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## Corporate Jihad in Maharashtra's Nashik



- Criticism of Ghar Wapsi campaign
- Pakistani attack on Afghan university
- United Arab Emirates announces exit from OPEC
- Bangladesh extends citizenship to 22,000 Rohingya refugees

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## Summary

These days, the issue of Muslim employees working at TCS in Nashik, Maharashtra, pressuring Hindu women colleagues to convert their religion has become a subject of widespread discussion. The police have registered nine cases and arrested seven persons on the basis of complaints filed by a few Hindu women employees. The main accused in the case, Nida Khan, is still absconding. The women victims have complained to the police that Nida Khan, with the help of her Muslim men colleagues, had been putting pressure on them to keep Roza, offer namaz and eat beef. These Hindu women were even sexually exploited on the promise of marriage. Though the matter is quite serious, the Urdu press and a section of media have been trying to give it a different colour. The Urdu press is alleging that this campaign is being orchestrated by the ruling party with the deliberate intent of excluding Muslims from jobs in the corporate sector.

The Uttarakhand government has announced the dissolution of the madrasa board and constituted a minorities education board to manage all educational institutions being run by minorities. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama, while describing it as a historical step, said this board has been constituted so that the minorities get equal and higher-level education. On the other hand, the Uttar Pradesh government has demolished the madrasa of Maulana Shamsul Huda Khan, who holds a British citizenship. The district administration claimed that this madrasa was constructed without government's permission and huge discrepancies were found in the land purchased for the same. Similarly, the Jammu-Kashmir administration has imposed a ban on Madrasa Jamia Sirajul Uloom in Shopian under the UAPA. It is being said that this madrasa is being run by banned Islamic organisation Jamaat-e-Islami Jammu-Kashmir.

The clashes between Pakistan and Afghanistan are escalating. Recently, Pakistan fired mortars and missiles at an Afghan university. Seven persons were killed in this attack. The Taliban government in Afghanistan has warned Pakistan that if these border violations are not stopped immediately, Afghanistan will be forced to take retaliatory action.

An important information has been received regarding Rohingya Muslims. Several Muslim nations which talk about Islamic brotherhood are not ready to give asylum to Rohingya Muslims. Recently, following a special request by the Saudi Arabian government, the Bangladesh issued passports to nearly 22,000 Rohingya Muslims staying in Saudi Arabia so that they could get legal documents. Saudi Arabia's claim is that even now more than 69,000 Rohingyas are staying in Saudi Arabia without passports, whose identification and surveillance pose a major challenge from a security perspective. Currently more than 10 lakh Rohingya refugees are camping in Bangladesh earlier itself.

In a major strategic decision, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) announced to exist itself from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and OPEC Plus. This decision by UAE is considered as a major setback to oil producers, especially to Saudi Arabia. Energy experts believe that this decision will provide UAE with more flexibility in the supply of crude oil, petroleum products and gas, that will enable them to freely trade with its allied countries.

## Corporate jihad in Maharashtra's Nashik



The issue of 'corporate jihad' is taking a serious turn every day in Maharashtra. A few Hindu women employees of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) located in Nashik have registered a complaint that the Muslim managers and employees working with the company had forced them to eat beef, offer namaz and wear burqa. This apart, they were put under lot of pressure to convert to Islam. Not only this, a few victims alleged that they were even raped on the pretext of marriage. The police are conducting a detailed investigation into the issue and several arrests have been made so far.

**Qaumi Tanzeem** (May 4) states that the District and Sessions Court has refused to grant anticipatory bail to Nida Khan, the prime accused in Nashik's highly publicised 'corporate jihad' case. The lawyers of Nida Khan told journalists that an appeal will be filed in the high court against the verdict. In this case, Nida Khan is the sole accused who has been absconding for more than a month. It is to be noted that Additional Sessions Judge K G Joshi had rejected the bail application of Nida Khan on May 2, 2026. Lawyer of Nida Khan, Rahul Kasaliwal and Baba Syed argued in the court that as per the sections under which the case was

registered, they could be awarded a punishment of maximum seven years in jail. He also argued that Nida Khan herself is a woman, and therefore, the allegation that she raped or molested another woman is not logical. The lawyers claimed that Nida Khan is currently pregnant and she will cooperate with the police in the investigation. Further, the defence argued that even if the police's allegations were accepted as true, no strict law against religious conversion currently exists in Maharashtra. Hence, the charges against them could amount to nothing more than hurting religious sentiments.

It is worth mentioning that Nida Khan was employed at the TCS BPO located in Nashik. She is accused of inducing and coercing several Hindu women employees to convert. A total of eight accused have been named in this matter. Though the police have arrested all the other accused, Nida Khan is absconding for nearly one-and-a-half month. The SIT constituted by Nashik Police is searching for main accused Nida Khan and has been conducting raids in different places of Maharashtra.

In court, Special Public Prosecutor Ajay Misar argued that the prime accused, Nida Khan, faces grave allegations of



coercing women employees to embrace Islam through various forms of harassment. He clarified that custodial interrogation of Nida Khan is essential to get to the bottom of this entire conspiracy. As per the case registered with police, Nida Khan had put pressure on several Hindu women workers employed with the TCS office to wear burqa or hijab and observe Islamic Shariah principles. According to the police, several Hindu women employed at the Nashik branch of TCS were harassed by their male Muslim colleagues in an attempt to force them to convert. This apart, these Hindu women were also sexually exploited on the pretext of marriage. Till now, seven people have been arrested in this case, which includes a woman manager as well. The arrested have been identified as Danish Eizaz Sheikh, Tausif Bilal Attar, Raza Rafiq Memon, Shahrukh Qureshi, Shafi Sheikh, Asif Ansari and Ashwini Chainani. Till now, the Nashik police have registered a total of nine cases in the matter.

It is worth mentioning that the Maharashtra Police's SIT had arrested all the accused in this case on April 23, 2026. Initially, the court had sent them to police custody till April 29. Later, the court had extended this custodial period two times on the request of the police. On the other hand, the TCS had clarified last month that the company's policy is very strong regarding the protection of women and immediate action would be taken against any individual involved in sexual exploitation.

