Impact of India Japan Partnership for Regional Security and Prosperity **Commodore RS Vasan IN (Retd)** Head, Center for Asia Studies, Chennai

Recent Thrusts in India Japan relations

- Strategic and Global partnership in 2006
- Vision for Strategic and Global parnership cooperation
- Declaration on Security Co operation 2008
- Action plan on Security Cooperation 2009
- High level meetings
- Maritime Security Cooperation

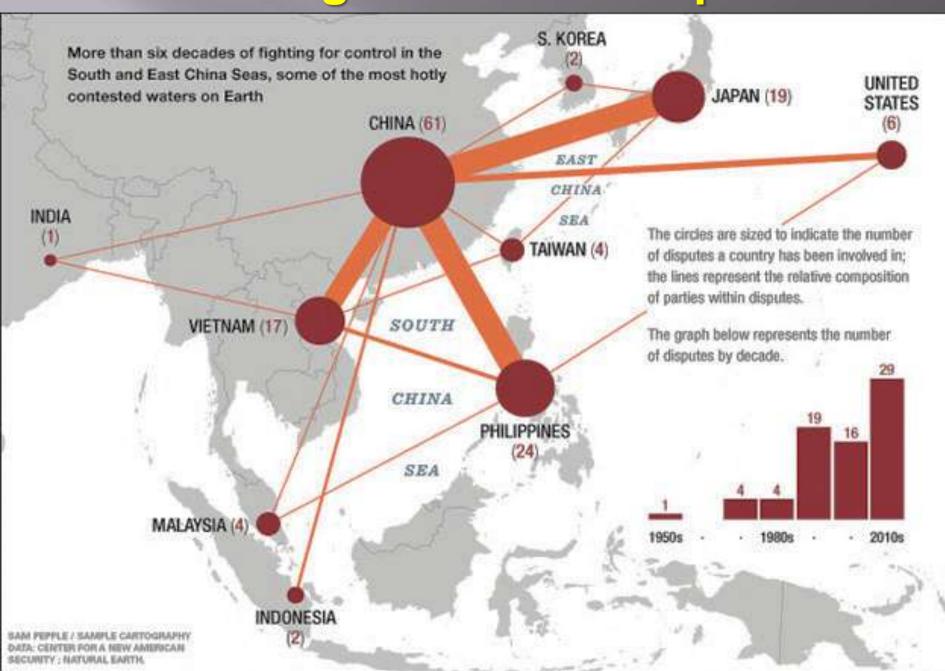
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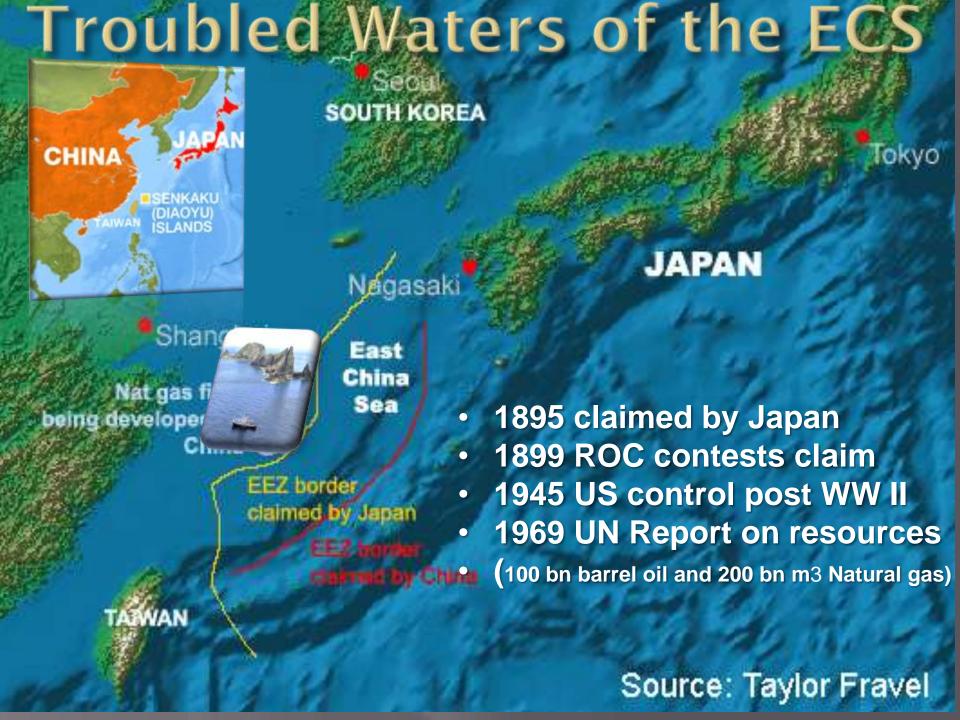


Breaking out of the shackles Quadrilateral Initiative



Conflicting claims and disputes





Core Interests?

