

India successfully test-fires BrahMos from Sukhoi-30 fighter aircraft

New Delhi: The world's fastest supersonic cruise missile, BrahMos, was on Wednesday successfully flight-tested for the first time from the Indian Air Force's frontline fighter, Sukhoi-30MKI. The missile was tested against a sea-based target in the Bay of Bengal.




BrahMos-A
The air-launched version of BrahMos will **ARM Su-30MKI OF IAF AS A STANDOFF WEAPON**

JUNE 25, 2016 Successful demonstration flight carried out at HAL Nashik

NOVEMBER 22, 2017 Specially modified Su-30 MKI of IAF test-fired the BrahMos A missile on a ship stationed 280 km away in the Bay of Bengal

SPECIFICATIONS

Missiles per aircraft One	Length 8,550 mm	Diameter 648 mm
Range up to 290 km	Weight 2,550 kg	
Velocity up to 2.8 Mach	Release Speed 0.55-0.8 Mach	
Ground Clearance -1,000 mm	Release Height 500-9,000 m	Free fall 100-150 m
Altitude cruise phase Up to 14,000 m		

The latest test of the multi-platform weapon completes the tactical cruise missile triad for India, as it is now capable of being launched from land, sea and air.

The supersonic cruise missile that provides a major strategic deterrence against China and Pakistan can be utilised in 'multi-mission' roles, including precision strikes on terror camps across the LoC, against highvalue naval targets, including aircraft carriers and nuclear bunkers.

The missile was gravity dropped from the aircraft and the two-stage missile's engine fired up and propelled it towards the intended target.

The first stage of the system takes the missile to supersonic speed and the second accelerates it closer to Mach 3, or three times the speed of sound. Work is ongoing to develop a hypersonic (March 5) version of the missile. "The successful maiden test firing of BrahMos Air Launched Cruise Missile (ALCM) from the Su-30MKI will significantly bolster the IAF's air combat operations capability from stand-off ranges," the defence ministry said. The air force said the test was a major achievement.

This will be a significant capability development for the IAF, which will have the combination of Su-30 fighters having a range of 3,000 km and the BrahMos with 290 km.

In March, an extended-range version of the missile, with a flight range of more than 400 km, was successfully test-fired.

The BrahMos ALCM weighing 2.5 tonnes is the heaviest weapon to be deployed on the Su-30 fighter aircraft, modified by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd to carry weapons.

BrahMos Aerospace, a joint venture between India's Defence Research and Development Organisation and NPOM of Russia, is responsible for designing, developing and producing the missile.

In June, 2016, BrahMos Aerospace successfully demonstrated the integration of the BrahMos on Su-30. The demonstration flight involved the carriage of BrahMos by Su-30.



Wed, 22 Nov, 2017

(Online)

BrahMos: World's fastest cruise missile clears first air launch from Sukhoi fighter jet, creates history

Bhubaneswar: World's fastest supersonic cruise missile BrahMos created another history on Wednesday. With advanced seeker software, the high speed missile was successfully flight-tested first time from the Indian Air Force's frontline fighter aircraft Sukhoi-30 MKI.

Defence sources said the missile was fired against a sea-based target in the Bay of Bengal off Paradip and Puri coasts during noon hours. The missile was gravity dropped from the fuselage of Su-30 aircraft.

"The two-stage missile's engine fired up and straightway propelled towards the intended target at the sea. It was a spectacular success. We are extremely happy with the performance of the formidable weapon system," said a defence official from New Delhi.

The Air Launched Cruise Missile (ALCM) BrahMos weighing around 2.5 tonne is the heaviest weapon to be deployed on Indian fighter aircraft modified by HAL to carry the weapon.

The Su-30 MKI has a maximum speed of 2 Mach with a single in-flight range of 3,000 km. A total of 8,000 kg payload can be carried by it in a maximum altitude of 17 km.

"After performing high-level and extremely complex manoeuvres, successfully hit a ship-based target located at 280 km range with high precision. The missile having such capabilities can distinguish a particular target from a group of targets," the official said.

