



# DRDO

## Press Release

Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011  
Hyderabad

**India – Africa Business Partnership Summit – DRDO participates and exhibits more than 35 technologies at the International Exhibition organized on the sidelines of the India-Africa Business Partnership Summit held at International convention Centre at Hyderabad.**

The Indian Prime Minister's Opening Statement at the India-Africa Forum Summit April 2008 and his visit to Africa in May 2011 paved new ways for Indo-African collaboration. The Indian government's initiative of offering a \$5 billion line of credit over the next three years to the African region was a major milestone in this regard. Subsequent to a cabinet decision after the Prime Minister's Africa visit, various initiatives have been taken to further strengthen Indo-African ties.

The India-Africa Business Partnership Summit is a big leap towards the cause of bringing the key stakeholders in the India-Africa business domain on a single platform to interact and formulate key guiding policies for mutual growth and development.

India and Africa has been traditional partners and share a relationship of mutual beliefs, trust and co-operation since a long time. The current summit is an extension of India's commitment to take the partnership to a next level. The technologies show-cased at the Summit represent the areas which will have a huge social impact from an African perspective. DRDO is proud to present these technologies to the African regions and promises to assist African Countries and Companies to promote and commercialize the same.

Notable in this context is the DRDO - FICCI ATAC programme, which is a unique initiative that DRDO has embarked with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) –India's apex business organization. The programme aims to create a commercial pathway to deliver technologies developed by DRDO for appropriate commercial markets for use in civilian products and services. This programme is first of its kind to be undertaken by DRDO in association with FICCI to actively spinout several of DRDO's technologies for appropriate commercial markets both nationally and internationally..

The Commercialization of the exhibited technologies will be done under the banner of the DRDO - FICCI ATAC programme, and DRDO is extremely hopeful of fulfilling Hon'ble Prime minister's vision and hope of seeing a strengthen Indo-African ties.

**Speaking on the occasion Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Director General of the apex industry chamber FICCI** brought out the fact that "The Prime Minister message of strengthening business ties with Africa is aptly timed and with the second phase of DRDO-FICCI ATAC programme, new technologies that are socio-economically relevant and offers solutions in the areas of food , health, handling issues related to climate change and also handling terrorism would be offered to the African markets."

**Shri Avinash Chander, Distinguished Scientist and Chief Controller R&D, ) DRDO, in his special address to the participants** conveyed the message of Scientific Adviser to Raksha Mantri that under the DRDO FICCI Accelerated Technology Assessment and Commercialisation(ATAC) Programme, DRDO is looking forward to commercialisation of number of relevant technologies developed by DRDO in friendly African countries to alleviate the problems faced by the African people for meeting the objectives laid down by our Hon'ble Prime Minister. He further stated "DRDO's participation in this historical summit is a big step taken by the

department. In this event, DRDO is exhibiting 35 technologies from some of DRDO's premier laboratories working in the areas of food technology, life science, and environmental related technologies and also high end engineering applications which can help in ensuring food security, fighting pandemics, disaster management related issues and also combating terrorism."

**Shri S. Radhakrishnan, Director Industry Interface & Technology Management**, who is spearheading the commercialisation program in DRDO stated "the ATAC programme is the joint initiative of DRDO and FICCI and the programme has scaled new heights with DRDO participating in the Indo Africa Business Partnership summit in a big way. The success of this initiative would further strengthen the cooperation between India and Africa and would also reiterate India's commitment to Africa's growth and prosperity."

The event was witnessed by senior representatives of the organizations and companies from different African countries, a large numbers of DRDO scientists and FICCI executives, captains of Indian Industries and members of media.