

# PRAHAR MISSILE: INDIA'S TACTICAL GAME-CHANGER

## INTRODUCTION TO PRAHAR MISSILE

The **Prahar missile** is a tactical surface-to-surface missile developed by India's **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**. Designed to fill the gap between multi-barrel rocket systems like **Pinaka** and ballistic missiles like **Prithvi**, Prahar offers a swift and highly accurate strike capability. With its **quick deployment**, **mobile platform**, and **precision targeting**, Prahar significantly enhances India's conventional deterrence posture.

## KEY FEATURES OF THE PRAHAR MISSILE

### TYPE AND ROLE

- **Category:** Short-range tactical surface-to-surface missile
- **Role:** Quick-reaction battlefield support, neutralizing high-value targets such as command posts, air defense sites, and logistics hubs

### RANGE

- **Striking range:** Approximately 150 km
- Fills the tactical void between the **Pinaka MBRL (40-75 km)** and **Prithvi series (250-350 km)**

### GUIDANCE SYSTEM

- Equipped with an **Inertial Navigation System (INS)**, with potential GPS/GLONASS support
- High accuracy with **Circular Error Probability (CEP)** less than 10 meters

### WARHEAD

- Capable of carrying **conventional warheads** up to 200 kg
- Designed for **high-impact strikes with minimal collateral damage**

## LAUNCH PLATFORM

- Mounted on **road-mobile launchers**, allowing **rapid relocation and firing**
- A single launcher can fire up to **six missiles in quick succession**

## DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

- **2011:** First successful test conducted by DRDO at the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Odisha
- **Post-2011:** Continuous improvements made in range, reaction time, and targeting accuracy
- **Strategic Fit:** Tailored to support India's **Cold Start doctrine** for swift tactical response

## COMPARISON WITH OTHER INDIAN MISSILES

Missile	Type	Range	Use Case
Prahar	Tactical Ballistic	~150 km	Precision strike on battlefield
Pinaka	Multi-Barrel Rocket	40-75 km	Area saturation attack
Prithvi	Short-Range Ballistic	250-350 km	Deep strategic targeting
BrahMos	Supersonic Cruise	300-500 km	Fast, high-precision strike
Agni Series	Intermediate/ICBM	700-5,000+ km	Strategic deterrence

## STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE OF PRAHAR

- **Rapid Response:** Designed for quick mobilization and deployment during high-tension periods
- **Tactical Flexibility:** Ideal for front-line deployment against enemy positions or installations
- **Low Collateral Impact:** Offers controlled targeting with high accuracy
- **Complementary Role:** Bridges the gap between artillery and strategic missile systems
- **Counterforce Capability:** Capable of striking enemy targets without triggering strategic escalation

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## EXPORT POTENTIAL AND FUTURE UPGRADES

- With India's growing defense partnerships, **Prahar holds export potential** for friendly nations
- Future variants may include **satellite navigation integration** for even better targeting
- Scope exists for **extended-range versions** under international treaty compliance

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## CONCLUSION

The **Prahar missile** is a clear testament to India's growing capability in indigenous defense technology. With its combination of **mobility, accuracy, and rapid deployment**, Prahar provides the Indian Armed Forces with a **powerful tactical edge** in modern warfare. Its role is vital in reinforcing India's ability to deliver swift, decisive battlefield outcomes without escalating conflicts beyond the tactical level.

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

### Q1. What is the range of the Prahar missile?

The Prahar missile has an operational range of approximately **150 kilometers**.

### Q2. Who developed the Prahar missile?

The missile was developed by India's **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**.

### Q3. Is Prahar capable of carrying nuclear warheads?

No, the Prahar missile is designed to carry only **conventional warheads**.

### Q4. How is Prahar different from the Prithvi missile?

Prahar is a **tactical missile** with shorter range and quicker response time, while Prithvi is used for **strategic-level targeting**.

### Q5. Can Prahar be launched from different terrains?

Yes, Prahar is **road-mobile** and can be launched from various terrains, making it suitable for battlefield use.

### Q6. Has Prahar been inducted into the Indian Army?

While official induction status is not publicly confirmed, multiple successful tests indicate **readiness for operational deployment**.

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