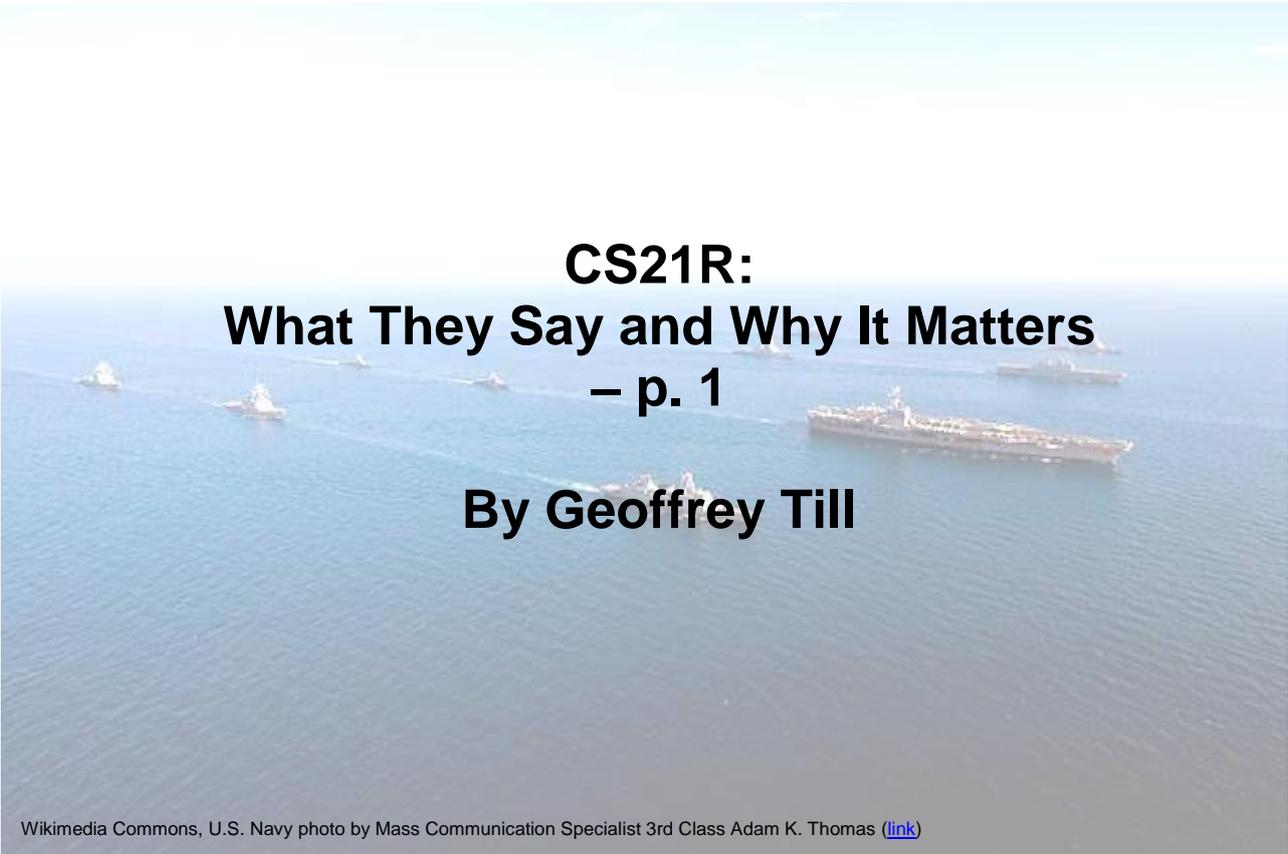


## Featured *MSP Perspective*:



### CS21R: What They Say and Why It Matters – p. 1

By Geoffrey Till

Wikimedia Commons, U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Adam K. Thomas ([link](#))

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# MSP PERSPECTIVES



## CS21R: What They Say and Why It Matters

Geoffrey Till

Visiting Professor, Maritime Security Programme

The recent release of a 'refreshed' version of the US Navy's 'Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower' is an important event, because doctrinal statements like this give us a clue about the thinking behind a navy's deployments, acquisitions and future trajectory.

The original version was released, with much fanfare and a fair degree of international acclaim back in 2007. But it was not so well received at home, where critics claimed that it did not seem to be linked either to the US Army and Air Force or to other official statements about American strategy. Also, being quite short and generalised, it did not seem to offer much guidance to people in the Navy responsible for planning exercises and operations, and buying new platforms, weapons and sensors. All of these deficiencies, if that's what they were, have been addressed this time.

