

India-Sri Lanka

Dissonance of narratives

Rohan Samarajiva

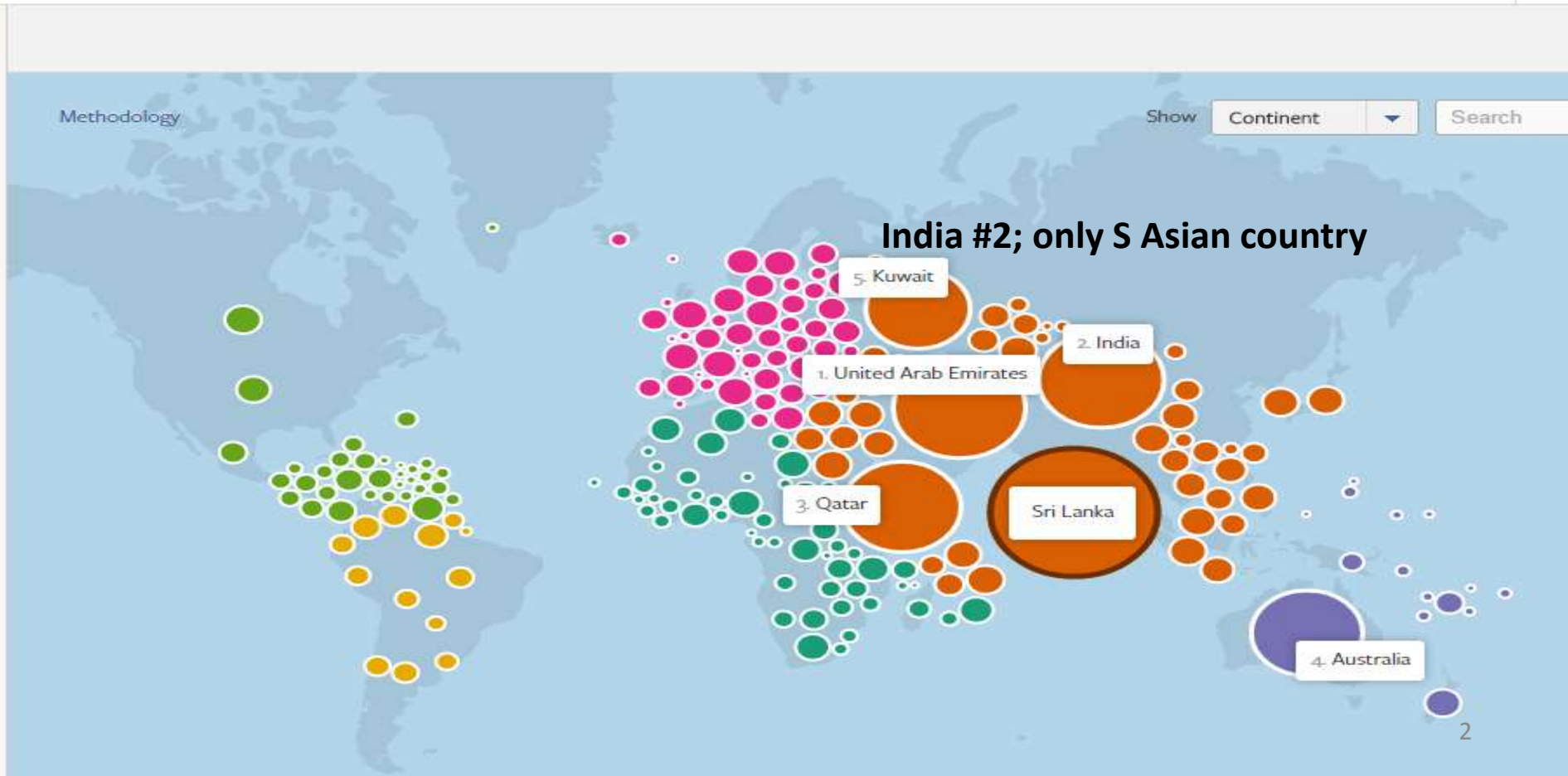
Colombo, 7 November 2014

Top 5 countries that Sri Lankan have “friends” in

Webmaker x M cties sending mo x Sri Lanka launch x (4) Twitter x How to Create Re x Credible badges cl x Fac

facebookstories.com/stories/1574/interactive-mapping-the-world-s-friendships#color=continent&story=1&country=LK

