

Dreams of Dr. Abdul Kalam coming true

The Indian Scientist and DRDO really deserve credit for another achievement in the nation's defence. India today successfully test-fired its indigenously developed nuclear capable Long Range Ballistic Missile Agni-5 with a strike range of 5,000 km from Dr. Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast. The surface-to-surface missile was launched with the help of a mobile launcher from launch pad-4 of the Integrated Test Range at Dr. Abdul Kalam Island in the Bay of Bengal. This was the sixth trial of the state-of-the-art Agni-5. The missile covered its full distance during the trial which was a total success.

The flight performance of the missile was tracked and monitored by radars, tracking instruments and observation stations all through the mission. Unlike other missiles of the series, Agni-5 is the most advanced with new technologies in terms of navigation and guidance, warhead and engine and hence it is a significant success. A spectacular event, let us be proud of it, we have to be strong enough to guard ourselves against precarious challenges from outside. Each and every Indian is proud of our advanced technologies; our road towards the status of a developed nation is around the corner. Dreams of Dr. Abdul Kalam are coming true.

The missile features many new indigenously-developed technologies, including the very high accuracy Ring Laser Gyro based Inertial Navigation System (RINS), and the most modern and accurate Micro Navigation System (MINS) which improves the accuracy of the missile.

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 fourth on December 26, 2016. The last test was held on January 18, 2018. At present, India has in its armoury the Agni series — Agni-1 with 700 km range, Agni-2 with 2,000 km range, Agni-3 and Agni-4 with 2,500 km to more than 3,500 km range.

The Defence Research Development Organisation maintained the tradition over years for a nuclear implosion test stealthily decades back and the sustained efforts of our scientists and engineers are laudable in this regard. India alone cannot refrain or eliminate missile tests. China, North Korea etc. all in the immediate and larger neighbourhood must stop them as well.

Agni-5 can carry a nuclear warhead weighing 1.5 tonnes to a distance of over 5,000 km and is the longest missile in India's arsenal capable of reaching most parts of China. With a smaller payload, the range can go up much higher.

<https://www.afternoonvoice.com/dreams-of-dr-abdul-kalam-coming-true.html>

TIMES OF INDIA

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Agni-V Will Soon Be Inducted Into Nuclear Command

India's first inter-continental ballistic missile, Agni-V, with a 5000-km range, was successfully launched from Hyderabad on Sunday. With one more successful test, the missile will be ready for induction into the Army's Strategic Forces Command, India's Nuclear Command and Control Centre, said defence sources. Agni-V can carry a nuclear war-head and its range can cover China, Pakistan, Europe and some parts of Africa. It was test-fired for the first time on April 19, 2002.

For defence scientists in Hyderabad, it was time for jubilation as the missile was test launched for the sixth time. The 'mission critical' avionics for Agni V were designed and delivered by the APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex (earlier called RCI) in Hyderabad under project director is G Ramguru of the Advanced Systems Laboratory.

"Agni-V successfully flight tested at 09:45 hrs from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island (Wheeler Island). All radars, electro optical tracking stations and telemetry stations tracked the vehicle through the trajectory. The mission objectives have been achieved," the government said.

Speaking to TOI, a senior scientist said, "Sunday's test launch was one of the missions before Agni-V induction. It was a text-book precision launch. Every single objective was met." Defence laboratories in Hyderabad, including the APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex, the Advanced Systems Laboratory and the Defence Research Development Laboratory are among the institutions that have been collaborating on various missiles developed for the country.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/agni-v-will-soon-be-inducted-into-nuclear-command/articleshow/64442457.cms?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=TOIMobile

Business Standard

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BEML aims to double its defence vertical revenue in FY19

BEML's Defence segment accounted for around 17% of the company's overall revenue of Rs 33 billion in the financial year ended March 2018

Public sector engineering major, Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) is betting big on the defence vertical with a plan to double its revenues from this segment in the current financial year. The defence segment accounted for around 17 per cent of the company's overall revenue of Rs 33 billion in the financial year ended March 2018. "We see a lot of traction in our defence vertical. The order book looks healthy and we should be able to increase the pie of defence vertical to around 25 per cent of the overall revenues in the current financial year," Chairman and Managing Director of BEML, DK Hota told *Business Standard*.

