

DefExpo 2020: DRDO, Bharat Forge conduct webinar series by MoD from today

New Delhi: The Ministry of Defence (MoD) said in a Press communication today that it is organising a series of web seminars (webinars) from today, 10 December, in the run-up to DefExpo 2020. The 11th edition of the biennial flagship event will be held in Uttar Pradesh capital Lucknow from 5-8 February 2020.

The webinars will be conducted by leading luminaries namely Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) Chairman, G Satheesh Reddy; Chairman & MD Bharat Forge Ltd, Baba Kalyani; Founder & President of Synergia Foundation Toby Simon, IIT Bhilai Director & Member of Artificial Intelligence Task Force for Defence; Dr Rajat Moona; and Dr Kota Harinarayana. Officials from MoD Department of Defence Production & Invest India will also be in attendance.



The webinars will focus on path-breaking topics and will be streamed worldwide, said the MoD, adding that the topics will be of academic interest and relevance to Defence, aerospace and security industry, academia and student fraternity.

The details of the webinars, schedule, speakers' profile, brief on the topics and the link for participation for each session are available on DefExpo 2020 website. The webinars will be streamed live on YouTube and recordings will also be made available on the DefExpo website.

DefExpo 2020 will cover the complete spectrum of the country's aerospace, Defence and homeland security interests. The themes are 'India – The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub' and 'Digital Transformation of Defence'.

The Expo will focus on bringing to the forefront digital advances in the industry, and providing a platform for drivers of such transformation to come together.

<https://indusdictum.com/2019/12/10/defexpo-2020-drdo-bharat-forge-conduct-webinar-series-by-mod-from-today/>

Naval weapon systems exhibition 'NAVARMS 2019' for Defence industry & users begins 12 Dec

New Delhi: The 4th edition of the International Seminar-cum-Exhibition on Naval Weapon Systems 'NAVARMS 2019' with the theme 'Make in India – Fight Category: Opportunities and Imperatives' is scheduled at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA), Development Enclave, New Delhi on 12 & 13 December.

The two-day event spread over five plenary sessions will provide opportunities for exchange of ideas, create awareness, and identify emerging prospects for Indian and International Defence industries in the domain of Naval Weapon Systems.

NAVARMS is the only international seminar and exhibition on Naval Weapon Systems conducted in the country to invite all stakeholders in the life cycle management of Naval Weapons and provide a common platform to share their views and concerns, said the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in a Press communication.



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will address the gathering during the Exhibition's inaugural session on 12 Dec. The past three editions of NAVARMS organised in 2007, 2010 and 2013 have aroused enthusiasm and active participation from the Defence industry, Ministry of Defence, DRDO and the users, said the MoD.

India's maritime character and vital geo-strategic location are twin factors that have defined her growth as a nation and evolution as a civilisation, said the MoD communication, adding that the Indian Navy today remains the principal manifestation of India's maritime power and plays a central role in safeguarding and prompting her security and national interests in the maritime domain.

The Navy's roles and responsibilities have also expanded significantly over the years in response to changing geo-economic and geo-strategic circumstances, said the MoD communication, adding that these roles necessitate a wide inventory of weapon systems that cater for India's security-cum-threat calculus.

Today, there is wider acknowledgement of the role the Navy can play in nation building and enhancing maritime security in the region, said the MoD communication, adding that with an intent to convert Defence expenditure into an investment to fuel growth, the Indian Navy is at the forefront of promoting indigenous Defence manufacturing and has been collaborating with the private sector to achieve self-reliance.

The 'Make in India' initiative, setting up of Defence industrial corridors and access of Defence testing facilities to Indian Industries are significant programs of the Govt of India, said the MoD communication, adding that these initiatives are aimed at providing Indian Industries with opportunities in the domestic as well as global arenas to enter into strategic partnerships with foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) and DRDO to harness avenues in the technology intensive 'Fight' category.

The first session of 'NAVARMS-19' will set the stage for the two-day seminar, with Indian Navy speakers bringing out 'Opportunities for Industry in Naval Weapon Systems – 2030' in all three dimensions viz. surface, air & underwater.

The second session on ‘Needs and Concerns of the User and Industry’ will provide a platform to users and the industry to bring out their respective needs and concerns with prevailing policies and issues as well as envisioned environment, and seek views from all stakeholders to bridge the gap between expectations of the user and capabilities of the industry, said the MoD.

The third session focuses on ‘Naval Weapon Systems – Modern Trends and Technology in Upgrade & Upkeep’, while the fourth session is an interactive session of Panel Discussion on ‘Govt Policy Imperatives to Encourage Indigenisation’.

The last session on ‘Building of Indigenous Capability through Collaborative Approach between Industry, R&D organisations and Indian Navy’ will provide a platform for industry, DRDO and the user to highlight the capability gaps existing in the system and way ahead to bridge them using modern technology, infrastructure augmentation, increased investment in R&D etc through collaborative approach.

To enable companies to gain maximum benefit from this platform, a parallel technology display in the form of a two-day exhibition is also organized to demonstrate the Industry’s capabilities to key users.

<https://indusdictum.com/2019/12/11/naval-weapon-systems-exhibition-navarms-2019-for-defence-industry-users-begins-12-dec/>

Scientists train RPF to identify nuclear threats

Mumbai: In a bid to identify or tackle with any nuclear threat on the Indian Railway in the future, the railway board has taken a decision of giving special training to all the zonal railway police force.

