

### **Chinese navy to send new escort ships to Somali waters**

**People's Daily, 1 April 2009**

A second group of Chinese navy escort ships will set sail for the Gulf of Aden Thursday to replace a flotilla sent earlier to guard against pirates. The new task force will comprise the destroyer, Shenzhen, and frigate Huangshan, as well as the supply ship, Weishanhu, which served in the first escort mission. With two helicopters and total crew exceeding 800, including navy special forces, it is mainly tasked with ensuring the safety of Chinese vessels passing through the gulf and waters off Somalia and those of international organizations like the World Food Program shipping humanitarian goods.

### **Joint India-Japan-US wargames April-end**

**The Asian Age, 9 April 2009**

New Delhi: Indian Navy chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta will leave shortly on a visit to China, even as the Indian Navy is gearing up for the Malabar naval exercises with the US and Japan to be held at the end of this month. The Malabar exercises — which will be trilateral this year — will be held off the Japanese coast, defence sources confirmed. In another development, Admiral Mehta also met visiting US Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen in New Delhi on Wednesday.

### **Indian Navy chief to undertake maiden visit to China**

**The Times of India, 13 April 2009**

New Delhi: Seeking to engage the Chinese military on a broader level, Indian Navy chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta will undertake his maiden visit to China and attend the International Fleet Review beginning next week, an official said here on Monday. Three Indian warships and a tanker of the Eastern Fleet will be participating in the International Fleet Review, being held to mark the 60th anniversary of the Chinese Navy. "The navy chief will attend the International Fleet Review and will also deliver a lecture at a symposium on the topic of 'Harmonious Seas'," a senior navy official told on condition of anonymity.

### **Navy top brass discuss challenges in Indian Ocean region**

**The Times of India, 14 April 2009**

New Delhi: With the government finally going in for a major revamp of the country's coastal security architecture after being jolted by 26/11, the entire top brass of Navy came together on Monday to discuss operational challenges from both state as well as non-state actors. The three-day annual naval commanders' conference, being held at the Eastern Naval Command at Visakhapatnam, was inaugurated by Admiral Sureesh Mehta. "The maritime security environment in the Indian Ocean region has become complex, fluid and significantly challenging, with a large presence of extra-regional forces," said an officer

### **Navy responds to SOS from Seychelles**

**The Indian Express, 20 April 2009**

New Delhi: After cracking down on pirates in the Gulf of Aden, the Navy will carry out anti-piracy patrols near the island nation of Seychelles following a request from the country. An Indian warship and survey vessel, the INS Nirdeshak, is currently in the area and will patrol the area after several incidents of Somali pirates operating near the nation were reported earlier this month. The Seychelles Armed Forces today said it had requested the Indian Navy to patrol the exclusive economic zone of the country. The Navy confirmed that INS Nirdeshak has already been sent to the region.

### **India joins China's naval parade**

**The Hindu, 21 April 2009**

Qingdao: China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) kicked off a grand ceremony to mark the 60th anniversary of its Navy on Monday off the coast of the eastern city of Qingdao. PLA Navy Commander Admiral Wu Shengli announced the start of the four-day festivities. It would include seminars, a sampan race and a fleet parade. A total of 21 naval vessels from 14 countries including India and delegations from 29 countries will join the parade.

### **China wants to join Navy initiative on Indian Ocean, MEA says no need**

**The Indian Express, 21 April 2009**

New Delhi: Pushing for a greater say in the Indian Ocean region, China has sounded out the Indian Navy that it wants to be inducted in some form into the 33-member Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) initiative started by India last year. But the Ministry of External Affairs has turned down the request. It's learnt that the Navy conveyed the Chinese interest to the MEA which promptly rebuffed the move, saying there was no justification to involve China in the Indian Ocean.

### **China to show new submarines, says no threat to region**

**The Times of India, 21 April 2009**

Beijing: China plans to display its nuclear submarines this week in the first known public appearance of some of its most potent warships, a sign of growing confidence in its rapid upgrade to new vessels and weapons systems. The vessels will appear at Thursday's international fleet review in the northern port city of Qingdao, deputy navy commander Ding Yiping was quoted as saying by the official Xinhua News Agency on Tuesday. He did not give the specific types of vessels to be displayed.

### **India-U.S.-Japan naval exercises**

**The Hindu, 22 April 2009**

Singapore: Japan will join India and the United States in trilateral naval exercises from April 26 to May 3. The exercise, named Malabar 2009, will be conducted east of Okinawa islands. Diplomatic sources told The Hindu on Monday that the professional objective was to "deepen mutual understanding and trust" among the navies of the three countries. The political aim was to "enhance friendly ties."

