



# Helina: Anti-Tank Guided Missile

## Why in News?

India has successfully flight-tested [Helina](#), an **Anti-Tank Guided Missile** (ATGM), in Pokhran.

- According to the [Defence Research and Development Organisation](#) (DRDO), it is **one of the most advanced Anti-Tank Weapons in the world**.
- The test was **part of user validation trials of the third generation 'fire and forget' class missiles** developed by the DRDO.

## What is Helina?

- **About:** Helina has been **developed by the Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad** under the **Missiles and Strategic Systems** (MSS) cluster of the DRDO.
  - Successful user trials of the missile have been conducted **since 2018**.
- **Features:** It has a **maximum range of seven kilometers** and has been **designed and developed for integration on the weaponized version of the ALH** ([Advanced Light Helicopter](#)).
  - The missile system **has all-weather, day, and night capability** and can defeat battle tanks with conventional armour as well as explosive reactive armour.
  - It has been **developed for integration with choppers** in both the Army and the Air Force.
    - The **Air Force version** of Helina is sometimes referred to as [Dhruvastra](#).
  - Helina can **engage targets both in direct hit mode as well as top attack mode**.
    - **Top Attack Mode:** In this mode, the missile is required to climb sharply after launch and travel at a certain altitude, and then plunge on the top of the target.
    - **Direct Hit Mode:** The missile travels at a lower altitude, directly striking the target.
- **Other Anti-tank Missiles:** The DRDO has designed and developed a range of anti-tank missile technologies that include:
  - [The Nag](#): It is a **third-generation fire-and-forget missile** developed for mechanized formations to engage heavily fortified enemy tanks.
  - [MPATGM](#): It stands for **Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile** which has a range of 2.5 kilometers, with fire-and-forget and top attack capabilities for infantry use.
  - **SANT**: It is a **Smart Stand-off Anti-Tank Missile** being developed for launch from the Mi-35 Helicopter for the Air Force's anti-tank operations.
  - [ATGM for MBT Arjun](#): ATGM for MBT Arjun is a **laser-guided, precision-guided munition** that is launched from the 120mm rifled gun of the Arjun tank to engage and defeat Explosive Reactive Armour-protected armoured targets.

[Source: PIB](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/helina-anti-tank-guided-missile>