

The Hindu, 1 February 2008

"Maritime tension with Pakistan down"

NEW DELHI: Tensions with Pakistan over the arrests of fishermen have eased but the commissioning of the Sethusamudram project will give rise to fresh security concerns, Vice Admiral Rustom Faramroze Contractor said here on Thursday. He was speaking at a press conference to mark the 31st anniversary of the Coast Guard.

The Indian Express, 2 February 2008

Five sailors killed aboard Navy warship off Vizag

New Delhi, February 1: An accident onboard the Indian Navy's newest warship, the troop carrier INS Jalashwa, on Friday evening has left five sailors dead and three seriously injured. Details of the incident are sketchy but initial reports said the accident occurred aboard the ship late on Friday evening while it was engaged in a fleet exercise in the deep sea between Vizag and Port Blair

The Asian Age, 2 February 2008

Navy chief says Sethu can be protected

New Delhi, Feb. 1: Navy Chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta on Friday called the Sethusamudram project "economically viable" and said that coastal trade and sea traffic would increase "from the west coast to the east coast of India" if the project was completed. Speaking to this newspaper in the course of an interview, Admiral Mehta said, "The Indian Navy will be able to make use of it (the Sethusamudram canal)." The naval chief also said that the Navy would take adequate security measures to guard against any security threats, like piracy, in the area if the project is completed

The Hindu, 3 February 2008

Deaths on board INS Jalashwa due to gas leakage, says Navy

NEW DELHI: The deaths of five Navy personnel on board a refurbished ex-U.S. Navy ship on Friday were caused by inhalation of toxic gas that leaked from a compartment, and not by an explosion or a fire as some reports said. "Further inputs indicate that the accident was the result of the inadvertent inhalation of H₂S [hydrogen sulphide] gas by the repair party carrying out maintenance in one of the compartments of the ship," said navy spokesperson Nirad Sinha

The Hindu, 7 February 2008

INS Jalashwa not to be sent back

NEW DELHI: The Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Sureesh Mehta, has ruled out sending back INS Jalashwa to the U.S. following the death of five sailors due to the inhalation of toxic gas

The Asian Age, 7 February 2008

Navy eyes more copters

New Delhi, Feb. 6: The Indian quest for purchase of military helicopters is getting bigger by the day. Just days after the government confirmed that it would acquire 317 helicopters (197 for the Army aviation wing and 120 for the Indian Air Force), the Indian Navy too, on Wednesday said it wanted to acquire more helicopters. "We do need more

helicopters. Once we decide how many we want to acquire, an order can be placed in addition to the helicopters being acquired by the Indian Army and Air Force," Indian Navy Chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta said on Wednesday

The Hindu, 11 February 2008

Tejas flight, with drop tanks, successful

BANGALORE: An important step towards the initial operational clearance (IOC) of India's light combat aircraft Tejas was taken here recently, when PV1 (prototype vehicle one) undertook its first successful flight powered by fuel from two drop tanks. Drop tanks not only increase an aircraft's endurance but also allow the pilot to jettison them, if need be, once their purpose is served.

The Indian Express, 14 February 2008

INS Jalashwa: US Navy confirms 3 gas leaks in other ships too

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 13: Assisting their Indian counterparts in investigations into the INS Jalashwa gas leakage, the US Navy has confirmed three previous hydrogen sulphide leakages on its ships, including one that left three workers dead on board aircraft carrier USS Harry S Truman on July 12, 1997

The Indian Express, 14 February 2008

Editorial: Ocean's India

This week India hosts naval chiefs from around the Indian Ocean. The first meeting of what is being called the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium marks the maturation of the navy as an important tool of this country's regional security strategy. It also underlines India's belated recognition of its enlightened self-interest in promoting multilateral approaches to Indian Ocean security. After decades of being a lone ranger, it is now ready to build a cooperative security framework in the region

The Asian Age, 16 February 2008

India ready for Navy drill with Pak

New Delhi, Feb. 15: India, which recently staged its first military exercises with China, is ready to carry out naval manoeuvres with Pakistan, the Navy Chief has said. Admiral Sureesh Mehta made the offer late on Thursday on the sidelines of the inaugural Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) in New Delhi. "It would have followed as a matter of course if they (Pakistan) were here," he replied to questions on the possibility of a joint naval manoeuvre with Pakistan, which has fought three wars with India since partition in 1947

The Times of India, 16 February 2008

India to test ballistic missile from underwater launcher

BALASORE: After successfully test-firing anti-ballistic missiles and the land version of the Agni series, Indian defence scientists are preparing to launch a ballistic missile from under water. The ballistic missile (SLBM) K-15 is to be test-fired from an underwater launcher, a replica of a submarine, next week

The Asian Age, 18 February 2008

Brahmos can be fitted to Scorpene

New Delhi, Feb. 17: The Scorpene submarine could be fitted with the underwater version of the BrahMos cruise missiles, which could enhance Indian Navy's strategic firepower capability, French Company DCNS announced on Sunday. "If India wants, BrahMos cruise missiles can be fitted on the Scorpene being built under technology transfer at Mazagon docks," DCNS project director Xavier Marchal told newsmen at the ongoing CII sponsored Defence-Expo

The Hindu, 19 February 2008

Sagarika to be tested soon off Orissa

NEW DELHI: India is all set to improve its capability to respond to a nuclear attack with the first-ever test of Sagarika, an under-sea missile and the second test of a 3,000-km variant of the surface-to-surface Agni missile, a senior defence scientist said here on Monday

The Asian Age, 19 February 2008

DRDO to test undersea missile

New Delhi, Feb. 18: India is ready to test-fire its first-ever undersea ballistic missile capable of carrying nuclear warheads, a senior official of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) said on Monday. The official, Dr Prahlada, who is the chief controller (services interaction) of the DRDO said that the missile, the K-15, could be test-fired soon from a pontoon immersed in the sea

The Asian Age, 21 February 2008

Russia may scrap Gorshkov deal

Moscow, Feb. 19: Russia may scrap the Admiral Gorshkov aircraft carrier deal with India and transfer the vessel currently undergoing refit at northern shipyard to its Navy. The 45,000 tonne displacement carrier was to be delivered by August this year as per a \$1.5 billion contract signed in 2004 but Russia stunned India in November last by demanding \$1.2 billion more for refitting and other works

The Hindu, 27 February 2008

Sagarika missile test-fired successfully

CHENNAI: India on Tuesday proved that it had the capability to launch missiles from underwater by test-firing successfully the Sagarika missile from a pontoon off the coast of Visakhapatnam. The pontoon simulated the conditions of a submarine