Facebook Stories



Top 5 countries that Indians have “friends” in

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Facebook Stories

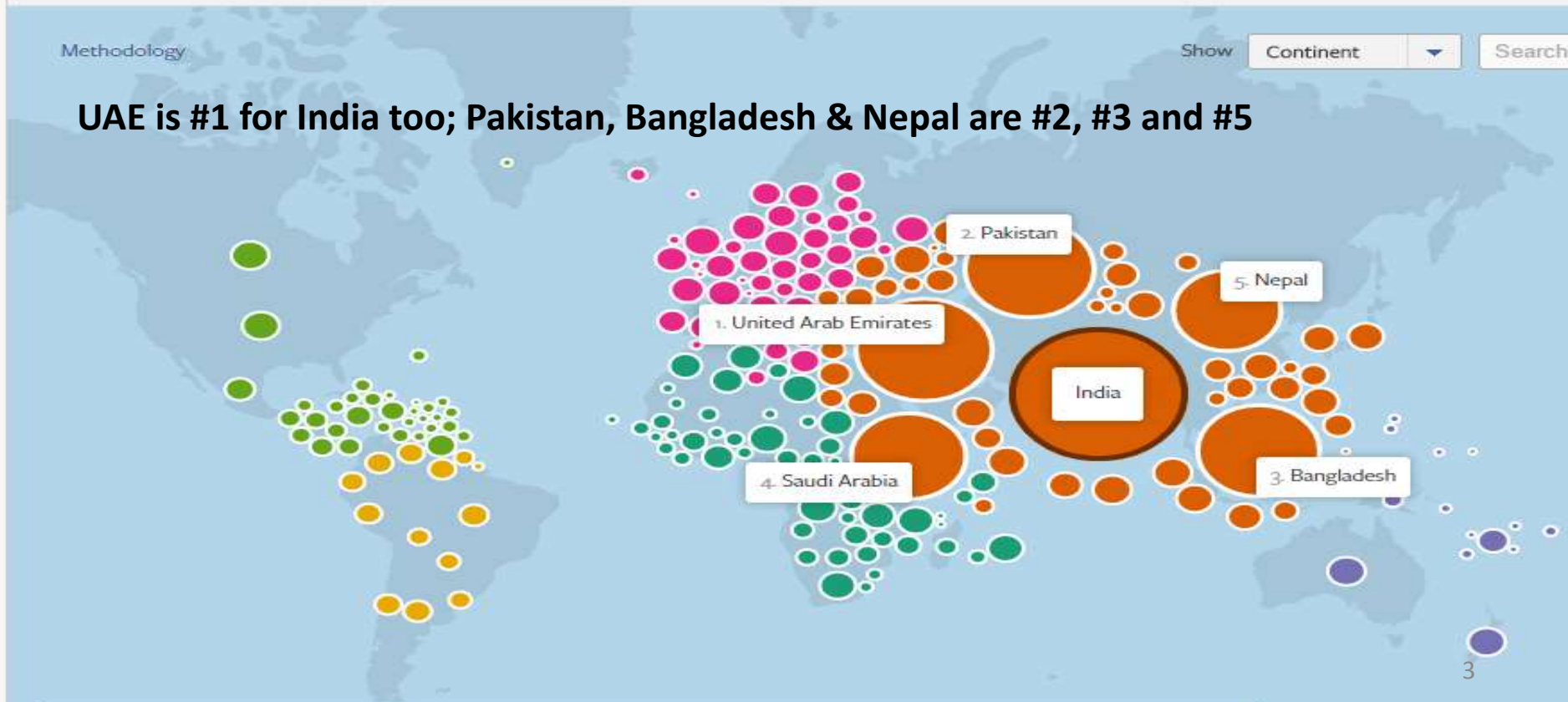
Methodology

Show

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UAE is #1 for India too; Pakistan, Bangladesh & Nepal are #2, #3 and #5

