

# समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

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## Women crew set for global sail

A six-woman Navy crew led by an Uttarakhand officer, Lt Commander Vartika Joshi, will kick off their voyage to circumnavigate the globe in the first week of September from Goa.

The officers have been trained to handle everything from equipment breakdown, extreme temperatures to emergencies such as a crew member falling overboard.

Lt Commander Joshi said: "We will be facing some of the roughest seas. We've learnt everything from scratch and have trained to handle whatever may come our way."

The crew comprises Lt Commanders Pratibha Jamwal, P Swathi, and Lieutenants S Vijaya Devi, B Aishwarya and Payal Gupta.

Jamwal hails from Kullu in Himachal Pradesh, while Gupta belongs to Dehradun.

The officers will set out on the voyage, "Navika Sagar Parikrama", from Goa aboard "INSV Tarini", a 55-foot sailing vessel, and head to Australia.

The 21,600-nautical mile expedition will be covered in five legs, with stopovers at four ports. A voyage qualifies as circumnavigation if it starts and finishes at the same port, does not entail crossing a canal or strait, all meridians are crossed at least once and the distance covered is more than 21,600 nautical miles. — TNS

## दैनिक जागरण

## तटरक्षक बल को मिला शौर्य का पराक्रम

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : भारतीय तटरक्षक बल को अत्याधुनिक 'शौर्य' पोत की बड़ी ताकत मिल गई है। हल्के हेलीकाप्टर, पांच हाई स्पीड बोट से लेकर और 300 मिमी की सीआरएन 91 नेवल गन से सुसज्जित इस पोत के जरिये तटरक्षक बल की समुद्री चौकसी की ताकत में इजाफा होना तय है। तटरक्षक बल की ताकत में हुए इस इजाफे में सबसे खास बात यह है कि शौर्य पूरी तरह स्वदेश में निर्मित पोत है।

केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम मंत्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान ने बीते दिनों गोवा में शौर्य की तटरक्षक बल में कमीशनिंग की। 105 मीटर के छह गश्ती पोतों की श्रृंखला में पांचवें भारतीय तटरक्षक पोत शौर्य की कमीशनिंग के मौके पर तटरक्षक बल के महानिदेशक राजेंद्र सिंह भी मौजूद थे। पूर्ण रूप से स्वदेशी डिजाइन के इस पोत को गोवा शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड ने निर्मित किया गया है। पूरी तरह से अत्याधुनिक सेंसरों से सुसज्जित इस पोत के जरिये समुद्री सीमा की सुरक्षा

चौकस करने के साथ-साथ समुद्र सीमा में तेल बिखराव को नियंत्रित करने में सक्षम है। शौर्य पोत को चेन्नई पोर्ट की समुद्री सीमा पर तैनात किया जाएगा। 9100 किलोवाट डीजल इंजन की डबल इंजन क्षमता वाला शौर्य 2350 टन का भार खींच सकता है। वैसे भारतीय तटरक्षक बल के बेड़े में इस समय 129 पोत और नौकाएं हैं।

# Army Just a Nod Away From Getting 6 Apaches

By Shaurya Gurung

*One Step Closer: With Defence Acquisition Council approving the chopper deal, the only clearance needed now is from the Cabinet Committee on Security*

**Long Wait for Attack Choppers Nearing End**

- THE DEFENCE Acquisition Council has cleared arms deals worth ₹4,600 cr**
- A PRIMARY acquisition of 6 Apache helicopters for Army worth ₹4,168cr cleared**
- HELICOPTERS FOR Army being pro-cured under "option clause" of earlier deal of 22 Apaches for IAF**
- DAC ALSO APPROVED proposals for gas turbines for Indian Navy frigates being built by Russia**
- LATEST ACQUISITION will help Army meet operational requirements**
- INDIA HAS ENTERED INTO A PRELIMINARY agreement to purchase four frigates from Russia - two of which will be built at the Yantar Shipyard & the other two at Goa Shipyard**

The Army wanted 39 Apache helicopters, but pared its demand to 13, then 11 and finally 6

The Army will finally get its first attack helicopters. The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), led by defence minister Arun Jaitley, on Thursday cleared a major deal worth ₹4,100 crore for acquisition of six Apache attack helicopters from US-based defence and aerospace giant Boeing.

