

The MoU debate — II

This is apropos a letter carried by the newspaper in its “Letters to Editor” column yesterday. There is no doubt about the fact that Razzak Dawood is the right person to give advice to the prime minister on a variety of issues related to his portfolio. I would like to draw his attention to the profound reality of MoUs that characterize the bilateral or multilateral relationships between countries. In that particular meeting, Senator Nauman Wazir Khattak is said to have stated that in addition to MoUs, there should be concrete output of talks with other countries. He’s absolutely right. Instead of adding to this debate, what I wish to say that it is quite clear that what the advisor to the PM says makes little sense but what Khattak has said makes greater sense. After all, agreements do firm up only after the two or more sides show their seriousness after reaching understanding. Sometime MoUs translate into concrete agreements or deals sometime they don’t.

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