

# राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा जागरण मंच

## 6<sup>TH</sup> HIMALAYA HIND MAHASAGAR RASHTRA SAMUH (HHRS)

### International Conference

on

**The Geopolitical and Strategic Significance of Bharat  
in the Indian Ocean Region**



6th - 7th February 2026

**Venue:**

**Convention Centre, Jawaharlal Nehru University  
(JNU), New Delhi**

*Organised by*



**Forum for Awareness of  
National Security (FANS)**



*in collaboration with*



**Centre of Russian Studies (CRS),  
School of Language, Literature and Culture  
Studies (SLL&CS),  
Inter-Hall Administration (IHA), JNU**



**Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace  
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Jamia Millia Islamia**



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Studies,  
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**HHRS Co-ordinator**  
**Dr. Ritesh Kumar Rai**  
**Pondicherry University, Puducherry**

### **Conference Convenor**

**Prof. Manuradha Chaudhary**

Dean of Students,  
Jawaharlal Nehru University

**Sudhanshu Trivedi**

Asst. Professor, NMCPGCR,  
Jamia Millia Islamia

**Dr. Yogesh Kumar Rai**

Asst. Professor, JNU  
(Co-Convenor)

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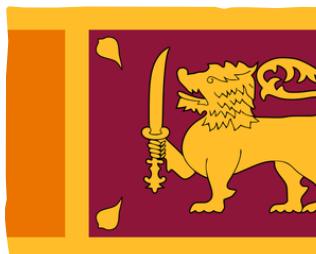
Prof. BW Pandey ( CHS , DU) | Prof. Rajiv Nayan ( NMCPGCR, JMI) | Prof. Kiran Singh Verma (Chairperson, CRS, JNU) | Prof. Abuzar Khairi (Director, NMCPGCR, JMI) | Prof. Satish Kumar (IGNOU) | Prof. Vijay Kumar (Galgotias University) | Prof. Praveen Pathak ( CSRD, JNU) | Prof. Darvinder Kumar (Principal - PGDAV College, DU) | Prof. Aslam Khan (NMCPGCR, JMI) | Dr. Nagendra Shreenivas (CRS, JNU) | Dr. Mahesh Ranjan Debata ( CIAS, JNU) | Dr. Seema Singh (CLC, DU) | Dr. Vikram Bansal (JNU) | Dr. Vivek ( JMI) | Dr. Surendra Singh (Miranda House, DU) | Dr. Manish Kumar (DU) | Chattar Singh ( DU) | Mohd. Kashmiri ( JNU) | Parasuram Sahoo ( Puducherry University)

### **Registration & Queries**



[sixthhrsinternationalconferen@gmail.com](mailto:sixthhrsinternationalconferen@gmail.com)

# Participant Countries



Sri Lanka



India



Bangladesh



Seychelles



Malaysia



Ethiopia



Australia



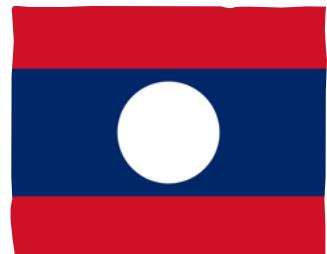
Philippines



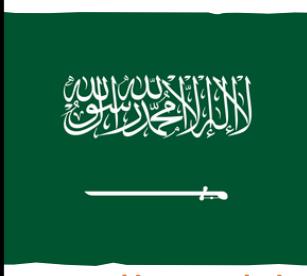
Myanmar



South Africa



Laos



Saudi Arabia



Suriname



Afghanistan



Indonesia



Maldives



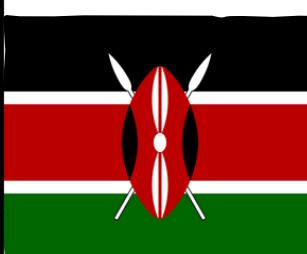
Cambodia



Tanzania



Papua New Guinea



Kenya



Brunei



Mauritius



Singapore

# Concept Note

The concept of the Himalaya-Hind Mahasagar Rashtra Samuh (HHRS) represents a comprehensive civilizational and geopolitical framework that situates Bharat at the centre of an organically interconnected regional space extending from the Himalayan ranges to the vast expanse of the Indian Ocean. Historically, Bharat functioned as a cultural, economic, and intellectual hub linking the Himalayan hinterlands with the maritime world of the Hind Mahasagar, enabling sustained exchanges of ideas, people, trade, and traditions across regions encompassing East Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, Sri Lanka, and the Southeast Asian archipelago. Archaeological and historical evidence affirms that these interactions were rooted in cooperation rather than conquest, underscoring Bharat's role as a civilizational facilitator and a source of cultural continuity across land and sea routes. Colonial interventions fragmented this integrated space through artificial geopolitical constructs such as South Asia and Southeast Asia, marginalising the broader Himalaya-Hind Mahasagar continuum; however, the post-Cold War era has witnessed renewed scholarly and strategic engagement with this region amid the growing importance of the Indian Ocean as a critical Sea Line of Communication (SLOC) for global trade, energy flows, and economic stability. Contemporary geopolitical developments, intensified strategic competition, non-traditional security threats, piracy, terrorism, and expanding extra-regional engagements have further elevated the Indian Ocean Region's significance, including the renewed and evolving presence of Russia alongside other global powers seeking strategic access, maritime influence, and security cooperation in the region. Within this context, Bharat's foreign policy anchored in peaceful coexistence, neighbourhood-first engagement, mutual growth, and the civilizational ethos of Vishwa-Bandhutva seeks to promote.

