

Defense Land Systems India - A Mahindra & BAE Systems Company - Unveils Mine Protected Vehicle [MPV-I] for Indian Armed Forces



Anand Mahindra, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Mahindra Group and Brig (Retd) Khutub Hai, Chief Executive, Mahindra Defence Systems in front of the Mine Protected Vehicle India [MPVI] at DefExpo 2010

New Delhi, India, February 15, 2010: Defense Land Systems India, a joint venture between Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. and BAE Systems, that will soon be operational, today unveiled Mine Protected Vehicle India [MPVI] at DefExpo 2010, at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The MPVI has been developed specifically to meet the needs of the Indian armed and paramilitary forces, and is based on world leading technology developed by BAE Systems. The vehicle will be built in India and will offer a high level of protection at a cost effective price.

Designed to serve the Indian security forces, Mine Protected Vehicle India features a large seating capacity (18 seats) capable of safely transporting a complete operational team of Army or Police forces involved in anti terrorist and anti Naxal operations. With enhanced protection technologies, the new vehicle provides the highest levels of crew protection available in India today. The high power to weight ratio and very high torque makes the vehicle suitable for Indian terrain, especially the mountainous region of Jammu and Kashmir and the rough topography of the Naxal dominated areas.



Brig (Retd) Khutub Hai, Chief Executive, Mahindra Defence Systems, while unveiling the vehicle said: “Designed to save the lives of our Defense forces when they encounter mines and roadside bomb attacks, the Mine Protected Vehicle India will be our first new product offering from the joint venture company. Using technology proven in BAE Systems’ RG series of vehicles and Mahindra’s expert knowledge of Indian requirements and conditions, we are proud to provide the Indian Defense sector with advanced yet affordable technology.”

Andrew Gallagher, President, BAE Systems India, said: “We are extremely proud to unveil the joint venture’s very first product which has been tailor made for the Indian armed forces. The MPVI is based on BAE Systems’ three decades of protection experience that resulted in the highly successful RG 31 which has a proven track record and is currently in service with US, Canadian, UAE and a number of other forces including the United Nations.”

The MPVI will be manufactured at the Defense Land Systems, India plant at Prithla near Faridabad.

About Defense Land Systems India

Defense Land Systems India is a 74% - 26% joint venture between Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, India and BAE Systems, UK. Defense Land Systems India is headquartered in New Delhi with manufacturing at a purpose built facility near Faridabad, just outside of New Delhi.

The company is focused on the manufacture up-armoured light vehicles, specialist military vehicles, mine protected vehicles, artillery systems and other selected land system weapons and the upgrades. It is intended to create a centre of excellence for artillery systems to meet the Indian Army’s needs & for global exports.

Besides MPV, Vehicles Displayed at Defexpo 2010

Marksman – The Marksman is India’s first armoured capsule based light bullet proof vehicle and is designed to provide protection to Para Military and Police forces against small arms fire and under belly grenade attacks. It can be used in counter terrorist and anti Naxal operations as well as in more conventional roles such as armed reconnaissance and convoy protection.

Up Armoured Scorpio – This ‘discreetly protected’ Scorpio is ideal for VIP protection as it offers both security and comfort. The Up-Armoured Scorpio is already being used by the Indian Armed Forces and other Security Forces of India as well as by foreign countries for VIP protection.

Mahindra Axe – The Mahindra Axe Fast Attack Vehicle (FAV) is a lightweight, high mobility, high payload combat vehicle, designed for use by Special Forces and for varied operational requirements. It is an advanced technology vehicle with all wheels independent suspension giving high battlefield mobility to the Special Forces for surgical strikes.



About The Mahindra Group

Mahindra embarked on its journey in 1945 by assembling the Willys Jeep in India and is now a US \$6.3 billion Indian multinational. It employs over 1,00,000 people across the globe and enjoys a leadership position in utility vehicles, tractors and information technology, with a significant and growing presence in financial services, tourism, infrastructure development, trade and logistics. The Mahindra Group today is an embodiment of global excellence and enjoys a strong corporate brand image.

Mahindra is the only Indian company among the top tractor brands in the world and has made an entry in the two-wheeler segment, which will see the company emerge as a full-range player with a presence in almost every segment of the automobile industry.

The Mahindra Group expanded its IT portfolio when Tech Mahindra acquired the leading global business and information technology services company, Satyam Computer Services. The company is now known as Mahindra Satyam.

Mahindra's Farm Equipment Sector is the proud recipient of the Japan Quality Medal, the only tractor company worldwide to be bestowed this honour. It also holds the distinction of being the only tractor company worldwide to win the Deming Prize. The US based Reputation Institute ranked Mahindra among the top 10 Indian companies in its Global 200: The World's Best Corporate Reputations list.

Mahindra is also one of the few Indian companies to receive an A+ GRI checked rating for its first Sustainability Report for the year 2007-08 and has also received the A+ GRI rating for the year 2008- 09.

About BAE Systems

BAE Systems is the premier global Defense, security and aerospace company delivering a full range of products and services for air, land and naval forces, as well as advanced electronics, security, information technology solutions and customer support services. With approximately 105,000 employees worldwide, BAE Systems' sales exceeded £18.5 billion (US \$34.4 billion) in 2008.

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