

# INDIA WATCH

No. 65

JUNE 2015

## POLITICAL ISSUES

### IRAN

**1. If they (Israel) are your friend, do not let them choose your enemies: Iran envoy Gholamreza Ansari**

New Delhi, Sunday, 3 May 2015

On the growing Indo-Israel ties, Iranian ambassador Gholamreza Ansari exclaimed that it is India's choice to be friends with any nation it wants to be with but that should not delay its deal with other countries (Iran) and make them enemies.

*Source: The Indian Express, Mumbai*

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/if-they-israel-are-your-friend-do-not-let-them-choose-your-enemies-gholamreza-ansari/>

**2. India to sign port deal with Iran, ignoring U.S. warning against haste**

New Delhi, Wednesday, 6 May 2015

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is keen to develop Chabahar port in south-east Iran and enhance trade ties with Central Asia and is also prepared to fend off US pressures while dealing with Iran.

*Source: Reuters, UK*

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2015/05/05/india-iran-port-idINKBN0NQ0VY20150505>

**3. India, Iran sign pact on developing Chabahar port**

Tehran, Thursday, 7 May 2015

India signed an agreement with Iran for the development of the strategically important Chabahar port which will give India sea-land access route to Afghanistan bypassing Pakistan.

*Source: Business Standard, New Delhi*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/india-iran-sign-pact-on-developing-chabahar-port-115050700016\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/india-iran-sign-pact-on-developing-chabahar-port-115050700016_1.html)

### ISRAEL

**4. Modi to Visit Israel, First by an Indian PM**

New Delhi, Sunday, 31 May 2015

Narendra Modi to be the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Israel with whom bilateral defence cooperation is on an upswing.

*Source: The New Indian Express, Chennai*

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/Modi-to-Visit-Israel-1st-by-an-Indian-PM/2015/05/31/article2842529.ece>

## **JORDAN**

### **5. Mukherjee greets Jordan on Independence Day**

**New Delhi, Sunday, 24 May 2015**

President Pranab Mukherjee greeted King Abdullah-II and the people of Jordan on the eve of its Independence Day.

*Source: Business Standard, New Delhi*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/mukherjee-greets-jordan-on-independence-day-115052400649\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/mukherjee-greets-jordan-on-independence-day-115052400649_1.html)

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## **PALESTINE**

### **6. Palestinian Official Appreciates India's Support**

**New Delhi, Wednesday, 13 May 2015**

Special advisor to Palestine President Mahmmud Abbas, Mahmoud Al Habbash, has lauded India for extending political, moral and material support to Palestinians.

*Source: The New Indian Express, Chennai*

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/world/Palestinian-Official-Appreciates-Indias-Support/2015/05/13/article2812300.ece>

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## **ECONOMIC ISSUES**

## **QATAR**

### **7. Qatar Airways Eyes Stake in India's IndiGo, Warns Airbus on A380neo**

**Dubai, Wednesday, 6 May 2015**

Qatar Airways wants to buy up to 49 per cent of shares in Indian carrier *IndiGo*.

*Source: The New Indian Express, Chennai*

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/business/news/Qatar-Airways-Eyes-Stake-in-Indias-IndiGo-Warns-Airbus-on-A380neo/2015/05/06/article2800602.ece>

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## **ENTERTAINMENT**

## **EGYPT**

### **8. Indian TV drama new favourite among Egyptians**

**Cairo, Wednesday, 27 May 2015**

Bollywood movies and Indian television drama have recently become very popular amongst Egyptian audiences, owing to great similarities between both the cultures.

*Source: Business Standard, New Delhi*

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/indian-tv-drama-new-favourite-among-egyptians-115052700194\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/indian-tv-drama-new-favourite-among-egyptians-115052700194_1.html)

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