

COMMEMORATIVE EVENT IN CELEBRATION OF NAVY DAY AND INDIAN NAVAL SAILING VESSEL INSV TARINI

A commemorative event celebrating the Navy Day and the historic circumnavigation attempt by Indian Naval Sailing Vessel Tarini with an all women crew was held at Freedom Park, Pretoria on 30 November 2017. The event was attended by several Ambassadors and members of the Defence and Diplomatic Community. A short film on Indian Navy and on INSV Tarini was screened which encapsulated the activities of the Indian Navy and the voyage of INSV Tarini.

The Indian High Commissioner Ms Ruchira Kamboj, introduced the crew of Tarini and spotlighted how their exploits were fast becoming an inspiration to millions in India and across the globe. The six young women drawn from different parts of India and bonded to a common dream, were flagged off on 10 September this year by India's Defence Minister, also a woman, from Goa, Ms. Kamboj told the audience. She stated that their mission to circumnavigate the globe in approximately 165 days exemplified the grit and determination of the modern Indian woman, served to remind all that gender did not define potential, and underscored that nothing was impossible for a woman. The event also featured a live chat with the INSV Tarini crew, who are currently at Lyttleton, New Zealand.

The Skipper of the boat Lieutenant Commander Vartika Joshi fielded questions which were raised by the audience. She stated that the extensive training provided by the Indian Navy had equipped the crew to face challenges and any other eventualities during the voyage including unexpected weather conditions. The skipper said that the crew was looking forward to meeting everybody in Cape Town in response to a question from Captain Sonika Van Rooyen of the South African Navy. The vessel built in India is linked to South Africa through Southern Spars, Cape Town, who built its mast.

The all women crew comprises of Lieutenant Commander Vartika Joshi (Skipper), Lieutenant Commander Pratibha Jamwal, Lieutenant Aishwarya Boddapati, Lieutenant Patarapalli Swathi, Lieutenant Vijaya Devi and Lieutenant Payal Gupta. The first leg of the voyage from Goa to Fremantle, Australia spanning over 5000 nautical miles was covered in 42 days. The second leg from Fremantle to Lyttelton, New Zealand was completed on 28 November 2017. The boat will depart for its next destination Port Stanley shortly.

The boat is expected to touch Cape Town in February 2018.



India in South Africa (High Commission of India, Pretoria)

1 HOUR AGO 

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