

**MINISTER S ISWARAN TO VISIT INDIA AND IRAN
FROM 27 FEBRUARY 2016 TO 1 MARCH 2016**

1. Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry) S Iswaran will be visiting Andhra Pradesh, India and Tehran, Iran from 27 February to 1 March 2016.

Andhra Pradesh, India on Saturday, 27 February 2016

2. Mr Iswaran will be in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh on Saturday, 27 February 2016, for the opening of Sembcorp Gayatri Power Complex. The 2,640-megawatt Sembcorp Gayatri Power Complex is the largest direct investment-driven project on a single site in the thermal energy sector in India to date. Mr Iswaran will be joined by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Chandrababu Naidu and other ministerial representatives from the Central Indian Government.

3. Referring to Sembcorp's project, Mr Iswaran said, "Amidst the current global economic uncertainty, there are still opportunities in countries like India, where growth prospects remain positive. Internationalisation is an important growth strategy for our businesses, and it is promising that Singapore companies like Sembcorp continue to build on their strengths to successfully expand overseas."

4. Singapore and India share strong economic relations. In 2015, India was Singapore's 10th largest trading partner, with bilateral trade amounting to S\$22.5 billion. Foreign direct investment from Singapore to India amounted to S\$18.4 billion. Singapore companies are present in sectors such as urban solutions, manufacturing and transport.

Tehran, Iran from Sunday, 28 February to Tuesday, 1 Mar 2016

5. Mr Iswaran will be travelling to Tehran on 28 February. Singapore and Iran will sign an agreement to promote greater business and investment opportunities between both countries. Mr Iswaran will also meet the Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, Dr Ali Tayyebnia and Minister of Industries and Business, Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh.

6. As economic sanctions in Iran have been lifted, Singapore companies can seize opportunities in this new market. Iran's population of over 80 million and considerable energy resources presents opportunities in sectors such as oil and gas and consumer goods. SBF is leading a business delegation who will join Mr Iswaran for some parts of his official visit.

**MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
26 FEBRUARY 2016**

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