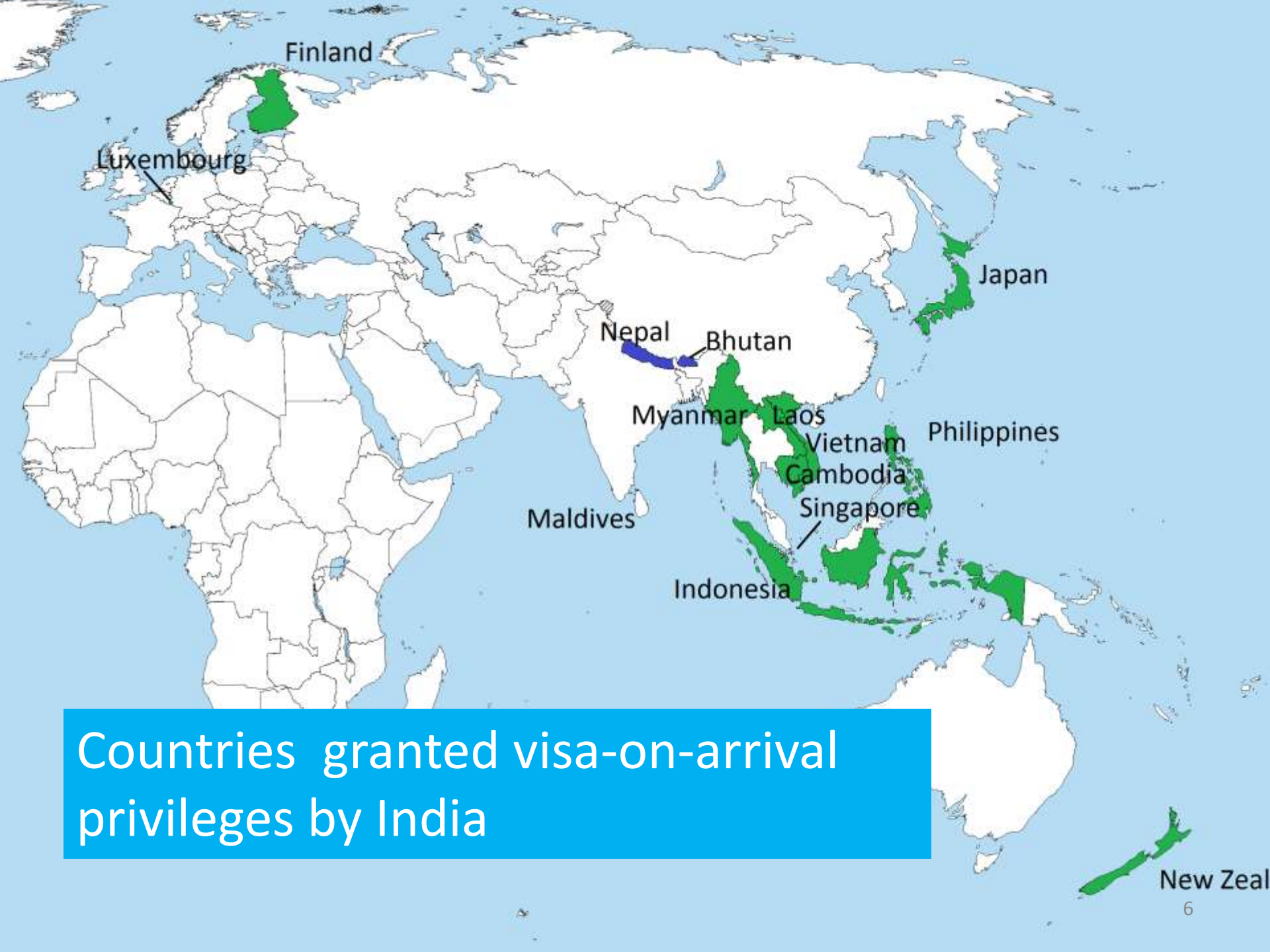


Top 5 sources of tourists to Sri Lanka, 2013

	Foreign tourist arrivals	Population	FTAs as % of population
Maldives	79,474	345,023	23.03
UK	137,416	64,097,085	0.21
Germany	85,470	80,621,788	0.11
France	64,388	66,028,467	0.10
India	208,795	1,252,139,596	0.02