Such optimism stems from the fact that its aerospace vertical has shown signs of an upside in the current financial year. BEML supplies mortar and casing components to the Indian Army. "We are collaborating with other government agencies such as DRDO, ADA, BDL (Bharat Dynamics Ltd.) and HAL among others. We expect aerospace to drive our next phase of growth," added Hota. BEML has been selected as the lead vendor for Akash missile system. The Bengaluru-headquartered company is also working on recovery vehicle on main battle tank of Indian Army, mine protected vehicle for military and para-military forces, high-end missile programme and Akash missile system among others.

The company has already invested around Rs 300 million to strengthen its capability to cater to aerospace segment, and plans to spend another Rs 1 billion in next couple of years. "Our spare business is also likely to take a leap from last fiscal's Rs 1.5 billion to Rs 4 billion this financial year," the CMD of BEML said. The defence unit is also collaborating with Ordnance factory in joint development of various projects.

During last financial year, BEML has developed in-house design, development and supply of Arjun Repair and Recovery vehicle. It has also manufactured trawl assembly for T-72 tanks to R&DE (Engineers), Pune and developed aggregates for the quick reaction surface to air missile for DRDL (Defence Research & Development Laboratory). As part of the 'Make in India' initiative, the company has built a supplier-base of more than 1,000 SMEs for procuring various articles for defence equipment.

The Mini Ratna public sector unit reported a 53 per cent rise in its consolidated net profit to Rs 1.29 billion for FY18. Its income from operations rose to Rs 32.98 billion, up 16.5 per cent over the same period of previous fiscal. While the company's mining and construction business registered a growth of 11 per cent, its rail and metro business achieved a record sale of 244 metro cars, registering a growth of 114 per cent over the previous fiscal. Despite headwinds faced by defence business, it grew by 10 per cent during this period.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/beml-plans-to-double-its-revenue-from-defence-vertical-in-fy19-118060500502_1.html

Aerospace cos told to upgrade machinery

Local aerospace manufacturers were told to upgrade their existing machinery to produce components with high precision and efficiency, as sought by the armed forces, at an interactive session held by Confederation of Indian Industry(CII) Trichy zone. The meeting was conducted between industrialists and experts in aerospace manufacturing sector on Monday, carrying forward the momentum of the city being named in the Tamil Nadu defence corridor.

Addressing a gathering of industrialists from various sectors, including from heavy engineering and sheet metal fabrications, Dr K Tamilmani, former director general of DRDO (aero) said, “Special machinery might be required to ensure precision and efficiency in manufacturing defence products particularly in aerospace. Skill development of existing workforce should be upgraded for which facilities like NIT- Trichy will come handy for industrialists here.” Stating that the investment will be high for manufacturing with precision, the former DRDO scientist said that consortium approach of like-minded industrialists and frequent discussions will help manufacturers here to comprehend the strengths of Trichy- based industrial ecosystem. While Coimbatore was cited to lead the way in aerospace manufacturing, presence of government defence institutes here such as Ordnance Factory of Tiruchirappalli (OFT) and Heavy Alloy Penetrator Project (HAPP) are touted to be helpful for industries here to garner contracts for manufacturing components that could be outsourced by institutes.

“Trade bodies here can approach the Union government to provide common facility centre in Trichy for promoting the skills of workers besides other infrastructure including labs. Trichy has already established an engineering background which can be well utilised for the defence corridor,” Tamilmani added. Informing on the opportunities available in the present aerospace manufacturing sector, Tamilmani said that helicopter and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) manufacturing sectors would fetch good demand in coming years for rescue and reconnaissance operations. While Uttar Pradesh has also been facilitated with a defence corridor, Tamil Nadu’s defence corridor connecting Chennai-Trichy-Salem-Coimbatore-Hosur cities was cited to have an edge over others, considering that the industries already exist here. Experts in defence manufacturing advised the trade bodies to host frequent meetings and workshops for identifying potential sectors.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/trichy/aerospace-cos-told-to-upgrade-machinery/articleshow/64455995.cms>