



## **NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

2 April 2025

### **ReCAAP ISC Welcomes its 7<sup>th</sup> Executive Director**

The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Vijay D Chafekar, Additional Director General (Retd), formerly of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), as its 7<sup>th</sup> Executive Director (ED) for a three-year term from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028. Mr Chafekar was chosen and appointed as the 7<sup>th</sup> ED on 5 November 2024 by the ReCAAP ISC Governing Council, made up of Governors from ReCAAP's 21 member States.

Mr Chafekar brings extensive experience in policy making, organisational development and maritime law enforcement, having served in the ICG for 37 years. During his time with the ICG, he took on senior responsibilities across a broad range of coast guard functions, and represented the ICG in various national and international forums on transnational crimes, maritime disaster response, maritime search & rescue and maritime law enforcement.

In assuming his appointment as the 7<sup>th</sup> ED, Mr Chafekar said, “ReCAAP ISC has come a long way in helping to curtail piracy and sea robbery incidents in Asia by enabling effective responses through information sharing, capacity building and cooperative arrangements. We need to sustain the momentum, so that the threat of piracy and armed robbery to merchant shipping and maritime trade can be contained.”

Mr Chafekar succeeds Mr Krishnaswamy Natarajan, who completed his three-year term as the 6<sup>th</sup> ED of ReCAAP ISC on 31 March 2025. The ReCAAP ISC thanks Mr Natarajan for his dedicated service, and the pivotal role that he has played in raising the profile of the ReCAAP ISC and strengthening the Centre's cooperation with ReCAAP member States, the shipping industry and the maritime community. The Centre wishes Mr Natarajan all the best in his future endeavours.

Mr Vijay D Chafekar's profile is attached in the **Annex**.

– End of Release –

## Media Contact

### ReCAAP ISC

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## About ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ReCAAP ISC)

The Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP) is the first regional government-to-government agreement to promote and enhance cooperation against piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia. The Agreement entered into force on September 4, 2006 with 14 Asian countries as Contracting Parties, and the Information Sharing Centre was established on November 29, 2006. To date, 21 States (14 Asian countries, 5 European countries, Australia, the USA) have become Contracting Parties to ReCAAP. To fulfil its vision as the Information Hub for combating piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, ReCAAP ISC enhances regional cooperation through information sharing, capacity building and cooperative arrangements. At the 12th Governing Council Meeting in 2018, the Council announced that ReCAAP ISC has met the criteria to be a Centre of Excellence for information sharing in combating piracy and armed robbery at sea. For more information about ReCAAP ISC, please visit <http://www.recaap.org>



**Mr Vijay D Chafekar**

Executive Director

ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC)

Mr Vijay D Chafekar, Additional Director General (Retd), Indian Coast Guard, is an experienced seafarer who has served on and commanded different classes of coast guard ships in his 37 years of distinguished service. He previously headed the Policy & Plans Division at Indian Coast Guard Headquarters, and steered the formulation of long-term plans to drive organisational growth and the effective discharge of coast guard statutory functions.

A trained pilot, he has considerable flying experience, operating coast guard Dornier aircrafts on the eastern and western seaboard of India. He also holds the distinction of commissioning the largest advanced coast guard offshore patrol vessel 'Samrat', and heading prestigious and sensitive coast guard functions on the western seaboard of India.

Mr Chafekar is a distinguished graduate of the Naval Staff College in New Port, USA, and has participated in the Naval Higher Command Course in 2008. He holds a M.Sc. & M.Phil. in Defence and Strategic Studies, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Maritime Law.

Mr Chafekar has represented the Indian Coast Guard at various national and international forums on transnational crimes, maritime disaster response, maritime search & rescue and maritime law enforcement. He has the distinction of participating in the advanced International Security and Cooperation Programme at the Asia Pacific Centre for Security Studies, Hawaii.

In recognition of his distinguished service, Mr Chafekar has been awarded the President Medal by the Indian government.