

Title: In-House Discussion on “Critical Minerals Cooperation between US and Pakistan”

Event Date: November 7, 2025

Venue: CAPES Office, Islamabad/ Online

Time: 15:30-16:30

Moderator: Umair Pervez, General Secretary, CAPES

Pakistan’s expansion of rare-earth minerals to the US in 2025 is a turning point in the country’s economic diplomacy. A new competition in this field has emerged. In this context, CAPES hosted an in-house discussion with a US-based Policy Analyst, M. Umar.

M. Umar was of the point that the recent dispatch of rare-earth minerals to the US in October 2025 by Pakistan seems to be a calculated move. The country wants to expand its economic partners to reshape its geo-economic landscape. This October shipment is not just part of economic diplomacy but a geopolitical signal. Moving from military cooperation towards economic cooperation, the US relationship with Pakistan has taken a significant turn. This transformation offers advantages for both the US and Pakistan.

Pakistan can also offer its maritime routes through Gwadar and Karachi to the US. The latter can use it as a strategic tool as well to show the world that its alliances are not limited to Australia and Canada. This economic engagement is also a way of regional balancing. It shows that the US has not put all its eggs in one basket, and neither has Pakistan.

In addition to this, Pakistan can also seek multiple advantages from this economic engagement. Islamabad can have access to the US technical expertise. The country can also attract other alliances of the Western bloc to invest in Balochistan’s mining sector.

M. Umar highlighted that Pakistan can use this potential and be a new, credible partner of Western economies seeking new suppliers. The country can also serve as a point of regional connectivity,



connecting South, Central, and West Asia. Islamabad can use its critical minerals as a source of resource diplomacy in order to expand its relations with the US, Gulf leaders, and others.