

Daily Times, 1 November 2007

Ties with India more important than with Pakistan

WASHINGTON: The United States relationship with India is more important to it in the long run than its relationship with Pakistan, according to a senior US official. James Clad, deputy assistant secretary of defence for South and Southeast Asia, told online journalists in a conference call from the Pentagon, India simply must, as a long term consideration, matter more for us than Pakistan. India, I think, is seen as potentially a power with global reach. The US-India strategic potential is very, very profound. Its been slow in coming - I think it will be slow in coming in the future - but it is steady. The trend lines are unmistakable.

Zee News, 2 November 2007

Navy inducts indigenously developed technologies

Visakhapatnam/New Delhi, Oct 31: The Indian Navy has now acquired indigenously developed technologies that would make its warships and submarines evade detection by enemies. This has become possible by the efforts of the Defence Research and Development Organisation's special laboratory for developing naval technologies. Among a variety of new products that Visakhapatnam-based Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL) has developed are Radar Transparent Ladder and Camouflage Screens that would help the warships avoid being detected by enemies' surveillance systems.

Indian Express, 7 November 2007

Navy team to discuss Gorshkov price hike with Russia

New Delhi, November 6: Days ahead of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Russia, a top-level Indian Navy delegation is heading for Moscow to discuss the delay and price escalation in the Admiral Gorshkov aircraft carrier deal perhaps, the most thorny issue between the two countries. The first official hearing by India on the price escalation is scheduled to take place this week. A detailed financial and technical plan, outlining the specific areas where Russian shipbuilders feel costs need to be increased, will be presented to the Indian side for the first time. Moscow has made it clear that the cost of the warship will need to go up by at least \$350 million. However, Indian officials fear that the final escalation may end up being much more. This comes even as questions are being raised on the original decision by the NDA government to procure the warship from Russia in 2004.

Times of India, 12 November 2007

India steps up production of Prithvi and BrahMos

NEW DELHI: With Pakistan rapidly moving towards enlarging its missile arsenal with China's help, India is slowly but steadily stepping up production of Prithvi surface-to-surface ballistic missiles, as well as BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles. Sources said facilities were now in place to produce around 20 Prithvi missiles every year, while the annual production rate of BrahMos missiles is geared towards touching 50 in the near future.

New Indian Express, 14 November 2007

Indian fisherman shot at by Lankan Navy

RAMANATHAPURAM: A 24-yearold fisherman from Thankatchimadam here sustained injuries when the Sri Lankan Navy opened fire at the Indian boats engaged in fishing in the sea near Katchativu on Monday night. He was admitted to the Ramanathapuram Government Headquarters Hospital.

Reuters India, 15 November 2007

Wary of China, India to boost eastern naval fleet

KOLKATA (Reuters) - India will strengthen its naval fleet on the eastern front, the regional commander said on Wednesday, adding destroyers and frigates among other ships, in an apparent move to counter Chinese interest in the region. Over the next five years or so, India's plans include stationing an aircraft carrier in the Bay of Bengal along with at least half of the 32 new warships and six submarines India plans to add to its fleet, Vice Admiral Raman Suthan said in Kolkata.

Zee News, 17 November 2007

Indian navy's dare-devil exercises off Paradip

Paradip (Orissa), Nov 17: Indian Navy's strike power and versatility were on display off Paradip on Saturday as new generation naval ships carried out a host of dare-devil exercises including anti-submarine rocket firing and showed their ability to operate under adverse conditions. Demonstration of close range anti-aircraft gun firing and anti-submarine Sonar operations by KA-25 helicopter featured during the sea sortie conducted by recently acquired INS Jalashwa and other major warships of eastern fleet to commemorate the naval victory during Indo-Pak War of 1971.

Press Information Bureau (Government of India), 19 November 2007

DELAY IN INS VIKRAMADITYA

The overall progress of repair and re-equipping of the ship, ex-Admiral Gorshkov, in Russia is slow. The Russian side has submitted a revised Master Schedule indicating a delay in the project. The Russian side has attributed the delays to Growth of Work In order to supervise the project for repair and re-equipping of the aircraft carrier Vikramaditya (earlier called Admiral Gorshkov), an apex level committee under Defence Secretary and a Steering Committee under a Vice Admiral have been set up. A team has also been stationed at the shipyard where the repair and re-equipping work is going on. From time to time, teams comprising senior officers are also sent to monitor progress of the project. The matters are also taken up between the two countries at appropriate level.

New Indian Express, 20 November 2007

Navy displays its brute firepower

BHUBANESWAR: It was a day of reckoning for visitors onboard INS Jaleshwa on Saturday as Indian Navy unleashed brute firepower during a war game operation off Paradip coast. A collective sense of nationalistic fervour gripped all as the crowd watched with awe as the events unfolded. The message the operation conveyed was loud and clear - fearless and invincible. It had all the trappings of a modern day warfare. For a moment the games made the sea resemble a veritable war zone.

Daily India, 23 November 2007

US-acquired landing ship Jalashwa steals show as Indian navy displays firepower

US-acquired landing ship Jalashwa stole the show as Indian navy displayed its firepower off southern Visakhapatnam, as part of the Navy-Week celebrations. 'INS Jalashwa,' an amphibious assault ship was inducted into the fleet in September and is India's first big defence purchase from the US. Jalashwa (a Sanskrit name from Hippopotamus), formerly the USS Trenton was commissioned at US port of Norfolk in June this year.

Indian Express, 26 November 2007

Waiting for Gorshkov: Russia now says carrier cost has doubled

After keeping India on tenterhooks for almost a year over the cost and delivery of aircraft carrier Admiral Gorshkov, Russia has stunned India by officially conveying that the deal will cost a whopping \$1.2 billion more. This is more than twice the original cost. New Delhi, sources said, is taken aback by this huge escalation as it beat all estimates the government had in mind after Moscow made it clear that the refurbishing costs had been far beyond its expectations. A price escalation was always on the cards, but the estimate hovered at \$350 million to \$400 million.

Udayavani, 27 November 2007

Russian team coming here to break logjam over Gorshkov

A high-level Russian defence team is coming to India soon for talks on the schedule for the delivery aircraft carrier Admiral Gorshkov in the backdrop of Moscow almost doubling its modernisation cost to three billion dollars. The cost escalation has shocked India which decided to initiate discussions to resolve the matter, Defence Ministry sources said here on Monday. The team's visit assumes importance as there was uncertainty over the delivery of the carrier in August 2008 amid indications from Moscow that it could be delayed by four to five years.