



SIOS NEWS BRIEF (9-13 March)

India, US discuss Indo-Pacific security, ways to strengthen defence partnership (March 13)

Indian Army's Additional Directorate General of Public Administration said on social media, that Lt. General Joel B Vowell, Deputy Commanding General, USARPAC (United States Army Pacific) held a meeting with COAS (Chief of Army Staff) General Upendra Dwivedi, discussing avenues to strengthen defence partnership. It added, "The interaction focused on regional security in the Indo-Pacific, enhancing interoperability through joint military exercises and exploring new avenues of engagement to deepen military-to-military cooperation across multiple domains. The meeting reaffirmed the growing convergence and shared commitment of both armies towards addressing emerging security challenges".

URL: <https://theshillongtimes.com/2026/03/13/india-us-discuss-indo-pacific-security-ways-to-strengthen-defence-partnership/>

Bodies of 84 Iranian sailors killed in US torpedo strike to be repatriated (March 12)

Sri Lanka's defence ministry said, that the bodies of 84 Iranian sailors killed in torpedo attack by a US submarine are due to be flown home this week. The Iranian warship, the Iris Dena, was returning from a military exercise hosted by India, when it was attacked, the sinking came during the ongoing US-Israel war with Iran. Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said, the US had "perpetuated an atrocity at sea, 2000 miles away from Iran's shores", adding, "the US will come to bitterly regret precedent it has set".

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c363lk4xk07o>

Bridging Bridges: The NATO Parliamentary Assembly's Landmark visit to India (March 9)

The theme for the NATO Parliamentary Assembly's visit to India from 2-8 March is the security interdependence between the Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific. Discussions in Delhi addressed India's role in Global South, implications of geopolitical competition for economic development and global stability, and its relationship with major powers. The delegation of 20 lawmakers participated in series of policy discussions and roundtables in New Delhi and Mumbai. Discussions highlighted the areas where NATO countries and India share common interests, including technological resilience, maritime security, protection of critical infrastructure, and defence industrial development.

URL: <https://www.nato-pa.int/news/bridging-bridges-nato-parliamentary-assemblys-landmark-visit-india>