

# INDIA WATCH

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No. 19

August 2011

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## Political Issues

### Egypt

#### 1. Egypt stays non-committal on the Indian seat in UNSC

New Delhi, Milli Gazette, 28 June 2011

Although Egypt has openly talked of the need of the reforms in the United Nations Security Council, it has been skirting the question on support for India's claim for a permanent seat in the Security Council.

**Source:** *The Milli Gazette*, New Delhi

<http://www.milligazette.com/news/1649-egypt-non-committal-on-indias-unscc-claim>

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### Iran

#### 2. Karat blames U.S pressure and PM for failed oil issues with Iran

New Delhi, Friday, 29 July 2011

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) on Friday charged the Manmohan Singh government with succumbing to U.S. pressure by not clearing payments to Iran for crude. Party General-Secretary Prakash Karat claimed that this could result in the stoppage of supplies.

**Source:** *The Hindu*, Chennai

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/article2306233.ece?css=print>

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#### 3. Payment issue over crude oil resolved

New Delhi, Sunday, 31 July 2011

After threats to snap oil supplies by Iran, the issue over the payment for crude exports with India was resolved after Indian refiners began paying for the oil they buy through a Turkish bank.

**Source:** *The Statesman*, New Delhi.

[http://www.thestatesman.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=378273&catid=40](http://www.thestatesman.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=378273&catid=40)

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## Israel

### **4. India says Israel must stop building settlements**

United Nations, Wednesday, 27 July 2011

India's envoy to the UN said that Israel should halt constructing settlements in the occupied territories.

**Source:** msn.com

<http://news.in.msn.com/international/article.aspx?cp-documentid=5320636>

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## Libya

### **5. India calls for immediate cessation of hostilities in Libya**

New Delhi, Friday, 22 July 2011

E. Ahamed, Minister of State for the Ministry of External Affairs and for Human Resource reiterated India's position on Libya which calls for "immediate cessation of all hostilities" and supports peaceful resolution of the Libyan crisis through dialogue.

**Source:** *Business Standard*, New Delhi

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/india-calls-for-immediate-cessationhostilities-in-libya/142055/on>

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### **6. India for ending fight in Libya during Ramadan**

New Delhi, Friday, 29 July 2011

India is in favour of cessation of hostilities in Libya during the month of Ramadan which begins on August 1. This was revealed during an interview of India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Hardeep Puri on the occasion of India taking over the presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in August.

**Source:** *The Hindu*, Chennai

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/article2306081.ece>

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## Qatar

### **7. Bahrain-based Indian fishermen sentenced to prison**

Dubai, Tuesday, 19 July 2011

Five Bahrain-based Indian fishermen were sentenced to prison for a month in Doha for illegally entering into Qatar's waters.

**Source:** *The Times of India*, New Delhi

[http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-19/other-news/29790600\\_1\\_indian-fishermen-deportation-centre-deepa-gopalan-wadhwa](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-19/other-news/29790600_1_indian-fishermen-deportation-centre-deepa-gopalan-wadhwa)

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## South Sudan

### **8. Hamid Ansari attends 'birthday' of South Sudan**

New Delhi, Wednesday, 6 July 2011

Vice President Hamid Ansari represented India at the celebrations to mark the formal birth of Africa's newest nation South Sudan on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

**Source:** yahoo.com, New Delhi

<http://in.news.yahoo.com/ansari-attend-birthday-south-sudan-081841485.html>

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### **9. Prime Minister Singh congratulates people of South Sudan**

New Delhi, Saturday, 9 July 2011

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh greeted the people of South Sudan on their proclamation of independence and extended all possible assistance from India in a letter to President General Salva Kiir Mayardit of South Sudan. He also applauded the new nation's commitment to addressing all outstanding issues with North Sudan in an amicable and peaceful manner.

**Source:** *inblive.in*, New Delhi

<http://ibnlive.in.com/news/pm-congratulates-people-of-south-sudan/166234-3.html>

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### **10. India extends diplomatic recognition to South Sudan**

Juba, Sunday, 10 July 2011

India has become one of the first nations to accord diplomatic recognition to South Sudan, the world's youngest country. The recognition was accorded through a letter by Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh to South Sudan's new President General Salva Kiir Mayardit, shortly after he assumed power at the Independence Day function.

**Source:** *The Statesman*, New Delhi

[http://www.thestatesman.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=376024&catid=36](http://www.thestatesman.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=376024&catid=36)

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## Turkey

### **11. Indian firms start oil payments via Turkey**

New Delhi, Friday, 29 July 2011

Indian refiners will pay for the US\$5 billion of debts for Iranian crude oil through Turkey's Halkbank.

