

MAKING WAVES

A MARITIME NEWS BRIEF COVERING:

- 1. Maritime Security**
- 2. Maritime Forces**
- 3. Shipping, Ports, and Ocean Economy**
- 4. Marine Environment**
- 5. Geopolitics**

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MARITIME SECURITY

NEW FRAMEWORK FORMED TO ENHANCE MARITIME SECURITY IN WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN

States in the Western Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden have adopted a new regional framework to strengthen joint maritime operations under the Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCoC) Jeddah Amendment. Established during a meeting in Mombasa, Kenya, and supported by 15 partner organisations and the IMO, the framework provides a roadmap for navies and law enforcement agencies to translate policy into action at sea. It expands cooperation beyond anti-piracy to cover illegal fishing, trafficking, and maritime crime, promoting coordination among regional and international partners to enhance security and resilience at sea.

Source: [Here](#), 16 September 2025

INDIA, MOROCCO SIGN DEFENCE MOU; PACT TO STRENGTHEN COUNTER-TERRORISM, MARITIME SECURITY AND CAPACITY BUILDING

India and Morocco signed a landmark defence Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Rabat to strengthen bilateral collaboration in counter-terrorism, maritime security, cyber defence, and capacity building. The agreement was signed following talks between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his Moroccan counterpart Abdeltif Loudiyi. The MoU establishes an institutional framework for expanded cooperation through training, technology sharing, defence industry linkages, and joint exercises. This marks the first-ever visit by an Indian Defence Minister to Morocco and reflects the growing strategic engagement between New Delhi and Rabat to enhance regional stability and security across the Indian Ocean and Atlantic regions.

Source: [Here](#), 22 September 2025

OPERATIONALLY DEPLOYED INS TRIKAND VISITS LIMASSOL, CYPRUS

Indian Naval Ship *Trikand*, a stealth frigate, visited Limassol, Cyprus, on September 21, 2025, as part of its Mediterranean deployment. The visit included high-level meetings between Indian naval officers and Cyprus Navy officials, cultural exchanges, and community engagement activities such as yoga sessions and open ship visits. This port call aims to deepen defence and maritime cooperation, enhance maritime security coordination, and promote capacity-building initiatives and people-to-people ties. The visit highlights the shared strategic interests of India and Cyprus in promoting peace, security, and prosperity across the Mediterranean region.

Source: [Here](#), 24 September 2025

NAVY CHIEF MEETS SRI LANKAN PM, DISCUSSES MARITIME SECURITY, COOPERATION

During his four-day visit to Sri Lanka from September 22–25, 2025, Indian Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi met Prime Minister Dr Harini Amarasuriya to strengthen cooperation in maritime security, defence, and capacity building. Both sides emphasized collective efforts in combating maritime threats such as narcotics smuggling, illegal fishing, and pollution, along with expanding joint training and rescue coordination. Admiral Tripathi also met Sri Lanka's top defence officials, addressed the National Defence College on maritime security dynamics, and attended bilateral events aboard INS *Satpura*. The visit reaffirmed India's commitment to regional stability and Indo-Sri Lankan naval partnership.

Source: [Here](#), 25 September 2025

INDIA, KENYA NAVY CHIEFS DISCUSS MARITIME SECURITY

The Indian Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi and the Kenya Navy Commander Major General Paul Owuor Otieno held discussions in New Delhi from September 28 to October 2, 2025, to strengthen maritime cooperation and bilateral ties. Their talks covered operational coordination, joint training, hydrographic engagements, and multilateral exercises like AIKEYME. They reinforced the India-Kenya "BAHARI" Maritime Vision, emphasizing regional security and stability in the Western Indian Ocean. Major General Otieno visited Indian naval training facilities and the Information Fusion Centre for the Indian Ocean Region, highlighting enhanced capacity building and deepening naval cooperation between the two nations.

Source: [Here](#), 30 September 2025

MARITIME FORCES

UNITAS 2025 KICKS OFF AT NAVAL STATION MAYPORT

UNITAS 2025, the world's longest-running multinational maritime exercise, kicked off at Naval Station Mayport, Florida, on September 15. Featuring approximately 8,000 personnel from 25 allied and partner nations, including ships, submarines, and aircraft, the exercise will run until October 6 along the U.S. East Coast. Nations include Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Japan, Spain, and the United States. UNITAS aims to strengthen interoperability, operational readiness, and maritime partnerships through advanced warfare training, cultural exchange, and crisis response drills, including live-fire exercises and amphibious landings. The iteration also celebrates the upcoming 250th anniversary of the US Navy.

