



MAKING WAVES

A maritime news brief covering:

- MARITIME SECURITY
- MARITIME FORCES
- SHIPPING, PORTS AND OCEAN ECONOMY
- MARINE ENVIRONMENT
- GEOPOLITICS

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MARITIME SECURITY

RAJNATH SINGH LAUNCHED GRSE BUILT ADVANCED FRIGATE 'DUNAGIRI'

With today's launch of "Dunagiri" (Yard 3023), the second of Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd.'s three Advanced Frigates, and with Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Defence, Government of India, as the Chief Guest, GRSE achieved a significant milestone in the prestigious Project 17A. Smt. Kala Hari Kumar, the wife of Admiral R. Hari Kumar, the Chief of Naval Staff of the Indian Navy, carried out the "Naming Ceremony" of the ship in accordance with the highest maritime traditions. Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, FOC-in-C Eastern Naval Command, Lt Gen RP Kalita, GOC-in-C East, Cmdre PR Hari, IN (Retd.), Chairman and Managing Director, GRSE, and other Senior Officials of the Indian Armed Forces, GRSE, and a host of others include Admiral R Hari Kumar, the Chief of Naval Staff.

Source: psuconnect.in: 15 July 2022

S. KOREA'S NAVY CREATES AVIATION UNIT TASKED WITH BOLSTERING MARITIME SECURITY

To develop stronger, longer-range maritime security capabilities, South Korea's Navy on Friday established a new aviation command that would be outfitted with cutting-edge surveillance planes, choppers, and drones, according to authorities. At a ceremony establishing the Naval Air Command at an airfield in Pohang, 370 kilometers south of Seoul, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Lee Jong-ho pledged efforts for "perfect" marine aviation operations. The recently established command evolved from the now-defunct Air Wing Six, which served as the Navy's former focal point for aviation operations. The previous commander of Air Wing Six, Rear Adm. Lee Sang-sik, has been named the command's initial commander.

Source: koreatimes.co.kr 15 July 2022

EXPANSION AHOY – MARITIME SECURITY FIRM BAGS £2.5M TO ACCELERATE GROWTH PLANS

A marine security and logistics company with its headquarters in Nottingham has won £2.5 million to hasten its expansion ambitions. Former Royal Marine Commando Ben Foster-Rankine and local businessman Bryn Orme founded Zeal Maritime Solutions, which obtained the money from Ashby-based alternative lender ThinCats. The firm, which was established in 2011 and mostly operates off the west and east coastlines of Africa, offers protection to marine assets when they sail through high-risk pirate zones. Two marine patrol vessels and the purchase of a Portuguese firm will be made possible

by the cash provided by ThinCats.

Source: [TheBusinessDesk.com](https://www.thebusinessdesk.com) 13 July 2022

PACIFIC MARITIME SECURITY: DOES CLIMATE POLICY MATTER?

When he talks with island leaders next week, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese is hopeful that his administration's more aggressive climate policy would assist to reshape Pacific ties. This year's Pacific Islands Forum, which is being hosted by Fiji, will be the first leaders' summit to take place in person since the 2019 Pacific Islands Forum in Tuvalu, where his predecessor Scott Morrison attempted to weaken a regional climate declaration for the Pacific. After that contentious encounter, Frank Bainimarama, the prime leader of Fiji, informed the assembled reporters that cooperating with China was better to doing business with Morrison. Since then, China and the US have been engaged in a more competitive geostrategic relationship. This year's Pacific Islands Forum is overshadowed by this competition. While the United States and its allies continue to seek new security agreements with island nations, China

Source: [gcaptain.com](https://www.gcaptain.com): 08 July 2022

KOCHI: 6TH NSA-CSC MEET DISCUSSES COOPERATION IN MARITIME SECURITY & COUNTER-TERRORISM

The Colombo Security Conclave's deputy national security adviser level meeting was held in Kochi with representatives from India, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Mauritius, and Seychelles in attendance. India was represented in the council by Deputy National Security Advisor Vikram Misri. Members spoke on the future and the CSC 2022–23 Roadmap for Cooperation and Activities' implementation. The member nations acknowledged key areas of cooperation, including protecting essential infrastructure and technology, combatting trafficking, countering terrorism, and protecting cyberspace.

