

## **Prithvi-II Missile fired successfully by SFC**

A missile unit of the Strategic Forces Command (SFC) successfully launched at 0915 hrs on Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2013 the ingeniously developed surface-to-surface/ nuclear capable Prithvi II missile with a strike range of around 350Kms, from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Balasor, off the Odisha Coast. It was a perfect text-book launch and the missile equipped with advanced high accuracy ingeniously developed navigation and manoeuvring system, the missile achieved all its targeting and technical parameters, set out for this launch. The missile trajectory was tracked by the DRDO radars, electro-optical tracking systems and telemetry stations located along the coast of Odisha. The downrange teams on board the ship deployed near the designated impact point in the Bay of Bengal had monitored the terminal events and splashdown.

Inducted into India's Strategic Forces Command in 2003, the Prithvi II missile, the first missile to be developed by DRDO under India's prestigious IGMDP (Integrated Guided Missile Development Program) is now a proven technology. The launch was part of a regular training exercise of the SFC and was monitored by DRDO scientists. Shri Adalat Ali Programme Director AD, Shri N. Siva Subramaniam Project Director were present to oversee the launch operations. Shri G. Satheesh Reddy, Director RCI, Shri MVKV Prasad, Director, ITR and Shri R. Appavuraj, Director, PXE were also present during the launch.

The missile being based on a mobile Transporter Erector Launcher Vehicle is versatile and designed for quick manoeuvrability and high operational flexibility on the battlefield.

Quoting an SFC spokesman, 'Such successful training launches clearly indicate our operational readiness to meet any eventuality as also establishes the reliability of this deterrent component of India's Strategic arsenal'.

The Defence Minister, Shri A K Antony has congratulated the Prithvi-II team for the success.