INS Trishul reaches Plymouth, UK, for India–UK naval exercise KONKAN-26

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News

INS Trishul, an Indian Navy guided-missile stealth frigate, reached Plymouth, UK, for the India–UK naval exercise KONKAN-26. The exercise runs on 8–15 Oct 2026 off Plymouth in a harbour phase and a sea phase – air, surface and anti-submarine drills, cross-deck helicopter landings and firing.

Key facts

Exercise	KONKAN-26 – India–UK naval exercise; 8–15 Oct 2026
Venue	Plymouth, UK
Ship	INS Trishul (F43) – Talwar-class frigate; built in Russia; commissioned 25 June 2003
Since	KONKAN exercise held since 2004
KONKAN 2025	First combined carrier strike group drill – INS Vikrant and HMS Prince of Wales

Background

- India–UK: Comprehensive Strategic Partnership; 'Vision 2035' roadmap; the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) was signed in July 2025.

- Other India–UK exercises: 'Ajeya Warrior' – army; 'Indradhanush' – air force.
- 'Trishul' is Lord Shiva's trident. In March 2024 INS Trishul rescued 23 Pakistani crew from a hijacked Iranian fishing vessel near Socotra.
- Geography: Plymouth is on England's south-west Devon coast on the English Channel; the 'Mayflower' sailed from here to America in 1620.

Tamil Nadu link: Tamil Nadu's waters come under the Eastern Naval Command; INS Adyar is the naval base in Chennai. (INS Vikrant, which took part in KONKAN 2025, was built in Kochi.)

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