SIOS NEWS BRIEF (1-5 June)

India, Australia discuss maritime security, defence cooperation (June 1)

Australian Deputy PM and Defence Minister Richard Marles and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh co-chaired the second India-Australia Defence Ministers' Dialogue in New Delhi. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening security and defence cooperation across the Indo-Pacific, with a focus on defence industry collaboration, maritime security, and emerging technologies.

URL: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-australia-stress-maritime-freedom-and-supply-chain-security-in-talks/article71047894.ece

INCOIS to launch 'NIRMAL-Sagar' initiative to combat marine pollution on World Oceans Day (June 5)

The INCOIS (Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services), under the MoES, will launch a new initiative 'NIRMAL-Sagar' to complement the government's 'Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar' mission as part of World Oceans Day on June 8. Under this initiative, INCOIS plans a development programme and operational oceanographic research to identify pathways, sources, and sinks of marine litter in the IO with activities planned for 2027 and beyond.

URL:https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/incois-to-launch-nirmal-sagar-initiative-to-combat-marine-pollution-on-world-oceans-day/article71066365.ece

US forces board sanctioned tanker in Indian Ocean, Pentagon says (June 5)

The U.S. military's Indo-Pacific Command said, U.S. forces conducted an interdiction of the sanctioned stateless oil tanker *Davina* in the IO. The Indo-Pacific Command in a post on social media mentioned, "We will continue global maritime enforcement to disrupt illicit networks and interdict vessels providing material support to Iran, wherever they operate". The U.S. has imposed a blockade on Iran's sea trade while Iran has fired on ships to prevent them sailing via the Strait of Hormuz waterway at the entrance to the Middle East Gulf.

URL:https://www.reuters.com/world/us-forces-board-sanctioned-vessel-indian-ocean-pentagon-says-2026-06-05/