

# India's Act East Policy Maritime Connections



# SCOPE

- Historical Perspective
- Recent progress
- Challenges in Maritime Domain
- Collaborative Mechanism
- Conclusion

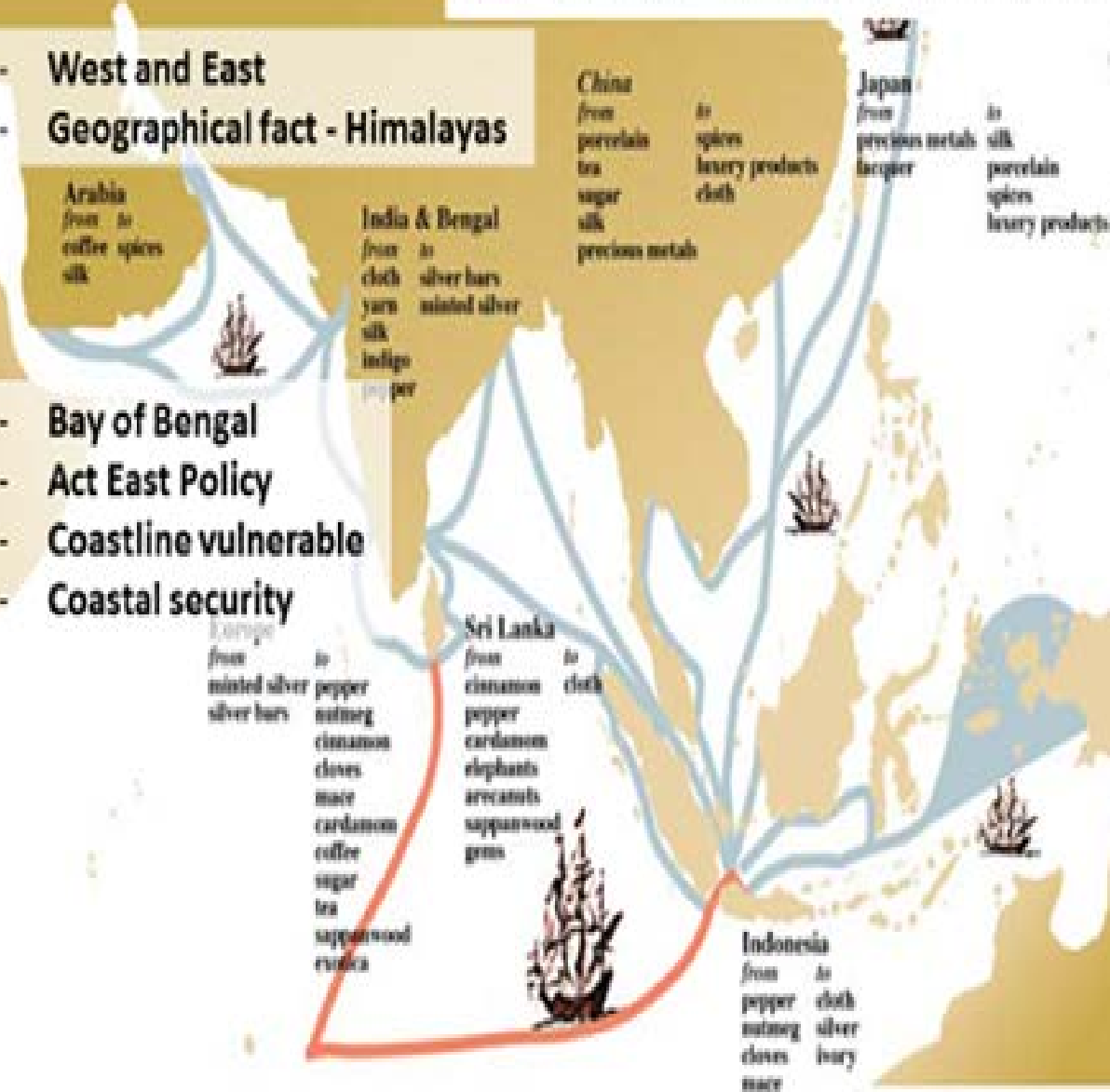
# India's Maritime History and Culture

- Long Maritime Tradition
- Cultural footprints stretch across Asia and Africa
- Seas forged links of commerce, culture and religion with extended neighborhood
- India shaped in many more ways by the seas around us

