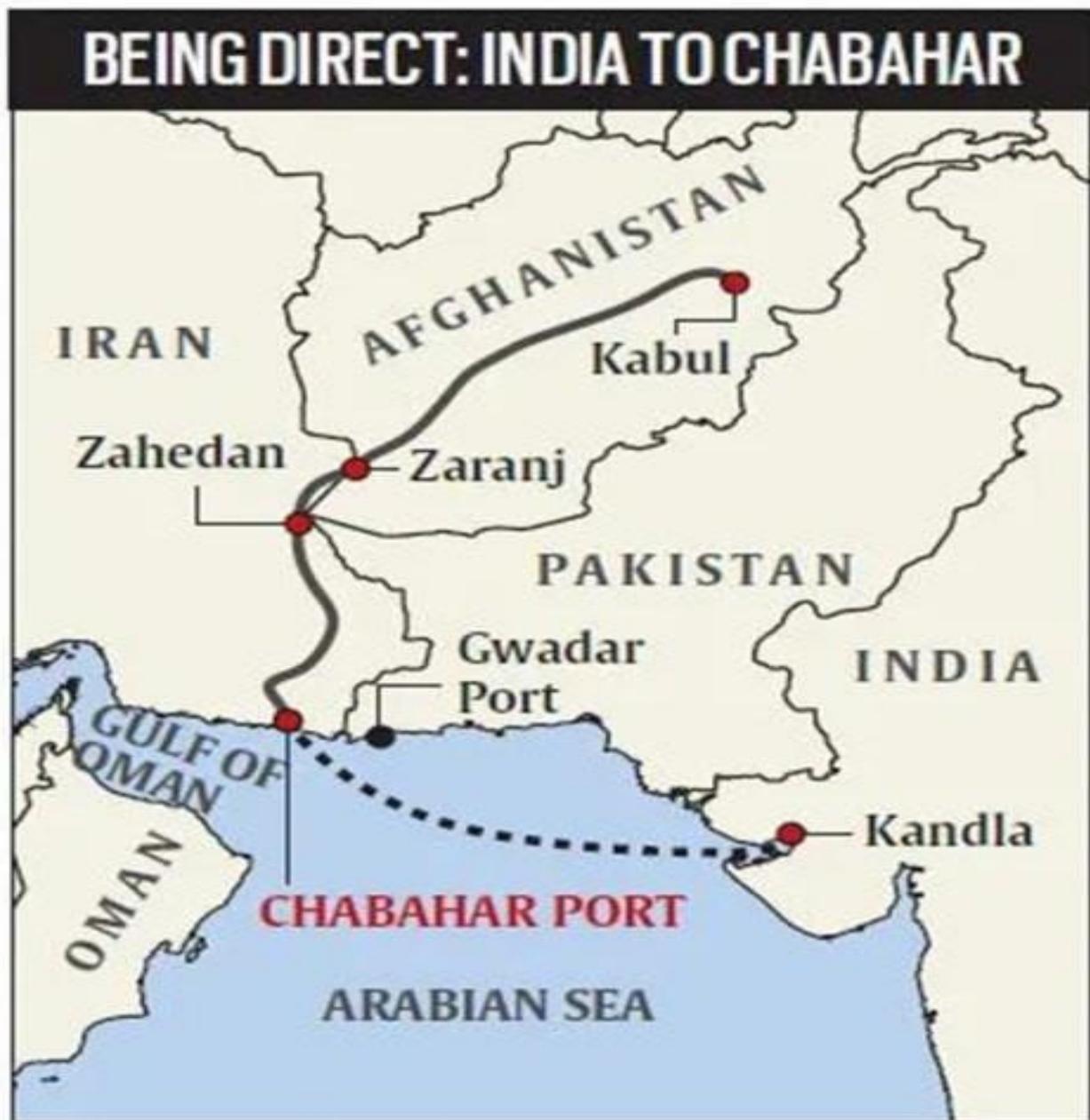




## Place in News - Chabahar Port

**Context:** The United States has revoked the sanctions waiver for India's development of Iran's Chabahar Port, thereby concluding the 2018 exemption under the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act (IFCA).





### **About Chabahar Port:**

- Chabahar Port is Iran's sole deepwater oceanic port, developed collaboratively by India and Iran. It serves as a crucial connectivity hub designed to circumvent Pakistan in order to reach Afghanistan, Central Asia, and Russia.

### **Location:**

- Located on the Gulf of Oman, in the southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan, Iran.
- Approximately 170 km west of Gwadar Port (Pakistan), which is being developed by China under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).
- **Consists of two ports:** Shahid Beheshti (the focus of India's investment) and Shahid Kalantari.

### **History:**

- 1973: Initially proposed by the Shah of Iran.
- 1983: The first phase was inaugurated during the Iran-Iraq War to lessen dependence on Persian Gulf ports.
- 2003: An agreement between India and Iran to develop the port was signed during President Khatami's visit.
- 2016: India, Iran, and Afghanistan signed a Trilateral Agreement to make the port operational.
- 2017: Phase-I of Shahid Beheshti was inaugurated; India dispatched its first wheat consignment to Afghanistan.



**25 Sep 2025**

- 2018: India Ports Global Limited (IPGL) assumed partial control of operations.

**Aim:**

- To provide India with an alternative route to Afghanistan and Central Asia, bypassing Pakistan.
- To establish the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) connecting the Indian Ocean to Russia and Europe.
- To improve Iran's trade connectivity despite Western sanctions.

**Key Features:**

- A four-phase development plan with a final capacity of 82 million tonnes per year and 32 jetties (16 multipurpose, 10 for containers, 3 for oil, and 3 for dry bulk).
- The first phase currently manages a capacity of 5.8 million tonnes.
- Strategically positioned near vital energy shipping lanes (Hormuz Strait).
- Equipped to accommodate containers, bulk cargo, and cruise terminals.

**Significance:**

- **Strategic:** Counteracts the China-Pakistan Gwadar Port alliance, thereby reinforcing India's presence in the Indian Ocean.
- **Economic:** Lowers transportation costs and time to Central Asia, Russia, and Europe through the INSTC.
- **Geopolitical:** Enhances India-Iran relations and provides New Delhi with greater influence in the reconstruction of Afghanistan.