

DIPLOMATIC

MARITIME

IR NEWS

INDIAN OCEAN REGION.

SEPTEMBER 2025



Red Lantern

ANALYTICA

INDIA SIGNS DEEP SEA MINING EXPLORATION DEAL WITH INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY (ISA)

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India signs deepsea mining exploration deal with ISA (Sept 20)
India secures a 15- year contract with the International Seabed Authority to explore polymetallic sulphides — first nation with two ISA areas in the Indian Ocean.



INDIA PLEDGES \$680 MILLION IN ECONOMIC SUPPORT FOR MAURITIUS



India pledges \$680 million support to Mauritius (Sept 11) New Delhi announces grants and credit lines for infrastructure, maritime security, and port upgrades in Mauritius, reinforcing IOR ties.



INDIA EYES NUCLEAR-POWERED CARRIER, HOMEBUILT NAVY JETS IN 15-YEAR DEFENCE PLAN



India eyes nuclear-powered carrier & domestic navy jets as part of its 15-year defence roadmap, India will build a third (nuclear-powered) aircraft carrier and induct indigenous carrier-borne fighters.



**EXCLUSIVE: AN INDIAN BUSINESS LED
SRI LANKA CONTAINER TERMINAL TO
DOUBLE CAPACITY AHEAD OF
DEADLINE**

A major Indian business led Sri Lanka container terminal will double capacity, which will accelerate Colombo terminal expansion, boosting regional shipping capacity and India–Sri Lanka connectivity.



EU, INDIA ADVANCE DEFENSE COOPERATION WITH NAVAL EXERCISES



EU–India naval exercise under Operation Aspides (Sept 7) Italian destroyer Caio Duilio and Indian destroyer Surat conduct joint PASSEX drill in the Indian Ocean to bolster interoperability.



RED SEA CABLE CUTS DISRUPT INTERNET ACROSS ASIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST



**Subsea cable cuts disrupt internet
across Asia & Middle East (Sept 7)
Multiple Red Sea cables damaged,
impacting India and Pakistan;
incident highlights vulnerability of
undersea infrastructure.**



MALDIVES JOURNALISTS TO SEEK REPEAL OF NEW MEDIA LAW

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Maldives journalists challenge new media law (Sept 18) Maldivian press groups appeal restrictive media law seen as limiting freedom ahead of local elections.



INDIAN NAVY SHOWCASES GLOBAL SUBMARINE RESCUE CAPABILITY AT EXERCISE PACIFIC REACH 2025



India hosts international submarine-rescue exercise (Pacific Reach 2025, Sept 15–25) INS Nistar executes deep-submergence rescue operations with foreign navies — first large-scale DSRV interoperability event in Asia-Pacific.



INDIA'S TRADE PACT WITH EFTA BLOC TO TAKE EFFECT FROM WEDNESDAY



India–EFTA trade pact takes effect (Sept 30) Free-trade agreement with EFTA bloc (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein) becomes operative, boosting IOR investment potential.



STATES LAUNCH NEW FRAMEWORK TO BOOST REGIONAL MARITIME SECURITY



States in the Western Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden region have launched joint maritime operations framework as Fifteen states under IMO coordination form a new mechanism to coordinate search-and-rescue and anti-piracy patrols.



INDIA STRENGTHENS MARITIME SECURITY NETWORK IN THE INDIAN OCEAN REGION

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India strengthens maritime security network across IOR (Sept) Policy update on India's efforts to tighten HADR, ISR, and connectivity links across the Indian Ocean rim.



JAPAN PROTESTS CHINA'S OCEAN RESEARCH IN EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE



Japan protests China's EEZ research activity (Sept 29) as Tokyo lodges formal protest after Chinese survey ship enters Japan's EEZ, asserting violation of UNCLOS norms.



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