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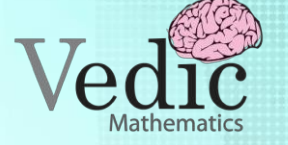
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DRDO & Research & Development:

On September 16, 2025, a key development in DRDO's R&D is the upcoming test of the **Project Kusha M1 missile**. This is a significant step toward bolstering India's indigenous air defense capabilities.

Key Developments

Project Kusha: The DRDO is preparing for the first test of the Project Kusha M1 missile, which is a key part of the Extended Range Air Defence System (ERADS). This system is designed to provide layered protection against various aerial threats, including stealth fighters, drones, and cruise missiles.

Missile Variants: The M1 missile has a range of 150 km and is the first of three variants under development. The M2 and M3 variants, with ranges of 250 km and 350 km respectively, are scheduled for subsequent trials in 2026 and 2027.

Indigenous Technology: The M1 interceptor features an Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) seeker, a dual-pulse solid rocket motor, and a kill vehicle with thrust vector control. This modular approach, with a common kill vehicle across all variants, is intended to accelerate development and ensure adaptability.

New HEAT System: The DRDO has also initiated a new project to develop a Reusable High-Speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) system. This system will be used for testing and training by the Indian Armed Forces. It's designed to simulate contemporary threats and features a

parachute-based recovery mechanism for reuse, which will make it more cost-effective.

Defence Procurement Manual (DPM) 2025: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved the new DPM 2025. This manual is a significant reform aimed at streamlining revenue procurement and promoting indigenization and self-reliance (atmanirbharta) within the defense sector.

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MCQS

1.What is the primary purpose of the Project Kusha M1 missile?

- A) To provide financial aid to armed forces personnel.
- B) To act as a reusable aerial target for training.
- C) To serve as an interceptor missile for the Extended Range Air Defence System (ERADS).
- D) To streamline the defence procurement process.

Answer: C) To serve as an interceptor missile for the Extended Range Air Defence System (ERADS).

The text explicitly states that the "Project Kusha M1 missile... is a key part of the Extended Range Air Defence System (ERADS)," which is designed to provide layered protection against various aerial threats.

2.What is a key indigenous technology feature of the Project Kusha M1 interceptor?

- A) A new type of high-speed expendable aerial target.
- B) A parachute-based recovery mechanism for reuse.
- C) An Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) seeker.
- D) A digital lending platform for regional rural banks.

Answer: C) An Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) seeker.

The "Indigenous Technology" section highlights that the M1 interceptor "features an Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) seeker, a dual-pulse solid rocket motor, and a kill vehicle with thrust vector control."

3.What is the main goal of the new Reusable High-Speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) system being developed by the DRDO?

- A) To provide a long-range missile for offensive operations.
- B) To offer a more cost-effective and reusable platform for testing and training.
- C) To act as a guided missile for anti-submarine warfare.
- D) To develop a new type of radar for surveillance.

Answer: B) To offer a more cost-effective and reusable platform for testing and training.

The text mentions that the new HEAT system is "designed to simulate contemporary threats and features a parachute-based recovery mechanism for reuse, which will make it more cost-effective."

4.The new Defence Procurement Manual (DPM) 2025 has been approved with the goal of promoting what?





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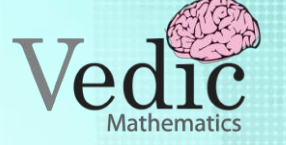
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- A) Joint military exercises with foreign nations.
- B) Streamlining revenue procurement and promoting indigenization.
- C) Launching more satellites for military communication.
- D) Expanding the range of existing missiles.

Answer: B) Streamlining revenue procurement and promoting indigenization.

The last paragraph states that the new DPM 2025 "is a significant reform aimed at streamlining revenue procurement and promoting indigenization and self-reliance (atmanirbharta) within the defense sector."

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