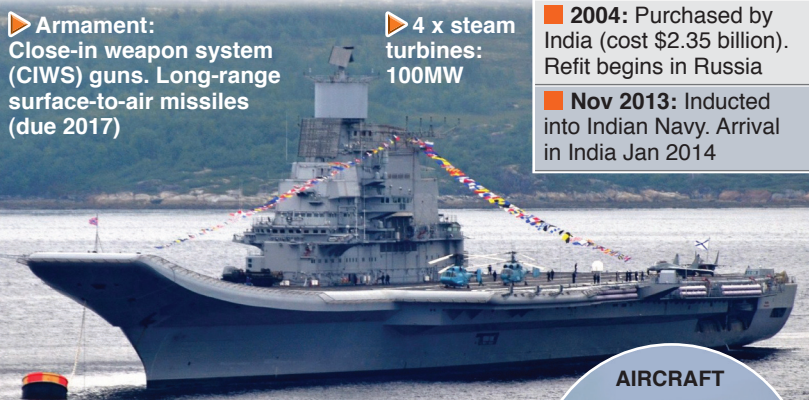


# Ex-Soviet carrier to bolster Indian naval power

After years of delays, India's navy is set to begin operating a second aircraft carrier – the *INS Vikramaditya*. The rebuilt Russian vessel joins the older *INS Viraat*, giving India a strategic advantage as it seeks to counter China's rapid maritime expansion

- ▶ **Armament:** Close-in weapon system (CIWS) guns. Long-range surface-to-air missiles (due 2017)
- ▶ **4 x steam turbines:** 100MW



SHIP HISTORY	
1982:	Ship launched, originally named <i>Baku</i> . Enters service with Soviet Navy 1987
1991:	Name changed to <i>Admiral Gorshkov</i>
1996:	Deactivated
2004:	Purchased by India (cost \$2.35 billion). Refit begins in Russia
Nov 2013:	Inducted into Indian Navy. Arrival in India Jan 2014

- ▶ **Aircraft handling:** Forward 14° ski jump assists take-off. Arrestor wires at stern for landing

## SPECIFICATIONS – INS VIKRAMADITYA

Length	283m	Beam	51m
Displacement	45,000 tonnes	Range	7,400km
Speed	32 knots (59km/h)	Crew	2,000

AIRCRAFT

16 MiG-29 fighters

6 Ka-31 helicopters

INDIA-CHINA NAVAL STRENGTH		INDIA	CHINA
		Aircraft carriers	
	2	Destroyers	1
	11	Submarines	14
	15	Frigates	65
	12	Patrol craft	62
	59	Combat aircraft	211
	34	Personnel	341
		57,150	281,000