

INDIA WATCH

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POLITICAL RELATIONS

EGYPT

1. Envoy hails India-Egypt bilateral, trade links

Cairo, Tuesday, 21 October 2014

Noting that the bilateral trade between the two countries has reached US\$ 4.94 billion in 2013-2014, Indian ambassador to Egypt Navdeep Suri lauded the vibrant economic and political relationship between India and Egypt.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/india-egypt-discuss-ways-to-promote-economic-ties-114080100175_1.html

IRAN

2. Indian government plans for first reverse SEZ in Iran

Mumbai, Friday, 10 October 2014

The first reverse Special economic zone (SEZ) project, a concept through which Indian chemical and petrochemical companies will be encouraged to set up plants in other countries to manufacture basic raw materials, is likely to come up in Iran.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/content/b2b-chemicals/indian-government-plans-for-first-reverse-sez-in-iran-114101000030_1.html

3. Cabinet approves Iran port project

New Delhi, Sunday, 19 October 2014

The Union cabinet gave its approval to India's participation in the Chabahar port project in Iran.

Source: The Hindu, Chennai

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/cabinet-approves-iran-port-project/article6515577.ece>

4. India prepares to pay US\$ 400 million under interim deal to Iran: Sources

New Delhi, Wednesday, 16 October 2014

Iran has sought payment of US\$ 400 million from India under an interim deal with six world powers that allows it to recover part of its overseas frozen oil revenues.

Source: Reuters, UK

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/15/us-india-iran-payment-idUSKCN0141N320141015>

See Also: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/reuters/india-prepares-to-pay-400-mln-under-interim-deal-to-iran-sources-114101500972_1.html

5. Cabinet Okays setting up of JV firm for Iran port project

New Delhi, Saturday, 18 October 2014

The union cabinet paved the way for setting up a US\$ 85.21-million joint venture firm for equipping two fully-constructed berths in Iran's Chabahar port. It also approved the framework of an inter-government MoU.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/cabinet-okays-setting-up-of-jv-firm-for-iran-port-project-114101801012_1.html

6. Government sets up cell for Iran's Chabahar port project

New Delhi, Thursday, 23 October 2014

The Indian government has set up a cell to speed work and monitor the setting up of the Chabahar port in Iran within a deadline.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/govt-sets-up-cell-for-iran-s-chabahar-port-project-114102300645_1.html

ISRAEL

7. Rajnath visiting Israel next month

New Delhi, Monday, 27 October 2014

Home Minister Rajnath Singh would meet Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during his visit to Israel. Israel's National Security Adviser Joseph Cohen met the Home Minister and his Indian counterpart Ajit Doval.

Source: The Hindu, Chennai

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/union-home-minister-rajnath-singh-visiting-israel-next-month/article6535602.ece>

KUWAIT

8. Indian Embassy in Kuwait simplifies visa procedure

Dubai, Monday, 13 October 2014

Indian Embassy in Kuwait has simplified the visa procedure for Kuwaiti nationals as well as expatriates living in the country with an aim to enhance travel to India for business, tourism, medical treatment and study purposes.

Source: The Hindu, Chennai

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/world/indian-embassy-in-kuwait-simplifies-visa-procedure/article6495635.ece>

LIBYA

9. Kerala CM seeks Centre's help to bring back nurses from Libya

Thiruvananthapuram, Friday, 24 October 2014

Kerala Chief Minister Oomen Chandy has asked the Centre to take urgent steps to secure the release of 18 Malayalee nurses stranded in Libya and also five Indian fishermen, including one from Kerala, held captive in Iran.

Source: Business standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/kerala-cm-seeks-centre-s-help-to-bring-back-nurses-from-libya-114102400185_1.html

OMAN

10. Oman's commerce minister to visit India

Dubai, Friday, 10 October 2014

Oman's Commerce and Industry Minister Ali Bin Masoud Al Sunaidy led a high-level business delegation to India to attend the India-Oman joint commission meeting in New Delhi.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/oman-s-commerce-minister-to-visit-india-114101000507_1.html

11. President Pranab Mukherjee invites Oman to 'Make in India', seeks deeper trade ties

New Delhi, Tuesday, 28 October 2014

After a conversation with the Commerce and Industry Minister of the Sultanate of Oman Dr Ali Bin Masoud Al Sunaidy, Indian President Pranab Mukherjee extended an invitation to public and private companies from Oman to invest in the 'Make in India' programme.

Source: The Economic Times, New Delhi

http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2014-10-28/news/55521379_1_oman-minister-india-and-oman-president-pranab-mukherjee

See Also: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/commerce-and-industry-minister-of-oman-calls-on-president-114102800712_1.html

PALESTINE

12. India pledges US\$ 4 million for Gaza reconstruction

New Delhi, Tuesday, 14 October 2014

India has pledged US\$ 4 million for the reconstruction of Gaza Strip necessitated by the recent Israel-Hamas war, the government announced at an International Conference in Cairo.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/India-pledges-4-million-for-Gaza-reconstruction/articleshow/44810528.cms>

ECONOMIC RELATIONS

IRAN

13. Cipla to invest Rs 225 crore for new facility in Iran

Mumbai, Monday, 6 October 2014

The Mumbai-based pharma major Cipla Ltd has signed an agreement with its existing Iranian distributor for setting up a manufacturing facility in Iran. The total contribution from the company over the next three years will include machinery, equipment, and technical know-how and is expected to be approximately Rs 225 crore for a 75 per cent stake.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/content/b2b-pharma/CIPLA-to-invest-rs-225-cr-for-new-facility-in-iran-114100700609_1.html

OMAN

14. Omani Commerce & Industry Minister invites Indian businesses to explore opportunities in the tax haven nation

New Delhi, Thursday, 30 October 2014

Highlighting the business-friendly investment incentives in Oman, Dr. Ali bin Masoud Al Sunaidy, Minister of Commerce and Industry of Oman, invited Indian businessmen to his country.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/omani-commerce-industry-minister-invites-indian-businesses-to-explore-opportunities-in-the-tax-haven-nation-114103000624_1.html

SAUDI ARABIA

15. India receives most remittance from Saudi Arabia

Dubai, Tuesday, 28 October 2014

According to the World Bank, India is the top remittance beneficiary from Saudi Arabia and received US\$ 8.4 billion in 2012.

Source: The Economic Times, New Delhi

http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-10-28/news/43462480_1_remittance-new-nitaqat-labour-law-saudi-arabia

16. India invites Saudi Arabia to invest in strategic oil storages

New Delhi, Wednesday, 29 October 2014

To deepen energy ties, India invited Saudi Arabia to invest in strategic crude oil storages and downstream facilities. Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan met Saudi Oil Minister Ali al-Niami in Riyadh and discussed ways to extend cooperation in oil and gas sectors.

Source: The Economic Times, New Delhi

http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2014-10-29/news/55558704_1_oil-minister-dharmendra-pradhan-international-energy-forum-public-sector-oil-companies

See Also: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/visit-of-delegation-led-by-the-minister-of-state-independent-charge-114102900295_1.html

CULTURAL RELATIONS

TURKEY

17. PM greets the people of Turkey on their National Day

New Delhi, Wednesday, 29 October 2014

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted the people of Turkey on the occasion of their National Day.

Source: Business Standard, New Delhi

http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/pm-greets-the-people-of-turkey-on-their-national-day-114102900293_1.html

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