



Agni-4 Missile

Source: PIB

The **Agni-4 missile** was successfully launched from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha.

- The launch successfully validated all operational and technical parameters. It was conducted under the aegis of the **Strategic Forces Command (SFC)**.
- Agni-4 is fourth in the **Agni series** of **medium to intercontinental-range ballistic missiles** developed by the **DRDO**.
 - The name comes from the Sanskrit word '**Agni**', which means 'fire' and represents one of the five elements of nature.
- Agni-4 It is an **intermediate-range ballistic** and **surface-to-surface missile**, designed to be launched from the ground or sea to hit targets on the ground or sea.
- The **Agni-4 missile has a range of 4,000 kilometres**, a length of 20 metres, and can carry a payload of 1,000 kg.
- The SFC forms part of **India's Nuclear Command Authority (NCA)**. It is responsible for the management and administration of the country's tactical and strategic nuclear weapons stockpile.
 - The NCA comprises a **Political Council chaired by the Prime Minister**, which is the sole body that can authorise the use of nuclear weapons and an **Executive Council chaired by the National Security Advisor**, which provides inputs for decision-making and executes the directives given to it by the Political Council.

Read more: [Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle Technology](#)

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