The document starts with a review of the way the world has changed since 2007; the next section shows how the US maritime services intend to engage with the rest of the world and then moves on to the tasks they need to be able to perform in order to do this. The final section deals with how the US Navy intends to develop the capabilities it needs through training and the acquisition of material.

The whole approach is clear and pragmatic, illustrating strategy as a judicious blend of ends (objectives) ways (methods) and means (resources and instruments). The strategy is publicly available and has been issued in a variety of languages, Mandarin included.

This is important because other navies and other nations will take the refreshed strategy as a clear indication of the US Navy's future trajectory and will respond accordingly. Two aspects of the new version of 21st Century Seapower are likely to attract comment and maybe a response. The first is the apparent reduction of emphasis on the role of the US Navy as the major protector of the maritime commons and the global trading system. Instead there is rather more of an emphasis than there was before on the protection of specifically American national interest.

This is not to say that 'systems-defence' thinking has gone – far from it, but there's less than there was, as evidenced for example by a rather lower conceptual priority being given to disaster relief operations.

This impression of a growing relative interest in traditional naval tasks is reinforced by the considerable emphasis now exhibited in the new mission of 'all domain access.' This is aimed at countering the perceived rise around the world of the capacity to deny the seas, rather than control them. The spread of shore-based missiles, coastal submarines, mines and so forth threatens to reduce the capacity of navies to operate freely in forward positions. In the face of this, the new strategy suggests that the US Navy intends nonetheless to maintain its capacity to sail wherever it feels it needs to. For this reason alone, American doctrinal thinking is likely to have a profound influence on future developments at sea.

The document can be accessed [here](#).

*This item is based on an RSIS commentary published on 21 April 2015.*

# NAVAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY



SINGAPORE | 21 MAY | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

## **Singapore proposes framework for submarine operations safety**

The Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) has proposed a regional framework for submarine operations safety, as the growing number of submarines and surface ships traversing the shallow waters of the South China Sea means that the situation “is an accident waiting to happen”, said Chief of Navy Rear Admiral Lai Chung Han on Wednesday (May 20).

[Full Report](#)

INDIA | 2 MAY | SUNDAY GUARDIAN

## **US hard-sells nuclear powered carrier to India**

The US is offering to help build a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier with fifth generation fighters for India, which would transform its military profile in the Indian Ocean Region. This is the biggest and most audacious offer of military cooperation by the US to India so far, and the clearest indication that Washington DC wants defence technology and trade as the principal driver of the relationship with New Delhi.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 5 MAY | SPUTNIK NEWS

## **China develops fourth-generation nuclear sub**

At a recent meeting in Ordos, Inner Mongolia, Tan Zuojun, vice governor of Liaoning Province and former general manager of China State Shipbuilding Corporation, said that development of China's fourth-generation nuclear submarines and other high-tech weapons had been completed.

[Full Report](#)

SOUTH KOREA | 7 MAY | KOREA TIMES

## **ROK Navy unveils newest type submarine**

The Navy unveiled a state-of-the-art attack submarine Thursday named after the revered independence fighter Yu Gwan-sun (1902-1920). The launching ceremony for the Navy's sixth 1,800-ton submarine took place in the southern coastal city of Geoje, South Gyeongsang Province.

[Full Report](#)

SOUTHEAST ASIA—UNITED STATES | 7 MAY | NAVY.MIL

## **US 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet, RSN, RMN and TNI-AL meet to enhance multilateral cooperation**

Senior navy leaders from the U.S. 7th Fleet, Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN) and the Indonesian Navy (TNI) met for a professional exchange of ideas in a variety of technical and operational topics aboard the U.S. 7th Fleet flagship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19) May 4 and 6.

[Full Report](#)



Korean Central News Agency [shown on South China Morning Post, [link](#)]

CHINA | 13 MAY | CHINA DAILY

### **China starts research on naval jet**

China's aviation industry is working on the development of aircraft with short takeoff and vertical landing capabilities needed for an important role in the Chinese navy's future operations, military experts said.

[Full Report](#)

JAPAN | 14 MAY | EURONEWS

### **Japan cabinet approves draft laws to expand military role**

Japan's cabinet has approved draft laws which would trigger a dramatic shift in security policy, allowing the military to fight overseas for the first time since World War II. The proposals would allow Japan to defend other countries under attack.