The world-class weapon BrahMos with multi-platform and multi-mission role is now capable of being launched from Land, Sea and Air, completing the tactical cruise missile triad for India.

"The successful maiden test firing of ALCM BrahMos from Sukhoi-30 MKI will significantly bolster the IAF's air combat operations capability from stand-off ranges," said a defence statement.

The Sukhoi-30 MKI can carry three missiles while other combat aircraft would carry one each. Many modifications were made to reduce the missile's weight to 2.5 tonne. While smaller booster was used and connector relocated, fins were added for airborne stability after launch.

Jointly developed by DRDO of India and NPOM of Russia, The 8.4 meter missile is capable of delivering warheads of up to 300 kg at thrice the speed of sound. DRDO scientists have significantly contributed for the advanced guidance system that helps the supersonic missile maneuver perfectly.

The aircraft has been modified in such a way that three missiles can be fired on three different targets or in a variety of other combinations near simultaneously. As the prime strike weapon, it can ensure the aircraft's invincibility by engaging targets at long ranges.

BrahMos is the only supersonic cruise missile possessing the advanced capability providing an edge to the user with precise hit. The Indian army is the first army in the World to have a regiment of supersonic cruise missile with advanced capabilities.

Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman congratulated DRDO and BrahMos for the outstanding accomplishment.

India creates a world record and completes Supersonic Cruise Missile Triad by successfully testing #BRAHMOS #ALCM from Indian Air Force Sukhoi-30MKI fighter aircraft. Smt @nsitharamancongratulates Team Brahmos & @DRDO_India for this historic achievement.

— Raksha Mantri (@DefenceMinIndia)

Chairman of DRDO and Secretary of Department of Defence Research and Development S Christopher also congratulated the scientists and engineers for the excellent test book kind of flight test.

The missile test was witnessed by DG (BrahMos) and CEO and MD of BrahMos Aerospace Sudhir Mishra along with senior IAF officials, scientists and officials from DRDO and BrahMos.

The first Su-30MKI fighter aircraft modified for BrahMos was handed over by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to the CEO and MD of BrahMos Aerospace in 2015.

On March 11, maiden test of extended-range version of supersonic cruise missile BrahMos was conducted from a defence base off Odisha coast. The strike range of the missile has been enhanced from 290 km to 450 km after India's full membership to the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), which removed caps on range of the cruise missile.



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(Online)

Brahmos test fired from Sukhoi jet, boost to IAF's prowess

New Delhi, Nov 22 (PTI) In a major milestone, the Brahmos supersonic cruise missile was today successfully test fired for the first time from the Indian Air Force's frontline Sukhoi-30 MKI combat jet, significantly bolstering the country's aerial prowess.

The armed forces are now capable of launching the Brahmos, which has a strike range of around 290 km and is described as the world's fastest supersonic cruise missile, from land, sea and air, completing the tactical cruise missile triad for the country.

The defence ministry said the missile hit a sea-based target in the Bay of Bengal from the combat jet. The land and warship versions of the missile have already been inducted into the armed forces.

"Brahmos, the world's fastest supersonic cruise missile created history on today after it was successfully flight- tested for first time from the IAF's frontline fighter aircraft Sukhoi-30MKI against a sea based target in the Bay of Bengal," the defence ministry said.

It said the successful maiden test firing of Brahmos Air Launched Cruise Missile (ALCM) from Su-30MKI will significantly bolster the IAF's air combat operations capability from stand-off ranges.

Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman congratulated the "Team Brahmos" and the scientists at Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the "historic achievement".

Giving details of the test firing, the ministry said the missile was "gravity dropped" from the Su-30 fuselage, and the two stage missile's engine fired up and straightway propelled towards the intended target at the sea.

Brahmos ALCM, weighing 2.5 ton is the heaviest weapon to be deployed on India's Su-30 fighter aircraft modified by state-run aerospace behemoth Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) to carry weapons.

Brahmos is a joint venture between DRDO of India and NPO Mashinostroyeniya (NPOM) of Russia.

Dr S Christopher, Chairman of DRDO, congratulated the scientists and engineers for the "excellent test book kind of flight test".