**Source:** *Reuters*, UK.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2011/07/29/india-iran-idUKL3E7IT28820110729>

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## UAE

### **12. Expats in UAE demand more flights from Ras Al Khaimah**

Thiruvananthapuram, Monday, July 4

Members of eight major associations representing the Indian community in Ras Al Khaimah have called on the Indian Government to increase the number of flights between cities in India and Ras Al Khaimah.

**Source:** *The Hindu*, Chennai

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/todays-paper/tp-others/tp-states/article2159617.ece>

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### **13. India needs to be ruthless against terrorists: UAE**

Abu Dabhi, Friday, 15 July 2011

The UAE believes that India should take coordinated and ruthless action against terrorists in reference with the Mumbai blasts.

**Source:** *Deccan Herald*, Bangalore

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/176609/india-needs-ruthless-against-terrorists.html>

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### **14. UAE keen to open consulate in Kerala**

Thiruvananthapuram, Tuesday, 19 July 2011

The UAE is looking forward to setting up a consulate in Kerala by July 2012.

**Source:** *The Times of India*, New Delhi

[http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-19/other-news/29790066\\_1\\_uae-keralites-job-visas](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-19/other-news/29790066_1_uae-keralites-job-visas)

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## Economic

### Iran

### **15. Oil supply to India continues**

Bloomberg, Monday, 4 July 2011

The Iranian supply of oil to India continues in spite of the warnings issued to the Indian market over delays in payment.

**Source:** *The Times of India*, New Delhi

[http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-04/international-business/29735266\\_1\\_oil-imports-oil-supply-oil-exports](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-04/international-business/29735266_1_oil-imports-oil-supply-oil-exports)

**See also:** *The Times of India*, New Delhi

[http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-22/india-business/29802562\\_1\\_caretaker-oil-minister-indian-refiners-india-and-iran](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-22/india-business/29802562_1_caretaker-oil-minister-indian-refiners-india-and-iran)

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### Jordan

### **16. Jordan-India fertilizer plant gets \$10 million from Canada**

Dubai, Monday, 11 July 2011

Cordiant Capital, a Montreal-based fund manager committed a US\$10 million loan to Jordan-India Fertilizer Company 'JIFCO'. The loan will finance the construction of a new \$186 million

plant in Jordan using phosphate rocks from local mines to produce phosphoric acid, a fertilizer, for the Indian market

**Source:** *The Economic Times*, New Delhi

[http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-07-11/news/29761378\\_1\\_fertiliser-project-eshidiya-fertiliser-output](http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-07-11/news/29761378_1_fertiliser-project-eshidiya-fertiliser-output)

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Saudi Arabia

### **17. Saudi Arabia to help India overcome the oil row**

New Delhi, Wednesday, 27 July 2011

Saudi Arabia would fill the vacuum created by Iran in the sale of oil to India by selling 3 million barrels more of oil in August.

**Source:** *Financial Express*, New Delhi

<http://www.financialexpress.com/news/Saudi-Arabia-comes-to-India-s-aid-as-Iran-cuts-oil-supply/822861/>

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UAE

### **18. PCM Strescon Overseas Ventures bagged a railway contract**

Dubai. Monday, 4 July 2011

Indian firm PCM Strescon Overseas Ventures (PCM Strescon) bagged a US\$10.89-billion contract to supply railway sleepers at Etihad Rail, the master developer and operator of the UAE's national railway network.

**Source:** *The Financial Express*, New Delhi

<http://www.financialexpress.com/news/India-s-PCM-Strescon-wins--10-bn-UAE-rail-contract/812450/>

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## Miscellaneous

### **19. India looks at other resorts to fill the Iran oil supply gap**

New Delhi, Friday, 22 July 2011

India looks Saudi Arabia and Iraq to fill the gap created by the oil row with Iran to meet its increasing oil demands.

**Source:** *Business World*, New Delhi

<http://www.businessworld.in/businessworld/businessworld/content/India-Fill-Iran-Supply-Gap-Saudi-Iraqi-Oil.html>

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Bahrain

### **20. Indian touch in the Bahrain summer festival**

New Delhi, Thursday, 29 July 2011

The Summer Festival in Bahrain saw a touch of Indian music and Bollywood flavor. The Dhol Foundation was specially flown to render heart-beat drum music and will highlight the art of playing the North Indian Dhol Drum to students and music lovers.

**Source:** *The Times of India*, New Delhi

[http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-8/contributions/29825289\\_1\\_dance-cuba-summer-vacation-dance-form](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-8/contributions/29825289_1_dance-cuba-summer-vacation-dance-form)

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