

In today's global scenario of defense and internal security, Indians stand strong as one of the few nations having indigenous technological supremacy.

Today, India stands as one of the seven countries with its own fourth generation combat aircraft. One of the six countries to have developed a nuclear power submarine. One of the four countries to have an air borne early warning and control system. One of the seven countries to have developing its own main battle tank. One of the five countries to have its own domestic missile defense program and the only country along with Russia to have its own Supersonic missile. All these and many more world class weapon systems, platforms and military equipment's are based on the cutting edge of technology are developed by the Defense Research and Development Organization, DRDO- the power house of Indian defense.

With extreme pleasure in our hearts, mettle in our minds and wings of fire, DRDO is achieving a historical feat in 2018. The year will be marked by the Diamond Jubilee of DRDO, celebrating 60 years of its luminary success.

India is leading towards the transformation from a regional power to a global power. The contribution of DRDO in making a strong defense system for the nation is a moment for pride. Over the past 60 years, DRDO has given the country a vast range of products and systems, ranging from the strategic Prithvi and Agni class of missiles, a family of Radars and Sonars, critical Electronic Warfare (EW) systems, Main Battle Tank (MBT) and combat aircraft—in fact a wide portfolio of products, which very few countries of the world possess. DRDO has discovered more than 30 products and system for its citizen. One name which has marked its presence felt in the heart of every Indian is Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam also known as the missile man of India or people's president.

Remembering his valuable contribution DRDO organized a tributary function in which Prime Minister unveiled the post of former president Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam on his birth anniversary 15th October at DRDO headquarters, New Delhi. Introducing the first lightweight multi-role supersonic combat aircraft TEJAS, a fourth generation plus fighter aircraft touched the foreign soil at soccer airbase in Buri International Airshow. DRDO also showcased other indigenously developed defense systems, airborne platforms, associated sensors and communication systems. Indian Air Force is planning to place

order for another 100 combat aircrafts in addition to the present order of 20 combat aircrafts. The value of systems, products and technologies developed by DRDO and inducted into Services or in the process of induction stands at over Rs. 1,90,000 Crores. These include combat vehicles, missiles, multi-barrel rocket launcher, unmanned aerial vehicles, radars, electronic warfare systems, sonars, torpedoes, bridging systems, combat aircraft, sensors, NBC technologies, parachutes, combat free fall systems, propellants and explosives, detonators, communication systems, armaments systems, cyber systems and many more. These are helpful in the long run for the country to achieve self-reliance in defense sector. DRDO has taken initiatives to empower training in various areas and villages in hilly region.

Keeping Swachh Bharat mission in mind, DRDO comes up with the idea of biodiesel patrolling boats. The Indian Navy has created an Energy and Environment Cell that is tasked with making the Indian Navy an environmentally responsible force. The Indian Navy took the opportunity of World Environment Day to outline some of the initiatives to reduce the carbon footprint of the Indian Navy. Also DRDO has come up with an innovative technology called bio digester to provide eco-friendly toilets which was also adopted by Indian Railways and many states.

Light Combat Aircraft 'TEJAS', Main Battle Tank 'ARJUN MK-I', Pilotless Target Aircraft 'LAKSHYA-I', Armored Amphibious Dozer Mk-I, Bridging Systems 'SARVATRA' are some of the incredible works of all time of DRDO. The Sonar dome is attached to the bottom of ships, and scans the seas for submarine threats. The torpedo is capable of taking down stealth submarines in deep or shallow waters. The TEJAS is capable of carrying four tonnes of weapons. The aircraft are capable of firing air-to-air missiles, and dropping laser guided bombs. The missiles have a range of 70 kilometers, and are meant to handle any kind of aerial threats including fighter aircraft and helicopters. The Nag missile is meant to tackle modern battle tanks and other heavily armored tanks. The Nag can be fired from land or air based platforms, and there are amphibious and mobility tests being conducted. The Nag missile is ready for induction into the Indian Army...etc.

With such a huge achievements by DRDO, the nation is proud of them and is sure that this success will further boost India's defense capabilities in technologically challenging areas. There is no doubt that DRDO has put up with a lot of efforts.

It is spearheading the way and taking India's defense strength to new heights...and will continue to do that.

DRDO's heart beats true to its country.

A salute to our heroes!