



DRDO

Press Release
25th May 2012
DRDE, Gwalior

Gwalior Honour's DRDO Chief

"I consider the true self-reliance as 'complete freedom from the clutches of control regimes', in today's globally competitive world, what matters is to have technological strength and capability to produce what is needed, rather than making each and every nut and bolt in-house" said Dr Vijay Kumar Saraswat, SA to RM Secretary Deptt of Defence R&D and DG DRDO addressing a huge gathering of dignitaries, academicians and students during a felicitation ceremony. The ceremony was organized by ITM University in its campus at Gwalior on 25th May 2012 to honour Dr Saraswat on the successful development and launch of India's long range ballistic missile 'Agni-5'. Dr Saraswat further stated that having indigenous missiles with reach beyond 5000 km had been the dream of two great persons namely, late Smt Indira Gandhi, and Dr APJ Abdul Kalam. Fulfilling the dream, 'Agni-5', possessing the required reach and punch, is the outcome of their vision and direction, translated into reality by dedicated efforts of the DRDO team. "The only way to survive is to be strong; Strength respects strength. Agni 5 is not the end of a journey but has opened path to newer journeys" stated Dr Saraswat.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Shekhar Dutt, His Excellency the Governor of Chattisgarh who has witnessed several earlier Agni launches, described the feeling at the launch complex as that of "believing in the capability, demonstrating the capability and feeling happy about the capability"

Dr Ramashankar Singh, Chancellor, ITM University in his address stated "the city of Gwalior is richer to have among us a jewel who has made India proud; we salute Dr Saraswat and the DRDO team their accomplishment". Earlier, describing Dr Saraswat as the

Insignia of Agni 5, noted Urdu poet and sufi thinker Shri Sheen Kaff Nizam stated, “Country is grateful to Dr Saraswat for making India strong enough so that our potential enemies do not dare to attack us”.

Later during the day, Dr Saraswat interacted with the faculty and students of the University. Answering questions from the students, he explained to them the concept of indigenous ballistic missile defence and importance of target discrimination and classification involved in interception of targets traveling at speeds in excess of 8000 meter/sec. Re-usable hypersonic missile, scramjet engine and MBT “Arjun” and light combat aircraft “Tejas” were other topics discussed during the interaction.

Dr R K Pandey, Vice Chancellor ITM University; Dr Daulat Singh Chauhan, Managing Director, ITM University; Ms Palak Singh, Trustee, Samata Lok Sansthan; noted poet Shri Madan Mohan Danish, Smt. Sameeksha Goel, Mayor of Gwalior, Prof. M P Kaushik, Director DRDE were among dignitaries present in the felicitation ceremony.

Person in photographs:

Photo 629: From left: Prof Nidhi Denskar, Smt. Sameeksha Goel, Mayor of Gwalior, Dr Daulat Singh Chauhan, Managing Director, ITM University, Dr P. N Nagpal, Prof Emeritus, Founder and Medical Director, Retina Foundation, Dr Ramashankar Singh, Chancellor, ITM University, Shri Shekhar Dutt, His Excellency the Governor of Chattisgarh, Smt. Asha Saraswat, Ms Palak Singh, Trustee, Samata Lok Sansthan, Shri Sheen Kaff Nizam, noted Urdu poet and sufi thinker, Dr R K Pandey, Vice Chancellor ITM University and noted poet Shri Madan Mohan Danish.

