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## THE TIMES OF INDIA

Sat, 07 Oct 2023

### **DRDO Industry Academy-Center of Excellence Inaugurated**

Sameer V Kamat, secretary, department of Defense (R&D) and chairman, Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO), inaugurated the DRDO Industry Academy-Center of Excellence (DIA-CoE) at IIT (BHU) on Friday.

Speaking on the occasion, Kamat said that the DRDO has launched a young scientist laboratory which will have a director below 35 years of age. This laboratory is committed to work on emerging technologies such as cyber physical systems, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and symmetric technology. "Our endeavor is to make this laboratory work like a startup. The DRDO is opening 15 centers of excellence in educational institutions of the country where the focus will be on innovation and cutting-edge technology," he said.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/varanasi/drdo-industry-academy-center-of-excellence-inaugurated/articleshow/104229241.cms>



Sat, 07 Oct 2023

### **DRDO चीफ ने कहा-अग्नि 6 नाम की कोई चीज नहीं:ऑफिशियली अग्नि-5 तक ही प्रोग्राम; 2 साल बाद 4 खरब के रक्षा उपकरणों का निर्यात कर सकेगा भारत**

DRDO के चेयरमैन डॉ. समीर वी कामथ ने मिसाइल सीरीज-अग्नि को लेकर बड़ा बयान दिया। IIT-BHU में समीर वी कामथ ने कहा- अग्नि 6 मिसाइल नाम की कोई चीज नहीं है। अग्नि-6 के लिए सरकार ने कुछ भी सेंशन नहीं किया है। ऑफिशियली अग्नि-5 तक ही प्रोग्राम था। जिसका ट्रायल आज से 12 साल पहले ही हो गया था।

दैनिक भास्कर से रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन के चेयरमैन ने कहा, सरकार ने कोई नया ICBM नहीं करने का फैसला लिया है। इंटर कॉन्टिनेंटल बैलिस्टिक मिसाइल (ICBM) के मिसाइल का रेंज 10 हजार किलोमीटर या इससे ज्यादा होना चाहिए। लेकिन सरकार ने ये प्रोजेक्ट ही बंद कर दिया है।

उन्होंने कहा कि जब देश में ही बनाने की अनुमति नहीं है, तो फिर इसका क्या एक्सपोर्ट करेंगे। वहीं, ये सब स्ट्रेटजिक मिसाइल हैं। इनका एक्सपोर्ट नहीं होता। भारत 2 साल बाद 4 खरब से ज्यादा के रक्षा उपकरणों को निर्यात करने वाला देश बन जाएगा।

## **अगला लक्ष्य- 12 हजार किमी.**

कयास है कि भारत जो अगली मिसाइल बनाएगा उससे हम दूसरे महाद्वीपों पर भी हमला कर सकते हैं। इसका इस्तेमाल परमाणु हमलों में भी हो सकता है। इसके अंदर 5 परमाणु बम रखने की कैपेसिटी होगी। 4-5 अलग-अलग टारगेट सेट करके इससे एक साथ हमला किया जा सकता है।

इसकी रेंज 12 हजार किलोमीटर तक हो सकती है। अगर ये बनती है तो पूरा यूरोप, चीन और रूस जैसे देश इसकी जद में आ जाएंगे। इसके पहले अग्नि-5 का 2012 में सफल ट्रायल किया गया था। तब, तब अगली मिसाइल को लेकर काफी कवायदें होने लगीं थीं। लेकिन, पड़ोसी देशों के दुष्प्रचार की वजह से इसको लेकर कोई भी जानकारी अब साझा नहीं की जाती

## **अब तक अग्नि-5 के 8 ट्रायल**

19 अप्रैल, 2012 को अग्नि-5 के पहले ट्रायल के बाद भारत महाद्वीपों के बीच मार करने वाला देश बन गया था। हम अमेरिका, रूस, चीन, फ्रांस और ब्रिटेन जैसे ICBM क्लब में शुमार हो गए थे। उस समय दुनिया को DRDO की ताकत का अंदाजा लगा। इससे चीन और पाकिस्तान की भौहें काफी चढ़ गईं थी और भारत की इस मिसाइल की मुखालफत की गई।

भारत ने इस मिसाइल का दूसरा परीक्षण 15 सितंबर 2013, तीसरा 31 जनवरी 2015, चौथा 26 दिसंबर 2016, 5 वां 18 जनवरी 2018, छठवां 3 जून 2018, सातवां 10 दिसंबर 2018 और 8 वां 28 अक्टूबर 2021 में किया था।

## **अब बात भारत के दूसरे मिसाइलों और रक्षा हथियारों के निर्यात की...**

### **भारत की मिसाइलें खरीद रही दुनिया**

DRDO के चेयरमैन डॉ. समीर वी कामथ ने कहा कि पहले भारत रक्षा हथियारों का केवल आयात ही करता था। लेकिन, अब भारत डिफेंस वेपंस का बड़ा एक्स पोर्टर बन रहा है। भारत ने इस साल अभी तक 2 बिलियन डॉलर रक्षा उपकरणों का निर्यात किया है। दुनिया भर के देशों ने भारत द्वारा विकसित मिसाइलों और दूसरे रक्षा हथियारों को लेकर रुचि दिखाई है।

### **इन हथियारों और उपकरणों का होगा निर्यात**

एयरक्राफ्ट तेजस, ब्रह्मोस, रॉकेट सिस्टम पिनाका, गाइडेड पिनाका, टारपिडो, सोनार, रडार आदि के लिए भारत से खरीदी जा रही है। हम इनका प्रोडक्शन भी बढ़ा रहे हैं।