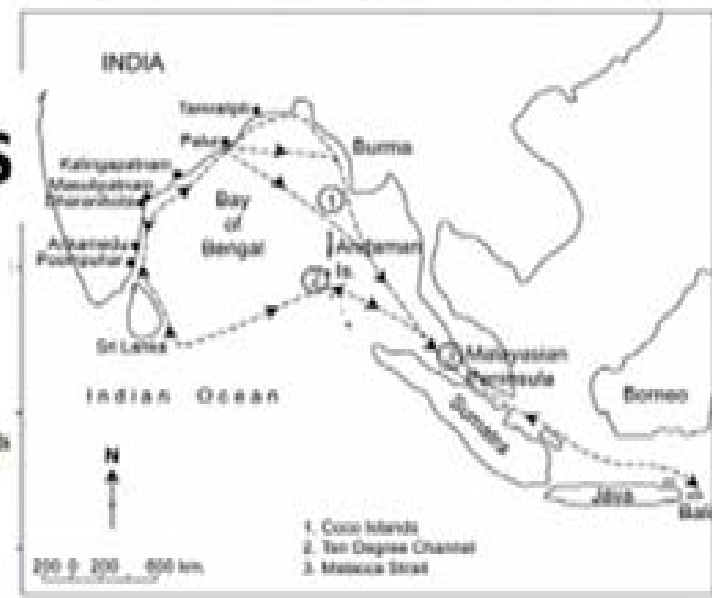
**Main trade-products and shipping routes of the Indian Ocean region**

# Ancient Trade Routes

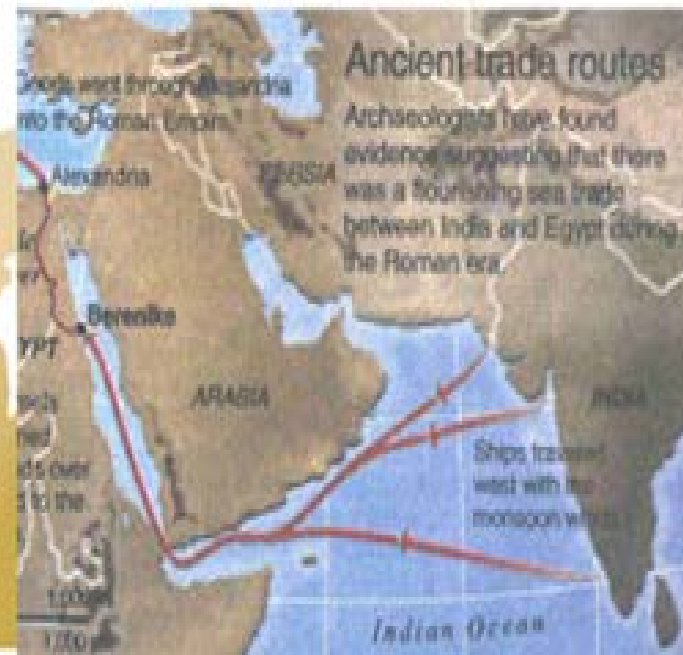
- West and East
- Geographical fact - Himalayas
- Bay of Bengal
- Act East Policy
- Coastline vulnerable
- Coastal security



Map 3: Sea routes from India to Southeast Asian countries.



