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Efforts to Incite Riots in Five States During Durga Puja



- 11 terrorists of Jaish-e-Mohammed arrested
- Baloch Liberation Army attack on Chinese engineers
- Gulf nations to remain neutral in Iran-Israel war
- Music education in schools in Saudi Arabia

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Summary

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) raided 26 places in five states recently and arrested 11 terrorists belonging to terrorist organisation Jaish-e-Mohammed. Some suspects are also being interrogated in this connection. The network of this terrorist organisation is spread across the country. It is said to be a linked to notorious terrorist organisation Al Qaida. This apart, the home ministry has also imposed a ban on a global terrorist organisation, Hizb-ut-Tahrir. As per a press release issued by the home ministry, this organisation is linked to notorious Islamic terrorist organisation ISIS. This organisation seeks to establish Islamic rule in the country by overthrowing the democratic government of India through violent means. According to the government, this terrorist organisation has been giving training in terror operations to Muslim youths in secret camps.

One cannot ignore the manner in which efforts were made recently in at least five states in the country to incite riots during Durga Puja. In nearly a dozen places including in Bahraich in Uttar Pradesh, fundamentalists had attacked Durga pandals and the procession for immersion of Durga idols. In fact, during the procession for immersion of Durga idol in Bahraich, the fundamentalists brutally killed a Hindu youth, Ram Gopal Mishra.

In a letter to the chief secretaries of all states and Union Territories, the National Child Rights Protection Commission (NCPCR) has directed that they immediately stop the government aid being given to Islamic madrasas because it is against the Constitution. The NCPCR said that India is a secular country and therefore permission cannot be given to propagate and spread any particular religion using the government treasury. In the past few days, several sensational news reports were published in newspapers in which it had been claimed that a huge amount of money is being obtained from the government in the name of grant for thousands of fake madrasas. The managers of these madrasas also claim that a large number of non-Muslim children study in their madrasas. When the governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh conducted an investigation into their claims, those were found to be fake. It is a well-known fact that madrasas have sprang up like mushrooms in the border areas of the country. These madrasas are getting huge sums of illegal money from abroad for propagation and spread of radical Islam.

Pakistan's rebel organisations like Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) allege that the Punjabi rulers of Pakistan, in collusion with China, are exploiting the mineral resources of Balochistan. Recently, the BLA launched a suicide attack at Karachi airport and killed two Chinese engineers. A foreign diplomat narrowly escaped this attack. The Punjabis dominate the Pakistani Army and hence they are torturing the Balochis and Pakhtuns. This is the reason why the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is carrying out regular attacks on Pakistan Army in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region. There has been a huge increase in such attacks recently.

The Gulf countries have spoiled the efforts of Iran to create a united platform of Muslim nations against Israel. Recently, a meeting of Gulf Cooperation Council was held in Doha. In this meeting, it was made clear that if a war breaks out between Iran and Israel, they will remain neutral. This has shattered the dreams of Islamic unity.

Efforts to incite riots in five states during Durga Puja



On the occasion of Hindu festival Durga Puja and during the procession for immersion of Durga idols, people belonging to a particular community tried to spark riots in a well-planned manner. The states where efforts were made to spark the riots include Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Telangana. Among them, majority of the incidents were stone pelting on the processions for immersion of Durga idols. The worst riots took place in Bahraich in Uttar Pradesh. Despite passing of six days, the flames of these riots have not subsided. The administration has shut down internet services so that the riots do not spread. It is being said that people belonging to a particular community objected to the playing of DJ during the procession for immersion of Durga idols in Bahraich. During this time, a Hindu youth, Ram Gopal Mishra, who was taking part in the procession, was brutally shot dead.

Awadhnama (October 15) states that following this incident, the flames of riots spread to neighbouring regions and the rioters set fire to hospitals and showrooms. Many houses were also set on fire. As soon as information about the riots was received, armed police were rushed to

the spot in large numbers from Lucknow. The administration suspended the SHO of Bahraich police station and a chowki incharge on charges of negligence. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath met the family members of deceased Ram Gopal Mishra.

Inquilab (October 16) states that so far 60 people have been arrested in this connection and a search is on for the rioters. Senior officials of Uttar Pradesh police are camping in Maharajganj town in Bahraich. According to police, the two accused in the murder of Ram Gopal Mishra were injured in an encounter with police in Nanpara region in Bahraich when they were trying to flee to Nepal. The two accused have been admitted to hospital. Their names were said to be Sarfaraz and Talib. Abdul Hamid, the owner of the house from which Mishra was fired upon, and his son Fahim were among the four persons arrested. Uttar Pradesh ADG, STF, Amitabh Yash has confirmed the arrest of six accused who attacked Ram Gopal Mishra.

Inquilab (October 17) states that as per the post-mortem report of Ram Gopal Mishra, 46 injuries have been found on his body. This apart, the nails on both his legs

were found uprooted. However, there was no evidence to prove that he was killed by giving electric shock. The police also obtained a video footage. The video shows Mishra climbing on to the rooftop of Abdul Hamid's neighbour Pappu Jaiswal. The video shows Sarfaraz taking aim at Mishra. On the basis of this video, Sarfaraz and Talib were made as the main accused.

Urdu Times (October 15) states that Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi had blamed the state government and the administration for the riots in Bahraich. She demanded to stop the riots and sought stringent action against the accused. Commenting on the encounter and the arrests, the wife of deceased Ram Gopal Mishra, Roli Mishra, said we were not satisfied with the action taken by the administration. She said that they wanted blood for blood as revenge. After a video of this statement by Roli went viral, the police imposed a ban on internet services in the entire region.

Urdu Times (October 16) states that the chief of Jamiat Ulema, Arshad Madani, alleged that the police, instead of taking action against mischievous elements, are taking unilateral action and are targeting the riot-hit people. Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav also made a similar allegation.

Urdu Times (October 17) states that stones were pelted from a masjid at a Durga idol immersion procession in Barabanki in Uttar Pradesh. This incident took place under Tikait Nagar police station area in Ichauli town. As soon as information was received about this incident, the district officials arrived at the spot and arrested three rioters. Section 144 has been imposed in the entire area.