### **2025 तक 5 बिलियन डॉलर का होगा निर्यात**

रक्षा मंत्रालय ने हमें 2025 तक टारगेट दिया है कि 5 बिलियन डॉलर के मिसाइल और दूसरे डिफेंस हथियारों और उपकरणों का एक्सपोर्ट करें। देखा जाए तो रक्षा उपकरणों के निर्माण और निर्यात में अमेरिका-चीन हमसे आगे हैं, लेकिन अगले 10-15 साल में हम उनके बराबर होंगे। इस तरह की रणनीति पर भारत काम कर रहा है। प्रलय हमारा टेक्निकल मिसाइल है। यह ब्रह्मोस से ज्यादा कारगर होगा।

### **IIT-BHU में माइक्रोवेव वेपंस पर होगा रिसर्च**

2 तरह के डायरेक्टेड एनर्जी वेपंस होते हैं। लेजर बेस और हाई पावर माइक्रोवेव्स। आगे वाले युद्धों में इस सिस्टम का इस्तेमाल काफी होने वाला है। IIT-BHU में इस तकनीक पर तेजी से रिसर्च और विकास होगा। देश भर के ऐसे 15 लैब में इस वेव पर काम हो रहा है।

अगले 3 साल में और भी ऐसे सेंटर्स बनाएंगे। 15 सेंटर्स ऐसे बने हैं। 41 लैब हैं। 5 यंग साइंटिस्ट लैब हैं, जिनके डायरेक्टर की उम्र 35 साल से कम की है। ये प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी का सुझाव था। 2 हैदराबाद में, पुणे, चेन्नई, बंगलुरु में है। हाई पावर माइक्रोव काफी उपयोगी होने वाला है। यहां पर उस पर रिसर्च होगा।

### **पूर्वांचल रक्षा तकनीक का बनेगा हब**

पूर्वांचल DRDO के रक्षा तकनीक का हब बनेगा। IIT-BHU में खुले रीजनल एक्सीलेंस सेंटर इंडस्ट्री एकेडमिया-सेंटर ऑफ एक्सीलेंस (DIA-CoE) में हर कोई यूनिवर्सिटी, स्टार्टअप, रिसर्च और MSME DRDO की रक्षा तकनीक के लिए आकर काम करेगा। इस सेंटर से हम फ्यूचर टेक्नोलॉजी पर काम करेंगे।

पूरे पूर्वांचल में डिफेंस रिसर्च एंड डेवलपमेंट का इकोसिस्टम विकसित करने जा रहे हैं। अभी तक DRDO अपने 41 लैब के साथ काम कर रहा था। लेकिन, अब DRDO के विंग में हमने एकेडमिया, MSME और स्टार्टअप को भी शामिल किया है। इससे बहुत जल्द हम रक्षा के मामले में एक बड़े निर्यातक देश बनकर उभरेंगे।

### पाउडर मेटलर्जी और पावर वेव पर होंगे काम

यह सेंटर डिफेंस सेक्टर में खास और फ्यूचर की टेक्नोलॉजी के लिए तेज विकास पर रिसर्च करेगा। पहले फेज में पाउडर मेटलर्जी, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक, फंक्शनल सबस्टेंस, हाई पावर माइक्रोवेव सोर्स और डिवाइस सेक्टर में काम होगा। IIT-BHU के डायरेक्टर प्रोफेसर प्रमोद कुमार जैन ने कहा कि इस सेंटर का फोकस भारत के डिफेंस इम्पोर्ट को घटाने और डिफेंस सेक्टर में आत्म निर्भर बनाना है। इस सेंटर के रिसर्च आउटपुट सभी विभागों के लिए उपलब्ध होंगे। कई विभागों में DRDO के प्रोजेक्ट्स पर काम चल रहे हैं। इससे विभागवार रिसर्च में बेहतरी देखने को मिलेगी।

### वेव वेपन पर काम कर रहे दोनों देशों के वैज्ञानिक

DRDO और IIT-BHU के वैज्ञानिक हाई पावर माइक्रोवेव एनर्जी, एक तरह का वेव वेपन पर काम कर रहे हैं। यह किसी देश के इलेक्ट्रॉनिक इक्विपमेंट को डिसेबल कर सकता है। दावा किया जा रहा है कि इससे इंसानों को कोई खतरा नहीं होता है।

वहीं, वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि इससे रिडेटेड इलेक्ट्रो मैग्नेटिक एनर्जी निकलता है। इस डिवाइस को लैब के प्लग या मिलिट्री वाहन के इंजन पर फिट किया जा सकता है। दुनिया में इस पर आधारित कुछ मिसाइल बनाए गए हैं। इसमें है बोइंग का CHAMP - काउंटर इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स हाई पावरड माइक्रोवेव एडवांस मिसाइल प्रोजेक्ट और दूसरा THOR यानी कि टेक्निकल हाई पावर ऑपरेशनल रिसपांडर है।

<https://www.bhaskar.com/local/uttar-pradesh/varanasi/news/there-is-no-such-thing-as-agni-6-drdo-chief-131953642.html>

# The Tribune

Sun, 08 Oct 2023

## TBRL Meet to Improve DRDO, Industry Synergy

An industry synergy meet to step up collaboration for design, development, testing and evaluation of indigenous systems for the armed forces was organised by Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory (TBRL) here today.

The objective of the event was to strengthen the synergy between DRDO laboratories and private industries venturing in the field of defence production. An exhibition of various technologies and products developed by the TBRL was held on the occasion.

Over 90 industry partners from across the country attended the meet and expressed interest in collaboration for making India self-reliant in the field of defence technologies. More than 70 scientists from the TBRL and the DRDO headquarters interacted with the industry representatives and addressed their queries.

