

Blue Water Navy (INS Kadamba Project Seabird)

June 19, 2020

Defence Minister on the occasion of Navy Day tweeted “**Indian Navy is the Formidable Blue Water Force.** Navy Day Greetings to all Men and Women in White.”

What is the Blue Water Navy?

- **A Blue Water Navy is one that has the capacity to project itself over a much bigger maritime area than its maritime borders.**
- **In simple words, it is a Navy that can go into the vast, deep oceans of the world.**
- **However, while most navies have the capacity to send ships into the deep oceans, a Blue Water Force is able to carry out operations far from its borders, without being required to return to its homeport to refuel or re-stock.**

Does India qualify as a Blue Water Navy?

- **According to the Indian Maritime Doctrine, 2015, “The ability to undertake distant operations distinguishes a blue-water navy from a brown-water force.**
- **It requires strong integral capacity, including logistics, surveillance, networked operations, etc., and enabling capability, including equipment design, training, doctrine and organization**
- **It states “distant operations rely upon the attributes of access, mobility, sustenance and reach in order to show presence, project power and/or accomplish other national objectives in the area of interest”.**
- **As the Indian Navy has the capacity to carry distant operations “at or from the sea, up to considerable distance from national shore bases”, it qualifies as a**

Blue Water Force.

Classification of Navy based on colours

- A navy whose operations are restricted close to the shore, where the water is muddy, is called a **Brown Water Force**.
- A navy that can go farther out is called a **Green Water Force**.
- And then there is a **Blue Water Force**.

INS Kadamba (Project Seabird)

- **INS Kadamba is an Indian Navy base located near Karwar in Karnataka.**
- **The first phase of construction of the base, code-named Project Seabird was completed in 2005 and the base was commissioned on 31 May 2005.**
- **Development of Phase II commenced in 2011.**
- **INS Kadamba is currently the third-largest Indian naval base and is expected to become the largest naval base in the eastern hemisphere after completion of expansion Phase IIB**