

# समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

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## Ramana Sai helped in strengthening indigenous avionics technologies

*Ramana Sai, who was also former Associate Director of Hyderabad-based RCI, had passed away on March 4*

Hyderabad: The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) Chairman, Dr G Satheesh Reddy and Director of Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Narayana Murthy on Friday paid rich tributes to late KV Ramana Sai, the Research Scientist who is widely considered to be the first to design onboard computer for guided missile applications in India.

Ramana Sai, who was also former Associate Director of Hyderabad-based RCI, had passed away on March 4. “He laid foundation for advanced computing technologies for diversified defence applications in the country. The mission critical on-board computers developed by him drove country’s first missile ‘Prithvi’ to a great success in 1988 followed by successful mission of Agni in 1989,” Dr Reddy said.

Ramana Sai made vital contributions to Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme and his sustained Research and Development (R&D) efforts over four decades strengthened self-reliance in indigenous avionics technologies. He also conceived and established necessary infrastructure and facilities to steer the R&D in advanced missile technologies essentially needed but denied to India due to restrictive control regimes

“His indomitable spirit, down to earth ways and dynamism, will ever remain etched in the memories of anyone who ever got the luck to work under his leadership and guidance,” said Narayana Murthy.

Former President of India, APJ Abdul Kalam in his autobiography ‘Wings of Fire’ had specifically mentioned about Ramana Sai’s stellar work.

“During this period of renaissance at DRDL, an altitude control system and an on-board computer developed by P Banerjee, KV Ramana Sai and their team was almost ready. The success of this effort was very vital for any indigenous missile development programme,” Dr Kalam in his book said.

<https://telanganatoday.com/ramana-sai-helped-in-strengthening-indigenous-avionics-technologies>

## नवभारत टाइम्स

Sat, 16 Mar 2019

## भारत-अमेरिका मिलकर छोटे मानवरहित विमान बनाने पर कर रहे हैं विचार: पेंटागन

*भारत और अमेरिका ने विमान रखरखाव के अलावा छोटे यूएवी और हल्के और छोटे हथियार बनाने की टेक्नॉलजी संबंधी प्रॉजेक्ट को दोनों देशों के बीच डिफेंस कॉपरेशन के लिए चिह्नित किया है।*

वॉशिंगटन : भारत और अमेरिका ने विमान रखरखाव के अलावा छोटे यूएवी और हल्के और छोटे हथियार बनाने की टेक्नॉलजी संबंधी प्रॉजेक्ट को दोनों देशों के बीच डिफेंस कॉपरेशन के लिए चिह्नित किया है। पेंटागन के एक शीर्ष अधिकारी ने यह जानकारी दी। अमेरिका का यह बयान ऐसे समय में आया है जब

दोनों देशों के रक्षा अधिकारियों ने हाल में यहां डिफेंस टेक्नॉलजी एंड ट्रेड इनीशिएटिव) डीटीटीआई (पर चर्चा की।

भारत-अमेरिका डीटीटीआई बैठक में दोनों देशों में उद्योगों को मिलकर काम करने और अगली पीढ़ी की तकनीक विकसित करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया गया। 'एक्वीजीशन एंड सस्टेनमेंट' के लिए अमेरिका की सहायक रक्षा मंत्री एलेन लॉर्ड ने शुक्रवार को पेंटागन में मीडिया से कहा, 'हम जिस एक परियोजना पर विचार कर रहे हैं, वह छोटे मानवरहित विमान को लेकर है।'

लॉर्ड ने रक्षा उत्पादन सचिव अजय कुमार के साथ बैठक की सह अध्यक्षता की। ड्रोन को लेकर मुख्य रूप से बातचीत अमेरिकी वायुसेना की रिसर्च विंग और भारत के रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन के बीच हो रही है। दोनों पक्ष अप्रैल में तकनीकी योजना संबंधी दस्तावेज तैयार करेंगे।

