

India Test Fires Akash Missile

India test fired its indigenously-developed surface-to-air Akash missile as part of a user trial from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur. "Three rounds of test were carried out by IAF personnel aiming at para-barrel targets," said an official. The missiles, with a strike range of 25 km and capability to carry warhead of 60 kg, were test fired from 11 am to 2 pm.

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Kalam's black stone statue unveiled

Balasore: A black stone statue of late Dr APJ Abdul Kalam was unveiled at Chandipur on sea beach near the Integrated Test Range (ITR), considered his 'theatre of action', 15 km from here Friday. "I feel proud to unveil the statue of Bharat Ratna APJ Abdul Kalam who dedicated his life for nation building," Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said while unveiling the eight feet high statue of the former President. Speaking on the occasion, state's tourism minister Ashok Chandra Panda said the government is keen to develop a tourist circuit comprising Chandipur, Dagara and Talasari coastal beaches under Balasore district. Initial fund has already been allocated for the purpose, he said. Kalam had a long association with Balasore district. Under his guidance and leadership the present Integrated Test Range, a unit of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was developed into a full-fledged test range. In 2012, while addressing school students as the former President at the golden jubilee celebration of a High school in Balasore district January 7, Kalam had recalled his long association with Balasore and Chandipur. He had then said, "I spent nearly a decade in Chandipur (ITR) during my service tenure in DRDO in the missile development programme. Chandipur is a beautiful place, the atmosphere is calm and serene. We have a beautiful lake in the ITR and hundreds of birds visiting the lake make it more beautiful." Kalam had last visited the ITR campus to inaugurate an international seminar on range technology held November 28, 2006.

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Former President APJ Abdul Kalam's Black Stone Statue Unveiled In Odisha

Balasore: A black stone statue of former president APJ Abdul Kalam was unveiled at Chandipur on sea beach near the Integrated Test Range (ITR), considered as his 'theatre of action', 15 km from Balasore today. "I feel proud to unveil the statue of Bharat Ratna APJ Abdul Kalam who dedicated his life for nation building," Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patanaik said while unveiling the eight feet high statue of the former president. Speaking on the occasion, state's Tourism Minister Ashok Chandra Panda said the government is keen to develop a tourist circuit comprising Chandipur, Dagara and Talasari coastal beaches under Balasore district. Initial fund has already been allocated for the purpose, he said. Dr Kalam had a long association with Balasore district. Under his guidance and leadership the present Integrated Test Range, a unit of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), was developed to a full-fledged test range. In 2012, while addressing school students as former president at the golden jubilee celebration of a high school in Balasore district on January 7, Dr Kalam had recalled his long association with Balasore and Chandipur. He had then said, "I spent nearly a decade in Chandipur (ITR) during my service tenure in DRDO in the missile development programme. Chandipur is a beautiful place, the atmosphere is calm and serene. We have a beautiful lake in the ITR and hundreds of birds visiting the lake make it more beautiful." Dr Kalam had last visited the ITR campus to inaugurate an international seminar on range technology held on November 28, 2006.

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Sensor technologies backbone for futuristic Defence, Aerospace Systems: Dr Satheesh

Scientific Adviser to Raksha Mantri Dr G Satheesh Reddy today said Smart miniaturized sensor technologies would be the backbone for futuristic Defence and Aerospace Systems. Speaking at the National conference on Advances in Sensors: Lab to Field organized by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Avionics Laboratory of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex, DRDO and Sensors Research Society (SRS) here, Dr Reddy said we need to develop and produce Sensors for current needs and export in a big way. Simultaneously we have to take up focused research for the futuristic sensors, he added. Department of Science and Technology Secretary Prof Ashutosh Sharma as the chief guest of the event appreciated the immense contributions of RCI towards development of indigenous defence technologies. He said We live in a world which is driven by sensor and emphasized innovative ideas are the need of the day for meeting tomorrows challenges. The next revolution coming is the knowledge revolution and Sensors are the biggest part of that revolution, he added.

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User Trials of Akash SAM System Held

BALASORE The Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully conducted user trials of medium range supersonic Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM) 'Akash' from a defence base off the Odisha coast on Thursday. Three rounds of the missile were fired within three hours targeting para-barrels. The missiles were launched from the launching complex-III of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur-on-sea between 11 am and 2 pm. Tests were aimed at gauging the flight consistency and effectiveness of the missile, besides ascertaining the serviceability of the system in various conditions. A defence official said the mission boosted the air defence shield of the country and re-validated the weapon's operational efficiency. During the trial, the missiles were aimed at intercepting the floating para barrels at a definite altitude over the Bay of Bengal. The entire flight of Akash was captured by electro-optical tracking systems. According to the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), 'Akash' is the only missile of its kind now available in the world. It is a useful weapon for both the Army and the Air Force and the first successful model of the 'Make-in-India' initiative. The armed forces are scheduled to carry out a couple of more tests in the next few days. 'Akash' is a medium-range surface-to-air missile and it can reach targets 30 km away. The 5.8-metre-long sleek missile has a launch weight of 720 kg and can carry a warhead of 50 kg. The missile is crucial to India's air defence programme as it will be used to counter ballistic and cruise missiles, enemy aircraft and air-to-surface missiles. It can handle multiple targets with the help of a digitally coded command. It is fuelled by solid propellants. While its land variant was inducted in the Army in May last year, the Air Force version was formally handed over to the IAF in July.

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