Source: [Here](#), 16 September 2025

GULF: QATAR TAKES COMMAND OF MARITIME SECURITY TASK FORCE

Qatar assumed command of the Combined Maritime Forces' Task Force 152 on September 15, 2025, during a ceremony in Manama, Bahrain, succeeding the Kuwait Navy. This multinational task force, part of the 47-nation CMF, focuses on maritime security in the Gulf, including infrastructure protection, combating illegal activities, and supporting regional naval cooperation. The change of command reflects Qatar's ongoing commitment to regional stability amidst regional tensions, such as recent escalations following an Israeli strike in Doha. The leadership transition underscores continued multinational efforts to ensure security and stability in one of the world's most strategic maritime regions.

Source: [Here](#), 19 September 2025

INDIAN NAVY'S FIRST TRAINING SQUADRON (1TS) CONCLUDES PORT CALL AT MOMBASA, KENYA

The Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS), comprising INS *Tir*, INS *Sujata*, INS *Shardul*, and ICGS *Sarathi*, concluded a successful three-day port call at Port Mombasa, Kenya, on September 28, 2025. The visit included a Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the Kenya Navy, enhancing professional ties and interoperability. Activities featured joint training, cross-deck visits, damage control and firefighting drills, and cultural exchanges, including a combined naval band performance and community outreach. The visit reaffirmed India-Kenya maritime friendship under the BAHARI and MAHASAGAR visions, highlighting India's commitment to regional maritime security and capacity building.

Source: [Here](#), 26 September 2025

DEFENCE MINISTER LAUDS CRUCIAL ROLE OF COAST GUARDS IN ADDRESSING MARITIME SECURITY THREATS AND MANAGING DISASTERS

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, at the 42nd Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference in September 2025, urged integrating AI, drones, cyber defences, and automated surveillance to counter maritime threats. He highlighted Coast Guard's dual role in external and internal security, addressing illegal activities and disaster response. Singh praised increased indigenisation, with nearly 90% of the budget for domestic platforms, and stressed geopolitical awareness amid regional instability. He called for a futuristic roadmap leading up to 2047, emphasizing preparedness, innovation, and rapid response to ensure a secure, self-reliant India.

Source: [Here](#), 29 September 2025

INDIAN NAVY COMPLETES MAIDEN SUBMARINE INTERVENTION, RESCUE EXERCISE IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

The Indian Navy completed its first submarine intervention and rescue exercise with foreign submarines in the South China Sea during Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 (XPR-25), operated from INS Nistar, its latest indigenously built Diving Support Vessel. Over three days, the Indian Submarine Rescue Unit achieved three successful matings, including remotely operated vehicle operations. The biennial exercise, involving over 40 nations, featured a harbour phase with expert exchanges and a sea phase with live rescue drills. This milestone showcases India's growing global submarine rescue capability and commitment to maritime safety amid South China Sea tensions.

Source: [Here](#), 29 September 2025

SHIPPING, PORTS AND OCEAN ECONOMY

H2C AND LLOYD'S REGISTER JOIN FORCES TO ACCELERATE MARITIME FUEL SWITCHING

H2C, a global platform for low-carbon fuels, has partnered with Lloyd's Register (LR) to accelerate the maritime industry's transition to cleaner fuels such as biofuels, e-fuels, and green hydrogen. The collaboration focuses on verifying and assuring Green Premium Certificates (GPCs), ensuring emission claims are valid, exclusive, and priced appropriately. This system allows shipowners, cargo operators, and brands to fund green fuel production through certificates independent of physical fuel use. The partnership supports compliance with FuelEU Maritime, IMO lifecycle guidelines, and the EU's CSRD, enabling transparent, auditable decarbonization across maritime value chains.

Source: [Here](#), 16 September 2025

PARADIP, VIZAG PORT AUTHORITIES AND SAGARMALA FINANCE CORP TO JOINTLY BUILD A ₹21,500 CRORE NEW MAJOR PORT IN ODISHA

Paradip Port Authority, Visakhapatnam Port Authority, Sagarmala Finance Corporation Ltd, and the Odisha government have signed an MoU to jointly develop a new ₹21,500 crore Bahuda Major Port in Ganjam district, Odisha. Planned with a capacity of 150 million tonnes annually, the port will be India's 14th major port and the second Union government-owned one in the state after Paradip. Spread over 6,700 acres, the project will anchor port-led industrialisation,

logistics parks, and manufacturing clusters across Odisha and northern Andhra Pradesh. It is expected to generate 25,000 jobs and boost India's east coast trade and maritime capacity.

Source: [Here](#), 18 September 2025

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY AND ODISHA MARITIME BOARD JOIN FORCES TO BUILD ₹24,700 CRORE SHIPBUILDING CLUSTER & SATELLITE PORT, ADVANCING INDIA'S MARITIME VISION 2047

The Paradip Port Authority (PPA) and Odisha Maritime Board (OMB) signed a ₹24,700 crore MoU on September 19, 2025, to establish a large shipbuilding cluster on the Mahanadi riverbank in Kendrapara district, Odisha. This cluster, spanning 2,000-2,500 acres with 2-2.5 km waterfront, will feature one or more large shipyards with a combined capacity of 1-1.2 million gross tonnage annually. It will include ancillary industries like engine manufacturing and steel fabrication, along with shared infrastructure such as training and R&D centres. This aligns with India's Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 to become a top-five shipbuilding nation. The cluster aims to boost competitiveness, attract investment, and foster sustainable growth in India's maritime sector.