The deal is important for the Army because it had faced delays in acquisition of these air assets following an old tussle with the Air Force (IAF) over the control of these helicopters.

The DAC on Thursday cleared capital acquisition proposals totalling ₹4,600 crore. This included the procurement of six 'AH-64E' Apache helicopters for the army. "The procurement of these helicopters along with associated equipment such as spares, training material, weapons and ammunition will cost an estimated ₹4,168 crore," said a senior government official. The next step will be to get it cleared from the Cabinet Committee on Security.

The army wanted 39 Apache helicopters, which were to be

deployed with its three Strike Corps that is largely geared towards Pakistan and China. Later, the demand was reduced to a squadron of such helicopters, numbering 13. This figure was brought further down to 11 and then finally six. These six helicopters are likely to be deployed against Pakistan and China.

These new helicopters will be procured under a "option clause" of an earlier deal for the procurement of 22 Apaches for the IAF. In September 2015, the CCS had approved the purchase of Apaches and Chinook helicopters for the IAF in a deal worth \$2.5 billion. During this procurement, the army had demanded the control of the Apaches, but the IAF refused to let go of its Apaches.

Now, with the acquisition in place the army can fulfil its operational capabilities. The Apaches will provide local army commanders quick combat power at critical moments anywhere in the battlefield.

Meanwhile, the DAC also cleared the procurement of two sets of gas turbines for two naval ships being built by Russia for the Indian Navy. The cost of this deal is worth `490 crore. “These gas turbines will be procured from Ukraine and will be brought here and then sent to Russia,” said the official.



*Fri, 18 Aug, 2017*

## **India asks its troops not to get provoked**

*By Ajit K Dubey*

Rattled by India’s tough stance in the Doklam stand-off, the Chinese Army may try to provoke Indian troops by carrying out incursions in different locations but the forces have been asked to deal the situation with calmness to prevent any escalation of the situation. Amid the situation in Doklam, Chinese Army troops tried to enter the Indian side in two areas – Finger Four and Finger Five – twice between 6am and 9am. But on both the occasions their attempts were thwarted by alert Indian troops.

“Indian agencies have assessed that after Ladakh, Chinese Army will try to do more such incidents in Himachal, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal sector. The troops have been asked to remain on alert and thwart any such misadventure by Chinese. “However, the security agencies have been told not to be provoked and deal the situation with calmness to prevent any escalation,” government sources said here.

During the Pangong lake incident, the Chinese troops had started hurling stones at the Indian border guards and situation was brought under control only after the two sides observed the banner drill and went back to their respective positions. During the scuffle, the Indian troops had suffered minor injuries also but fortunately, the confrontation did not escalate much. Sources said the two sides may have more flag meetings in different areas to sort out the issues but ruled out any immediate resolution of the ongoing stand-off at Doklam.

The sources said the government has asked the troops to be on alert to thwart such attacks. Even as the standoff continues, the government is working towards creating new infrastructure on the Line of Actual Control for both the ITBP and the Army. The sources said it was most likely that the PLA would try to carry out more incursions in the vast Eastern Ladakh area which is guarded by the Lehbased 14 Corps but the vigil is high in all the sectors. The Chinese troops had carried out transgressions in the Barahoti area in Uttarakhand twice in the recent times even as it had threatened to enter the Kalapani area as a reaction to the Doklam issue.

For more than a month, Indian and Chinese troops have been engaged in a stand-off in Doklam area in Bhutan. China has been trying to expand its infrastructure in that area as it wants to disturb the status quo in the area and move the trijunction between the three countries further south to get closer to India’s chicken’s neck corridor in Siliguri.



