



INS SUDARSHINI DEPARTS SÈTE, FRANCE AFTER PARTICIPATION IN ESCALE À SÈTE 2026

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INS Sudarshini, the Indian Navy's Sail Training Ship, departed the port city of Sète on **07 Apr 2026**, marking successful culmination of her participation in the renowned Escale à Sète. This biennial festival is amongst the largest maritime gatherings in the Mediterranean, celebrating global seafaring heritage. During the event, INS Sudarshini actively engaged in a range of maritime activities alongside international tall ships. The ship's crew participated in cultural exchanges, maritime workshops, and sporting events integral to the festival program.

A major highlight was the participation of the Indian Naval marching contingent in the Heritage City Parade, commemorating 400th anniversary of the French Navy. Marching through the historic streets of Sète, while proudly displaying the Indian tricolour, the contingent delivered a flawless display of discipline, unity, and ceremonial excellence.

Adding to the accolades, the Sudarshini rowing team secured a bronze medal at the Jeux Maritimes. The festival concluded with the spectacular Grande Parade de Départ, a ceremonial sail past, during which the ship unfurled her sails, creating a captivating visual display.

During her port stay, the ship was open to visitors and welcomed thousands, offering insights into her role and capabilities. **The enthusiastic turnout reflected strong cultural engagement and deepening maritime bonds between India and France.** A joint yoga session was also conducted with the crew of FS Étoile and ITS Corsaro, symbolizing a shared commitment to health, harmony, and overall well-being.

An official reception was hosted onboard by **Shri Sanjeev Singla, Ambassador of India to France**, attended by international dignitaries and representatives from participating nations. In his address, he emphasized the strong legacy and growing maritime cooperation between the two navies.

Following her departure, INS Sudarshini is now en route to Casablanca, continuing her mission of strengthening maritime ties under Lokayan 26.





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