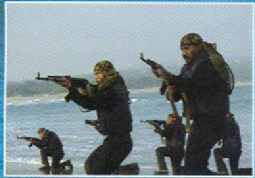
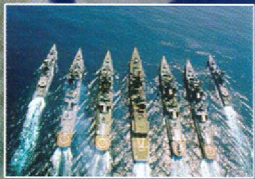
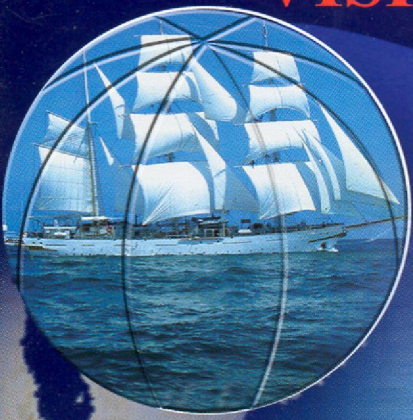


THE INDIAN NAVY'S VISION DOCUMENT



Integrated Headquarters of the Ministry of Defence (Navy)
May 2006

INTRODUCTION

The Indian Navy is today a potent and capable force which is highly regarded for its professional competence. The planned induction of advanced platforms and technology, and creation of modern infrastructure, promise to boost the capabilities of the Service even further in the near future.


Our operating environment is likely to remain in a state of ferment due to a variety of factors which include geo-politics, emerging technologies, and continuously evolving capabilities in our maritime neighbourhood. Notwithstanding scenario-building exercises and other instruments of prognostication, 'crystal gazing' remains a hazardous undertaking, making it difficult to predict with any degree of certainty, the challenges that the future may throw up for us.

In order to ensure that the Indian Navy continues to retain its relevance as a prime instrument of state policy in the midst of future imponderables, we will need to develop a flexible approach and ensure continuous upgradation of our war fighting capabilities and skills. Above all, we must cultivate a propensity to embrace change when necessary.

This document articulates our vision for the future and establishes some guiding principles which will shape our efforts towards its attainment.



VISION STATEMENT

The top of the page features a decorative gold border. At the top left and right of this border are the Indian national flag and the Indian Navy crest, respectively. The crest is a golden anchor with a crown on top and a banner below it.

In support of the nation's growing strengths and responsibilities, the Indian Navy is determined to create and sustain a three dimensional, technology enabled and networked force capable of safeguarding our maritime interests on the high seas and projecting combat power across the littoral.

We seek to evolve relevant conceptual frameworks and acquire war fighting capabilities to operate across the full spectrum of conflict. The Indian Navy will also be prepared to undertake benign and humanitarian tasks in our maritime neighbourhood, whenever required.

Our operational endeavours shall be underpinned by continuous upgradation of human skills of the Navy's uniformed and civilian manpower. We will aim for enhancement of the quality of life and the well-being of the naval community.

Ensuring combat readiness, professional competence and willingness to transform by adopting change will remain our primary focus.



BROAD GUIDING PRINCIPLES



Against the backdrop of this Vision Statement, it is necessary for us to be guided by certain broad principles which will help us focus on some navigational marks along our charted course.

Safeguarding National Interests We shall attempt to promote an environment of peace and tranquility in the IOR to further India's political, economic, diplomatic and military objectives. We will deter war through strength but if deterrence fails, we must strive to achieve victory over the adversary by our reach and firepower.

Full Spectrum Capability The Navy expects to operate across the full spectrum of conflict from LIMO to conventional war fighting to nuclear deterrence. Our force planning process will therefore take into account the 'effects' that are required to be delivered in all three dimensions in order to accomplish Navy's roles and missions.

Conceptual Frameworks The quality and depth of intellectual endeavours has a substantial impact on combat effectiveness. We will strive to foster strategic thinking, doctrine formulation, and, institutional-knowledge management in our organisation and processes. Having resolutely embarked on the path to indigenisation of hardware, we must show the same resolve in devoting sufficient intellectual assets in a sustained manner to ensure that evolution of our concepts and doctrines keeps pace with weapon and sensor inductions. We will promote durable methodologies to absorb operational lessons.

Management of Change Nothing about the future can be certain except that it will bring change. However, the intrinsic resistance to change makes it very difficult to bring it about and hence there is always a serious risk of modern hardware being neutralised by obsolescence in our thinking. Therefore, the Navy must foster the art of managing change among its leadership so that 'transformation' becomes a welcome and continuing process as demanded of the rapidly changing environment.

Maritime Cooperation Maintaining a high degree of combat readiness must remain an article of faith with us and we must train to operate across the full spectrum of conflict. The peacetime environment will however, require us to function mostly at the benign end of this spectrum. The importance of such roles must not be minimised or overlooked. Tasks such as maritime cooperation and humanitarian aid must be undertaken with alacrity bearing in mind that the Navy acts in these roles, very much as an instrument of state policy.

Development of Human Resources The Navy's experience of the past 60 years has clearly demonstrated that it is our human resources – the leadership as well as the rank and file – whose professional skills, ingenuity and initiative will be instrumental in the fulfillment of this maritime vision. Therefore, the selection, training, and indoctrination of our personnel both service and civilian will need to keep pace with technology upgrades, thus requiring the Navy's special attention at all times. We will strive to enhance the attractiveness of the Navy as a career, improve our working environment and maximise professional satisfaction at the individual level.

Material and Logistics It will be our endeavor to constantly reinvigorate our technical practices, maintenance philosophies and technology induction programs. This will encompass harnessing modern trends in design, production and maintenance of platforms. We will also gear up our logistics management system for sustaining and supporting our forces under all situations. This will entail incorporating best practices of corporate and fiscal management.

Well Being of the Naval Community The attainment of this vision demands that the Navy should take a holistic approach to human resource management. The objective is not only to effectively harness the potential of our personnel for operational purposes, but also to maintain their motivation levels and morale at a high pitch. This will require the Naval leadership to devote adequate time, attention and resources for the well being of the Naval community, and for ensuring a good quality of life. We must always remember the substantial civilian component of this community.

CONCLUSION

Having outlined this vision, its accomplishment will be dependent on management of change. It will be necessary to realign our strategies with the anticipated future environment. We will strive to remain on track by undertaking regular introspection, honest debates and audits, and thereafter applying course corrections as necessary.

ST/3001
25 May 06

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