



DRDO

Press Release

DRDO Bhawan,
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37TH DRDO DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE & AWARDS CEREMONY

The 37th DRDO Directors' conference concluded on 25th evening after three days of deliberations on the theme "Technology consolidation leading to fast-track induction" and related topics. Summing up the deliberations, Padma Bhushan Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat, SA to RM, DG R&D and Secy, Dept of Def R&D, stressed that the technologies developed must be led to their appropriate translation in to product, "Technologies, if not translated in to products have no meaning" said Dr. Saraswat. He emphasized on the need for greater participation of private sector in this translation. "Notwithstanding the markedly increased share of indigenous content from 30% to 55% in the items cleared for acquisition, the imports need to be reduced, since a country cannot be strong if it remains dependent on imports."

The conference discussed in depth, among other things, the long term requirements of armed forces and the technology development plan needed to meet these requirements. Emerging technologies and their impact on future warfare and security scenario was another subject that drew attention during the proceedings. It was evident that the future wars will see a dominant role played by unmanned systems, and the subject drew considerable attention. On front of emerging threats, **energy, space and cyber security were** seen as areas that needed greater attention. "The armed forces have a large requirement of energy and its assured availability, especially during a conflict is essential", said Dr. Saraswat.

The participants and invitees emphasized on the need to leverage offsets more effectively, for which it was considered important that the offsets be worked out during early phase of selecting the vendor. Country's technology requirements and existing gaps should be the guiding factor in the process. Increased participation of private sector industries and a need to create an echo system more conducive for promoting such participation was considered important.

An important highlight of the conference was the awards ceremony during which, Dr. Saraswat gave away the "Young Scientist Awards" and "Best Performance Awards" at a function organized on 24th March, 2013, at the Bhagawantam Auditorium, Metcalfe House, Delhi.

The winners of these awards are selected by a committee headed by Chairman Recruitment and Assessment Centre, after following a rigorous process, based on their performance and achievements. Addressing the audience consisting of awardees and their families besides invitees, Chief Controllers and Directors. In his address, Dr. Saraswat said that DRDO has come of age and is seen as a shining model. At the same time, the expectations of the people from the organization has also increased. Only excellence in technology and performance will take us to greater heights. The tradition of recognizing younger scientists dates back to the time when Dr. DS Kothari, the first SA to RM and head of DRDO and other senior scientists of the nation deliberated at the Indian Science Congress on how to motivate them and lay a strong foundation of science in India, informed Dr. Saraswat.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Dr. G Malakondaiah, Distinguished Scientist & Chief Controller R&D (Human Resource & Materials) called upon the awardees to continue to foster innovation and team spirit. Dr. AK Singh, Director, Personnel, presented the vote of thanks.

In all, 16 awards in each category as mentioned were awarded:

Young Scientist Award:

Shri Ahmed Ovais Siddiqui, Scientist 'D', Advanced Systems Laboratory (ASL), Hyderabad; **Smt T Girija, Scientist 'D'**, Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad; **Shri Nilesh Patel, Scientist 'C'**, Vehicle Research & Development Establishment (VRDE), Ahmednagar; **Shri Amit Manglik, Scientist 'D'**, Research & Development Establishment (Engineers) (R&DE (E)), Pune; **Shri M Ramesh Kumar, Scientist 'D'**, Combat Vehicle Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE), Chennai; **Shri Kumar Gautam, Scientist 'E'**, Defence Electronics Research Laboratory (DLRL), Hyderabad; **Shri M Vengadesh Kumar, Scientist 'D'**, Defence Avionics Research Establishment (DARE), Bangalore; **Shri Narasimhan RS, Scientist 'D'**, Electronics & Radars Development Establishment (LRDE), Bangalore; **Dr Vishal Kesari, Scientist 'C'**, Microwave Tube Research & Development Centre (MTRDC), Bengaluru; **Shri NNR Ranga Suri, Scientist 'D'**, Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), Bangalore; **Shri Balvir Kumar, Scientist 'E'**, Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory (TBRL), Chandigarh; **Ms Durgesh Nandini, Scientist 'C'**, Centre for Fire, Explosives and Environment Safety (CFEES), Delhi; **Shri Raveendra Varma RA, Scientist 'D'**, Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam; **Shri Mahendra Pareta, Scientist 'D'**, Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL), Ambarnath; **Shri Shiba Narayan Sahu, Scientist 'D'**, Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL), Hyderabad; **Shri Vijay Kumar Tak, Scientist 'C'**, Defence Research & Development Establishment (DRDE), Gwalior.

Best Performance Award:

Shri Anil Kumar Babbar, Technical Officer 'C', Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), Delhi; **Shri NV Nagaraj, Technical Officer 'D'**, Defence Food Research Laboratory (DFRL), Mysore; **Shri Sudarshan Kedari Bandi, Technical Officer 'C'**, Research & Development Establishment (Engineers) (R&DE (E)), Pune; **Shri M Lakshmana Rao, Technician 'C'** SF Complex (SFC), Jagdalpur; **Shri Prasad Vinayak Satvilkar, Senior Technical Assistant 'C'**, Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL), Ambarnath; **Shri RSN Murthy, Technical Officer 'B'**, Targeted Training Centre (TTC), Bengaluru; **Ms Tankasala Padmavathi, Private Secretary 'A'**, Defence Electronics Research Laboratory (DLRL), Hyderabad; **Shri DK Devappa, Civilian Driver 'D'**, Electronics & Radar Development Establishment (LRDE), Bengaluru; **Shri JK Khandelwal, Technical Officer 'B'** CCE(R&D) (Central), Delhi; **Shri G Radhakrishna Pillai, Technical Officer 'C'** Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Kochi; **Smt Vanita Kapoor, Personal Assistant 'C'**, CC(R&D)(M&M), DRDO HQ, New Delhi; **Shri RN Rangaswamy, Technical Assistant 'B'**, Defence Avionics Research Establishment (DARE), Bengaluru; **Shri PS Mahadevan, Senior Technical Assistant 'C'**, Combat Vehicle Research and Development (CVRDE), Chennai; **Ms Susheela Ganesh, Private Secretary 'A'** Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA), Bengaluru; **Shri Jhabar Singh Aswal, Admin Assistant 'B'**, Dte of Management Services (DMS), DRDO HQ, New Delhi; **Shri JB Nageswara Rao, Admin Officer**, Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam.

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