उन्होंने कहा, 'हम सितंबर में इस पर हस्ताक्षर की योजना बना रहे हैं।' उन्होंने कहा कि इस सह विकास में भारतीय उद्योग को शामिल किए जाने की संभावना है। लॉर्ड ने कहा, 'हम चाहते हैं कि अमेरिकी और भारतीय तकनीक को साथ लेकर उन्हें युद्ध में लड़ने की क्षमता के तौर पर विकसित किया जाए जिसका प्रयोग भारत और अमेरिका दोनों कर सकें। इससे अमेरिका और भारत दोनों को लाभ होगा।'

**The Statesman**  
PEOPLE'S PARLIAMENT. ALWAYS IN SESSION

Sun, 17 Mar 2019

## India Navy to procure indigenous parts for aviation arm

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, 16 MARCH

In a bid to reduce cost and promote indigenisation, the Indian Navy is looking ahead to induct avionics related indigenous components for its aviation arm as part of the 'Make in India' initiative while it also plans to increase its fleet of aircraft to more than 400 by 2020.

Talking on the same, at a seminar organised by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce today, Rear Admiral VM Doss, Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Air Materiel), said: "The Indian Navy is now tapping into the country's private sector for the manufacturing of avionics for the navy's aviation arm.

"This workshop is to look for suitable MSME companies that can meet the avi-

ation requirements of the navy. We need components for aircraft and helicopters, which if manufactured here, will cost us one tenth of what it costs if procured from foreign countries

"In another 10 years, the number of warships and aircraft will increase leading to requirement of components. A naval indigenisation road map has also been prepared for next five-six year to indigenise over 550 components, both flight critical and non-flight critical."

Asked whether there is a quality concern in indigenous products compared to the ones procured from foreign countries, Rear Admiral Doss said: "Quality is indeed a huge concern since these components will be fitted into an aircraft. The risk

is higher since any shortcomings could result in fatal consequences. We have agencies such as Centre for Military Airworthiness & Certification (CEMILAC) that performs quality checks.

He continued, "however, in present times, the Indian companies are better equipped and can manufacture better quality components compared to their foreign counterparts. Several Indian defence industries are manufacturing products that are being exported to foreign countries.

He said, "In the next five to six years, at least 40-50 per cent of aerospace research and development will take place in India."

He added that navy has been a prime driver for the 'Make in India' concept since it has been using indigenised

components since 1960.

It is learnt that the Indian Navy is planning to increase its fleet of aircraft to more than 400 by 2020.

At present, process is already on for procuring 111 naval utility helicopters through a strategic partnership between original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and Indian companies.

Adding to this, the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is also developing advanced light helicopters (ALHs) for the navy while 10 Dornier aircraft and eight Chetak multi-role helicopters, will also be inducted in Indian Navy's fleet.

The Mark-I Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) for the Indian Navy, is undergoing trial phase and is expected to be inducted soon.

Mon, 18 Mar 2019

## Second Scorpene submarine ready for induction

*Khanderi was launched in January 2017 and has since been undergoing a series of trials*

*By Dinakar Peri*

New Delhi: The Navy is set to induct the second Scorpene submarine *Khanderi* by early May, a defence source said. The remaining submarines in the series are in advanced stages of manufacturing and trials.

“*Khanderi* has completed all trials and is in the final stages of acceptance. It is expected to be commissioned into the Navy by end April or early May,” the defence source said. *Khanderi* was launched into water in January 2017 and has since been undergoing a series of trials.

### Ready for trials

Another source stated that the fourth submarine *Vela* is ready to be launched into water for trials around the same time depending on the ocean tide.

Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL), Mumbai, is manufacturing six Scorpene submarines under technology transfer from Naval Group of France under a 2005 contract worth \$3.75 bn. After a series of delays in the project, the first submarine of the class *Kalvari* joined service in December 2017. The entire project is expected to be completed by 2020.

The third in the Scorpene series *Karanj* which was launched in January last year is in advanced stage of trials and could be ready for induction by year end.

The last two submarines *Vagir* and *Vagsheer* are in advanced stages of manufacturing on the assembly line. The fifth submarine is in the final stages of being booted together. The ‘Boot Together’ is where the five separate sections are welded together to form the submarine.