**Hindustan** (April 20) states that Nida Khan, who has been absconding in the TCS case, has been suspended from the

job. The police raided several hideouts in Mumbai, Mumbra and Bhiwandi in search of her. According to police, Nida Khan is pregnant and she had undergone treatment at a hospital in Mumbra. A doctor in the hospital, Samayala Azmi told police that Nida came for medical tests two times. Upon experiencing fatigue due to pregnancy, the doctor advised her to be admitted to the hospital for a week and to remain

on medical leave for a month, and also issued a medical certificate to that effect. Nashik police commissioner Sandeep Karnik himself is supervising this investigation.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (April 25) in its editorial alleged that some Hindu communal elements in Maharashtra have been deliberately blowing up issues like 'corporate love jihad' and 'forceful religious conversion.' A particular community is being targeted through it. In order to create an atmosphere against Muslims, campaigns like 'love jihad', 'land jihad,' 'spit jihad' and now 'corporate jihad' are being carried out. The newspaper said there is no mention of forceful conversion in the FIR filed by the police and neither the victim women had filed any such complaint with the company. However, the police are now turning this entire issue against the followers of a particular religion due to political pressure.

The newspaper claimed that the woman who has been described as the mastermind of this entire conspiracy is actually just a telecaller. The most alarming aspect is that such baseless allegations are being deliberately levelled against Muslim youth so that their employment prospects within the corporate sector are ended forever. The goal of this campaign is to economically ruin Muslims. The media, too, is deliberately presenting such incidents in a sensationalized manner, without any investigation.

In an article published in **Munsif** (April 23), it has been claimed that



communal elements are raking up the issue of corporate jihad so that big companies hesitate to hire young Muslims. The newspaper has written that unfortunately several media houses and newspapers are liberally using words like ‘religious conversion’ and ‘love jihad’ for TRP. In this way, a hate campaign is being unleashed against a major section of the community, which is a live example of media trial against Muslims.

**Urdu Times** (April 19) says that this entire issue is a bundle of lies and this has been created due to Muslim enmity. In his article, Sohail Rabbani claimed that he himself had worked with the BPO, means the call centre of Tata Group, hence he knows that the TCS episode in Nashik was baseless and untrue. The writer says that the rules regarding women's safety and dignity are very strict in the companies of Tata Group. If any girl makes a complaint against any boy, then that boy is immediately sacked from the job. In such a context, to allege—regarding a BPO of the Tata Group—that a young man was committing sexual violence against a young woman is absolutely unbelievable.

According to the writer, everyone knows the truth that this entire issue has been created to defame and harass Muslims and to create an atmosphere of hatred against them. The forces driving this kind of venomous campaign against Muslims

are currently in power. Hence, it is proving impossible to put a stop to these campaigns of hatred.

The writer claimed that the entire issue in TCS was of a love affair between a Muslim boy and a Hindu girl. The parents of the girl did not like this relationship, hence they ran this campaign against the Muslims.

The writer alleged that the goal of this entire game is to deprive the educated Muslims of employment. The doors of government jobs are closed for Muslims earlier itself and this campaign is being launched now in order to close the doors for them in the corporate world as well. This is, in fact, a calculated conspiracy of 'economic boycott' aimed at creating an atmosphere of mistrust against Muslims, even within the private sector.

**Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (April 22) said that the Nashik TCS episode is this year's biggest corporate conspiracy, in which women employees were subjected to serious allegations like sexual exploitation and forceful conversion. According to police, eight women have registered nine complaints so far, on the basis of which several people were arrested. The newspaper said that currently this issue is not limited to one company or city, instead it has become a subject of nationwide debate. The media has declared people guilty without any investigation and have

unleashed a campaign against them. This case is extremely complex and sensitive, involving truth and lies, allegations and media trial. Therefore, a thorough and serious investigation must be conducted in this regard, so that no innocent person gets entangled in a false case merely because they belong to a specific religion.



**Background:** Nashik police commissioner Sandeep Karnik said this issue started on March 26, 2026. A 23-year-old Hindu woman employee at the TCS office at Ashoka Business Enclave in Indira Nagar locality registered a complaint against her three Muslim colleagues after raising serious allegations. On the basis of this, a case was registered against Danish Sheikh, Tausif Akhtar and Nida Khan on charges of sexual harassment, molestation and hurting religious sentiments on the pretext of marriage. The police commissioner said that initially, the victim was hesitant, but after gaining confidence in the police, she filed a complaint. Later several other victimised women came to the fore and eight more FIRs were filed between April 2 and 3. All these cases were registered at Mumbai Naka police station in Nashik. As per the complaints, these incidents took place between 2022 and 2026 at the TCS office in Nashik. Currently, these cases are being heard at the Nashik District and Sessions Court.

The most sensitive point of this issue is religious conversion. The police claim that the accused intended to carry out mass conversions. In some media reports, doubts

were expressed about the hands of international racket behind this. The police commissioner of Nashik has confirmed that following initial complaints, a team of women police personnel in plainclothes were sent the TCS office. There they talked to the women employees and they were assured of protection. Following this, the victim women registered a formal complaint at the police station.

In April 17, 2026, the TCS company issued an official statement in this connection. The company claimed that in a preliminary inquiry conducted by System and Record linked to the Nashik office, the Ethics or Prevention of Sexual Harassment Committee did not receive any official complaints regarding these allegations. Commenting on the statement of the committee, the Nashik police commissioner said that it is possible that the accused must be a team leader or be of any higher level, due to which the victim women did not muster courage to register a complaint against them. He said that it was only after the police offered protection that the victim women openly came to the fore.

## Four accused in Malegaon bomb blast acquitted

**Mumbai Urdu News** (April 23) reports that the Bombay High Court, while delivering its verdict in the 2006 Malegaon bomb blast case, acquitted four accused namely Rajendra Choudhary, Dhan Singh, Manohar Ram Singh Narwaria and Lokesh Sharma. A division bench comprising Chief Justice of Bombay High Court

Justice Shree Chandrashekhar and Justice Shyam Chandak made it clear that the police and investigating agencies failed to produce credible evidence against them. The high court cancelled the order of the lower court, in which charges were framed against all the four accused. The court said that it has also been taken into account that



the statements of witnesses were recorded very late and several discrepancies were found in it, due to which the issue has become suspicious. It is to be noted that this case is related to the serial bomb blast that took place in Malegaon on September 8, 2006, in which dozens of people were killed and hundreds were injured. Initially, the case was investigated by the Maharashtra ATS. Later this responsibility was handed over to the CBI and the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

Chairman of the Maharashtra Jamiat Ulema, Maulana Halim Ullah Qasmi, said that preparations are being made to question this verdict in the Supreme Court. He said that the central investigating agencies have failed to present the matter correctly.

