



सत्यमेव जयते

**Consulate General of India
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PRESS RELEASE

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**'Navika Sagar Parikrama' - Indian Navy's all-women global circumnavigation
expedition set sails**

Six women officers of the Indian Navy began a historic journey on 10 September 2017 to circumnavigate the world on the Indian Naval Sailing Vessel (INSV) Tarini. **The project 'Navika Sagar Parikrama' is the first time in India's history that an all-woman crew is attempting to circumnavigate the globe.**

Defence Minister Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman flagged INSV Tarini from the INS Mandovi naval training base in Goa, bidding adieu to Tarini's skipper, Lt. Commander Vartika Joshi, and crew, Lt. Commanders Pratibha Jamwal, P Swathi, and Lieutenants S Vijaya Devi, B Aishwarya and Payal Gupta. Defence Minister Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman said after flagging off the 'Navika Sagar Parikrama', "*This is not an occasion which can happen once in five years, once in ten years. This is a historic day for India. A historic day, which will be marked in navigation history and globally, our women are going to stand out for doing something which mostly wouldn't even have been thought of, It is a great pleasure and it is an opportunity which no one can easily get. To be among, these great, inspired and well-motivated women sailors, who are going to take this challenge*".

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had met the six women officers last month, sent out his wishes to INSV Tarini's crew through his tweets:

"Today is a special day! 6 women officers of the Navy begin their journey of circumnavigating the globe on board INSV Tarini".

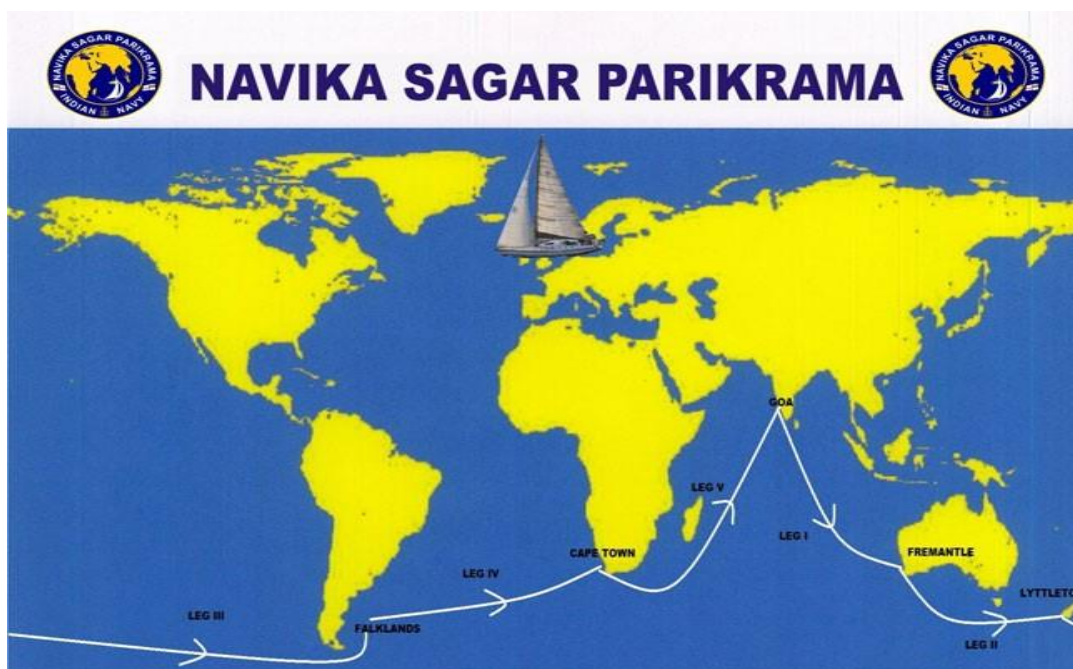
"The entire nation comes together in wishing the all-women team of Navika Sagar Parikrama the very best in their remarkable endeavor."



The crew has sailed approximately 20,000 nautical miles onboard INSV Mhadei and INSV Tarini as part of their training for this journey, which includes two expeditions to Mauritius in 2016 and 2017, and a voyage from Goa to Cape Town. INSV Tarini is 55 feet in length and built in India in line with the 'Make in India' initiative of the Indian Navy, fructified by M/s Aquarius Shipyard, Goa. INSV Tarini and its six-member all-woman crew is expected to anchor back in Goa sometime in April 2018.

During their circumnavigation journey the crew will make four stopovers - Fremantle (Australia), Lyttleton (New Zealand), Port Stanley (Falklands), and Cape Town (South Africa). **INSV Tarini is expected to arrive in Fremantle in mid-October 2017 and the crew will stay in Perth for two-week duration.** The journey will see INSV Tarini sailing through three oceans - Indian, Pacific and Atlantic. During the voyage, the crew will monitor and report marine pollution on the high seas, and collate and update meteorological, ocean and wave data in order to help the India Meteorological Department (IMD) better forecast the weather. The data will also be used for research and development by various Indian organizations. The crew is expected to meet with local

dignitaries and Persons of Indian Origin during their port-calls in Australia, New Zealand, Falklands and South Africa.



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