

🚢 Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS)

📌 Overview

Formation: The First Training Squadron (1TS) is part of the Southern Naval Command (SNC), Kochi – the Indian Navy's training command.

Role: Provides sea training to Naval and Coast Guard officers, both Indian and international cadets.

Motto: *Vidyaiva Yashasvini* विद्यैव यशस्विनी (Knowledge is the only glory).

🚢 Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS)

🚢 Composition (Typical)

1TS usually comprises:

INS Tir – Lead ship, India's first dedicated cadet training ship
(commissioned 1986).

INS Sujata – Sukanya-class patrol vessel.

INS Shardul – Landing Ship Tank (Large).

INS Magar – Amphibious warfare ship (sometimes part).

Indian Coast Guard ships (e.g., **ICGS Sarathi**, **ICGS Varuna**) often join.

Visiting foreign ships may also participate during goodwill deployments.

🚢 Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS)

🎯 Functions

Sea Training: Practical seamanship, navigation, communication, damage control, firefighting.

Joint Training: With cadets from Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, and Friendly Foreign Navies.

Goodwill Missions: Frequently sails to friendly countries (Africa, Middle East, SE Asia, Indian Ocean) as **training-cum-diplomatic deployments.**

Exposure: Prepares officer cadets for challenges of blue-water navy operations.

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🌐 Latest Deployment (2025)

Region: South West Indian Ocean.

Visited Nations:

Seychelles

Mauritius

La Réunion (France)

Mozambique

Objective: Long-range training deployment + Defence Diplomacy
(goodwill visits).



🚢 Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS)

📌 Significance

Forms the **backbone** of initial afloat training for naval officers.
Strengthens **defence diplomacy** through port calls abroad.
Contributes to India's vision of a **combat-ready, credible, and future-proof Navy**.

✅ Quick Takeaway for Exams

- HQ: Kochi (SNC).
- Lead Ship: INS Tir.
- Core Members: INS Sujata, INS Shardul, INS Magar.
- Coast Guard Support: ICGS Sarathi, ICGS Varuna.
- Function: **Sea training + Goodwill deployments.**



Q1. The Indian Navy's First Training Squadron functions under which Command?

- (a) Eastern Naval Command
- (b) Western Naval Command
- (c) Southern Naval Command ✓
- (d) Andaman & Nicobar Command

Q2. Which ship is the lead vessel of the First Training Squadron?

- (a) INS Sujata
- (b) INS Shardul
- (c) INS Tir ✓
- (d) INS Magar

Q3. What is the primary role of the First Training Squadron?

- (a) Submarine warfare
- (b) Cadet sea training ✓
- (c) Amphibious assault
- (d) Missile trials

Q4. Where is the headquarters of the Southern Naval Command located?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Kochi ✓
- (c) Visakhapatnam
- (d) Port Blair

✈️ Mikoyan-Gurevich **MiG-21 Decommissioning** – Key Facts

📌 **Event**

- **Decommissioning Ceremony: 26 Sept 2025, Chandigarh.**
- **Marked the final operational sortie of the MiG-21 in the IAF after 62 years of service (since 1963).**
- **Final Squadron: No. 23 Squadron “Panthers”.**
- **Presided by: Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh.**
- **Flypast led by Air Chief Marshal AP Singh (CAS).**

✈️ Mikoyan-Gurevich **MiG-21 Decommissioning** – Key Facts

📖 **Historical Significance**

Induction: 1963, No. 28 Squadron “First Supersonics” at Chandigarh.

Role in Conflicts:

1971 War → Struck Governor’s House, Dhaka.

Kargil War (1999).

Balakot Airstrike (2019).

Operation Sindoor (2025).

Nickname: “**Bird of all seasons**” – Interceptor, Ground-attack, Frontline Air Defence, Trainer.

Production: Over **11,500** built worldwide, ~850 served with IAF.

✈️ Mikoyan-Gurevich **MiG-21 Decommissioning** – Key Facts

🚀 **Upgrades & Variants**

Evolved into multiple upgraded versions: **Trishul, Vikram, Badal, Bison.**

Upgrades by HAL → radars, avionics, weapon systems.

🌟 **Ceremony Highlights**

Spectacular Flypast: Jaguars + MiG-21s; MiG-21 & LCA Tejas joint flypast
(symbolic transition).

Akash Ganga skydiving demo, Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team, Badal & Panther formations.

Ceremonial switch-off of six MiG-21s.

Handing over of **Form-700 (aircraft documents)** to CAS.

Release of commemorative cover & stamp.

✈️ Mikoyan-Gurevich **MiG-21 Decommissioning** – Key Facts

📌 **Legacy**

Laid foundation for training generations of IAF pilots.

A pillar of India's **air power for 6 decades**.

Its versatility & adaptability kept it relevant far beyond its design era.

Q1. In which year was the MiG-21 officially inducted into the Indian Air Force?

- (a) 1959
- (b) 1961
- (c) 1963 ✓
- (d) 1965

Q2. The MiG-21 was inducted into which IAF Squadron first?

- (a) No. 23 Squadron
- (b) No. 28 Squadron "First Supersonics" ✓
- (c) No. 17 Squadron
- (d) No. 51 Squadron

Q3. The MiG-21 played a decisive role in which war by striking the Governor's House in Dhaka?

- (a) 1965 War
- (b) 1971 War ✓
- (c) Kargil War
- (d) Balakot Operation

Q4. Approximately how many MiG-21s served with the Indian Air Force?