[Full Report](#)

NORTH KOREA | 9 MAY | REUTERS

### **North Korea boasts of firing ballistic missile from submarine**

North Korea said on Saturday it had successfully test-fired a ballistic missile from a submarine, a step that would mark significant progress in the secretive state's military capabilities. It could pose a new threat to South Korea, Japan and the United States, which have tried to contain North Korea's growing nuclear and missile strength, military experts said.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES—JAPAN | 10 MAY | MANILA BULLETIN (REUTERS, AP)

### **Japan, Philippines hold first naval drill in South China Sea**

Japan and the Philippines will hold their first joint naval drill on Tuesday in the South China Sea near a disputed shoal claimed by Beijing, sources in Tokyo and the Philippines said. The May 12 maritime safety exercise, which will practice the code for unplanned encounters at sea, known as CUES, is part of an agreement signed by Japan and the Philippines in January aimed at tightening security cooperation.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES | 11 MAY | REUTERS

### **New naval base is Philippine military's top priority: armed forces chief**

The Philippine military's top priority is to build a naval base on the country's western coastline, opposite the disputed Spratly islands, although the plans have been delayed by funding bottlenecks, the Philippine armed forces chief told Reuters.

[Full Report](#)

SOUTH KOREA | 15 MAY | YONHAP

### **S. Korea stages military drill to defend Liancourt Rocks**

South Korea is conducting a military drill to defend its easternmost islets of Dokdo amid Japan's renewed claims to the territory, military officers said Friday. The Navy, jointly with the Coast Guard, "are carrying out the two-day drill from yesterday on and around the rocky outcroppings in the East Sea," said a Navy officer, requesting anonymity.

[Full Report](#)

INDONESIA | 15 MAY | TEMPO

### **Indonesian Navy receives robot-armed surveillance ships**

Admiral Ade Supandi, the Indonesian Navy Chief of Staff, received a brand new French-made hydro-oceanography warship, called the 'KRI Rigel 933' on Friday, May 15, 2015, at Tanjung Priok Port, Jakarta. The ship was delivered from the OCEA Les Sables d'Olonne shipyard in France.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA—RUSSIA | 17 MAY | ITAR-TASS

### **Active phase of Joint Sea 2015 drills to begin in Mediterranean Sea**

The active phase of the Joint Sea 2015 Russian-Chinese exercises will take place in the Mediterranean Sea between May 17 and 21. The drills were solemnly launched on May 11. According to the Russian Defence Ministry, command and control of the joint drills will be exercised by Russian Navy Deputy Commander-in-Chief, Vice-Admiral Alexander

Fedotenkov and Chinese Navy Deputy Commander-in-Chief, Vice-Admiral Du Jingchen.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA—UNITED STATES | 21 MAY | THE TELEGRAPH

### **Chinese navy warns US spy plane in contested South China Sea**

Tensions in the South China Sea escalated further on Thursday after reports that a United States spy plane had flown over contested islands in the region triggering eight separate warnings from Chinese navy officials.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA—SINGAPORE | 25 MAY | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

### **Singapore, China complete inaugural bilateral naval exercise**

The Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and China's People's Liberation Army (Navy) on Monday (May 25) concluded a new joint naval exercise, hailed as a "milestone in the bilateral defence relationship", by Singapore's Ministry of Defence (MINDEF).

[Full Report](#)

# MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY



SOUTHEAST ASIA | 29 MAY | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

## Full concluding statement at migrant crisis talks

The Special Meeting on Irregular Migration in the Indian Ocean on Friday (May 29) has concluded with a joint statement by key affected nations committing themselves to the establishment of a special investigations task force to suppress people smuggling and human trafficking and bring the perpetrators to justice.

[Full Report](#)

GLOBAL | 6 MAY | IMCA

## IMCA publishes Security Measures and Emergency Response Guidance

The threat to maritime security from piracy, terrorism, criminal acts, and hostage and kidnapping threats continues to pose challenges to ships' owners, masters and crew members, and has resulted in the International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) (Booth S16 at OTC) publishing 'Security Measures and Emergency Response Guidance' (IMCA SEL 037, IMCA M 226).