- At the 2010 US-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue, Chinese State Councilor Dai Bingguo told US officials that China regarded the South China Sea as a core national interest"
- ... on par with Tibet, Taiwan and Xinjiang province??
- Ministry of Defense Spokesman Colonel Geng Yan-sheng has claimed that China has "indisputable sovereignty" over the South China Sea, but would permit freedom of navigation through these waters??
- According to South China Morning Post, Chinese officials asserted that the South China Sea is Beijing's "core" national interest and the East China Sea, including the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands, was newly added to the list of China's "core" interests.

Stormy Relations

Many incidents both in SCS and ECS involving US, Japanese, Indian, Philliphines, Vietnamese and other maritime nations

Aggressive behaviour and extreme nationalism

Core issue for US and the rest is freedom of navigation for China and Japan it is sovereignty

China does not want third party mediation and insists on bilateral resolution.

Rising Tensions

- PLAN vessels first appeared in Japanese waters in 1999 and 2000 and were breaking out of the first and second line defence
- Fisheries vessels encroaching in to Japanese waters around the disputed Islands-Stand offs
- Radar Lock this year(2013) against Japanese vessels
- Demonstrations in China after the take over after the Japanese purchase of the Islands from pvt citizens
- Aeriel intrusions J10 fighters scrambled to East China Sea to monitor Japan's F-15s which were tracking a Patrol aircraft on 10 Jan 2013

R E S



protest in New York on 19th Feb before Abe visit



Pivot to Asia



US engagement in the areas of interest-EAS

US is a predominant player in the region and with the recent pivot to Asia policy expected to take greater interest. Has used the ASEAN forum and the EAS summit make its stand on the disputes (30 oct 2011 and again last year).

"we are encouraged by China's recent steps to enter discussions with ASEAN about a more formal binding code of conduct." Hilary Clinton commenting on developments in South China Sea. She added that the U.S.'s "overarching" goal for the EAS is to "help strengthen and build this organization as a key forum for political and strategic issues in the Asia-Pacific,"

While the U.S. wants to see the EAS tackle issues of consequence, it will make its treaty allies -- Japan, South Korea, Australia, Thailand and Philippines -- the "foundation" of its engagement in the Asia-Pacific. And it will expand emerging partnerships with New Zealand, India, China, and Indonesia, "both in the EAS context and beyond,"Hillary Clinton

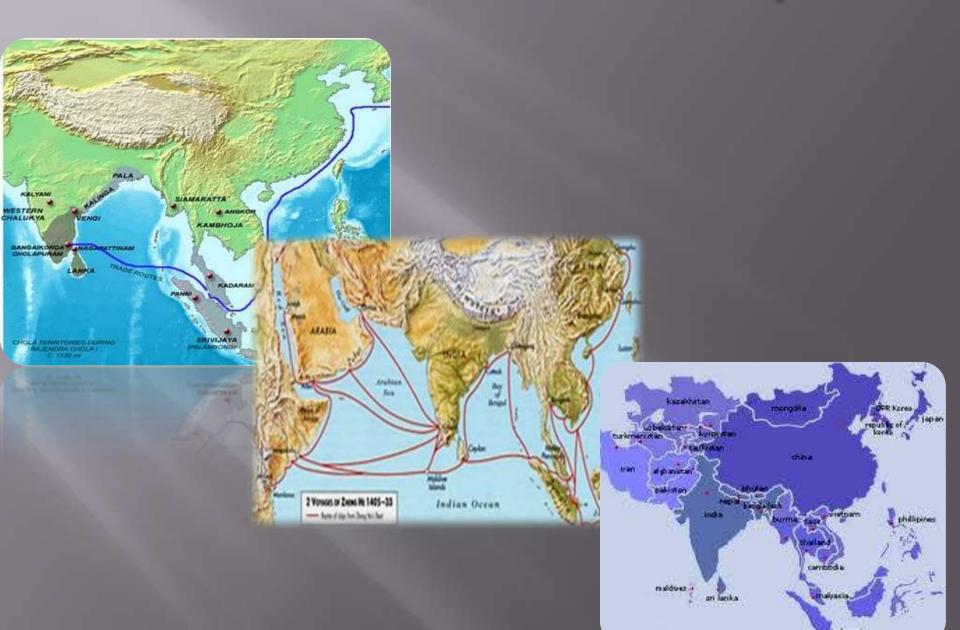
The limits of defence?



Preparing for the coming decades



India the reluctant Indo-Pacific power??



India's Options

Creating "an open, balanced, inclusive and rule-based architecture in the region."... "for India, Asean has been the bridge to the East," PM at the 7th EAS summit at Phnom penh PM in Nov 20, 2012

Secure Immediate maritime neighbour hood

Engagement in SE Asian Countries

Keeping proactive interest in East Asia

Conclusion

- The geopolitical, economic, social landscape in East Asia would continue to be dynamic with multiple players
 - Role of US will continue but with added emphasis on pivot to Asia. However, new players India, Japan, Australia, ASEAN and others would be tempted to scout for economic and strategic opportunities to counter Chinese influence and power
- US would continue to support its traditional allies and also insist on the freedom of navigation in the SCS and ECS.
- India needs to engage Japan in many areas including security, economy and strategy
- Both India and Japan need to see the present developments as opportunity for mutual benefit particularly in trade and economy initiatives.

