

'Fujian' - aircraft carrier

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Why in news?

Fujian is China's 3rd & most advanced aircraft carrier, officially commissioned into service on November 5, 2025.

- **Fujian** - China's **1st fully indigenously designed & built** aircraft carrier, marking a significant advancement in its naval modernization efforts.
- **Propulsion - Diesel-fuelled** warship (world's largest conventionally powered).
- **Displacement** - 80,000-85,000 tonnes

Features

- **Electromagnetic Catapult Launch System (EMALS)** - 1st Chinese carrier to use EMALS, replacing ski-jump ramps used on Liaoning and Shandong.
 - Fujian is China's 1st aircraft carrier & the 13th globally to adopt this technology (11 U.S & 1 French).

EMALS - A modern catapult that uses a linear induction motor to launch aircraft instead of steam.

- **Flat Deck Design** - It is designed to facilitate efficient aircraft operations and higher sortie rates, comparable to U.S. Navy's Ford-class carriers.
- **Combat Capability** - Offers greater strike range and higher sortie rates by accommodating aircraft with heavier fuel and weapon payloads.
- **Limited range** - Fujian's diesel-fuelled propulsion restricts its operational endurance, unlike U.S. nuclear-powered carriers that can function for years without refueling.
- **Multi-Aircraft Launch Capability** - Can launch 3 types of aircraft, including those with heavier payloads and longer strike range.
- **No match for American carriers** - Still, US has the fleet of 11 carriers would be larger than a combined fleet of all other aircraft carriers in the world (China (3); India, the UK and Italy have two each; and France, Russia and Spain one each).

USA, the only country, other than China to have an aircraft carrier with electromagnetic catapult system.

- **Symbolic Naming** - Named after Fujian province, which directly faces Taiwan across the strait—seen as a deliberate geopolitical signal.

References

1. [Indian Express | China gets new aircraft carrier 'Fujian'](#)
2. [BBC | China launches new aircraft carrier 'Fujian'](#)