*Kalvari* is the first modern conventional submarine inducted by the Navy in almost two decades.

In addition, the Navy currently operates four German HDW class submarines and nine Russian Kilo class submarines.

The Navy had last inducted a conventional diesel-electric submarine, INS *Sindhushastra*, procured from Russia in July 2000.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/second-scorpene-submarine-ready-for-induction/article26561731.ece>



Sat, 16 Mar 2019

## Close to 50 fighters take part in IAF exercise

*The exercise assumes significance against the backdrop of military tensions between India and Pakistan following the February 26 bombing of a Jaish-e-Mohammed terror base in Balakot by the IAF*

*By Rahul Singh*

The Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted an operational exercise over the skies of border areas in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab on Thursday night to test its combat readiness, said two officials on Friday on condition of anonymity.

Close to 50 fighter planes, drawn from four combat squadrons, took part in the drill, said one of the officials cited above.

“We always test our readiness to respond to any aerial threats,” he said. The fighter planes involved in the exercise included Sukhoi-30s, Mirage 2000s and upgraded MiG-29 fighters, said the second official.

The exercise assumes significance against the backdrop of military tensions between India and Pakistan following the February 26 bombing of a Jaish-e-Mohammed terror base in Balakot by the IAF.

The unprecedented, cross-border aerial strikes by India were in retaliation for the suicide car bombing of a Central Reserve Police Force convoy in Pulwama, in which at least 40 men were killed on February 14.

The IAF has been on high alert following the air strikes on the Balakot terror camp, and is prepared to scramble fighter jets from its forward bases at short notice to tackle any threat, the second official said. Five to six air bases were involved in Thursday’s exercise, he said.

Amritsar residents reported hearing loud bangs or sonic booms caused by IAF fighter jets flying faster than the speed of sound.

“Such exercises are conducted to test our operational preparedness. The drill may draw more attention in the current security environment,” said Air Vice Marshal Manmohan Bahadur (retd), distinguished fellow at the Centre for Air Power Studies.

The air force has conducted two major exercises during the last one year: Gagan Shakti in April 2018 and Vayu Shakti last month. Gagan Shakti-2018 sought to test the IAF’s readiness and stamina for a two-front war with China and Pakistan, and Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa had then said the IAF was “shaking the heavens and splitting the Earth” with the drills. More than 1,100 aircraft — half of them fighter jets — took part in the drills.

Vayu Shakti, a firepower demonstration, involved nearly 140 aircraft, including 81 fighter jets at the Pokhran field firing range, about 100 km from the Pakistan border. It was held on February 16, two days after the Pulwama terror attack.

Dhanoa had then said the IAF was ever prepared to deliver an appropriate response assigned by the country’s political leadership. That response was delivered 10 days later.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/close-to-50-fighters-take-part-in-iaf-exercise/story-J0TLjs03IHqbAp5PQFbUtO.html>



Mon, 18 Mar 2019

## Balakot air strikes: When key Naval assets were put on alert

*Aircraft carrier, submarine were ready as India-Pakistan tensions mounted*

New Delhi: As tensions between India and Pakistan mounted, India put its key naval assets, including the aircraft carrier *INS Vikramaditya* and nuclear submarines, on operational alert, the Navy said in a statement on Sunday.

“The major combat units of the Navy, including the Carrier Battle Group with *INS Vikramaditya*, nuclear submarines and scores of other ships, submarines and aircraft swiftly transitioned from exercise to operational deployment mode as tensions between India and Pakistan escalated,” it said.



## Tropex Link

The deployment came amid the largest war game of the Navy, Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise (TROPEX 19), which began on January 7 and which was planned to be concluded by March 10. However, the terrorist attack in Pulwama on February 14 “led to the rapid redeployment of the Navy for operations in the North Arabian Sea,” the Navy said.