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES—JAPAN | 6 MAY | RAPPLER

## Philippines, Japan arrest 'pirates' in sea safety drill

Members of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and the Japan Coast Guard conducted mock operations at the Manila Bay on Wednesday, May 6, "arresting" 6 armed men who were trying to hijack a cargo vessel. "The target of this exercise is mutual interest [of both

countries], such as pirates and trafficking of firearms and drugs," Captain Koichi Kawagoe, exercise director for the Japanese side, while on board BRP Batangas with foreign observers from the Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies and journalists.

[Full Report](#)

SOUTHEAST ASIA | 7 MAY | BORNEO POST

## ASEAN faces challenges in transnational maritime crimes: MIMA chairman

Transnational security threats are the most pressing challenges faced by Asean countries now, said Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA) chairman, Tan Sri Ahmad Ramli Mohd Nor. He said they were not in the form of traditional state-to-state conflicts, but the non-traditional maritime threats such as cross-border smuggling, illegal exploitation of marine resources, armed robbery, and piracy.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES—CANADA | 10 MAY | PHILIPPINE STAR

### Canada to help Philippines beef up maritime security

Canada announced plans on Friday to help the Philippines beef up maritime security to combat terrorism and said it would send police and defense officials to provide anti-crime support to Filipino security forces and train them in dealing with improvised explosive devices.

[Full Report](#)



Wikimedia Commons, Rudolph A. furado ([link](#))

INDONESIA—MALAYSIA—SINGAPORE | 12 MAY | IHS MARITIME 360

### Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore discuss joint patrols

The navies of littoral states Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore are in talks to extend joint patrols to the lower reaches of South China Sea in a bid to curb piracy. Rear Admiral Lai Chung Han, chief of the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), highlighted some of the challenges in conducting these joint patrols such as competing territorial claims in these waters.

[Full Report](#)

ASIA | 12 MAY | HELLENIC SHIPPING NEWS (STRAITS TIMES)

### Piracy in Asia on the rise

They come armed with guns, sometimes machetes and even swords, holding ship crews hostage while stealing valuable fuel. Reported incidents of pirate attacks in the waters surrounding Singapore have been on the rise since the middle of last year, according to the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP).

[Full Report](#)

SINGAPORE—IRAN | 18 MAY | BBC

### Singapore 'concerned' about Iran shooting at tanker

Singapore has expressed "deep concern" over reports of Iran firing on one of its ships in international waters. Its marine and port authority said it was an "interference with navigational rights" and a "serious violation of international law".

[Full Report](#)

INDIA | 18 MAY | DAILY NEWS AND ANALYSIS

### Fisherman shot at by maritime security personnel near Bombay High

A fisherman was "accidentally" shot by maritime security personnel, on Sunday at Bombay High in Arabian Sea, while fishing close to oil rigs. "On the evening of May 17, an Immediate Support Vessel (ISV) was on a coastal security patrol in the Offshore Development Area i.e. Bombay High, around 80 km from Mumbai. While providing protection to the offshore oil rig, ISV noticed a fishing boat anchored close to an oil platform," said Commander Rahul Sinha, spokesperson of Ministry of Defence, in a statement released during the wee hours of Monday.

[Full Report](#)

EUROPE—THAILAND | 20 MAY | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

### EU to re-evaluate Thailand's performance in combatting illegal fishing

Representatives from the European Union are travelling to Bangkok on Wednesday (May 20) to re-examine how much Thailand has done to stop illegal fishing. In April, the EU gave the Southeast Asian kingdom a yellow card for its failure to solve the problem and warned that sanctions on Thai seafood imports could ensue if the country did not clean up illegal fishing practices within six months.

[Full Report](#)

INDONESIA—MALAYSIA | 20 MAY | NEW YORK TIMES

### Indonesia and Malaysia agree to care for stranded migrants

Indonesia and Malaysia agreed on Wednesday to take in thousands of migrants stranded at sea until they can be sent home or resettled in a third country, in the first official action by Southeast Asian nations to try to resolve a crisis well into its second week.

[Full Report](#)

SINGAPORE | 21 MAY | TODAY

### **Navy chiefs call for enhanced cooperation to tackle security threats**

Navy chiefs gathered at a multilateral defence forum here yesterday seeking to enhance multilateral cooperation and tackle non-traditional security threats in the maritime commons. "It is our business to ensure that the world's business gets done without interruption. If we do not do this, no one else can and no one else will," said Australian Navy Chief Vice-Admiral Timothy Barrett at the International Maritime Security Conference 2015 held at Changi Exhibition Centre.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES | 22 MAY | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

### **Philippines making plans to accommodate 3,000 Rohingya migrants**

The Philippines government has held a series of high level meetings with UNHCR to formalise plans to temporarily house the Rohingya refugees. Earlier this week, Communications Secretary Herminio Coloma Jr said the government is open to sheltering up to 3,000 refugees.

