



Consulate General of India Durban

June 5, 2023

Press Release: INS Trishul visit to Port Durban from June 06- 9, 2023.

Indian Naval Ship Trishul is scheduled to visit Port Durban, KwaZulu-Natal from June 6-9, 2023, to commemorate the 130th anniversary of the June 7, 1893 incident at Pietermaritzburg Railway Station, which transformed Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi into Mahatma Gandhi. The ship visit also commemorates 30 years of the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between India and South Africa.

2. The ship will reach Port Durban on June 6, 2023. The ship is part of the Indian Navy's Western Fleet, based in Mumbai. During the visit, the frigate will have professional interactions with the South African Navy, further enhancing the close cooperation between the two navies. In addition, a number of social engagements and commemorative events are planned, including some on board, which are aimed at strengthening ties and mutual understanding between the two Navies.

3. Her Excellency the Deputy High Commissioner/Charge d'affaires, Pretoria Mrs. Banu Prakash, and the Commanding Officer of INS Ship Trishul, Captain Kapil Kaushik, will host an on-board reception on INS Trishul on June 8, 2023.

4. As part of public outreach activities, the INS Trishul crew, commanded by Captain, in coordination with the Consulate General of India in Durban, will also participate in yoga session, donation-cultural event, the navy choir, the retreat ceremony, and the unity walk in Durban. South African school children will be taken around the ship and briefed on her operational capabilities as well as the role played by the Indian Navy in maritime security in the ocean shared by our two countries. The visit would demonstrate to the public, especially the next generation, the friendliness of our two countries as well as the role and relevance of the Indian Navy as an instrument of bilateral relations.

5. India and South Africa share the Indian Ocean as maritime neighbours with cordial defence and warm political relations. The two Navies regularly interact and operate together during Exercise IBSAMAR, which is held every alternate year, the last edition of which was

conducted last year. Indian Navy also hosts a number of trainees from the South African Navy in various professional schools.

6. The current visit, on the eve of the 130th anniversary of the Pietermaritzburg Railway Station incident in Durban, seeks to highlight the historical links and the importance accorded by India to bilateral relations with South Africa and to strengthen the existing bonds between the two countries. The ship is expected to leave South African shores on June 9, 2023.


