

Tejas fighters will get Laser Designator Pod to target the enemy: DRDO

By Padam Subba Rao

With the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully developing Laser Designator Pods (LDPs), Tejas, India's indigenous supersonic Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) is all set to get one of the most potent and advanced targeting systems in the world. The LDPs will exponentially increase the attack and fighting capabilities of the Tejas fighter, which has already joined the Indian Air Force (IAF), by turning it into an tremendously alarming jet which can undertake day as well as night operations and in all weather conditions.

As per Report says, "Laser designator pod (LDP) is the laser sensor-cum-targeting system used in aircraft and provides inputs in actual flight conditions. These are advanced airborne infrared targeting and navigation pods to improve both day and night attack capabilities in all weather conditions. It performs tasks like detection, recognition, identification, designation of surface targets, accurate delivery of guided bombs and accurate ranging,"



Laser Designator Pods use a laser light source with pinpoint accuracy to designate a target which can then be destroyed using laser-guided bombs, missiles and high-calibre artillery munitions. The LDP developed by India is extremely cost-effective, accurate and has successfully met all the parameters for an air-to-ground weapon in a flight simulator.

The report further simplified that Indian Scientists P Suresh Kumar, NNSR K Prasad and K Senthil Kumar were involved in developing and testing the LDP. The Indian LDP was able to achieve an average positioning accuracy in terms of azimuth and elevation computation for static and moving ground targets at +/- 2.3 metres.

The Damocles LDP have greatly enhanced the day and night laser designation capability of the Rafale jets and India is already inducting the Damocles LDP equipped Rafale fighter jet, manufactured by France's Dassault Aviation. These LDPs allow laser-guided weapons to be delivered at stand-off range and altitude while their infrared sensors operate in the mid-wave infrared band, allowing them to retain their effectiveness in warm as well as humid conditions, a must for any fighter with the IAF.

The Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification (CEMILAC) has given the clearance to the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to go ahead with the production of weaponised version of Tejas Mk1 jets under Final Operational Clearance (FOC) configuration. The first weaponised Tejas is likely to join the IAF by the end of 2019.

<https://english.newstracklive.com/news/tejas-fighters-will-get-laser-designator-pod-to-target-the-enemy-drdo-sc1-nu-1000146-1.html>

Technology developed by DRDO for defence purposes can be used to meet civilian needs, says Subhash Bhamre

The technology developed by the DRDO for defence purposes can also be used to meet civilian needs as there is a requirement to link safety and security to deal with instances of fire fighting more effectively, Union Minister of State for Defence Subhash Bhamre said. Speaking at a workshop on 'Fire Safety Technologies and Services Workshop' at DRDO headquarters, Bhamre said the idea of making technology useful for all state departments is being explored. "There is a dire need to link safety with security and the technology developed by the DRDO for defence purposes can also be used to meet civilian needs to deal with instances of fire fighting more effectively" he said. He said the technology developed would be under the 'Make in India' initiative that could gradually be exported to other countries too. G Satheesh Reddy, Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) Chairman, said right now what is being developed by DRDO is for defence forces but the technology can be modified to be used for fire services. He also said the DRDO is in the process of developing technology that would help in rescue operations from borewells but did not elaborate further on it.

"We also need to have our own standards in fire and explosive safety because prevention is better. We need to lay out our standards very clearly," he said. He requested representatives from the fire department in the meeting to come out with specific requirements that could be taken forward by the DRDO. D K Shami, Directorate General Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Affairs, said the fire department need technology and new equipment to save lives. "There is a 65 per cent shortage of fire stations.

We need a man power of 6 lakh and have 60,000. There is also 83 per cent shortage of appliances. We need India-made equipment and that is where the research and development of the DRDO comes into picture," Shami said. "I request DRDO to develop our own standards. We should not blindly follow NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) standards and develop our own standard," he said. "We are very poor in implementing latest technology. It is a long drawn process to procure any technology. We need cooperation from all sectors for it," Shami added.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/defence/technology-developed-by-drdo-for-defence-purposes-can-be-used-to-meet-civilian-needs-says-subhash-bhamre/1450332/>