

INS Arighat

Source: Tol

Recently, India commissioned its second <u>nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN)</u>, INS Arighat (S-3) built under the Advanced Technology Vessel (ATV) project.

- INS Arighat will now join its forerunner, <u>INS Arihant</u>, which became fully operational in 2018, to strengthen the country's '<u>nuclear triad'</u>- the capability to fire nuclear weapons from the land, air and sea.
 - INS Arighat, despite matching INS Arihant in size and displacement, can carry more <u>K-15</u> missiles.
 - **Power**: 83 MW pressurised light-water reactors, developed with Russian assistance.
 - Arighat has four large vertical launch system (VLS) tubes that carry the <u>Sagarika SLBMs</u> (K-15) - a hybrid propulsion, two-stage, solid-propellant missile with a range of more than 700 km
- Future developments: Third submarine INS Aridhaman, a 7,000 tonne vessel, capable of carrying <u>K-4 missiles</u> with a range of 3,500 km will be commissioned next year.
- **SSBN** stands for "Ship, Submersible, Ballistic, Nuclear" and refers to a type of submarine that carries nuclear-tipped ballistic missiles.
 - SSBNs are crucial for deterrence because they are difficult to detect and can escape a surprise first strike by an enemy to launch retaliatory strikes.

Read More: INS Vagir, INS Karanj, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

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