Top 5 sources of tourists to India, 2013

	Foreign Tourist Arrivals	Population	FTA as % of population
Sri Lanka	262,345	20,483,000	1.28
UK	809,444	64,097,085	1.26
USA	1,085,309	316,128,839	0.34
Bangladesh	524,923	156,594,962	0.34
Russian Fed	259,120	143,499,861	0.18



Countries granted visa-on-arrival privileges by India

New Zealand

**“COLOMBO IS INDIA’S SECOND
LARGEST PORT”**

World Shipping Council: Top 50 Container Ports, 2011-13

		Volume (million TEUs) 2013	Volume (million TEUs) 2012	Volume (million TEUs) 2011
33	Colombo, Sri Lanka	4.31	4.26	4.26
34	Jawaharlal Nehru, India	4.12	4.26	4.32

CEPA Study Report (2003)

Para 3.4

3.4 The services sector contributes significantly to Sri Lanka's GDP and exports. With improvements to its infrastructure and the removal of legal and regulatory impediments, Sri Lanka can become a services hub for South Asia. As both the Indian and Sri Lankan economies shift to above-

Para 3.5(b)

b) Sri Lanka is committed to the reform of vital infrastructure sectors under the "Regaining Sri Lanka" initiative. Indian companies have shown interest in investing in Sri Lanka. Already more than half of Indian investment in SAARC is in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka can emerge as a regional and international services hub in the light of comparative advantages in logistics, and access to the Sri Lanka market will widen the global marketing network of Indian companies.

Para 3.13

3.13 The JSG noted that maritime transport and logistics services are a critical element of the development of Sri Lanka as a services hub for South Asia. The improvement of these services in both countries is crucial to effective participation in the global economy. There is potential for Indian investment in Sri Lanka's plans to develop the South Colombo port and other ports.

2014 India Transport Report

- Nothing special about Colombo now:
 - “. . . extra time and costs as cargo originating from and bound to India is routed through transshipment ports like Colombo and Singapore” (p. 307, Volume III, Part II)
 - “ One clear manifestation of the inadequacy is that . . . a good proportion of India’s maritime trade is transshipped in Colombo or Singapore . . .” (p. 357, Volume III, Part II)

Colombo & Hambantota are not part of India's logistics system

- But, apparent concern re China
- The ports, or the ships that come to the ports, seen as potentially inimical to India's interests