Mumbai Urdu News (October 16) states that the police have been deployed in large numbers in riot-hit areas. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath met the family members of Ram Gopal Mishra who was killed in the riots. He assured the family members of Mishra that they would be given justice and stringent action would be taken against rioters.

Following this incident, a red alert was sounded in entire Uttar Pradesh and the leaves of police personnel were cancelled.

Inquilab (October 14) states that clashes took place between two groups during the immersion of Durga idols at Dalal Ghat in Azamgarh during which three persons were injured. They took quick action and brought the situation under control.

As per another news, a ruckus took place during immersion of Durga idols in Majhauri Raj town under Salempur police station area in Deoria district in Uttar Pradesh. A few people attacked some youths who were dancing at the immersion procession using a knife. Nearly a dozen youths were injured in this attack. Following the incident, the organisers refused to immerse the idols in water and demanded action against the attackers. As soon as information about the ruckus was received, district magistrate Divya Mittal and police superintendent Sankalp Sharma reached the spot. They called police from different stations. The police arrested the main accused Ankuar Aalam, who attacked the youths. The identity of the rest of the accused are being verified. Local MLA Shalabh Mani Tripathi said the attack was premeditated and the preparations for the attack were being made for several days. He demanded the police to take action under the National Security Act against the gang which had planned this attack.

In Bihar also there was information about the attack on the Durga Puja immersion procession at least in three places.

According to **Mumbai Urdu News** (October 14), the situation got out of control after the attack on the procession by rioters in Sitamarhi. The newspaper alleged that mischievous elements entered masjids and set fire to holy books and attacked several houses and shops of Muslims. After this incident, the police made stringent security arrangements in the entire city so that the riots did not spread.

Taasir (October 14) reports that some miscreants riding motorcycles opened



indiscriminate firing after entering Maula Bagh Durga Puja pandal in Nawada police station area in Bhojpur district in Bihar in which four persons were injured. After this, the assailants escaped from the spot. The police are investigating the case. It is being said that four attackers came riding on two motorcycles. A doctor in the hospital, Vikas Singh, said the four injured had been admitted to hospital, out of which the condition of two were stated to be serious.

Inquilab (October 15) states that some people objected to the playing of DJ in front of a masjid during the immersion of Durga idols in Munger in Bihar. Following this, 15 people were injured in stone-pelting between the two sides. The injured have been admitted to hospitals. The police have imposed Section 144 in the entire district and stringent security measures have been put in place.

Hamara Samaj (October 16) states that the police seized the DJ which was being played during the immersion of Durga idols at Chero Bazar in Harnaut police station area in Nalanda district. This apart, a case has been registered against the president of puja committee on charges of spreading communal tension. Some people have also been arrested in this connection. A bandh was organised in the entire area in protest against this incident and a demand was made for the release of arrested persons. General secretary of puja committee, Ashok Rajak, said they were going to Bakhtiyarpur for immersion of idols. During the procession, a DJ was being staged on a pick-up vehicle which was playing religious songs. The imam of a

masjid and few other people objected to the playing of the DJ in front of a mosque. Taking immediate action, the police seized the DJ and arrested few persons. The police claimed the state government had imposed a ban on playing DJs during processions.

As per another news, two groups clashed over the issue of fireworks during a Durga idol immersion in Begusarai district in Bihar. Later, the district officials arrived on the spot and resorted to lathicharge and restored peace in the area.

As per another news published in the same newspaper, some entered the Muthyalamma temple in Secunderabad in Telangana and damaged the idols. Union Minister G Kishen Reddy visited the spot. The people held a massive protest against the police and the administration and demanded the arrest of the accused. A case has been registered against unidentified people at Mahakali police station. A search is on to trace the accused.

As per another news, some mischievous elements entered the Durga Puja pandal in Nampally Exhibition Grounds in Hyderabad and damaged the idol of Maa Durga. The police registered a case in this connection and started a search for the accused.

Inquilab (October 14) states that in Howrah district in West Bengal, clashes took place between two groups over a drawing during a competition organised as part of Durga Puja festival in which 30 people were injured. When the local police failed to control the situation, they had to take the help of Rapid Action Force. Section 144 had been imposed in the entire region. Superintendent of Police of Howrah, Swati Bhangalia said people belonging to one sect objected to a sketch following which the two groups started a fight. The police arrived on the spot and controlled the situation and nearly a dozen people were arrested in this connection. Police patrolling has been increased in the entire region.



Roznama Sahara (October 14) states that in Nadia district in West Bengal, some mischievous elements pelted stones at a Durga puja immersion procession outside a religious place due to which clashes took place between two groups. Nearly 30 people were injured in the clashes. Since the police took immediate action, the situation was brought under control.

As per media reports, massive violence took place between two groups

during Durga idol immersion in Lakhna locality in Garhwa district in Jharkhand. The two sides pelted stones on each other. When the police tried to control the situation, an incited mob attacked the police as well. Several policemen were injured in this attack. The provoked mob also set several vehicles on fire. The police lathicharged the huge mob during which several people were injured. It is being said that the officials of puja committee wanted to take the procession through a particular route. There were some masjids on the route. The police redirected the procession to another route due to a possible clash between the two communities and barricades were erected on the routes that pass through the masjids. Those taking part in the procession objected to it and they attacked the police. The police arrested two dozen people in this connection.

Recommendation to stop government aid being given to madrasas



Urdu Times (October 13) states that the National Child Rights Protection Commission (NCPDR) has written a letter to the chief secretaries of all the states and Union Territories and recommended that the government aid being given to madrasas shall be stopped immediately

because they do not provide basic education. The commission also stressed that the madrasa board shall be closed immediately and the children studying in madrasas should be enrolled in government schools. NCPDR said that it is the responsibility of the government under

Right of Children for Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 that it makes arrangements to provide compulsory education to children. The commission also said that all non-Muslim children studying in madrasas should be enrolled in government schools. The commission in its report claimed that more than 11 lakh children were at the risk of child marriage in 2023-24. The commission has taken some effective steps to stop child marriages.

