

Indian and Chinese Warships in Colombo Port

Source: TH

Recently, India's guided-missile destroyer, **INS Mumbai** and three Chinese warships visited **Colombo port** in Sri Lanka on the same day.

- INS Mumbai is on its first port of call in Sri Lanka.
 - A port of call is an **intermediate stop** for a ship on its scheduled journey for cargo operation or transporting supplies or fuel.
- Strategic Implications of Chinese warships for India:
 - Heightened Concerns: The <u>Indian Navy</u> closely monitored the movement of the Chinese warships, Hefei, Qilianshan, and Wuzhishan, from their entry into the <u>Indian Ocean</u> <u>Region (IOR)</u> until their docking at <u>Colombo</u>.
 - Extended Naval Presence in the IOR: The Chinese Navy has intensified its presence in the IOR with warships extending their stay for a longer period.
 - China's Naval Expansion: The Chinese Navy with over 370 ships, is now the largest navy in the world.
 - Potential Overseas Military Bases: The intelligence report indicates that China is exploring the establishment of military facilities in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Myanmar.
- Port of Colombo is located in southwestern Sri Lanka. It is also the country's biggest shipping harbour.

Read More: Chinese Dual-Use Facilities Raise Security Concerns in India

PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/indian-and-chinese-warships-in-colombo-port