**Urdu Times** (April 30) in its editorial said that the decision of Bombay High Court to acquit all the accused in the Malegaon blasts has once again raised the question as to how long will the Muslim victims of Malegaon remain deprived of justice? The second major question is if this case has been closed, then who carried out the bombings of 2006, in which 31 Muslims died on the spot? This verdict has also cast serious doubts on the functioning of investigative agencies. The court has noted contradictions in the findings of the three agencies (ATS, CBI and NIA) and

stated that they disregarded the available evidence.

It is to be noted that serial bomb blasts took place at Hamidiya Masjid, Bada Kabristan and Mushawarat Chowk on the occasion of Shab-e-Baraat on September 8, 2006 in which 31 people lost their lives and hundreds were injured. Initially, the Maharashtra ATS had arrested nine Muslim youths, who remained in jail for five years and were released on bail in 2011. During this time, Muslim youths were caught in connection with the blasts at Mecca Masjid in Hyderabad as well. The accused in the Mecca Masjid and Samjhauta Express blasts, Swami Aseemanand, was also lodged in that jail where the Muslim accused in the Hyderabad blasts were also lodged.

According to media reports, Swami Aseemanand admitted that these blasts were carried out by the activists of Hindu organisations. Following this startling disclosure by him, all the Muslim accused in the Mecca Masjid issue were acquitted, while the Muslim accused in the Malegaon issue were granted bail. However, later the court observed that this statement by Swami Aseemanand could be due to pressure.

The investigation into the Malegaon bomb blasts was carried out by the CBI as well apart from the ATS. These two

agencies had reached a preliminary conclusion that the hands of Muslim youths were behind the blasts but when the NIA took over the probe, they found Hindu extremists responsible for the blasts and had given the name 'saffron terrorism' for the same. The NIA had then said that if Muslim accused files petition in the court seeking bail, they will not oppose it, due to which the path for the release of nine Muslim youths has been cleared. Later, several Hinduwadi activists were arrested, against whom action was taken under UAPA. Later these accused filed an appeal in the Bombay High Court. In January this year, the high court issued a stay on the proceedings in the lower court and now the court has acquitted them due to lack of evidence.



The second biggest blast in Malegaon took place on September 29, 2008 in which six persons were killed. A damaged motorcycle was found from the blast spot, which was registered in the name of Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur. On the basis of it, several people including Pragya Singh Thakur and Colonel Shrikant Purohit linked to Hindu organisation 'Abhinav Bharat' were arrested. Pragya Singh Thakur later obtained bail citing health reasons and became MP from Bhopal in 2019 by winning the Lok Sabha elections on BJP ticket. In July 2025, the Special NIA Court in Mumbai acquitted Pragya Thakur and Colonel Purohit of all charges.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (April 24) alleged that the government and the investigating agencies have a dual policy on the issue of terrorism. At one level, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while mentioning about the Pahalgam incident, said that India will never succumb to terrorism and the fight against the terrorists will continue. The Prime Minister's words

sound good, but the High Court's verdict regarding the Malegaon bomb blast—delivered on that very same day—exposes the hollowness of his claims. The editorial raises the question: while the alleged attackers in Pahalgam were killed in an encounter without any lengthy investigation—and their homes subsequently demolished—why have the accused in the Malegaon case not been punished?

The answer for this is that all those killed in the Pahalgam attack were Hindus and the allegation for their murder is on Muslims, but in Malegaon those killed were Muslims and the allegation of killing them is on Hindus. In such a situation, it would not be wrong to say that the Modi government bowed down before Hindu terrorists, and under their pressure, investigative agencies failed to conduct a proper investigation.

**Etemaad** (April 24) in its editorial said that due to this verdict of the court, the victim families of Malegaon suffered a huge jolt. The newspaper alleged that the stand of the government is anti-Muslim right from the beginning. In the initial stages of the blast, the ATS had arrested nine Muslim youths after finding SIMI as responsible. These innocent youths remained in jail for years, due to which not only theirs, even the life of their families were destroyed. The newspaper said that a huge section of society is losing faith in the justice system due to such court verdicts.

## Criticism of Ghar Wapsi campaign



**Urdu Times** (April 23) has published an article written by the chief of All India Muslim Personal Law Board, Maulana Khalid Saifullah Rahmani. In his article, Rahmani has glorified Islam and used objectionable language against Sanatan Dharma. In his article, Rahmani has strongly criticised the statement of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat regarding 'Ghar Wapsi.' It has been argued in the article that the interest of Mohan Bhagwat in Ghar Wapsi is to see that Muslims and Christians abandon their religion and adopt Sanatan Dharma.

According to the newspaper, this invitation by him runs contrary to the fundamental spirit of the Indian Constitution, as the Constitution grants every individual the freedom to choose a religion of their choice and to practice it accordingly. The government is not permitted to interfere in this. It has further been said in the article that the communal elements are facing difficulties due to the religious freedom being guaranteed in the Constitution, as the religion they follow is based on inequality among human beings.

In this religion, women are deprived of social rights and the right to religious practices is being limited to Brahmins and upper castes. How can proponents of social inequality invite people of other religions to embrace their own faith? The religions whose followers they are inviting to join their own faith are founded on equality, and

there is no discrimination within them on the basis of caste.

Rahmani has written that it is strange that in the very Sanatan Dharma into which Mohan Bhagwat is extending an invitation to join, a large section of society is still denied permission to enter many temples. In the article, while taking a dig at Sanatan Dharma, it is stated that idols—which can neither speak, nor move, nor even swat away a fly sitting upon them—have been accepted as God. Similarly, for a woman who becomes a widow—no matter how young she may be—the doors to remarriage have been closed.

The writer alleged that in Sanatan Dharma, a certain section of society is regarded in such a way that if their hand merely touches a vessel containing food or water, that vessel is declared impure and unfit for use. It is clear—how can it possibly be expected that any sensible person would accept such a religion?

This is the reason why new people are not entering this house and people are abandoning this religion and adopting new religion for centuries. In Iran, Afghanistan, East Asia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Cambodia and Taiwan, lakhs of people have voluntarily abandoned this ancient religion. This is not a problem of current Hinduism, rather, throughout history, no polytheistic community possessed any solid argument for adhering to their ancient religion.

