



SIOS NEWS BRIEF (17-21 February)

US ambassador Sergio Gor visits Indian Army's Western Command HQ with Indo-Pacific commander (Feb 17)

US Ambassador Sergio Gor and Admiral Samuel J Paparo, Commander of US Indo-Pacific Command, visited the Indian Army's western command HQs located in Chandimandir in Haryana's Panchkula, and held discussions on strategic security dynamics along India's western front with Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar. The post on social media said, the delegation was briefed on Western front perspective, including legacy, operational preparedness, execution of Operation Sindoor and the role played by the Indian Army in strengthening regional stability and nation-building.

URL: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/us-ambassador-sergio-gor-visits-indian-armys-western-command-hq-with-indo-pacific-commander-101771289499087.html>

Navies of 14 Indian Ocean nations to meet in Goa to focus on shared maritime challenges (Feb 18)

The 5th edition of GMC-26 (Goa Maritime Conclave), was held at Goa, on 21 Feb 2026. The theme of the conclave was "Common Maritime Security Challenges in the IOR-Progressing Lines of Efforts (LsOE) to Mitigate Dynamic Threats", and brought together senior representatives and naval chiefs from 14 Indian Ocean countries. Rear Admiral A D Nair, commandant of the Naval War College of Goa, when asked about the main outcome of GMC-26, said, "For India, this reinforces its role as a preferred maritime security partner committed to regional stability. For the broader Indian Ocean Region, the conclave encourages information sharing, sharing of best practices and trust building".

URL: <https://theprint.in/india/navies-of-14-indian-ocean-nations-to-meet-in-go-to-focus-on-shared-maritime-challenges/2857600/>

Prime Minister Modi Meets Sri Lankan President Disssanayake on Sidelines of India AI Summit 2026 (Feb 21)

On the sidelines of the India AI Impact Summit 2026, PM Modi met Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Disssanayake, where both leaders reviewed progress in bilateral relations and reaffirmed commitment to increasing cooperation. Sri Lankan President expressed gratitude for India's unconditional support following Cyclone Ditwah. The two leaders noted progress in India's ongoing reconstruction support through USD 450 million assistance. Both the leaders also agreed to advance bilateral cooperation and contribute to peace and stability in the IOR.

URL: <https://ddnews.gov.in/en/prime-minister-modi-meets-sri-lankan-president-disanayaka-on-sidelines-of-india-ai-summit-2026/>