Source: [TOI Original - Times of India Videos \(indiatimes.com\)](https://www.indiatimes.com) 07 July 2022

BEYOND THE GULF: U.S. MARITIME SECURITY OPERATIONS IN THE MENA REGION

The United States is not interested in leaving the Middle East, despite reports to the contrary. Although the Indo-Pacific has taken center stage in American foreign policy, the Middle East still plays a crucial role for American interests. The Global War on Terror, however, resulted in routines that were toughened, and these routines are what drive the present patterns of engagement between the United States and its Middle Eastern allies. Although it has been challenging to break free of these patterns and has occasionally been a cause of political disagreement, it is now clear that U.S. goals are more diverse worldwide, and its presence in the area should not be restricted by old patterns.

Source: [cimsec.org](https://www.cimsec.org) 07 July 2022

MARITIME FORCES

U.S. NAVY SENDS WARSHIP NEAR DISPUTED SOUTH CHINA SEA ISLANDS FOR SECOND TIME IN A WEEK

For the second time in less than a week, the U.S. Navy deployed a vessel on Saturday on a "freedom of navigation operation" (FONOP) close to disputed islands in the South China Sea. The USS Benfold guided-missile destroyer was sent near the disputed Spratly Islands, according to the Navy, the latest sign of escalating hostilities between the armed forces of the two countries. Days earlier, China claimed to have barred the same vessel from approaching the disputed Paracel chain of islets farther north in the strategic waterway. The United States Navy stated that the operation was carried out to defend international law by contesting the limitations on "innocent passage" that, in addition to Malaysia, Brunei, and the Philippines, each claim jurisdiction over.

Source: [The Japan Times](#); 15 July 2022

U.S. NAVAL FORCES BEGIN MARITIME EXERCISE WITH LEBANON

Exercise Resolute Union 2022 was launched by the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) and the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command (NAVCENT). Explosive ordnance disposal, mine countermeasures, and marine security operations are the main topics of the yearly drill. According to Dorothy C. Shea, the U.S. ambassador to Lebanon, "for 22 years, the Resolute Union exercises have strengthened cooperation between our military forces and assured that the LAF are ready to carry out their job." Despite all of the difficulties the LAF has had this year due to Lebanon's economic crisis, they have demonstrated incredible dedication, and the United States will continue to assist them fully in all of their endeavors.

Source: [United States Navy > News-Stories](#) 12 July 2022

CANADIAN NAVY RELIEVES MARITIME FORCES PACIFIC LEADER OF DUTIES OVER 'INAPPROPRIATE COMMENTS'

A senior commander of the Royal Canadian Navy's Pacific troops has been removed from his position after an inquiry revealed that he made "inappropriate comments" regarding the looks of another member. Chief Petty Officer 1st Class Tim Blonde has been

dismissed of his position as the Formation Chief Petty Officer of Maritime Forces Pacific, Navy Commander Vice-Admiral Angus Topshee announced in a statement on Monday. According to Topshee, "I no longer have faith in CPO 1 Blonde's capacity to fulfil his leadership responsibilities, uphold order, and guarantee the highest levels of ethics and values of the Royal Canadian Navy and the Canadian Armed Forces." "Any type of wrongdoing among the ranks of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) is unacceptable, the RCN has made that plain. It endangers our people and compromises our operational effectiveness and is inconsistent with our values and ethics."

Source: [CTV News](#) ; 12 July 2022

THE PHILIPPINES CONDUCTS MULTI-AGENCY MARITIME SECURITY EXERCISE KADAGATAN 2022

Along with other organisations, the Philippine Navy's Naval Forces Central took part in Exercise Kadagatan 2022. The major event of the multi-agency exercise took place on July 7 in the Cebu-Mactan Channel, and it lasted from July 4 to July 8. This yearly drill, which focuses on combined interagency maritime law enforcement operations, is held.

Source: [Overtdefense.com](#) 15 July 2022

20 YEARS OF FIASCO: INDIAN NAVY OFFICIALLY BEGINS HUNT FOR 'NAVAL DRONES' THAT CAN BOOST ITS MIGHT IN INDIAN OCEAN

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) and the Indian Navy stated that the NUAS would be used for surveillance activities, including signals intelligence (SIGINT), target acquisition, surveillance, and maritime domain awareness surrounding a naval task force in a Request for Information (RFI) published on June 29, 2022. The RFI paper from the MoD also indicated that the secondary duties would involve assistance with SAR, anti-piracy, and anti-terrorist activities. An apparent benefit of having a ship-based drone is that the Indian Navy could always forward-deploy it. With more PLA Navy vessel intrusions into the Indian Ocean area (IOR), India has boosted its surveillance missions and bolstered operational deployment in the IOR.