Rahmani has written that “If a group has left your home, you should first identify the weaknesses within your home.” For example, at present, the market for Islamophobia is booming from West to East. Yet, despite this, the number of followers of Islam continues to rise steadily. People are abandoning their old religion and adopting Islam. This is not a small number, but in the recent years the world population of Muslims has increased from 1.7 billion to more than 2 billion. Among the total population of the world,



“O people, do not worship anyone other than Parameshwar; therein lies your true benefit.” The Rigveda conveys the message that divine wrath befalls those who worship various deities.

It is evident from this that even in Hindu religious scriptures, emphasis has been placed on the very principles of Islam. Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati, a great scholar of the Vedas, has stated in his book

‘Satyarth Prakash’ that God is one.

Rahmani claimed that Christians have created three Gods and those who describe themselves as Sanatani have 33 crore devi-devatas, hence Islam is the only religion, which is the true home of all human beings. The RSS should also invite people to join their 'real home', i.e. Islam, instead of calling them to its 'fake home'.

If all the people in the country accept Islam and come to their true home, then all problems related to caste and social hierarchy will cease to exist.

**Urdu Times** (April 20) in its editorial complained that the RSS and the organisations linked to it are rapidly penetrating into police and the organisations involved in maintaining peace. This is the reason why the police and the administration are now adopting an anti-Muslim stance. Those people in the police and the administration think of Muslims and Christians as second class citizens and are misusing their rights to implement the ideology of RSS. This is the reason why there is a rapid increase in the incidents of atrocities on the minorities in police custody. Even in the CSTS report, the discriminatory stand of the police and the administration has been exposed. ■

the number of Muslims was once 24 percent and it has now increased to 26 percent. Population experts say that Islam will become the biggest religion in the world by 2050 and the population of Muslims will increase to 2.8 billion. Along with this, the representation of Muslims in the world population will become 30 percent.

The interesting thing is that the increase in the population of Islam is not due to any Ghar Wapsi programme, instead it is due to the attraction towards the principles of Islam. In Islam, equality is accorded to all sections of society, and its teachings are just and rational. It has been said in the article that no matter how intense a campaign of hatred Sangh supporters wage against Muslims, they will never succeed in diverting Muslims from their path. This is a matter of the heart and mind, which cannot be bought with threats or money.

In his article, Rahmani urged that every Muslim should invite non-Muslims to join Islam.

Citing Rigveda, Rahmani said that it commands the worship of only one God and prohibits the worship of multiple deities. It has been said in the Rigveda that

## Uttarakhand government's decision to dissolve Madrasa Board



**Inquilab** (April 21) reports that Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama has announced the decision to dissolve the madrasa board. As per the new directive of the government, it will be mandatory to implement the curriculum prescribed by Uttarakhand Education Board in all the madrasas in the state from July, 2026. This apart, there will not be permission to teach any other religious texts or private books in the madrasas. Chief Minister Dhama has described it as a historic step towards a common syllabus in all the educational institutions in the state. He warned that those institutions which violate this will be immediately shut down. The government's argument is that this decision will help students from all communities join the mainstream.

The Shahi Imam of Fatehpuri Masjid Mufti Mukarram Ahmed said that this decision is a violation of the fundamental rights given to the minorities by the Constitution. This will not be tolerated as the BJP government in the state is deliberately interfering in the religious affairs of Muslims. Meanwhile, All India Muslim Personal Law Board announced its decision to question this verdict in the Supreme Court. Maulana Khalid Rashid Firangi Mahali said that this decision is

motivated by a sentiment of hatred against Islam and Muslims.

It is to be noted that earlier the Uttarakhand cabinet had given nod to Uttarakhand Minority Education Bill. This Bill provides that the Minority Education Board, constituted by the State Government, shall oversee the educational administration of minority institutions within the State.

**Inquilab** (April 28) reports that in compliance with the directives of the National Human Rights Commission, the Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Education Board has issued strict orders to all District Minority Welfare Officers in the state. The board has warned these officials that stringent disciplinary action will be taken against them if they do not provide details about the madrasas, teachers and managers under their respective jurisdiction to the state government.

**Inquilab** (April 27) reports that the madrasa of Maulana Shamsul Huda Khan, who has a British citizenship, located in Khalilabad in Sant Kabir Nagar in Uttar Pradesh, has been demolished using bulldozers amid the presence of a strong contingent of police force. The district administration claimed that this madrasa was constructed without government



permission and several discrepancies were also found in the land purchased for the purpose. According to the administration, the entire investigation into the case is being conducted by Uttar Pradesh ATS and Enforcement Directorate (ED). It has been assumed from the report of the intelligence department that funds are being obtained from foreign sources to fuel suspicious

activities under the guise of running this madrasa.

The administration has made it clear that the SDM has issued the order on January 13, 2026 itself to demolish this building. The madrasa committee had questioned this before the divisional commissioner court, but the court rejected their petition. It was only after that this action for demolition started.

**Inquilab** (April 23) states that the Allahabad High Court has expressed concern over the suspension of the recognition of several madrasas in the state and on non-payment of salaries to nearly 22,000 teachers for the past two years. The court directed the state government to take a decision regarding the payment dues and the disputes regarding the recognition within two months.

## Urdu mandate for government jobs in Jammu-Kashmir lifted



**Urdu Times** (April 21) reports that the Jammu-Kashmir government has removed the mandatory condition of knowing Urdu language for employment in the revenue department in the state. The state government has issued new guidelines for the 'Jammu and Kashmir Revenue Service Recruitment' for non-gazetted posts. It is to

be noted that last year, the state BJP had lodged a protest stating that the stipulation of knowledge in Urdu language for recruitment of Naib Tehsildar is against the National Education Policy and the government has to withdraw the same. Following this controversy, the matter was sent to the Central Administrative Tribunal



(CAT), which had declared that the stipulation of mandatory knowledge in Urdu as illegal for the posts of Naib Tehsildar and Tehsildar.

It is to be noted that under the 2009 law, knowledge of Urdu is mandatory for these posts in the revenue department. In Jammu-Kashmir, Urdu is the official language for the past 125 years and all the land records are in this language. Candidates from the Jammu region had strongly opposed the criteria for 75 posts advertised by the Services Selection Board in June 2025. Consequently, under the new rules, a bachelor's degree has now been established as the sole eligibility criterion. The government has announced 50,000 new recruitments in the upcoming phases, including 507 posts of Naib Tehsildar, 2,000 of Girdawar, and 8,000 of Patwari.

