# MoD signs ₹4,106-crore contracts – 'Varunastra' anti-submarine torpedoes for Navy, GSAT-7C satellite for IAF

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## News

On 15 Oct 2026 in New Delhi, the Ministry of Defence signed two contracts worth about ₹4,106 crore in all. (1) 'Varunastra' Heavy Weight Torpedoes for the Indian Navy – ₹1,543 crore – with Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL), Hyderabad. It is an indigenous ship-launched anti-submarine torpedo that can engage enemy submarines at long range, developed by DRDO's Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL). (2) A dedicated communication satellite, GSAT-7C, for the Indian Air Force – ₹2,563 crore – with NewSpace India Ltd (NSIL), Bengaluru.

## Key facts

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| **Date / place** | 15 Oct 2026, New Delhi – in presence of A. Anbarasu, Addl. Secretary & DG (Acquisition) |
| **Total value** | About ₹4,106 crore (2 contracts) |
| **Varunastra** | ₹1,543 crore – BDL, Hyderabad – for Navy; ship-launched anti-submarine heavyweight torpedo |
| **Developer** | NSTL (DRDO), Visakhapatnam; handed to Navy 29 June 2016 |
| **GSAT-7C** | ₹2,563 crore – NSIL, Bengaluru – secure communication for IAF |

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| **GSAT-7C approval** | DAC – 23 Nov 2021 (AoN); to link software-defined radios (SDRs) |

## Background

- Varunastra means the weapon of Varuna (sea god). It runs on electric (silver oxide–zinc battery) propulsion; speed over 40 knots. Then Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar handed it to the Navy on 29 June 2016.
- Defence procurement: the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) is chaired by the Defence Minister and grants Acceptance of Necessity (AoN). Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020 gives top priority to 'Buy (Indian-IDDM)' (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured).
- Companies: BDL – Defence Ministry PSU, Hyderabad; makes missiles and torpedoes. NSIL – ISRO's commercial arm under the Department of Space (2019), Bengaluru.
- Military satellites: GSAT-7 'Rukmini' (2013) – for the Navy; GSAT-7A (2018, GSLV-F11) – for the IAF. GSAT-7C continues the series.

**Tamil Nadu link:** the 'Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor' has 5 nodes – Chennai, Hosur, Salem, Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli. The Navy's anti-submarine P-8I aircraft are based at INS Rajali, Arakkonam.


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