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Indian Navy's new ensign unveiled: how it looks, what it means

In a bid to do away the “colonial past”, the Saint George’s Cross has been removed from the Indian Navy’s new flag. Instead, it now features the national emblem with the Tricolour on the upper canton.

By: [Express Web Desk](#)

Kochi | Updated: September 2, 2022 1:53:25 pm


NewsGuard




The new ensign is a successor to the pre-Independence ensign of the Indian Navy, featuring the Saint George's Cross on a white background with the Tricolour in the canton.

The Indian Navy's **new ensign was unveiled** by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Kochi on Friday, on the sidelines of the commissioning of INS Vikrant, the country's first Indigenously Aircraft Carrier (IAC-1).



INS Vikrant and Navy's new ensign in one frame at Cochin Shipyard after the commissioning ceremony on Friday. (Express Photo by Sushant Kulkarni)

In a bid to do away with the “colonial past”, the Saint George’s Cross has been removed from the Indian Navy’s new flag. Instead, it now features the national emblem with the Tricolour on the upper canton (top left corner of flag). The national emblem is encompassed by an octagonal shield and sits atop an anchor. Beneath it is the Navy’s motto ‘Sam No Varunah’.

SpokespersonNavy 

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The new Naval Ensign unveiled by [@PMOIndia](#) Shri [@narendramodi](#) on [#02Sep](#) 22, during the glorious occasion of commissioning of [#INSVikrant](#), first indigenously built Indian Aircraft Carrier & thus, an apt day for heralding the change of ensign.

Know all about the new Ensign 

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The golden border surrounding the national emblem draws inspiration from the seal of Indian emperor Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and depicts steadfastness. The octagonal shape of the national emblem has been designed to represent eight directions, symbolising the multi-directional reach and multi-dimensional operational capability of the Indian Navy.

New Naval Ensign | The naval prowess of Chhatrapati Shivaji that has always inspired the Indian Navy

The new ensign is a successor to the pre-Independence ensign of the Indian Navy, featuring the Saint George's Cross on a white background with the Tricolour in the canton.

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The previous ensign carried the Saint George's Cross and was a successor to the pre-Independence ensign which had the red Cross on a white background with the Union Jack of the United Kingdom on the top left corner.

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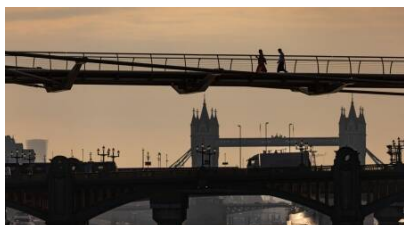
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