Meanwhile, the Jammu-Kashmir Urdu Council, while describing this decision of the government as an attack on Urdu, demanded withdrawal of the notification. On the other hand, the BJP spokesperson Zorawar Singh Jamwal, while welcoming it, described it as an equal opportunity for all communities.

**Hamara Samaj** (April 29) states that the Jammu-Kashmir government has sealed Jamia Siraj ul Uloom, one of the biggest Islamic madrasas in the state, after declaring it as illegal under the UAPA. The government's allegation is that this educational institution was being run by banned organisation Jamaat-e-Islami Jammu-Kashmir and it was getting illegal

money from foreign sources. The Shopian district administration has issued orders that no individual shall gather in the vicinity of this madrasa, nor attempt to enter it, otherwise, they will be arrested immediately. Prominent lawyer of Shopian, Nasir Islam, says that more than 800 children get education in this madrasa and more than 170 employees and teachers work there. He said that government syllabus is taught in this madrasa and it has recognition from the state education board.

It is to be noted that a few years ago, when Jamaat-e-Islami was declared as illegal in Jammu-Kashmir, several educational institutions linked to it were shut down and alternative arrangements were made at government schools for the students studying there. Former chief minister of Jammu-Kashmir, Mehbooba Mufti, while criticising this decision of the government, said that the government deliberately wants to keep Muslims out of modern education. She argued that children belonging to poor families study in the schools which were closed and the government does not have any credible evidence to prove that this institution is involved in any anti-national activities.

**Inqilab** (May 1) reports that a case for treason has been filed against Mehbooba Mufti's daughter Iltija Mufti. The state government alleged that Iltija had praised separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani on social media and incited the people of the state to take part in terrorist activities.

## Pakistan's attack on Afghan University



**Hamara Samaj** (April 28) states that Afghanistan's education ministry has alleged that at least seven persons were killed and more than 100 injured following an attack by the Pakistan military on the Sayed Jamaluddin Aghani University located in Kunar province in Afghanistan. It is being said that Pakistan fired mortars and missiles on the university and the neighbouring residential areas when the Afghan students were engrossed in their studies in different rooms of the university. The Afghan government declared emergency in the entire region and urged the citizens to donate blood en masse to save the lives of the injured.

On the other hand, the Pakistan government, while rejecting these allegations, said they had nothing to do with these attacks. Following this, the Afghanistan's Foreign Ministry summoned the 'Charge de Affairs' at the Pakistani Embassy located in Kabul and handed over a protest letter. In this letter, a strong protest was lodged over Pakistan army's attack after entering Afghan border and said that Pakistan is attacking its citizens after violating Afghanistan's air space and the Durand Line. Strongly condemning this, the Afghan government said these attacks were a violation of international

laws. According to the foreign ministry, Pakistan had been urged time and again to stop these attacks, but the attacks still continue. The Afghan government warned that if these series of attack doesn't stop, there will be serious consequences.

According to the newspaper, more than a dozen clashes took place between Pakistan and Afghan armies on the border areas. These clashes began from the nearby areas in Chaman border, in which at least two dozen soldiers of each side were killed. Pakistan alleged that the Afghan army crossed the border in Bajaur and attacked Pakistani outposts. In the retaliatory attack by Pakistan, more than two dozen Afghan soldiers were killed, while six Pakistani soldiers were injured. This apart, bloody clashes took place between the soldiers of the two countries in the border areas like Salarzai and Samarkand in Bajaur district. As per a press release of Pakistan's defence department, 12 Pakistani soldiers were killed in these clashes. Those killed included a major and three other military officials, whereas two soldiers were injured.

**Hindustan** (April 26) states that Afghan Media Support Organisation (AMSO) said the Pakistan government conducted raids in different cities of

Pakistan and took into custody six journalists of Afghanistan origin and forcibly sent them back to Afghanistan. They included two women journalists as well. AMSO urged journalist organisations across the world that they intervene in this issue so that the Pakistan government stops the persecution of Afghan journalists and their illegal expulsion from Pakistan. This apart, it has also been demanded from the United Nations Refugee Commission that they intervene for the protection of the Afghan journalists working in Pakistan and exert pressure on Pakistan government to immediately stop the harassment of Afghan media.



**Chattan** (April 30) reports that the European Union has condemned the Pakistani attack on Afghan university. In a statement issued in this connection, it has been said that educational institutions should not be targeted in mutual disputes. In the statement, the two countries have

been urged to respect the borders and do not violate international laws.

**Chattan** (April 29) states that due to the increasing attacks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, tension has reached its pinnacle in the region. Afghanistan's 'TOLO News' claimed that the Pakistani army entered Afghan territory and shot dead an innocent child near Spin Boldak. The incident took place when the child was playing outside his house. As per the data of the office of United Nations located in Kabul, more than one lakh people have been rendered homeless this month due to the clashes that took place between the armies of the two countries.

## Attack on mining company in Balochistan

**Chattan** (April 25) reports that Balochistan's home ministry has confirmed that 10 people including a Turkish citizen were killed in an attack on a mining company named National Resources Limited located in Balochistan. This apart, nearly a dozen people were injured. According to police sources, the attackers were equipped with most modern weapons. Majority of those killed belonged to Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The incharge of Prince Fahad Hospital said that 10 bodies were brought to the hospital and eight injured were also admitted, among which the condition of few are serious.

According to witnesses, the fighters of Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) took few people as hostage and took them away. This company carries out gold and

copper mining operations in this region in collaboration with China. A spokesperson of Frontier Corps claimed that curfew has been imposed in this entire region and the army is searching for the attackers.

**Hindustan** (April 26) states that Baloch Students Organisation (BSO), while making a serious charge on the Pakistan army, said they are abducting Baloch women and girls and keeping them in custody at unidentified places. The central spokesperson of this organisation Sholaan Baloch alleged that Pakistan had illegally occupied Balochistan in 1948. He further said that provoked by the campaigns being waged against the Pakistani Army by organizations struggling for the independence of Balochistan, the military has forcibly disappeared nearly two dozen



women from areas including Quetta, Karachi, Hub, Khuzdar, Panjgur, and Awaran.

**Chattan** (April 19) states that the spate of targeted killings of members of the Hazara tribe—part of the Shia community—in Quetta shows no signs of abating.

