

INDIA WATCH

No. 89

Thursday, 1 June 2017

POLITICAL ISSUES

ISRAEL

1. No cut and paste of farm technology; want to help India adapt: Israel

New Delhi, Monday, 8 May 2017

Keen to expand bilateral ties with India during the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Israel said that it does not want to “cut and paste” its innovative farm technologies in India but help the latter “cut and adapt” them to suit local conditions.

Source: The Indian Express, New Delhi

<http://indianexpress.com/article/business/no-cut-and-paste-of-farm-technology-want-to-help-india-adapt-israel-4646124/>

LEBANON

2. India’s football friendly against Lebanon cancelled

New Delhi, Tuesday, 16 May 2017

Indian football team’s international friendly against Lebanon would be played in Mumbai on 7 June has been cancelled after the latter pulled out, citing problems in obtaining visas for its player

Source: The Times of India, Mumbai

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/football/top-stories/indias-football-friendly-against-lebanon-cancelled/articleshow/58696841.cms>

PALESTINE

3. Mahmoud Abbas visit: India reiterates support to Palestinian cause

New Delhi, Saturday, 13 May 2017

On the time of the visit of President Mahmoud Abbas, India reiterated its “political support” to the Palestinian cause and said it continued to assist developmental projects there.

Source: Hindustan Times, New Delhi

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/mahmoud-abbas-visit-india-reiterates-support-to-palestinian-cause/story-9riDCG6OmRiv6OLgGXD0IP.html>

See also: The Indian Express, New Delhi

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-reiterates-support-to-palestinian-cause-on-eve-of-mahmoud-abbas-visit-4654303/>

4. Palestinian President Abbas arrives on four-day India visit

New Delhi, Sunday, 14 May 2017

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas arrived in India on a four-day visit during which he held extensive talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on several bilateral, regional and international issues, including the Middle East peace process.

Source: The Indian Express, New Delhi

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/palestinian-president-abbas-arrives-on-four-day-india-visit-4655788/>

See also: Hindustan Times, New Delhi

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/palestinian-president-mahmoud-abbas-arrives-on-four-day-india-visit/story-tsGTed6O430EYDJa3IWFVJ.html>

5. India can play important role in Palestine issue, says Palestinian President

New Delhi, Monday, 15 May 2017

India can play ‘a very important role’ in resolving the dispute between Palestine and Israel, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said, on the eve of his talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Source: The Economic Times, Mumbai

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/india-can-play-imp-role-in-palestine-issue-says-palestinian-president/articleshow/58687769.cms>

SAUDI ARABIA

6. Indian success stories abound in Saudi Arabia

New Delhi, Tuesday, 2 May 2017

The relationship between India and Saudi Arabia is getting strong through economic, cultural and human bonds.

Source: Financial Express, Noida

<http://www.financialexpress.com/world-news/indian-success-stories-abound-in-saudi-arabia/650466/>

See also: The Economic Times, Mumbai

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/indian-success-stories-abound-in-saudi-arabia/articleshow/58473158.cms>

TURKEY

7. India, Turkey sign three agreements

New Delhi, Monday, 1 May 2017

India and Turkey signed three agreements following delegation-level talks headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. These three agreements are in the field of ICT, training and culture.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/india-turkey-sign-three-agreements-117050100537_1.html

8. India, Turkey to hold bilateral talks today

New Delhi, Monday, 1 May 2017

With the arrival of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in New Delhi, economic ties, cooperation in the fight against terrorism and Turkey’s support to India in its bid to become a member of Nuclear Supplier’s Group, expected to dominate the bilateral talks.

Source: The New Indian Express, Chennai

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2017/may/01/india-turkey-to-hold-bilateral-talks-today-1599771.html>

9. Kashmir a bilateral issue with Pakistan, India tells Turkish President Erdogan

New Delhi, Monday, 1 May 2017

India informed visiting Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan that a solution to the Kashmir issue can be found only through bilateral talks with Pakistan, tacitly rejecting his suggestion for multilateral dialogue.

Source: Hindustan Times, New Delhi

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/kashmir-a-bilateral-issue-with-pakistan-india-tells-turkish-president-erdogan/story-cgV9TTPgrbIQwBnOYfFjYJ.html>

10. On India visit, Recep Tayyip Erdogan says ‘come to Turkey for your honeymoon’

New Delhi, Monday, 1 May 2017

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan who is in India, turned into his country’s chief-promoter-of-tourism while addressing corporate leaders present at the India-Turkey Business Summit asked Indians to come to Turkey for their honeymoon.

Source: Financial Express, New Delhi

<http://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/on-india-visit-recep-tayyip-erdogan-says-come-to-turkey-for-your-honeymoon/649099/>

11. India draws red line on Kashmir to Erdogan: Bilateral, about terror

New Delhi, Tuesday, 2 May 2017

A day after Turkey’s President Recep Tayyip Erdogan advocated a “multilateral dialogue” to settle the Jammu and Kashmir question, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that both sides have agreed to work together to strengthen cooperation “bilaterally” and “multilaterally” to effectively counter terrorism.

