



SIOS NEWS BRIEF (8-12 December)

U.S. Forces raid ship, seize cargo headed to Iran from China (Dec 12)

The Wall Street Journal reported, a special US operations team raided a ship last month travelling from China to Iran in the IOR and confiscated military related articles. The cargo contained items that could be utilised for Iran's conventional weapons programme. The US forces boarded the vessel hundred miles off the coast of Sri Lanka. After the seizure and operation of the cargo, the ship was allowed to continue its journey.

URL: <https://www.wsj.com/world/middle-east/u-s-forces-raid-ship-seize-cargo-headed-to-iran-from-china-35a1e2ac>

PM Modi speaks with Trump, discusses defence, tech and Indo-Pacific security (Dec 11)

To review the progress of the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership, PM Narendra Modi spoke with President Donal Trump. PM Modi in a post on X mentioned, "Had a very warm and engaging conversation with President Trump. We reviewed the progress in our bilateral relations and discussed regional and international developments. India and the U.S. will continue to work together for global peace, stability and prosperity". The conversation follows efforts by both sides to restore bilateral engagements following the trade-related impasse.

URL: <https://www.moneycontrol.com/world/pm-modi-speaks-with-trump-discusses-defence-tech-and-indo-pacific-security-article-13721899.html#>

After Putin, Modi to host German Chancellor Merz (Dec 10)

After hosting Vladimir Putin, Russia President, India will host German Chancellor Friedric Merz, ahead of the India-EU summit. Germany is a significant partner for India in reinforcing adherence to a rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific, as Germany sees China's aggressive behaviour in the Indo-Pacific region as a concern for both the nations. The visit by the chancellor will be a significant opportunity for the leaders to build upon the momentum across technology, trade, green and sustainable development, technology, defence and security, along with migration and mobility.

URL: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/after-putin-modi-to-host-german-chancellor-merz/articleshow/125877113.cms>