



WAYU

DAILY Day 3

13 April 2018

PM Narendra Modi inaugurates DefExpo 2018; launches iDEX

Day 2 of DefExpo 2018 saw the official inauguration by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who flew in and launched the show amidst thundering applause. There were a posse of ministers from the Ministry of Defence, the Tamil Nadu legislature as well the three Chiefs from the Army, Navy and Air Force. Minister of State for Defence Dr Bhamre stated on how India was promoting defence production in India, following the Prime Minister's vision. The Minister of Defence Nirmala Sitharaman added that with events like DefExpo, India was inviting everyone to 'Make in India'.

To begin with, the Prime Minister electronically launched iDEX (*Innovation for Defence Excellence*), the entire event being telecast live to missions in several foreign countries, including Australia, Russia, Germany, Italy, Nigeria, Bhutan, Nepal and other places. The PM addressed the mammoth crowd in his characteristic oratorical style and welcomed the Indian and foreign exhibitors to this 10th edition of DefExpo, which had over 500 Indian companies and 150 foreign companies participating. He also recalled the sacrifices of Indian soldiers who died for human values in wars of the 20th century and even today, Indian Peacekeeping Forces, engaged in UN missions are amongst the largest in the world. The land of Buddha, from the times of Emperor



Ashoka continues to show the light of peace to the world: "we believe in winning hearts and not just wars."

The Prime Minister re-iterated that processes and procedures for defence offsets and exports were being made "more industry friendly and outcome oriented, process of issuing licenses had been revised and standard operating procedure for export licenses had been simplified." He referred to the two defence industrial corridors identified for enhancing defence manufacturing infrastructure which will help these to grow exponentially in both Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. As the PM concluded, he believed that "Dreams must be transformed into thoughts, and thoughts into actions."

Boeing partners with HAL and Mahindra

On Day 2, Boeing announced a partnership with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and Mahindra Defence Systems for manufacturing the F/A-18 Super Hornet in India "for its armed forces and pursuing the joint development of future technologies."

"Boeing is excited to team up with India's only company that manufactures combat fighters (HAL) and the Indian company that manufactures small commercial aircraft,

Mahindra. This partnership brings the best of Indian public and private enterprises together in partnership with the world's largest aerospace company, Boeing, to accelerate a contemporary 21st century ecosystem for aerospace & defence manufacturing in India," said Pratyush Kumar, President, Boeing India. "Hindustan Aeronautics Limited has always been at the forefront of aerospace development in India's aerospace sector," stated T Suvarna Raju, CMD HAL.



Second Yasen-class submarine 'Kazan' launched



The improved Yasen-class (Project 855M) multipurpose nuclear-powered submarine *Kazan* was launched at the Sevmash shipyard in Severodvinsk on 31 March 2017, with Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin and Russian Navy Chief Admiral Vladimir Korolyov in attendance at the ceremony. *Kazan* is the second Project 855 (*Yasen*) boat, but has been extensively modified and updated compared to the lead ship of the class, *Severodvinsk*, which was designed in the 1980s, laid down in 1993, and commissioned only in 2013.

“The launch of an improved *Yasen-M* advanced multi-role submarine is quite an event for the whole

of the country, its armed forces and its Navy. We are working together on a plan approved by the government. We are in the process of creating a submarine group capable of coping with missions around the world and maintaining Russia's security,” said Admiral Korolyov at the event.

Kazan has been under construction at Sevmash since 2009, and is to be handed over to the Russian Northern Fleet in 2018. A total of seven *Yasen*-class submarines are to be built by 2023. The class is designed by the Malachite Design Bureau based in Saint Petersburg, with four more 885M boats – *Novosibirsk*, *Krasnoyarsk*, *Arkhangelsk* and *Perm* – currently under various stages of construction.



Malachite Design Bureau CEO Vladimir Dorofeev watches as *Kazan* heads out to be launched (all photos: Oleg Kuleshov)