

## Top Stories

### [Pakistan calls off NSA-level talks, says conditions set by India unacceptable](#)

The Times of India | August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

India Foreign ministry spokesman Vikas Swarup tweeted: "Pakistan's decision is unfortunate. India did not set any preconditions. We only reiterated that Pakistan respect the spirit of the Simla & Ufa Agreements to which it was already committed."

### [Narendra Modi pitches for stronger ties with Pacific island nations](#)

Live Mint | August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

In his speech, Prime Minister Modi announced that India would establish an information technology laboratory in each Pacific island country that will help people of the country access tele-medicine and tele-education.

### [Pakistan wants meaningful dialogue with India: Sharif tells US Security Adviser](#)

PTI / The Indian Express | August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on Sunday told US National Security Advisor Susan Rice that Pakistan wants a "meaningful" and "objective" dialogue with India on all outstanding issues, amid reports that she is here on an "emergency visit" in the wake of Indo-Pak border tensions.

## South Asia

### *Pakistan*

#### [Pakistan rejects twin assurances set by India for NSA-level talks](#)

Live Mint (*PTI contributed to this report*) | August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

The twin assurances were that the talks will cover nothing but terrorism and that Pakistan's national security adviser Sartaj Aziz would not meet Kashmiri separatists, grouped under the umbrella name of All Party Hurriyat Conference, leaders in Delhi.

#### [Pakistan Contacts UN Over Cancellation of NSA-Level Talks](#)

PTI / NDTV | August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"The Secretary-General reiterates his call to both countries to continue to address their differences through dialogue," the UN said in a statement said.

#### [India is the only external threat, says Pakistan military](#)

PTI / Deccan Chronicle | August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Pakistan military has told a parliamentary committee that India is the only external threat to the country and the situation with regard to ties was volatile in the wake of the suspended Indo-Pak dialogue.

[India-Pakistan border: Before talks, a flare-up, deaths on either side](#)

The Indian Express | August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The latest ceasefire violation comes two days ahead of a meeting between the two sides to firm up logistics and the agenda for the September 6 talks between the director generals of the Border Security Force and the Pakistan Rangers in New Delhi.

***Sri Lanka***

[Sri Lanka's PM Wickremesinghe wants close relations with India](#)

Hindustan Times | August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

“I have a vision for the country as a whole which includes its overseas as well as its internal policies,” he said when asked about building new relations with India.

***Asia Pacific***

[FIPIC summit: PM Modi announces plan to open space station in Pacific Islands nation](#)

PTI / Zee News | August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

Addressing the Summit of Forum for India-Pacific Island Conference (FIPIC) here, he said cooperation could immediately begin with research collaboration and capacity building with institutions in India.

***Seychelles***

[India to gift Seychelles coastguard boat, second Dornier: Modi](#)

IANS / Deccan Herald | August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Modi said both sides look forward to cooperating in space, including in the areas of managing land and marine resources, fisheries advisory, weather forecasting and disaster management.

***China***

[VK Singh to represent India at China's WWII military parade](#)

Hindustan Times | August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015

India has not sent a military contingent to take part in the parade, though 17 other countries are sending 1000 soldiers to march at the parade.

***Australia***

[India, Australia sign MoU on education](#)

The Hindu Business Line | August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The main objectives are consideration of expansion of the Australia India Education Council membership, strengthening policy dialogue and exchange in areas of mutual benefit including qualification and quality frameworks and standards for education, research and training, supporting mobility of students and faculty members, and improving credit transfer arrangements, among others.

***North America***

***The United States***

### [Biswal to visit India ahead of Indo-US strategic dialogue](#)

PTI / Zee News | August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Biswal's visit to India comes ahead of the first ever India US Strategic and Commercial Dialogue next month and a possible meeting between President Barack Obama and Prime Minister Narendra Modi when the latter travels to the US to attend the annual session of the UN General Assembly late September.