Source: Monsoon wind and maritime trade: a case study of historical evidence from Orissa, India. (2004). Retrieved Jan 15, 2015, from <http://www.jnc.ernet.in/corrcs/tour252004/844.pdf>



# From Look East to Act East

- Historic cultural ties
- Deep maritime links
- Growing connectivity
- More structured approach



# ASEAN India Commemorative Summit 2018






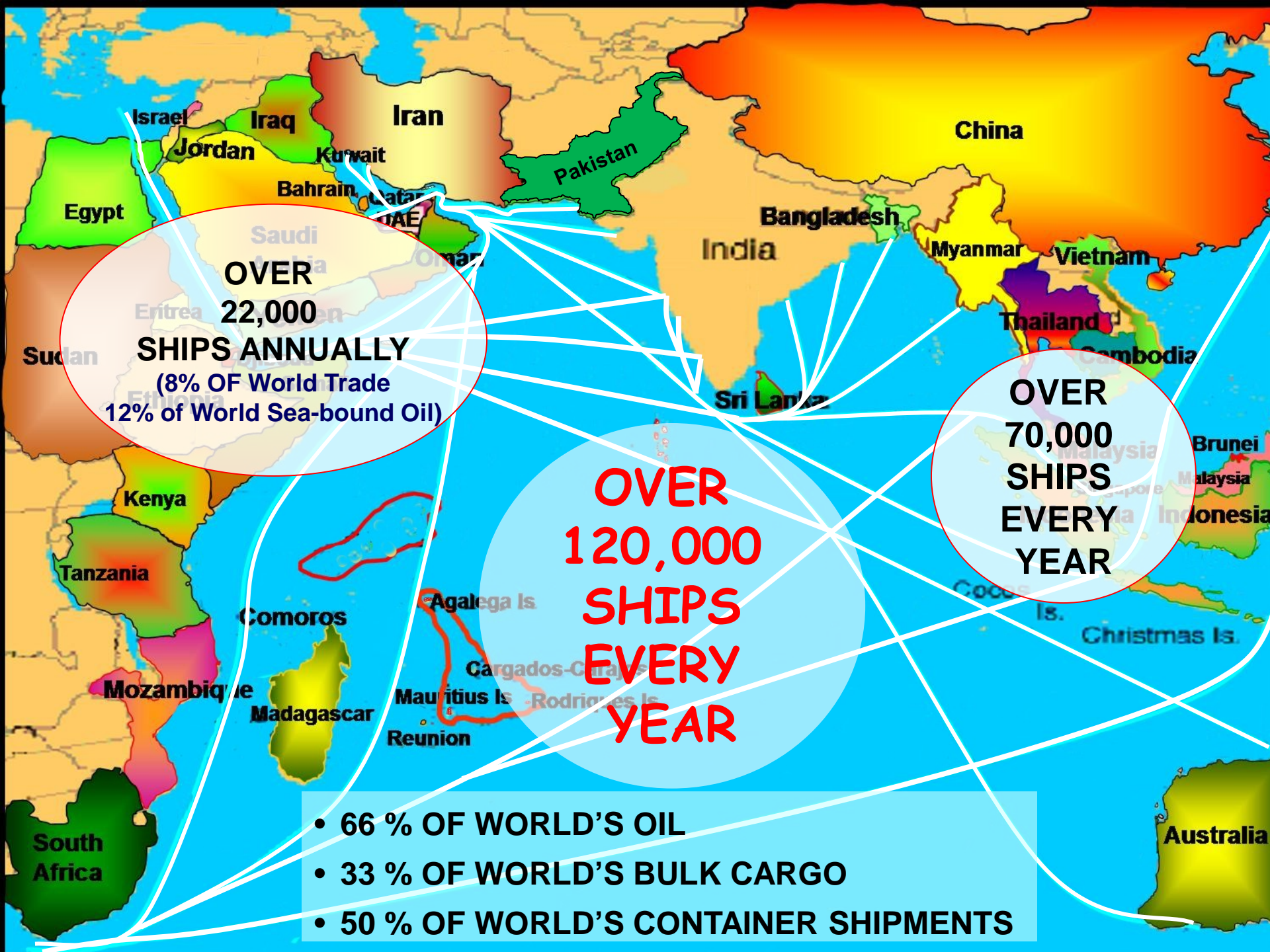
# Important Points in the Region



# GEO ECONOMICS

- 
- $2/3^{\text{rd}}$  of the world's oil shipments
  - $1/3^{\text{rd}}$  of bulk cargo
  - Half of global container traffic