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/chandigarh/tbri-meet-to-improve-drdo-industry-synergy-551435>



## DRDO Participates in Vision Goa 2023 Exhibition



DRDO participated in 'Vision Goa 2023' Exhibition. Hon'ble CM of Goa Shri Parmod Sawant and Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping, Waterways and Tourism Shri Shripad Naik visited DRDO stall and interacted with DRDO scientists.

Various indigenously developed cutting edge technologies related to rocket systems, sonars, naval materials, underwater platforms, bridging systems, missiles, mines, torpedoes etc were showcased.

<https://www.psuconnect.in/news/drdo-participates-in-vision-go-2023-exhibition/39537/>



Sun, 08 Oct 2023

## **Need to Enhance Capabilities in View of Dynamic Strategic Environment: IAF Chief Chaudhari**

Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari on Sunday called on his force to refine its strategy, enhance all-round capabilities and develop a flexible mindset to 'prosecute' possible future wars, considering the current 'complex' and 'dynamic' strategic environment.

In an address to air warriors on the occasion of Air Force Day, the Chief of Air Staff said the current geopolitical landscape has provided the force an opportunity to reduce dependency on imports by developing indigenous capability.

Air Chief Marshal Chaudhari also underlined the need for understanding the nuances of evolving air power, 'setting the pace to preserve peace and if and when necessary, to fight and win wars.'

He said the world is changing at a rapid pace and the IAF must meet all new challenges coming its way. "In this complex and dynamic strategic environment, refining our strategy, building robust all round capabilities and more importantly, developing a flexible mindset to prosecute future wars will prove decisive", he said at the event where he also unveiled the new ensign of the force.

"In our quest for becoming an air and space force, we must recognise the importance of the space domain and continue developing our space capabilities", he said.

The IAF Chief stressed that innovation must be part of our DNA to enable the force to easily adapt to emerging threats and challenges.

"We must hold ourselves to the highest standards in every facet of our operations, training, maintenance and administration. We must strive to be leaders in technology and innovation. We must invest in cutting edge research, development and acquisition to build technological superiority. Innovation must become a part of our DNA, enabling us to easily adapt to emerging threats and challenges", he said.

Underlining the need to candidly assess and address any inhibitions to change, he said joint planning and integrated application of combat power will be the sine-qua-non of future wars.

"Developing unique tactics, carrying out realistic training and incorporating relevant lessons learnt will go a long way", he said, adding that, "From multi-domain operations to hybrid warfare, the air force needs to recognise that modern warfare transcends traditional boundaries. We must seamlessly integrate air, space, cyber and ground capabilities to dominate the battle space".

He said over the past nine decades, the IAF has constantly evolved and transformed into one of the finest air forces in the world. "But is that enough? If India is on the path to become a developed nation by 2047, then IAF must be one of the best, if not the best, by the time we complete 100 years in 2032. The vision, as laid down in our doctrine, is to be an agile and adaptable air force that provides decisive aerospace power in furtherance of our national interests," he said.

"We must reform, or become a relic; we must innovate, else become mundane and we must transform, else become irrelevant", he added.

Urging all to strive for excellence in everything they do, he said this is non-negotiable.

On Angiveers, the Chief of Air Staff said, 'We have successfully inducted the first batch of Agniveers and subsequent batches, including women Agniveers, are presently undergoing basic training. The rigour of training has been increased across the board for all training curriculums with more emphasis on self-learning and self-education, he noted.

Detailing the exercises carried out by the IAF, he said, "In this year alone, the IAF has carried out eight exercises across the globe with friendly foreign countries and performed exceptionally well".

"For the first time our indigenously built LCAs (light combat aircrafts) have participated in an overseas exercise, showcasing our professional acumen and enhancing our stature as a potent Air Force. IAF carried out extensive operations in Turkiye, Sudan and Syria airlifting critical supplies and rescuing stranded Indian nationals. As first responders, we have always maintained a high state of alert and taken on all emerging situations", he said.

Noting that the theme for this year's Air Force Day is IAF- Air Power Beyond Boundaries, he said it aptly reflected the inherent global reach of air power and how air power will prove decisive in future conflicts.

"Air Force operations extend worldwide, providing rapid mobility and global reach that allows a nation to project air power beyond boundaries in the form of rapid deployment and peacekeeping missions. We need to understand the nuances of evolving air power, setting the pace to preserve peace and if and when necessary, to fight and win wars", he said.

He said "Our people are our most valuable asset" and there was a need to prioritise well-being, professional development and readiness of air warriors above everything else.

Air Chief Marshal Chaudhari also asked his force to continue to foster a culture of discipline, integrity and remain ever vigilant in the face of emerging threats.

"Our commitment to the defence of our nation remains steadfast and we will continue to protect our territory, deter potential adversaries and ensure the safety and security of our people", he said.

"The Indian Air Force is not just a military force, it is a symbol of our nation's collective strength and determination", he said.

Noting that they have inherited the proud legacy of professionalism, perseverance, and passion curated by predecessors, he said, "The last year has brought a fair share of challenges our way and I am happy to note that the IAF has performed exceedingly well and turned those challenges into opportunities".

The Air Chief said ethical leadership should be the cornerstone of our organisation.

"We must lead by example and uphold our core values of mission, integrity and excellence in all that we do. My vision is one of strength, adaptability and unwavering commitment to our nation and its people", he added.

<https://www.deccanherald.com/india/need-to-enhance-capabilities-in-view-of-dynamic-strategic-environment-iaf-chief-chaudhari-2717468>



## Indian Air Force Unveils New Ensign at Annual Day Parade



The Indian Air Force (IAF) on Sunday unveiled their new flag, aiming to better align with the values of its air warriors during the annual day parade and flypast at Air Force Station Bamrauli, Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh.

The unveiling of the new IAF Ensign will be performed by Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari and featured the IAF Crest positioned in the upper right corner of the flag, near the fly side.