Inquilab (October 15) states that commenting on these recommendations of NCPCR, secretary of Markazi Taleemi Board, Syed Tanveer Ahmad said the government institutions are deliberately targeting madrasas so that Muslim children could be separated from Islamic education. He said that this recommendation of NCPCR is against the Constitution. In the Constitution, the minorities have been given the exemption to establish their own educational institutions and provide religious education to their children. He also claimed that the law for compulsory education for children passed by the Central government in 2009 is not implementable on Islamic madrasas and Sanskrit Pathshalas. Syed Tanveer Ahmed said the Sachar Committee had said in its report that only four percent Muslim students study in madrasas and the rest of the children study in ordinary schools. He said that at the behest of Central government, a deliberate campaign is being unleashed against Islamic madrasas and they are being defamed.

Tanveer claimed that in Islamic madrasas, education is provided in modern subjects along with religious education, which included science, computer, maths etc. He also said that majority of the Islamic madrasas are not dependent on government aid, instead they are being run with the financial aid provided by the



Muslim community. Under the modernisation programme of madrasas, government aid is being given only for the salary of the teachers etc. He alleged that this recommendation of NCPCR is motivated by politics.

Sahafat (October 16) states that All India Muslim Personal Law Board also criticised the recommendations of NCPCR and described it as against the Constitution.

Inquilab (October 15) states that the general secretary of Teachers Association Madarsia-e-Arabia, Haji Diwan Saheb Jaman Khan said that at a time when the matter related to the madrasas are being heard in the Supreme Court, the NCPCR has no right to give such a recommendation. He described this recommendation as politically motivated. He said the Constitution has given minorities the freedom to educate their children as per their faith.

As per another news published in this newspaper, a petition has been filed in the Supreme Court against the recommendations of NCPCR. It is to be noted that earlier the decision to scrap the Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Board law and admit the students of the madrasa in other educational institutions was questioned in the Supreme Court. On this, the Supreme Court had also issued a stay order. Despite this, NCPCR has given the recommendation to stop the government aid being given to madrasas.

11 terrorists of Jaish-e-Mohammed arrested



Roznama Sahara (October 6) states that the National Investigation Agency (NIA) conducted raids in five states in the country in search of terrorists belonging to notorious Islamic terrorist organisation Jaish-e-Mohammed and arrested at least 11 people. This apart, two dozen suspects are also being interrogated. This apart, raids were also conducted at an Islamic madrasa, Darul Uloom Mahmudia, located at Mustafabad in Delhi and at Al Karim pharmacy. The manager of this madrasa, Abdul Karim Kasmi, was not present on the spot. The NIA officials took along with them his two sons Mufti Mohammad Asad and Mufti Mohammad Ahmad for interrogation. A few residents of Mustafabad said some people in plainclothes arrived at 3.30 am. The SHO of Dayalpur police station was with them. These people broke open the door and entered the building and the search operation continued for five-and-a-half hours. They took away two mobile phones and some documents with them.

Inquilab (October 7) states that the officials of NIA raided the house of a madrasa student located in Deoband in Uttar Pradesh and the house of a man who runs a computer centre. The NIA team conducted the search for several hours. They took away with them one woman and two men from the area. It is being said the three were original residents of Bihar and they were staying in Deoband for the past few years. It is being said that their links were with Pakistan's intelligence agency

ISI. Informed sources said that recently some suspects were caught in Bengaluru. After their interrogation, nationwide raids were being conducted in search of people linked to this gang.

The NIA officials said that an investigation is being currently held in this matter and hence it would not be appropriate to give more details in this connection. They have given the indication that those who have

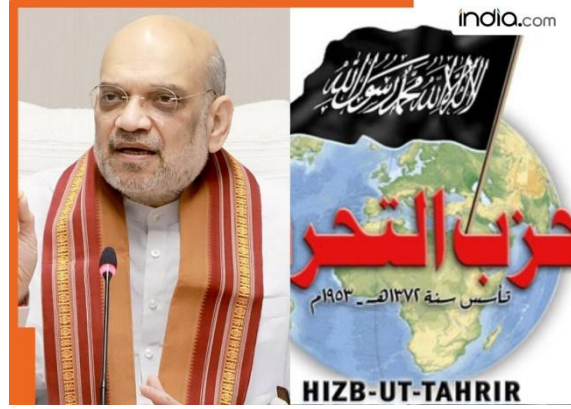
been caught had received higher education and they got training in spying, manufacturing of explosives and detonating them from abroad. Their links were found to be with some people sitting in Pakistan. The NIA also got evidence that these people got huge money from suspected foreign sources in the past two years. This include a neighbouring country apart from some countries in the Gulf.

As per media reports, the NIA raided the bases of terrorists belonging to terrorist organisation Jaish-e-Mohammed in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu-Kashmir, Maharashtra and Assam. This raid was conducted in 26 places. The investigation agency arrested 11 people from Goalpara in Assam. This apart, four dozen other suspects are also being interrogated. The name of the leader of those who have been arrested in Assam is Sheikh Sultan Salahuddin Ayubi. Ayubi is a spy trained abroad. He was produced before the special NIA court at Patiala House in Delhi. This apart, an imam of a masjid in Kihwai town in Meerut was taken into custody in a joint operation by NIA, ATS and IB. The youth who was caught from Meerut has his contact with a WhatsApp group in Pakistan which is linked to ISI.

Intelligence sources claim that the Jaish-e-Mohammad has spread its network in the entire country and it is recruiting youths for anti-national activities. The aim of this organisation is to overthrow the government of the country and establish an Islamic rule in Bharat. The other places

where raids were conducted include Goalpara, Aurangabad, Jalna, Malegaon, Baramulla, Pulwama, Ramban etc. It is being said that the suspected people who have been arrested from Delhi were working as imam at two madrasas and masjid. This apart, they had set up a godown to supply Unani medicines. They had established contacts in Saudi Arabia and several nations in the Gulf on its pretext. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said it has been confirmed from the arrests of terrorists in our state that Islamic terrorists have established their bases in our border states.

