

Fort Williams Renamed as Vijay Durg

Source: TH

Fort William, the Indian Army's Eastern Command HQ in Kolkata, has been renamed Vijay Durg to remove colonial imprints. It is named after Maharashtra's oldest Sindhudurg fort, a former Maratha naval base under Chhatrapati Shivaji.

Other changes include renaming Kitchener House, inside the fort to Manekshaw
 House and St. George's Gate to Shivaji Gate.

About Fort Williams:

- The fort is located in Kolkata on the eastern banks of the Hooghly River and was originally named after King William III of England.
 - The original fort was built by the British in 1696 under Sir John
 Goldsborough and completed in 1706.
 - It was damaged during the Siege of Calcutta (1756) when Siraj-ud-Daulah defeated the British.
 - After the <u>Battle of Plassey (1757)</u>, Robert Clive rebuilt it at a new location between 1758 and 1781.
- Significance:
 - Site of the Black Hole of Calcutta incident (1756).
 - It houses a war memorial with artifacts from the <u>1971 Indo-Pak War</u> and <u>Bangladesh</u> <u>Liberation War</u>.

Other Similar Renamings:

- Renaming Rajpath to Kartavya Path and Port Blair to Sri Vijaya Puram.
- The Indian Navy adopted a **new ensign, removing colonial symbols** (2022).

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