

India launches first nuclear submarine

The deployment of a home-built nuclear-powered submarine could allow New Delhi to develop a nuclear strike capability from the sea, and maintain its authority over strategic shipping lanes

Naval forces	India	China
Troops	55,000	255,000
Including		
Naval aviation	7,000	26,000
and Marines	1,200	10,000
Destroyers	8	50
Frigates	15	28
Submarines	16	*62

**Includes eight nuclear submarines*

In 1988, India leased ex-Soviet Charlie class nuclear submarine which was renamed INS Chakra. Plans to build six French-designed Scorpene diesel submarines



Sagarika: New nuclear-capable cruise missile

Warhead: 500kg payload

2nd stage: Solid booster

1st stage: Underwater booster

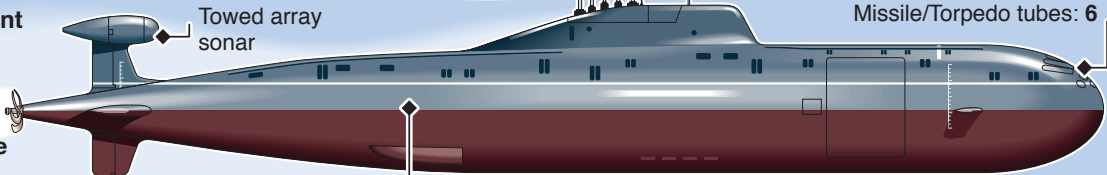
Length: 8 metres

Range: 1,000km

INS Arihant
Based on Russian Charlie-II class submarine

First of five nuclear-powered submarines to be deployed under India's advanced technology vessel programme

Sources: Global Security, International Institute for Strategic Studies, Janes, International Maritime Bureau



Length: 112m
Displacement: 5,500-6,500 tonnes
Submerged speed: 30-34 knots
Diving depth: 300m
Cost: \$2.9 billion