



Smart Anti Airfield Weapon

Why in News

The [Defence Research and Development Organisation \(DRDO\)](#) has conducted a successful trial of the **indigenously developed Smart Anti-Airfield Weapon (SAAW)** off the Odisha coast from the Hawk-I jet of [Hindustan Aeronautics Limited \(HAL\)](#).

- This was the **ninth successful test** of the system **conducted over the last five years**.

Key Points

- **Background:** The system **belongs to the glide bomb category** and its **development began around 2012-13**, with crucial inputs from the [Indian Air Force \(IAF\)](#) and the **first test** was carried out in **2016**.
- **Manufactured by:** DRDO's Research Centre Imarat (RCI) Hyderabad.
- **Features:**
 - The weapon is designed to strike ground targets, especially adversary airfield infrastructure or similar strategically important installations.
 - This is a **125-kilogram** class smart weapon, capable of engaging ground enemy airfield assets such as radars, bunkers, taxi tracks, and runways, up to a **range of 100 kilometres**.
 - The **high precision guided bomb is lightweight** compared to weapon systems of the same class.
- **Other Related Development:** The test of SAAW comes months after **another weapon system designed to target enemy radar and communication assets, Rudram**, was tested in October 2020.
 - **Rudram**, an air-to-surface missile, has been developed **to primarily to enhance the Suppression of Enemy Air Defence (SEAD) capability of the IAF** and can detect, track and neutralise the radar, communication assets and other radio frequency sources belonging to the adversary, which are generally their air defence systems.

[Source: PIB](#)

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