



# India's first missile tracking ship is readying for sea trials

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## **Highlights**

- India's first missile tracking ship is readying for sea trials built by Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.
- Once ready, it will be India's first, a force multiplier and cruise the country into a global elite club.
- Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) is gearing up to undertake sea trials of India's first missile tracking ship by the first week of October.

## **Weapons programme**

- This will be the first of its kind ocean surveillance ship being built as part of the efforts under the NDA government to strengthen the country's strategic weapons programme.
- "This would put India in the elite of club of a few countries that have such a sophisticated ocean surveillance ship," the Rear Admiral pointed out.

## **Huge Capacity**

- The ship was built inside the covered dry dock. It has the capacity to carry 300-strong crew with hi-tech gadgets and communication equipment, powered by two diesel engines, and a large deck capable of helicopter landing.
- Visakhapatnam is considered a strategic location on the East Coast for the Indian defence forces as it is home for Ship Building Centre to build nuclear powered submarine INS Arihant class, Naval Alternate Operational Base at Rambilli, the second naval base after Eastern Naval Command headquarters, training centre for Marine Commandos and headquarters of the submarine arm.

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