

## Successful Launch of Akash Missile

### What in news:

- The Surface to Air Missile AKASH with indigenous radio frequency seeker against target Banshee, has been successfully launched from the Launch Complex-III at ITR Chandipur today at 1338 hrs.

### About news:

- The Radars, telemetry and electro-optical systems along the coast have tracked and monitored all the health parameters of the missile.
- SA to RM congratulated all the DRDO scientists and Armed Forces for this success.
- This missile is being inducted into Army as Short Range Surface to Air Missile (SRSAM).
- This is the first Surface to Air Missile with indigenous seeker that has been test fired.
- With this success, India has achieved the capability of making any type of Surface to Air Missile.

### Missile:

- A missile is essentially a sophisticated bomb which after released is governed by law of ballistics.
- The law of ballistics means only the force of gravity acts upon it.
- If guided and controlled, a rocket can be made deadlier and that is what a missile is.
- The missile can carry tons of nuclear warheads at speeds way higher than fighter planes

### Classification:

Missiles are classified variously based on the launching system thus missiles can be

1. Surface to surface missile

2. Surface to air missile
3. Surface to sea missile
4. Air to air missile
5. Air to surface missile
6. Sea to sea missile
7. Sea to surface ( coast) missile

### About Akash missile:

- Akash is a surface-to-air missile with an intercept range of 30 km.
- It has a launch weight of 720 kg, a diameter of 35 cm and a length of 5.78 metres.
- Akash flies at supersonic speed, reaching around Mach 2.5
- It can reach an altitude of 18 km and can be fired from both tracked and wheeled platforms

### Expected prelims question

What type of missile is Akash

- a) Surface to surface missile
- b) Surface to air missile
- c) Surface to sea missile
- d) Air to air missile

Ans - b

### Expected mains question

Q) Recently, India has achieved the capability of making Akash a Surface to Air Missile. Discuss the role of akash in India defence system.