

Commencement of sea trials of IAC (P71) 'Vikrant'



Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC) 'Vikrant' designed by Indian Navy's Directorate of Naval Design (DND) is being built at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), a Public Sector Shipyard under Ministry of Shipping (MoS). IAC is a leading example of the nation's quest for "Atma Nirbhar Bharat" with more than 76% indigenous content. This is the maiden attempt of the Indian Navy and Cochin Shipyard to indigenously design and build an aircraft carrier.

The Indigenous Aircraft Carrier is 262 m long, 62 m at the widest part and height of 59 m including the superstructure. There are 14 decks in all, including five in the superstructure. The ship has over 2,300 compartments, designed for a crew of around 1700 people, including specialised cabins to accommodate women officers. The ship has been designed with a very high degree of automation for machinery operation, ship navigation and survivability, 'Vikrant' has a top speed of around 28 knots and cruising speed of 18 knots with an endurance of about 7,500 nautical miles. The ship can accommodate an assortment of fixed wing and rotary aircraft.

Most of the ship construction activities have been completed and the ship has entered the trials phase. Readiness of ship's Propulsion and Power Generation equipment/systems was tested in harbour as part of Basin Trials in November 2020. Progress of construction of the Carrier was reviewed by the Raksha Mantri during his visit to the ship on 25 June 2021. Though the commencement of Sea Trials was

delayed due to the 2nd wave of COVID, with concentrated and dedicated efforts of large number of workmen, OEMs, engineers, overseers, inspectors, designers and the ship's crew, who had put their heart and soul towards the ship's readiness for sea trials. This is a major milestone activity and historical event and reaching this milestone is significant as they have been achieved barring the current pandemic challenges and

