

A 'laggard' DRDO to showcase its best at Defence Expo

At the upcoming Defence Expo in Goa, where more than a 1000 defence firms will showcase their latest products into land, naval and homeland security systems, India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will too put its best foot forward.

Even as no less than the Prime Minister Narendra Modi called DRDO a "laggard" and pulled it up for slow progress on critical projects when he first visited it in 2014 after becoming the PM, on Friday, in a statement, the Ministry of Defence said that the "state-of-the-art military systems and technologies by DRDO will narrate the saga of self-reliance and national pride with Make in India spirit in Defence Expo 2016".

Among other things, DRDO, for the first time will give live demonstrations of some of the products it has developed. These will include the Akash air defence systems and LCA Tejas besides the Airborne Early Warning & Control System (AEW&C), Arjun MBT tanks, Pinaka Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher System.

Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar, will inaugurate the ninth edition of the four day biennial exhibition March 28 in Goa.

The design theme of DRDO pavilion at the exhibition this time is "Rise of Futurism".

MoD said that the DRDO Futurism emphasises its vision to make India prosperous by establishing world class science and technology base and provide our Defence Services decisive edge by equipping them with internationally competitive systems and solutions.

Some of the indoor exhibits of DRDO will include model of Akash and Brahmos missiles, Laser Guided Bomb Kit Tester, Hand-held Stand-off Explosive Detector, Short Range Laser Dazzler, Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS), Combat Free Fall System, Biotoilet model, Multimode Hand Grenade, Family of small Arms, Sonars and Torpedoes, Night Vision and Microwave Devices, Bullet Proof Jacket, Robotics and Unmanned Systems, Telemedicine, Ready to Eat Food Technologies.

Several important DRDO projects, including the Tejas LCA is running behind schedules. DRDO, on the other hand rues the fact that 5-6 percent of India's defence budget for R&D is inadequate to meet the aspirations of country's defence needs especially when China spends about 20 percent of their defence budget for the same.

DRDO to showcase 'Made in India' military ware at Defexpo 2016

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will showcase state-of-the-art military systems and technologies at the Defence Expo 2016 during 28-31 March at Goa, in a bid to display the extent of self-reliance achieved under the 'Make in India' initiative.

Defence minister Manohar Parrikar will inaugurate the ninth edition of this biennial 'land, naval and internal homeland security systems exhibition, on 28 March 2016 at NaqueriQuitol in Quepem, South Goa.

This year the design theme of DRDO Pavilion is 'Rise of Futurism', which emphasises DRDO's vision to establish a world class science and technology base and provide defence services decisive edge by equipping them with internationally competitive systems and solutions.

DRDO's participation in the event will be marked by live demos of star products for the first at the Defexpo, which will include Airborne Early Warning and Control System (AEW&C), Light Combat Aircraft Tejas, main battle tank Arjun MK II & I, Wheeled Armoured Platform (WHAP), Akash Air Defence System, Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher System Pinaka, BLT T-72 Radars, bridging system Sarvatra, Modular bridge and mountain foot bridge etc, besides static display of other attractive outdoor exhibits such as Quick Deployable Mobile Communication Terminal; Aslesha, Bharani and Coastal Surveillance Radars (CSR); MRSAM and Nirbhay launcher; Pinaka launcher and Rocket Mk I & Mk II; Advanced Torpedo Defence System (ATDS), Remotely Operated Vehicle Daksh, etc.

The indoor models and exhibits cover nearly the entire gamut of R&D from aeronautics, armaments and combat engineering, missiles, electronics and communication systems, materials, naval systems, life sciences, micro-electronic devices and computational systems. Some indoor exhibits includes: Model of Akash and Brahmos missiles; Aslesha, Bharani and SWATHI the Weapon Locating Radar, IR Guided Missile Tester, Laser Guided Bomb Kit Tester, Hand-held Stand-off Explosive Detector, Short Range Laser Dazzler, Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS), Nakshatra the Aerostat System, Combat Free Fall System, Biotoilet model, Computerized Pilot Selection System (CPSS) model, Multimode Hand Grenade, Family of small Arms, Sonars and Torpedoes, Night Vision and Microwave Devices, Bullet Proof Jacket, Robotics and Unmanned Systems, Telemedicine, Ready to Eat Food Technologies etc.

Focusing on 'Make in India' and 'Self-Reliance', the DRDO participation will provide a platform for collaboration with industry and academia for development and production of highly complex multidisciplinary weapon platforms for the Army, Navy and Air force.