

Neptune cruise missile

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In news—Russia's largest warship named 'Moskva', a guided-missile cruiser has been severely damaged in the Black Sea by Ukraine's Neptune cruise missile recently.

About Neptune cruise missile-

- **RK-360MT Neptune** are **Ukrainian-manufactured anti-ship missiles** capable of destroying targets within a **range of 300 km**.
- It can be fired from shore to ship.
- Weighing 870 kg and carrying a 150kg warhead, **Neptune missiles are capable of destroying targets of up to 5,000 tons**.
- **Its design is based on the Soviet Kh-35 anti-ship missile**, and is designed to defeat surface warships.
- It also transports vessels with a displacement of up to 5,000 tons.
- The missile **uses a radar-homing guidance to home in on enemy ships**.
- The 16-ft long engine-powered missiles **can travel at speeds of up to 900 km/h**, at heights of between 9 and 30 ft above surface.
- The weapons, which are able to be mounted on ships, by land and by air launchers, were formally adopted in August, 2020.
- One Neptune division normally **has six USPU-360 launchers capable of firing a salvo of the 24 anti-ship missiles**.
- The missile was first revealed in the 'Weapons and Security 2015' exhibition in Kyiv.

Moskva-

- **Moskva (Moscow), originally known as Slava (glory), is the lead ship of the Slava-class guided missile cruisers, also known as Project 1164 Atlant.**

- It was built indigenously by the erstwhile Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and still in service with the Russian Navy.
- Slava was laid down at a shipyard in the Ukrainian city of Mykolaiv, a major shipbuilding centre on the Black Sea, known as Nikolaev in Russian in 1976.
- The cruiser was commissioned into the Soviet Navy in 1983. Decommissioned in 1990, it was reinstated as Moskva by the Russian Navy in 2000.
- The Moskva missile cruiser is reportedly armed with 16 anti-ship Vulkan cruise missiles, which have a range of at least 700 kilometres.
- It can carry a crew of around 500 personnel.
- It is also said to carry anti-torpedo and mine-torpedo weapons.
- The cruiser is also equipped with a long-range S-300 surface-to-air missile air defence system