Air Force Day commemorates the formal integration of the Indian IAF into the nation's armed forces, a historic event that took place on October 8, 1932. This annual celebration is observed with the participation of the Chief of the Indian Air Force and its senior officers. The IAF initially emerged as a supporting arm of the United Kingdom's Royal Air Force in 1932, and it established its first operational squadron in 1933.

— timesofindia (@timesofindia)

VR Chaudhari said during the unveiling, "We need to understand the nuances of the evolving airpower setting the pace to preserve peace, if and when necessary to fight and win wars. Innovation must become a part of our DNA, enabling us to easily adapt to emerging threats and challenges."

### **Here are the highlights of the Air Force Parade:**

The unveiling of the new IAF Ensign was performed by Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari. It featured the IAF Crest positioned in the upper right corner of the flag, near the fly side.

The parade was the first to be led by a woman officer, Group Captain Shaliza Dhama, who is the first woman officer to command an IAF combat unit.

Only the IAF Crest will be incorporated into the new IAF Ensign. This crest prominently features the national symbol, the Ashoka Lion, at the top, with the words "Satyamev Jayate" in Devanagari script below it. Beneath the Ashoka Lion is a Himalayan eagle with outstretched wings, symbolizing the fighting spirit of the IAF. Encircling the Himalayan eagle is a light blue ring with the words "Bharatiya Vayu Sena."

The IAF motto, derived from the Bhagavad Gita and meaning "touching the sky with glory," is inscribed in golden Devanagari script below the Himalayan eagle.

The IAF Ensign was presented to the Air Chief by four air warriors.

As the Air Chief unveiled the new Ensign, two drones lifted a large flag from behind a curtain wall. The new Ensign was then hoisted, while the previous version lowered, folded with full honors, and handed over to the Air Chief. It will now become part of the exhibits at the Air Force Museum.

The parade also featured an all-women contingent consisting of the newly inducted Agniveer Vayu women. These 31 women air warriors marched alongside their male counterparts.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/indian-air-force-unveils-new-ensign-at-annual-day-parade/articleshow/104252966.cms>



*Sun, 08 Oct 2023*

## **India Defence Conclave 2023: A Gathering of Defence Experts and Global Insights**

In a momentous event that promises to shape the future of India's defence landscape, New Delhi is set to host the Catalyst and India Defence Conclave 2023. This exclusive gathering will bring together nearly fifty Defence Attaches (DAs), Deputy DAs, diplomats, and representatives from national and international defence and aerospace companies.

Organized by the defence and strategic affairs news portal, Bharatshakti, the eighth edition of the Conclave is slated to host high-ranking officials from countries such as the United States, Russia, France, various African nations, and more. The significance of this event taking place on Oct 10, lies in its potential to foster collaboration, address critical geopolitical issues, and explore new avenues in defence and aerospace technologies.

"We at Bharatshakti recognise that the route to enhancing India's pre-eminence in the global community, needs to be based on Atmanirbharta or self-reliance. We believe that India must have the ability to largely develop, design and produce its defence platforms in cooperation and collaboration with technologically advanced entities. Finally, we strongly feel that the Indian defence ecosystem must be based on a strong, competent and adequately capitalized MSME sector," Nitin A Gokhale, founder and editor in chief told Financial Express Online on Saturday Oct 7, 2023).

### **Geopolitical Imperatives:**

As the world grapples with evolving geopolitical dynamics, the Indian Ocean region is poised to become the epicentre of global geopolitics. Access to this maritime space will play a pivotal role in shaping international relations in the coming years. Collaborative efforts among like-minded nations are essential to navigate this complex landscape effectively.

India's ability to exercise its independent national security policy hinges on self-reliance or "Atmanirbharta." This approach ensures that larger nations do not solely rely on military might but also consider the importance of maintaining positive relationships. In an interconnected world, the outcome often depends on the management of international relations.

### **Economic & Strategic Issues:**

In today's defence landscape, priorities encompass precision, protection, mobility, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance (ISR), drones, and counter-drone technologies. India, in its pursuit of self-reliance, welcomes collaborations in defence production.

India is actively transitioning from being a buyer of defence equipment to becoming a developer, designer, and manufacturer of complex platforms. The government's reforms have spurred the Indian defence industry, resulting in multiple platforms and opportunities.

### **Indigenization:**

The foundation of self-reliance is confidence in indigenous weaponry. India views its defence industry as the "sixth arm of defence," alongside the strategic political arm, the three-armed forces, space and cyber, and the military-industrial complex. Indigenization is essential, as recent global events have highlighted the vulnerabilities of supply chains during conflicts.

### **Exports:**

India's aim goes beyond producing sub-systems and systems; it extends to full platforms. Indigenous achievements in light combat aircraft (LCA), helicopters, artillery guns, rocket systems, and tanks exemplify this goal. Technology plays a pivotal role, underscoring the need for increased research and development collaboration with DRDO and academia.

### **Policy Issues:**

Fast-track procurement procedures have proven effective in streamlining defence acquisitions. Enabling policy frameworks and proactive marketing have further facilitated India's presence in the global defence market. Developing government-to-government mechanisms, similar to the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program in the USA, can bolster Indian defence companies.

### **Skilling & Standardization:**

Skilling manpower is a crucial focus area for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Standardization of products is imperative for the long-term growth of these enterprises. Larger Indian companies can play a pivotal role by mentoring and supporting MSMEs.

### **Technology:**

The modernization of defence forces hinges on technological advancements. Today, technology defines military doctrine. India's private sector has made significant strides in absorbing and leveraging technology, particularly in munitions. Niche technologies hold the key to success.

