



## **SIOS NEWS BRIEF (17-23 February)**

### **Indian Ocean Conference concludes with focus on trade, security and regional cooperation (FEB 17)**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Indian Ocean Conference concluded, highlighting challenges and opportunities for countries in the region while emphasising the need for regional cooperation. The Foreign Minister of Oman, HE Qais bin Mohammed al Yousef described the conference as “a platform dedicated to fostering maritime partnerships and economic integration across our region”. He further underscored the strategic importance of the Indian Ocean, stating, “It is not just a body of water-it is an economic lifeline”.

[URL:https://www.muscatdaily.com/2025/02/17/indian-ocean-conference-concludes-with-focus-on-trade-security-and-regional-cooperation/](https://www.muscatdaily.com/2025/02/17/indian-ocean-conference-concludes-with-focus-on-trade-security-and-regional-cooperation/)

### **On the Myanmar border China builds gigantic radar to map Indian Ocean (FEB 23)**

China has established a giant radar system close to the Myanmar border, in its southwestern Yunnan province. The radar system, has a range of over 5000kms, will enable Beijing to conduct surveillance over Indian Ocean as well as deep into Indian territory, and can also monitor India’s ballistic missile program. The Yunnan site further enhances China’s abilities to spy on southern region of India.

[URL: https://www.thesangaiexpress.com/Encyc/2025/2/23/NEW-DELHI-Feb-23-In-a-major-development-that-could-prove-detrimental-to-India-s-missile-program-China-has.html](https://www.thesangaiexpress.com/Encyc/2025/2/23/NEW-DELHI-Feb-23-In-a-major-development-that-could-prove-detrimental-to-India-s-missile-program-China-has.html)

### **Iran to conduct Military Exercises in Gulf of Oman (FEB 21)**

The Iranian army’s deputy coordinator, Habibollah Sayyari said, “The joint military exercise Zolfaghar 1403 will begin tomorrow on the Makran coast, the Sea of Oman and the northern Indian Ocean”. He further added the exercise have the “objective of strengthening defence and deterrence capabilities against any land, air and sea threat”.

[URL:https://www.barrons.com/news/iran-to-conduct-military-exercises-in-gulf-of-oman-d5cf904a](https://www.barrons.com/news/iran-to-conduct-military-exercises-in-gulf-of-oman-d5cf904a)