

IIT Bombay is organising an Institute Lecture on Wednesday, November 2, 2011. The details are as follows:



Speaker **Vice Admiral Pradeep Chauhan AVSM, VSM**  
Chief of Staff, Western Naval Command  
Indian Navy

Title : **India's Maritime Security and the Navy's Transformational Role**  
Day & Date : Wednesday, November 2, 2011  
Time : 5.15 p.m.  
Venue : F.C. Kohli Auditorium, KReSIT Building

*All are invited.*

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**Abstract:** India is located strategically in the Indian Ocean region; its maritime security perimeter long defined as stretching from “Aden to Malacca” now extends from Aden in the west to South China Sea and Western Pacific in the east. These waters constitute the energy lifeline of three of the top-five economies of the world – China, Japan and India. The 19<sup>th</sup> century strategic thinker Alfred Mahan had said: “Whoever controls the Indian Ocean dominates Asia. This ocean is the key to the seven seas in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the destiny of the world will be decided in these waters.” These words resonate in the “string of pearls” and “iron curtain” strategies that China and India are purported to be pursuing in the Indian Ocean region. Protecting India's maritime interests is the Indian Navy, which has emerged as the fifth largest Navy in the world transforming itself from a coastal defence force to a “three-dimensional blue water force”. The Navy has been tasked with the security of the sea lanes of communication, protection of the littoral states, fighting piracy in the Sea of Aden, Malacca Straits and the South China Sea, combating maritime terrorism, tackling maritime pollution and environmental disasters in the waters of the Indian Ocean. How is the Indian Navy poised to protect India's varied and multi-dimensional maritime interests? The speaker will discuss these issues.

**About the Speaker:** An alumnus of India’s premier National Defence Academy at Khadavasala the Defence Services Staff College at Wellington; the Naval War College at Karanja in Mumbai and the prestigious National Defence College at New Delhi, Vice Admiral Pradeep Chauhan has over 35 years of rich and varied experience in the Indian Navy. In his sea-going career, he has been singularly privileged to have held command of the Indian Navy’s frontline surface-combatants on four occasions. He has been instrumental in the conceptualisation and proving of tactics-of-war for the Indian Navy and has been the Principal Director in the Directorate of Naval Operations at Naval Headquarters, New Delhi. Upon his promotion as a Rear Admiral in 2005, he was tasked with setting-up a new and vibrant organisational structure at New Delhi that has given a great fillip to both Naval Foreign Cooperation as well as Intelligence. He was promoted to the rank of Vice Admiral in 2009 and took over as the Chief of Staff of the Western Naval Command in August 2009. He is a recipient of the Vishisht Seva Medal and the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal.