

DRDO system to help Indian Navy's scorpene submarines stay hidden for longer periods

The DRDO has been working with the Navy to develop it at the Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL) in Pune

In a major boost to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Make in India programme, the Indian Navy would fit their Kalvari-class submarines with DRDO-built Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) systems, which would allow the underwater warships to remain below the surface for longer periods while carrying out their operations.

An AIP is fitted on the conventional diesel-electric submarines and significantly enhances the capability of the boats to stay underwater, which, otherwise, have to come to the surface to charge their batteries frequently. "The DRDO-built AIP would be fitted on the Kalvari class submarines during their refit programme. The first refit of the first boat INS Kalvari is scheduled for the year 2023," French firm Naval Group's Senior Executive Vice President Alain Guillou told ANI. The French industry official was in India for the biennial DefExpo in Lucknow.



He said the DRDO AIP has been found good and compliant and would add to the capabilities of the submarines.

The DRDO has been working with the Navy to develop it at the Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL) in Pune.

The Indian AIP was earlier supposed to be fitted only on the fifth and the sixth boat but it has now been decided that it would be equipped on all the six boats as and when they go for their major refit programmes.

The first boat was inducted by the Navy a couple of years ago and the last boat is expected to be commissioned with full firepower by the end of 2022.

Indian public sector firm Mazagon Dockyards Limited and the Naval Group are building the submarines together in Mumbai.

Guillou said his firm was also taking part in the Indian Navy programme for supplying torpedoes for the Kalvari class boats and was offering its F-21 torpedo for the project.

The heavyweight torpedoes are also supposed to be used by the Indian Navy for its strategic nuclear submarines as they are also functional without their main underwater weapons. (ANI)

<http://www.businessworld.in/article/DRDO-System-To-Help-Indian-Navy-s-Scorpene-Submarines-Stay-Hidden-For-Longer-Periods/10-02-2020-183796/>

DefExpo 2020: DRDO tech impresses UK Minister, Joint R&D projects proposed

New Delhi: United Kingdom's Minister of Defence Procurement, James Heapey, visited the DRDO pavilion and interacted with G Satheesh Reddy, Chairman of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Secretary, Department of Defence R&D on 6 February 2020.

Reddy briefed the Minister about various technology developments at DRDO and latest products showcased at the DRDO Pavilion, DefExpo 2020.

The Minister showed keen interest in Nirbhay Missile and its capabilities. He was impressed with DRDO products namely the airborne early warning and control system (AEW&C), Air and Naval versions of AMCA (Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft), Trainer Aircraft and LCA (Light Combat Aircraft) Mk II. He enquired about re-fuelling capabilities of these aircraft and appreciated the efforts done by DRDO during the discussions.



The Minister also showed interest in the Electronics & Communication Cluster Products, Swathi Weapon Locating Radar, Night Vision Devices, Laser Ordnance Disposal System (LORDS), and Optical Target Locator. The Minister was thrilled to experience the demonstration of the LCA MK II cockpit simulator and high-resolution video and images from the night vision devices developed by DRDO.

Reddy also briefed him about the latest developments of missiles for Indian Armed Forces viz. Astra, LRSAM, Nag and Helina.

Reddy expressed that Indian and UK's research departments should identify at least five futuristic technology areas for collaboration. They agreed to set up a task force to initiate and take up Joint R&D Projects within 3 months.

<https://indusdictum.com/2020/02/09/defexpo-2020-drdo-tech-impresses-uk-minister-joint-rd-projects-proposed/>



DRDO to train state teams for avalanche rescue

By Vijay Mohan

Chandigarh: In a public-outreach venture, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will train quick-response teams (QRTs) of state governments to undertake safety and rescue operations in mountainous areas hit by avalanches or snow storms.

The first such programme is scheduled to be conducted by DRDO's Snow and Avalanche Studies Establishment (SASE) at Manali from this week for a 30-member contingent deputed by the Himachal Pradesh Government.

“We had received a request from the Himachal Pradesh Government to train their QRTs,” Naresh Kumar, Director SASE said.

“Though we have been training Army teams to operate in avalanche-prone area for the past many years, this is the first such programme for a state government. It is a new beginning and can be extended to other hill states as well,” he added.

The state government team would comprise members drawn from the police, home guards and local civil defence volunteers. They would be taught safety procedures and precautions to be undertaken while moving in areas facing threat of avalanche, undertaking rescue operations and extracting trapped persons in case of an avalanche and the use of detection, rescue and communication equipment, both theoretically as well as practically in snow-bound areas.

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/drdo-to-train-state-teams-for-avalanche-rescue-38918>



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Indian DRDO developing Pranash, a new 200km strike range ballistic missile

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has started working on the development of the Pranash, a 200-km range surface-to-surface ballistic missile that would be armed with conventional warheads.

The trials of the single-stage, solid-propellant missile should take place in the forthcoming years. It would also be readied for exports to friendly foreign countries as its strike range is within the permissible limits of international regimes on missile sales.

The Pranash is an advanced version of the 150-km strike range Prahaar missile which was designed for tactical missions. The surface-to-surface ballistic missile will be of use for the Air Force and Army.



Prahaar was developed to provide a cost-effective, quick-reaction, all-weather, all-terrain, highly accurate battlefield support tactical weapon system. The development of the missile was carried out by the DRDO scientists in a span of less than two years. The maneuvering capability, greater acceleration, better accuracy and faster deployment fills the short-range tactical battlefield role as required by the Indian Army to take out strategic and tactical targets. The mobile launch platform carries six missiles that can be deployed in stand-alone and canisterised mode, which can have different kind of warheads meant for different targets and can be fired in salvo mode in all directions covering the entire azimuth plane. This solid-fueled missile can be launched within 2–3 minutes without any preparation, providing significantly better reaction time than liquid-fueled Prithvi ballistic missiles and act as a gap filler in the 150 km (93 miles) range, between the Pinaka Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher and Smerch MBRL in one end and the Prithvi ballistic missiles on the other.

https://www.armyrecognition.com/february_2020_global_defense_security_army_news_industry/indian_drdo_developing_pranash_a_new_200km_strike_range_ballistic_missile.html

DRDO working with 1,800 industries: G. Satheesh

Lucknow: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is working closely with 1,800 industries, working on modern technologies to produce weapons which will be handed over to the army, said G. Satheesh Reddy, Chairman, DRDO.

Reddy in an exclusive interview to IANS said "Make in India is an opportunity for DRDO. It works on indigenous technology. So far we have manufactured a number of defence products in collaboration with several industries. Manufacturing of Akash Missile in Rs 2,500 crore is a great example of this. Along with this we are working with 1,800 Industries."

He said, "These industries are running Tier-1, 2, 3 type industries by taking some technology from us. So far, we have transferred over 900 technologies to the industries. Today (on Sunday) also 1,500 technologies have been transferred to 17 industries. So far, this year, we have transferred 40 technologies to Indian Industries."

Reddy said, "The industry manufactures defence products with the help of our technology, this is Make in India. With this the DRDO's work in India will continue to grow. We are also working on developing many new technologies, so that better defence products can be manufactured. The goal is to equip the Indian Army with these high quality defence products. After that we are also looking forward to export them."

Speaking about the new product of the DRDO, he said "We have many projects going on at one time. Currently, we are working on LCA Mork-2, LCA for Indian Navy, tank technology, radar technology, anti-tank missile equipped with innovative technology etc. Work on some small defence products is also going on including projects like SDR, laser products etc."

He said that technology is also being developed to deal with the drones too. DRDO is developing anti-drone technology, which will be handed over to the armed forces.

Talking about space war, Reddy said "Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his speech said that India is a peace loving country and we have to reduce the need of weapons used in space. We will continue to work for the good of the society by using these technologies in a positive way."

He said, "DRDO has more than 500 defence products. Big missiles are been manufactured by using small technologies. We have included many missile and radar models here, including Mission Shakti missile, Nirbhay missile. Torpedo technology has been specially showcased. All these technologies are attracting foreign visitors. A lot of people are showing interest in it which is a positive trend." (IANS)

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/2020/21531.htm>