



Press Release

For Immediate Publication

Defense Land Systems India – A Mahindra & BAE Systems Company – to showcase FH77 B05 advanced howitzer at DefExpo 2010

New Delhi, India, February 15, 2010: Defense Land Systems India, a joint venture between Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. and BAE Systems, which will soon be operational, will showcase the FH77 B05 Advanced Howitzer, at DefExpo 2010, at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

A significantly upgraded version of the FH77 B02 which is already in service with the Indian Army, the new FH77 B05 advanced howitzer is more powerful with greater performance, including increased range. It meets the towed 52 Cal 155 mm howitzer artillery modernization requirements of the Indian Army and is shortlisted for field trials on the basis of its strong capabilities.

Deepak Chibba, Chief Executive, Defense Land Systems India, said: “The FH77 B05 is the right product to help the Indian Army in its drive to modernize its artillery. Its predecessor, the FH77 B02, was in fact, the mainstay of the Indian artillery attack during the Kargil war, giving India a definite edge over its adversary. In future, we see the Defense Land Systems India JV evolving as a centre of excellence for Indian artillery programmes and the FH77 B05 is a part of that vision.”

David Allott, Managing Director Global Combat Systems, BAE Systems, said: “FH77 B05 is optimised for operations off-road in desert, hilly terrain and at high altitudes. Its cross country performance in both self propelled and with a towing vehicle, even in deep snow is extremely good. This is achievable due to low weight, powerful auxiliary power unit (engine) and large main wheels. It is intended that Defense Land Systems India would have a significant and increasing role in the production of FH77 B05, with the ultimate goal of reaching 100% domestic production in India.”

With the latest in advanced ballistic calculation and laying servos, the FH77 B05 Howitzer comes with a high level of automation suitable for the Indian Army. The new gun computer also has a man-machine interface similar to that found in standard commercial PCs. This facilitates training and operation, ensuring better speed, accuracy and safety when firing.

The FH77 B05 meets and exceeds specifications in the Indian environment (winter and summer) and has already been proven in earlier trials in India. The gun has been optimized and tested to be used in extreme weather conditions, including the desert and higher altitudes. The FH77 B05 has a high powered engine which has been turbo charged for high altitude requirements and is capable of aiming direct fire at moving targets as well.



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 South of Faridabad, just outside of 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.

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.



DEFENSE LAND SYSTEMS INDIA

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