Source: [Here](#), 19 September 2025

GOVERNMENT UNWRAPS \$8 BILLION OUTLAY TO TRANSFORM INDIA'S MARITIME SECTOR

India has announced a record ₹69,725 crore (\$8 billion) package to revolutionize its maritime and shipbuilding sector, aiming to elevate the nation into the world's top five shipbuilders by 2047. The four-pillar reform plan includes financial assistance for shipyards, a ₹25,000 crore Maritime Development Fund, cluster development, and legal-policy reforms. The package seeks to boost shipbuilding capacity to 4.5 million gross tonnes, add 2,500 vessels, and expand port capacity by 250 million tonnes annually. Expected to generate 3 million jobs and attract ₹4.5 trillion in investments, it marks a decisive step toward maritime self-reliance under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision.

Source: [Here](#), 24 September 2025

SHIPPING MINISTRY PLANNING NEW SCHEME FOR SHIP BUILDING, REPAIR INDUSTRY: SARBANANDA SONOWAL

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is launching a National Shipbuilding Mission to boost India's shipbuilding and repair industry. Announced by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, the scheme is part of a three-pronged strategy focusing on shipbuilding, ship recycling, and creating a globally competitive maritime ecosystem. The initiative aims to cut India's ₹6 lakh crore annual freight bill paid to foreign carriers, potentially saving ₹4.5 lakh crore annually and generating 25-30 lakh jobs. An India Ship Technology Centre worth ₹305 crore will also be

established at Indian Maritime University, Visakhapatnam, to drive R&D, training, and innovation in ship design and manufacturing.

Source: [Here](#), 26 September 2025

MARINE ENVIRONMENT

AS ARCTIC CONTINUES TO WARM, OCEAN ECOSYSTEMS FACE MAJOR RESHAPE

Arctic warming is driving a major reshaping of ocean ecosystems, particularly the Barents Sea, an Arctic warming hotspot known as being ‘Atlantified’. Research from Plymouth Marine Laboratory shows that melting ice and rising temperatures are altering the benthic-pelagic exchange—the flow of carbon and nutrients between the seafloor and open waters—disrupting marine life and the ocean’s carbon cycling. The northward shift of polar fronts and sea ice reduction expose previously protected seafloor to disturbances like trawling. These changes threaten biodiversity, fisheries, and the Arctic’s crucial role in global carbon storage, highlighting the need for multidisciplinary monitoring and ecosystem management as climate impacts escalate.

Source: [Here](#), 16 September 2025

BLOOM’S FUEL CELLS PROVIDE HIGHLY EFFICIENT POWER GENERATION FOR THE MARINE ECOSYSTEM — AND NOW HAVE ABS TYPE APPROVAL

Bloom Energy’s solid oxide fuel cell (SOFC) platform has become the first to receive ABS Type Approval for marine use, marking a major step in efficient and low-emission power generation for ships. The system is designed for auxiliary power on vessels such as cruise ships, LNG carriers, and cargo ships, providing up to 53% electrical efficiency and reducing carbon emissions by 30-40% compared to traditional generators. The modular and scalable fuel cell technology can run on LNG-derived natural gas and supports future fuels like hydrogen. This technology helps meet IMO decarbonization targets and can enhance reliability, reduce fuel use, and lower operational costs onboard ships.

Source: [Here](#), 23 September 2025

FISHERFOLK STAGE PROTEST OVER THREAT TO MARINE ECOSYSTEMS BY PHARMA UNITS, BLOCK ROAD

Fisherfolk in Andhra Pradesh's Kakinada district staged protests blocking roads in Uppada over concerns about marine ecosystem damage caused by pharmaceutical units releasing harmful chemicals into the sea. The pollutants have led to fish deaths, threatening fishermen's livelihoods and affecting marine biodiversity. Protesters demanded immediate government action to relocate polluting industries and compensation for affected families. This ongoing issue highlights inadequate industrial waste management by pharma companies near coastal waters and the resultant environmental and health risks for local communities dependent on fishing.

