

# Expanding India's defence capabilities and powers

The 12th edition of Asia's largest defence event showcases the might of the India's defence industry

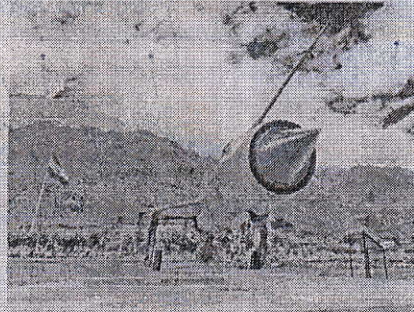
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The Indian Armed Forces are moving ahead in the right direction with its vision, superior combat systems, and reliance on evolving innovations and technologies. To speed up the pace of modernisation of the existing military equipment many policy decisions and actions have been taken to overhaul the entire war machinery of the country.

One of the largest of its kind, the Defence Expo 2022 is the right step towards self-reliance. As India celebrates its 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', the DefExpo 2022 gains further significance with its theme 'Path to Pride' invoking nationalistic pride and encouraging citizens to partake in nation-building through establishing a capable indigenous defence industry.

The flagship event of the Ministry of Defence, Government of India, showcases the dramatic strides made in the realm of defence manufacturing, both by India's Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSU) and the private sector. A wide variety of defence equipment that has been indigenously developed and produced under license agreements with leading defence original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) globally are displayed here.

As part of the DefExpo, a live demonstration by the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), showcasing land, naval, and air procedures, and systems in action has been scheduled. This year, the DRDO plans to display a wide range of products encompassing strategic and tactical weapon systems, defence equipment, and technologies from Border Surveillance System (BOSS), Laser Fence System (LFS), BrahMos Air Version Missile, Advanced



Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS), Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP), Prahar Missile, Rudram III Missile, Quick reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) and Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) among others.

The central theme for this year's DRDO participation is based on the 3D (DRDO, Designed and Developed) ecosphere. The organisation will also showcase technological advancements made by its laboratories as well as its partnerships with the industry in recent years while representing a high level of indigenously advanced and futuristic defence products and technologies that contribute towards *Atmanirbharta* in the defence sector.

The 12th edition of Asia's largest defence event is in line with the vision

of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to achieve self-reliance in defence and achieve an export of USD 5 billion by 2025. India has successfully established itself as an emerging defence manufacturing hub with numerous international orders being bagged by Indian companies in recent years. According to the Ministry of Defence, over 50 startups will showcase their products at the pavilion. For the first time, states/union territories have been invited to set up pavilions at the event, with several confirming their participation.

Over the years, the expo has been able to gather thousands of footfalls. At the expo, participants get an opportunity to showcase their equipment and platforms and are able to explore the strengths and capabilities of the expanse of the Indian defence industry for forging business partnerships. The platform also boosts investment, expands manufacturing capacities and capabilities, and discovers avenues for technology absorption. Each year, the DefExpo puts forward the unmatched innovation and formidable machinery of the Indian Armed Forces.

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