



Fri, 09 Nov 2018

Why India may not test Agni 6 even if DRDO is ready with technology?

By Vikas SV

New Delhi, Nov 8: Agni 5 is India's most advanced missile and it has been inducted into the service after successive trials. After Agni 5 project ended, there were speculations that the DRDO may have begun working on an ICBM with longer range and payload carrying capabilities.

Many reports have claimed that the DRDO a three-stage Agni VI missile. India has not made any clear statement on the development of Agni 6 which, many opine, may have range between 8,000 km to 10,000 km.

DRDO usually has a development gap between each Agni-series of around 4-5 years. It has been over 5 years since Agni-V was developed and this has led to speculation that its successor could be ready.

Agni 6 could be a three-stage solid fuel ICBM missile which will be heavier and thicker than the Agni-V. Agni-VI could possibly be able to carry 3 tonne warheads thrice that of Agni-V which can carry only 1.1 Tonne warheads. Agni-VI will be the first missile to have the capability to carry 4 or 6 multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicles (MIRV) payloads.

Why MIRV technology is key in India-Pak missile race?

The question of MIRV technology is tricky, as some reports suggest that India may already have tested Agni 5 with MIRV technology. DRDO or the government has made no official statement on any Indian missile capable of MIRV.

The range of Agni 5 itself is a mystery of sorts as China claims that it can travel as far as 8,000 kms. The DRDO claims that Agni 5 has a range of 5,000 kms.

Range of ballistic missiles is a contentious issue. Many European nations and experts in the US argue that why should India develop a 10,000 kms plus range ICBM when its furthest rival is China.

If India unveils Agni 6, then it may irk the US and some European countries. India would be risking sanctions if it blatantly goes ahead and tests Agni 6.

How INS Arihant will significantly change India's strategic position?

India is a rising economic power and at this juncture, it would not like to sour economic ties with Europe. A missile of 10,000 km range is bound to make European nations uncomfortable and this may have an impact on trade ties.

So, even if the DRDO is ready with the technology, Indian government is very unlikely to unveil, or even acknowledge the existence of Agni 6 ICBM.

<https://www.oneindia.com/india/why-india-may-not-test-agni-6-even-if-drdo-is-ready-with-technology-2805212.html>

IIT Delhi to start ‘Innovation Science Park’ to aid DRDO and establish agriculture, electric vehicle research units

Delhi: Indian Institute of Technology - Delhi (IIT-Delhi) is going to set up two new units - centre for electric vehicle and centre for the cyber-physical system - along with an innovation science park at its campus from next year, Hindustan Times has reported.

Announcing the move on Friday (9 November), director of IIT-Delhi V Ramgopal Rao said, the two centres would focus on solving society's contemporary issues. He stated that electric vehicles can play a big role in curbing pollution but they are not in use owing to unavailability, inefficiency. The centre would thus work on issues like bringing down their cost, reducing the charging time and improving the battery capacity.

Centre for cyber-physical system of IIT-Delhi will help in solving issues using information technology and will focus on connecting systems to the internet which will provide data based on which accurate decisions can be made.

Rao citing an example of the use of IT in agriculture said that for improving productivity in agriculture, farmers need to have accurate information about water content, soil moisture and which nutrient or fertiliser to use. For accessing that information, the researchers would need to deploy sensors which can collect the data and help farmers take intelligent decisions.

He also said that both the centres would be aided by the industries both public and private.

The institute will also set up an innovation science park to contribute in a major way to Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

IIT-Delhi's registrar Sandeep Chatterjee said that the innovation park will be working on several verticals but half of the research conducted there will be done for the DRDO.

<https://swarajyamag.com/insta/iit-delhi-to-start-innovation-science-park-to-aid-drdo-and-establish-agriculture-electric-vehicle-research-units>