



Keeping friends close-Empty American threats should not come in the way of India-Iran ties

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Highlights

- Iran for India is not just an energy supplier but also a land power on the other side of Pakistan that provides us with an alternative route to Afghanistan.
- American sanctions threat is an insult to Indian sovereignty. More importantly, it is in direct conflict with India's strategic interests in the region.
- Even during the heyday of the Central Treaty Organisation and the Regional Cooperation for Development, which counted both Iran and Pakistan as members, India was careful not to alienate Iran.
- Recently, India-Iran relations have improved considerably because of growing energy and trade dependency and greater recognition on both sides of the conjunction of strategic interests.
- India should not allow relations with a potential regional ally to be disrupted by empty American threats.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

