



DRDO

Press Release

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Tejas Light Combat Aircraft Fires Missile Killing the Target

Tejas, India's first indigenously designed developed and under productionisation 4th generation plus Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) today at around 1100 hrs achieved yet another milestone by launching an infrared seeking air to air missile that hit the target in a direct hit with precision and destroyed the target. The test, demonstrating required parameters was conducted off the coast of Goa in Arabian Sea, and has taken the aircraft closer to its induction in the Indian Air Force. Tejas, one of its kind combat aircraft, has been designed and developed by Department of Defence R&D, Ministry of Defence, with Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA), Bengaluru, as the lead laboratory, HAL as the design and production partner and number of DRDO laboratories, academic institutions, and industries of India contributing to its development. Shri Avinash Chander, Scientific Advisor to Defence Minister and Secretary, Deptt of Defence R&D congratulating the team said "with this launch of missile from Tejas and successfully hitting the target in the first shot, we have demonstrated the total weapon system capability of LCA Tejas".

Tejas has been undergoing weapon release flight tests, for its operational clearance. As a prelude today, Gp Capt Suneet Krishna (retd.), flying the Tejas aircraft commanded Infrared seeker missile through the fire control radar of the aircraft to lock on to the target. The target was towed by a pilotless target aircraft 'Lakshya' also designed and developed by DRDO's another premier lab, 'Aeronautics Development Establishment' (ADE), Bengaluru. The target mounted on Lakshya was launched by a ship of the Indian Navy off the west coast of India. A team from the National Flight Test Centre (NFTC), Aeronautical Development Agency, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, ADE (DRDO), CEMILAC, DGAQA and the Indian Navy worked in perfect unison to achieve this feat. Shri PS Subramanyam, DS, Program Director Combat vehicles & Director ADA and Air Cmde KA Muthana VSM, Project Director, Flight Test supervised the operations from the National Flight Test Centre (NFTC). Shri K Tamil Mani, DS, DG (Aeronautical Systems) reviewed the flight trial.

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