

# SIOS NEWS BRIEF (25-30 November)

#### Austin Bolsters US Cooperation With Fiji, Concludes 12th Trip to Indo-Pacific

US Secretary of Defence Austin III signed The Acquisition and Cross Servicing Agreement aimed at enhancing US's logistics cooperation with Fiji on his 12<sup>th</sup> trip to the Indo-Pacific. He said, "This agreement will mean closer ties and closer logistics cooperation between our forces, including for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief". In addition to Fiji, he met with key U.S. partners in Laos, Australia, and the Philippines and said, "The Indo-Pacific is our priority theatre and our partnership with Fiji and other Pacific Island Countries is vital to a free and open Indo-Pacific".

URL:https://www.eurasiareview.com/25112024-austin-bolsters-us-cooperation-with-fiji-concludes-12th-trip-to-indo-pacific/

#### France offers tech to make India Navy's submarines almost invisible in IOR

France has offered an advanced pumpjet propulsion technology for India's next generation diesel-electric attack submarines, known as Project 66, and Project 77. If the deal goes through, the technology will immensely decrease acoustic signature of submarines and India's submarines may become some of the quietest in the IOR.

 $\underline{URL: https://www.theweek.in/news/defence/2024/11/26/france-offers-tech-to-make-india-navys-submarines-almost-invisible-in-indian-ocean-region.html}$ 

### Indian Navy and Coast Guard Intensify Anti-Narcotics Efforts in the Indian Ocean

In a latest operation the Indian Navy with the Sri Lankan Navy intercepted narcotics smugglers, resulting in the seizure of 500kg crystal Methamphetamine from two Sri-Lankan-flagged fishing boats. This operation highlights the increasing collaboration between India and Sri Lanka in addressing maritime security threats in the region. On November 26, the Indian Coast Guard, seized 6000kg of methamphetamine from a Myanmar-flagged boat in the A&N islands.

<u>URL:https://www.financialexpress.com/business/defence-indian-navy-and-coast-guard-intensify-anti-narcotics-efforts-in-the-indian-ocean-3680145/</u>

## Cyclone Fengal

On November 30, the cyclone made landfall on the coasts of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. In view of heavy rainfall due to cyclone, a holiday has been declared in all the government, private schools, colleges, and government aided schools in Puducherry. The announcement has been made in view of the bad weather conditions by the respective local administrations due to the effects of cyclone Fengal.

URL:https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/cyclone-fengal-live-tamil-nadu-puducherry-dec-2-2024/article68936927.ece