High Commission of India

Port Louis

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**Press Release:**

**VISIT OF INDIAN NAVY SHIPS TIR, SUJATA, SHARDUL AND INDIAN COAST GUARD SHIP SARATHI TO MAURITIUS**

           In a demonstration of India's commitment to its ties with Mauritius, four ships from India namely Indian Naval Ship TIR, Indian Naval Ship SUJATA, Indian Naval Ship SHARDUL of the first Training Squadron and Indian Coast Guard Ship SARATHI are visiting Mauritius from 10-13 March 2017 to participate in the National Day Celebrations of Mauritius. INS SHARDUL will also undertake EEZ surveillance in Mauritian waters. Vice Admiral AR Karve, AVSM, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Southern Naval Command will also visit Mauritius on the same dates.

During the visit of these ships, the following activities are envisaged:

(i)                   Helicopter onboard INS Shardul will participate in the flypast for the National Day Celebrations

(ii)                  A marching contingent will be there for participation in the National Day Celebrations

(iii)                Indian Naval band will participate in the National Day Celebrations

Calls on senior dignitaries of the Government of Mauritius, training and technical cooperation activities with NCG as well as sporting and cultural interactions, aimed at strengthening ties and mutual understanding between the two sides, are planned. **The ships will be open to visitors on 12 March 2017 from 1000 hrs to 1600 hrs at Quay A/ D (Port Area).**

A free Yoga camp will also be organized near the Indian ships in the forenoon of Saturday, 11 March 2017 by the Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture (IGCIC). The Indian Navy personnel from the ship have volunteered to donate blood during their port visit and a blood donation camp will also be organized at 0900 hrs on Saturday, 11 Mar 2017at Quay A (Port Louis Harbour).

During the departure of the ships on 14 March 2017, joint exercises at sea will be conducted with NCG ships/aircraft. INS SHARDUL will also conduct EEZ Surveillance and Outer Island Supportfrom 14 March to 21 March 2017. INS SHARDUL will visit Port Louis again from 21 to 23 March 2017 for its operational turn around.

***Port Louis***

***10 March 2017***

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