### **Views from Industry:**

The near-term aspirations of the Indian defence industry include achieving a \$25 billion defence industry and a \$5 billion export order book. Technological superiority in all future domains is a shared goal. A permanent display in Delhi showcasing Indian equipment for foreign visitors and delegations is also in the works.

### **Speakers & Panelists:**

Eminent speakers and panelists include Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande; CDS General Anil Chauhan; Dr. Samir V Kamat, Chairman, DRDO; Nivruti Rai, MD & CEO, Invest India; P S Raghavan, Chairman, NSAB; Dr. S Somanath, Chairperson, ISRO; Prof Ajay Kr Sood, Principal

Scientific Advisor to the government; JD Patil, L&T; Dr Vivek Lall, Chief Executive General Atomics; Venkat Katkuri, Airbus; William Blair, Lockheed Martin; Subba Rao, Ananth Technologies; AVM D V Khot (Retd), Former Chief of Defence Space Agency; Toby Simon, Synergia Foundation; Dr Ajay Kumar, former Defence Secretary; Lt Gen M U Nair, National CyberSecurity Coordinator, NSCS; Dr. Abhay Karandikar, Secy, Dept of S&T; Maj Gen C S Mann, ADG, ADB; Rear Admiral Ankur Sharma, DG, WESEE; B K Singh, Ex Special Director IB, Ex DGP CG; Chief of Air Staff ACM V R Chaudhari; Vice Admiral Dinesh Tripathi, C-in-C, Western Naval Command IN; and Lt Gen Greg Bilton, Chief of Joint Operations, Australia; Atul Dinkar Rane, CEO and MD, Brahmos; Ashok Atluri, Zen Technologies; among others.

Additionally, a video message from Gilberto Teodoro Jr., Secretary of National Defence, Philippines, will add an international perspective to the event.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/business/defence-india-defence-conclave-2023-a-gathering-of-defence-experts-and-global-insights-3266102/>

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

Sat, 07 Oct 2023

### **Indian Air Force's Indigenous MRSAM Air Defence System Deployed at Western Front to Thwart Enemies**

India's indigenous Medium Range Surface to Air Missile Air Defence System has been deployed in Punjab's Adampur. The system is a joint production of the Defence Research and Development Organisation and the Israel Aerospace Industries. DRDO has made significant success in terms of developing air defence weapons for both ground-based and warship-based systems. Wing Commander Ajit Bhaskar Vasane shared the details of the newly inducted MRSAM Air Defence System. The Indian defence forces already have the S-400 air defence systems, which can hit targets at 400 Km maximum distance.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/videos/news/indian-air-forces-indigenous-mrsam-air-defence-system-deployed-at-western-front-to-thwart-enemies/videoshow/104241205.cms>



Fri, 06 Oct 2023

### **Assam: Army to Host First-Ever Tech Event to Showcase Latest Indigenous Defence Technologies**

The Eastern Command of the Indian Army is all set to host the first-ever mega defence show to showcase the indigenous cutting-edge technologies needed to solve the operational challenges in the eastern sector and the army as a whole. The event 'East Tech 2023' will be held in Guwahati on October 10 and 11.

The aim of the event is to facilitate the Eastern Command of the Indian Army in meeting its operational challenges by incorporating contemporary indigenous technologies, the Indian Army said in a press release.

“The event will strive to engage a large number of Indian manufacturers, including the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), Research and Development (R&D) organisations and Academia, to showcase their latest and the most advanced weaponry and equipment,” according to the release.

The event also aims at promoting and providing a platform to various start-ups and major players of the defence industries from Assam and other northeastern states and help them showcase their latest innovations in the defence sector.

The two-day event is being organised by the Indian Army and the Assam government.

The primary objective of the event is to acquaint the participants with the prevalent state-of-the-art technologies and commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) solutions available in the defence sector, the release said.

“The event is being organised with an underlying aim to create awareness on the contemporary technologies and hardware solutions, available with the defence manufacturers in India, to meet the ever evolving operational dynamics in the Eastern Command with indigenous, innovative and future-proof technologies,” the release stated.

The event is also likely to give a much-needed push to the defence manufacturers in the northeast, thus, closely integrating them into the supply chains, the release added.

The Indian Armed Forces have also identified the technologies required to be inducted for enhancing its existing capabilities, as per the release.

<https://news.abplive.com/northeast/assam-army-to-host-first-ever-tech-event-to-showcase-latest-indigenous-defence-technologies-1634273>

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

Sun, 08 Oct 2023

### **Indian Navy Rolls out '360-Degree Appraisal' to Improve Promotion Evaluation**

All officers being considered for promotion in the Navy will now undergo a peer review by their colleagues as well as subordinates in a new "transformative 360-degree appraisal mechanism" being institutionalised in the maritime force.

The Navy on Saturday said the existing appraisal mechanism of periodic confidential reports by senior officers has an inherent limitation of a "top-down" approach because it does not cater for or quantify a leader's impact on his subordinates. "The new appraisal mechanism is aimed to address this shortfall by encompassing large-scale surveys from suitably identified peers and subordinates for every officer being considered for promotion," Navy spokesperson Commander Vivek Madhwal said.

The survey includes a spectrum of questions, encompassing aspects such as professional knowledge, leadership attributes, suitability in war or crisis situations and the potential for higher ranks.

"Inputs, thus obtained, will be suitably quantified for independent analyses by a nominated board of officers, headed by a flag officer. This will also be provided as feedback to the officers to effect behavioural changes and improvements," he said.