**OVER 22,000 SHIPS ANNUALLY**  
(8% OF World Trade  
12% of World Sea-bound Oil)

**OVER 120,000 SHIPS EVERY YEAR**

**OVER 70,000 SHIPS EVERY YEAR**

- 66 % OF WORLD'S OIL
- 33 % OF WORLD'S BULK CARGO
- 50 % OF WORLD'S CONTAINER SHIPMENTS

# Challenges in the Maritime Domain

- Natural Disasters
- Maritime Terrorism
- Piracy
- Illegal fishing
- Oil spills
- Impact of climate change
- Instability and turmoil in coastal and Island states

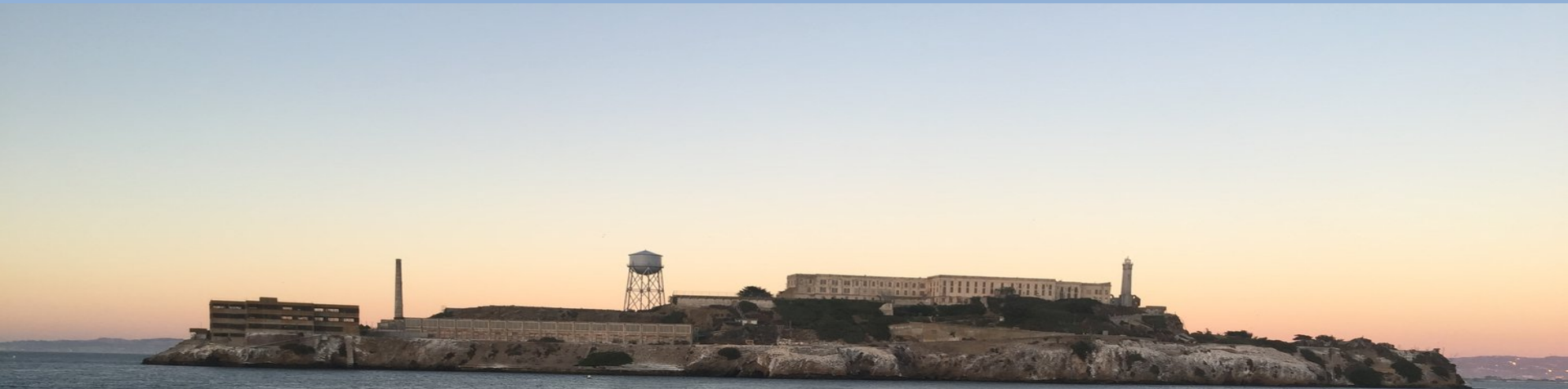
# Areas of Cooperation

- Collective Action
- Constructive Engagement
- Capacity Building
- Capability Enhancement
- Collaborative Effort
- CORPAT
- Maritime Domain Awareness
- White Shipping
- HADR





# COLLECTIVE ACTION

- 
- **Deepen mutual understanding on maritime challenges**
  - **Support efforts to strengthen regional mechanisms for maritime co-operation**
  - **Marine safety and natural disasters**

# CONSTRUCTIVE ENGAGEMENT

- Dialogue, visits, exercises, capacity building and economic partnership
- Climate of trust and transparency
- Respect for international maritime rules and norms by all countries
- Sensitivity to each other's interests





# CAPACITY BUILDING

- Hydrographic surveys
- Diving assistance
- Ordnance disposal
- Salvage
- Sealift
- Search and Rescue



# CAPABILITY ENHANCEMENT

- 11,000 foreign personnel from 40 countries provided hydrographic training
- 125 courses for officers & sailors received training related to developing skill sets in maritime areas



# Technical Cooperation

- Technical Advice
- Repairs & Refits
- Transfer of hardware
- Construction of ships
- Providing ships & aircrafts to FFC





