

Samudra Pradakshina

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Samudra Pradakshina is India's first-ever tri-service (Army, Navy, Air Force) all-women circumnavigation expedition.

It involves sailing around the globe, crossing all longitudes and major oceans, meeting the World Sailing Speed Record Council's norms for a true circumnavigation.

Historical Context:

Builds on India's rich circumnavigation legacy:

Capt. Dilip Donde (2009-10) – first solo Indian circumnavigation.

Cmde. Abhilash Tomy (2012-13) – first Indian non-stop circumnavigation.

INSV Tarini – Navika Sagar Parikrama (2017-18) & Navika Sagar Parikrama-II (2024-25) by all-women Indian Navy teams.

Inspired by global pioneers like Sir Robin Knox-Johnston (1969).

Aims & Objectives:

Symbol of Nari Shakti: Showcase courage, resilience, and leadership of women in uniform.

Promote Jointness: Strengthen synergy among Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Diplomatic Outreach: Use port calls as platforms for military diplomacy & cultural exchange.

Scientific Research: Collaborate with NIO to study micro-plastics, ocean biodiversity, and marine health.

Key Features:

Vessel: IASV Triveni, a 50-foot indigenous yacht (Class A) built in Puducherry.

Route: ~26,000 nautical miles, easterly route, crossing Equator twice, rounding Capes Leeuwin, Horn, and Good Hope.

Crew: 10 women officers, led by Lt Col Anuja Varudkar (Army) & Sqn Ldr Shraddha P Raju (IAF).

Timeline: Sept 2025 – May 2026.

Significance:

Women Empowerment: First global tri-service women-led expedition → milestone for gender inclusion in armed forces.

Aatmanirbhar Bharat: Showcases Indian shipbuilding and seamanship capabilities.

Strategic Messaging: Demonstrates India's maritime ambition & global engagement

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