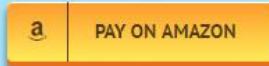


November 7th, 2018 Sample Current Affairs

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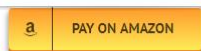


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1. INS Arihant is a key step towards a nuclear triad

- What are the key specifications of INS Arihant?**
- What is the significance of INS Arihant for India?**
- What is a nuclear triad? Why do countries create it?**
- What does India's nuclear triad comprise of?**

GS paper 3 (Science and technology, defence)

In this video, you can find detailed answers for all the above questions.

The above article has been retrieved from:

N.A. (2018, November , 07). Arihant is a key step towards a nuclear triad. Hindustan Times. Retrieved from <https://www.hindustantimes.com/editorials/arihant-is-a-key-step-towards-a-nuclear-triad/story-ijyQI4MrFWyYkswOALyZhM.html>

What is the context about?

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi received the crew of Strategic Strike Nuclear Submarine (SSBN) INS Arihant.
- The submarine recently returned from its first deterrence patrol, completing the establishment of the country's survivable nuclear triad.
- The successful completion of the deterrence patrol ensures that India will have the necessary second strike

capabilities with the country's nuclear shield now complete.

What are the key specifications of INS Arihant?

- ❑ INS Arihant, weighing about 6000 tonnes, has been under development for over three decades under a classified programme.
- ❑ Able to stay underwater, undetected for longer periods than conventional submarines due to nuclear-powered 83 mw pressurised water nuclear reactor.
- ❑ Arihant-type submarines give India a seam-strike capability -a capability to strike back after being hit by nuclear weapons first.
- ❑ This also allows it to sneak near an enemy's shores and fire ballistic missiles deep into their territory.

What is the significance of INS Arihant for India?

- ❑ It is a momentous development in terms of the country's ability to defend itself in a rough neighbourhood where it faces challenges from certain inimical powers.
- ❑ It signals not only India's capability, along with a handful of nations, to build and operate a SSBN or nuclear submarine armed with ballistic missiles, but is a key step towards a survivable nuclear triad, or the ability to launch a nuclear second strike from sea, air or land in view of the country's "no first use" policy for its nuclear arsenal.

What is a nuclear triad? Why do countries create it?

- ❑ A nuclear triad is a three-pronged military force structure that consists of land-launched nuclear missiles, nuclear-missile-armed submarines and strategic aircraft with nuclear bombs and missiles.
- ❑ The purpose of having this three-branched nuclear capability is to significantly reduce the possibility that an enemy could destroy all of a nation's nuclear forces in a first-strike attack.
- ❑ This, in turn, ensures a credible threat of a second strike, and thus increases a nation's nuclear deterrence.
- ❑ The main theory of creating the nuclear triad was to spread the assortment of weapons across various platforms, making military forces more likely to survive an attack and able to respond to a first strike successfully.

What does India's nuclear triad comprise of?

- ❑ Indian land-based arsenal includes the Prithvi-1 with a range of 150 to 600 kilometers, the Agni-1 with a range of 700 kilometers, the Agni-2 with a range of 2,000 kilometers, the Agni-3 with a range of 3,000, the Agni-4 with a range of 3,500 kilometers, and the Agni-5 with a range of 5,000 kilometers.
- ❑ The country currently has four types of bombers that are capable of carrying nuclear bombs. Indian inventory of aircraft includes the Mirage 2000h, the Jaguar IS/IB, the

MIG-27, and the Rafale, which was purchased from France.

- ❑ India completed its nuclear triad with the commissioning of INS Arihant in August 2016, which was India's first submarine built indigenously.