

## India's most potent missile Agni-V to be inducted soon

### Highlights

- The missile system, with a strike range of 5,000 km and capable of carrying nuclear warhead, are being inducted into the elite Strategic Forces Command.
- Defence experts said the missile is capable of bringing targets across China including its prominent cities like Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Hong Kong under its range.

New Delhi: India is in the process of inducting the first batch of its intercontinental ballistic missile system Agni-V which will bring targets across China within its range, and is expected to significantly bolster the country's military prowess. The missile system, with a strike range of 5,000 km and capable of carrying nuclear warhead, are being inducted into the elite Strategic Forces Command (SFC), official sources said. They said a series of user trials are being conducted before the country's most sophisticated weapon is handed over to the SFC.

Defence experts said the missile is capable of bringing targets across China including its prominent cities like Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Hong Kong under its range. Last month, Agni-V was successfully test-fired off the Odisha coast and the sources said a number of other pre-induction tests are being planned in the next few weeks. "It is a strategic asset which will act as a deterrent. We are at the fag end of the strategic project," said an official, who is part of the Agni-V programme.

He said it is the most advanced weapon in its series as it has latest technologies for navigation and its capability of carrying nuclear warhead is much superior. The first batch of Agni-V will be handed over to the SFC "soon", the sources said while declining to elaborate further on the closely-guarded defence project.

The missile is being inducted at a time when India's neighbourhood is witnessing evolving security threats. Very few countries including the US, China, Russia, France and North Korea have intercontinental ballistic missiles. In its armoury, India currently has Agni-1 with 700 km range, Agni-2 with a 2,000-km range, Agni-3 and Agni-4 with 2,500 km to more than 3,500-km range. The first test of Agni-5 was conducted on April 19, 2012, the second on September 15, 2013, the third on January 31, 2015 and the fourth on December 26, 2016. The fifth test was held on January 18. All the five trials were successful.

As part of its efforts to enhance the country's defence capabilities, the government is also working on several key projects including integrating the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile on 40 Sukhoi combat aircraft. The air-launched variant of the BrahMos, the world's fastest supersonic cruise missile, was successfully test fired from a Sukhoi-30 combat jet on November 22, marking a major milestone to enhance the precision strike capability of the air force. The defence ministry is now expediting the process to integrate the BrahMos missile on 40 Sukhoi combat aircraft. The fleet of 40 Sukhoi jet is undergoing structural modifications at the state-run aerospace major Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) for integration of the missile on them.

## **Agni-V to be part of nuclear arsenal soon**

*With a range of 5,000 km, it will act as a deterrent: official*

India's longest-range ballistic missile, Agni-V, will be inducted into the nuclear arsenal very soon, according to official sources. The Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) with a range of over 5,000 km can reach most parts of China. "It is a strategic asset which will act as a deterrent. We are at the fag end of the strategic project," said an official with the Agni-V programme. Improved accuracy The official said the missile features the latest technologies for navigation and improved accuracy. Earlier variants of the Agni family of long-range missiles have already been deployed. Last month, the canisterised variant of the missile was successfully test-fired by the user, the Strategic Forces Command (SFC). A few more user trials are planned in the next few weeks. The Agni series of missiles constitute the backbone of India's nuclear weapons delivery, which also includes the Prithvi short-range ballistic missiles and fighter aircraft. The submarine-based nuclear arsenal, which assures second strike capability in the face of the proclaimed no-first-use policy, is taking shape. While one nuclear ballistic missile has been inducted, more submarines and longer range submarine-launched ballistic missiles are under various stages of development.

## **THE ASIAN AGE**

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## **India's ICBM Agni-V to soon be inducted in strategic units**

Agni-V is the fifth missile in a series after Agni I (700 km range), Agni II (2,000 km range), Agni III (2,500 km range) and Agni IV (3,500 km range).

The Agni series is a brainchild of the extended Integrated Guided Missile Development Project (IGMDP), a project called off in 2008 after achieving the programme's stated objectives. Further developments continued for enhancing range and mobility.

New Delhi: With a strike range of more than 5,000 km, India's most powerful missile till date, Agni-V, will be inducted soon. Capable of carrying nuclear warheads, the intercontinental ballistic missile system (ICBM) will be inducted into the elite Strategic Forces Command (SFC), official sources told

The sources said a series of user trials are now being conducted before the missile is handed over to the SFC. Only last month, the Agni-V was successfully test-fired off the Odisha coast, and the sources said a number of other pre-induction tests are being planned in the next few weeks.