The Navy has around 10,000 officers, which includes over 600 women, at present. "The women and men in whites are central to the Indian Navy's 'ships first' approach and will continue to remain its greatest asset in the foreseeable future. The Navy takes pride in imbibing such best practices and this initiative is in continuation of other endeavours towards remaining a 'combat ready, credible, cohesive and future proof force'," Commander Madhwal added.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/navy-rolls-out-360-degree-appraisal-to-improve-promotion-evaluation/articleshow/104247311.cms>



Mon, 09 Oct 2023

## Army Concludes 70 Schemes under EP-4 worth ₹11,000 Crore

The Army has completed the fourth tranche of Emergency Procurements (EP) undertaken between September 2022 to September 2023 with over 70 schemes concluded worth nearly ₹11,000 crore, according to defence sources who said they have been utilised to fill up "critical capability voids". Similarly, the Indian Air Force has concluded 64 contracts under EP-4 worth around ₹8,137 crore.

"The primary objective of EP was to plug critical operational gaps, especially along the Northern Borders," a defence source said. Elaborating on the contracts concluded, the source said about 6-7 schemes worth ₹1,300 crores went for weapon systems, ₹1,300 crore was used across 7-8 projects for protective equipment, and 9 to 10 schemes at about ₹1,500 crore related to Intelligence, Reconnaissance, and Surveillance. Another ₹2,000 crore was reserved for about 10 projects focusing on drones and counter drones. Communication and non-communication equipment comprised about a dozen plus projects, absorbing approximately ₹1,800 crore, and lastly, an amount of ₹3,100 crore was used for about 25 projects on survivability and training. The source stated.

The armed forces are currently executing the fourth tranche of Emergency Procurements (EP) sanctioned by the Defence Ministry and as per the stipulations, deliveries have to be completed within 12 months. In the earlier three tranches, the Army finalised 68 contracts worth approximately ₹7,000 crore.

Emergency financial powers were granted to the armed forces by the Defence Ministry for the first time after the 2016 Uri terror attack, followed by the 2019 Balakot air strikes and the 2020 standoff with China in Eastern Ladakh. Under this, the services could procure weapons systems up to ₹300 crore, on an "urgent basis without any further clearance to cut short the procurement cycle".

In the earlier three tranches, over ₹1,800 crore was spent on modern weapons, equipment, and ammunition and an almost equivalent amount was used for Communication and non-communication equipment, the source stated. Further, around ₹900 crore was dedicated to 10 contracts for Surveillance equipment and close to ₹1,500 crore was allocated for 14 projects on drones and counter drones systems, the source said, adding that another ₹1000 crore went towards enhancing mobility in various terrain and engineering equipment.

The EP mechanism is not just about swift procurements, it is also about savings — primarily due to procurement from domestic industry, another source said. "The first three tranches of EP realized savings of around ₹550 Crore and the fourth phase itself led to saving of approximately ₹1,500 crore."

Major upgrades facilitated through the EP mechanism encompassed remote control weapon systems, air defence missiles, anti-tank missiles, satellite downlink & recording systems, VSAT terminals, portable mobile terminals, secure army mobile systems, all-terrain vehicles, high mobility reconnaissance vehicles, radars, loiter ammunition, drones, counter-drone systems, high endurance UAVs, ballistic helmets, navigation systems and simulation systems, officials stated.

Stressing on the increasing capability of the domestic defence industry, officials said about 50% of contracts in the first three tranches were awarded to the domestic industry. Under EP-4, all 70 schemes were contracted with Indian vendors.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/under-emergency-procurement-4-army-concludes-70-contracts/article67396717.ece>

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

Sun, 08 Oct 2023

### **Territorial Army Inducts First Batch of Mandarin-Trained Officers along LAC**

The Territorial Army (TA) has inducted its first batch of Mandarin-trained officers and posted them to forward areas along the LAC in support of the regular Army's drive to enhance expertise in the Chinese language, Tibetology and the like amid the continuing military confrontation in eastern Ladakh. "Five Chinese language interpreters were inducted into the TA in August after an extensive selection process on the basis of Mandarin proficiency and officer-like-qualities. They are now posted in forward areas to help in border personnel meetings with the People's Liberation Army (PLA)," a source said on Saturday.

This move by the TA, which is based on a citizen soldiers' army concept and supports the regular armed forces, adds to the several measures being taken by the regular Army to address "capability voids" in Mandarin proficiency, Tibetology and "advanced sector specialisations" on China, as was earlier reported by TOI.

The Army is already conducting various Mandarin courses in its Northern, Eastern and Central Commands, while the force has also tied up with different universities to impart training to its personnel in the language.

The TA, which celebrates its Raising Day on October 9, is also moving ahead to induct cyber security experts, with the first batch likely to join by the end of this year.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/territorial-army-inducts-first-batch-of-mandarin-trained-officers-along-lac/articleshow/104247432.cms>

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

Sat, 07 Oct 2023

### **New Disability Pension Rules will Prevent Misuse: Chief of Defence Staff Anil Chauhan**

The recent tightening of the disability pension rules for the armed forces will prevent 'the exploitation of its liberal provisions from misuse' as well as ensure a fitter military, chief of defence

staff General Anil Chauhan said on Friday, amid the continuing uproar among a section of serving personnel, veterans and legal experts against the new defence ministry policy.

"The provisions of the revised rules will be applicable for those personnel who retire after September 21, 2023. It has no retrospective application," Gen Chauhan said at a press conference, flanked by the IAF and Navy chiefs and Army vice chief.

"The revised rules do not, in any manner, alter the emoluments of war widows, family pensioners or veterans. There is no change in the entitlement for any category of personnel being granted compensation for death or disability," he added.

As reported earlier by TOI, the new "Entitlement rules for casualty pensionary awards to the armed forces personnel-2023" have introduced a provision called "impairment relief" to cover most life-style related diseases like hypertension and diabetes. Such diseases will only be considered attributable to service in case they occur in active operations, high-altitude, extreme physical exertion and the like. The All-India Ex-Servicemen Welfare Association has strongly protested against the new MoD policy, claiming the new rules are "draconian", "perverse in law" and place soldiers at a disadvantage when compared to civilian government employees.

