

FIRST TRAINING SQUADRON OF THE INDIAN NAVY DEPARTS PORT LOUIS AND LA RÉUNION

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The ships of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS) — **INS Tir**, **ICGS Sarathi**, and **INS Shardul** departed **La Réunion** and **Port Louis** respectively on **11 Sep 2025**, reinforcing maritime cooperation and regional security in the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**. The visits reaffirm the Indian Navy's commitment to enhanced maritime partnership through joint training and capacity building, guided by the vision of **MAHASAGAR**.

At La Réunion, bilateral engagements between the Indian Navy and the French Navy focused on **professional exchanges** and **training interactions**. INS Tir and ICGS Sarathi participated in a **PASSEX** with the **Floreal-class frigate FS Le Malin**, which included coordinated manoeuvres, communication drills, and navigation exercises. During harbour interactions, personnel from both navies undertook **joint diving operations**, **cross-training visits**, and **shipboard familiarisation**. Trainees of 1TS also visited **CROSS (Centre Régional Opérationnel de Surveillance et de Sauvetage)** and a naval workshop, gaining valuable insights into operations and maintenance practices. **Joint yoga sessions**, **friendly sports fixtures**, and **social exchanges** further strengthened bonds of camaraderie.

At Port Louis, Mauritius, INS Shardul conducted joint professional exchanges with the **Mauritius National Coast Guard**, including **diving operations**, **firefighting** and **damage-control drills**, **shipboard familiarisation**, and **cross-deck** visits. The ship also undertook joint **EEZ surveillance**, a **PASSEX**, and **cross-boarding exercises** with **MCGS Valiant**, reaffirming strong interoperability between the two maritime forces. Cultural and community outreach activities, including yoga sessions, sports fixtures, and community service initiatives, were also organised. Additionally, the ship hosted visits by school children, members of the Indian diaspora, and Mauritian citizens.

The simultaneous port calls by 1TS at La Réunion and Mauritius highlights Indian Navy's enduring partnership with regional navies, strengthening bridges of friendship.





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