[Full Report](#)

SINGAPORE—MALAYSIA | 25 MAY | MARITIME EXECUTIVE

### **Four bodies recovered from sunken barge**

Four bodies have been recovered so far from a barge that sunk off the coast of Singapore last week. The search for the 14 sailors missing from the Oceanline SC2018, a Bolivian-registered sand barge has been ongoing since the vessel capsized May 20.

[Full Report](#)

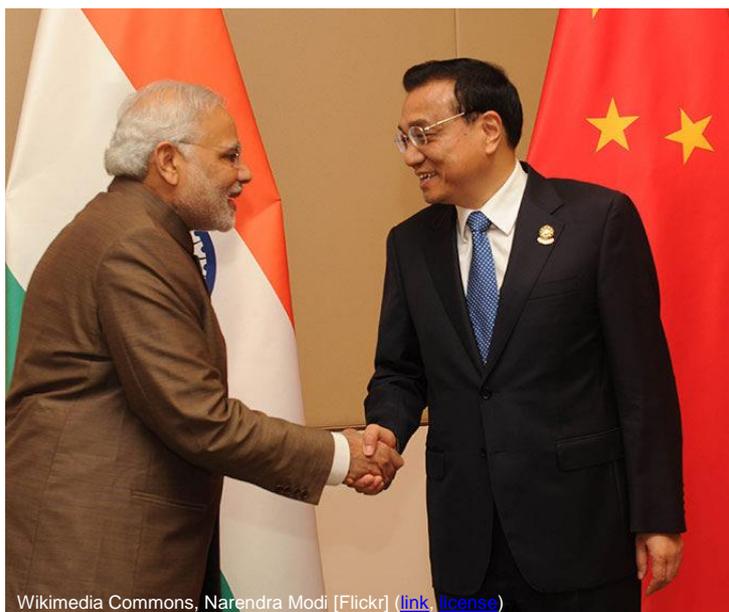
UNITED STATES | 27 MAY | MILITARY TIMES

### **Navy ships to leave Hawaii for humanitarian deployment**

Two Navy ships are leaving Hawaii on a four-month deployment to Southeast Asia and several small Pacific island states to help countries better respond to disasters. The hospital ship USNS Mercy and the joint high speed vessel USNS Millinocket are setting sail from Pearl Harbor on Wednesday.

[Full Report](#)

# SHIPPING, PORTS AND THE MARITIME ECONOMY



Wikimedia Commons, Narendra Modi [Flickr] ([link](#), [license](#))

CHINA—INDIA | 16 MAY | MARITIME EXECUTIVE

## China, India ink \$22 billion in deals

China and India signed deals worth more than \$22 billion in areas including renewable energy, ports, financing, marine science, mineral exploration and industrial parks, an Indian embassy official said on Saturday. Namgya C. Khampa, of the Indian Embassy in China, made the remarks at the end of a three-day visit by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during which he sought to boost economic ties and quell anxiety over a border dispute between the neighbors.

[Full Report](#)

THAILAND | 1 MAY | BANGKOK POST

## Thai NLA ratifies MIC, passes maritime labour bill

The National Legislative Assembly on Friday formally ratified the 2006 Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) and passed in the first reading the maritime labour bill. The NLA backed the convention unanimously with a vote of 174-0.

[Full Report](#)

EUROPE—THAILAND | 2 MAY | BANGKOK POST

## EU 'pleased' with fishery effort

The European Union's top diplomat in Thailand says the country's efforts to reform its fishery sector are heading in the right direction, according to deputy government spokesman Sansern Kaewkamnerd. He made the comment following a meeting between Deputy Prime Minister Prawit Wongsuwon and Jesús

Miguel Sanz, the Head of the EU Delegation to Thailand.

[Full Report](#)

INDONESIA | 5 MAY | JAKARTA POST

## Indonesian OJK wants more money pumped into fisheries, maritime sector

The Financial Services Authority (OJK) is hoping to see more funds channeled to the maritime and fisheries sector this year as the regulator and the financial industry gear up to finance a raft of projects. Speaking on Monday, OJK deputy commissioner for banking supervision Irwan Lubis said the agency was optimistic that domestic banks would be able to jack up current outstanding loans by more than half in 2015, supported by a new program that it had recently mapped out.

