



DRDO & Research & Development:

India's defense research and development news on August 19, 2025, is primarily centered on the Akash Next Generation (Akash-NG) missile system, as well as advancements in other indigenous defense technologies.

Key Developments

Akash-NG User Trials: The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is conducting user trials of the Akash-NG surface-to-air missile. The missile, with an official range of 30 km, has reportedly demonstrated an ability to engage targets up to 80 km under optimal conditions.

Longer-Range Akash Variant: In a parallel effort, DRDO is developing a longer-range variant of the Akash missile to further enhance its interception capabilities, with a potential range possibly exceeding 100 km. The Akash-NG's dual-pulse solid rocket motor is a key technological advancement that allows for variable speed and enhanced performance against agile targets.

Astra Missile Tests: DRDO and the Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully conducted flight tests of the indigenous Astra Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM). The missile, equipped with an indigenous Radio Frequency (RF) seeker, successfully destroyed high-speed aerial targets.

BrahMos-NG Development: DRDO is in the planning stages of developing the BrahMos-NG, a smaller version of the supersonic BrahMos

cruise missile. This new variant is designed to be fitted onto a wider range of IAF aircraft.

Joint Research Initiatives: The Border Security Force (BSF) has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K) to collaborate on research and development for drone forensics, counter-UAV technology, and training.

Indigenous Technology Showcase: DRDO Chairman Dr. Samir V. Kamat noted that recent successful military operations have showcased the effectiveness of India's indigenous defense technologies, leading to increased interest from foreign nations in systems like the Pinaka rocket, BrahMos, and Akash. He expects defense exports to double to ₹50,000 crore in the coming years.

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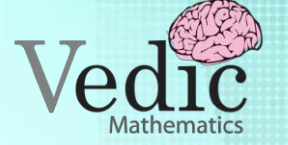
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- a) An indigenous Radio Frequency (RF) seeker
- b) A dual-pulse solid rocket motor
- c) Its smaller size
- d) A new supersonic cruise system

Answer: b) A dual-pulse solid rocket motor
The news highlights that "The Akash-NG's dual-pulse solid rocket motor is a key technological advancement that allows for variable speed and enhanced performance against agile targets."

3. What new variant of the BrahMos cruise missile is DRDO planning to develop?

- a) BrahMos-NG
- b) BrahMos-I
- c) BrahMos-X
- d) BrahMos-BVRAAM

Answer: a) BrahMos-NG
The text states that "DRDO is in the planning stages of developing the BrahMos-NG, a smaller version of the supersonic BrahMos cruise missile."

MCQS

1. What is the official range of the Akash-NG surface-to-air missile currently undergoing user trials?

- a) 80 km
- b) 100 km
- c) 30 km
- d) 50 km

Answer: c) 30 km

The provided text states, "The missile, with an official range of 30 km, has reportedly demonstrated an ability to engage targets up to 80 km under optimal conditions."

2. What is a key technological advancement in the Akash-NG missile that allows for variable speed and enhanced performance?

4. The Border Security Force (BSF) has signed a collaboration agreement with which institution for research on drone forensics and counter-UAV technology?

- a) Indian Air Force (IAF)
- b) Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K)
- c) BrahMos Aerospace
- d) Pinaka Research Centre

Answer: b) Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K)
The news notes that "The Border Security Force (BSF) has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K) to collaborate on research and development for drone forensics, counter-UAV technology, and training."





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5. According to DRDO Chairman Dr. Samir V. Kamat, what is the expected increase in India's defense exports in the coming years?

- a) To double to ₹50,000 crore
- b) To increase by 100%
- c) To reach a total of ₹1 lakh crore
- d) To triple in value

Answer: a) To double to ₹50,000 crore

The text mentions that DRDO Chairman Dr. Samir V. Kamat "expects defense exports to double to ₹50,000 crore in the coming years."

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