# COORDINATED PATROLS ALONG IMBL ANDAMAN SEA



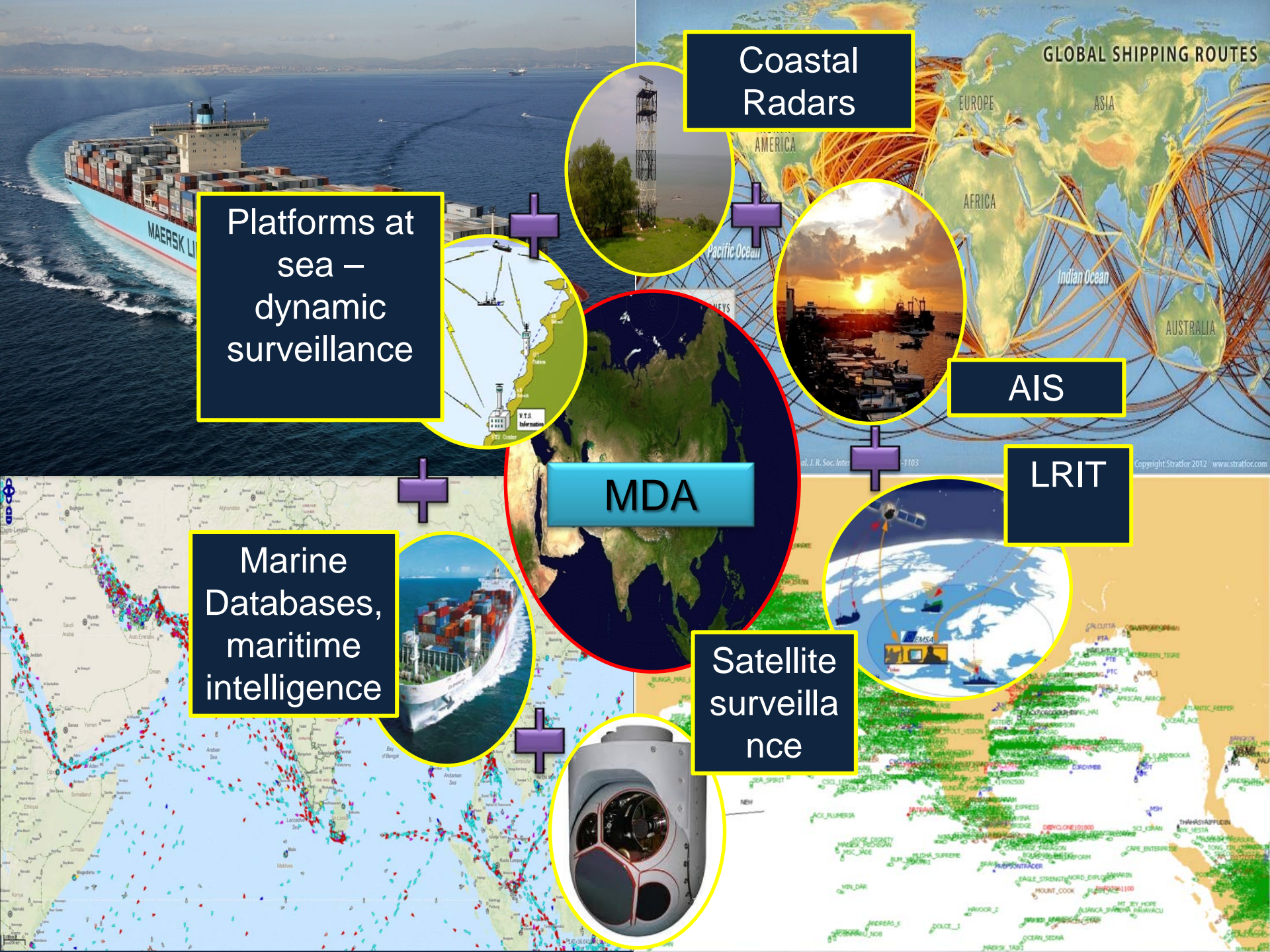
MYANMAR  
(2013)