"It's a globally accepted that the stress and strain of military service adversely impacts the health of soldiers. Earlier, the place of a soldier's deployment was not a condition for the grant of benefits," a veteran said.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/new-disability-pension-rules-will-prevent-misuse-chief-of-defence-staff-anil-chauhan/articleshow/104224095.cms>

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

*Mon, 09 Oct 2023*

### **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to Visit Italy, France this Week to Boost Defence Ties**

Defence minister Rajnath Singh is headed for a four-day visit to France and Italy from Monday to expand bilateral strategic engagements and explore industrial cooperation for joint development of military systems. The visit comes after the Singh-led defence acquisitions council gave the preliminary approval or "acceptance of necessity" (AoN) for the acquisition of 26 French Rafale-Marine fighter jets and three more Scorpene diesel-electric submarines on July 13, a day before the Modi-Macron summit in Paris. Apart from these two mega deals, which will cost upwards of Rs 80,000 crore (nine billion euros), India and France have also agreed to co-develop advanced fighter jet and helicopter engines. Defence ministry officials said Singh will travel to Rome in the first leg of his two-nation tour and hold wide-ranging talks with his Italian counterpart Guido Crisetto. In Paris, Singh will co-chair the fifth annual India-France defence dialogue with his French counterpart Sebastian Lecornu.

"India and France recently celebrated 25 years of strategic partnership. Both countries enjoy a deep and wide-ranging bilateral defence relationship, including significant industrial cooperation," an official said. "In both Rome and Paris, Singh will also interact with the defence industry CEOs and senior representatives to discuss potential opportunities for industrial cooperation," he added.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/defence-minister-rajnath-singh-to-visit-italy-france-this-week-to-boost-defence-ties/articleshow/104269731.cms>

## India amongst Top Three Most Targeted APAC Countries as AI Use, Ransomware Increases: Report

India is among the top three most targeted countries in the APAC region by nation-state actors as cybercriminals used AI to create new threats, increased the speed and sophistication of ransomware, and attempted password-based and Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) fatigue attacks.

India began advancing cyber incident reporting requirements in the last 12 months. For Transmission Control Protocol attacks, while India was the second most targeted country last year, it has now come down to the fifth, given recent geopolitical shifts, Microsoft said in its Digital Defence Report.

While AI was also used in creating new opportunities for defence, Microsoft blocked an average of 4,000 password attacks per second targeting its cloud identities, the company shared.

### **The use of AI creates new threats, opportunities**

Cybercriminals are increasingly using AI as a weapon to refine phishing messages and improve influence operations with synthetic imagery. However, AI will also be crucial for successful defence, automating and augmenting aspects of cybersecurity such as threat detection, response, analysis, and prediction, the report shared.

And while threat groups have significantly accelerated the pace of their attacks over the last few years, Microsoft says its built-in protections across its products blocked tens of billions of malware threats, thwarted 237 billion brute-force password attack attempts, and mitigated 619,000 distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks that aim to disable a server, service or network by overwhelming it with a flood of Internet traffic.

### **Increase in ransomware attacks**

The report further shared that organisations saw human-operated ransomware attacks increase 195% since September 2022. These attacks were found to be “hands-on keyboard” types of attacks rather than automated ones, typically targeting a whole organisation with customised ransom demands.

Attackers were also found to have evolved attacks to minimise their footprint, with 60% using remote encryption, thereby rendering process-based remediation ineffective.

Ransomware operators were also found to increasingly exploit vulnerabilities in less common software, making prediction and defence more difficult.

### **Password-based and MFA fatigue attacks increase**

Threat actors are also increasingly taking advantage of “MFA fatigue” to bombard users with MFA (Multi-Factor Authentication) notifications in hopes they will accept and provide access to sensitive information.

Approximately 6,000 MFA fatigue attempts per day were observed by Microsoft, the report shared.

Password-based attacks against cloud identities also witnessed a tenfold surge, with the education sector witnessing around 3 billion per month to over 30 billion – an average of 4,000 password attacks per second targeting Microsoft cloud identities.

The report from Microsoft covers activities observed between July 2022 and June 2023, across nation-state activity, cybercrime and defence techniques.

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/technology/india-amongst-top-three-most-targeted-apac-countries-use-ai-ransomware-increase-report/article67391822.ece>



*Sun, 08 Oct 2023*

## **India, Tanzania to Elevate Defence Ties to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership: Tanzania FM**

Tanzania's Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, January Yusuf Makamba has said that during Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan's India visit, the two countries will elevate their defence relationship to a comprehensive strategic partnership.

"In this visit, we will elevate our relationships to a comprehensive strategic partnership with four pillars. One is a development corporation. Two, maritime security, three, defence corporation and four, trade investment..." the Tanzanian Foreign Affairs Minister said.

"In defence, there are many areas and we have been working with the Indian defence sector for a while now in terms of training, and exchange of knowledge. Hardware will be part of the future arrangement. There is a foundation of cooperation and it's part of the four pillars of strategic partnership we want to have with India," he added.

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Samia Suluhu Hassan will be arriving in New Delhi today for a four-day state visit during which she will participate in bilateral meetings and exchange MoUs with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Saturday.

President Samia will arrive at 5:15 pm and later will meet External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar at 6:30 pm.

Meanwhile, Makamba while speaking on the IIT Campus in Zanzibar, said: "It is very very significant as you know the IIT is a very reputable institution in India. It has produced world-class renowned technology entrepreneurs. The willingness of India to open this...is very important for us."

He further said that: "It is a leap of faith for India to do this. We appreciate the significance and symbolic value of this that India is keen on exporting its model of success in creating engineers, technicians and technology entrepreneurs. It is very important for us as it is in line with our development objectives."

