

---

# **India's naval ambitions**

## **The emergence of a major power in the Indian Ocean and beyond**

---

Isabelle Saint-Mézard

26 November 2008

---

# **India's naval ambitions:**

## **The emergence of a major power in the Indian Ocean and beyond**

### **Introduction**

#### **1. The modernisation of the Indian Navy**

11. A “lost decade” in the 1990s?
12. A naval built-up since 1998
13. The IN and the modernisation of India's armed forces
14. Ambitions and constraints

#### **2. India's naval strategy in the Indian Ocean**

21. The Indian Ocean as India's Ocean?
22. Strategy towards extra-regional powers
23. Toward a multilateral approach of maritime security?

---

# **1. A new cycle of naval modernisation**

## **11. A “lost decade” in the 1990s?**

## **12. A naval built-up since 1998**

- ❑ increasing budgetary allocation
- ❑ major acquisitions of foreign equipment
- ❑ a new boost to indigenous programmes
- ❑ new naval infrastructures

## **13. The IN and the modernisation of India’s armed forces**

- ❑ Nuclear dimension
- ❑ Doctrinal efforts
- ❑ Inter-services integration

## **14. Ambitions and constraints**



## **2. India's naval strategy**

### **21. The Indian Ocean as India's Ocean?**

- ❑ a zone of critical strategic importance
- ❑ India as a major power “from the Strait of Hormuz to the Strait of Malacca”
- ❑ “areas of primary interests” and “areas of secondary interest”
- ❑ various missions for the Indian Navy: military, constabulary, benign, diplomatic

### **22. Strategy towards extra-regional powers**

- ❑ China: reluctance and suspicion
- ❑ The United States
- ❑ Japan

### **23. Toward a multilateral approach of maritime security?**