Source: [Here](#), 23 September 2025

'HISTORIC' UN-LED HIGH SEAS TREATY TO TAKE EFFECT IN 2026 AS RATIFICATION THRESHOLD CLEARED

The UN High Seas Treaty, aimed at protecting and conserving marine biodiversity in international waters, will enter into force on January 17, 2026, following the ratification by 60 countries. The treaty focuses on creating Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) covering 30% of the high seas, requires environmental impact assessments for economic activities like deep-sea mining, and promotes knowledge sharing and equitable resource benefits for developing countries. This treaty, two decades in the making, marks a historic step for ocean conservation and multilateral cooperation on the world's international waters that cover 70% of the planet.

Source: [Here](#), 24 September 2025

OCEAN ACIDIFICATION OFFICIALLY BREACHES PLANETARY BOUNDARY

The seventh planetary boundary, ocean acidification, has officially been breached in 2025, according to the Planetary Health Check report. Driven primarily by fossil fuel emissions, ocean acidification—a roughly 30-40% increase in ocean acidity since the industrial era—is degrading marine ecosystems and threatens cold-water corals, tropical reefs, Arctic marine life, and crucial species like pteropods. This breach signals severe risks to marine biodiversity, global food security, and climate stability, highlighting urgent needs for coordinated action to protect ocean systems vital for Earth's life-support functions.

Source: [Here](#), 24 September 2025

GEOPOLITICS

INDIA BETTER POSITIONED THAN EU IN CURRENT GEOPOLITICS, IAN BREMMER EXPLAINS HOW

India is currently seen as better positioned than the European Union in global geopolitics amid an emerging multipolar world and an absence of clear global leadership. According to political scientist Ian Bremmer, India uniquely combines leadership of the Global South with strong functional ties to the West, including stable relations with Japan, Australia, and Europe. This dual role gives India an advantage in navigating geopolitical shifts caused by US tariffs, trade tensions, and evolving global alliances, including BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. Meanwhile, the EU faces internal challenges in scaling its military and strategic autonomy, limiting its near-term global assertiveness.

Source: [Here](#), 19 September 2025

SOUTH ASIA'S SHIPPING FUTURE HANGS IN BALANCE AMID FREIGHT SHOCKS, CLIMATE RISKS AND GEOPOLITICS, UN WARNS

South Asia's shipping sector faces volatility from freight rate spikes, climate disruptions, stricter decarbonisation rules, and geopolitical tensions. The 2024 Red Sea crisis and tariff disputes raised container rates near pandemic highs, while extreme weather caused port closures and congestion, increasing costs and emissions. Climate risks heighten vulnerability of ports, demanding urgent modernization. India benefits strategically from supply chain diversification. The region must boost freight monitoring, policymaking, and multilateral coordination to build sustainable resilience amid these challenges.

Source: [Here](#), 24 September 2025

CANADA'S INDO-PACIFIC STRATEGY AT THREE: PRESENCE, PARTNERSHIPS, AND THE NEXT TURN

Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS), now three years old, has expanded Canada's presence in the region with new diplomatic offices, senior visits, and sustained naval deployments. It has enhanced trade through Team Canada missions and deepened security cooperation, notably via maritime domain awareness and satellite tracking programs. However, the strategy lacks clear prioritization and integration with broader foreign policy, especially regarding India and China. The next phase calls for sharper economic resilience goals, focused partnerships (e.g., with Australia, Japan), improved Asia competence, and aligning climate and development efforts to effectively support Canada's national interests.

Source: [Here](#), 24 September 2025

RUSSIA IS CAPITALIZING ON RISING LNG DEMAND AND SHIFTING GEOPOLITICS

Russia remains a major player in the global LNG market despite Western sanctions. In 2025, Russia exported 18.8 million metric tons of LNG, roughly evenly split between Asia (9.5 million tons) and Europe (9.2 million tons). While its share of EU LNG imports declined to 14% in mid-2025 from 22% in early 2021, Russia strengthened its pivot to Asia, with Chinese imports rising 3.3% to 8.3 million tons in 2024, making it the third-largest LNG supplier to China. Russia leverages shorter Arctic and pipeline routes to Asia and flexible pricing models, challenging U.S. LNG competitiveness. US efforts to expand West Coast terminals could improve its market position over the long term.

Source: [Here](#), 24 September 2025

UNHELPFUL ALLY? WHY PAKISTAN'S SOMALIA PACT COULD WEAKEN MARITIME SECURITY

The Pakistan-Somalia Defence Cooperation MoU signed in August 2025 has raised concerns over potential fragmentation of maritime security efforts in the Horn of Africa. The agreement provides Pakistan access to train Somali naval personnel, offer technical assistance, and establish joint defense cooperation mechanisms. However, it risks duplicating existing multinational initiatives led by entities like the EU, African Union, and Indian Navy, potentially causing coordination challenges, operational contradictions, and weakening regional maritime stability. Analysts highlight that Pakistan's pact aligns with Chinese strategic interests by extending influence through proxy arrangements, which could undermine Somalia's integration into global maritime security frameworks.

Source: [Here](#), 30 September 2025