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Indian navy @75

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INTRODUCTION:

India has completed 75 years of independence. Our country has achieved many milestones during last 75 years in all sectors, by Economy we are now 5th largest economy of world and in comparison, with military we are ranked 4th by Global Firepower report. Our military expenditure is touching new high year by year. Our military exports are also touching new high.

Navy is very important wing of Indian defence forces. In India, the Indian Navy is a maritime division within the Indian armed forces, with the President serving as Commander-in-chief. Maratha Emperor, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is regarded as the Father of the Indian Navy and Navy Day is celebrated on 4th December. Theme for Indian Navy Day 2022 is "Swarnim Vijay Varsh. Indian Navy founded on 26th January 1950.

Size of Indian Navy –

67,252 active personal are currently working with Indian Navy and 75,000 reserve personal are with Indian Navy. 150 ships (295 including auxiliaries) and approx 300 aircrafts. Indian Navy has a very large operational fleet.

- Aircraft carriers – 2
- Destroyer- 11
- Frigates- 13
- Diesel submarines – 16
- Nuclear submarines – 2
- Landing ship tanks- 8
- Amphibious transport dock – 1
- Replenishment oilers- 4
- Patrol vessels- 140
- Corvette – 24
- Mine countermeasures vessel- 1

And other auxiliary vessels.

Indian Naval Ensign

Recently PM Modi unveiled a new ensign of the Indian Navy during the commissioning of the country's first indigenously-built aircraft carrier – INS Vikrant – at Cochin Shipyard Limited in Kochi.

Navy's new ensign drops the St George's Cross and incorporates the royal seal of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.



The new ensign has the national flag on the upper canton. A blue octagonal shape with the national emblem sits atop an anchor, superimposed on a shield with the navy's motto. Indian Navy motto-
शं नो वरुणः (Sanskrit) Sham No Varunaḥ . 'May the Lord of Water be auspicious unto us'

Maritime history of India goes back to about 6000 years. The art of navigation has been recorded since the Indus valley civilization. We have had golden naval history.

Indian Naval had done many strategic operation since independence.

The 1961 liberation of Goa from the Portuguese was the first engagement of Indian Navy post independence during that operation Indian Navy showed their competence and merged Goa with India.

Indian Navy didn't participate in 1962 Indo- China war , the Indo – China war didn't involved Navy and Indian Air force military experts says that it was a very big strategic blunder of Political leadership for not allowing Indian Navy and airforce to participate in 1962 war.

1965 War

At the outbreak of Indo-Pakistani War of 1965, the Navy had one aircraft carrier, two cruisers, nineteen destroyers and frigates, and one tanker. Of these twenty-ships ten were under refit. The others were largely involved coastal patrols. During the war, the Pakistani Navy attacked the Indian coastal city of Dwarka, although there were no military resources in the area. While this attack was insignificant, India deployed naval resources to patrol the coast and deter further bombardment. During 1965 war Indian Navy mainly work as a defensive unit and nit attacking unit. These two war set the stage to make Indian Navy stronger and attackers in case of any military conflicts and 1971 war became a historic war for Indian Navy.

1971 Indo – Pakistan war

It was a counter-attack by the Indian Navy on the Karachi harbor during the Indo-Pakistan war in 1971.

India used anti-ship missiles for the first time during this operation and destroyed the Pakistani destroyer ship PNS Khaibar.

The Indian Navy's three warships – INS Nipat, INS Nirghat and INS Veer – played an important role in the attack. This operation gave a clear edge to India forces against Pakistan during war of 1971.

This attack established Indian Navy post independence in a true sense.