Source: [eurasianimes.com](#) 07 July 2022

U.S. NAVY DESTROYER SUPPORTS UK SEIZURE OF IRANIAN MISSILES IN GULF OF OMAN

According to a statement issued by the UK on July 7, coordinated actions by USS Gridley (DDG 101), HMS Montrose (F236), and combined air assets resulted in Royal Navy personnel seizing surface-to-air missiles and cruise-missile rocket engines that were made in Iran. The Royal Navy apprehended small boats trying to carry the weapons in January and February. During the interdiction in February, Gridley's team used an MH-60 Seahawk helicopter to conduct overwatch.

Source: [United States Navy](#) 07 July 2022

SHIPPING, PORTS AND OCEAN ECONOMY

SOUTH INDIA PORTS LOG SURGE IN TRAFFIC AS SHIPS SKIP CRISIS-HIT SRI LANKA

South Indian ports, which are experiencing an increase in traffic, are finding an opportunity amid Sri Lanka's political unrest and fuel problem. Industry groups said that at least 10% of regular cargo is being diverted from Sri Lankan ports to Indian ports for a variety of reasons, including traffic congestion and a lack of fuel supply. During the first three months of the fiscal year, transshipment at Kochi International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) at Vallarpadam increased by 37%, while container traffic increased by 14%.

Source: [Business Standard News \(business-standard.com\)](#) ; 15 July 2022

SHIPPING GIANT MSC DELIVERS RUSSIAN FOOD WHILE NAVIGATING SANCTIONS MAZE

The Andriana III, a 700-foot container ship run by Mediterranean Shipping Co., altered direction, and started carrying cargo to and from Russia's Novorossiysk port in the Black Sea one month after Russia invaded Ukraine. According to a Bloomberg News study of publicly accessible ship-tracking data, the tanker, which had not provided service to Russia since 2019, finished its seventh journey between the Egyptian port of Alexandria and Novorossiysk since the invasion on February 24 in early July.

Source: [bloomberg.com](#); 14 July 2022

GLOBAL SHIPPING WANTS TO GO GREEN. BUT A LACK OF FUEL IS DERAILING ITS BEST-LAID PLANS

The largest container shipping company in the world, Maersk of Denmark, intends to put carbon-neutral ships into service beginning in 2019. But finding the right fuel for these modern ships has its own set of problems. The corporation has 13 ships driven by green methanol, which is thought to be more environmentally friendly than the fossil fuels that have powered international shipping for decades, on order from Hyundai Heavy Industries in South Korea.

Source: [cnbc.com](#); 12 July 2022

MARINE ENVIRONMENT

BP ACCUSED OF DUMPING WASTE IN PROTECTED MARINE ENVIRONMENT

The Guardian says that BP PLC (a British oil and gas company headquartered in London, England) has been charged with disposing of industrial waste in a marine protected area off west Shetland. According to reports, this will take place as part of the decommissioning of the FPSO vessel Petrojarl Foinaven. The oil firm BP has emphasized that the equipment it drops will eventually be retrieved from the water as part of its approved decommissioning procedure. It also clarified the reasoning behind its goals and refuted claims regarding the impact of its decommissioning programme.

Source: [The Chemical Engineer](#); 14 July 2022

EXPERTS WARN OF NEW THREATS SUCH AS FOREST FIRES TO THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

According to research published in the journal Nature Ecology and Evolution, an international team of specialists warns of new risks to our marine and coastal regions, such as forest fires and new biodegradable materials. Thirty marine and coastal system specialists from eleven different northern and southern nations, as well as scientists and policymakers, participated in the study.

Source: [brusselstimes.com](#); 13 July 2022

CJ BIO AMORPHOUS POLYHYDROXYALKANOATE (PHA) DEMONSTRATES EXCELLENT BIODEGRADABILITY IN NATURAL MARINE ENVIRONMENT IN TESTS CONDUCTED BY THE NATIONAL KOREAN TESTING AGENCY (KCL)

CJ BIO, a division of CJ Cheil Jedang in South Korea, announced today that weight loss of 57 percent after just 11 weeks of marine biodegradability testing of its environmentally friendly amorphous polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA) material by the Korea Conformity Laboratories (KCL) demonstrated the polymer's ability to quickly degrade in the environment. Amorphous PHA, which is softer and rubberier than the crystalline or semi-crystalline variants that now rule the PHA market, provides fundamentally different performance characteristics. The technology's first uses will be to modify other biodegradable polymers and biopolymers to enhance their functional and processing properties and to speed up the biodegradation or composting of these goods.

