

## **MARITIME DIMENSION OF INDIA'S 'LOOK EAST POLICY'**

**MUZAMMIL AHAD DAR**

Research Scholar, DPIS, SSS & IR, Silver Jubli Campus, Pondicherry Central University, Pondicherry, India

### **ABSTRACT**

India in its Indian Ocean's Maritime Strategy conducts intensive naval engagements with navies of the United States, France, Britain and Russia. India's shift from being a lone ranger has also involved greater naval co-operation with major regional actors in the Indian Ocean and beyond South African waters to the South China and from Gulf of Aden to Oceania. From last more than a decade India maintained the military cooperation with East Asia. The engagement was carried due to stiffened maritime competition with other actors and to counter the Chinese encirclement of India. India's maritime activism although is multi vector but the activism has caught China with in the 'Malacca Dilemma'. South China Sea is central to India's Look East policy which envisions deepening Political, military and economic links with ASEAN countries.

**KEYWORDS:** Maritime Dimension of India's 'Look East Policy', 'Malacca Dilemma'