

## Top Stories

### [India to host meeting of 14 Pacific island nations](#)

The Hindu | August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015

The upcoming summit in Jaipur is expected to pave the way for agreements in agriculture, food processing, fisheries, solar energy, e-networks for coordination in telemedicine and tele-education, space cooperation and climate change, all of which were mentioned as areas of potential cooperation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Fiji in 2014.

### [India's bid for permanent seat at UN Security Council suffers blow as US, Russia, China oppose reform talks](#)

PTI / ABP Live | August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015

India has received support from France and the UK, the two remaining permanent members of Security Council. The two nations along with Kazakhstan and Romania have specifically named in the negotiating text Brazil, Germany, India, Japan and an African representation to be included among the permanent members of a reformed UNSC.

### [Iran, India discuss investments, Chabahar port](#)

Live Mint | August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

India conveyed its "commitment to work with Iran for development of the Chabahar port that would have far reaching benefit, not only for the people of India and Iran, but also for Afghanistan and the entire Central Asia region.

## South Asia

### *Pakistan*

#### [Pak wants result-oriented dialogue with India: Sartaj Aziz](#)

PTI / Business Standard | August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"Pakistan wants a constructive, sustained, unconditional and result-oriented dialogue with India on all issues of mutual concern including the core issue of Kashmir," Advisor on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz said.

#### [Pak PM Nawaz Sharif Wishes India on Independence Day, Calls for Good Neighbourly Ties](#)

PTI / NDTV | August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

NSA Ajit Doval is scheduled to meet his Pakistan counterpart Sartaj Aziz for talks on terrorism-related issues for the first time on August 23, as decided in a meeting between Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Nawaz Sharif last month in Ufa in Russia.

## ***Maldives***

### [Indian foreign secretary concludes Maldives visit](#)

IANS / Business Standard | August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The visit comes days after the Maldivian parliament passed a bill allowing foreign investors with a minimum of \$1 billion to lease land in the Indian Ocean atoll nation on a freehold basis.

### [Male assures Modi on China footprint](#)

The Telegraph | August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Maldives President Abdulla Yameen, after coming to power through a two-tier election, had made India his first foreign destination and publicly stated that ties with New Delhi would be his top diplomatic priority.

### [India, Pak prepare terror dossiers ahead of NSA-level talks](#)

Hindustan Times | August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## ***Asia Pacific***

### ['India must focus on expanding banks network in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam'](#)

PTI / DNA | August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"No amount of commercial and economic linkages especially in the framework of regional value chains would be possible without enhancing the number of Indian banks present in Cambodia in their full-fledged form rather than just being representative offices," the government sponsored report said.

## ***China***

### [Indian Army-Chinese PLA hold 1st meeting at DBO in Ladakh](#)

Hindustan Times | August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

The meeting is considered significant at the Daulat Beg Oldie, which is claimed by both India and China and marked by perceptual difference over the border. An army airfield at DBO was made operational in 2008 after a gap of about four decades.

### [India has asked China to cease activities in Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir: Parrikar](#)

PTI / The Indian Express | August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The Defence Minister said that a Chinese submarine, deployed in the Gulf of Aden since April this year, undertook replenishment at Karachi in May and July by transit through international waters.

## ***Singapore***

### [Singapore PM greets India on I-Day, says Modi to visit in November](#)

PTI / India Today | August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"India was among the first countries to recognise Singapore when we gained independence. Today, we enjoy excellent relations and cooperation in ever-widening fields. I am heartened that both countries continue to forge close ties and linkages at all levels," said the Singapore Premier.

## ***Middle East***

### ***Iran***

### [Iran seeks larger Indian participation in its infra projects](#)

The Financial Express | August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The Iranian envoy in New Delhi has expressed hope that trade and economic engagement between India and Iran will grow following the Western sanctions being lifted. India is among a few countries that found ways to trade with the country, including importing crude, despite the Western sanctions.