The minister while speaking on the African Union's inclusion in G20, said this is very good and that India has had a historic role as champion of the global south.

"Back in the '60s and even farther back in the '50s, India worked with Africa to struggle for independence and liberation of Southern Africa. India and Africa saw eye to eye in many important liberation and anti-colonialism matters. It was part of our Nine Aligned Movement and India was part of the global south," he said.



"What we are happy about is that as India ascends into a position of global influence, it has kept its faith and is loyal to the cause of the global south. India now gets to sit at the big table, G20, and still remember that it's important that countries of the south also have a voice in the big table. So the advocacy of India to include the African Union in the G20 was very well received in Africa, and it's an appreciation of India's important role as a champion of the Global South," he added.

<https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/india-tanzania-to-elevate-defence-ties-to-comprehensive-strategic-partnership-tanzania-fm20231008053037/>



Sat, 07 Oct 2023

## Israel Defence Forces Launch Operation 'Iron Swords' after Hamas' Surprise Attack

The Israel Defence Forces on Saturday launched operation 'Iron Swords' in response to Hamas's surprise attack on Israel, the Times of Israel reported.

IDF is striking Hamas targets in Gaza. "In response to the barrages of rockets launched by Hamas from Gaza at Israel, the IDF is currently striking Hamas targets in Gaza," Israel Defense Forces said in a post on 'X'.

Israel Defence Minister Yoav Gallant emphasized that the country will win this war and noted that Hamas has made a "grave mistake" by launching a surprise attack on Israel with rockets.

"Hamas made a grave mistake this morning and started a war against the State of Israel. IDF soldiers are fighting the enemy at all the infiltration sites. The State of Israel will win this war," Gallant said, Times of Israel reported citing his office.

In response to the barrages of rockets launched by Hamas from Gaza at Israel, the IDF is currently striking Hamas targets in Gaza.

— Israel Defense Forces (@IDF) October 7, 2023

The Israeli military is fighting Hamas terrorists in different locations in Southern Israel near the border with the Gaza Strip, including the towns of Kfar Aza, Sderot, Sufa, Nahal Oz, Magen, Be'eri and the Re'im military base.

IDF Spokesperson Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari stated that over 2200 rockets were fired into Israel since 6:30 am on Saturday, the report said. The firing took place for more than 3.5 hours.

Hagari said that Hamas terrorists infiltrated from land, sea and air. He further added that there are at least seven sites of fighting between Hamas and IDF troops.

Israel's military is expecting to draft tens of thousands of soldiers, the report said.

Hamas claimed to have kidnapped five IDF soldiers. IDF has not yet spoken on the report.

<https://aninews.in/news/world/middle-east/israel-defence-forces-launch-operation-iron-swords-after-hamas-surprise-attack20231007144829/>

## **ISRO on Course to Commence Unmanned Flight Tests of Gaganyaan Mission**

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Saturday said it is on course to commence unmanned flight tests for the country's ambitious Gaganyaan mission, and preparations are underway for the Flight Test Vehicle Abort Mission-1 (TV-D1). In a post on social media platform 'X, the space agency said, "ISRO to commence unmanned flight tests for the Gaganyaan mission. Preparations for the Flight Test Vehicle Abort Mission-1 (TV-D1), which demonstrates the performance of the Crew Escape System, are underway." According to ISRO, the first development flight Test Vehicle (TV-D1) is in the final stages of preparation. Officials had earlier indicated that TV-D1 launch is likely by this month-end. The Test Vehicle is a single-stage liquid rocket developed for this abort mission. The payloads consist of the Crew Module (CM) and Crew Escape Systems (CES) with their fast-acting solid motors, along with CM fairing (CMF) and Interface Adapters.

This flight will simulate the abort condition during the ascent trajectory corresponding to a Mach number of 1.2 encountered in the Gaganyaan mission, it said. "CES with CM will be separated from the Test Vehicle at an altitude of about 17 km. Subsequently, the abort sequence will be executed autonomously commencing with the separation of CES and deployment of the series of parachutes, finally culminating in the safe touchdown of CM in the sea, about 10 km from the coast of Sriharikota," ISRO said.

The CM, after integration underwent various electrical testing at ISRO's facility in Bengaluru, including an acoustic test, and was dispatched to Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota (SDSC SHAR) on August 13. At Satish Dhawan Space Centre, it will undergo vibration tests and pre-integration with the Crew Escape System, before final integration to the Test Vehicle at the launch pad.

This Test Vehicle mission with this crew module is a significant milestone for the overall Gaganyaan programme as a near-complete system is integrated for a flight test, ISRO said, adding that the success of this test flight will set the stage for the remaining qualification tests and unmanned missions, leading to the first Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission with Indian astronauts. CM is where the astronauts are contained in a pressurised earthlike atmospheric condition during the Gaganyaan space mission.

The CM for the Gaganyaan mission is in different stages of development. For the TV-D1, the CM is an unpressurised version that has completed its integration and testing and is ready to be shipped to the launch complex. This unpressurised CM version has to have an overall size and mass of actual Gaganyaan CM, the space agency said, adding it houses all the systems for the deceleration and recovery.

"With its complete set of parachutes, recovery aids actuation systems and pyros. The avionics systems in CM are in a dual redundant mode configuration for navigation, sequencing, telemetry,

instrumentation and power. The CM in this mission is extensively instrumented to capture the flight data for evaluation of the performance of various systems,” it said. The CM will be recovered after touchdown in the Bay of Bengal, using a dedicated vessel and diving team from the Indian Navy.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/business/defence-isro-on-course-to-commence-unmanned-flight-tests-of-gaganyaan-mission-3265631/>

