



SIOS NEWS BRIEF (30 December- 4 January)

Sanjiv Ranjan appointed next Secretary General of Indian Ocean Rim Association (30 Dec)

The Ministry of External Affairs confirmed the appointment, of senior IFS officer(1993 batch) Sanjiv Ranjan, as the next Secretary General of the IORA. It is a significant platform for enhancing India's engagement with its maritime neighbours. The IORA is a regional organisation that brings together countries bordering the IO to promote sustainable development, regional security, and economic cooperation.

[URL:https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/sanjiv-ranjan-appointed-next-secretary-general-of-indian-ocean-rim-association/articleshow/116802380.cms](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/sanjiv-ranjan-appointed-next-secretary-general-of-indian-ocean-rim-association/articleshow/116802380.cms)

Maldives FM Abdulla Khaleel: Committed to the stability of Indian Ocean (4 Jan)

In a significant comment, Abdulla Khaleel the visiting foreign Minister of Maldives said that 'Indian Security is Maldives Security'. In an interview he said, "we are committed to the stability of the Indian Ocean, specifically to the security of the Indian Ocean will ensure the security for the nations across the Indian Ocean". The comment points to the positive trajectory of India-Maldives ties.

[URL:https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/India/maldives-fm-abdulla-khaleel-committed-to-the-stability-of-indian-ocean/ar-AA1wYiu2?ocid=BingNewsVerp](https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/India/maldives-fm-abdulla-khaleel-committed-to-the-stability-of-indian-ocean/ar-AA1wYiu2?ocid=BingNewsVerp)

French carrier strike group, Indian warships to carry out 42nd Varuna bilateral exercise on west coast (3rd Jan)

The French CSG (Carrier Strike Group), on a visit to the Indian Ocean, will take part with the Indian Navy in the annual bilateral exercise Varuna on the west coast. The French embassy said in a press statement, "India has been France's foremost strategic partner since 1998, and the excellent Indo-French military cooperation is characterised by numerous bilateral exercises such as Shakti on land, Varuna at sea and Garuda in air. India also plays host for numerous operational stopovers made by French Navy vessels, accounting for 16 port calls since 2022".

[URL:https://www.msn.com/en-in/war-and-conflicts/military-organizations/french-carrier-strike-group-indian-warships-to-carry-out-42nd-varuna-bilateral-exercise-on-west-coast/ar-AA1wUriN?ocid=BingNewsVerp](https://www.msn.com/en-in/war-and-conflicts/military-organizations/french-carrier-strike-group-indian-warships-to-carry-out-42nd-varuna-bilateral-exercise-on-west-coast/ar-AA1wUriN?ocid=BingNewsVerp)