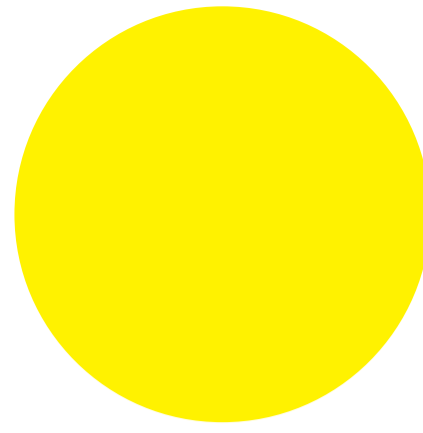


Raisi:
Muslim
cultural
figures should
counter
distortion of
Gaza realities



7 >



Iran Daily



irandaily.ir | newspaper.irandaily.ir | IranDailyWeb

Vol. 7559 • Thursday, May 16, 2024 • Ordibehesht 27, 1403 • Dhu al-Qadah 7, 1445 • 100,000 rials • 8 pages

**Iran, India can
complement
one another
economically**

By Shuaib Bahman
International affairs
expert

**OPINION
EXCLUSIVE**

During a recent visit by the Indian minister of ports, shipping and waterways to Iran, an agreement was struck to run and equip Shahid Beheshti port terminal in Chabahar, further facilitating cooperation within the north and south corridors between the two nations. Sarbananda Sonowal referred to the agreement as a monumental and pivotal milestone for both bilateral relations and regional bonds. Iran's foreign minister emphasized that Tehran views its relationship with New Delhi as strategic.

Given the interruptions that have affected the Chabahar port development plan, the recent agreement should be regarded as a positive sign for both bilateral relations and regional collaboration. Iran and India are two nations that have always maintained solid historical and cultural ties. Concurrently, their economic relations have been well-established, yet they have not fully capitalized on the potential that exists between the two countries.

The Chabahar port development plan is a major project poised to significantly foster economic relations. To access markets in Russia, Europe, Central Asia, and Afghanistan, India requires efficient corridors and transit routes, most of which runs through Iran.

Over the years, the implementation of the Chabahar port development plan has been hindered by interference from third parties, leading to postponements. At the same time, China's investment in Pakistan's Gwadar port, which is perceived as a longstanding rival for India, unfolded. Now, it appears that Iran and India have come to the understanding that delaying the development of Chabahar port – a strategic hub intended to link India with other countries in the region and Europe – has not only resulted in losses for both nations but has also presented opportunities for their rivals to launch new routes that serve their own interests.

Furthermore, both Iran and India are members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the BRICS Treaty. Their participation in these significant alliances has unlocked new opportunities for collaboration in multiple areas, with a primary focus on economic cooperation.

As a result, the two nations stand to benefit from greater cooperation, leveraging their respective strengths to address mutual needs. However, external pressure and efforts from regional rivals could slow down collaboration between Iran and India. Consequently, the determination of Tehran and New Delhi to exploit existing resources for heightened cooperation is crucial. Economically, Iran and India have the potential to complement one another. The recent deal to equip and operate Chabahar port, being a comparatively long-term contract, can be seen as a big step in this direction.

India downplays US sanctions threat over Iran port deal

2 >

Resistance Fighting Hegemonic Goals in Mideast

Western 'barbaric thoughts' exposed by Axis of Resistance, Syrian publisher says

8 >



Iran strongly condemns Australian sanctions

Iran strongly condemned Australia's sanctions against several Iranian senior officials, entities and companies allegedly over the country's peaceful missile and drone programs. Australia's sanctions against Iran came on Tuesday a month after Tehran launched missile and drone attacks on the Israeli regime to punish it for an airstrike that killed Iranian generals in a diplomatic mission in Syria.

7 >

Hormuz: The enchanting 'Rainbow Island'



3 >

Iranians grab 10 medals, finish runner-up in Asian Poomsae Championships



6 >



SPECIAL ISSUE

Spain leads European push to recognise Palestine

4-5 >