- (a) 500
- (b) 650
- (c) 850 ✓
- (d) 1,200

Q5. Which indigenous fighter aircraft's development is seen as carrying forward the MiG-21's legacy?

- (a) Sukhoi-30MKI
- (b) LCA Tejas ✓
- (c) Rafale
- (d) Jaguar

Q6. Which upcoming Indian fighter project was also mentioned in connection with MiG-21's legacy?

- (a) TEDBF
- (b) AMCA ✓
- (c) ORCA
- (d) MRFA

Q7. What symbolic act marked the end of MiG-21 service during the decommissioning ceremony?

- (a) Parade flypast
- (b) Final cannon salute
- (c) Ceremonial switch-off of six MiG-21s ✓
- (d) Handing over aircraft keys

Q8. Who presided over the MiG-21 decommissioning ceremony in Chandigarh?

- (a) Air Chief Marshal AP Singh
- (b) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- (c) Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh ✓
- (d) General Anil Chauhan

Q9. The decommissioning ceremony of the MiG-21 was held at which Air Force Station?

- (a) Nal (Bikaner)
- (b) Ambala
- (c) Chandigarh ✓
- (d) Gwalior

Q10. Air Chief Marshal A P Singh flew the final MiG-21 sortie with which call sign?

- (a) Panther 1
- (b) Badal 3 ✓
- (c) Supersonic 1
- (d) Trishul 2

Q11. The MiG-21 was India's first:

- (a) Nuclear-capable aircraft
- (b) Supersonic fighter & interceptor ✓
- (c) Indigenous fighter jet
- (d) Airborne early warning aircraft

Q12. The MiG-21 earned which famous nickname due to its versatility?

- (a) Falcon of the Skies
- (b) Bird of all seasons ✓
- (c) Flying Tiger
- (d) Desert Hawk

Samudra Pradakshina – Historic All-Women Tri-Services Expedition

Event

Flag-off: 11 Sept 2025, Gateway of India, Mumbai.

Flagged off by: Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** (virtually).

Expedition: First-ever **Tri-Services all-women circumnavigation sailing expedition.**

Vessel

Name: IASV **Triveni** (Indian Army Sailing Vessel).

Size: 50-foot, **indigenously built in Puducherry.**

Class: Class A yacht (acquired Oct 2024).

Samudra Pradakshina – Historic All-Women Tri-Services Expedition

Crew

10 women officers from Army, Navy & Air Force.

Leader: Lt Col Anuja Varudkar (Army).

Deputy Leader: Sqn Ldr Shraddha P Raju (IAF).

Other members: Maj Karamjeet Kaur, Maj Omita Dalvi, Capt Prajakta P Nikam, Capt Dauli Butola, Lt Cdr Priyanka Gusain, Wg Cdr Vibha Singh, Sqn Ldr Aruvi Jayadev, Sqn Ldr Vaishali Bhandari.

Samudra Pradakshina – Historic All-Women Tri-Services Expedition

Voyage Details

Distance: ~26,000 nautical miles.

Duration: 9 months (Sept 2025 – May 2026).

Route: Cross Equator twice, round **3 great Capes** – Cape Leeuwin, Cape Horn, Cape of Good Hope.

Oceans Covered: Indian Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Southern Ocean, Drake Passage.

Port Calls: Fremantle (Australia), Lyttelton (New Zealand), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Cape Town (South Africa).

Samudra Pradakshina – Historic All-Women Tri-Services Expedition

Significance

Symbol of **Nari Shakti** & Tri-Services jointness.

Maritime diplomacy + military adventure.

Scientific research with **National Institute of Oceanography:**

- Study of micro-plastics.

- Documentation of marine life.

- Awareness on ocean health.

Continues India's legacy after INSV **Tarini** missions.

Q1. The 'Samudra Pradakshina' expedition is undertaken aboard which vessel?

- (a) INSV Tarini
- (b) IASV Triveni ✓
- (c) INSV Mhadei
- (d) INS Shardul

Q2. How many women officers are part of the Tri-Services expedition crew?

- (a) 6
- (b) 8
- (c) 10 ✓
- (d) 12

Q3. IASV Triveni was built in which place?

- (a) Kochi
- (b) Puducherry ✓
- (c) Goa
- (d) Mumbai

Q4. The Samudra Pradakshina voyage will cover how many nautical miles?

- (a) 18,000
- (b) 20,000
- (c) 26,000 ✓
- (d) 30,000

Q5. Which three great Capes will be rounded during the expedition?

- (a) Cape York, Cape Horn, Cape Leeuwin
- (b) Cape Leeuwin, Cape Horn, Cape of Good Hope ✓
- (c) Cape Town, Cape Horn, Cape York
- (d) Cape Leeuwin, Cape Verde, Cape Comorin

Q6. Which city was the flag-off point for the Samudra Pradakshina expedition?

- (a) Kochi
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Panaji
- (d) Mumbai ✓

Q7. Which officer is the expedition leader of Samudra Pradakshina?

- (a) Lt Cdr Priyanka Gusain
- (b) Sqn Ldr Shraddha P Raju
- (c) Lt Col Anuja Varudkar ✓
- (d) Wg Cdr Vibha Singh

Q8. Which organisation is collaborating with the expedition for ocean research?

- (a) ISRO
- (b) NIOT
- (c) NIO (National Institute of Oceanography) ✓
- (d) DRDO