

North Korea's warship launch failure

Four officials have been arrested over the failed launch of a new destroyer that enraged North Korean leader Kim Jong Un

CHOE HYON-CLASS DESTROYER

Pantsir-M air defence system

Displacement: 5,000 tonnes
Length: 144m

127mm naval gun

Flight deck for helicopter or drone operations

Vertical launch system (VLS) capacity
74 cells for cruise/surface-to-air missiles

1 Apr 25, Nampo: Successful launch of *Choe Hyon* – largest and most powerful ship in North's fleet

2 May 21, Chongjin: Accident occurs during sideways launch of second Choe Hyon-class destroyer. Ship damaged and left lying on its side, partially submerged

Embarrassing incident witnessed by Kim Jong Un



May 18: Satellite image shows second Choe Hyon-class destroyer upright on quay

Launch ramp

Viewing area

May 23: Ship draped in tarpaulins following accident

Stern slid into water due to misfiring of launch sled

Bow on quayside

Launch ramp