



भारतीय नौसेना

Press Release (Kochi) - 27 Jan 12

COMMISSIONING OF INS SUDARSHINI AT KOCHI



**Vice Admiral KN Sushil, Flag Officer Commanding in Chief Southern Naval Command
on his first visit to INS Sudarshini**

INS Sudarshini a three masted barque (sail ship) and the second sail training ship of the Indian Navy was commissioned by Vice Admiral KN Sushil, Flag Officer Commanding in Chief Southern Naval Command (SNC) at Naval Base, Kochi on 27 Jan 12.

The ship is a follow-on class of INS Tarangini which joined SNC in 1997. The ship commanded by Commander P K Boyiri Varma is built by Goa Shipyard Limited and is designed by the British Naval Architect Mr Colin Mudie. INS Sudarshini with an overall length of 54 m, has 20 sails, 7.5 kms of rope and 1.5 kms of steel wire rope. She can sail for up to 20 days with its complement of 05 officers, 31 sailors with 30 cadets embarked for training.

INS Sudarshini will join the First Training Squadron based at Southern Naval Command. Interestingly, the ship was launched by Smt. Letha Sushil, the spouse of Vice Admiral KN Sushil, at Goa Shipyard on 25th January 2011. Sail Training Ships are crucibles for future Naval Officers for training in seamanship, navigation, ship handling, and braving the elements. The inclusion of a second sail training ship will ensure the availability of either of the ships for training of cadets on a continuous basis.

INS Sudarshini is expected to undertake a historic ASEAN voyage in September 2012. The voyage, which would cement the historic ties of India with the countries of ASEAN region, will touch 18 ports in 8 countries and will conclude in April 2013.

Southern Naval Command eschewed the traditional grandeur befitting a commissioning ceremony, in view of the passing away of the Governor of Kerala.



The Naval Ensign flutters on board INS Sudarshini the first time



Vice Admiral KN Sushil, Flag Officer Commanding in Chief Southern Naval Command addressing the gathering during the commissioning ceremony



Vice Admiral KN Sushil, Flag Officer Commanding in Chief Southern Naval Command saluting the Naval Ensign during the commissioning



INS Sudarshini after commissioning