The announcement is in contrast to the assertions of senior government officials that India did not undertake any escalatory mobilisation after the Balakot air strikes. They had consistently referred to the strikes as “non-military pre-emptive counter-terror strikes” and had accused Pakistan’s government of whipping up “war hysteria” in order to mislead the international community. At the briefings held on February 28 and March 4 and 16, the officials stressed that the Indian military had carried out no military operation post February 27, and denied reports from Pakistan that an Indian submarine had been deployed in the Arabian Sea near Pakistan.

The Navy said the availability of a large number of combat-ready assets in the theatre of operations for TROPEX allowed it to “expeditiously respond to the developing situation in synergy with the three services.” “The overwhelming superiority of the Indian Navy in all three dimensions forced the Pakistan Navy to remain deployed close to the Makran coast and not venture out in the open ocean,” the Navy said.

Navy chief Admiral Sunil Lanba will preside over the debrief of the TROPEX in Kochi on Monday. About 60 ships of the Navy, 12 ships of the Coast Guard and 60 aircraft had taken part in the exercise. It began with a tri-service amphibious exercise in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This was followed by the largest coastal defence exercise, ‘Sea Vigil,’ on January 22 and 23, with the participation of all 13 coastal States and UTs along with all maritime stakeholders.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/as-india-pakistan-tensions-mounted-navy-deployed-aircraft-carrier-and-nuclear-submarines/article26560583.ece>

## दैनिक जागरण

Mon, 18 Mar 2019

### भारत-पाक तनाव बरकरार : इंडियन नेवी अलर्ट, अरब सागर में

### लड़ाकू विमानों संग INS विक्रमादित्य तैनात

*भारत ने विमानवाहक पोत आईएनएस विक्रमादित्य और उसके युद्ध समूह के युद्धपोतों को उत्तरी अरब सागर में लड़ाकू विमान के साथ तैनात कर दिया है*

नई दिल्ली: पुलवामा आतंकी हमले (Pulwama Terror Attack) के बाद भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच तनाव काफी ज्यादा बना है। पाकिस्तान की ओर से की जाने वाली हरकतों को देखते हुए भारतीय नौसेना अलर्ट है। न्यूज एजेंसी एनआई के एक ट्वीट के मुताबिक आज इंडियन नेवी ने इस संबंध में ट्वीट कर बताया कि उत्तरी अरब सागर में लड़ाकू विमान के अलावा विमान वाहक पोत आईएनएस विक्रमादित्य और वॉर ग्रुप के दूसरे युद्धपोतों को तैनात किया गया।

भारतीय नौसेना के इस कदम से पाकिस्तानी नौसेना मकरान तट के करीब तैनात रहने को मजबूर है। इसके अलावा पाकिस्तानी नौसेना खुले समुद्री इलाके में कुछ भी करने से कतरा रही है। भारतीय नौसेना ने यह कदम पुलवामा टेरर अटैक के बाद समुद्री रास्तों से आतंकी हमलों को देखते हुए बढ़ाया है। है।

बता दें कि इससे पहले नौसेना प्रमुख एडमिरल सुनील लांबा ने कहा था कि समुद्र के रास्ते आतंकी हमला करने की फिराक में हैं। पाकिस्तान का नाम लिए बिना उन्होंने कहा कि इसके लिए आतंकियों को ट्रेनिंग भी दी जा रही है।

सुनील लांबा ने कहा कि उन्हें ऐसी रिपोर्ट मिली है कि आतंकियों को अलग-अलग तरीकों से प्रशिक्षित किया जा रहा है, जिसमें समुद्र के रास्ते से भी हमला करना शामिल है। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत को अस्थिर रखने के लिए साजिश रची जा रही है।

नौसेना प्रमुख ने कहा कि भारत पड़ोसी देश द्वारा प्रायोजित गंभीर आतंकवाद का सामना कर रहा है। उन्होंने कहा कि एशिया-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में हाल में ही कई देशों में आतंकी गतिविधियां हुई हैं। इस क्षेत्र में कुछ ही देश आतंकवाद से बच पाए हैं। लांबा ने कहा कि जिस तरह से आतंकवाद ने वैश्विक रूप ले लिया है, उससे खतरा और बढ़ गया है।