Recently, five Shia vegetable vendors were shot dead in Hazar Ganji locality in Quetta. According to police, the assailants came on a motorcycle with their faces being covered by masks. Leader of Hazara Democratic Party and former legislator Qadir Nayal said that in the past

two decades, more than 2,000 people belonging to Hazara community were killed in such targeted killings. In the wake of this massacre, a large number of Shia families have left Balochistan and migrated towards Sindh.

**Chattan** (April 26) reports that a young Hindu man was shot dead in broad daylight in the city of Sukkur, Sindh. According to an organisation named ‘Voice of Pakistan Minorities,’ the name of the deceased was Vishal Kumar. The organisation alleged that attackers opened indiscriminate firing at the shop of Vishal located in Sukkur, resulting in his death.

## Bangladesh grants citizenship to 22,000 Rohingya refugees

**Aurangabad Times** (April 24) states that the Bangladesh government has issued Bangladeshi passport to nearly 22,000 Rohingya Muslims staying in Saudi Arabia following a special request by the Saudi Arabian government. Bangladesh home minister Salahuddin Ahmad clarified that passports have been issued to those Rohingya Muslims who had gone to Saudi Arabia for employment opportunities and have been staying there. The Bangladesh government took this step so that these refugees will get legitimate travel documents and they are not expelled from Saudi Arabia.

On the other hand, the Saudi government says that the 69,000 Rohingya

Muslims who have come from Bangladesh are still staying in Saudi Arabia without passport. The Saudi Ambassador in Bangladesh asked the Bangladesh government to arrange passport to these refugees as early as possible. It is to be noted that nearly one lakh Rohingya Muslims had gone to Saudi Arabia through Bangladesh. For Saudi Arabia, it is not easy to keep an eye on these Rohingya Muslims without having passports. Saudi government wants all these people to have legal documents so that they could be easily identified. The Saudi government also has this fear that if the Bangladesh government does not provide passport to these Rohingya Muslims now, it would be

difficult to send them back from Saudi Arabia in future. Bangladesh may refuse to accept them, which would increase the difficulties of Saudi Arabia. This is the reason why the Saudi government wanted to create Bangladeshi passport to all these Rohingya Muslims by putting pressure on Bangladesh government.



According to the newspaper, the Saudi government is working as per Vision 2030, under which illegal residents are being expelled from the country. The Saudi government says that a stringent law regarding immigration would be implemented in the country. In such a situation, nearly one lakh Rohingya Muslims have become an issue of concern for Saudi Arabia. It is worth mentioning that more than 10 lakh Rohingya refugees are already staying in Bangladesh, due to which a food crisis has occurred in the country. Due to Rohingya Muslims, there is a huge increase in crimes in several parts of Bangladesh. In fact, Bangladesh does not

have so much resources to spend for the rehabilitation of these refugees. According to official sources, more than seven lakh Rohingya Muslims are currently staying in refugee camps. The United Nations had also given them the status of refugees, due to which they get maintenance allowance from the United Nations. This apart, the Bangladesh government has sought financial help from Saudi government. Earlier in 2022, the Saudi government had announced investments worth 10 billion dollars in Bangladesh, but due to the unstable political system, it could not be implemented.

## Huge increase in the activities of Islamic terrorists in Philippines

**Urdu Times** (April 18) states that Islamic terrorists have become active once again in Philippines. Recently, the army has shot dead 10 Islamic terrorists in a fierce encounter. According to the newspaper, these terrorists belong to 'Dawlah Islamiya-Maute Group', which is linked to Islamic terrorist organisation ISIS. According to police officers, when the army arrived in a village in Lanao del Sur province in South Philippines to arrest terrorists, they started attacking the security forces. In the retaliatory action by the army, 10 terrorists including the chief commander of this terrorist group Amerol Mangoranca were killed, which included women as well. Following this clash, the army seized a huge cache of modern

weapons and bomb-making material from the village.

It is to be noted that a peace deal took place between the Philippines government and the Islamic terrorist organisation Moro Islamic Liberation Front in 2014. Under this agreement, major terrorist organisations had surrendered their weapons. However, some terrorist groups did not take part in this agreement and they continued to carry out terrorist activities time and again.

It is to be noted that South Philippines has been a centre of terrorist activities for a long time now. In this region, Islamic terrorist organisations like Abu Sayyaf group, New People's Army, Jemaah Islamiyah and Alex Boncayao

Brigade are active, whose links are with world Islamic terrorist networks. As per media reports, the accused in the massive terrorist attack that took place at Bondi beach in Australia in December 2025, Sajid Akram and Navid Akram, had gone to Philippines just before the attack. It is being said there they met the terrorists belonging to Islamic terrorist organisation ISIS and received training at their secret

camps there. ISIS has been active in Philippines for a long time. This terrorist organisation has established several bases in the southern region of Philippines. In 2017, the ISIS had seized control of Marawi town in Philippines. The army had to launch a five-month long campaign against the terrorists to free this town from their clutches. Nearly 1,000 terrorists were killed in this operation.

## Mali's defence minister killed in terrorist attack



**Hamara Samaj** (April 27) reports that terrorist organisation Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin (JNIM), linked to Al Qaeda and separatist Azawad Liberation Front (FLA) came together and carried out coordinated attacks in different parts of the country including in western African nation Mali's capital Bamako. According to media reports, the terrorists of JNIM attacked the residence of Mali's defence minister Sadio Camara, located in the garrison town of Kati, during which he was killed. Mali's military headquarters confirmed that the

JNIM carried out attacks in 18 places in the past one month, in which at least 500 people were killed. It is to be noted that FLA is a Tuareg-dominated rebel group, fighting for the establishment of a separate state.

Mali's government spokesperson alleged that the terrorists attacked military camps in Gao and Kidal and destroyed two helicopters. The spokesperson of Tuareg rebels claimed that now their main goal is to capture Gao and Timbuktu. On the other hand, the army deployed battle tanks in capital Bamako and tightened security at international airport. United Nations General Secretary Antonio Guterres, while condemning the violence, expressed solidarity with the people of Mali. On the other hand, the Africa bureau of US State Department also strongly condemned these attacks and expressed condolences to the victims and their families. It is to be noted that a military junta headed by General Assimi Goita is currently in power in Mali, who seized power through a military coup in 2020.

## UAE announces its exit from OPEC



**Inqilab** (April 29) reports that the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has taken a major strategic decision to separate itself from the oil exporting countries' organisations, OPEC and OPEC Plus.

