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DRDO Research and Innovation Centre develops micro eavesdropping device to counter cross-border terrorism

Vellore: Research and Innovation Centre of DRDO, IIT - M Research Park, Chennai, has developed advanced devices and micro unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) for the defence force and paramilitary for eavesdropping and surveillance along border areas and internal security.

"We have developed a lot of micro devices and equipment using high-end micro electro mechanical system (MEMS), which in turn depends on Integrated Circuit Fabrication (ICF) technology," said director of Research and Innovation Centre V Natarajan on Wednesday. He was speaking on the sidelines of a three-day international conference on Materials Processing and Applications organised by VIT University.

The devices have applications for the defence and paramilitary force for border surveillance and internal security purposes. "It will be very helpful for the defence forces as it will consume less power and also handy in remote and inaccessible areas," he added.

The device has been put in a field trial. "The device developed for eavesdropping will pick sounds by different means. It can detect very low frequency and vibration by MEMS sensor. Even a vehicle moving at a long distance will be detected by the ground vibration. It can also be used in submarines to pick communications through SONAR (sound, navigation and ranging)," he said.

The micro UAVs are also being developed by the centre, he said, adding, "It will be equipped with advanced surveillance cameras and an eavesdropping device."

The communications picked through the devices transferred to the centre, where it will be decoded to help the defence and paramilitary forces.

He, however, said that they had been facing challenges as there were several languages spoken by anti-social elements and terrorists. "We are in the process of developing technology to decode data (communications in different language and dialects)," he further said.