

STEEL CUTTING OF FIFTH FLEET SUPPORT SHIP FOR INDIAN NAVY

Posted On: 08 MAY 2026 7:59PM by PIB Delhi

‘Steel Cutting’ Ceremony of **5th and the last** of the five Fleet Support Ships (FSS) was held at **Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam on 08 May 2026**, in presence of VAdm Sanjay Sadhu, Controller of Warship Production & Acquisition as the Chief Guest. CMD, HSL and other senior officials from Indian Navy and HSL were present for the occasion.

The Indian Navy had signed a contract with HSL for acquisition of five Fleet Support Ships (FSS) in Aug 2023, with delivery commencing mid-2027.

On induction, the FSS will bolster the *Blue Water* capabilities of the Indian Navy through replenishment of Fleet ships at sea. **The ships, with a displacement of more than 40,000 Tons, will deliver fuel, water, ammunition and stores enabling prolonged deployments of the Fleet ships**, thereby enhancing the Fleet’s strategic reach and mobility. In their secondary role, these ships would be equipped for **Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations and Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations (NEO)** for expeditious delivery of relief material and evacuation of personnel.

With a completely **indigenous** design and sourcing of majority of the equipment from indigenous manufacturers, the FSS project will boost the Indian Shipbuilding Industry in consonance with GoI initiatives of ***Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Make in India, and Make for the World.***





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