



# Successful Training Launch of Short-Range Ballistic Missile 'Agni-1'

[Source: PIB](#)

## Why in News?

Recently, training launch of [Short-Range Ballistic Missile 'Agni-1'](#) was carried out successfully from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha. The launch, **carried out under the aegis of the [Strategic Forces Command](#)**, successfully validated all operational and technical parameters.

## What is Ballistic Missile 'Agni-1'?

### ▪ About:

- The **Agni-1** is a Short-Range Ballistic Missile (SRBM) developed by India as part of its Agni series of missiles. It is the **first missile in the Agni series and is designed to be a strategic weapon capable of carrying a nuclear payload**.
- The Agni-1 is primarily intended for use as a deterrent against potential adversaries and is known for its quick response time.
- It is the **first variant of the Agni series missiles** under [Integrated Guided Missile Development Program \(IGMDP\)](#).

### ▪ Technical Specifications:

- The Agni-1 is a **single-stage, solid-fueled missile with a range of around 700 to around 1200 kilometers and can carry a payload of 1,000 kg**, making it a short-range ballistic missile. It has the **capability to carry both conventional and nuclear warheads**.
- The **solid-fuel propulsion** system enhances its operational flexibility and reduces launch preparation time.

### ▪ Development and Testing:

- The Agni-1 was developed by the [Defence Research and Development Organisation \(DRDO\)](#) in India. The missile has undergone several successful test launches to validate its performance and reliability.
- **Agni-1 was first tested at the Interim Test Range in Chandipur in 1989**. The Indian army accepted Agni-1 in service in 2007.



## What are the Other Agni Class of Missiles?

The Agni series is a family of ballistic missiles developed by India, **with each variant designed for specific ranges and purposes**. Besides Agni-1, other notable missiles in the series include:

### ▪ Range of other Agni Missiles:

- **Agni II:** Range more than 2000 km.
- **Agni III:** Range of more than 2,500 Km
- **Agni IV:** Range is more than 3,500 km and can fire from a road-mobile launcher.
- **Agni-V:** The longest of the Agni series, an **Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM)** with a range of over 5,000 km.
- **Agni Prime:** A two-stage canisterised missile (**under development**) has been successfully flight tested in June 2023.
  - The missile is capable of delivering a number of warheads at separate locations at a **distance of 1,000 - 2,000 km**.

### ▪ ICBMs:

- It is a type of **long-range ballistic missile** with the capability to travel vast distances, typically intercontinental ranges.
- They play a crucial role in a country's nuclear triad, which includes **land-based missiles, submarine-launched missiles (SLBMs), and strategic bombers**.
- ICBMs are characterized by their exceptionally long ranges, **typically exceeding 5,500 kilometers** (about 3,400 miles) and often reaching distances of over **10,000 kilometers** (more than 6,200 miles).
- ICBMs follow a **ballistic trajectory**, meaning they are launched into space before re-entering the Earth's atmosphere to strike their targets.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

**Q1. What is "Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD)", sometimes seen in the news? (2018)**

- (a) An Israeli radar system
- (b) India's indigenous anti-missile programme
- (c) An American anti-missile system
- (d) A defence collaboration between Japan and South Korea.

**Ans: (c)**

**Q2. With reference to Agni-IV Missile, which of the following statements is/are correct? (2014)**

1. It is a surface-to-surface missile.
2. It is fuelled by liquid propellant only.
3. It can deliver one-tonne nuclear warheads about 7500 km away.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Ans: (a)**

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/successful-training-launch-of-short-range-ballistic-missile-agni-1>

