

INS SUNAYNA (IOS SAGAR) RETURNS TO KOCHI ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF MONTH LONG DEPLOYMENT

IOS Sagar - A significant step in reinforcing India's
commitment to Regional Security and Collaborative
Maritime Cooperation reflecting the vision of
MAHASAGAR

Sagar Mission reaffirms India's continued
engagement with Maritime Neighbours towards
building stronger ties and working towards a safer,
more inclusive & secure IOR

Indian Navy strengthening Maritime Bonds, Capacity Building and Enduring Partnership with IOR Nations

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Indian Navy's maiden initiative of **Indian Ocean Ship Sagar**, jointly crewed by personnel from **nine IOR Navies**, concluded its month long deployment in SW IOR region and returned to Kochi on **08 May 25**. **Vice Admiral V Srinivas, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Naval Command** congratulated the crew of India and nine friendly foreign countries during the grand reception ceremony held at Naval Base, Kochi. The successful completion of the deployment marks a new chapter in maritime cooperation and underscores India's commitment to safeguarding collective maritime interests, capacity building and enduring partnership with IOR nations.

IOS Sagar was flagged off by the Hon'ble Raksha Mantri, Shri Rajnath Singh from Karwar on 05 Apr 25. During the deployment, the ship undertook port calls at **Dar-es-Salaam, Nacala, Port Louis, Port Victoria and Male**. The key highlights of the mission included **joint naval exercises, professional & cultural exchanges** and **joint EEZ surveillance of key IOR nations - Tanzania, Mozambique, Mauritius & Seychelles**. Strengthening regional maritime cooperation between India and African nations, the ship participated in **AIKEYME 2025** alongside INS Chennai & INS Kesari, which was jointly hosted by India and Tanzania from 13 - 18 Apr 25. The exercise provided an opportunity for the crew of IOS Sagar to participate in the joint harbour phase and interact with the participating Navies. At Mozambique, a range of collaborative activities and community

engagements were held promoting operational synergy and interoperability with the Mozambique Navy.

Reinforcing the enduring bond between India and Mauritius, the crew of IOS Sagar had fruitful engagement with the Mauritius Police Force and undertook coordinated patrol with the Mauritius Coast Guard. Visit to Port Victoria, Seychelles was marked with cross deck visits, training exchange, joint Yoga sessions and maritime engagement with Seychelles Defence Force. The ship held collaborative maritime security and regional outreach mission at Maldives prior to entering Kochi. This deployment exemplifies Indian Navy's continued engagement with regional Navies and maritime security stakeholders of IOR nations to train together, exchange best practices and enhance interoperability and mutual understanding.

It was a unique experience for the **44 international crew of nine partner nations - Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Tanzania** who jointly manned the ship alongside Indian Navy crew, truly signifying the motto of **'One Ocean One Mission'**. The journey of IOS Sagar which commenced with the combined harbour and sea training phase at SNC, Kochi in Mar 25 has been truly memorable for all the crew members. The professional and seamless integration of the international crew working together as a well knit and cohesive team truly reflects the spirit of camaraderie and maritime friendship. The mission is a testament to Indian Navy's commitment as the **'First Responder'** and **'Preferred Security Partner'** in IOR towards the Gol's strategic vision of **MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security Across the Region)**.





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