The dramatic change in the Indian Navy's capabilities and stance was emphatically demonstrated during the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971. Under the command of Admiral Sardarilal Mathradas Nanda, the navy successfully enforced a naval blockade of West and East Pakistan this hurt Pakistan in a very greater way. Pakistan's lone long-range submarine PNS Ghazi was sunk

following an attack by the destroyer INS Rajput off the coast of Visakhapatnam in the midnight of 3–4 December 1971 this gave Pakistan a huge setback and almost gave a shock to United States of America this was very huge moment in Indian Navy history. On 4th December 1971, the Indian Navy successfully executed Operation Trident, a devastating attack on the Pakistan Naval Headquarters of Karachi that sank a minesweeper, a destroyer and an ammunition supply ship. The attack also irreparably damaged another destroyer and oil storage tanks at the Karachi port. To commemorate this, 4 December is celebrated as the Navy Day. Local said that following this attack fire was lasting for two to three days that shows the real capabilities of Indian Navy. This was followed by Operation Python on 8 December 1971, further deprecating the Pakistan Navy's capabilities. Indian frigate INS Khukri, commanded by Captain M. N. Mulla was sunk by PNS Hangor, while INS Kirpan was damaged on the west coast.

In the Bay of Bengal, the aircraft carrier INS Vikrant was deployed to successfully enforce the naval blockade on East Pakistan. Sea Hawk and the Alizé aircraft from INS Vikrant sank numerous gunboats and Pakistani merchant marine ship. INS Vikrant played a major role in 1971 war and Pakistan with the support of US tried everything to destroy INS Vikrant. To demonstrate its solidarity as an ally of Pakistan, the United States sent Task Force 74 centred around the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise into the Bay of Bengal. In retaliation, Soviet Navy submarines trailed the American task force, which moved away from the Indian Ocean towards Southeast Asia to avert a confrontation this show the USSR support in Indo – Pak war a very important moment in Indo – Soviet friendship. In the end, the Indian naval blockade of Pakistan choked off the supply of reinforcements to the Pakistani forces, which proved to be decisive in the overwhelming defeat of Pakistan.

Since playing a decisive role in the victory, the navy has been a deterrent force maintaining peace for India in a region of turmoil. In 1983, the Indian Navy planned for Operation Lal Dora to support the government of Mauritius against a feared coup. First instance in which Indian Navy operated to help a friendly country. In 1986, in Operation Flowers are Blooming, the Indian Navy averted an attempted coup in the Seychelles. In 1988, India launched Operation Cactus, to successfully thwart a coup d'état by PLOTE in the Maldives. Naval maritime reconnaissance aircraft detected the ship hijacked by PLOTE rebels. INS Godavari and Indian marine commandos recaptured the ship and arrested the rebels. During the 1999 Kargil War, the Western and Eastern fleets were deployed in the Northern Arabian Sea, as a part of Operation Talwar. They safeguarded India's maritime assets from a potential Pakistani naval attack, as also deterred Pakistan from attempting to block India's sea-trade routes. The Indian Navy's aviators flew sorties and marine commandos fought alongside Indian Army personnel in the Himalayas.

In October 1999, the Navy along with the Indian Coast Guard rescued MV Alondra Rainbow, a pirated Japanese cargo ship.

In the 21st century, the Indian Navy has played an important role in maintaining peace for India on the maritime front, in spite of the state of foment in its neighbourhood. It has been deployed for humanitarian relief in times of natural disasters and crises across the globe, as well as to keep India's maritime trade routes free and open.

The Indian Navy was a part of the joint forces exercises, Operation Parakram, during the 2001–2002 India–Pakistan standoff. More than a dozen warships were deployed to the northern Arabian Sea. In October, the Indian Navy took over operations to secure the Strait of Malacca, to relieve US Navy resources for Operation Enduring Freedom.

The navy plays an important role in providing humanitarian relief in times of natural disasters, including floods, cyclones and tsunamis. In the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami, the Indian Navy launched massive disaster relief operations to help affected Indian states as well as Maldives, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. Over 27 ships, dozens of helicopters, at least six fixed-wing aircraft and over 5000 personnel of the navy were deployed in relief operations. These included Operation Madad in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, Operation Sea Waves in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Operation Castor in Maldives, Operation Rainbow in Sri Lanka and Operation Gambhir in Indonesia. Gambhir, carried out following the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, was one of the largest and fastest force mobilization's that the Indian Navy has undertaken. Indian naval rescue vessels and teams reached neighbouring countries less than 12 hours from the time that the tsunami hit. Lessons from the response led to decision to enhance amphibious force capabilities, including the acquisition of landing platform docks such as INS Jalashwa, as well as smaller amphibious vessels.

