Tavasya: Fourth Krivak-Class Stealth Frigate Launched by Indian Navy at Goa Shipyard

In a major boost to India's self-reliance in defence, Tavasya, the fourth Krivak-class stealth frigate and the second built locally by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), was launched into water on March 22, 2025. This marks the final frigate in a series of four, contracted from Russia under a technology transfer agreement.

The launch ceremony was conducted by Ms. Neeta Seth in the presence of Sanjay Seth, Union Minister of State for Defence, who highlighted India's increasing defence manufacturing capabilities under the 'Make in India' initiative.

"This launch is a defining moment in India's naval history, showcasing our technological strengths and commitment to self-reliance," said Minister Sanjay Seth.

"Tavasya is not just a step forward for the Indian Navy but a giant leap in India's strategic defence ambitions," he added.

Project Background: India-Russia Frigate Deal

- In October 2016, India and Russia signed an Inter-Governmental Agreement to build four Krivak-class stealth frigates:
 - Two ships to be imported from Russia.
 - Two ships to be built in India by Goa Shipyard Ltd. (GSL) with Russian technology transfer.

Cost Details:

- \$1 billion deal for the two Russian-built frigates.
- \$500 million deal between GSL and Rosoboronexport (Russia) in November 2018 for materials, design, and technical assistance.
- Final contract signed between GSL and Indian Defence Ministry in January 2019.
- All frigates are powered by engines from **Zorya-Mashproekt, Ukraine**.

Status of the Four Krivak-Class Stealth Frigates

- 1. INS Tushil (Built in Russia):
 - Commissioned on December 9, 2024, at Kaliningrad, Russia.
 - Arrived at Karwar Naval Base on February 14, 2025.
- 2. Tamal (Built in Russia):
 - In final sea trials.
 - Expected commissioning: June 2025.
- 3. **Triput** (Built at Goa Shipyard Ltd.):
 - Launched in July 2023.
 - Delivery to Indian Navy in 2026.
- 4. **Tavasya** (Built at Goa Shipyard Ltd.):
 - Launched on March 22, 2025.
 - Scheduled delivery: Late 2026 or early 2027.

Significance of Tavasya's Launch

- **Boosts India's Naval Strength**: Enhances the Indian Navy's capabilities in surveillance, stealth operations, and maritime security.
- Make in India Defence Milestone: Strengthens India's defence manufacturing sector and reduces reliance on foreign imports.
- **Strategic Edge**: Supports India's long-term maritime strategy in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

FAQs about Tavasya and Krivak-Class Frigates

Q1: What is Tavasya?

Tavasya is the fourth Krivak-class stealth frigate and the second frigate built in India at Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) with technology transferred from Russia.

Q2: What are Krivak-class stealth frigates used for?

They are advanced warships used by the **Indian Navy** for **stealth operations**, **anti-submarine warfare**, and **maritime patrols**. They feature low radar visibility and modern weapon systems.

Q3: How many Krivak-class frigates has India ordered?

India ordered four additional Krivak-class frigates in 2016:

- Two built in Russia.
- Two built in India under the Make in India programme.

Q4: When will Tavasya join the Indian Navy?

Tavasya is expected to be delivered to the Indian Navy in late 2026 or early 2027.

Q5: Who builds these frigates in India?

Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) is responsible for building **Tavasya** and **Triput** in collaboration with **Russia's Rosoboronexport**.

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