

BRAHMOS HAS MADE INDIA A POWERFUL NATION IN 21ST CENTURY

The military might of India has undergone a major transformation in the past few years to counter numerous security challenges. Toeing the "might is right" doctrine, New Delhi has steadfastly focused on strengthening the country's Armed Forces by inducting state-of-the-art military platforms and advanced weapons systems in the wake of the swiftly changing regional and global geostrategic dynamics.

One precision strike weapon which has emerged as the "magical first strike weapon" of India is the unbeatable BRAHMOS. The tactical missile has stamped its feet as the world's fastest and best cruise missile system with impeccable anti-ship and land-attack capability to blow the enemy installations into pieces within no time.

The incredible journey of BRAHMOS started in February 1998 when India's DRDO and Russia's NPOM inked an Inter-Governmental Agreement to jointly design, develop, produce and market a world-class high-technology military hardware.

And just within three years of the signing of that historic pact, BRAHMOS had become a reality! The weapon's anti-ship configuration was successfully test-fired for the very first time from Odisha's ITR on 12 June, 2001 – an incredible milestone for India, its armed forces and the entire scientific community involved in the development of the formidable missile.

And there was no looking back thereafter.

Initially conceived as an anti-ship strike weapon, BRAHMOS later evolved as a versatile multi-role, multi-platform weapon with impeccable accuracy to fight modern, network-centric warfare missions.

With nearly 60 flight tests conducted to date since its maiden



Dr Sudhir Mishra
CEO & MD, BrahMos Aerospace

test firing in June 2001, BRAHMOS has scored the highest rate of success no other weapon of its genre has achieved to date. The tactical missile has been successfully tested in sea-to-land, sea-to-sea, land-

to-land, land-to-sea and subsea-to-land configurations. Another advanced variant of the weapon – the air-to-ground configuration – is also progressing towards live test trial soon.

The state-of-the-art tactical missile has been deployed in the Indian Navy since 2005 and in the Indian Army since 2007. The Indian Air Force has also operationalised land-attack BRAHMOS system even as it is looking forward to further galvanize its firepower by inducting the powerful air-to-ground BRAHMOS-A version in near future.

Today, the universal BRAHMOS has been deployed all across India's strategic locations to counter any kind of enemy aggression and deal a deadly blow in case of a misadventure against national sovereignty and integrity.

The evolution of the invincible BRAHMOS and its incredible journey over the years has made the whole world reckon India as a leading military power.

As the CEO and MD of BrahMos Aerospace Dr Sudhir Mishra says proudly: "Today, BRAHMOS is the most powerful weapon system in the Indian Defence Force's arsenal. By possessing such a lethal weapon, India has emerged as a globally recognised and respected Nation in the 21st century world which was once dreamt by legendary scientist and our beloved President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam who was the mind, heart & soul behind BRAHMOS."

And this glorious journey promises to continue further with the development of even more advanced variants of BRAHMOS, including the futuristic hypersonic BRAHMOS-II(K), named after the great Dr. Kalam, and the BRAHMOS-NG. These newer, more powerful BRAHMOS family of missiles would yet again emerge as world leaders in the coming years, as is being envisioned by the Indo-Russian JV.

BRAHMOS: A force unifying Indo Russia ties

BRAHMOS - the formidable supersonic cruise missile of India - has redefined the realm of modern-day warfighting by its ultimate speed, devastating firepower and impeccable accuracy. The one-of-its-kind missile has no parallel in the world.

Jointly conceived, designed and developed by the best of scientific minds from India and Russia, BRAHMOS has remained an indisputable leader in its genre. Cruising at a very high speed of three times the speed of sound, the 3-ton heavy missile carrying a warhead of 300-kg is capable of completely devastating an enemy target just in the wink of an eye.

The terrain-hugging, fire-&-forget, quick-reaction missile having stealth features uses a high-low trajectory throughout its supersonic flight, thus evading an air defence system of the enemy, however powerful it maybe.

The incredible journey of BRAHMOS dates back to February 1998 when India's premier defence research institution DRDO joined hands with Russia's leading science & engineering institute NPOM to design and develop a modern precision strike weapon no country



ever possessed.

The best of scientific and engineering minds from both sides thus proceeded in developing the world-class BRAHMOS. The first successful test flight of the tactical missile on June 12, 2001 established its credence as an excellent anti-ship strike weapon. The flight tests of BRAHMOS continued thereafter even as the Indo-Russian JV

worked diligently on developing even more divergent variants of the state-of-the-art weapon.

The versatile BRAHMOS was later developed as a land-attack cruise missile. Today, the weapon has evolved as a universal missile capable of being deployed on multiple platforms for multiple missions. The missile has been successfully tested in sea-to-

sea, sea-to-land, land-to-land, land-to-sea, and sub-sea-to-land configurations.

Deployment of the supersonic cruise missile on Indian Navy's frontline surface warfare ships as also by the Indian Army on the country's frontier land border positions has given a distinctive tactical edge to India to counter any kind of enemy offensive.

In yet another notable development, the powerful air-to-ground variant of the cruise missile is all set to galvanize the firepower of the Indian Air Force manifold once it is successfully test fired from the Sukhoi-30 strike fighter. The first live test firing of the BRAHMOS-A is expected by mid-2017.

Once deployed onboard the long-range air combat platform, BRAHMOS will complete the cruise missile triad for India by being launched from land, sea and air - a unique feat not achieved by any other country to date.

And it is this versatility of BRAHMOS that would make it the most suitable weapon for modern-day network-centric warfare missions, according to Dr. Sudhir Mishra, CEO & MD of BrahMos Aerospace.