

INS Imphal: Navy commissions indigenous stealth-guided missile destroyer in Mumbai

TIMESOFINDIA.COM | Dec 26, 2023, 04.36 PM IST



NEW DELHI: Indian Navy on Tuesday commissioned its latest stealth-guided missile destroyer 'INS Imphal' at Naval Dockyard in Mumbai.

The largest and most advanced destroyer to ever be named after a city in the northeastern state of Manipur, its commissioning has added muscle to India's naval fleet.

"INS Imphal will not only tackle physical threats that emanate at or from the seas, but also, through the demonstrated strength of an integrated Bharat, she will deter nefarious designs, trying to subvert our national unity," Navy chief Admiral R Hari Kumar said during the commissioning event.

Defence minister Rajnath Singh and Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde were present at the Naval Dockyard for the event that marked the formal induction into the Navy of the third of four 'Visakhapatnam' class destroyers.



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Speaking after the commissioning of INS Imphal, Rajnath said India has intensified patrolling of the seas after the recent attacks on merchant navy ships.

"The Indian government has taken the drone attack on MV Chem Pluto and attack on MV Saibaba in the Red Sea seriously. We will find those who executed the recent attacks on merchant navy ships even from the depths of the seas and take strict action against them," he said.

MV Chem Pluto with 21 Indian crew members, was struck by a drone about 217 nautical miles from Porbandar on Saturday following which both the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard deployed a number of assets to provide assistance to the ship. In another such incident, a [Gabon-flagged commercial crude oil tanker, with 25 Indian crew members](#), also came under a drone attack in the Red Sea.

Imphal was delivered to the Indian Navy on October 20 after completing a rigorous and comprehensive trial programme both in the harbour and at sea. The ship's keel was laid on May 19, 2017, and the ship was launched into water on April 20, 2019.

Measuring 163 metres in length, displacing 7,400 tonnes and with 75% indigenous content, Imphal can rightfully be regarded as one of the most potent warships to have been constructed in India.

A testament to India's growing shipbuilding prowess in pursuit of the national vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'. The warship is a true harbinger of a developed India, in tune with the national vision for 'Amrit Kaal'. The ship boasts a high indigenous content including medium range surface-to-air missiles, BrahMos surface-to-surface missiles, indigenous torpedo tube launchers, anti-submarine indigenous rocket launchers and 76mm super rapid gun mount.

— rajnathsingh (@rajnathsingh)

INS Imphal is fitted with a modern surveillance radar which provides target data to the gunnery weapon systems of the ship. The ship's Anti-Submarine Warfare capabilities are provided by the indigenously developed Rocket Launchers, Torpedo Launchers and ASW helicopters. The ship is equipped to fight under Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) warfare conditions and has a high degree of automation and stealth features further enhancing her combat capability and survivability.

A state-of-the-art warship, Imphal is designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau and built by M/s MDL, with significant contributions from the public and private sectors, including MSMEs, and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).