



INDIAN NAVY TO COMMISSION 'IKSHAK', CHARTING A NEW COURSE IN INDIGENOUS HYDROGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE

SVL Ikshak is a beacon of precision, purpose, and self-reliance on India's maritime horizon

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The Indian Navy is poised to enhance its hydrographic survey capabilities with the commissioning of *Ikshak*, the third vessel of the Survey Vessel (Large) [SVL] class and the **first** to be based at the Southern Naval Command. The ship will be formally commissioned into service in presence of Adm Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of the Naval Staff, at a ceremony at **Naval Base, Kochi on 06 Nov 2025**.

Built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd., Kolkata, *Ikshak* stands as a shining example of India's growing self-reliance in shipbuilding. The vessel embodies **over 80% indigenous content**, reflecting the success of the *Aatmanirbhar Bharat* initiative and collaborative synergy between GRSE and Indian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

The name '*Ikshak*', meaning 'Guide' in Sanskrit, aptly defines the ship's role as **a sentinel of precision and purpose**. The vessel is designed to undertake full-scale coastal and deep-water hydrographic surveys of ports, harbours, and navigational channels. The data generated will be vital for ensuring safe navigation at sea, strengthening India's maritime safety framework.

Equipped with state-of-the-art hydrographic and oceanographic equipment, including a **high-resolution multi-beam echo sounder, Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV), Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), and four Survey Motor Boats (SMBs)**, *Ikshak* brings unmatched versatility and capability to the Navy's hydrographic fleet. The ship is also fitted with **a helicopter deck**, extending its operational reach and enabling multi-domain missions.

The commissioning of *Ikshak* marks a significant milestone in the Indian Navy's ongoing efforts to augment its survey and charting infrastructure. As a symbol of indigenous strength, technical excellence and maritime stewardship, *Ikshak* is ready to serve the nation — charting the unknown and safeguarding India's vast maritime frontiers.





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