[Full Report](#)

IRAN | 6 MAY | BANGKOK POST

### **As Iran oil fair opens, foreign companies weigh return**

Iran is expected to outline big oil and gas projects at a major industry event Wednesday, seeking to lure foreign investment while driving a hard bargain on potential deals. The plans, which have been trailed in the Iranian media, will likely dominate Iran's 20th Oil, Gas, Refining and Petrochemical Fair, a four-day event in Tehran, which opens at 09.30 GMT.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES | 8 MAY | MARITIME EXECUTIVE

### **Philippines looking towards more competitive shipping market**

The Philippines is taking major steps to ease its over 50-year old cabotage laws in order to allow for a more competitive shipping market. The House bill passed this week is part of a series of legislation that will permit foreign cargo vessels to conduct coastal trade in the Philippines.

[Full Report](#)

INDONESIA—SINGAPORE | 15 MAY | JAKARTA POST

### **Indonesia, Singapore to improve maritime cooperation**

Indonesia and Singapore have agreed to improve relations in trade and investment in the maritime sector, highlighting five important issues in the agreement. The agreement was reached after Coordinating Maritime Minister Indroyono Soesilo met Singaporean Trade and Industry Minister Lim Hng Kiang in Singapore on Friday.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA—SOUTH KOREA | 19 MAY | MARITIME EXECUTIVE

### **India and Korea boost shipbuilding ties**

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI) during his visit to South Korea this week. Modi is looking to boost ties between Indian shipyards and HHI to develop India's shipbuilding industry.

[Full Report](#)

THAILAND—CHINA | 21 MAY | MARINELINK.COM

### **China denies Kra Canal deal**

China has denied it is involved in work on the Kra canal, defusing hype over a project that purportedly lets ships bypass the Strait of Malacca and

Singapore's port, reports Strait Times. There are no plans by the Chinese government to participate, Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei told a regular press briefing.

[Full Report](#)



INDIA | 22 MAY | REUTERS

### **India plans new oil subsidy rules to push ONGC stake sale**

India plans to reform rules governing the level of discounts upstream state oil firms including ONGC offer to retailers, a senior finance ministry official said on Friday, a move that could expedite the sale of a stake in the company.

[Full Report](#)

INDONESIA | 22 MAY | JAKARTA POST

### **WB chief pledges support for maritime highway projects**

World Bank (WB) president Jim Yong Kim promised Thursday to provide financing options for the maritime highway program, one of President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo's economic development priorities. "President Jokowi has a vision for building a maritime economy that will tackle all the logistical barriers in a way that can actually increase GDP [gross domestic product] growth by 2 percent a year. That's a very powerful and inspiring vision," Kim said during his visit to the country's main port, Tanjung Priok, in North Jakarta.

[Full Report](#)

INDONESIA—JAPAN | 25 MAY | JAKARTA POST

### **BKPM, KJRI Osaka cooperate to attract maritime investments**

The Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) and the Indonesian Consulate General (KJRI) in Osaka have agreed to cooperate to attract investment in the maritime sector by Japanese business players in Osaka and its surrounding areas.

[Full Report](#)

JAPAN—CHINA | 26 MAY | REUTERS

### **China-led lender adds urgency to Japan's pursuit of pan-Pacific trade pact**

China's drive to create a Beijing-led Asian development bank seen as a threat to U.S. and Japanese regional clout is adding to a sense of urgency among Japanese officials keen to get a 12-nation pan-Pacific trade pact off the ground.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 28 MAY | BUSINESS TIMES  
(BLOOMBERG)

### **China regulator sees US\$2.5 trillion Silk Road trade boosting yuan**

China will use its New Silk Road project stretching from Asia to Europe to boost use of its currency in trade that may total US\$2.5 trillion in a decade, according to the vice chairman of China Securities Regulatory Commission.

[Full Report](#)

THAILAND | 30 MAY | BANGKOK POST

### **Thais seeks Dawei parity**

Thailand, Japan and Myanmar will have equal voting rights in mapping out the development plan of the Dawei Special Economic Zone regardless of their respective investments, according to a proposal. Thailand will propose the idea of equal voting rights, as it does not want Japan to dictate the development of the multibillion-dollar project even if the latter has a higher shareholding than the former, said a source at the Neighbouring Countries Economic Development Cooperation Agency.

[Full Report](#)