Roznama Sahara (October 11) states that the Central government has imposed a ban on terrorist organisation Hiz-ut-Tahrir. As per a press release issued by the home ministry, this international terrorist organisation was established in



1953. This organisation has been taking financial aid from foreign sources and spreading disturbances in the country and conspiring to overthrow the government of the country and establish an Islamic rule. Last month, the NIA had arrested 37 people belonging to this organisation from different parts of the country. ■

Ajit Pawar announces to give 10 percent tickets to Muslims

Siasat (October 4) states that Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister and president of Nationalist Congress Party Ajit Pawar has played a new trick to collect the votes of Muslims. He announced that he would give 10 percent of tickets from his party's quota to Muslims in the Assembly elections. According to the newspaper, this decision of Pawar could become a cause of trouble for Mahayuti. The Shiv Sena (Shinde group) and BJP which are part of the ruling alliance Mahayuti in Maharashtra are considered as supporters of Hindutva. However, the Nationalist Congress Party of Ajit Pawar, which is part of this alliance, has played this game in order to attract the nearly 14 percent Muslim voters of the state. Ajit Pawar made an announcement about this decision while talking to reporters in Baramati.

Urdu Times (October 7) states that the new game being played by Ajit Pawar to attract Muslims has started a new debate in Maharashtra. The BJP, which is part of the ruling coalition of which Ajit Pawar is a

part, has always avoided Muslims. Its several leaders openly say that they do not need Muslim votes. A new debate has started after a constituent party of an alliance whose strategy is based on opposition to Muslims, has announced to give 10 percent of its tickets to Muslims in the forthcoming Assembly elections. This Muslim card of Pawar can create a new headache to other parties which are part of his alliance. Now the election dates have been announced. In such a situation, this announcement by Ajit Pawar will have an effect on both opposition alliance Maha Vikas Aghadi and ruling alliance Mahayuti.

The newspaper said that Muslim organisations have welcomed this decision of Ajit Pawar. However, the entire politics of other parties of his alliance are based on opposition to Muslims. In such a situation, will they allow Ajit Pawar to implement his policy? On the other hand, the Opposition INDIA alliance, which claims to be the protector of the Constitution and secularism of the country, had totally



the party and incharge of Maharashtra. Whereas Shanul Sayeed alias Ejaz Mulla has been appointed as the vice-president of Maharashtra state and Mohammad Shameem Khan has been appointed as the secretary. It is to be noted that All India Majlis-e-Ittihadul Muslimeen had declared earlier itself that it would be fielding its candidates in the upcoming Assembly elections.

ignored Muslim candidates in the Lok Sabha elections. Muslim voters are in such a position in the cities of Maharashtra that they can play a decisive role in the victory or defeat of any candidate. The question that arises here is whether the other allied parties in Mahayuti will accept the Muslim card of Ajit Pawar. Opposition alliance Maha Vikas Aghadi will also have to find a solution to this new election strategy, otherwise they will have difficulty in getting Muslim votes.

Urdu Times (October 11) states that the national president of National Ulama Council Maulana Aamir Rashadi Madni had alleged that both the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi and ruling alliance Mahayuti had been playing an anti-Muslim stand right from the beginning. In view of this, his organisation has decided to field its candidates in the Assembly elections in Maharashtra. On this occasion, famous lyricist Majrooh Sultanpuri's son Andaleeb Majrooh Sultanpuri, great grandson of Maulana Hazrat Mohani, Mohammad Shanul Sayeed, renowned social worker Abdurrab Madani and Mohammad Shameem Khan are included in the National Ulama Council of Maharashtra branch. Andaleeb Majrooh Sultanpuri has been appointed as the national secretary of

Inquilab (October 12) states that the Maharashtra government has decided to increase the salary of working teachers in the madrasas in the state. According to the newspaper, a three-fold increase has been made in the salary of teachers in madrasas. This apart, the government has also announced to increase the budget of Maulana Azad Minority Financial Development Corporation. The budget of this institution has been increased to Rs 1,000 crore from Rs 700 crore. This institution generally provides interest-free financial aid to minorities, especially Muslims, for self-employment. As per this decision of the cabinet, the salary of D Ed teachers teaching at primary level has been increased to Rs 16,000 per month from Rs 6,000 per month. Whereas the monthly salary of B Ed teachers teaching at secondary level madrasas has been hiked to Rs 18,000 from Rs 8,000. BJP leader Kirit Somaiya said the teachers create our new generation, and hence it is necessary to make them financially strong. The state government has also decided that under the Zakir Hussain madrasa modernisation programme, the madrasas in Maharashtra will teach science, maths, English, Marathi, Hindi and Urdu apart from imparting religious education.

Selection of Hajis for Haj yatra



respective state before October 23, 2024. This date will not be extended further.

Inquilab (October 8) reports that there is consistent decrease in the number of people interested in going for Haj from Uttar Pradesh. This year, only 15,458 people had expressed their

Inquilab (October 8) states that the Haj Committee of India has selected the people interested in going for Haj next year through the lottery system. Chairman of Haj Committee of India A. P. Abdullakutty and Chief Executive Officer Liaquat Ali Afaqi said at a press conference that 1,22,518 people have been selected for Haj yatra next year. Whereas 14,728 people, whose age is above 65 years, have been selected without the lottery. He said those who have been selected for the Haj yatra can deposit Rs 1,30,300 per person as first instalment in any branches of State Bank of India or Union Bank of India before October 21, 2024. The Haj yatis who have been selected through lottery include people from Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttarakhand. This apart, in the states where the number of applications received from those interested in going for Haj is below the prescribed quota have been given permission to go for Haj without lottery. This apart, 3,717 single women were also given permission to go for Haj.

In order to help the Haj yatis, 817 state Haj inspectors have been sent to Saudi Arabia. This apart, more than 200 teams of doctors and paramedical staff will also be sent to Saudi Arabia. Afaqi said the highest number of 24,484 applications for Haj have been received from Gujarat. Hence we had to resort to lottery system for their selection. Those who have been found eligible to go for Haj have to submit the affidavit, receipt of the money deposited in the bank, copy of passport and medical fitness certificate along with their application before the Haj committee of the

interest in going for Haj. This is the reason why more than 11,000 seats had been left vacant from the prescribed quota. According to the newspaper, earlier many times more applications were received for going on Haj than the prescribed quota, but for the past few years there is a rapid decline in the number. Last year, the quota for Haj yatis from Uttar Pradesh was 32,000, but applications from only 19,702 people were received and rest of the positions remained vacant. In view of this, the quota for Haj yatis for Uttar Pradesh has been reduced to 27,191 from 32,000. Experts say that recently there is a huge increase in expenses. In a such a situation, financially weak people are not showing interest in going for Haj. This apart, the government has allowed people above 65 years of age to take a helper along with them and due to this also there is a decrease in the number of people interested in going for Haj because due to this there will be further increase in the expenses for Haj.