The missile test was witnessed by Dr Sudhir Mishra, Director General (BrahMos), along with senior IAF officials, scientists and officials from DRDO and BrahMos. PTI



Wed, 22 Nov, 2017

(Online)

In a first, BrahMos supersonic missile successfully tested on Sukhoi-30 MKI platform

New Delhi: In a much-awaited development, the **BrahMos** supersonic cruise missile was tested onboard Indian Air Force's (IAF) **Sukhoi- 30 MKI** aircraft off the Bay of Bengal on Wednesday. The successful testing of the missile puts India in a strategically dominant position, given the reach of India's multi-role Sukhoi-30 MKI fighter jets and the accuracy of nuclear-capable BrahMos missile India has been jointly developing with Russia.

"Brahmos, the world's fastest supersonic cruise missile created history on 22nd Nov 2017 after it was successfully flight-tested first time from the Indian Air Force's (IAF) frontline fighter aircraft Sukhoi-30MKI against a sea-based target in the Bay of Bengal. The missile was gravity-dropped from the Su-30 from the fuselage, and the two-stage missile's engine fired up and straightway propelled towards the intended target at the sea in the Bay of Bengal," a press release by the Ministry of Defence said.

Defence minister Nirmala Sitharaman congratulated the DRDO on its significant achievement in the development of the missile.

The successful maiden test firing of Brahmos Air Launched Cruise Missile (ALCM) from Su-30MKI is crucial given that it will significantly bolster the IAF's air combat operations capability from stand-off ranges.

Brahmos ALCM weighing 2.5 ton is the heaviest weapon to be deployed on India's Su-30 fighter aircraft modified by HAL to carry weapons. Brahmos, the world-class weapon with multi-platform, multi-mission role is now capable of being launched from Land, Sea and Air, completing the tactical cruise missile triad for India. Brahmos is a joint venture between DRDO of India and NPOM of Russia.

The successful test of the nuclear-capable missile onboard a potent supersonic platform such as the Sukhoi- 30 MKI also comes at a time when international community including Vietnam and South Korea have expressed interest in purchasing the BrahMos missile system from India. The test thus makes for a case in exports, for which India would need a go-ahead from Russia.

Experts cite that the maneuverability of Sukhoi-30 MKI along with the accuracy of the missile that has a range of about 300 km can help India strike deep inside the enemy territory with great accuracy. The test has thus brought strategically important points deep within Pakistan as well as China within the IAF's reach.

Indo-israel ties take a missile hit

In what could be seen as a hiccup in the burgeoning India-Israel defence cooperation, India's defence ministry has reportedly decided to scrap advanced talks to buy 1,600 Spike Anti-Tank Guided Missiles for \$500 million. The Spike MR missile with an operational range of 2.5 km can be used both during the day and night. Instead, the government has asked the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to produce a Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile for the Army as part of its Make in India program.

Rafael, the Israeli manufacturer of the missile which had partnered with India's Kalyani Strategic Systems and set up a manufacturing unit near Hyderabad last year, however, denied any knowledge about the cancellation, and said the negotiations were on track. Reports that India wants to walk out of the deal—discussions for which began in 2014—could impact the rapidly growing defence relationship, which saw New Delhi become the largest buyer of defence equipment from Israel.

If the Spike deal had gone through, Israel would have become India's largest weapons supplier. India in fact owns and operates more Israeli drones, than Israel does, and is expected to buy its first set of armed Heron drones—especially adapted for Kashmir's climate and altitude—later this year. While India's defence ministry seems confident about the DRDO's ability to manufacture the missile, sources in the Army, which wanted these missiles deployed on the Pakistan border, expressed skepticism.

In July, Narendra Modi became the first Indian PM to visit Israel, and signed big ticket contracts to ramp up the economic—and defence—ties between the two nations. Earlier this month, Indian Air Force fighters joined Israel and five NATO air forces in the Blue Flag joint air force exercises for the first time. Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu is scheduled to travel to India on January 14 on a three-day official visit. While it is unlikely, there is some speculation that cancelling this deal might impact those travel plans.