

INDIA WATCH

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POLITICAL ISSUES

EGYPT

1. India, Egypt should strengthen cooperation in pharmaceuticals

Cairo, Saturday, 8 April 2017

Egypt should strengthen its cooperation in pharmaceutical sector with India which has great advantages in terms of providing affordable and reliable medication.

Source: The Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/india-egypt-should-strengthen-cooperation-in-pharmaceuticals-117040800749_1.html

IRAN

2. Iran offers India to run phase one of Chabahar Port

New Delhi, Saturday, 29 April 2017

India's presence in the strategically located Iranian port of Chabahar, Delhi's primary gateway to landlocked Afghanistan, is all set to get a big boost.

Source: The Economic Times, Mumbai

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/iran-offers-india-to-run-phase-one-of-chabahar-port/articleshow/58424909.cms>

ISRAEL

3. PM's Israel trip may see UAV deal

New Delhi, Tuesday, 4 April 2017

PM Narendra Modi is likely to get a display of the Heron TP armed Unmanned Aerial vehicles (UAV) during his visit to Israel.

Source: The Hindu, Chennai

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/pms-israel-trip-may-see-uav-deal/article17784474.ece>

4. 8,000 missiles from Israel part of Modi's \$250-bn plan to take on China, Pakistan

New Delhi, Tuesday, 4 April 2017

India is close to signing two defence deals with Israel as it seeks to deepen ties with it before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit in July.

Source: The Economic Times, Mumbai

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/pm-narendra-modis-israel-visit-said-to-spur-missile-deals-as-ties-deepen/articleshow/58138795.cms>

5. Israel signs US \$2-billion missile deal with India.

Jerusalem, Friday, 7 April 2017

Israel has signed a nearly US\$2-billion deal with India to supply advanced missile defence systems, bolstering bilateral military ties, under a contract said to be the largest in Israel's defence industries' history.

Source: The Business Line, Chennai

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/world/israel-signs-2billion-missile-deal-with-india/article9623579.ece>

6. Ahead of Modi's visit, Israel eyes recognition of diploma courses by India

New Delhi, Monday, 24 April 2017

Recognition of its diploma courses by the Indian government is among top priorities for Israel, which is exploring various agreements in the education sector ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the country.

Source: The Indian Express, New Delhi

<http://indianexpress.com/article/education/ahead-of-modis-visit-israel-eyes-recognition-of-diploma-courses-by-india/>

7. I feel doors opening at Government level: Israeli Envoy on ties with India

New Delhi, Wednesday, 26 April 2017

Israel's Ambassador to New Delhi Daniel Carmon said that after 25 years of "low key, low volume" bilateral cooperation, he could feel doors were opening at governmental level, as India has overcome its hesitance to accept its relation with the Jewish nation openly.

Source: The New Indian Express, Chennai

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2017/apr/26/i-feel-doors-opening-at-government-level-israeli-envoy-on-ties-with-india-1597777.html>

KUWAIT

8. 'Hiring of Indian nurses in Kuwait only via government-run agencies'

Dubai, Monday, 10 April 2017

The Indian government has restricted the recruitment of nurses through a few designated state-run agencies, the Indian embassy in Kuwait has said, as part of a move to make the process transparent.

Source: The Economic Times, Mumbai

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/hiring-of-indian-nurses-in-kuwait-only-via-government-run-agencies/articleshow/58102909.cms>

QATAR

9. Qatar Airways plans fierce expansion in India to beat Gulf rivals

New Delhi, Tuesday, 18 April 2017

Doha-based Qatar Airways has sought a significant increase in capacity entitlements and access to seven new cities as it aims to counter the growth of its rivals—Etihad Airways and Emirates—in India.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/qatar-airways-plans-fierce-expansion-in-india-to-beat-gulf-rivals-117041701024_1.html

10. Qatar Airways' proposed Indian airline catches speed, to review airports

Mumbai, Tuesday, 18 April 2017

A delegation from Qatar would review the facilities at major Indian airports as its national carrier prepares to start an airline in India.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/qatar-airways-proposed-indian-airline-catches-speed-bengaluru-likely-base-117041300408_1.html

SAUDI ARABIA

11. Solar energy for brighter India-Saudi Arabia business

New Delhi, Saturday, 1 April 2017

Saudi Arabia Business Network a body to promote bilateral trade between the two countries, held a two-day scholarly and business seminar in Jeddah to explore the field of renewable energy.

