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Launch of IDEEA, 'Indigenous Defence Equipment Exporters Association'

At the 4th edition of DA's Conclave', representatives and professionals from the defence industry joined to discuss the possible opportunities for India as a defence equipment exporter

Published: October 2019



New Delhi. Army Chief General Bipin Rawat was the chief guest at the 4th edition of Defence Attaches' conclave (DA's Conclave), wherein the IDEEA – 'Indigenous Defence Equipment Exporters Association' was also launched. Defence Attaches' conclave is an annual conclave by Bharatshakti.in, a digital platform dedicated to the Indian Defence Industry. Its mission is the 'Pursuit of indigenization in defence production and extending frontiers of domestic technology'. The portal is a one-stop access to all relevant aspects of Indian Defence Industry (IDI).

IDEEA aims to position India as the top three defence equipment exporters. It will be the interface between global defence market and Indian Defence Industry, with specific focus on MSME. The association plans to showcase their products and capabilities globally in order to network and encash quality deals for its member.

There is a need to reduce the dependency on arms imports. Under 'Make in India' initiative, the government highlights the country to make it a defence manufacturing hub and a net defence exporter. The Government has set up a target of raising Indian defence equipment exports to \$5 Million by 2024. With the same objectives IDEEA is aligned to Government of India's initiative and to boost exports by the Indigenous Defence industry.

At the launch of IDEEA, Major Gen PM Vats, Director, IDEEA commented, "We intend to create employment opportunities and to boost exports by the indigenous Industry. By offering quality Defence equipment to the global market and strengthening defence industrial relations."

The association will include all leading defence equipment manufacturers. It is a growing band with following as founder members namely – L&T Defence, Zen Technologies, SMPP, MKU, Defence Applied Services, Delta Wallace, Defence Protection System and BharatForge.

Dr. RK Tyagi, Director, IDEEA, added, 'Defence industry is a strategically important sector in India. Referring to it, IDEEA is established with a view of uplifting MSMEs and private defence players in exploring business opportunities abroad.'

Representatives from various backgrounds attended the event to the names of Chief of Army Staff Gen Bipin Rawat; Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh; Babasaheb Kalyani, Chairman, Kalyani Group; Sanjay Jaju, Jt Secy, DIP, MoD ; Dr. Vivek Lall, Head – Indian Operations, Lockheed Martin; J D Patil, Sr Exec VP, L&T Defence, who attended the event.

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