

DRDO Chief urges for indigenous defence production

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Shillong: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) Chairman G Satheesh Reddy on Saturday said the country must focus on more indigenous defence production to reduce import in the sector and should become self-reliant in technology.

Indigenous produce in defence manufacturing is currently about 45-50 per cent only, he said.

Our indigenous produce in defence (sector) is close to 45-50 per cent only. We have a lot of imports. We need to improve (the share of indigenous production) and work on new technologies, Reddy said.

He also said the research organisation, engaged in developing defence technologies, should become a technology leader and it has a lot to do to ensure that the country reduces its imports in defence sector.

We should become self-reliant in any technology, he said, adding that the ultimate aim is to supply the technology to other countries to enable the domestic defence industry to sustain itself and earn foreign exchange.

Reddy, who is also secretary Department of Defence R&D, said the country had developed its own light combat aircrafts and the number of fighter jets that would come from DRDO in the next ten years would be the worlds best.

In the next ten years, the number of aircrafts that will come from us, will be the worlds best, Reddy said, addressing the 6th convocation of the National Institute of Technology here.

He further said, We have developed our own light combat aircraft, Tejas, and we are among the six nations in the world to have developed Eurofighter aircrafts.

The DRDO Chief urged students to be innovative and said the government is supporting for innovation.

We need to improve our defence technologies and the government is providing a lot of opportunities. There are many startups in NITs and IITs. We have set up centre of excellence in several institutes and are working with over 150 academic institutes on various projects, said Reddy.

He said that the DRDO had come up with many technologies in the past few years and developed a complete range of indigenous radar systems.

We have made our ballistic missile defence system. We are capable of building any radar and have developed sonar (a technique that uses sound propagation to navigate,) that is fitted on ships. In fact, imported submarines are now fitted with indigenous sonar today, he said.

Reddy said India is in the league of countries such as the US, Russia and China that developed high precision missile system.

The Indian Air Force had issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for around 83 Light Combat Aircraft (LCA)-Mk1A aircraft at an estimated cost of Rs 45,000 crore, he said adding that ten out of 83 aircrafts will be the two-seater, which will be used for training.

This is in addition to the earlier IAF order of 40, bringing the total to 123 LCA Tejas, he added.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/drdo-chief-urges-for-indigenous-defence-production/articleshow/71350864.cms>

India to develop fifth-generation combat aircraft

DRDO Chief attends NIT Convocation

Shillong: India is now going to make the 5th generation Advanced Medium Combat aircraft which will make the country self-reliant in the particular segment.

Speaking at the 6th convocation of the National Institute of Technology here on Friday, G Satheesh Reddy, Secretary, Department of Defence and R&D and the Chairman of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), further said that the country is now also going to make light combat aircraft Marak 2 “India will have the world’s best aircraft in 10 years,” he said.

Stating that India’s indigenous content in defence equipment is 45-50 per cent as of now, he added that the department is now going to work on systems which will increase indigenous content to 70-75 per cent in the next 5-10 years in every field including aircraft manufacturing.

Regretting that India imports equipment from outside, he stressed on the need for the country to be more self-reliant and said it should develop first-of-its-kind and unique technologies. “Our export of indigenous technology must increase and academic institutions must contribute in this area,” he said.

He said that three departments, including Department of Space, Atomic Energy and Department of Defence R&D, have contributed largely in the development of the country and have achieved many marvels in the last 25 years. He said that India today can develop any radar, sonar and electronic warfare system and even foreign countries have appreciated the country’s achievements in the field of defence. Stating there are three Indian institutes which are in the top 200 in the world, he said that attempts should be made to get a couple of these to the top 100.

Altogether 197 students were conferred various UG, PG and Ph.D degrees during the convocation. The Director of the Institute, Prof. Bibhuti Bhusan Biswal, highlighted the achievements made by the institute since its inception. He informed that the institute has repeated the feat of over 80 per cent placement of eligible final year students with 27 per cent of them receiving more than one offer.

“The highest package offered was Rs 19.2 lakh per annum and the average salary was Rs 5.81 lakh per annum. According to Biswal, the work on the permanent campus of the institute at Sohra is progressing and overall progress of the Phase I construction work is about 70 per cent. The chairman of the convocation, Sajjan Bhajanka, who is the chairman of Century Plyboards (India) Ltd, informed that in order to encourage young and talented minds in research, the Prime Minister’s Research Fellowship scheme has been introduced for the students of IITs, IISc and IISERs. IIM visit.

The DRDO chairman also paid a visit to IIM Shillong and addressed the IIM fraternity. The programme started with a welcome address by Prof DP Goyal, Director, IIM Shillong.

Dr. Reddy mentioned his experiences with Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and stated that he was privileged to have taken the same podium where Dr Kalam last spoke.

A nostalgic Dr. Reddy talked about how Dr. Kalam was a visionary like none other.

He recounted his days as a young scientist working under the supervision of Dr. Kalam.

The lecture was attended by Maj Gen PK Saini, Chief of Sta, Army HQ 101, Shillong.

The event concluded with Prof. Kiya Sengupta, Dean – Academics, IIM Shillong, expressing her gratitude to the noted guests on behalf of the institute for sparing their crucial time to enlighten the next generation leaders of tomorrow.

<http://theshillongtimes.com/2019/09/29/india-to-develop-fifth-generation-combat-aircraft/>