### [India loses solar case against US at WTO; to appeal](#)

PTI / Deccan Herald | August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The US alleged that India's programme appears to discriminate against the US solar equipment by requiring solar energy producers to use locally manufactured cells and by offering subsidies to those developers who use domestic equipment.

## **Africa**

### ***Egypt***

### [Sushma Swaraj meets Egypt President al-Sisi; countries agree to step up bilateral cooperation](#)

PTI / DNA | 24<sup>th</sup>, August, 2015

Both sides agreed to step up engagement in a range of potential areas while underlining the need to combat terrorism particularly the threat of dreaded terrorist outfit ISIS in an effective manner as visiting External Affairs Minister Swaraj called on Egyptian President Fattah Al-Sisi.

### [India hopes Egypt will offer favourable business environment: Sushma Swaraj](#)

PTI / The Economic Times | August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Swaraj said Indian business leaders are prepared to step up their involvement in Egypt as they recognise the country is not only a large market but it can also become the hub for manufacturing in the region because of the trade agreements it has with Africa and Europe, Egypt.

## **Europe**

### ***Russia***

### [Russia expects India to stand by it during hard times of sanctions: Rostec](#)

The Economic Times | August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"As for the sanctions and our economy in general, we are adapting to this, strengthening our relationship with our partners, including India and China, which are capable of manufacturing technological products that we have earlier purchased from Europe," said Sergev Chemezov, chief executive of Russia's state-owned defence conglomerate Rostec.

### [Russia inks deal with Anil-Ambani led Reliance Group for 197 defence choppers](#)

IANS / Business Today | August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"We are committed to actively participating in Prime Minister Modi's 'Make in India' and 'Skill India' program," the spokesperson for Reliance Defence said when asked for the company's comment on the deal, which involves manufacture of these light utility helicopters in the country.

## **Germany**

### [India, Germany to Step Up Cooperation to Counter Terrorism](#)

PTI / NDTV | August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015

In their wide-ranging talks, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and her German counterpart Frank-Walter

Steinmeir assessed implementation of decisions taken during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Berlin during April and broadly identified possible substantive outcomes from Merkel's visit to New Delhi in October.

### ***Italy***

#### **[Marines case: UN tribunal asks India, Italy to suspend court proceedings](#)**

India Today | August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Earlier this month, India had told the UN tribunal that it is ready to complete within four months the trial of the marines accused of killing two Indian fishermen off Kerala's coast if Italy cooperates.

### **Middle East**

#### ***UAE***

#### **[PM Narendra Modi holds talk with UAE Crown Prince Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan](#)**

PTI / The Economic Times | August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015

On trade front, India would like UAE to see the country as "long-time investment destination". With the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) having a whopping USD 800 billion sovereign funds and India is keen to attract investments from it in the infrastructure sector including real estate, port development and railways.

#### **[India, UAE decry state-sponsored terror](#)**

The Hindu | August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) elevated the relationship between the two countries to a comprehensive strategic partnership and to "co-ordinate efforts to fight radicalisation and misuse of religion by groups and countries for inciting hatred, perpetrating and justifying terrorism or pursuing political aims." This was announced in a joint statement by the two countries after bilateral talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Abu Dhabi.

### **Environment and Climate Change**

#### **[India offers technology to Pacific island countries to cope with climate change](#)**

PTI / The Economic Times | August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

In an address at a reception for FIPIC member-countries, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj said India stands ready to share its expertise and technology with the island nations for mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

#### **[Climate Talks: India will not announce its peaking year; Country's INDC will focus on all key elements](#)**

The Times of India | August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The five elements which will be reflected in India's 'climate action plan' - officially called Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) - are mitigation (emission cut), adaptation, finance, technology transfer and capacity building.

#### **[India hits out at West over climate change](#)**

IANS / Zee News | August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015

"Most Western developed countries have enjoyed the fruits of low cost affordable thermal power for the last 150 years," the power minister Piyush Goyal said.

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