This decision by the UAE will come into effective implementation from May 1, 2026. This major shift is being considered a significant setback for oil exporting countries, particularly Saudi Arabia. This announcement comes at a time when Iran is stuck in a war situation, the energy sector is passing through a historic crisis, and the international economy is facing uncertainty.

UAE energy minister Suhail Mohamed Al Mazrouei told the British news agency, Reuters, that this decision was taken keeping in mind a deep study of the energy sector and future strategies.

He clarified that the UAE has been an active member of OPEC for the last 60 years, but looking at the current circumstances, this step had become necessary. It is noteworthy that OPEC Plus is an influential organisation of oil-producing countries, which includes non-Arab nations such as Russia in addition to Arab countries.

The main objective of this organisation is to control oil production in

the global market and maintain balance in prices. The UAE energy minister clarified that this decision has been taken impartially in the national interest. This decision will provide the UAE with more flexibility in the sectors of crude oil, petroleum products, and gas supply, allowing it to trade independently with partner countries.

According to **Inqilab** (May 1), the UAE fuel price committee has also announced new prices for petroleum products. Despite global uncertainty, the committee has arrived at the decision to keep diesel prices unchanged. Its main objective is to strengthen logistics and supply chain management while maintaining stability in the market. The decision not to change diesel prices has been taken to ensure continuity in the transport and business sectors, so that the UAE's position in the global oil market can be further strengthened.

**Inqilab** (April 29) stated in its editorial that the differences arising among Arab countries over various issues are a continuation of this sequence of events. Earlier, discussions about differences had also started in the 'Arab League', because its silence on sensitive matters like Palestine indicated that all was not well in Arab countries. Ignoring the interests of the

Arab world, some Arab countries have established friendly relations with Israel under pressure from the US. On the other hand, some Arab countries consider this policy harmful to Arabs, and especially to Islam.

**Hindustan** (May 1) stated in its editorial that this decision of the UAE has started creating a new crisis in the energy sector. However, it is difficult to say right now what impact this decision will have on the global energy market. The newspaper mentioned that before the establishment of OPEC, Western countries held complete control over oil prices and production. However, after the formation of this organisation, it became easier for the Gulf countries to determine oil prices.

In the global economy, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and other Gulf countries' petro dollars hold special importance. Many of these countries have heavily invested petro dollars in the US and other European countries. The effort of European countries is to increase mutual differences among OPEC nations.

In such a situation, the UAE's separation from OPEC is not just an economic decision, but also gives serious political signals. It has been Saudi Arabia's effort that the oil production quota of other oil-producing countries should be managed in such a way that Saudi Arabia can get maximum benefit.

The UAE's decision has dealt a heavy blow to Arab unity. However, this decision will benefit India and other oil-importing countries that want freedom from the pressure of rising oil prices. The newspaper stated that the growing distance between Abu Dhabi and Riyadh is an indication that Arab countries are no longer united. This could also impact Islamic unity.

**Etemaad** (May 1) wrote in its editorial that Saudi Arabia, in order to maintain its economic dominance, puts pressure on other Arab countries through OPEC and asks them to produce much less



oil than their capacity. That is the reason why the UAE has always been against the 'quota system'.

Currently, under this quota, the UAE produces 3.2 million barrels of oil per day, whereas its capacity is 4.8 million barrels per day. The UAE believes that due to the war between Iran and Israel, it can further strengthen its economic condition by producing more oil.

However, in the current situation, this decision by the UAE is unlikely to have any significant impact on oil prices. OPEC countries produce 30 per cent of the world's oil capacity.

Saudi Arabia is the largest country, producing more than 10 million barrels of oil per day, which is why it tries to ensure that no other oil-producing country produces according to its capacity, because doing so harms Saudi Arabia's economic interests.

**Background:** The Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is a group of 12 countries that sets oil production quotas for its member nations. The UAE's recent announcement of its withdrawal from OPEC directly implies that it will no longer be bound by the alliance's quota system regarding oil production. The UAE has also announced the termination of its ties with the OPEC Plus alliance formed in 2016. It is worth noting that this decision by the UAE comes amid its growing differences with Saudi Arabia, as Saudi Arabia is considered to hold dominance over OPEC.



Petroleum experts believe that “for India, a country with a massive need for energy, the UAE exiting the OPEC alliance is a positive sign. The UAE is a strong and reliable partner for India. It is hoped that it will increase its crude oil production to 50 to 60 lakh barrels per day. This is good news for us because India is a strategic partner of the UAE as well as a consumer of crude oil.”

According to data up to February 2026, India imports nearly 91 per cent of its crude oil requirements. Of this, 54 per cent of imports come from West Asian countries. India imports 10 percent of its total crude oil requirement from the UAE alone. Petroleum experts believe that if the UAE increases its oil production, it will be able to supply additional oil to India

because it will no longer be bound by OPEC rules.

### History of OPEC and OPEC Plus

OPEC is a permanent inter-governmental organisation, whose headquarters is located in Vienna, Austria. According to its official website, its main objective is to coordinate the petroleum policies of member countries and to stabilise the global oil market.

OPEC was established in September 1960 during the Baghdad Conference by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. Later, it became a group of 12 countries, which until recently also included the UAE.

Meanwhile, OPEC Plus was formed in 2016 to increase control and influence over the oil market. In addition to the original members of OPEC, this includes 10 other oil-producing countries, including Russia and Bahrain.

It is noteworthy that the UAE is not the first country to leave this alliance. Prior to this, Qatar, Indonesia, Ecuador, Angola and Gabon have also exited OPEC. Within OPEC, the UAE has been the fourth largest oil-producing country. As per the data, the UAE was producing approximately 29.2 lakh barrels of crude oil per day in the year 2024.

## Saudi government cracks down on cooking food for pilgrims without license

**Hindustan** (April 25) reports that the Saudi Arabian government has announced that anyone preparing or storing food for pilgrims without a legal license will be awarded a punishment of up to 1 crore Riyals as fine or a 10-year rigorous imprisonment. Along with this, if any person assists in this activity, the licence of their factory will be cancelled, and they will face a minimum of one year in jail. The Saudi Haj Authority has announced that no pilgrim will be allowed to cook

food individually this year. They must purchase ready-made food only from authorised shops. This decision has been taken to ensure hygiene and health standards. Along with this, foreign Haj pilgrims will not be allowed to bring any kind of food items or medicines with them. Special staff have been appointed for 24-hour monitoring in Mecca and Medina.

