

Bay of Bengal Offshore Sailing Expedition (BBSE)

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Indian **Naval Sailing Vessels Mhadei and Tarini** set sail for the Bay of Bengal Offshore Sailing Expedition on 22 February 2020 from the Indian Naval Ocean Sailing Node at Goa.

About the expedition

- This would be the **maiden major mixed crew sailing expedition of the Indian Navy** with crew composition of five naval officers including two women officers in each boat.
- It will cover a total distance of 6,100 Nautical miles each and will be at sea for 55 days.
- The prolonged voyage of nearly three months during this expedition would showcase the harnessing of renewable energy namely wind energy to propel the boats.
- The expedition is also in **pursuance of the GOI mission of 'Nari Shakti'** providing opportunity to women officers at par with men.
- The expedition also aims to enhance the level of cooperation and camaraderie between the littoral nations in the Bay of Bengal whilst exhibiting the *IN* expertise in the domain of ocean sailing.

Significance

The Bay of Bengal Offshore Sailing Expedition will generate goodwill amongst the visiting nations and inspire participation in the forthcoming BIMSTEC Sailing Expedition being planned with a mixed crew of member nations onboard Indian Naval Sailing Vessels.

A brief note on Vessels Mhadei and Tarini

- **Mhadei and Tarini inducted into the Indian Navy on 08 February 2009 and 18 February 2017 respectively** have been the vessels of choice for the naval expeditioners in various sailing expeditions, including three circumnavigations and thus have thousands of miles tucked under their belt.
- **Mhadei has successfully completed two circumnavigations**, three Cape to Rio trans-Atlantic races and several other expeditions around various continents. The vessel has covered in excess of 1,36,000 nautical miles.
- **Tarini created history in 2017-18 when six Indian Naval women officers sailed the vessel on maiden circumnavigation voyage titled Navika Sagar Parikrama.** She thereafter also participated in mixed crew Kochi to Seychelles sail training expedition during the 10th-anniversary celebration of the IONS.