

Raksha Mantri Nirmala Sitharaman made her Maiden Visit to CVRDE, Chennai

Chennai: The Raksha Mantri Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman made her maiden visit to Combat Vehicles Research & Development Establishment (CVRDE), Avadi, Chennai, yesterday. Chairman DRDO & Secretary Department of Defence R&D Dr S. Christopher and Distinguished Scientist & Director, CVRDE Dr. P Sivakumar, made a brief presentation on the achievements and on-going national programs of CVRDE in Combat Vehicles & Technologies.

The dignitaries were taken to various technology centres by Director, CVRDE to witness the products and systems/technologies developed by CVRDE. The Raksha Mantri has evinced keen interest in the advanced systems like Arjun MBT Mk-II, Arjun Armoured Recovery and Repair Vehicle (ARRV), Arjun Catapult, Unmanned Ground Vehicles, Sub-systems of Light Combat Aircraft –Tejas, Landing Gear, 180 hp engine for Rustom-II, 1000 hp Engine for T-72, 400 hp for BMP-II, besides Armoured Ambulance Tracked, Carrier Command Post Tracked, Bridge Laying Tank (BLT-72). The respective project leaders highlighted the uniqueness and specialities of their systems to the dignitaries.

The dignitaries assembled at CVRDE-Arjun Auditorium after the showcase of Tanks/ technologies. During this occasion, Raksha Mantri released a book namely ‘Arjun MBT – an Indian Success Story’ that describes the entire project of Arjun MBT Mk-I. In the august presence of the Raksha Mantri, Smt Nirmala Sitharaman and the Chairman, DRDO, the first prototype of Arjun ARRV was handed over by Chairman & Managing Director, BEML, Mr. Deepak Kumar Hota to Director, CVRDE; Director, CVRDE handed over one set of Landing Gear along with CEMILAC certification to Director, ADE; One set of Power Take Off Shaft to Director, GTRE; and Director, VRDE handed over 180 hp engine to Director, ADE.

Smt Nirmala Sitharaman launched the website, ‘DRDO Robotics & Unmanned Systems Exposition’ (<https://rac.gov.in/druse>) for inviting the young & talented minds of engineering community from all parts of the country to take part in Defence Challenging applications. She has also released a book titled ‘Achievements of CVRDE’ during the ceremony.

The Raksha Mantri congratulated DRDO fraternity, in particular CVRDE, for its unstinted efforts and contributions for the defence self-reliance of the nation and expressed her confidence that DRDO will strive hard to empower the nation further with ‘Make in India’ concept.

Telangana Today

Scientists: Hypersonic Cruise vehicles within a decade

Sangareddy: India will make Air-breathing Hypersonic Cruise vehicles by overcoming all the challenges within a decade from now to use them on military warfare, opined scientists, who attended the one-day workshop on “Challenges in Air-breathing Hypersonic Technologies” at IIT-Hyderabad here on Saturday. They also said that the scientists would make affordable hypersonic planes by 2050 with which humans could fly from New-work to New Delhi within two hours.

Addressing a one-day work-shop jointly organised by Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad and Aeronautical Society of India (AeSI), Distinguished Scientist, and Director DRDL (Defense Research and Development Laboratory), MSR Prasad, however, opined that there were lot of complexities in realising the dream of making these vehicles, since they had a great challenge of finding the materials that withstand at nearly 1,800 degree celsius temperature. Though the scientists across the world have made some ground breaking steps by demonstrating the Hypersonic vehicles flying them for a few seconds, the DRDL Director said that they had spent of lot of money on them.

“The challenge lies in not only finding a material that withstands the high temperatures, but also it must be affordable for making the hypersonic vehicle in military warfare and public transportation,” he opined. Stating that the DMRL (Defense Metallurgical Research Laboratory) and other research labs have been doing some research on this since 15 years, Prasad said that Hypersonic Technologies have always been a niche area delved only by institutions in the world. The Director of DRDL said that he is very proud since India is one among them. Dr Samir V Kamat, Distinguished Scientist & Director General (Naval Systems and Materials), DRDO, New Delhi, hoped that they will see humans flying across the continents in air-breathing hypersonic vehicles by 2050 since the research being carried out across the globe has got some positive results.