For this, they have tied up with the scientists from Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), who will be providing training related to Chemical, Biological, Radiology and Nuclear (CBRN).

This comes after the railway board held a meeting last year, discussing disaster-related issues that can affect the railway, in which they decided to train all zonal RPF.

“Since many countries are making nuclear weapons, the board has decided to start with the training process, which will help them handle such situations,” said an officer.

Last week, 30 RPF from the Western Railway underwent training for three days. Four scientists from DRDO and radiologists from the King Edward Memorial (KEM) hospital gave them training regarding CBRN.

In this training, the personnel have been advised to take precautions in case of chemical attack on mail/express trains or railway stations.

“We were given information on how to prevent CBRN disasters, detect them, provide care and protection during a search, control the damage in the event of a CBRN attack, and how to manage the impact,” said an RPF officer.

Members of the Rail Pravashi Sangh said the railways has many problems that are not solved. “On a daily basis, commuters are facing problems, and the railways is interested on wasting money on such things, which is of no use. RPF should be given training on crowd management and how to handle cases that happen everyday,” he said.

<https://in.news.yahoo.com/scientists-train-rpf-identify-nuclear-020007289.html>



Thu, 12 Dec 2019

Government to collaborate with IIT and IISC to get futuristic defense technologies

By Jitendra Pratap Singh

In a recent press release, the ministry of defence has stated that it has set up a national task force which will bring in India's premier technical and research institutes to work together to address the defence and security needs of the country indigenously.

As stated, the task force will aim to achieve leadership in defence based futuristic technologies. It will first identify all the niche domains and scrounge them from the very grass route level to develop the need-based warhead components and technologies. The task force will also identify some higher institutions and research centres along with DRDO to bring awareness and training of the latest equipment and technologies.

The task force has onboard directors from all prestigious institutes comprising the director from Indian Institutes of Science (IISC-Bangalore), director from National Institute of Technology (NIT Durgapur), Vice-Chancellor of University of Hyderabad and top officials of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) chaired by the Director of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-Delhi). The task force in its first session has identified about 60 projects which will give extra cutting-edge technology to our defence forces. Starting from the bulletproof vests to robotic exoskeletons and lightweight full-body armours the projects will also cater to the need of artificial intelligence-based cyber defence system to operate in a swift and silent environment.

Among other identified areas they have also planned to focus on health and hygiene of the defence personnel and their training on advance aircraft applications for which they have collaborated with NABL (National Accreditation Board of Testing and Calibration Laboratories) and HAL (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited) respectively. Besides developing a larger ecosystem to cater India's need of a robust defence mechanism the chairman has also stated to bring in the PhD scholars from various research institutes to work in DRDO laboratories on specific defence and security projects.

In the coming week, the task force will submit its first report to the government for better understanding and further action. The chairman has briefed the media that these projects in the time will discover a new horizon for our defence and security forces to meet the ongoing aspirations of the people of India.

<https://www.campusvarta.com/campus-updates/government-to-collaborate-with-iit-and-iisc-to-get-futuristic-defense-technologies/>

Barak-8 missile: A strategically vital and lethal weapon

The Barak-8 Air and Missile Defence system or LRSAM provides a 360-degree defence against various airborne threats. Complemented by a state-of-the-art multi-mission radar, flexible control and command system, and two-way data link, Barak-8 can eng...

When indigenous missile programs “Trishul” and “Akash” failed to live up to expectations after multiple trials and amidst the growing need for long range SAMs (surface to air missiles), India partnered with Israel to create a new medium shipborne air defence missile system. The Barak-1 system, which was already in service with both Indian and Israeli navies, was chosen to be further enhanced into a superior air defense missile system.

Initially developed as a shipborne air defense missile system for navy only, it subsequently evolved into a medium range SAM for land forces. The current version is called Barak-8, which has been jointly designed and developed by Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Israel's Administration for the Development of Weapons and Technological Infrastructure, Rafael, Elta Systems and other companies.



1. What makes Barak-8 a standout performer?

The Barak-8 Surface-to-Air Missile Defence system or LRSAM provides a 360-degree defence against various airborne threats. Complemented by a state-of-the-art multimission radar, flexible control and command system, and two-way data link, Barak-8 can engage multiple targets at the same time during day and night in all weather conditions.

As a versatile performer, this missile can defend against any Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), helicopters, and aircraft, anti-ship missiles, ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and fighter jets.

2. What are the different variants of the Barak-8 system?

Currently, there are three variants of the Barak-8 system.

The first one is called Barak 8 AMD/LRSAM, which is a naval air defence system, originally designed for the Israeli Navy and currently used by other countries including India.

The second variant is called MRSAM or a medium-range, land-based missile system, which comes with a tracking radar, a command and control system, and mobile launcher systems.

The third variant is known as Barak MX, which comes with a flexible configuration option, making it useful both in naval and land missions.

3. What is the range of Barak-8 system?

The Barak-8 has an operational range of 100 km. Its advance version or Barak-8ER can neutralise targets up to 150 km. Besides its own Barak 8 Radar, this weapon system is also supported by multi-function surveillance track and guidance radars, which enables it to hit targets with precision.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/barak-8-missile-a-strategically-vital-and-lethal-weapon/articleshow/72474051.cms>