### **China will unveil new N-subs, denies threat**

**The Asian Age, 22 April 2009**

Qingdao, China: China plans to show off its nuclear submarines at a major international naval gathering this week, state media reported on Tuesday, the first known public appearance of some of its most potent seaborne weaponry. Vice Adm. Ding Yiping, the Navy's deputy commander, said the submarines would appear at Thursday's international fleet review in the northern port city of Qingdao, but did not specify the types of vessels.

### **India to get Phalcon AWACS on May 18**

**The Times of India, 23 April 2009**

Jerusalem: India will get its first 'eye in the sky', the Phalcon Airborne Warning and Control Systems (AWACS), aircraft on May 18, which will provide the IAF means to track incoming missiles and look deep into the neighbouring countries without violating any air space. The first Phalcon was inspected by top Indian Defence officials who came here to check the specially modified Russian IL-76 aircraft and set May 18 as the delivery date. "The other two aircraft would be delivered by Mid or late 2010, if everything goes on schedule," Defence sources said here today.

### **China for global steps for safe seas**

**The Hindu, 23 April 2009**

Qingdao: The world's navies must work together to meet threats such as terrorism and piracy, said China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy Commander Admiral Wu Shengli. Admiral Wu said at a meeting of international naval officials that terrorism, separatism, extremism, piracy and trans-national crimes such as smuggling posed serious challenges to the maritime peace and safety.

### **China parades naval might**

**The Times of India, 23 April 2009**

Beijing: China paraded its warships and nuclear submarines on Thursday in an unprecedented display of maritime might attended by 14 other nations to mark the 60th anniversary of its navy. Fifty-six Chinese subs, destroyers, frigates, missile boats and planes were displayed off the eastern port city of Qingdao just weeks after tensions flared following a naval stand-off with the United States in the South China Sea.

### **China holds landmark naval parade to mark PLA Navy 60th anniversary**

**People's Daily, 23 April 2009**

Chinese President Hu Jintao, aboard the Chinese Navy destroyer Shijiazhuang, reviewed Thursday afternoon warships and aircraft in a landmark naval parade off the coast of Qingdao marking the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy. Hu, also chairman of the Central Military Commission, was accompanied by PLA Navy Commander Admiral Wu Shengli aboard the destroyer Shijiazhuang.

### **Justifiable and reasonable for China to have its own aircraft carriers**

**People's Daily, 23 April 2009**

The discussion on China's construction of its own aircraft carrier has again become lively with the upcoming activities marking the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy. For a long time, the aircraft carrier was like a god in people's hearts. It is said whenever there was a crisis, the US President would ask, where are our aircraft carriers? For the Chinese people, a more distant memory can be traced back to the Amethyst incident before 1949 (the founding of People's Republic of China).

### **Hu presides over review as China showcases navy**

**Taipei Times, 23 April 2009**

Chinese President Hu Jintao presided yesterday over an international naval review in the northern port of Qingdao that highlights Beijing's ambitions of becoming a major sea power. Ships and naval aircraft from China and 14 other countries took part in the display in the East China Sea, the first-ever hosted by the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) in honor of its 60th anniversary.

### **PLA Navy will safeguard world peace: Hu**

**The Hindu, 24 April 2009**

Qingdao: China will never be a threat to other nations and its armed forces will be an important force in safeguarding world peace and development, Chinese President Hu Jintao has said. Mr. Hu told the heads of 29 foreign navy delegations that China would neither seek hegemony nor turn to military expansion or arms races. The delegations are here to participate in the 60th anniversary celebrations of the People's Liberation Army Navy. Mr. Hu said China would stick to the road of peaceful development, which demanded China adhere to its national defence policy which was defensive in nature.

### **Smooth sailing for Navy**

**The Indian Express, 27 April 2009**

The Navy, which had come under a bit of flak for conducting too many 'pro-Western' exercises over the last few years, has struck a fine balancing act. It has expanded the Malabar series of exercises with the US by inviting Japan, and has sent warships to the International Fleet Review in China. The Malabar series of exercises, which in 2007 were a five-nation affair, had been cut down last year after concerns about an 'anti-China' pact. However, by engaging the Chinese this time, which included a visit by the Navy Chief, the Navy has once again increased the size of Malabar, which will include warships from the US and Japan.