

INDIA WATCH

No. 69

OCTOBER 2015

POLITICAL ISSUES

JORDAN

1. India announces US\$500,000 assistance to Jordan

New Delhi, Monday, 7 September 2015

India announced an assistance of US\$ 500,000 to Jordan to meet the enormous impact of Syrian refugee crisis on the Jordanian economy.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/india-announces-usd-500-000-assistance-to-jordan-115090701119_1.html

See also: The New Indian Express, Chennai

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/India-Announces-USD-500000-Assistance-to-Jordan/2015/09/07/article3015468.ece>

OMAN

3. Indian Navy ships in Oman to strengthen bilateral ties

New Delhi, Sunday, 20 September 2015

Indian navy ships Deepak, *INS Delhi*, *INS Tabar* and *INS Trishul* reached Muscat in Oman as a part of its deployment in the Gulf to enhance bilateral ties with other national navies in the Gulf.

Source: The Statesman, Kolkata

<http://www.thestatesman.com/news/india/indian-navy-ships-in-oman-to-strengthen-bilateral-ties/91237.html>

See also: Times of Oman, Muscat

<http://timesofoman.com/article/67993/Oman/Government/Indian-Navy-ships-in-Oman-to-boost-bilateral-relations>

See also: The New Indian Express, Chennai

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/Indian-Navy-Ships-in-Oman-to-Strengthen-Bilateral-Ties/2015/09/20/article3036947.ece>

QATAR

4. Indian Warship visit to Qatar to strengthen naval ties

New Delhi, Monday, 14 September 2015

Indian navy ships *INS Tabar* and *INS Trishul*, which are on deployment to the Gulf to strengthen bilateral ties, visited Qatar.

Source: The Economics Times, New Delhi

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/indian-warships-visit-qatar-to-strengthen-naval-ties/articleshow/48957537.cms>

SAUDI ARABIA

5. Indian Warships in Saudi Arabia on Bilateral Visit

New Delhi, Sunday, 11 September 2015

Indian warships *INS Delhi* and *INS Trishul* entered Al-Jubail Port in Saudi Arabia as part of a month-long deployment in the Gulf.

Source: The New Indian Express, Chennai

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/Indian-Warships-in-Saudi-Arabia-on-Bilateral-Visit/2015/09/11/article3021504.ece>

6. India-Saudi ties growing stronger: Envoy

New Delhi, Tuesday, 29 September 2015

On National Day of Saudi Arabia, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to India Saud bin Mohammed Al-Sati said that the ties between the two have never been better and are getting stronger by the day.

Source: The Economic Times, New Delhi

http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2015-09-29/news/66987679_1_energy-ties-saudi-arabia-saudi-economy

UAE

7. Boost for bilateral ties as UAE foreign minister visits India

Abu Dhabi, Tuesday, 1 September 2015

The UAE's Foreign Minister Shaikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan would visit India for two days starting from 2 September.

Source: Gulf News Investment, Dubai

<http://gulfnews.com/business/sectors/investment/boost-for-bilateral-ties-as-uae-foreign-minister-visits-india-1.1576447>

Economic Issues

ISRAEL

8. India turns to Israel for armed drones as Pakistan, China build fleets

New Delhi, Tuesday, 22 September 2015

The Indian government approved the air force's request to acquire 10 Heron TP drones from Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI). The plan to purchase Herons in a deal estimated at US\$ 400 million would open the option of covert cross-border strikes.

Source: Reuters, London

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2015/09/21/india-israel-drones-idINKCN0RL2EC20150921>

SAUDI ARABIA

9. Saudi Arabia says role of Indian expats in economy commendable

Jeddah, Sunday, 20 September 2015

A senior Saudi government official said that Saudi Arabia highly values the contributions of 2.73 million Indian expatriates working in the Kingdom.

Source: Gulf News, Dubai

<http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/saudi-arabia/saudi-arabia-says-role-of-indian-expats-in-economy-commendable-1.1587056>

UAE

10. UAE reiterates commitment to invest more in India

New Delhi, Wednesday, 3 September 2015

Reem Ibrahim Al Hashimi, Minister of State of UAE said that the UAE is keen to invest in India, especially in opportunities arising out of various initiatives announced by the government such as *Make in India* and *Digital India*.

Source: The Hindu Business Line, Chennai

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/uae-reiterates-commitment-to-invest-more-in-india/article7612290.ece>

11. India, UAE agree to enhance cooperation, increase trade by 60 per cent

New Delhi, Wednesday, 3 September 2015

India and the UAE agreed to accelerate their cooperation in all areas of bilateral relations and to enhance their trade by 60 per cent over the next five years.

Source: NDTV, New Delhi

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/india-uae-to-set-up-joint-business-council-1213863>

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

SAUDI ARABIA

12. Accused of rape, Saudi diplomat gets away – to Saudi Arabia

New Delhi, Thursday, 17 September 2015

MEA spokesperson Vikas Swarup said that after being accused of raping two women from Nepal, Saudi Embassy's First Secretary Majed Hassan Ashoor has "left India" as he was recalled to Saudi Arabia.

Source: The Indian Express, Mumbai

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/gurgaon-rape-case-saudi-arabian-diplomat-leaves-india/>

See also: The Times of India, New Delhi

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Gurgaon-rape-case-Saudi-Arabia-calls-back-tainted-diplomat/articleshow/48991460.cms>

See also: The Hindustan Times, New Delhi

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india/saudi-arabian-diplomat-named-in-gurgaon-maids-rape-leaves-india/story-MNDMnElrrmGFpQDN7M5WKN.html>

13. One Indian killed, two injured in Yemeni attack in Saudi Arabia

New Delhi, Saturday, 19 September 2015

One Indian was killed and two injured during the retaliatory attack on Saudi Arabia by the Yemenis.

Source: The Indian Express, Mumbai

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/one-indian-killed-two-injured-in-yemeni-attack-in-saudi-arabia/>

YEMEN

14. India Trying to Evacuate Sailors From Yemen: Gujarat CM

Ahmadabad, Wednesday, 16 September 2015

Gujarat Chief Minister Anandiben Patel while speaking to External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj said that the government is working to evacuate sailors from Yemen.

Source: The New Indian Express, Chennai

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/India-Trying-to-Evacuate-Sailors-From-Yemen-Gujarat-CM/2015/09/16/article3030087.ece>

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