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## Notice for the PhD Viva Voce Examination

Ms Gurvinder Kaur, Registration Number: 2170115, PhD Scholar at the Department of International Studies, Political Science and History, School of Social Sciences, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Tuesday, 26 May 2026 at 11.30 am in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R&D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029, Karnataka, India.

<b>Title of the Thesis</b>	:	<b>Role of India in combating Maritime Piracy in the Indian Ocean Region: A Study</b>
<b>Discipline</b>	:	<b>Political Science</b>
<b>External Examiner - I</b>	:	<b>Dr D Suba Chandran</b> Professor School of Conflict and Security Studies National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) Bengaluru - 560054 Karnataka
<b>External Examiner - II</b>	:	<b>Dr Arvind Kumar</b> Professor Center for the Study of the Americas School of International Studies Jawaharlal Nehru University New Delhi - 110067
<b>Supervisor</b>	:	<b>Dr Vinod M J</b> Professor Department of International Studies, Political Science and History School of Social Sciences CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Bengaluru - 560029 Karnataka

The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva-voce examination.

**Place:** Bengaluru  
**Date:** 20 May 2026

**Registrar (Academics)**

## ABSTRACT

This thesis examines the issue of maritime piracy as a novel security challenge in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), with emphasis on the increasing incidents of piracy between the Malacca Strait and the Gulf of Aden, which are key maritime choke points. The region between these choke points is a crucial passage and one of the most active global maritime routes, making it vulnerable to pirate attacks. The research highlights India's enhanced efforts in combating maritime piracy within the region by employing a strong analytical framework that links the rise in piracy to India's strategic responses, such as the Anti-Maritime Piracy Act. The research emphasises how the presence of unstable and underdeveloped states within the IOR has contributed to the proliferation of piracy, heightening the urgency for collective international action. Despite India's increasing involvement in anti-piracy operations, several challenges remain, which this thesis has attempted to address by providing suggestions to strengthen India's anti-piracy initiatives. A key component of this research is the validation of India's anti-maritime piracy initiatives and policy measures aimed at suppressing piracy domestically and in conjunction with international treaties and cooperation.

The objective of this research is to fill a significant gap in the present literature by providing comprehensive policy recommendations for policymakers and relevant stakeholders. By contributing to the broader discourse on maritime security, this research offers valuable insights into how India can strengthen its anti-piracy efforts and ensure the stability of critical shipping lanes in the IOR.

**Keywords:** *Maritime Piracy, Indian Ocean Region, Non-Traditional Security, Malacca Strait, Gulf of Aden, Sea Lanes of Communication.*

### Publications:

1. Verma, K., Kaur, G., & Chopra, K. (2025). Navigating in the Indo-Pacific region: possible implications of Trump's return for India's strategic interests. *The Round Table*, 114(1), 97–98. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00358533.2025.2457425>
2. Kaur, G., & Chopra, K. (2025). India's cobalt quest: navigating geopolitics in the Indo-Pacific. *The Round Table*, 114(1), 94–96. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00358533.2025.2455755>