

INS SHARDA ARRIVES MAAFILAAFUSHI, MALDIVES FOR HADR EXERCISE

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In line with India's commitment towards regional cooperation, INS Sharda arrived at Maafilaafushi Atoll, Maldives, for a **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)** exercise planned from **04 to 10 May 25**. This deployment is a testament to the strong defence and maritime cooperation between India and the Maldives. It aligns with India's "**MAHASAGAR**" (**Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions**) vision, emphasising collaborative efforts to ensure peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indian Ocean Region.

This HADR exercise aims to **enhance interoperability between the Indian Navy and the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF)**. It will focus on actions like **Disaster Response Coordination, Search and Rescue Operations, Medical Assistance, Logistical Support, Joint Drills, Training Sessions, and Community Engagement** following a major natural disaster.

Through such collaborative efforts, India and the Maldives continue strengthening their partnership and ensuring readiness to respond effectively to natural disasters and other humanitarian challenges.





VM/SKS

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