Source: The Times of India, Mumbai

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/nri/citizen-journalists/citizen-journalists-reports/akbar-ponani/solar-energy-for-brighter-india-saudi-arabia-business/articleshow/57964081.cms>

TURKEY

12. Turkish President Erdogan to visit India on April 30: NSG, terror on table

New Delhi, Friday, 14 April 2017

Days ahead of a historic referendum in Turkey over presidential powers, the country's powerful President, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, has conveyed his willingness to visit New Delhi on April 30 2017.

Source: The Indian Express, New Delhi

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/erdogan-to-visit-india-on-april-30-nsg-terror-on-table-4612327/>

13. Turkey President coming with 150-strong biz team

New Delhi, Thursday, 27 April 2017

Within a couple of weeks after winning a constitutional referendum that granted him greater powers, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is embarking on a two-day trip to India from April 30 accompanied by a huge business delegation.

Source: The Business Line, Chennai

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/turkish-president-erdogan-to-visit-india-from-april-30/article9668908.ece>

14. PM Modi to focus on trade, terrorism talk with Turkey's President Erdogan

New Delhi, Sunday, 30 April 2017

The bilateral talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to be held 1 May 2017 are expected to discuss economic ties and cooperation in the fight against terrorism.

Source: The Indian Express, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/pm-modi-to-focus-on-trade-terrorism-talk-with-turkey-s-president-erdogan-117043000261_1.html

15. Turkey sees role in Kashmir talks

New Delhi, Sunday, 30 April 2017

Setting the stage for intense diplomacy, Turkey has urged for multilateral dialogue to solve the Kashmir issue between India and Pakistan.

Source: The Hindu, Chennai

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/turkey-calls-for-multilateral-talks-on-kashmir/article18342971.ece>

See also: The Indian Express, New Delhi

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-draws-red-line-on-kashmir-to-erdogan-bilateral-about-terror-4636322/>

CULTURAL ISSUE

EGYPT

16. Indian cultural centre in Egypt holds seminar to deepen ties

Cairo, Thursday, 27 April 2017

Indian cultural centre in Egypt, serving as India's window, has organized a seminar aimed at maintaining and strengthening bilateral relations.

Source: The Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/indian-cultural-centre-in-egypt-holds-seminar-to-deepen-ties-117042701449_1.html

ECONOMIC ISSUES

IRAN

17. India to cut Iranian oil purchases in row over gas field

New Delhi, Saturday, 1 April 2017

PSU refiners would cut oil imports from Iran in 2017-18 by a fifth, as New Delhi takes a more assertive stance over an impasse on a giant gas field.

Source: The Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/reuters/india-to-cut-iranian-oil-purchases-in-row-over-gas-field-117033101237_1.html

18. India's ONGC submits revised plan for Farzad gas field in Iran

Mumbai, Tuesday, 4 April 2017

The overseas arm of India's Oil and Natural Gas Corp has submitted a revised plan to develop the giant Farzad B gas block in Iran, including a commitment to spend more than US\$3 billion.

Source: The Economic Times, Mumbai

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/indias-ongc-submits-revised-plan-for-farzad-gas-field-in-iran/articleshow/58007057.cms>

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

19. Iran offers to mediate between Pakistan, India over Kashmir

Islamabad, Saturday, 1 April 2017

Iran is willing to mediate between Pakistan and India over the long-standing Kashmir Issue if requested, Iranian Ambassador to Pakistan observed.

Source: The Economic Times, Mumbai

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/iran-offers-to-mediate-between-pakistan-india-over-kashmir/articleshow/57961885.cms>

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