THAILAND \*\*  
(2005)

INDONESIA \*\*  
(2002)

**CORPATs are Maritime Security Operations –  
Terrorism, Trafficking/Smuggling, Stability & Good Order**





Coastal Radars

GLOBAL SHIPPING ROUTES

Platforms at sea – dynamic surveillance

AIS

MDA

LRIT

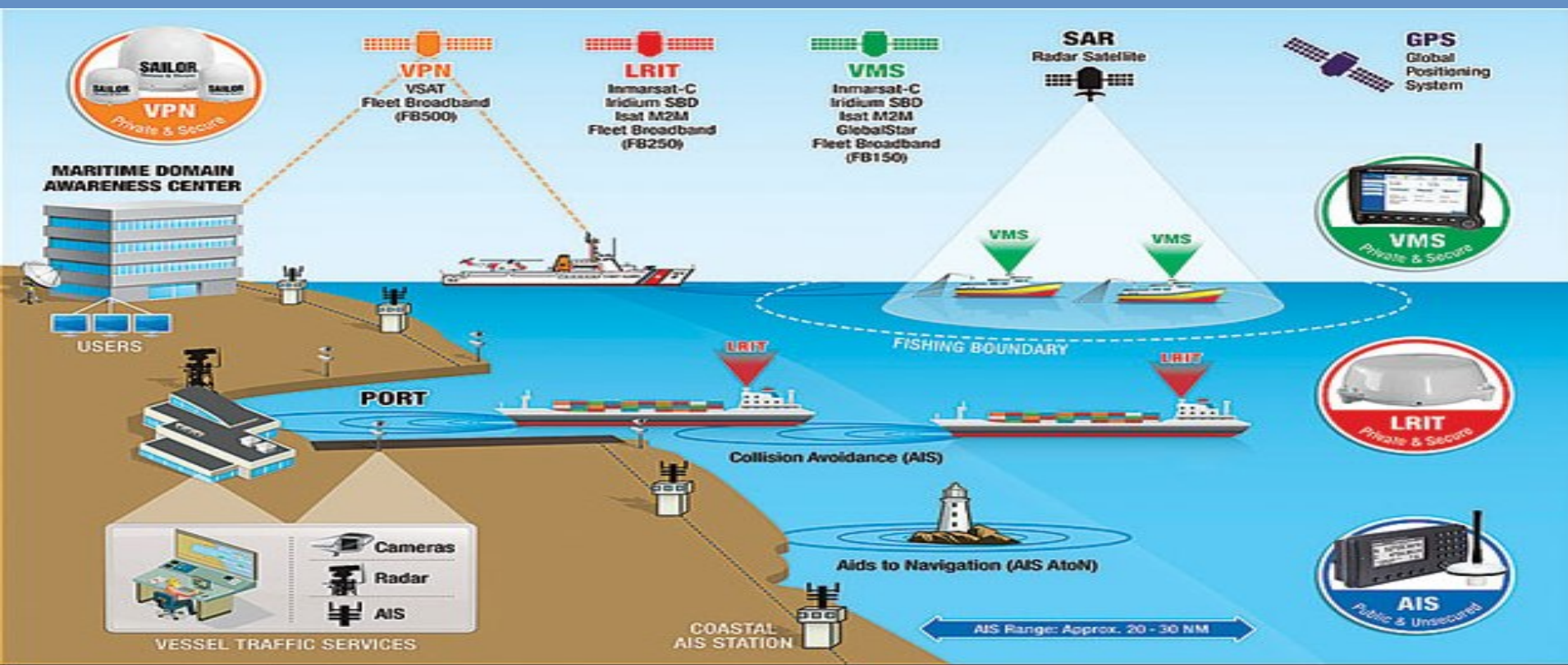
Marine Databases, maritime intelligence

Satellite surveillance



# Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)

- The effective understanding of anything associated with the maritime domain that could impact the security, safety, economy, or environment.
- Launch of an International Fusion Centre.