On the other hand, as per the instructions of Saudi Arabia’s King Salman bin Abdulaziz, pilgrims will now be

accommodated in hotels instead of residential buildings. For this, 170 new multi-story buildings have been constructed, providing an arrangement of 5 lakh rooms.

In these hotels, special hospitals, 50,000 new doctors and paramedical staff will also be arranged. Wearing a digital wristband for 24-hour digital monitoring will be mandatory for every Haj pilgrim.

**Urdu Times** (April 27) reports that only 10 per cent of Hajis from Iran's fixed quota are likely to perform Haj this year. The Iranian government has instructed its citizens to refrain from performing Haj due to unrest in West Asia.

**Qaumi Tanzeem** (April 28) states that the renovation work of Masjid-e-Nabawi has been completed. The ministry of Haj has announced that only special permit holders of Haj will be allowed to enter the holy places of Mecca, Medina, and Mina in small groups. No Haji will be able to stay in these places for more than 15 minutes.

According to **Hindustan Express** (April 23), Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has instructed



officials in Jeddah to strictly follow the special arrangements of the Haj season.

This year, representatives from 150 countries are assisting in the management, and special agreements have been made with more than 800 companies. For crowd control, the Nusuk digital card has been made mandatory, which is equipped with sensor technology. For surveillance, 10,000 special officers have been deployed, including 2,000 women.

**Siasat** (April 2) reports that Saudi security forces have arrested 16 foreigners for violating rules and deported them from the country. In addition to this, a Sudanese citizen has been arrested on charges of selling fake Haj permits on social media.

## Arrest of Iranian supporters in Bahrain



**Urdu Times** (April 24) reports that security agencies in Bahrain have arrested hundreds of individuals for maintaining contact with Iran. Government agencies, citing security reasons, have refused to state the exact number of people arrested. Additionally, more than a thousand such people have also been taken into custody who were in touch with Iranian television

and news committees through social media. The government has clarified that strict action will be taken under the National Security Act against any individual supporting Iranian attacks or having relations with Pasharan-e-Inqilab (IRGC). The cyber-crime unit has directed citizens to stay away from any Iranian app or news source on social media.

A warning has been issued that those watching broadcasts of Iranian agencies will be expelled from the country and their citizenship will be cancelled. In this regard, so far 69 individuals have already had their citizenship revoked. In another case, five accused persons were immediately deported, while 74 other people were sentenced to 5 to 10 years in prison. They

were accused of sharing photographs of important locations with Iranian agencies.

**Inqilab** (April 29) reports that the governments of Bahrain, Kuwait, UAE, and Qatar have completely banned any kind of demonstration in support of Iran. This step was taken following demonstrations held by the Shia community living in these countries at the beginning of the Iran war. Amnesty International has alleged that the Sunni rulers of these countries targeted pro-Iran Shias on the basis of religious hatred and deported a large number of people from their respective countries.

According to the report, protesters and video makers have been arrested on a

large scale. Cases have also been registered against them under charges of sedition and spreading hatred.

**Hindustan** (April 21) states that well-known UAE strategist and analyst Abdul Khaleeq Abdulla made it clear that the UAE is fully capable of defending itself against Iranian attacks and does not require US military assistance. He stated that US military bases have now become a burden for us rather than a benefit. He claimed that during the recent Israel-Iran conflict, the UAE destroyed more than 800 Iranian drones and missiles. The UAE states that it only wants modern weapons and defence systems from the US, rather than US soldiers on UAE soil.

## Mojtaba Khamanei's mysterious disappearance



**Siasat** (April 25) reports that Iran's new Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei has not appeared publicly since taking office in March, sparking several rumours globally. No video or address has been released by the Iranian government yet.

According to international sources, top commanders of the IRGC are currently making safety and strategic decisions. Former presidential adviser to Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Abdul Reza Davari, alleged that Mojtaba Khamenei is running the country like a corporate entity.

The newspaper claimed that Mojtaba was injured in a joint US and Israel attack on February 28, 2026, and his treatment is ongoing in Russia's capital, Moscow. It is reported that he underwent several surgeries on his face and legs, due to which

he is unable to speak, and doctors are performing plastic surgery on him.

**Urdu Times** (April 21) states that two months have passed since the demise of Iran's former Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, but due to security reasons and fear of potential attacks, it has not yet been announced.

According to the spokesperson of the Imam Reza Shrine Foundation located in Mashhad, it has been decided that Ali Khamenei will be buried within the shrine complex itself, but the right time is being awaited.

**Inqilab** (April 29) reports that Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, the Speaker of the Iranian Parliament, has claimed that nearly 30 million Iranians have registered their names for 'self-sacrifice' to defend the country. He made it clear that under any pressure, Iran will neither end the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz nor stop its nuclear program. He said, "Iran's nuclear capability has now developed to the extent of targeting the US."

**Etemaad** (April 30) reports that a meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council was held in Jeddah under the chairmanship of Mohammed bin Salman. Jasem Mohamed Al-Budaiwi, the secretary-

general of the council, strongly condemned the attacks by Iran on Gulf countries and the blockade of Hormuz. The council declared that an attack on any single member country would be considered an

attack on all. In this meeting, while calling the blockade of Hormuz illegal, a decision was also taken to develop joint global pressure and military technology to get it reopened.

## Islamic terrorists carry out attack in Nigeria



**Urdu Times** (April 29) reports that terrorists from the Islamic terrorist organisation ISIS attacked a village in north-eastern Nigeria and killed 29 people. This incident has created an atmosphere of fear throughout the country.

Ahmadu Umaru Fintiri, the governor of Adamawa state, visited the site of the incident. He alleged that these terrorists receive support from certain foreign powers, which are continuously supplying them with weapons. Significantly, a civil war between Muslims and Christians has

been ongoing in Nigeria for the past few years.


This civil war has already claimed thousands of lives and left millions of people homeless. Recently, US President Donald Trump announced that the US would intervene militarily to save the lives of Christians in Nigeria. Following this, the US helped the Nigerian government by providing military training and supplying weapons.

According to informed sources, two major groups of ISIS are active in this region, which include ISIS West Africa Province (ISWAP) and Boko Haram. Recently, a new terrorist group called Lakurawa has also become active in north-western Nigeria.

According to another news report, a day before this incident, some gunmen attacked an orphanage and kidnapped 23 Christian children. The Nigerian police are conducting large-scale raids to catch the criminals.

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