

### **Navy to be part of China exercise**

**The Asian Age, 21 March 2009**

New Delhi: Indian naval ships from its eastern fleet will participate in the international fleet review at the Chinese port-city of Qingdao in April and Indian ships will also conduct passage exercises with Chinese naval vessels, Indian naval sources have said. Indian naval ships are also likely to carry out "structured exercises" with navies of the United States, Japan and Singapore in the near future, sources indicated. Indian naval ships are also expected to dock at ports in South Korea, Malaysia and Indonesia on the way back home, sources indicated. India and China have already conducted two rounds of joint Army exercises in the past 15 months amid signs that ties between the two giants of Asia have improved considerably.

### **Navy claims pirates have Stinger missiles**

**The Asian Age, 22 March 2009**

New Delhi: Helicopter operations from Indian naval ships on anti-piracy missions in the Gulf of Aden could be risky in future with the Indian Navy receiving inputs that pirates have acquired the portable shoulder-fired Stinger surface-to-air missiles. With ships being hijacked even 500 miles east of Kenya nowadays, the Indian Navy also suspects that the pirates are being controlled by one single organisation which is providing finances, highly-placed naval sources said.

### **Antony reviews security with Service chiefs**

**The Times of India, 25 March 2009**

New Delhi: Concerned at the spurt in terrorist incidents in J&K and unrest in the neighbourhood, defence minister AK Antony on Tuesday held a high-level review meeting with chiefs of the three Services besides the defence secretary. The four-hour-long meeting, attended by Admiral Sureesh Mehta, Air Chief Marshal Fali Homi Major and General Deepak Kapoor and defence secretary Vijay Singh, also reviewed the security apparatus in place in view of the forthcoming Lok Sabha polls.

### **Indian Navy docks three ships in Abu Dhabi**

**The Hindu, 25 March 2009**

Abu Dhabi: The Indian navy has docked three ships in Abu Dhabi to show case its capacity to train Indian and foreign naval personnel of friendly countries. The despatch of the three training ships - Tir, Krishna and Veera - is meant to convey India's readiness to engage in naval diplomacy to shore up its ties with the countries of the Gulf, including the United Arab Emirates (UAE), said diplomatic sources. From Abu Dhabi, the ships will travel to neighbouring Oman and the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas.