

**Does Ouster of Head of State or
Govt affect International
Agreements: A Comparative Study
of Sri Lanka and Pakistan**

Introduction

- The China Belt and Road initiatives in Sri Lanka
- First, Nov. 2013, China offered development of a new mega project at Sri Lanka's main port in Colombo.
- Various plans for a Colombo Port City Project (CPCP)
- Construction of Hambantota port, worth US\$ 1.1billion

SRI LANKA

INDIA

Bay of Bengal



0 100 km
0 60 miles

Jaffna

Kilinochchi

Mullaittivu

Rameswaram

Mannar

Vavuniya

Trincomalee

Wilpattu National Park

Anuradhapura

Puttalam

Sigiriya

Polonnaruwa

Dambulla

Batticaloa

Negombo

Kandy

Nuwara Eliya

Pidurutalagala (Mt Pedro) (2524m)

Colombo

Ella

Arugam Bay

Mt Lavinia

Ratnapura

Adam's Peak (2243m)

INDIAN OCEAN

Yala West (Ruhuna) National Park

Ambalangoda

Tissamaharama

Hikkaduwa

Tangalla

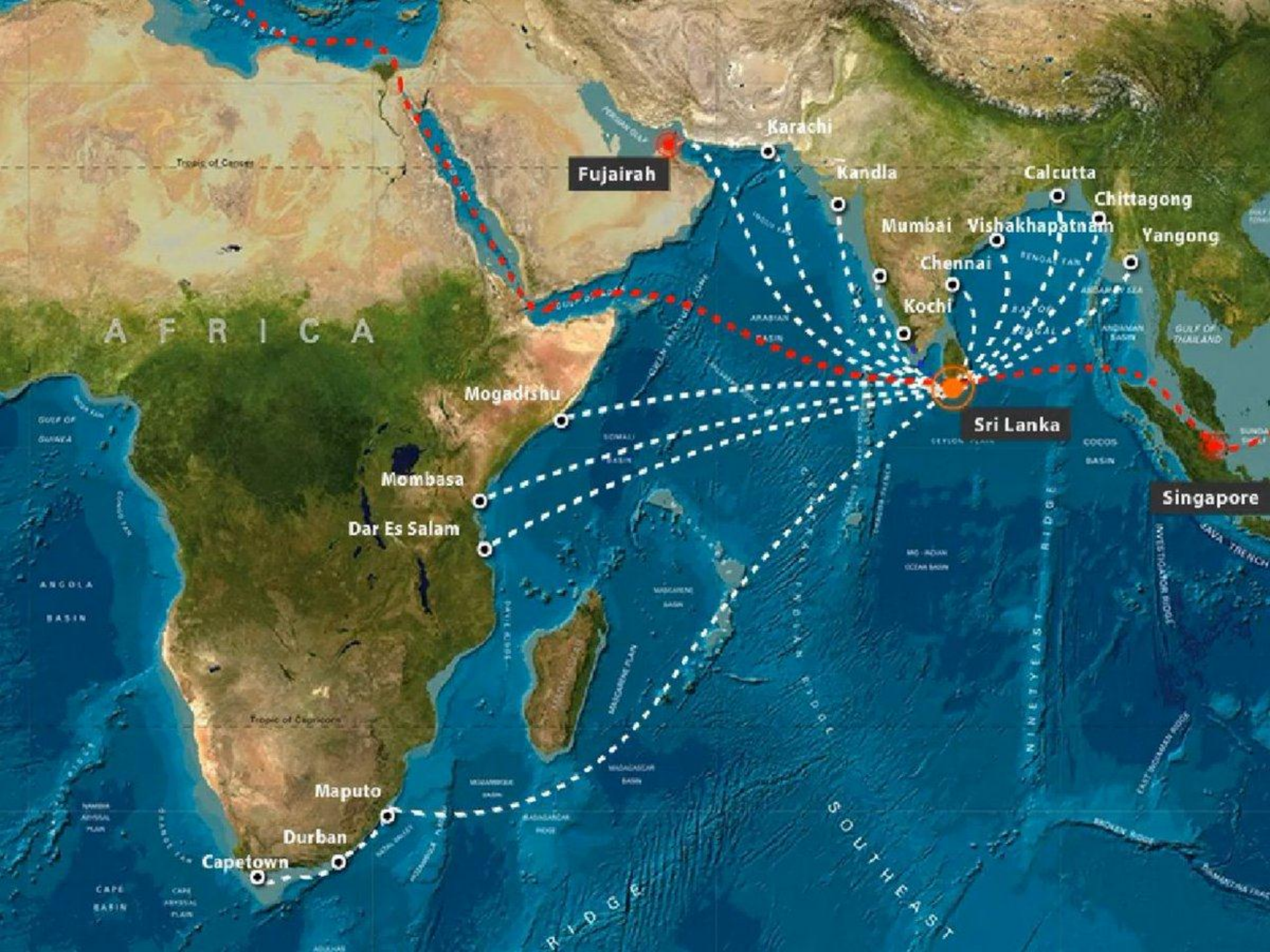
Hambantota

Galle

Matara

Weligama





Introduction to Hambantota Port

- Hambantota, situated on the southern coast of the island.
- Historically, it was an important port for eastern Asian sailors and traders heading to Africa or the Middle East.
- CHEC has long been involved in the construction of Hambantota port, which launched in January 2008 (1st phase).
- The port, formally named the Magampura Mahinda Rajapaksa Port in 2010 (2nd phase).

3rd Phase (the current)

- Agreement signed on 30th July, 2017 between Sri Lanka and China Merchants Port Holdings
- US\$1.1 billion sale of a 70 percent stake in Hambantota port.
- 15,000 acre land for 99 years lease

Why the agreement suspended

- The agreement was suspended by the new government on allegations of corruption on previous one.
- Involvement of China in support of Rajapakse in election campaign.
- Regional players interests;
 - Rajapakse inclination towards China
 - Siresina Inclination towards India
 - India fears of China may use this port for military purposes

Cont...

- Internal Politics
 - Only SLFP (Rajapakse group) and Marxist party are opposing this agreement
 - TNA (Tamil National Alliance), is not opposing because
 - First, its concern is Tamils political representation and not economy
 - Second, they are part of the government
 - Muslims also part of the government
 - They feel no direct impact on Muslims as a whole

Why the new government become ready

- One view;
 - China's successful diplomacy
 - Ensured that these were not agreements with a person but with Lankan government
- Second view;
 - China indebted Lanka
 - New government had no other option but to sign the agreement
- Third (Geo-strategic)
 - Clearly mentioned in agreement that it is not a military but purely economic
 - The strategic relations will be continue with US and India

Change-in-Leadership in Pakistan

- The delay in China-Lanka agreement because of some political and Geo-strategic issues
- The case in Pakistan is different;
 - No foreign actor is involved
 - Internal politics is not criticizing the agreement but other issues
 - The regime is not changed but only leader

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