

Indian Ocean Focus Study Group

Bhonsala Military College under the aegis of CHME Society, established an Indian Ocean Focus Study Group (IOR). The need for such a study group was felt due to the following reasons

1. The increasing geo-strategic significance of Indian Ocean Region.
2. Changing geopolitical scenario and its impact on India vis-a-vis international relations.
3. Changes in threat perception.
4. Establishment of new military infrastructure by extra regional countries in the IOR

OBJECTIVE of FOCUS GROUP

- ❑ To develop awareness amongst the students about various strategic parameters of Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- ❑ To assess ways of attracting young scholars to pursue study and research in the field of IOR.
- ❑ To provide a comprehensive overview of the sub regions and countries in the IOR.
- ❑ To focus on core issues and key aspects of IOR from the Indian perspectives
- ❑ To address the new complex and emerging national security challenges in IOR
- ❑ To study the geopolitical changes in IOR and its implication on India's national security.

Activities

Since the establishment of the Focus Study Group, the college has conducted a national conference and a national seminar and also organized various guest lectures.

1. **National Conference on "Maritime Security and aspects of Blue Economy of India in the Oceanic Theatre" on 15th and 16th February 2016 at Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, Uttan, Mumbai.**



Hon. Defence Minister, Shri. Manohar Parikkar addressing the participants of the National Conference during the Inaugural Session

2. **National Seminar on India's Maritime History and Heritage was held on 27th and 28th February 2017 at the department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai.**



Hon. General Secretary, CHME Society, Shri. P.G.Kulkarni delivering his welcome address during the inaugural session of the seminar

3. **Lecture Series**

- i) **A special lecture on India's Maritime History and Heritage was organised in the college campus on 26th December 2016.**



Dr. (Mrs) Neeta Khandpekar, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Mumbai, delivering the special lecture on India's Maritime History and Heritage

- ii) **A lecture on “ Indian Marine Commandos” was held in 29th July 2017 in the College Campus**



Commodore Raj Singh Dhankhar (Retd). addressing the students on Marine Commandos

- iii) **A lecture on “Security situation in Maritime Domain and Naval Aviation” was held on 19th August 2017.**



Vice Admiral Shekar Sinha (Retd.) delivering the special lecture on on “Security situation in Maritime Domain and Naval Aviation” .

OUTCOME

The probable outcomes of this focused group will be helpful to

- Impart education to students in the field of IOR;
- Instil in a culture of research;
- Create a resource pool consisting of subject experts and a comprehensive collection of information sources related to the subject domain.