The newspaper said that the Saudi Arabian government has fixed the quota for Indian Haj pilgrims at 1.75 lakh. Till now, 80% people were being sent to Saudi Arabia through the Haj Committee of India, but this year a 10% reduction has been made in this connection. Whereas the quota of private tour operators has been increased to 30% from 20%.

Roznama Sahara (October 8) states that the chairman of Delhi Haj Committee, Kausar Jahan, said that 2,025 people have been selected from Delhi for the Haj yatra next year. Whereas 3,557 people had expressed their interest in going for Haj. This apart, 867 people have been kept in the waiting list.

Attack by Baloch Liberation Army on Chinese engineers



Urdu Times (October 8) states that the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) has carried out an attack on a convoy of Chinese citizens in Pakistan's biggest city of Karachi. Two Chinese engineers were killed in this attack and a dozen people were injured. The BLA claimed responsibility for the attack. According to the police, when these Chinese engineers were entering the Jinnah International Airport in vehicles, a few armed assailants launched a sudden attack on them. According to police, the bodies of both the Chinese engineers were recovered. One more body was recovered from the spot which has not been identified so far.

According to the Chinese embassy in Pakistan, the Chinese engineers who were attacked were working with Port Qasim Power Generation Company Limited. This project was started with the cooperation of China. The Chinese embassy has condemned the attack and demanded the Pakistan government to ensure the security of Chinese citizens working in Pakistan. It is to be noted that at least three dozen Chinese citizens were killed in five attacks carried out by BLA this year. It has been alleged in the report that was handed over by the anti-terrorist wing to the anti-

terrorist court that these attacks were organised at the behest of a foreign intelligence agency. The police claimed that the BLA had used foreign weapons.

Qaumi Tanzeem (October 10) states that Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has condemned the attack that took place in Karachi and said that some neighbouring country want to spoil the relationship between Pakistan and China. They are bewildered by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project. He said that a neighbouring country doesn't want the Gwadar project to be completed because if the project is completed, then a new chapter will begin in the economic development of Pakistan and China. Shehbaz said the Baloch organisation has threatened Saudi Arabia also that if it makes investments in Gwadar project, then there will be serious consequences. He said the Pakistan government has given strict instructions to the security agencies to ensure fool-proof security to Chinese experts.

Chattan (October 9) reports that after the blasts that took place in Karachi, the Pakistani security agencies took more than three dozen suspects into custody from across the country and their interrogation is

being done. As per latest information, nearly 20 people were injured in the blast that took place in Karachi. Meanwhile, the bodies of Chinese engineers were taken to China for cremation.

Chattan (October 13) reports that a team of Chinese intelligence reached Pakistan in order to extend cooperation to Pakistan government in the investigations being held over the attack in Karachi. In this connection, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also held lengthy talks with the Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan.

Chattan (October 11) states that the Pakistan government has for the first time confirmed that the rebels belonging to BLA are eliminating Chinese and Punjabis by running a campaign against them. In the FIR filed by police, BLA commander Bashir Ahmad, Abdul Rahman and others were made accused in the attack that took place in Karachi. The Pakistani security agencies have also alleged that an agency of a neighbouring country is providing explosive substances to these terrorists.

According to police, it was a suicide attack. The suicide bomber has been identified as Shah Fahad, a resident of Nushki in Balochistan. He was 28 years old. Whereas, as per a press release issued by BLA, the attacker who carried out the attack belonged to the Majeed Brigade of BLA and he had received higher education.

Talking to Voice of America, a senior official of Pakistan said a foreign agency spent more than Rs 1 crore for this attack. He said currently 144 Chinese experts are working in the Pakistan-China joint projects. An expert on security issues in Balochistan and Vice-Chancellor of Makran University, Dr Mir Sadaat Baloch said the BLA is now carrying out attacks in a well-planned manner. It is not just a terrorist organisation now, it has changed into a regular army. The Chinese embassy in Pakistan has advised its citizens that they should be careful while travelling to Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and do not move out of their houses and offices without security.

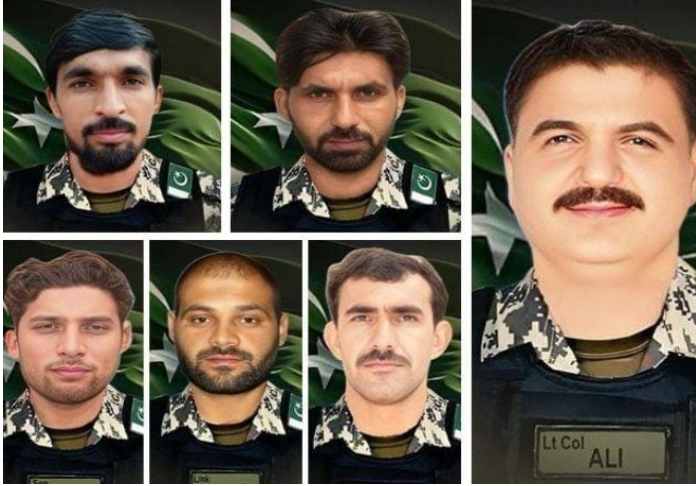
Terrorist attack on Pakistan Army

Qaumi Tanzeem (October 6) reports that six Pakistani soldiers including Lt Colonel Muhammad Ali Shaukat were killed as Pakistani Army clashed with terrorists in North Waziristan district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Also, 22 Pakistani soldiers were injured. According to Pakistan Army, six terrorists were also killed in this encounter. It is being said that these terrorists belong to Hafiz Gul group of the banned terrorist organisation Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). Pakistan's Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi and the Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi offered tributes to the Pakistani soldiers who were killed.

Police chief of Malakand division told journalists that two terrorists were killed in another campaign in Swat. The terrorists who were killed belong to the terrorist group which carried out an attack on a convoy of foreign diplomats in Swat. Four policemen were killed in this attack.

The police officer also claimed that though the terrorists filled a vehicle with explosives and tried to explode it using remote control, the remote control suffered glitches and they failed to explode the vehicle carrying diplomats.

Chattan (October 12) states that a group of terrorists entered a coal mine in Balochistan and opened indiscriminate firing. At least 20 people were killed and a dozen people were injured in this attack. Those who were killed include citizens of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Incharge of Duki police station Humayun Khan said till now 20 bodies were recovered and a dozen people were injured. The injured have been admitted to hospitals. This attack was carried out by rockets and grenades. Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti condemned the attack. He said the terrorists had targeted the poor labourers. The entire region has been handed over to the Army.



Chattan (October 2) reports that Afghanistan spokesperson Zabiullah Mujahid has alleged that the Pakistan government is giving training to terrorists so that they play Holi with blood in Afghanistan. Recently, the Afghanistan's

intelligence wing had arrested six terrorists. These terrorists admitted that they received training in handling of weapons and making bombs from the training camps located in Pakistan. Mujahid said those who have been caught belong to Sunni terrorist organisation ISIS and these attacks were being carried out by the Khorasan chapter of ISIS. It is to be noted that earlier, while delivering a speech in the United Nations, the Pakistani representative had alleged that the Afghan government had been giving training to terrorists so that they carried out attacks and wreak havoc. It is said the Khorasan chapter of ISIS was established in 2015.

Nine sentenced in Afghanistan on charges of promiscuity

Chattan (October 12) states that the Taliban government in Afghanistan is strictly implementing the Shariah law. Recently, nine persons were flogged in public on charges of promiscuity, which included two women as well. They were given punishment at the sports stadium in Kandahar. They were accused of promiscuity and dacoity. Each accused was given 40 lashes each and were also given seven years in jail. Similarly, another Shariah court located in northern Afghan provinces of Takhar and Samangan has given the punishment of stoning to death to two men and two women. As per Shariah, in the punishment for stoning to death, the culprit is half buried in the ground and is stoned to death.

It is to be noted that the United Nations had urged the Afghan government several times that they do not implement the laws based on Shariah because those



are not in tune with modern times. Whereas the Taliban government in Afghanistan states that an Islamic rule prevails in their country and it is their religious duty to implement the Shariah law. The Taliban government had time and again stressed that no foreign organisation had any right to interfere in their religious matters.

Chattan (October 11) states that the Afghan government has imposed a ban on modern education in the country. Whereas, a huge increase has been made in the

number of Islamic madrasas. In Afghanistan, the Deputy Minister for Islamic Education Karamatullah Akhundzadah said at a press conference that last year 10 lakh children had enrolled in madrasas to receive religious education. Currently, a total of 36 lakh children study in the more than 21,000 madrasas of Afghanistan. Whereas the number of private and government schools in Afghanistan is only 18,000.

It is to be noted that Taliban had captured power in Afghanistan in 2021.

That time there were only 5,000 madrasas in the country. After coming to power, the Taliban government closed the doors of secondary schools and colleges to the students. This apart, a ban has been imposed on girls from receiving education in medical colleges.

Urdu Times (October 16) states that the Afghanistan government has directed the media that in future no photo of any living being shall be published in the media. Such an activity is against Islamic Shariah.

Diplomatic relationship between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan



Siasat (October 12) reports that Uzbekistan has announced establishing diplomatic relationship with Afghanistan. The Taliban government in Afghanistan also confirmed the same. China and United Arab Emirates had granted recognition to the Taliban

government earlier itself. The Taliban government has appointed Abdul Ghafar Bahr as its Ambassador in Uzbekistan. Bahr has presented his credentials to the President of Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan foreign affairs minister Bakhtiyor Saidov has confirmed the receipt of credentials of the Ambassador of Afghanistan. He said the two countries has historical relationship dating back to centuries. Now with the establishment of diplomatic relationship, a new era of cooperation and prosperity will begin between the two countries.

Decision to remove image of Sheikh Mujib from the currency of Bangladesh



Inquilab (October 10) states that the Bangladesh government has decided to

remove the picture of the first President of Bangladesh, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, from the currency of the country. In this connection, the design of new notes has been prepared. As of now, it is not clear whose picture will be there on the currency of Bangladesh.

Awadhnama (October 7) reports that the Bangladesh government is making preparations to impose a ban on Awami League. It is to be noted that Awami



League was established by Banga Bandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and this party was in power in Bangladesh till recently. A few months ago, due to the massive demonstrations sponsored by Pakistan and the US, the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had to flee her country and take refuge in Bharat. Currently, an interim government is in power in Bangladesh under the leadership of Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus. Some students are also part of the government. The present government of Bangladesh is making preparations to register a case against nine ministers and more than 100 senior officials of Sheikh Hasina government before a military tribunal on charges of mass murder. Recently, the Bangladesh government lifted the ban imposed on pro-Pakistan Jamaat-e-Islami and included its

representatives in the interim government. A few days ago, the death anniversary of Pakistan's founder Mohammad Ali Jinnah was observed in Dhaka. During this event, it was demanded that Jinnah should be recognised as the father of Bangladesh. Recently, a delegation of top officials of Pakistan Army went to Bangladesh. Now, Bangladesh is trying to establish military and trade relationship with Pakistan.

Hindustan (October 16) states that the Bangladesh government has announced registration of cases against journalists who published news against the protesters during the time of Sheikh Hasina's rule. Minister for Information and Broadcasting Nahid Islam said that cases will be registered against those journalists who supported the genocide of Sheikh Hasina government.

Gulf nations to remain neutral in Iran-Israel war



A few days ago, Iran's supreme religious leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei had appealed to Muslim nations across the world that they unite to save Islam and the Prophet and oppose Israel. This appeal by him had no effect on the Gulf countries.

Inquilab (October 5) states that a summit of Gulf Arab countries was held in Doha on behalf of Qatar. According to foreign news agencies, it was decided at the summit of Gulf countries that if a war breaks out between Israel and Iran, the Muslim countries of Gulf will not take part in this war and will remain neutral. These countries fear that if a war takes place, then the Israeli air force will target their oil reserves and in such a situation their entire economy will be left in shambles. It is also known that the Gulf countries are not in a position to upset the Western countries, because only recently that the US had provided Qatar and United Arab Emirates with military equipment and fighter aircraft in huge numbers. The US has announced in clear terms that it will continue to support Israel under any circumstance and will

continue to supply weapons to it. Germany and France also made similar announcements.

