



## **BHARAT DYNAMICS LIMITED, Hyderabad**

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MEDIA RELEASE

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# **BDL dedicates "Akash" to the Indian Army**



Hyderabad based Defence Public Sector Undertaking, Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has dedicated the 'Akash Weapon System' (AWS) to the Indian Army. CMD, BDL, Shri V. Udaya Bhaskar, at a ceremony held at New Delhi on 05 May, 2015, handed over the "symbolic key" of the Akash Weapon System to General Dalbir Singh, Chief of Army Staff, who, thereafter, handed over the same to Lt Gen VK Saxena, Director General, Army Air Defence, marking the induction of AWS into the Indian Army.

BDL is the lead integrator of the Weapon System. With the productionisation of Akash, India joins an elite club of only a few countries in the world, capable of producing Surface-to-Air Missiles.

Akash has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation and is being manufactured by BDL with 96% of material sourced in India.

The Indian Army had placed orders worth Rs 14,180 crore on BDL, for the supply of two regiments of the Akash Weapon System.

Akash Missile is a Surface to Air Missile with the capability to engage aerial threats upto the maximum range of 25 km and upto an altitude of 18 km.

The versatile and wholly indigenous weapon system, the Akash SAM, will be the mainstay for the Air Defence of the Nation up to 2030s and beyond.

CMD, BDL in his address said that the Army variant of Akash is designed for high mobility and can be quickly moved to engage any aerial threat.

Special Secretary (DP), Shri AK Gupta, Ministry of Defence, Shri JRK Rao, Joint Secretary (ES), Ministry of Defence, senior officials from the Indian Army, DRDO, BEL and ECIL graced the occasion.

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