

INS Kavaratti

The INS Kavaratti (P31) is a Kamorta-class anti-submarine warfare (ASW) corvette designed and built under Project 28 of the Indian Navy. INS Kavaratti is the pinnacle of the Indian Navy's efforts at indigenisation as about 90% of its components have been manufactured in India. The INS Kavaratti was commissioned on 22 October 2020.

The information from this article will be useful in for candidates appearing for upcoming Government Exams.

History and Design of the INS Kavaratti

The Ship was designed by Kolkata-based Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers. Built at an estimated cost of ₹1,700 crores, the ship takes its name from the capital of the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. It is the successor to the erstwhile Arnala-class corvette of the same name which participated in Operation Trident during the Indo-Pak war of 1971 ([December 3 - 16, 1971](#)). The Arnala-class INS Karavatti was decommissioned in 1986

The INS Karavatti is the last of four Kamorta-class corvettes under various stages of induction with the Indian Navy.

The other three Kamorta-class corvettes are:

1. INS Kamorta
2. INS Kadmatt
3. INS Kiltan.

The INS Kavaratti was built and designed by the Indian Navy's Directorate of Naval Design. It has capabilities to fight in a nuclear, biological and chemical environment backed by advanced stealth features and a low radar signature which boosts its anti-submarine warfare capabilities. The ship will be operated by a complement of 10 officers and 106 sailors.

Upon the completion of sea trials, the INS Kavaratti was delivered to the Indian Navy on 18th February 2020. The ship was commissioned into the Navy by Indian Army COAS General Manoj Mukund Naravane on 22 October 2020.

General Characteristics of the INS Kavaratti

INS Kavaratti is to be armed with a range of indigenously developed cutting-edge weapons and sensors, including a medium-range gun, torpedo tube launchers, rocket launchers and a

close-in weapon system. The ship will also contain an integrated communication system and an electronic warfare system.

Further specifications of the INS Kavaratti is highlighted in the table below:

General Characteristics of the INS Kavaratti	
Displacement	3300 tons
Length	109 m (358 ft)
Propulsion	4 × Pielstick 12 PA6 STC Diesel engines with CODAD, DCNS raft mounted gearbox
Speed	25 knots (46 km/h)
Sensors and Proccession Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revati Central Acquisition Radar EL/M-2221 STGR fire-control radar BEL Shikari• BEL RAWL02 (Signaal LW08) antenna communication grid - Gigabit Ethernet-based integrated shipborne data network, with a fibre optic cable backbone running through the vessel• NPOL HUMSA (Hull Mounted Sonar Array)• Bomber Electronic warfare (EW) suites - BEL Ajanta
Armament	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 X 76.2 mm Oto SRGM• 2 × AK-630M CIWS• 2 X RBU-6000 (IRL) anti-submarine rocket launcher• 16 × Barak SAM (Built but yet to be installed)• 2 × 3 Torpedo tubes
Aircraft Carried	1 Westland Sea King Mk.42B

What is Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW)

Anti-submarine warfare is a branch of underwater warfare that uses surface warships, aircraft, submarines, or other platforms, to find, track, and deter, damage, and/or destroy enemy

submarines. Such operations are typically carried out to protecting friendly shipping and coastal facilities from submarine attacks and to overcome blockades.

Successful ASW operations typically involved a combination of sensor and weapon technologies, along with effective deployment strategies and sufficiently trained personnel. Typically, sophisticated sonar equipment is used for first detecting, then classifying, locating, and tracking a target submarine. Sensors are therefore a key element of ASW.

The advanced features of the INS Kavaratti will be useful due to escalated tensions between India and China as it will help in safeguarding key shipping lanes in the Indian Ocean in case of any threats of incursion by Chinese submarines