

The Hindu, 1 August 2008

INS Dronacharya ties up with School of Artillery

Kochi: The Army and the Navy are set to cement the spirit of jointmanship, with INS Dronacharya, the Navy's premier gunnery and missile weapons training establishment based here, getting affiliated to Army gunners' alma mater, the School of Artillery, Deolali. The affiliation ceremony parade on August 16 will be jointly reviewed by Commanding-in-Chief of the Southern Naval Command, Vice Admiral Sunil K. Damle, and Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Artillery, Lieutenant General P.K. Singh. The tie-up will open an era of professional interaction between the two institutions with focus on air defence, naval gunfire support and amphibious operations besides training on small arms and land fighting...

The Hindu, 2 August 2008

Navy deploys warships off Sri Lanka

Ramanathapuram: The Indian Navy has deployed at least two warships off Sri Lanka, besides seven warships, including destroyers, in the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has left for Colombo to attend the SAARC conference. A few patrolling vessels of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) are also part of the security arrangements. A top defence officer told The Hindu here on Friday that while four ships belonged to the Indian Navy, three were from ICG...

The Asian Age, 4 August 2008

Navy seeks to strengthen its airpower

New Delhi: Three major request for proposals (RFP) are likely to be issued soon by the ministry of defence (MoD) for acquisition and mid-life technical upgrades of helicopters for the Indian Navy. Of the three RFPs, one will be for the acquisition of 16 multi-role helicopters while the other two will be for mid-life technical upgrades of Sea-King and Kamov helicopters. The Indian Navy is seeking mid-life upgrades for the 26 Sea-King and 28 Kamov helicopters in its current fleet, sources said...

The Times of India, 4 August 2008

India to acquire new undersea cruise missiles

New Delhi: In a strong booster dose to India's aging underwater combat arm after a long delay, the Navy is finally going to get back the upgraded Kilo-class submarine INS Sindhuvijay, equipped with deadly Klub-S cruise missiles, from Russia this week. INS Sindhuvijay, whose \$80-million refit began at Zvyozdochka shipyard near St Petersburg in late-2005 but was marred by malfunctioning missile systems last year, will now set sail for India on Tuesday, say sources...

The Times of India, 9 August 2008

'Maritime terrorism gains roots in Indian Ocean'

New Delhi: Maritime terrorism has gained roots in the Indian Ocean region, the Navy says. Delivering a lecture on the Vision of the Indian Navy, its chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta denied presence of Al-Qaida terrorists in the region but said there had been a marked increase in maritime terrorism across national boundaries...

The Asian Age, 10 August 2008

Navy Chief for one body to oversee issues

New Delhi: Indian Navy Chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta has proposed the establishment of a single apex body comprising representatives of various ministries to oversee maritime issues, including emergence of low-intensity threats. Speaking at a function in the capital on Thursday evening, Admiral Mehta said, "The constitution of an apex body for management of maritime affairs is an important

step, which would facilitate quick decision-making and rapid response"...

The Times of India, 10 August 2008

Navy chief for federal agency to tackle threats

New Delhi: With terrorists, gun-runners and drug-smugglers increasingly making forays into the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), the Navy feels it's time the government established an apex body to deal with maritime security issues. The single-window federal agency could tackle security challenges faced by all ministries handling sea-based activities such as shipping, fisheries, ports, Navy and Coast Guard...

The Indian Express, 12 August 2008

Submarine collision: found guilty, Navy Commander quits

New Delhi: The Commander of a Navy Submarine that was involved in an accident with a merchant ship in the Arabian Sea in January has quit the service after a Board of Inquiry held him responsible for the incident. Naval Commander Narendra Kumar, who was the Commanding Officer of the Russian origin Kilo Class Submarine INS Sindhughosh when it brushed against a massive cargo ship during a routine exercise off the Gujarat coast, put in his papers last month. Sources in the Navy said the officer, who was posted to administrative duties in Delhi after the incident, decided to quit the Navy rather than face a Court Martial where he was set to be dismissed from service...

The Asian Age, 14 August 2008

German sub deal may have boosted Navy

New Delhi: Had the HDW submarine deal project between India and the German HDW company in 1986 "continued", India "would have been a great submarine power today", Navy Chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta rued on Wednesday. The HDW submarine deal project was mired in controversy after allegations of kickbacks and had ground to a halt later. Speaking at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) in New Delhi, Admiral Mehta rued that allegations of corruption have been raised on most defence contracts and that - like in the HDW submarine deal case - the defence contracts are cleared of any wrongdoing charges after 15 years...

The Times of India, 17 August 2008

India begins naval games with France, Africa

New Delhi: Continuing with its policy of constructively engaging countries in West Asia and Africa to make its presence felt in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), India has sent four of its major warships to the Red Sea and the African coast on a two-month-long deployment. "The Indian ships will be present in the IOR for a while, doing some flag showing and also engaging in naval diplomacy with some port calls, mid-sea exercises and interaction with personnel from the navies of the West Asian countries and the African continent," a top Navy official said here today...

The Times of India, 21 August 2008

Japanese ships on way to India for joint exercise

New Delhi: With both India and Japan keen to build the strategic focus in their "global partnership", the two nations are steadily stepping up their military ties, especially in the maritime domain. Even as Navy Chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta left for Japan on Tuesday to discuss ways to bolster the bilateral defence relationship, three Japanese warships are headed for India's western coast for a visit to Mumbai port as well as "passex" exercise...

The Hindu, 22 August 2008

Naval exercises with U.S. in October

New Delhi: India will hold its annual naval exercises with the U.S. in October, off Mumbai, security officials said here on Thursday. Last year's exercises, in which some close military allies of the U.S. also participated, set off a political storm and earned all the participating countries demarches from China. This edition of the Malabar series of joint exercises with the U.S. precludes other countries and the venue will be the Arabian Sea instead of the Bay of Bengal...

The Hindu, 23 August 2008

Left against Malabar exercises

New Delhi: Registering its strong opposition to the next round of India-U.S. joint naval exercises on the west coast, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) on Thursday said that the Left parties and other democratic forces would organise big protests against the Malabar exercises slated for October. In a statement, the Polit Bureau said the joint exercise would see USS Ronald Reagan, a nuclear weapon-equipped aircraft carrier, lead the U.S. naval contingent. It said the Manmohan Singh Government should not allow any nuclear-equipped ships into the Indian ports or territorial waters...

The Asian Age, 30 August 2008

Japan, S. Korea for joint Navy drill with India

New Delhi: Japan and South Korea are believed to have sought strengthening of Naval co-operation with India and also possible holding of joint naval exercises with India, defence sources have indicated. Indian Naval chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta has just completed a two-nation visit to Japan and South Korea and met senior naval officials of both countries during his visit. Japan and South Korea are both American allies and the development comes even as India and the United States are also rapidly strengthening their defence ties...