

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Raksha Mantri inaugurates Universal Pilot Plant facility at Pune

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Raksha Mantri Shri. Manohar Parrikar inaugurated the Universal Pilot Plant (UPP) at High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL) in Pune today. Dr. S. Christopher, Secretary Dept. of Defence R&D & Director General DRDO was also present on the occasion.

The UPP is a state-of-the-art environment friendly chemical pilot plant used for the development of advanced high energy materials required for various armament and missile systems. The plant will be used for scaling up lab level futuristic high energy materials. It will also be utilised for establishing the complex chemical processes for production.

The Universal Pilot Plant (UPP) facility is equipped with advanced reactors, quenchers, crystallizers, filtration units, vacuum driers, scrubbers, on-line nitrogen generator, effluent treatment plant and required essential utilities. The plant is fully automatic and process parameters are controlled through PLC and SCADA based control system. UPP, suitable for processing or development of high performance futuristic High Energy Materials ranging from milligram to 20 kg batch levels is hooked-up with precision control system and safety measures.

High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), a premier Lab under Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) is engaged in research and development of wide spectrum of high energy materials including propellants for rockets and guns, high explosives, pyrotechnics and allied chemicals for various armament and missile systems. This Lab plays a vital role in development and scale-up of processes of high energy materials that are essentially needed for realizing enhanced performance of propulsion, warhead and other related systems and sub-systems.

Raksha Mantri also visited VRDE Ahmednagar today and witnessed the static demonstration of Agni Road Mobile Launcher, Unit repair Vehicle & Unit maintenance vehicle for MBT Arjun , NBC Recce vehicle, Rotary engine developed for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle-Nishant & live demonstration of CBRN Mini-UGV, Multi-Purpose Decontamination System, Armoured Amphibious Dozer and live testing of vehicles at EMI/EMC test facility. He also witnessed the demonstration of indigenous Wheeled Armoured Platform WhAP (8x8) at Vehicle dynamic test track at National Centre for Automotive Testing of VRDE Ahmednagar. He was accompanied by Dr. S Christopher, Secretary D (R&D) and DG, DRDO. Raksha Mantri appreciated the efforts put forth for development of these vehicles.