

## PRESS BRIEF

### HIGH LEVEL MEETING BETWEEN INDIAN COAST GUARD AND SRI LANKA COAST GUARD 03-05 JAN 17



1. A three member delegation led by Rear Admiral Samantha Wimalathunge, RWP, USP, MSc (DS) Mgt, MA (SSS), MSc (NS & WS), the Director General Sri Lanka Coast Guard (SLCG), visited India from 03-05 Jan 17, for High Level Meeting, with the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). The Indian delegation was led by DG Rajendra Singh, PTM, TM, Director General, Indian Coast Guard. The visit was in continuation of the various efforts by the governments of the two countries towards cooperation between the Indian Coast Guard and Sri Lanka Coast Guard and pursuance of the discussions on maritime issues of mutual concerns to formulate a cooperative approach.
2. The establishment of Sri Lanka Coast Guard on 04 Mar 2010 has been a way forward in meeting the challenges in the new global safety and security regime in

this region. The recent visit is significant in providing continued impetus to the existing ties between the two organisations. The focus of the meeting was on further strengthening the operational level interaction for Search and Rescue, preservation & protection of marine environment, revalidating operational & communication procedures between the two Coast Guards.

3. During the visit, the SL CG delegation also called on the Defence Secretary and deliberated on issues of common maritime interests.

4. During the High Level discussions, it was mutually agreed to strengthen the cooperation on evolving collaborative approach, in addressing a spectrum of maritime issues concerning safety and security and further streamlining the procedure for release/ repatriation of fishermen.