आतंकियों के खात्मे के लिए सबसे पहले भारत ने उरी हमले के जवाब में सर्जिकल स्ट्राइक की। इसके बाद पुलवामा आतंकी हमला हुआ तो भारत ने मुंहतोड़ जवाब देते हुए एयरस्ट्राइक की। सरकार में शामिल पार्टी के लोगों ने दावा किया कि इस एयरस्ट्राइक में कई सौ आतंकी मारे गए। वहीं, अब समुद्री रास्ते पर मोर्चेबंदी हो रही है तो ऐसे में कई लोगों के मन में सवाल है कि क्या अब भारत #WaterStrike की तैयारी कर रहा है?

## दैनिक जागरण

Mon, 18 Mar 2019

### पुलवामा टेरर अटैक के बाद पाकिस्तान पर मिसाइल हमले की तैयारी में था भारत, लेकिन...

*राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सलाहकार अजीत डोभाल ने आइएसआइ से कह दिया था कि अपने पायलट के पकड़े जाने के बावजूद भारत आतंकवाद के खिलाफ अपने अभियान से पीछे नहीं हटेगा।*

नई दिल्ली, रायटर: पाकिस्तान ने भारतीय वायु सेना के जांबाज पायलट अभिनंदन वर्तमान को बंदी बनाने के दो दिन के बाद यूं ही नहीं छोड़ दिया था। भारत ने अपने पायलट को नहीं छोड़ने पर पाकिस्तान को गंभीर परिणाम भुगतने की चेतावनी दी थी। भारत ने साफ कर दिया था कि अगर अभिनंदन की जल्द रिहाई नहीं होती है तो वह पाकिस्तान पर मिसाइल हमला करेगा।

भारत ने छह मिसाइलें दागने की सख्त चेतावनी दी थी। पाकिस्तान को मुंहतोड़ जवाब देने के लिए नौसेना ने भी अपनी परमाणु पनडुब्बी को अरब सागर में तैनात कर दिया था। भारत की चेतावनी के बाद सतर्क हुए अमेरिका ने अपने राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सलाहकार डॉन बोल्टन समेत कई अधिकारियों को दोनों देशों के बीच तनाव कम कराने के काम में लगाया था।

#### भारत की चेतावनी से सहम गया था पाक

नई दिल्ली, इस्लामाबाद और वाशिंगटन में राजनयिक और सरकारी सूत्रों ने बताया कि पुलवामा में आत्मघाती हमले के बाद दोनों देशों के बीच तनाव बढ़ गया था। पाकिस्तान द्वारा भारतीय वायु सेना के पायलट अभिनंदन वर्तमान को बंदी बनाए जाने के बाद दोनों देशों के बीच तनाव चरम पर पहुंच गया। भारत ने पाकिस्तान को सख्त लहजे में चेतावनी दे दी, अगर अभिनंदन की रिहाई नहीं होती है तो वह मिसाइल हमला करेगा। भारत ने पाकिस्तान पर छह मिसाइलें दागने की चेतावनी दी थी। पाकिस्तान ने भी जवाब में तीन गुणा मिसाइलें दागने की गीदड़ भभकी दी थी।

#### राजनयिक प्रयासों से कम हुआ तनाव

परमाणु हथियारों से लैस दोनों पड़ोसियों के बीच युद्ध की स्थिति पैदा होने की भनक से ही अमेरिका, चीन और ब्रिटेन के सरकारी गलियारे में बेचैनी बढ़ गई। 2008 के बाद यह पहला मौका था जब भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच युद्ध जैसे हालात पैदा हुए थे। अमेरिका ने अपने एनएसए बोल्टन, विदेश मंत्री माइक पोपियो समेत कई अधिकारियों को दोनों देशों के बीच

