

Fire power helped unity against terror: Rajnath Singh

Pakistan's missiles are named Babar, Ghouri and Ghaznavi

Hyderabad: Defence minister Rajnath Singh said Pakistan chose names for its missiles to match its aggressive posturing but the Indian Army works for peace and stability.

“Our missiles have names like Prithvi, Akash, Agni, Nag, Trishul. The Indian Army works for peace and stability. Our missile technology development is not to show our country's aggression,” Mr Singh said.

Mr Singh was speaking at the golden jubilee celebrations at missiles maker Bharat Dynamics Ltd in the city. He said it was mandatory to develop hypersonic missile technology to boost the Army's capabilities. To mark the occasion, BDL handed over the medium range surface-to-air missile (MSRAM) to the Indian Air Force. He said, “Our defence preparedness is towards the three points of balance, restraint and destruction when needed. Armed forces modernisation is our priority and we are going ahead with it. We want to fulfil our every need through indigenisation.” The defence minister said BDL had a part to play in this.

“Terrorism is neither good nor bad, but it is just terrorism. We have shown to the world that we have zero tolerance towards terrorism. Weapon power has contributed a lot,” he said, insisting on greater indigenous production.

“By 2025 India wants to achieve a respectful position in defence exports and for that BDL will have to play an effective and decisive role,” he said.

Mr Singh said India had been successful in informing the world that there can be nothing less than zero tolerance for terrorism, the results of which are visible. “Countries and people who supported terrorists or supported them indirectly are looking to join the forces that are pursuing peace and democracy. In this, weapon power has played an important role,” he said.

Dr Sateesh Reddy, secretary, department of defence research, and chairman, DRDO, said, that the DRDO together with BDL had the capacity to produce 60 missiles per month. “We are ready to produce 100 missiles per month,” he said.

Dr Reddy said many indigenous missile systems were developed such as Akash, anti-tank missiles, and the MSRAM. “The DRDO-BDL combination has nurtured various industries working in synergy building indigenous systems. DRDO and BDL work as a single unit, as close partners in producing missiles, torpedoes and other systems”.

The BDL is working on the ‘Amogh’ missile. It has earlier built Prithvi and Aakash missiles as part of the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme with the DRDO, he said.

“Our focus is on indigenisation. We have indigenised 75 to 90 per cent weapon systems procured from France, Russia and Italy. There are plans to indigenise the top 20 highly priced components within two to three years,” Dr Reddy said, BDL chairman and managing director Commodore Siddharth Mishra (retired) said an MoU has been signed with T-Hub for defence-related products and with IIT-Hyderabad to develop defence equipment with artificial intelligence under the ‘Innovation for Defence Excellence’ scheme.

He said missile production which started 50 years ago had become the top multiproduct enterprise and weapon system integrator for making the finest defence equipment for the nation, he said.

To commemorate the vision of the ‘missile man’ President Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, his statue was unveiled at the BDL's premises in Kanchan-bagh. A 24 lakh litre rainwater harvesting facility ‘Jal

Nidhi' was inaugurated at the BDL Ibrahim-patnam unit and a 5-MW solar power plant was made operational.

<https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/current-affairs/040819/fire-power-helped-unity-against-terror-rajnath-singh.html>



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Defence Minister emphasises on indigenous development of hypersonic missile technologies

Story Highlights

The Defence Minister made the remarks during the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Bharat Dynamic Limited here. India had tested a Technology Demonstrator Vehicle in June this year

Hyderabad: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday said that there was a need to develop Hypersonic missile technologies in the country for the Indian Armed Forces.

"I am looking forward to new missile technology as you know that missile technology had grown rapidly. Several countries have even prepared air defence missile systems. It is necessary to develop Hypersonic missile technologies in the country for the defence capabilities of the Indian Armed Forces," he said.

The Defence Minister made the remarks during the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Bharat Dynamic Limited here. India had tested a Technology Demonstrator Vehicle in June this year.

Doubts were raised on the success of its test though the DRDO had stressed that the "missile was launched successfully."

Several nations in the world are said to be developing Hypersonic weapons. India's BrahMos-II missile which is said to be under development will also be a Hypersonic weapon.

The Defence Minister while speaking at the ceremony also took a swipe at Pakistan for naming its missiles after "attackers."

"When it comes to missile technology, sometimes people want to see the country's aggression in missile technology's development. Our neighbour names their missiles after attackers-Babur, Ghori, Ghaznavi missiles. Such names are kept so that Pakistan can project aggression," he said.

"In India, defence forces are not maintained to attack other nations. Our defence forces work for peace and stability at regional, continental, global levels...Missiles here are named Prithvi, Akash, Agni, Nag, Trishul, BrahMos. They invoke balance, patience and destruction if needed," he added.

The Defence Minister said that the government wants to take India's defence exports to a respectable position in 2025.

"Modernisation of Armed Forces is our priority. We want to fulfil all the requirements of Armed Forces through indigenous means," he said.

"DRDO is working on Akash-1s, Akash-NG, Astra, NPATGM, QRSAM and several other missile systems. All these missiles are being developed indigenously. I can say that it is because of BDL that India has the capability to face all the challenges coming from land, air and water. DRDO has successfully completed the trial of NAG anti-tank missile. Now, these missiles are moving to the production stage," the Defence Minister said.

<https://www.wionews.com/india-news/defence-minister-emphasises-on-indigenous-development-of-hypersonic-missile-technologies-240492>