

PRESS RELEASE

DIRECTORATE GENERAL PUBLIC RELATIONS (PAKISTAN NAVY) **NAVAL HEADQUARTERS**

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INDIGENIZATION IS A TOP POLICY OF NAVAL HEADQUARTERS: CHIEF OF THE NAVAL STAFF

Karachi, 14 Feb 24: Achieving another milestone in indigenous submarine development project at Pakistan, the Keel Laying Ceremony of second HANGOR Class Submarine was held at Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works (KS&EW). Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

As per the defence agreement between Pakistan and China for development of 08 x HANGOR Class Submarines, 04 submarines are under construction at Wuchang Shipbuilding Industry in China whereas remaining 04 are being built at KS&EW under Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreement. This is the 2nd Submarine to undergo Keel Laying at KS&EW. Earlier, in Dec 2022, Keel Laying of first Submarine was successfully undertaken and currently it is at advanced stage of construction.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf said that it is a matter of great pride to witness the Keel Laying of HANGOR Class Submarine at Karachi Shipyard in collaboration with China Shipbuilding & Offshore International Co. Ltd (M/s CSOC). He lauded the joint efforts and performance of Ministry of Defence Production, Pakistan Navy, Karachi Shipyard (KS&EW) and M/s CSOC for construction of these Submarines. Chief of the Naval Staff highlighted that indigenization is a top priority of Naval Headquarters policy which is being manifested by construction of these state of the art Submarines at KS&EW.

Earlier during his welcome address, the Managing Director KS&EW, Rear Admiral Salman Ilyas highlighted that Karachi Shipyard is fully cognizant and completely aligned with the goals set forth by Government and Pakistan Navy in pursuing self-reliance in submarine construction. These submarines are a testimony of our commitment to this national cause. He also thanked Ministry of Defense Production and Pakistan Navy for their continued support and cooperation in realizing various projects at hand.

The ceremony was attended by representatives of Embassy of China, M/s CSOC (China), M/s WSIG (China) and other high-ranking government officials including distinguished guests from MoDP and armed forces of Pakistan.

DIRECTOR GENERAL PUBLIC RELATIONS (NAVY)



Officials of Pak Navy, Karachi Shipyard and China Shipbuilding & Offshore Intl signing the milestone certificate during Keel Laying Ceremony of 6th HANGOR Class Submarine at Karachi Shipyard



Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf in a group photo with officials from Pak Navy, Karachi Shipyard and China Shipbuilding & Offshore Intl during Keel Laying ceremony of 6th HANGOR Class Submarine at Karachi Shipyard



Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf addressing the audience during Keel Laying ceremony of 6th HANGOR Class Submarine at Karachi Shipyard



Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf Laying the Keel of 6th HANGOR Class Submarine at Karachi Shipyard