PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING) GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NAVAL SHIPS ON GOODWILL VISIT TO KUWAIT, BAHRAIN AND QATAR

> New Melhi; 22 Agrahayana, 1915 13 December, 1993

Three Indian Naval Ships left Bombay last evening on a 3-week goodwill visit to Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar, under the overall command of the Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet, Rear Admiral Madhvendra Singh. The ships are, INS Ranvir, a 'Kashin' class destroyer, INS Shalki, the first Indian Built Submarine of Type 1500 Class, and INS Kuthar, an indigenously designed and built missile corvette, under the commands of Captain JS Bedi, Commander GN Rajeev and Commander AK Chopra, respectively. The practice of using oceans for strengthening goodwill is a living naval tradition.

That, two of the three visiting ships are 'Built in India' bears testimeny to the fact that Indian Shipbuilding Industry has entered a new era and India is fully capable of designing and building modern and sophisticated ships and submarines with State—of—the—art technology. Thus, the Indian Navy, on its part, once again demonstrates its capability to operate and maintain highly sophisticated oceanic platforms.

Almost ...irciding with the end of the Navy Week celebrations, their departure emphasises the logo adopted this year-"Indian Navy - A Mirror of India's Technology."

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