तनाव कम कराने के काम में लगाया। बोल्टन और पॉपियो भारत के राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सलाहकार अजीत डोभाल और पाकिस्तानी अधिकारियों से लगातार संपर्क में रहे। और भी कई माध्यमों से दोनों देशों को शांत कराने की कोशिश हुई। भारत की चेतावनी और अमेरिका समेत दूसरे देशों के राजनयिक प्रयासों ने काम किया। पाकिस्तान ने अभिनंदन को सकुशल रिहा किया, जिसके बाद दोनों देशों के बीच तनाव में कमी आ सकी थी।

### एक्शन मोड में थे सेना के तीनों अंग

पुलवामा आत्मघाती हमले के बाद भारत की तीनों सेनाएं एक्शन मोड में आ गई थीं। थल सेना जहां पाकिस्तान के सीजफायर उल्लंघन का मुहंतोड़ जवाब दे रही थी। वायु सेना ने पाकिस्तान के बालाकोट में जैश के आतंकी ठिकाने को निशाना बनाया। जबकि, नौसेना ने उत्तरी अरब सागर में अपनी परमाणु पनडुब्बी समेत युद्धपोत को तैनात कर दिया था।

नौसेना के अनुसार अरब सागर में उसकी भारी-भरकम तैनाती और समूचे क्षेत्र पर कड़ी निगरानी के कारण पाकिस्तानी नौसेना की गतिविधियां अरब सागर से लगे मकराना के छोटे से तटीय क्षेत्र तक ही सिमटकर रह गई थीं और उसके युद्धपोत तथा अन्य प्लेटफॉर्म अरब सागर में खुले तौर पर आने का साहस नहीं जुटा पा रहे थे।

### सौदेबाजी करना चाहता था पाक

अभिनंदन के जरिये पाकिस्तान भारत के साथ सौदेबाजी करना चाहता था, लेकिन राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सलाहकार अजीत डोभाल ने पाकिस्तानी खुफिया एजेंसी आइएसआइ के प्रमुख असीम मुनीर से साफ कह दिया था कि अपने पायलट के पकड़े जाने के बावजूद भारत आतंकवाद के खिलाफ अपने अभियान से पीछे नहीं हटेगा। पाकिस्तान के एक मंत्री और इस्लामाबाद में तैनात पश्चिमी देशों के एक राजनयिक ने भारत द्वारा मिसाइल हमले की धमकी की पुष्टि की थी।

## THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Sat, 16 Mar 2019

# New US military budget focused on China despite border talk

*To a remarkable degree, the 2020 Pentagon budget proposal is shaped by national security threats that Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan has summarized in three words: "China, China, China."*

Washington: Chinese bombers. Chinese hypersonic missiles. Chinese cyberattacks. Chinese anti-satellite weapons.

To a remarkable degree, the 2020 Pentagon budget proposal is shaped by national security threats that Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan has summarized in three words: "China, China, China."

The U.S. is still fighting small wars against Islamic extremists, and Russia remains a serious concern, but Shanahan seeks to shift the military's main focus to what he considers the more pressing security problem of a rapidly growing Chinese military.

This theme, which Shanahan outlined Thursday in presenting the administration's proposed 2020 defense budget to the Senate Armed Services Committee, is competing for attention with narrower, more immediate problems like President Donald Trump's effort to use the military to build a border wall.

The hearing, for example, spent more time on the wall and prospects for using military funds to build parts of it than on any aspect of foreign policy, including the conflict in Syria or military competition with China, Russia or North Korea.



Shanahan is hardly the first defense chief to worry about China. Several predecessors pursued what the Obama administration called a "pivot" to the Pacific, with China in mind. But Shanahan sees it as an increasingly urgent problem that exceeds traditional measures of military strength and transcends partisan priorities.

"We've been ignoring the problem for too long," Shanahan told a senator.

"China is aggressively modernizing its military, systematically stealing science and technology, and seeking military advantage through a strategy of military-civil fusion," he wrote in prepared testimony to the committee, which is considering a \$718 billion Pentagon budget designed in part to counter China's momentum.

The \$25 billion the Pentagon is proposing to spend on nuclear weapons in 2020, for example, is meant in part to stay ahead of China's nuclear arsenal, which is much smaller than America's but growing. Shanahan said China is developing a nuclear-capable long-range bomber that, if successful, would enable China to join the United States and Russia as the only nations with air-, sea- and land-based nuclear weapons.

