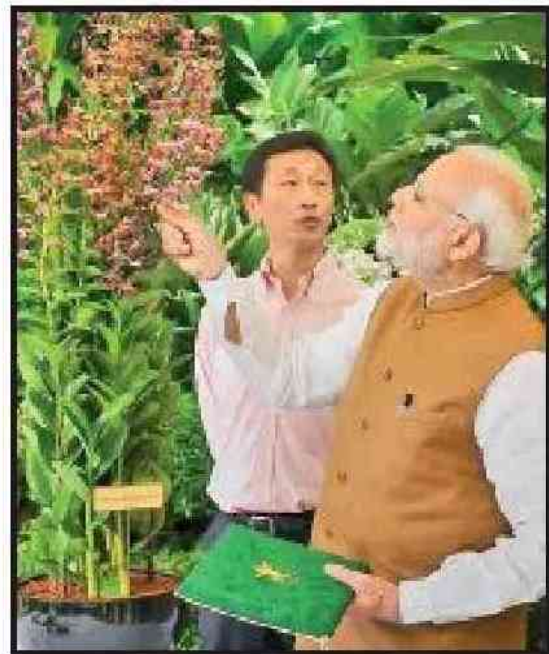




# PM, US def secy talk Indo-Pacific security

**Singapore:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi met US defence secretary James Mattis on the sidelines of the Shangri La Dialogue and went on board an Indian Navy ship at a naval base here on Saturday, the concluding day of his three-nation tour of southeast Asia, before departing for India.

At a closed-door meeting, Modi and Mattis discussed all security-related issues of mutual and global interests, sources said. The meeting assumes significance as Mattis, in his address, stressed upon both countries working together and with other nations for ensuring peace and security in the Indo-Pacific region. "It is only appropriate that wa-



PM Modi with an orchid named after him by Singapore National Garden authorities on Saturday

terways remain open for all nations," Mattis said. AGENCIES

► **Named after Modi, P 11**





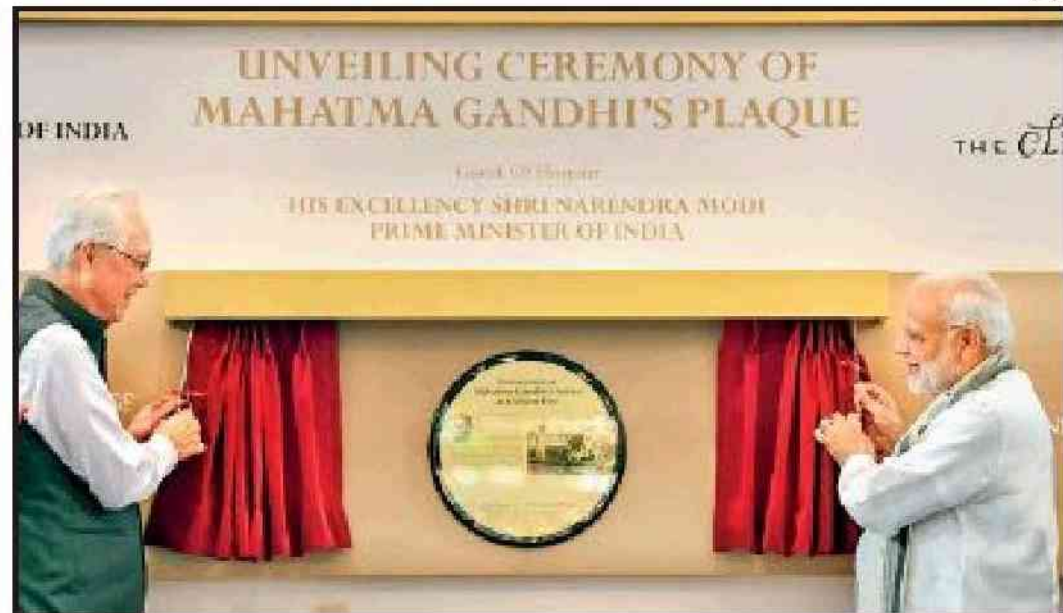
# Orchid named after Modi at S'pore national garden

In his keynote speech at the Shangri-La Dialogue, Modi had said India's vision for the Indo-Pacific region was that of a free, open and inclusive region that embraces all in a common pursuit of progress and prosperity.

Modi started his engagements on Saturday with a meeting with Singapore Emeritus senior minister and former PM Goh Chok Tong. The two unveiled a plaque to pay tribute at the immersion site of Mahatma Gandhi's ashes at Clifford Pier in the city state.

Modi visited the National Orchid Garden where an orchid was named after him — *Dendrobium Narendra Modi*. "A strong and robust tropical orchid which produces upright inflorescences up to 38 cm long with 14-20 well-arranged flowers," MEA spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said.

PM Modi also visited the Mariamman Temple. It is the oldest Hindu temple in Singapore and was built in 1827. It is dedicated to God-



PM Narendra Modi and former Singaporean premier Goh Chok Tong unveil a plaque of Mahatma Gandhi in Singapore on Saturday

dess Mariamman.

Accompanied by Singapore culture minister Grace Yien, Modi visited the Chulia mosque which was built by Chulia Muslim merchants from India's Coromandal coast, under the leadership of Anser Sahib. "Demonstrating the age-old people-to-people contact between our two countries," Kumar said in a separate tweet. Modi and Yien also visited the Buddha Tooth Relic Temple and Museum.

Modi and Yien visited the Indian Heritage Centre

where the PM unveiled the Kala Sangam, a permanent platform established by the Indian High Commission in Singapore and the heritage centre to bring Indian artisans to Singapore to demonstrate their craft.

Prime Minister Modi also went on board a visiting Indian naval ship INS Satpura at the Changi Naval Base in Singapore.

"On board INS Satpura. It is always a pleasure and an honour to interact with our sailors and officers," he said in a tweet.