# WHITE-SHIPPING INFO EXCHANGE

- White shipping information refers to exchange of relevant advance information on the identity and movement of commercial non-military merchant vessels.
- India currently has signed **15 agreements** on White Shipping



DDP 790:791  
**Ship Details**  
 ● Responding Normally 365  
 ● Missing Position 41  
 ● Not Responding 174  
 ○ Not Registered 0

Within 1000 nm

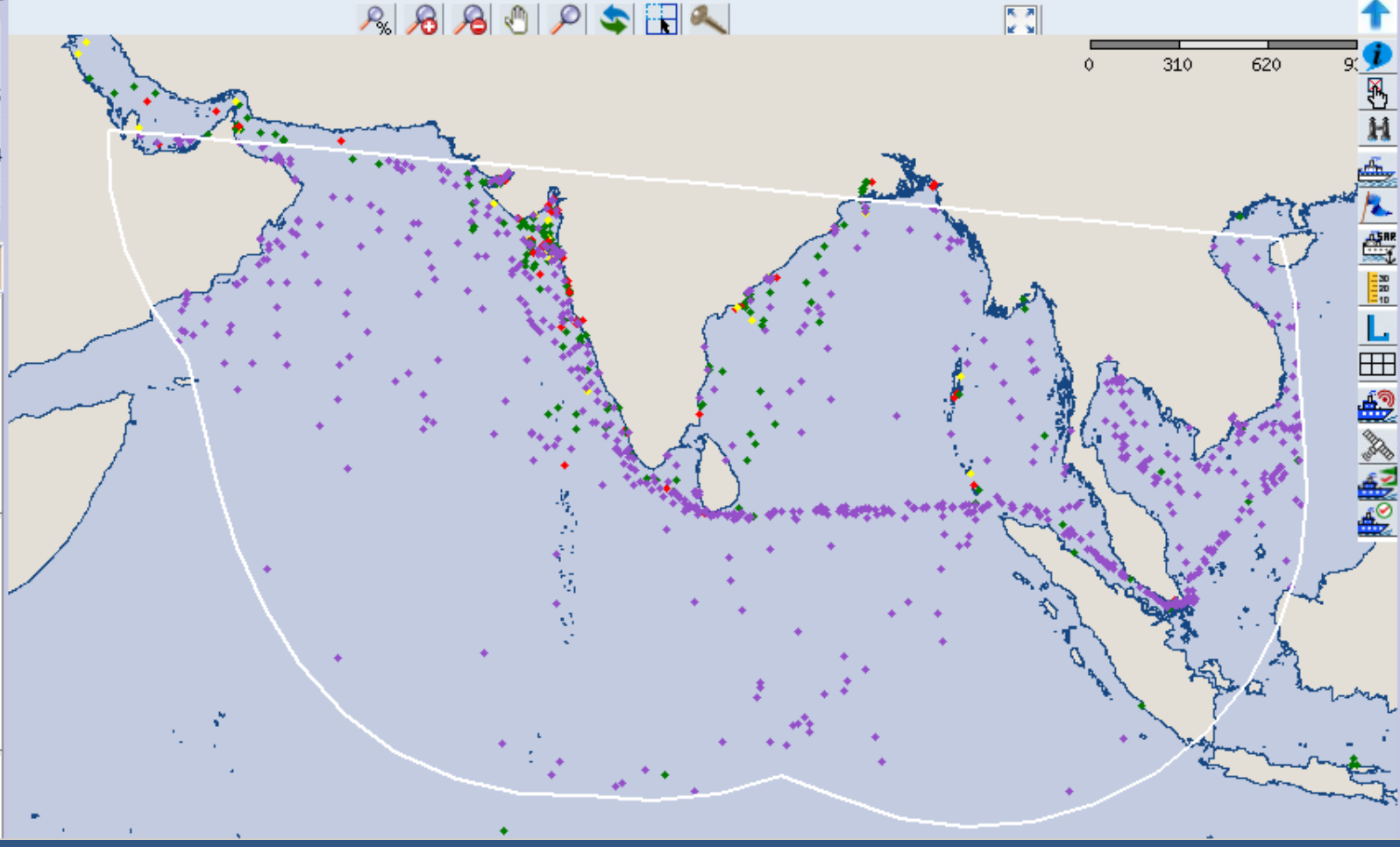
Country	Flag	No. of Ships
India		451
Antigua and Barbuda		35

