



BrahMos Testing

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Why in News

BrahMos Land-Attack Cruise Missile (surface-to-surface) was successfully flight tested from the Integrated Test Range at **Balasore** in **Odisha**.

Key Points



- It is a **joint venture** between the **Defence Research and Development Organisation of India (DRDO)** and the NPOM of **Russia**.
Brahmos is named on the **rivers Brahmaputra (India) and Moskva (Russia)**.
- It is a **supersonic** missile travelling at a speed of **Mach 2.8** (nearly three times the speed of sound)
It is the world's **fastest supersonic cruise missile**.
- It is a **multiplatform** i.e it can be launched from **land, air, and sea** and multi capability missile with pinpoint accuracy that works in **both day and night** irrespective of the weather conditions.
It is, therefore, used by all three forces, the **Army, Navy and the Air Force**.
- It operates on the "**Fire and Forget**" principle i.e it does not require further guidance after launch.
- It is the **heaviest weapon** to be deployed on **Sukhoi-30 MKI fighter aircraft**, with a weight of 2.5 tonnes.

- Its **range has been recently enhanced** from 300 Km to 450-600 Km, Increasing the missile's range became possible after India's induction into the **Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)** in June 2016.
- The missile features **indigenous Booster and Airframe Section**, along with many other **indigenous sub-systems**.
- **Advantages:**
 - BrahMos has been deployed in **Ladakh** as well as the **Eastern Sector in Arunachal Pradesh** to tackle any threats in the **ongoing standoff with China**.
 - Enhanced use of indigenous technologies will give a boost to India's **AtmaNirbhar Bharat** and **Make in India** Initiatives.
 - Increasing indigenous content in defence systems has also been a prime focus of **Defence Acquisition Procedure, 2020** and **draft Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy 2020**.
- **Others:**

India is also working on a hypersonic missile, **BrahMos-II (K)**, capable of taking out hardened targets such as underground bunkers and weapon storage facilities at seven times the speed of sound (Mach 7).

Source: PIB