Source: The Indian Express, New Delhi

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

UAE

12. Government to review UAE bilateral deals

New Delhi, Tuesday, 2 May 2017

The government is examining one of the most controversial decisions of UPA—treating the member emirates of UAE like Dubai and Abu Dhabi—as separate entities for the purpose of granting flying rights to India.

Source: The Economic Times, Mumbai

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/government-to-review-uae-bilateral-deals/articleshow/58469292.cms>

13. UAE ready for air traffic pact

New Delhi, Tuesday, 30 May 2017

The UAE is in favour of India’s proposal for a unified bilateral air traffic pact, provided the Gulf nation gets more access to Indian airports.

Source: The Hindu, Chennai

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/uae-ready-for-air-traffic-pact/article18661622.ece>

CULTURAL ISSUE

EGYPT

14. Two Indian warships visit Egyptian port city

New Delhi, Monday, 8 May 2017

Two Indian warships have engaged in professional and social interactions with the Egyptian navy during their port call to Alexandria as part of Indian Navy's overseas deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and the west coast of Africa.

Source: The Indian Express, New Delhi

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/two-indian-warships-visit-egyptian-port-city-4645723/>

See also: The Economic Times, Mumbai

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/two-indian-warships-visit-egyptian-port-city/articleshow/58569988.cms>

ECONOMIC ISSUES

BAHRAIN

15. Bahrain takes its investment story to India Inc

New Delhi, Tuesday, 9 May 2017

Pitching Bahrain's tax-free credentials, a key delegation of the Middle East sought to impress upon the Indian business the importance of investing in the country.

Source: The Financial Express, Noida

<http://www.financialexpress.com/economy/bahrain-takes-its-investment-story-to-india-inc/660924/>

EGYPT

16. Egypt has contracted to import 20,000 tonnes of Indian rice

Cairo, Wednesday, 3 May 2017

A cabinet's statement came into light that Egypt, traditionally a rice exporter, has contracted to purchase 20,000 tonnes of Indian rice.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/reuters/egypt-has-contracted-to-import-20-000-tonnes-of-indian-rice-117050301468_1.html

TURKEY

17. Erdogan exhorts India Inc to invest in Turkey

New Delhi, Monday, 1 May 2017

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan complained to the Indian industry that they were not investing enough in his country, even as he batted for a bilateral free trade agreement.

Source: Business Line, Chennai

<http://m.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/erdogan-exhorts-india-inc-to-invest-in-turkey/article9675245.ece>

18. Need time to consider Turkey's call for FTA, says New Delhi

New Delhi, Tuesday, 2 May 2017

India is open to considering Turkey's proposal to negotiate a bilateral free trade agreement in goods, services and investments despite the politically volatile situation in Ankara, but needs time to weigh the potential gains for its industry.

Source: The Hindu, Chennai

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/policy/need-time-to-consider-turkeys-call-for-fta-says-new-delhi/article9677366.ece>

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

ISRAEL/PALESTINE

19. Narendra Modi urges Israel, Palestine to find ‘Comprehensive resolution’

New Delhi, Tuesday, 1 May 2017

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has urged Israel and Palestine to find comprehensive resolution to the long-standing territorial dispute between them.

Source: The Business Line, Chennai

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/modi-urges-israel-palestine-to-find-comprehensive-resolution/article9701666.ece>

20. India’s ties with Israel should not be at cost of Palestinian cause: President Mahmoud Abbas’ aide

New Delhi, Tuesday, 9 May 2017

India has the right to build relations with Israel but it should not come at the “expense” of New Delhi’s firm support for the Palestinian cause, a close aide of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said.

Source: The Indian Express, New Delhi

<http://indianexpress.com/article/world/indias-ties-with-israel-should-not-be-at-cost-of-palestinian-cause-president-mahmoud-abbas-aide-4647970/>

21. Prime Minister Modi offers unwavering support to Palestine, but hopes peace between Palestinian and Israeli sides

New Delhi, Tuesday, 16 May 2017

Prime Minister Narendra Modi offered India’s unwavering support to the Palestinian cause. After holding dialogue with visiting Palestine President Mahmoud Abbas, he hoped to see a sovereign, independent, united and viable Palestine, co-existing peacefully with Israel.

Source: The New Indian Express, Chennai

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2017/may/16/pm-modi-offers-unwavering-support-to-palestine-but-hopes-peace-between-palestinian-and-israeli-side-1605500.html>

22. Before Modi’s Israel visit, India reiterates support to Palestine

New Delhi, Wednesday, 17 May 2017

A month and a half before Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s proposed visit to Israel on 5-6 July, India announced the visit of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to New Delhi on 15-16 May and reiterated its “political support” to the Palestinian cause.

Source: The Indian Express, New Delhi

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/before-modis-israel-visit-india-reiterates-support-to-palestine-4654825/>

23. Hope to see sovereign Palestine coexisting with Israel, says PM Modi

New Delhi, Wednesday, 17 May 2017

Prime Minister Narendra Modi assured Palestine President Mahmoud Abbas of India’s “unwavering support” to the Palestinian cause, saying it hoped to see a sovereign, united and an independent Palestine, coexisting peacefully with Israel.

Source: The Indian Express, New Delhi

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/hope-to-see-sovereign-palestine-coexisting-with-israel-says-pm-modi/>

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