

RudraM-II Missile

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RudraM-II Missile Latest News

Recently, the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Air Force (IAF) have conducted the successful flight-tests of the RudraM-II missile.

About RudraM-II Missile

- It is an indigenously-developed **solid-propelled air-launched missile system**.
- It is meant for **Air-to-Surface role** to neutralise many types of enemy assets.
- It has been indigenously developed by **Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad** as the nodal DRDO laboratory in collaboration with other sister labs.

Key Features of RudraM-II Missile

- **Speed:** It can reach a peak **speed of Mach 5.5**.
- **Range:** It is capable of striking targets at a distance of **approximately 300 km**.
- **Payload:** It can carry a warhead **weighing up to 200 kg**.

- It can be **deployed from aircraft like Sukhois flying** at altitudes ranging from 3 to 15 km.
- It acts **as a key force multiplier** and intends to eventually replace the older Russian-origin Kh-31 **anti-radiation missiles**.
- It uses a **hybrid navigation system** combining an **inertial navigation system, GPS** and a sophisticated passive homing head that detects radio frequency emissions across a wide frequency band.

What is an Anti-Radiation Missile?

- These are designed to detect, track and neutralise the adversary's radar, communication assets and other radio frequency sources, which are generally part of their air defence systems.
- **Such a missile's navigation mechanism comprises**
 - **Inertial navigation system:** A computerised mechanism that uses changes in the object's own position — coupled with GPS, which is satellite-based.
 - **Passive homing head:** A system that can detect, classify and engage targets (radio frequency sources in this case) over a wide band of frequencies as programmed.

Source: PIB

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