#### [India must utilise post-sanctions Iran opportunities: Zarif](#)

The Hindu | August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Of particular interest to India is the future of the Farzad B oil fields in the Persian Gulf. “We want Iran to regain its share of India’s oil imports and we expect Iran to also make efforts to help promote participation of Indian companies,” said MEA spokesperson Vikas Swarup after the Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif met with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.

### ***United Arab Emirates***

#### [PM Narendra Modi’s UAE visit first by an Indian PM in over 3 decades](#)

The Indian Express | August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The Prime Minister will address thousands of Indians at the Dubai Cricket Association stadium on August 17.

#### [PM Narendra Modi UAE visit to help attract funds to infrastructure sector: CII](#)

PTI / The Economic Times | August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The industry body said that UAE investments in India can be facilitated by setting up Special Purpose Vehicles in sectors such as semiconductors, renewable energy, and infrastructure development.

### **Saudi Arabia**

#### [Indian Air Force fighter contingent makes maiden visit to Saudi Arabia](#)

The Times of India | August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Indian embassy charge d'affaires Hemant Kotalwar, along with deputy consul-general of India Noor Rahman Shaikh and IAF wing commander S. Joardar, while addressing a press conference, called the visit significant, and yet another feature that is set to give the Indo-Saudi relations a boost as this was the first time that an Indian fighter aircraft landed in Saudi Arabia on a goodwill visit.

### **North America**

#### ***The United States***

#### [Looking forward to Narendra Modi’s US visit: Nisha Desai Biswal](#)

PTI / The Economic Times | August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015

#### [Devyani Khobragade episode 'painful period' for both India and USA: US official](#)

PTI / India TV | August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015

US assistant secretary of state for south and central Asian affairs Nisha Desai Biswal said following the episode, there are things that the US has tried to do differently in terms of its officials in India.

### **Africa**

#### [India, Mozambique discuss boosting maritime security cooperation](#)

IANAS / Deccan Herald | August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015

PM Modi said the MoU on cooperation in renewable energy assumes special importance due to the climate change

agreement in Paris later this year. India has already partnered Mozambique in setting up a solar panel assembly plant.

#### [PM Modi invites Egyptian president for India-Africa Forum Summit](#)

IANS / Zee News | August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, who is in Egypt to represent India at the inaugural ceremony of the New Suez Canal on Thursday, handed over Modi's invitation letter to the Egyptian President.

#### [Proud, bold and on the prowl - the India-Africa Forum Summit lion](#)

IANS / Business Standard | August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The logo of the event, the face of a lion, with one half an Indian one and the other half an African lion, is interspersed with the maps of the African continent and India in the background, topped with vibrant colours.

### **Environment and Climate Change**

#### [India coordinating with nations for balanced agreement in climate change summit: Prakash Javadekar](#)

PTI / The Economic Times | August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"India has been coordinating with G-77 and China, BASIC (Brazil, India, China and South Africa) group of countries and the Like Minded Developing Countries (LMDCs) for ensuring an equitable, comprehensive and balanced agreement in Paris," Javadekar said.

#### [Drop demand for finance from rich countries: Arvind Subramanian](#)

Business Standard | August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"India has a greater stake in climate change mitigation than most rich countries, which will likely be less affected and better able to cope with consequences," Subramanian has said in his note.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### [Modi, Pradhan step on gas over TAPI pipeline](#)

The Times of India | August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"We are the buyers. Turkmenistan is the seller. So if the seller is taking leadership role in the consortium, it is a big assurance for (the success of) the project. They (Turkmenistan) are also discussing co-operation in the oil and gas sector with Japan. So Japanese involvement (in TAPI) is also expected. All this will only strengthen the project," Dharmendra Pradhan said.

#### [Govt approves MoUs with France & Mongolia on renewable energy](#)

PTI / DNA | August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The MoU will help establish the basis for a cooperative institutional relationship to encourage and promote technical bilateral cooperation on the new and renewable energy on the basis of mutual benefit, equality and reciprocity.

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