India Foundation, New Delhi
in association with
Govt of Maldives and S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore

Indian Ocean Conference 2019

03-04 September 2019
Maldives

Securing the Indian Ocean Region
Traditional & Non-Traditional Challenges
About the Conference

The 4th Indian Ocean Conference – IOC 2019 is being organised by India Foundation in association with the Government of Maldives and S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore on 03-04 September 2019 in Maldives. The theme of IOC 2019 is "Securing the Indian Ocean Region: Traditional and Non-Traditional Challenges".

The traditional and non-traditional security challenges facing the Indian Ocean Region remain unabated. Geopolitics and Trade continue to be contentious and the spectre of terrorism looms large over several countries of the region. Issues such as rising sea water levels, hazardous levels of pollution of the seas leading to depletion of marine livestock, and illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing elude consensus in international deliberation. Many of these challenges pose serious and immediate problems for the region. These challenges require concerted and sustained partnership efforts across the region and beyond.

The 4th IOC will deliberate on developing effective regional institutional mechanism for implementation of prevailing norms and rules. In continuation with the past, this edition of the Conference too will provide yet another opportunity for stakeholders of the Indian Ocean Region to deliberate on building an institutional framework for managing the threats to regional peace and human security through the strengthening of multilateral cooperation based on mutual respect, equality and international law. The three broad themes of the conference will be:

- **Marine Ecology**: Climate Change, Global Warming and consequent Rise of Sea Levels, Pollution, Sustainable harnessing of Oceanic Resources

- **Terrorism**: Rising Spectre of Terrorism in Indian Ocean Region, Marine Terrorism

- **Navigational Security**: Freedom of Navigation, UNCLOS and its effective implementation, Natural and Man-made hazards to Navigation, Piracy
Program Schedule (Tentative)

03 September 2019 (Tuesday)
- 13:00-14:00 Hrs: Lunch
- 14:00-15:15 Hrs: Pre-Conference Workshops (Parallel Sessions)
- 16:30-18:00 Hrs: Inaugural Session
- 19:30 Hrs onwards: Cultural Program and Dinner

04 September 2019 (Wednesday)
- 09:00-10:15 Hrs: Session 1
- 10:45-12:00 Hrs: Session 2
- 12:15-13:30 Hrs: Lunch
- 13:30-15:00 Hrs: Session 3
- 15:00-16:15 Hrs: Session 4
- 16:45-18:00 Hrs: Session 5
- 18:00-18:30 Hrs: Valedictory Session
Organising Committee

Chair
Ranil Wickremesinghe
Prime Minister, Sri Lanka

Vice-Chair
S. Jaishankar
External Affairs Minister, India

Vivian Balakrishnan
Foreign Minister, Singapore

Abdulla Shahid
Foreign Minister, Maldives

Members
Hardeep Singh Puri,
Minister of State (I/C) of the
Ministry of Housing and Urban
Affairs, India

Shahriar Alam
Minister of State
for Foreign Affairs,
Bangladesh

Suresh Prabhu
Former Union Minister,
India

Vijay Thakur Singh
Secretary (East), Ministry of
External Affairs, India

Ram Madhav
National General Secretary,
BJP; Member, Board of
Governors, India Foundation,
India

Preeti Saran
Former Secretary (East),
Ministry of External
Affairs, India

M. J. Akbar
Member of Parliament,
India

Amb Ong Keng Yong
Executive Deputy Chairman,
RSIS, Singapore

C Raja Mohan
Director, Institute of
South Asian Studies (ISAS), Singapore

Shakti Sinha
Director, Nehru Memorial
Museum and Library, India

Baijayant ‘Jay’ Panda
Vice-President & Spokesperson,
BJP and Former Member of
Parliament, India

Shekhar Sinha
Former C-in-C,
Western Naval
Command, Indian
Navy, India

Sunaina Singh
Vice Chancellor, Nalanda
University, India

Nisha Biswal,
President,
US India Business
Council, USA

G Parthasarathy
Former Ambassador,
India

Prabha Rao
Executive Director,
South Asian Institute for
Strategic Affairs (SAISA),
India

Shaurya Doval,
Member,
Board of Governors,
India Foundation, India

Alok Bansal
Director,
India Foundation,
India

Organising Secretary