

Foreign nations have shown interest in Akash missile: DRDO

Several countries have evinced interest in procuring the indigenously developed Akash missile, a top Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) official said here today. There is a growing demand for the Akash, an all-weather medium-range surface-to-air missile, and many nations have shown interest in it, DRDO Chairman S Christopher told reporters here. Developed by the DRDO, the Akash missile system has the capability to neutralise aerial targets such as fighter jets, cruise missiles and air-to-surface missiles as well as ballistic missiles.



Talks were underway with the countries and "it (orders for the missile) will come", Christopher said without divulging further details. To a query on the allocation for research and development, he said this year the organisation has a budgetary allocation of Rs 2,000 crore. Christopher, who was here to participate in a function, also said there were export inquiries for the BrahMos missile. BrahMos is a joint venture between the DRDO of India and the NPO Mashinostroyeniya (NPOM) of Russia.

PSU Bharat Dynamics Ltd Chairman and Managing Director, V Udaya Bhaskar said the Akash missile is going to be in good

demand for another three to four years as both the Indian Air Force and the Indian Army need them in good numbers. L&T Board whole-time Director (Defence) Jayant Patil said a new aerospace facility in the district will become operational in another 10 months and it will manufacture rocket motors for ISRO. The defence arm of the L&T, which has so far invested Rs 500 crore in the unit here, is also supplying air frame to BrahMos missile and will expand the product range in the near future.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/foreign-nations-have-shown-interest-in-akash-missile-drdo/articleshow/64235450.cms>

Civilian staff of Defence Research and Development Organisation protest against privatisation

Defence civilian employees working in Defence Research and Development Organisation all over the country observed a one-day protest strike on Friday against the ongoing privatisation.

Defence civilian employees working in Defence Research and Development (DRDO) Organisation all over the country observed a one-day protest strike on Friday against the ongoing privatisation and outsourcing in defence establishments, including DRDO.

Four lakh defence civilian employees working in 41 ordnance factories, Military Engineer Services (MES), Directorate-General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) and other army, navy and air force extended support by wearing a black badge and held demonstration all over the country, a press release from the All India Defence Employees Federation said. "All major projects in DRDO are being handed over to private sector," the release said. "Permanent employees' strength is coming down day-by-day."

TIMES OF INDIA

Sat, 19 May, 2018

L&T to set up Rs 500 crore facility to make rocket motors for ISRO

Larsen and Toubro (L&T) is all set to expand its defence component manufacturing facility in the district and set up an exclusive factory on its Malumichampatticampus at a cost of Rs 500 crore to manufacture rocket motors for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

J D Patil, director, defence, L&T, said the factory would be ready within this financial year. “We have produced motors for Akash, which is an all-weather medium range surface-to-air missile system indigenously developed in India. Now, we plan to set up this factory to exclusively manufacture for ISRO. Their rocket motors are different from Akash, as the diameter is 2.8m and 3.2m and are massive. We will produce at least 10-12 sets a year which equals to nearly 50 sections of the motors,” he said.

According to Patil, the industry and the ecosystem here were good enough to produce precision equipment. “Earlier, we were only able to produce at our facility at Powai near Pune that was set up in 1940. Slowly, that entire unit will be shifted to Coimbatore. Even various orders from Baroda facility will be shifted to the district. We are going to take the number of factories to five here,” he said.

Patil said they would manufacture various components of satellites such as heat shields and other components that form the basic structural part of a satellite. “Currently, we are manufacturing these components in Baroda and we will shift all this to Coimbatore,” he added.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/coimbatore/lt-to-set-up-rs-500-cr-facility-to-make-rocket-motors-for-isro/articleshow/64240405.cms>



Sat, 19 May, 2018

Honour for city expert

The award was presented to Srivastava by Minister of Defence Nirmala Sitharaman. He has been awarded for his contribution in the development of innovative “virtual snow” approach for image-based modelling of physical and mechanical properties of snow and operational implementation of snow cover simulation model for avalanche hazard assessment in the Himalayas. Tribune News Service Chandigarh, May 18 The Defence Research and Development Organisation’s Scientist of the Year Award has been conferred on PK Srivastava from the Snow and Avalanche Study Establishment (SASE), a Chandigarh-based DRDO laboratory specialising in the field of snow physics and avalanche mitigation.

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<https://www.nyoooz.com/news/chandigarh/1115281/honour-for-city-expert/>