Shanahan ticked off a list of other Chinese advancements \_ hypersonic missiles against which the U.S. has limited defenses; space launches and other space efforts that could enable it to fight wars in space; "systematically stealing" of U.S. and allied technology, and militarizing land features in the South China Sea.

Bonnie S. Glaser, director of the China Power Project at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, says the U.S. has been lacking effective strategies for competing with China on a broad scale. "It is overdue," she said of the Shanahan focus. "We have been somewhat slow in catching up" in such areas as denying China its regional ambitions, including efforts to fully control the South China Sea, which is contested by several other countries.

Some defense analysts think Shanahan and the Pentagon have inflated the China threat.

"I do think it's worth asking what exactly is threatening about China's behavior," said Christopher Preble, vice president for defense and foreign policy studies at the Cato Institute. He doesn't discount China as a security issue, including in the South China Sea, but doubts the U.S. military is the institution best suited to deal with such non-military problems as cyber intrusions into American commercial networks.

In Preble's view, competition with the Chinese is not mainly military. "I still don't believe the nature of the threat is quite as grave as we're led to believe" by the Pentagon, he said. "They tend to exaggerate the nature of the threat today."

In his previous role as deputy defense secretary, Shanahan and President Donald Trump's first defense secretary, Jim Mattis, crafted a national defense strategy that put China at the top of the list of problems.

"As China continues its economic and military ascendance, asserting power through an all-of-nation long-term strategy, it will continue to pursue a military modernization program that seeks Indo-Pacific regional hegemony in the near-term and displacement of the United States to achieve global pre-eminence in the future," that strategy document says.

That explains in part why the U.S. is spending billions more on space, including means of defending satellites against potential Chinese attack, and on building hypersonic missiles to stay ahead of Chinese and Russian hypersonic weapons development.

It also explains some of the thinking behind preparing for an early retirement of the USS Harry Truman aircraft carrier, a strategy that views carriers as a less relevant asset in a future armed conflict involving China.

This concern about countering China has permeated the entire U.S. military. Gen. Thomas Waldhauser, head of U.S. Africa Command, said last month that dozens of African heads of state were invited to Beijing last fall to consider billions in Chinese loans and grants, and that China is building thousands of miles of railroads in Africa, mostly linked to Chinese mineral extraction operations.

“They're heavily invested and heavily involved” in Africa, he said.

The top U.S. commander in Europe told Congress this week that China also is making inroads in Europe.

“China is looking to secure access to strategic geographic locations and economic sectors through financial stakes in ports, airlines, hotels, and utility providers, while providing a source of capital for struggling European economies,” Gen. Curtis Scaparrotti said.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/new-us-military-budget-focused-on-china-despite-border-talk/articleshow/68436918.cms>

## नवभारत टाइम्स

Sat, 16 Mar 2019

### रूस-अमेरिका के अंतरिक्ष यात्री पहुंचे अंतरराष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन

*स्नेहा मनीषा*

कजाखस्तान: एपी (अंतरराष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन) आईएसएस (पर पहुंचने की पांच महीने पहले की कोशिश विफल रहने के बाद शुक्रवार को रूस और अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों का दल आईएसएस पर पहुंच गया। इस बार नासा के अंतरिक्ष यात्री निक हेग और क्रिस्टीना कोच तथा रूस की अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी रोसकोस्मोस के एलेक्सी ओवचिनिन बृहस्पतिवार को देर रात 12 बजकर 30 मिनट पर रवाना हो गए। इसके छह घंटे बाद उनका कैप्सूल कक्षा में पहुंच गया। ये अंतरिक्ष यात्री रूसी सोयुज रॉकेट के जरिये आईएसएस के लिए रवाना हुए थे। पिछले साल 11 अक्टूबर को हेग और ओविचिनिन का सोयुज से अंतरिक्ष कक्षा में पहुंचने का प्रयास विफल रहा था। एपी