Source: [Bio Space](#); 12 July 2022

MARINE CONSERVATION IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

Even though the world's oceans are vital to our health, people have irresponsibly contaminated them by dumping massive amounts of plastic and poisonous waste from industrial activity. Pollution by dumping includes both improper waste management practices and the willful discharge of garbage and poisons into the water by ships and other vessels. We talk about how important it is to protect the ocean by enacting laws that require marine conservation as well as education and training programmes.

Source: [Earth.Org](#) ; 04 July 2022

EXPERTS EXPRESS CONCERN AS MICROPLASTICS REMAIN ACTIVE MARINE CONTAMINANTS FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS

Did you know that by 2016, 9–14 million tonnes of plastic have entered the seas, making up 60–90% of the marine debris that is projected to increase thrice by 2040? Moreover, did you know that land is where 80% of the marine pollution comes from? The reason behind it is due to people. How? Low recycling rates, almost nonexistent source separation that sends all plastic to landfills, and little regulation of what goes down the drains into the rivers and seas. Microplastics are present in the food, drink, and air that are eaten by people, animals, and the environment. When microplastics reach the environment, they begin to behave like pollutants rather than changing into them. They can continue to be active as marine contaminants for hundreds of years, endangering the biological equilibrium.

Source: [The Weather Channel](#) 14 July 2022

GEOPOLITICS

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF INS VIKRANT, THE FIRST MADE-IN-INDIA AIRCRAFT CARRIER

The first indigenous aircraft carrier (IAC) to be developed and built in India is the 44,000-ton INS Vikrant. When it joins the Indian Navy, it will be known as INS Vikrant instead of its present designation, IAC-1. An aircraft carrier is a warship with a large, flat deck where fighter planes may take off and land. It functions as an airport at sea. The flagship frequently commands a battle group and is protected from attack by destroyers, frigates, and submarines.

Source: [firstpost.com](#) 11 July 2022

SUSPECT IN SHINZO ABE SHOOTING EX-MEMBER OF JAPANESE NAVY, USED HANDMADE GUN

Tetsuya Yamagami, 41, who was the gunman, was apprehended and detained at the spot. He used a shotgun in his assault on Abe. Yamagami, a native of Nara, was formerly a member of the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force, popularly known as the Japanese Navy, according to Fuji TV. He allegedly made the rifle he shot Abe with by hand. According to local media, Abe was giving a campaign address at a railway station in the western city of Nara when the suspect ambushed him from behind. Abe was shot in the chest and immediately fell to the ground while bleeding.

Source: [World News \(indiatoday.in\)](https://www.indiatoday.in) 08 July 2022

INDIA'S EASTERN SEABOARD GETS ITS FIRST NAVAL AIR SQUADRON: ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT INAS 324

India's maritime preparedness received a boost on Monday as the Eastern Seaboard got its first naval air squadron. The Indian Naval Air Squadron 324 —referred to as INAS 324 — operating the indigenously designed and built Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) MK III (MR) helicopters was commissioned into the Indian Navy in the presence of Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, AVSM, YSM, VSM Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command at a commissioning ceremony held at INS Dega, Visakhapatnam.

Source: [firstpost.com](https://www.firstpost.com) 05 July 2022

ENHANCING MARITIME BOND THROUGH CROSS VISIT

The Indian Naval ships Sahyadri and Kadmatt visited Singapore as part of their deployment to Southeast Asia. The visit of the IN ships boosted maritime cooperation and strengthened India's close alliance with Singapore, both of which will further contribute to regional security and stability. Additionally, the cross-country trip fell on "Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) Day." While INS Kadmatt is an indigenously built ASW Corvette, INS Sahyadri is an indigenously built multi-role stealth Frigate. To improve mutual collaboration and interoperability, the IN crew engaged in professional interactions with the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) while on the tour. Social and informal interactions between the fleets meanwhile seek to strengthen connections and promote understanding.

Source: [thehansindia.com](https://www.thehansindia.com) ; 03 July 2022