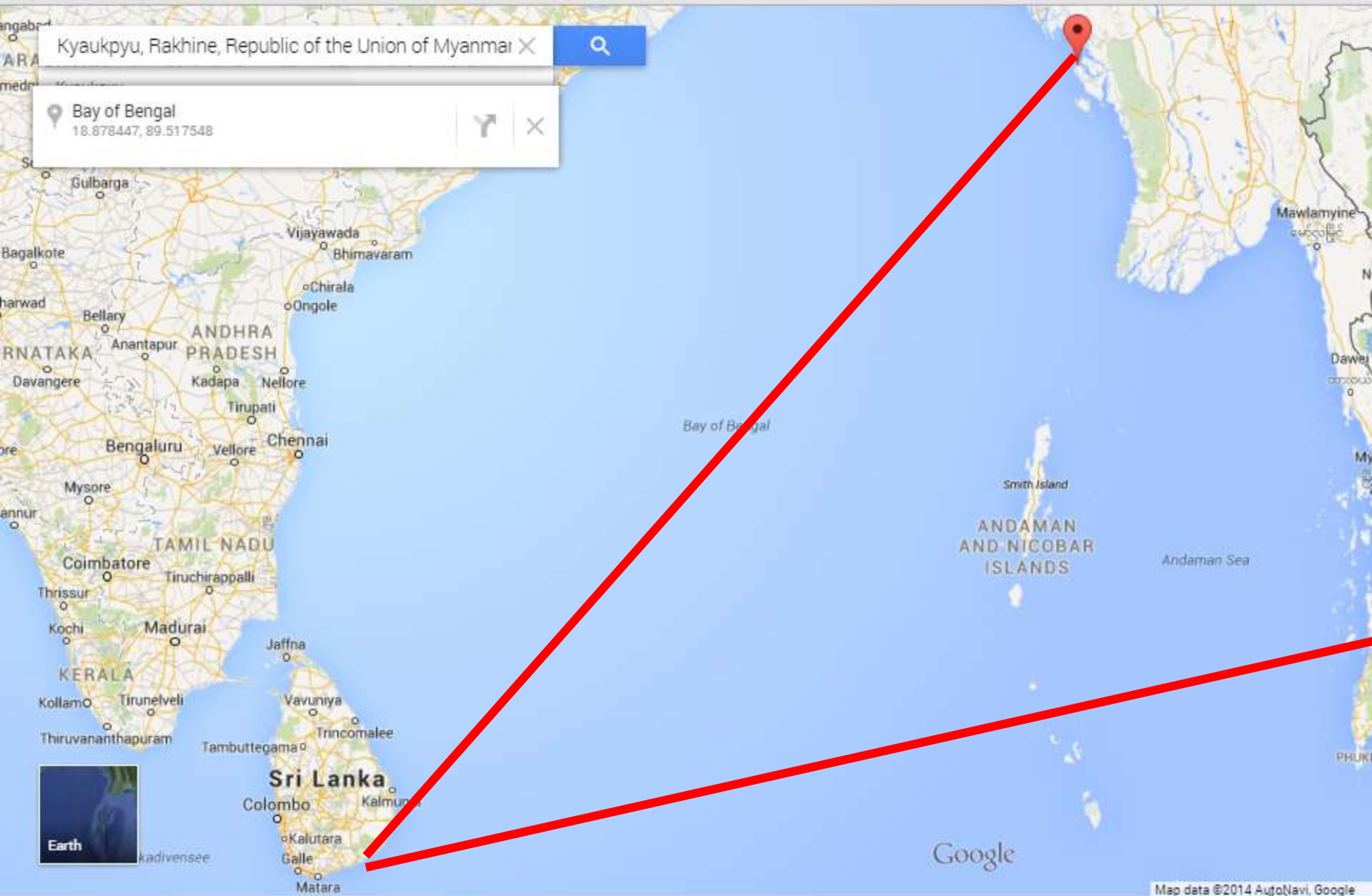
China's interest in Sri Lanka ports



- For understandable reasons, China wishes to reduce reliance on Malacca & Lombok-Makassar Straits
- Among options being considered are
 - Kra Isthmus (Thailand) canal
 - Land route from Kyaukphyu to Kunming, across Myanmar, where port & pipelines are already in place

Kyaukpyu, Rakhine, Republic of the Union of Myanmar X 🔍

📍 Bay of Bengal
18.878447, 89.517548



Google

CHINA POWER

The Maritime Silk Road Vs. The String of Pearls

China's vision for a maritime silk road updates and clarifies its interest in the "string of pearls."

By Shannon Tiezzi
February 13, 2014



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Gamini Lakshman, Sri Lanka's Minister of External Affairs, is in China this week, where he met with Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Vice President Li Yuanchao. According to a statement from China's Foreign Ministry, the leaders agreed to "fully expand maritime cooperation and jointly build the maritime silk road of the 21st century."

The "maritime silk road" concept first emerged during President Xi Jinping's first trip to Southeast Asia last October. The proposal, raised during a speech to the Indonesian parliament, called for increased maritime cooperation between China and the ASEAN countries. As such, the "maritime silk road" would have both diplomatic and economic components. Yang Baoyun, a professor of Southeast Asian studies at Peking University told *China Daily* that "the new maritime silk road will bring tangible benefits to neighbors along the route, and will be a new driving force for the prosperity of the entire East Asian region."



Image Credit: Container ships image via Shutterstock

Recreating what once existed. .



. . . which included both India and China