

Fujian Aircraft Carrier:

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China has commissioned its latest aircraft carrier after extensive sea trials

About Fujian Aircraft Carrier:

Fujian is the third aircraft carrier of the Chinese Navy (PLAN).

First Chinese carrier with indigenous design using CATOBAR (electromagnetic aircraft launch) system.

Strategic Significance

oMarks China's transition from coastal defense to blue-water navy capabilities.

oInfluences regional maritime security and Indo-Pacific geopolitical balance, relevant for India's naval strategy.

Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System:

Technology & Function: EMALS uses electromagnetic force instead of steam catapults to launch aircraft from carriers. Allows precise acceleration of heavier and diverse aircraft types with less stress on airframes.

Strategic Advantage: Increases sortie rate and efficiency of carrier operations. Enhances naval power projection, enabling deployment of modern fighter jets and early-warning aircraft.

Aircraft Carriers of India:

INS Vikrant (IAC 1): Indigenous Aircraft Carrier

INS Vikramaditya: Modified Kiev-class carrier (from Russia)

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