated Israeli-American excuses for not engaging with the Palestinian leadership.”

Read More: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2644577>

The GCC Should Insure Itself Against the Next Strait of Hormuz Crisis

Nikolay Kozhanov and Şaban Kardaş | 24 May 2026

“A well-functioning swap mechanism and infrastructure in place that can be used whenever a threat of closure is made, then clients would feel more confident in continuing their relationships with all Gulf suppliers. In the longer term, this could serve as the GCC’s insurance against any new turbulence in the region.”

Read More: <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2026/5/24/the-gcc-should-insure-itself-against-the-next-strait-of-hormuz-crisis>

REGION IN PICTURES

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets with President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Abu Dhabi, UAE on 15 May 2026.



Pic Credits: Press Information Bureau, Government of India

Iranian foreign minister Abbas Araghchi with Indian external affairs minister Dr. S. Jaishankar on the sidelines of the BRICS foreign ministers' meeting in Delhi on 15 May 2026.



Pic Credits: The Wire

Chinese State Councilor and Minister of Public Security Wang Xiaohong with heads of delegations attending the second China-Central Asia ministerial conference in Astana, Kazakhstan, on 18 May 2026.



Pic Credits: The State Council, The People's Republic of China

Iranian President Masud Pezeshkian meets with Pakistani army chief, Field Marshal Asim Munir, in Tehran, Iran on 23 May 2026.



Pic Credits: Iranian Presidency Office



**Centre for Aerospace Power
and Strategic Studies**

The Centre for Aerospace Power and Strategic Studies (CAPSS) is an independent, non-profit think tank that undertakes and promotes policy related research, study and discussion on defence and military issues, trends, and development in air power and space for civil and military purposes, as also related issues of national security. The Centre is headed by Air Vice Marshal Anil Golani (Retd).

Centre for Aerospace Power and Strategic Studies
P-284, Arjan Path, Subroto Park, New Delhi 110010
Tel: +91 11 25699130/32, Fax: +91 11 25682533

NOTE: **Regional Opinion and Trends** aims to capture prevailing opinions in South Asia and West Asia.

Editor: Dr Shalini Chawla e-mail: shaluchawla@yahoo.com

Compilation and Designing: Ms Priyadarshini Baruah and Mr Rohit Singh

The views expressed in this brief are those of the author and not necessarily of the Centre or any other organisation.