Press Information Bureau
Government of India
Ministry of Defence

07-January-2019 20:52 IST

Exhibitor of the Year Award for DRDO at 106th Indian Science Congress

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) pavilion received 'Exhibitor of the Year Award' at 106thIndian Science Congress held at Lovely Professional University (LPU), Phagwara, Punjab. The pavilion narrated the saga of self-reliance & national pride with the 'Make in India' spirit was a big attraction among people, especially students visiting the pavilion and getting opportunity to interact with DRDO scientists.

The DRDO Pavillion at the mega science expo was inaugurated on January 03, 2019 byGovernor of Punjab Shri VP Singh Badnoreand Union Science and Technology MinisterDr Harsh Vardhan. They took keen interest in DRDO products and technologies displayed. Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddywas present during the inaugural function.

Later in the day, a special address on the present and future technologies in defence systems and opportunities for the young researchers was delivered by Dr G Satheesh Reddy.

Director General (Naval Systems & Materials) Dr Samir V Kamatand Director General (Life Sciences) Dr AK Singhdelivered lectures on 'Materials Technologies for Future Defence Systems' and 'Evolving Landscape in Life Sciences' respectively. Director General (Production Coordination & Services Interaction)Dr S Guruprasad was also present.

DRDO's outdoor exhibits included surface-to-air missile system - Akash, model of BrahMos missile, remotely operated vehicle - Daksh, heavy weight torpedo - Varunastra, Laser Ordnance Disposal System (LORDS) and Vehicle Mounted Dazzler etc. Indoor exhibits of DRDO included models of various missile systems including Prithvi, Astra, Nag, HELINA and LRSAM; Rustom UAV, MBT Arjun Mk 1A, Armoured Engineer Recce Vehicle, 155mm Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System, PINAKA- Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher, Plastic Bullet, Multi-Mode Hand Grenades, SONAR systems, Radars, Night Vision Devices, Bullet Proof jackets and Helmets, Micro Wave Power Module, Integrated Multi-Function Sight. Life Sciences Products included Portable Chemical Agent Detector, Individual Underwater Breathing Apparatus for T-90 tank crew, Full body protector for female, Bukhari, Alocal Cream, Ready-to-Eat Packaged Foods etc.

DRDO pavilion also had a dedicated stall on Technology Development Fund (TDF) Scheme for promoting public/private industries especially MSMEs so as to create an eco-system for enhancing cutting edge technology capability for defence application. Details of the same are available on https://tdf.drdo.gov.in. The pavilion also provided information on 'Kalam's vision: Dare to Dream' the pan India online contest for engaging young minds in emerging technologies namely Artificial intelligence, Cyber security, Robotics, Autonomous Systems, etc. The objective is to unearth disruptive ideas and concepts in emerging technologies identified by DRDO for enhancing defence capabilities. The scheme will facilitate open competition for students and Startups. Details of the same are available on DRDO website.

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=187289

hindustantimes

Tue, 08 Jan 2019

Indonesia could be India's first BrahMos client

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NEW DELHI: India is exploring the possibility of selling the BrahMos cruise missile to Indonesia, and a team from the Indo-Russian joint venture that makes the weapon system visited a state-run shipyard in Surabaya last year to assess the fitting of the missile on Indonesian warships, people familiar with developments said.

Besides the BrahMos, India has offered to supply coastal defence radars and marine grade steel to Indonesia and service the Russian-made Su-30 combat jets flown by the Indonesian Air Force as part of efforts to deepen bilateral defence and military cooperation, the people said.

India has earlier held talks with the Vietnam government for the sale of the BrahMos, a supersonic cruise missile developed by an Indo-Russian joint venture set up in 1998.

The Indian Navy inducted the missile on its frontline warships in 2005.

Though India and Indonesia have not reached a final agreement on the sale of the BrahMos, the visit of the a team from the Indo-Russian company to the state-run PT PAL shipyard on the sidelines of the Indo Defence 2018 expo late last year was a significant step forward in efforts to sell the weapon system to a foreign country.

"The BrahMos team was invited to visit the state-run shipbuilding enterprise and had a look at the Indonesian platform," a person said.

The inspection of the warships was focused on fitting the BrahMos system on them, the people cited above said.

Though there has been "some traction" in India's offer of coastal defence radars to Indonesia, matters were "more advanced in considering" the BrahMos system, the people added. A group of MPs from Indonesia's lower house of parliament also visited the BrahMos headquarters last year, the people said.

Commodore (retired) C Uday Bhaskar, director of the Society for Policy Studies, said: "It is significant if India is offering the BrahMos missile to Indonesia. It enhances the relevance of India's military profile as a credible exporter of cruise missile technology." Besides the BrahMos, India had offered to sell marine grade steel and to service the Indonesian Air Force's Su-30 combet jets, which are similar to the Su-30 variant flown by the Indian Air Force, the people said.