

## INS Sunayna, PASSEX Exercise and SAGAR Initiative

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### Why in News?

*INS Sunayna, deployed under the Indian Ocean Ship (IOS) SAGAR initiative, arrived at Male, Maldives marking the first port call of her operational deployment.*

- It is the **2<sup>nd</sup> Saryu-class offshore patrol vessel of the Indian Navy.**

*The **Saryu class** of Naval Offshore Patrol Vessels (NOPVs) represents the Indian Navy's advanced indigenously designed and built patrol ships and the first commissioned Vessel is **INS Saryu.***

- It is designed and constructed indigenously by the Goa Shipyard Limited.
- **Commissioned in** - 2013.
- **Displacement** - 2,200 tonnes.
- **Speed** - 25 knots ( $\approx 46$  km/h).
- **Range** - 6,000 nautical miles at 16 knots.
- **Role** - Maritime security, surveillance, humanitarian assistance, and regional cooperation under the SAGAR.
- **Objectives**
  - Strengthen maritime partnerships and interoperability in the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR).**
  - Enhance capacity building and collective readiness among friendly foreign navies.
  - Promote India's **Neighbourhood First** and **One Ocean, One Mission** vision.
- **Key Features - Multifaceted Mission Capability** - Equipped for long-range patrols, surveillance, and maritime security to effectively safeguard critical sea lanes.
- **Integrated Crisis Response** - Supports anti-piracy, search and rescue,

and humanitarian assistance during disaster relief and medical outreach missions.

- **Operational Capacity Building** - Designed for multinational deployments and joint naval exercises to enhance training and capacity building with partner nations.

## **IOS SAGAR Initiative**

- **Full Form** - Indian Ocean Ship - Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR).
- **IOS SAGAR** - It is a maritime engagement program aimed at fostering cooperation with **16 Indian Ocean Region (IOR) nations**.
- It involves training and sailing maritime personnel onboard INS Sunayna to enhance maritime security, interoperability, and strengthen ties under the MAHASAGAR framework.
- **Participants** - Naval personnel from 16 Friendly Foreign Countries (FFCs) join Indian crew.
- **Highlights** - Strengthen maritime partnerships in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- Support humanitarian assistance, disaster relief (HADR), and anti-piracy operations.
- Port calls in Maldives, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Singapore.
- Engagements with partner navies to build trust and professional links.
- Reinforces India's Neighbourhood First policy.
- Builds the largest multinational crew deployment under an Indian Navy initiative.

## **MAHASAGAR**

- **MAHASAGAR** - Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions.
- **Introduced in-** March 2025, linked to the IOS SAGAR initiative.
- **Focus** - Expands India's SAGAR doctrine (2015) from bilateral to multilateral maritime cooperation.
- **Objectives** - Collective security, blue economy, disaster relief, and regional connectivity in the Indian Ocean Region.
- **Significance** - Positions India as a net security provider, complements forums like Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) and Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), and supports the vision of "One Ocean, One Mission."

## **References**

1. [PIB | INS Sunayna](#)
2. [Indian Navy | INS Sunayna](#)