Urdu Times (October 5) has expressed surprise that no effective step has been taken at a meeting of Gulf countries organised in Doha. It is to be noted that earlier also the stand of Saudi Arabia was neutral. China had tried to ensure that Saudi Arabia comes out on the field in open support of Iran, but the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Mohammad bin Salman has flatly refused to get involved in this war due to American pressure. Mohammad bin Salman stressed that they are in favour of recognising Palestine as a separate country. It wants a normal relationship between Palestine and Israel.

Qaumi Tanzeem (October 4) states that in a joint press statement issued after the meeting of Gulf Cooperation Council in Doha, these countries stressed that they stand with their Lebanese brothers in these delicate times and they are committed to extending help to Lebanese people on humanitarian basis. They appealed to



nations across the world that they try to ensure that the war between Israel and

Lebanon shall not escalate and an agreement shall be reached for a ceasefire between the two countries. These countries, while expressing concern over the increasing tension in the region, appealed to the United Nations that it takes positive and concrete steps to establish peace in the region. The interesting thing is that the Gulf Cooperation Council did not even mention about the statement of Iran, where an appeal was made that Islamic nations should get united against Israel and it should be given a befitting reply.

Music education in schools in Saudi Arabia



Inqilab (October 16) states that the government of Saudi Arabia has announced to provide music education in schools in the country. As per official information, 9,000 teachers have been given special training in music in this connection. From the next academic session, regular training in music will begin in the schools in Saudi Arabia. It is to be noted that in Islam, music education is considered as *haram*. Recently, the Taliban government in Afghanistan had issued a special decree and ordered that if any individual is caught giving training in music in Afghanistan, he will be given a jail term of at least 10 years. The Afghan rulers had also directed all the citizens of the country that if anybody had any musical instrument with them, then they should immediately hand it over to the government so that it could be destroyed. Official spokesperson of Afghanistan

Zabiullah Mujahid said that in the past one year, more than 7,000 musical instruments were destroyed. He also announced that a nationwide search has been started for these musical instruments. If any person is found possessing musical instrument, his hands will be cut-off.

It is to be noted that for the past few years, the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Mohammad bin Salman has adopted a liberal policy. Under this policy, for the first time in Saudi Arabia, 66 cinema halls have been opened. Earlier, there was no permission to open cinema halls in Saudi Arabia because it was considered as against Shariah. Among the Arab countries, Saudi Arabia is the only country which has started issuing licence to women to drive vehicles. Earlier, women could not step out of their houses without a burqa in Saudi Arabia but now women have been permitted to work in public places and purchase goods without wearing a burqa. Similarly, in Islam liquor is considered as *haram*, but now four shops selling liquor have been opened in Saudi Arabia.

Hindustan Express (October 16) states that Saudi Arabia, in order to promote marriages in the country,



announced that if a person gets married, then he will be given 72,000 Riyals as help. If anyone takes loan for marriage, then he doesn't have to pay interest. The person concerned can repay the loan in easy instalments over a 10-year period. The condition is that the age of the person interested in marriage should be between

18 years and 70 years. This apart, his monthly income should not be more than 14,500 Riyals. The financial aid for marriage will be given only for one marriage. If anyone's wife dies, then he will be eligible for the aid for a second marriage.

As per another news, 146 foreigners were arrested from Wadi Hanifa in Saudi Arabia on charges of illegally entering the country. The arrested people are citizens of Yemen and Ethiopia. The police are interrogating the arrested persons. It is said that as per Saudi law, if a Saudi citizen extends help to a foreign man to illegally enter the country, then he will be sentenced to 15 years in jail and a fine of 10 lakh Riyals.

Airstrikes on Houthis in Yemen

Sahafat (October 6) states that the aircraft of the US and Britain carried out airstrikes on the bases of Houthis in different parts of Yemen. According to the US Central Command, 25 planes attacked 15 bases of Houthis. According to the spokesperson of the Central Command, the attack was a success and several bases of Houthis were destroyed. However, the spokesperson did not say how many people died in the attacks. It is to be noted that the Houthi rebels have been targeting the ships of Israel and allied countries in the Red Sea for a long time now. Israel had also targeted the military bases, airports and ports of Houthis in Yemen. It is said that at least 400 people were killed in these attacks. Nearly 52 aircraft of Israeli air force have been used in these attacks.

According to Israel's defence ministry, Israeli aircraft have destroyed four missile stations of Houthis. The Houthi rebels were targeting Israeli cities from these stations. This apart, four



ammunition stores, three airports and four ports of Houthis were also targeted. Israeli military spokesperson said that Israel will destroy the Houthis. We will not spare any power under any circumstance who attacks Israel. Spokesperson of Houthis claimed that they had used more than 200 missiles in order to target different cities of Israel. Three Israeli airports have been destroyed in these attacks. The headquarters of Mossad also suffered serious damages and more than 50 of their officials were killed in these attacks.

Head of Hamas in Gaza killed in Israeli attack



Urdu Times (October 4) states that the Israeli Army has claimed that the head of Hamas government in Gaza, Rawhi Mushtaha was killed in one of its air strikes. A spokesperson of Israeli army claimed that on the basis of information received from intelligence sources, the air force of Israel targeted a tunnel in Gaza, where these people were hiding. Several bases of Hamas located on this underground centre were destroyed. This apart, the security incharge of Hamas's political bureau Sameh al-Siraj and commander Sami Audeh were also killed in this attack. The Israeli army has also confirmed that Israel's eight soldiers were killed during a ground attack in Lebanon, which included a 22-year-old captain. On the other hand, the US has condemned the Iranian attack on Israel and warned that it would suffer serious consequences.

As per another news, Iran fired 20 missiles and targeted the headquarters of Mossad and the military bases of the US.

Roznama Sahara (October 12) states that the chief of Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Mohammad Abdullah was killed in the Israeli attack. Spokesperson of Israeli

Defence Forces (IDF) said the Israeli military had carried out attack on a camp located in Tulkarem in which the head of Islamic Jihad Mohammad Abdullah was killed. This apart, yet another commander of Islamic Jihad, Mohammad Ahmad was also killed in Nur Shams refugee camp. Abdullah was appointed as the successor of the chief of Islamic Jihad Mohammad Jaber after his murder. He was the main operator of the Islamic Jihad's attacks in Israel.

