

INDIAN NAVY TO COMMISSION THE FIRST INDIGENOUS DIVING SUPPORT VESSEL – ‘NISTAR’

Posted On: 10 JUL 2025 4:36PM by PIB Delhi

Indian Navy is all set to commission the first of the class Diving Support Vessel (DSV) Nistar at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam on **18 Jul 2025** in the presence of the **Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh**. The event marks the formal induction of the ship which has been **indigenously** designed and constructed by **M/s Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam**. On commissioning, the ship will join the **Eastern Naval Command** to support deep sea diving and submarine rescue operations.

The ship is a testament to the GoI's resolute focus on nation building through self-reliance in defence production and unwavering focus on **Aatmanirbharta**. A total of **120 MSMEs** have participated in the construction of this ambitious, unique and state-of-the-art vessel, achieving more than 80% indigenous content. The project is a step towards realising the Indian Navy's vision of designing and constructing complex indigenous platforms.

In her earlier avatar ex-Nistar, was a submarine rescue vessel which was acquired by the Indian Navy from the erstwhile USSR in 1969 and commissioned in 1971. In two decades of service, she had significantly contributed towards the Indian Navy's diving and submarine rescue operations. With the commissioning of this ship, the legacy of ex-Nistar continues onwards, with her motto '*Surakshita Yatharthta Shauryam*' translating to 'Deliverance with Precision and Bravery', aptly reflecting the main roles of the ship.

With a length of approx **120 meters** and displacing of more than **10,000 tons**, the DSV has the capacity to maintain its position with extreme accuracy, using Dynamic Positioning System. The expansive diving complex onboard which consists of **both Air and Saturation Diving Systems**, along with underwater **Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) and Side Scan SONAR**, substantially enhances the operational envelope of the vessel. As the 'Mother Ship' for the Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DRV), the induction of this platform would provide a major capability enhancement to Indian Navy's Submarine rescue preparedness.

The ship is also outfitted with an **Operation Theatre, Intensive Care Unit, Eight Bedded Hospital and Hyperbaric Medical Facilities** which are critical towards meeting her operational roles.

Endurance of over **60 days at sea**, capacity to undertake stage through helicopter operations and a 15-ton **subsea crane** make the ship a very versatile platform.

The commissioning of Nistar and its induction into the Indian Navy's Eastern Naval Command will not only enhance India's operational preparedness in the underwater domain, but will also reinforce its strategic maritime posture across the Indian Ocean Region.