During the 2006 Israel-Lebanon conflict, the Indian Navy launched Operation Sukoon and evacuated 2,280 persons from 20 to 29 July 2006 including 436 Sri Lankans, 69 Nepalese and 7 Lebanese nationals from war-torn Lebanon. In 2006, Indian naval doctors served for 102 days on board USNS Mercy to conduct medical camps in the Philippines, Bangladesh, Indonesia and East Timor. In 2007, Indian Navy supported relief operations for the survivors of Cyclone Sidr in Bangladesh. In 2008, Indian Naval vessels were the first to launch international relief operations for victims of Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar. In 2008, the navy deployed INS Tabar and INS Mysore into the Gulf of Aden to combat piracy in Somalia. Tabar prevented numerous piracy attempts, and escorted hundreds of ships safely through the pirate-infested waters. The navy also undertook anti-piracy patrols near the Seychelles, upon that country's request.

In February 2011, the Indian Navy launched Operation Safe Homecoming and rescued Indian nationals from war torn Libya. Between January–March, the navy launched Operation Island Watch to deter piracy attempts by Somali pirates off the Lakshadweep archipelago. This operation has had numerous successes in preventing pirate attacks. During the 2015 crisis in Yemen, the Indian Navy was part of Operation Raahat and rescued 3074 individuals of which 1291 were foreign nationals. On 15 April 2016, a Poseidon-8I long-range patrol aircraft managed to thwart a piracy attack on the high seas by flying over MV Sezai Selaha, a merchant vessel, which was being targeted by a pirate mother ship and two skiffs around 800 nautical miles (1,500 km; 920 mi) from Mumbai.

Different development projects for Indian Navy-

Project 75--

Indian Navy P-75 1 submarine project is listed in Phase I of the Indian Navy's 30 Year indigenous submarine construction plan approved by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) on 13 Jul 1999. The plan envisages the construction of 24 submarines indigenously along with public and private industries, of appropriate designs in two phases.

In Phase I (2000 – 2015), the plan had two parts.

The first part is the construction of P 75 started in Oct 2005

The first of the Project – 75 submarines was commissioned into the Navy in December 2017 .

The second part, Project 75(I), six submarines from the Eastern design like the 877EKM or a derivative like Amur 1650, was to be constructed simultaneously.

Project-75(I) envisages indigenous construction of six modern conventional submarines (including associated shore support, Engineering Support Package, training and spares package) with contemporary equipment, weapons & sensors including Fuel-Cell based AIP (Air Independent Propulsion Plant), advanced torpedoes, modern missiles and state of the art countermeasure systems.

Significance :The project would not only aid in boosting the core submarine/ship building industry but would also greatly enhance the manufacturing/industrial sector, especially the MSME by development of an industrial eco-system for manufacture of associated spares/systems/equipment related to submarines.

The overall aim would be to progressively build indigenous capabilities in the public/private sector to design, develop and manufacture complex weapon systems for the future needs of the Armed Forces.

Development projects of Indian Navy are running at a very slow pace this need to look by respected authority. To counter China we need a very strong Indian Navy because the Chinese navy is the largest navy in the world.

However recently projects are started rapidly advancing this is a very positive sign. Indian Navy is cooperating with Russia as well as France for its projects.

We are cooperating with QUAD nations in order to support our vision of free and open Indo – Pacific for all. US , Japan and Australia can play a very important role to counter China in the Indian Ocean Region can be called as our own territory.

China is said to be our biggest threat in Indian Ocean in order to bring China under control we need more India Navy bases outside our Indian territory.

Strong navy gives a nation secured trade routes and also strong navy can blockade enemy nation trade routes which is a strategic game of 21st century.

Navy achieved many things in last 75 years and capable of securing our future security interest in the region.

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