

Defence Minister reviews working of DRDO, asks it to focus on flagship programmes

Officials said Singh appreciated the commitment and dedication of DRDO scientists and directed them to focus on flagship programmes of national importance

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Friday visited the headquarters of Defence Research and Development Organisation here and reviewed its work in fulfilling requirement of the armed forces.

Officials said Singh appreciated the commitment and dedication of DRDO scientists and directed them to focus on flagship programmes of national importance.

The defence minister also released a publication titled 'Roadmap of DRDO', which encapsulated its target for the next ten years.

Singh was given a detailed presentation by DRDO Chairman Dr G Satheesh Reddy and other senior scientists on various projects being implemented by the organisation, officials said.

"The presentation covered recent achievements, details of major ongoing projects and the roadmap of DRDO," the defence ministry said.

It said Singh was apprised about the DRDO-developed cutting-edge, state-of-the-art technologies and systems accepted by the armed forces and those under development.

"The defence minister appreciated the commitment and dedication of DRDO scientists and directed that they should focus their energies on flagship programmes of national importance," said the ministry.

Singh also appreciated the DRDO's initiatives to promote collaboration with academia and industry, and desired that such interaction should be enhanced to create a greater scientific temper and production base.

He also congratulated DRDO for its singular achievements in strengthening the national defence capabilities and enabling the nation to join a select club of countries by coming out with advanced defence technologies such capability to take down satellites in space.

In March, India carried out an Anti-Satellite (A-SAT) test by shooting down a live satellite. With the A-SAT test, India joined a select group of countries to have capability to shoot down a satellite.

The defence minister also mentioned about DRDO's role in development of Tejas fighter aircraft, Airborne Early Warning and Control System (AEW&CS) and ballistic missile defence programme.

Earlier, on his arrival at DRDO Bhawan, Singh paid floral tributes at the statue of former President and noted missile scientist Dr A P J Abdul Kalam.

At a separate meeting, the defence minister reviewed the working of department of ex-servicemen welfare.

He particularly reviewed implementation of various welfare schemes including financial assistance and resettlement support measures to the ex-serviceman, widows and dependents.

In a free flowing interaction with senior officials, Singh gave directions to the department and sought a response in a time bound manner on certain issues, officials said.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/defence-minister-reviews-working-of-drdo-asks-it-to-focus-on-flagship-programmes/articleshow/69793057.cms>

Rajnath instructs DRDO to focus on projects of national importance

Upon arriving at the DRDO Bhawan, the Defence Minister paid floral tributes to Dr APJ Abdul Kalam's statue here. Thereafter, he was given detailed a presentation by DRDO Chief G Satheesh Reddy and senior scientists.

"The presentation covered recent achievements, details of major ongoing projects and the roadmap of DRDO. The Raksha Mantri was apprised about the DRDO developed cutting-edge, state of the art technologies and systems accepted by the armed forces and those under development," Defence Ministry officials said.

Singh appreciated the commitment and dedication of scientists and directed the research agency to focus its energies on flagship programmes of national importance. He appreciated the DRDO's initiatives to promote academia and industry and desired for such interaction to be enhanced further to create a greater scientific temper and production base, which would be a driving force for accelerated research and defence manufacturing.

The Defence Minister also released the publication "Roadmap of DRDO" which encapsulated the target of the organisation for ten years.

Singh congratulated DRDO for its singular achievements in strengthening the national defence capabilities and enabling the nation to join a select club of countries having some of the most advanced defence technologies such as Anti-Satellite Capability, 4.5th Generation Fighter Aircraft, Airborne Early Warning & Control System (AEW & CS) and Ballistic Missile Defence Programme.

(This story has not been edited by Business Standard staff and is auto-generated from a syndicated feed.)

https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/rajnath-instructs-drdo-to-focus-on-projects-of-national-importance-119061400812_1.html



Varunastra: a heavyweight torpedo for Indian Navy

Varunastra torpedoes will be manufactured at BDL Visakhapatnam unit, in collaboration with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

By Gorky Bakshi

Indian Navy and Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) have signed a contract recently worth Rs. 1187.82 crore for supply of heavyweight torpedo Varunastra to Indian Navy. The execution of contract will be done in the next 42 months.

The torpedoes will be manufactured at BDL Visakhapatnam unit, in collaboration with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). BDL has a dedicated unit at Visakhapatnam for manufacturing underwater warheads.

About Varunastra

- Varunastra is basically a ship-launched, electrically-propelled underwater weapon equipped with one of the most advanced automatic and remote-controlled guidance systems.
- The weapon system uses its own intelligence in tracing the target. It can hit stealth submarines underwater.
- Varunastra is seven to eight metres long, weighs 1,500 kg and has a diameter of 533 mm.
- The anti-submarine electric torpedo when fired can travel at 40 knots, or 74 kmph. The operational range is 40 km and it can carry a warhead weighing 250 kg.
- The weapon has been jointly developed by the Naval Science and Technology Laboratory (NTSL), Visakhapatnam and the Bharat Dynamics Limited -BDL (Hyderabad)

Military Products by BDL

NAG: A third Generation (Fire and Forget) mechanized infantry ATGM, with top attack capability to destroy armored vehicle equipped with Explosive Reactive Armour, moving and stationary targets.

Akash: It is an indigenously developed, an all - weather, air defence weapon system, uses a high explosive, pre-fragmented warhead that can engage multiple threats simultaneously.

MRSAM (Medium Range Surface to Air Missile): A high response, quick reaction, vertically launched supersonic missile, designed to neutralize enemy aerial threats – missiles, aircraft, guided bombs, helicopters. Used by Army, Navy and Air Force as different variants.

Varunastra: A ship launched, electrically propelled underwater weapon. Equipped with the most advanced automatic and remote controlled guidance system. Uses its own intelligence in tracing the target.

Milan 2T: It is a man portable (Infantry) second generation ATGM, to destroy Tanks fitted with Explosive Reactive Armour, moving and stationary targets.

About BDL

Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), a Government of India Enterprise under the Ministry of Defence was established in Hyderabad in the year 1970 to be a manufacturing base for guided missiles and allied defence equipment. Begun with a pool of engineers drawn from DRDO and aerospace industries, BDL began by producing a first generation anti-tank guided missile - the French SS11B1.

BDL has three manufacturing units, located at Kanchanbagh, Hyderabad, Telangana; Bhanur, Medak district, Telangana and Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. Two New Units are planned at Ibrahimpatnam, Ranga Reddy district, Telangana and Amravati, Maharashtra.

<https://www.jagranjosh.com/current-affairs/varunastra-a-heavyweight-torpedo-for-indian-navy-1560506270-1>