## Key sub-themes of the Conference

- Historical strategic connections between India and the Indian Ocean Region.
- Cultural and historical ties between India and the Indian Ocean Region.
- Economic cooperation and Indian leadership in the region.
- Growing significance of the Indian Ocean Region in Indian foreign policy.
- Economic and maritime trade relations and emerging challenges.
- The changing geopolitical equations and potential conflicts of interest.
- the historical and contemporary engagement of Russia in the Indian Ocean Region.
- Maritime security architecture of India and the areas of convergence in the Maritime domain between Indian and the
- Indian Ocean states' policies.9. The issue of terrorism and counter-terrorism efforts in the region.
- Military and defence cooperation between India and Indian Ocean Region.
- The social exchanges between India and Indian Ocean Region countries regarding education, tourism,
- culture, language and services (Remittances).
- The role of India in Indian Ocean regional cooperation and stability.

# **International Speakers**

**Ambassador Mookhesswur Choonee**  
**Mauritius**

**Ms Wanita Ramnath**  
**International Pharmacy and Health Care &**  
**Caribbean International**  
**Distributors Inc., Suriname**

**Mr. Muleto Sedeto**  
**Mada Walabu University & Oromia State**  
**University, Ethiopia**

**Dr Irshad Ahmad**  
**Samara University, Ethiopia**

**Mr. Don McLain Gill**  
**De La Salle University, Philippines**

**Prof. Carlyle Thayer (Online)**  
**UNSW Sydney, Australia**

**Mr. Punsara Amarasinghe**  
**Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka**

**Dr. Everisto Benyera**  
**University of South Africa (UNISA), South Africa**

**Prof. Fazil M. M. Fazrasm**  
**South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka**

**Prof. (Dr.) Mohan Malik**  
**National Defence College, UAE**

**Dr. Scott Adam Edwards**  
**University of Malaya, Malaysia**

**Dr. Raj Verma**  
**Shanghai International Studies University (SISU), China**

# National Speakers

**Prof. Rila Mukherjee**

University of Hyderabad, India

**Dr. Rahul Mishra**

Centre for Indo-Pacific Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

**Captain (Dr.) Gurpreet Singh Khurana**

National Maritime Foundation, India

**Dr. Kumari Mansi**

Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

**Dr. Dattesh D. Parulekar**

Goa University, India

**Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra**

Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

**Dr. C. Vinodan**

University of Calicut, India

**Dr. Shubhamitra Das**

Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

**Dr. Shishir Upadhyaya**

O.P. Jindal Global University, India

**Dr. Prakash Panneerselvam**

National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), India

**Prof. Faisal Ahmed**

FORE School of Management, India

**Prof. M. Venkataraman**

Central University of Jammu, India

**Prof. R. P. Pradhan**  
BITS Pilani (K.K. Birla Goa Campus), India

**Dr. Monish Tourangbam**  
Chintan Research Foundation, India

**Dr. Seshadari Chari**  
Ex-Editor, Organizer & Secretary General, FINS

**Prof. (Dr.) S. Y. Surendra Kumar**  
Department of Political Science, Bangalore University

**Bibhu Prasad Routray**  
Director, MISS

**Rear Admiral Monty Khanna (Retd.), AVSM, NM**  
National Maritime Foundation

**Prof. (Dr.) Kanak Chandra Sarkar**  
Jadavpur University

**Sanjay Pulipaka**  
Chairperson, Politeia Research Foundation

**Prof. (Dr.) Alok Kumar Gupta**  
Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi

**Commodore R. Seshadari Vasan**  
Director General, Chennai Centre for China Studies (C3S)

**Prof. Dr. Raj Kumar Kothari (Online)**  
VC, The Sanskrit College & University, Kolkata

**Dr. Debashish Mitra**  
Diamond Harbour Women's University (DHWU), West Bengal

**Day 1: 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026, Friday**

**Inaugural Session (10:00 AM Onwards)**

**Significance of Growing Cooperation between Bharat and Indian Ocean Region**

**LUNCH (1:00 PM-2:00 PM)**

**First Academic Session (2:00 PM-3:30 PM)**

**Theme: Historical & Cultural Connectivity between Bharat and Indian Ocean Region**

**Second Academic Session (3:45 PM-5:15 PM)**

**Theme: Common & Comprehensive Security Concerns of Indian Ocean Region**

**HIGH TEA & CULTURAL EVENING (5:15 PM ONWARDS)**

**Day 2: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026, Saturday**

**Third Academic Session (10:00 AM-11:30 AM)**

**Theme: Economic Connectivity between Bharat and Indian Ocean Region**

**Fourth Academic Session (11:45 PM-1:15 PM)**

**Theme: Bharat and Indian Ocean Region : Challenges and Remedies/Solutions**

**LUNCH (1:15 PM-2:15 PM)**

**Fifth Academic Session (2:15 PM-3:45 PM)**

**Theme: Bharat and Indian Ocean Region: Emerging Trends & Prospects**

**Brain Storming Session- Way Ahead (3:45 PM-4:45 PM)**

All delegates are invited to participate

**Valedictory Session (Diplomats' Session) 5:00 PM Onwards**

Followed by High Tea