

# Russian stealth frigates to come in 2023

## Construction of two Krivak class vessels delayed by the pandemic, says company

**DINAKAR PERI**  
MOSCOW

The first of two additional Krivak class stealth frigates being built by Russia is expected to be delivered to India in the middle of 2023, Alexey Rakhmanov, chief executive officer of United Shipbuilding Corporation, said.

“Due to COVID we had delays in execution of some of the stages of construction. There was an approximately eight-month delay. The first ship should be delivered in the middle of 2023,” Mr. Rakhmanov said at the ongoing Army 2021 exhibition in Moscow.

In October 2016, India and Russia signed an Inter-Governmental Agreement

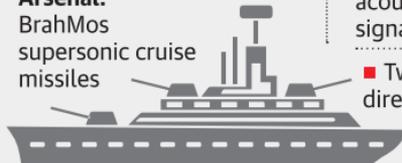
### Guarding the seas

A look at some features of the new frigates

**Speed:**  
**30**  
knots

**Displacement:**  
**4,000**  
tonnes

**Arsenal:**  
BrahMos  
supersonic cruise  
missiles



■ Due to the use of stealth technologies and a special hull design, the ships have reduced radar cross section as well as electromagnetic, acoustic and infrared signatures

■ Two ships will be procured directly from Russia, and two will be built by Goa Shipyard Ltd.

(IGA) for four Krivak or Talwar class stealth frigates – two to be procured directly from Russia and two to be built by Goa Shipyard Ltd. (GSL) – after which a \$1 billion deal was signed for the direct purchase.

On the construction at GSL, Mr. Rakhmanov said

cluding technology transfer, he said.

He added that the frigates were being built to operate both Indian and Russian equipment.

The keel for the first ship to be built at GSL was laid in January and for the second ship in June this year.

The Navy had recently said that the first of these ships would be delivered in 2026 and the second six months later. In November 2018, GSL signed a \$500 million deal with Rosoboronexport of Russia for material, design and specialist assistance to locally manufacture the two frigates, and in January 2019 the contract was signed between the Ministry of Defence and GSL.

they would soon be inviting Indian technicians for the ongoing construction of the two frigates at the Yantar shipyard in Russia to familiarise themselves with the specificity of the equipment and the construction. In the second stage, substantial work would be done at GSL, in-