*Fri, 18 Aug, 2017*

## **Japan backs India's stand on Doklam, bats for status quo**

*'Situation Can Affect Stability in the Region'*

Japan -in a significant act of support for India in its protracted military standoff with China at Doklam, near the Sikkim-TibetBhutan trijunction-has said there should be no attempt to change the status quo on the ground by force.

The Japanese statement comes as an endorsement of the Indian position that China has violated agreements with India and Bhutan in attempting to build a road through Doklam plateau, which is part of Bhutan, a development that would be a serious disadvantage to India's military defences.

## 'KEEPING CLOSE WATCH'

> Japan endorses India's stand that China has violated agreements by trying to build a road in Doklam plateau

> Japanese support follows the US cautioning against making any unilateral changes on the ground

> Japanese ambassador Kenji Hiramatsu says Japan is keeping a close watch on the Indo-China standoff in Doklam

Japanese ambassador Kenji Hiramatsu's observation on Doklam comes two months after Indian troops stalled Chinese road construction activities and is seen as endorsing India's stance as being important for a peaceful resolution.

The Japanese reaction follows two separate interventions by the US calling for direct dialogue between India and China to resolve the crisis while also cautioning against unilateral changes on the ground. This, too, has been seen as supportive of India's point of view. The US has also indicated support for India by tagging the Hizbul Mujahideen and its leader, Syed Salahuddin, as sources of terror, a snub to Pakistan and its benefactor, China. Saying Japan was watching the situation closely, Hiramatsu said it had the potential to affect regional stability. "As far as India's role is concerned, we understand that India is involved in this incident based on bilateral agreements with Bhutan. External affairs minister Sushma Swaraj has made it clear that India would continue to engage with dialogue through diplomatic channels to find a mutually

acceptable solution. We consider this attitude towards peaceful resolution important," Hiramatsu said.

While categorising the crisis as a dispute between China and Bhutan, and agreeing that India's actions were in keeping with bilateral security arrangements with Bhutan, Hiramatsu said, "What is important in disputed areas is that all parties involved do not resort to unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force, and resolve the dispute in a peaceful manner."

The American and Japanese statements come after angry Chinese rhetoric denouncing India and its actions in the Doklam plateau and demanding a full withdrawal before any talks.

India, determined to hold its ground at the site, is preparing for a long standoff. On Wednesday, the US called on India and China to hold a direct dialogue. US state department spokesperson Heather Nauert said, "We are encouraging both parties to sit down and have direct dialogue."

## THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Fri, 18 Aug, 2017

# China Has a Habit of Flexing Muscles

By Shaurya Gurung

*About a month ago, 800 PLA soldiers reached Indian territory in Ladakh*

The Doklam standoff and Tuesday's clash between Indian and Chinese troops in Ladakh are not the only incidents of muscle flexing by China. About a month ago, a 'sizeable' Chinese force had come menacingly close to Indian territory along the banks of Pangong Lake in Ladakh. This could be one of the primary reasons for conducting a Border Personnel Meeting (BPM) between the two armies in Chushul on Wednesday. This was conducted to ensure peace along the LAC.

At least one battalion of Chinese PLA force, which could comprise 800 soldiers, had reached up to 'Finger Four', an Indian territory located along the banks of Pangong Lake, according to sources privy to the matter. One-third of the 135-km long lake is under India and two thirds is with China. The moun tains sloping on the banks of the lake form finger-like structures.

India guards till Finger Four, which has been a bone of contention between India and China as both claim it to be a part of their territory. Usually, Indian troops stop Chinese patrols up to Finger Five. "About a month back a sizeable FILE PHOTO Chinese force had reached up to Finger Four," said sources, adding that this could have been for "area familiarisation". Similar incidents also happen in Arunachal Pradesh.