As per another news, the Israel government has taken into custody five journalists who published news about Iranian missiles targeting an Israeli airport. They have been charged of extending help to the enemy during the war. It is to be noted that nearly a week ago, Iran had fired 200 ballistic missiles on Israel. Iranian militia Pasdaran-e-Inqilab (IRGC) had claimed that 90 percent Iranian missiles had targeted Israeli bases, whereas Israel had rejected this claim by Iran. Israel government's allegation is that these journalists, without verifying the facts, published news based on the press release issued by IRGC which is against the interests of Israel.

Russia extends help to Iran

Urdu Times (October 12) states that Russia's foreign affairs minister Sergei Lavrov has warned that if any attempt is made to target the nuclear plants of Iran, there will be serious consequences. The Russian foreign affairs minister rejected the charge that Iran is making preparations to use its nuclear plants for military purposes. He said that if Western nations target Iran, it would create the threat of a world war.

Etemaad (October 12) states that recently Iran President Masoud Pezeshkian held talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin. This meeting took place in Turkmenistan. Following the meeting, the Iran president said that our economic and cultural relationship with Russia is getting stronger day by day. The Iran President alleged that Israel is deliberately dragging the world towards world war and the government there is not willing to obey any international pressure. He alleged that the US and European countries do not want peace in the region.

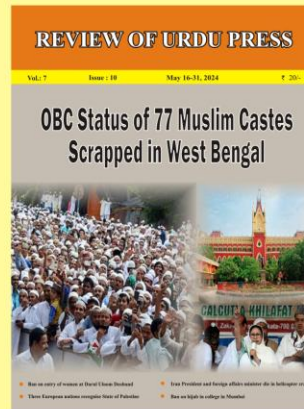
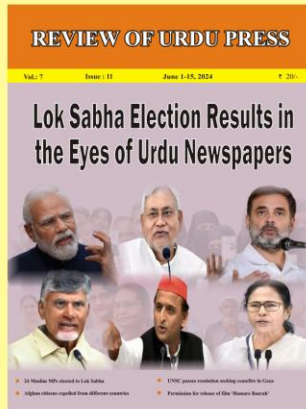
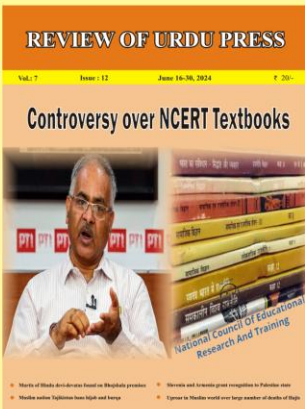
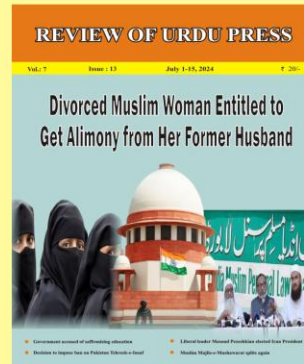
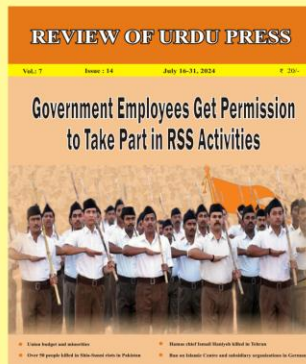
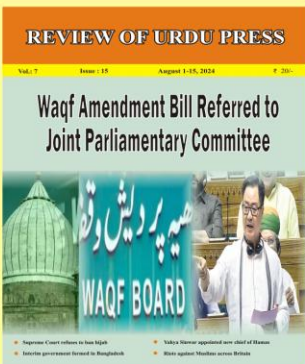
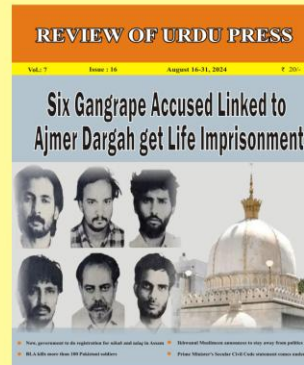
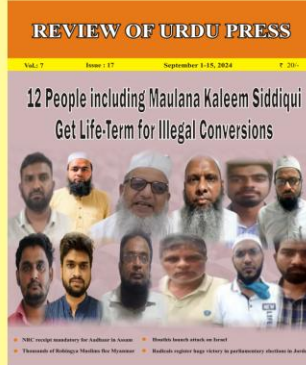
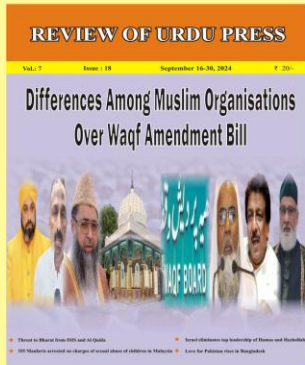
The newspaper said that pressure is mounting on Iran to make nuclear bombs in order to give a befitting reply to the threat of Israel. Recently, in this connection, 39 members of Iran's parliament wrote a letter to the country's president and urged him that in order to stop the threat from Israel, it is necessary that Iran now develop its nuclear energy for military purposes instead of for peaceful purposes. These MPs also urged the religious head of Iran, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, that he should



reconsider his fatwa where it had been stressed not to use nuclear weapons.

Senior Iran MP Hassan Ali Akhlaghi Amiri said that Israel is openly throwing to winds the resolutions adopted by the United Nations. In such a situation, it is necessary that Iran develops nuclear weapons in order to stop the offensive intentions of Israel. Advisor of Ali Khamenei, Kamal Kharrazi said that if Israel continues to threaten Iran, then we could reconsider our nuclear policy. He said that Khamenei is keeping a close eye on the changing circumstances. If Israel targets the nuclear plants of Iran, then Iran could also make nuclear weapons. A senior general of Iran said that if Israel makes this mistake of targeting its oil reserves, then Iran will destroy them.

Qaumi Tanzeem (October 3) states that Iraq has threatened that if the US joins Israel to carry out attacks on Iran, then we will target all the US bases in this region.



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