Flag Vessels World Wide

Country	Flag	No. of Ships
Antigua and Barbuda		4
Argentina		3

Ship Count

Frequency	Count



**THE INDIAN LRIT SCREEN SHOT SHOWS VESSEL DENSITY & TRAFFIC FLOW TRANSITING THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT. APPROXIMATELY 2200 FOREIGN & INDIAN VESSELS ARE INSIDE THE 1000NM POLYGON.**

# •Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)

- material and logistic short-term assistance until the long-term help by government and other institutions replaces it.



# Humanitarian Activities and Disaster Relief Operations by India: A decade in HADR

- Tsunami (Dec 2004): Assistance to Maldives, Indonesia and Sri Lanka by deploying 27 Ships and over 5,000 personnel deployed within 36 hours
- Cyclone SIDR hit Bangladesh (Nov 2007): Four Ships , Gharial, Mahish, Cheetah, Kumbhir deployed
- Cyclone *NARGIS* hit Myanmar (May 2008): Two ships, Rana and Kirpan deployed
- Cyclone *PHAILIN* (Oct 2013): Diving and Rescue teams deployed
- Operation *NEER* (Dec 2014): Special Task Force deployed to Maldives











# Indo-Thailand Siam Bharat 17: HADR -Table Top Exercise 2017



Sl No	Co-operative Mechanism	Remarks
1	<b>CGPCS</b>	Forum to focus on Piracy in Somalia
2	<b>ARF</b>	27 countries , ISM on Maritime Security discusses various important aspects
3	<b>EAMF/ADMM+/EAS/</b>	ASEAN led forums
4	<b>CSCAP Maritime Study Group</b>	One of the important forums to study various maritime issues
5	<b>IORA</b>	Brings together representatives of Government, Business and Academia
6	<b>IONS</b>	Set up on the lines of WPNS , Focus on HADR , Counter-Piracy, Information Sharing and Interoperability
7	<b>ReCAAP</b>	20 countries , Focus on Armed robbery and Piracy
8	<b>HACGAM</b>	Forum for cooperation between Coast Guards
9	<b>MILAN</b>	Biennial Exercise of Navies at Port Blair



# MILAN – ‘GETTING TOGETHER’



**INCREASING INTEROPERABILITY**

# INDIA'S MARITIME BOUNDARIES

## **Bilateral Boundary Agreements**

Sri Lanka: 10 May 1976

Maldives: 08 June 1978

Myanmar: 14 September 1987

Thailand: 17 January 1996

Bangladesh: 04 July 2014

## **Trilateral Agreements**

Sri Lanka, Maldives: 31 July 1976

Indonesia, Thailand: 02 March 1979

Thailand, Myanmar: 24 May 1995

## **Historic Waters**

Sri Lanka: 08 July 1974

# CONCLUSION

- Respect for International law
- Development of regional cooperative approaches for enhancing maritime security in the MILAN, IORA, IONS
- Active participation in regional security forums such as EAS, ADMM-Plus, ARF, EAMF, ReCAAP, SOMS,
- Important stakeholder in global forums like CGPCS
- Expansion in maritime operational reach and extending capabilities as first responder in the region.

**Net Security Provider**

## **India's Vision for the Region:**

**“India seeks a future for Indian Ocean that is outlined by the acronym SAGAR- Security and Growth for All in the region.”**



A world map with a grid overlay, showing continents in brown and oceans in blue. Numerous small yellow dots are scattered across the map, with a higher concentration in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. A large green text overlay reads "Thank You".

**Thank  
You**