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BDL Media Release

Hon'ble Raksha Rajya Mantri flags off Astra Missile at BDL for supply to Indian Air Force

Hon'ble Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt today flagged off the indigenously developed and manufactured Astra Missiles for supply to the Indian Air Force. The missile was flagged off at Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), Kanchanbagh Unit, Hyderabad in the presence of CMD, BDL, Commodore A Madhavarao (Retd), DGMSS Shri U Raja Babu and other senior officials from DRDO, Indian Air Force and BDL.

Astra is a Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile indigenously developed by DRDO and manufactured by BDL for the Indian Air Force. Astra Weapon System is best in its class weapon systems in the world in the category of Air-to-Air missiles. The missile has a range of 100 plus km.

The flag off ceremony marks a significant achievement for BDL, positioning it among select few companies globally with capability to manufacture state of the art Air-to-Air missiles.

Hon'ble Raksha Rajya Mantri congratulated BDL for their efforts to realise the production of the indigenously developed missile, in line with the Government of India's Atmanirbhar policy. The Hon'ble RRM appreciated the contribution being made by BDL in enhancing defence exports of the country.

Commodore A. Madhavarao, (Retd), CMD, BDL stated that the focus of BDL is always on 'Make in India' with maximum indigenous content. He stated that BDL is in receipt of several leads from friendly foreign countries for the Astra

Weapon System. He highlighted that BDL has already augmented its manufacturing capability to meet both domestic and international demands of Astra missiles simultaneously. Further, he informed that the Akash NG missile test fired by DRDO on 12 Jan 2024 was manufactured at BDL including the state-of-the-art Radio Frequency Seeker. With the recent test firing of Akash conducted by the Indian Air Force, India achieved the distinction to become the first country to demonstrate the capability of engagement of four aerial targets simultaneously at 25 km ranges by command guidance using single firing unit. The missiles test fired have been manufactured by BDL at its Kanchanbagh facility, CMD, BDL added.

The Hon'ble RRM also visited various manufacturing facilities located at Kanchanbagh Unit of BDL and was apprised about the manufacturing capabilities of BDL by CMD.

Shri N Srinivasulu, Director (Finance), Shri PV Rajaram, Director (Production), Dr Upender Vennam, Chief Vigilance Officer and other senior officials from BDL participated in this event.



Hon'ble Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt today flagged off the indigenously developed and manufactured Astra Missiles for supply to the Indian Air Force. The Astra Missile has been indigenously developed by DRDO and manufactured by BDL for the Indian Air Force.



The Hon'ble RRM Shri Ajay Bhatt visited various manufacturing facilities located at Kanchanbagh Unit of BDL and was apprised about the manufacturing capabilities of BDL by CMD, Commodore A. Madhavarao, (Retd).



A group photograph with Hon'ble RRM at BDL.

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