The induction of the Agni-V will significantly strengthen India's military capability as a 5,000-km range missile will bring many prominent cities, including China's Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Hong Kong, within India's striking range. "It is a strategic asset which will act as a deterrent. We are at the fag end of the strategic project," said an official who is part of the Agni-V programme. The missile is

being inducted at a time when India's neighbourhood is witnessing evolving security threats.

Agni-V is the fifth missile in a series after Agni I (700 km range), Agni II (2,000 km range), Agni III (2,500 km range) and Agni IV (3,500 km range). The Agni series is a brainchild of the extended Integrated Guided Missile Development Project (IGMDP), a project called off in 2008 after achieving the programme's stated objectives. Further developments continued for enhancing range and mobility.

Very few countries have ICBMs. These are the United States, Russia, China, France and North Korea. As part of its efforts to enhance the country's defence capabilities, the government is also working on several key projects, including integrating the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile on 40 Sukhoi combat aircraft. A fleet of 40 Sukhoi jets is undergoing structural modifications at the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) facility for integration with the missiles.



*Mon, 2 Jul 2018*

## **Agni-V to be inducted soon**

India is in the process of inducting the first batch of its intercontinental ballistic missile system - Agni-V - which will bring targets across China within its range, and is expected to significantly bolster the country's military prowess.

The missile system, capable of carrying nuclear warhead, is being inducted into the elite Strategic Forces Command. It has been successfully test-fired five times. Other pre-induction tests are being planned in next few weeks.

### **Has strike range of 5,000 km**

- With a strike range of 5,000 km, Agni-V is capable of bringing targets across China, including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Hong Kong, under its range
- In June, it was successfully test-fired off the Odisha coast and the sources said a number of other pre-induction tests are being planned in the next few weeks
- India currently has Agni-1 with a 700-km range, Agni-2 with a 2,000-km range, Agni-3 and Agni-4 with a 2,500-km to more than 3,500-km range.



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## **Agni-V that can reach china to be inducted soon**

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## जल्द ही सामरिक बल कमान को सौंपी जाएगी अग्नि-5 मिसाइल प्रणाली

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो  
नई दिल्ली, 1 जुलाई।

भारत अपनी अंतर-महाद्वीपीय बैलिस्टिक मिसाइल प्रणाली 'अग्नि-5' के पहले बैच को सैन्य बलों में शामिल करने की प्रक्रिया में है। अगले कुछ हफ्तों में इस मिसाइल के कुछ परीक्षण पूरे कर लेने के बाद इन्हें सामरिक बलों को सौंपा जाएगा।

'अग्नि-5' की मारक क्षमता के दायरे में चीन के इलाके भी आ जाएंगे। इस मिसाइल प्रणाली से देश की सैन्य ताकत में जबर्दस्त

इजाफा होने की उम्मीद जताई जा रही है।

रक्षा मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों के अनुसार, पांच हजार किलोमीटर की मारक क्षमता वाली यह मिसाइल प्रणाली परमाणु सामग्री ले जाने में सक्षम है। इस मिसाइल प्रणाली को सामरिक बल कमान (एसएफसी) में शामिल करने की तैयारी है। देश के सबसे अत्याधुनिक हथियार को एसएफसी को सौंपे जाने से पहले कई परीक्षण किए जा रहे हैं।

यह मिसाइल बेजिंग, शंघाई, ग्वांगझाऊ और हांगकांग जैसे शहरों समेत चीन के किसी भी इलाके को भेद सकती है। पिछले महीने अग्नि-

5 का उड़ीसा तट से सफल परीक्षण किया गया था। एसएफसी में शामिल किए जाने से पहले कई अन्य परीक्षण अगले कुछ हफ्तों में होने वाले हैं। अपनी श्रृंखला में यह सबसे आधुनिक हथियार है, जिसमें नौवहन के लिए नवीनतम प्रौद्योगिकियां हैं और परमाणु सामग्री साथ ले जाने की इसकी क्षमता दूसरी मिसाइल प्रणालियों से कहीं ज्यादा है। यह एक रणनीतिक हथियार है, जो दुश्मन के हमले से बचाव के रूप में भी काम करेगी। गौरतलब है कि दुनिया में सिर्फ अमेरिका, चीन, फ्रांस और नॉर्थ कोरिया के पास ही अंतर-महाद्वीपीय बैलिस्टिक मिसाइल प्रणाली है।