

Mahindra Defence Systems inaugurates high-tech defence manufacturing facility in Faridabad

State-of-the-art six acre plant is the first of its kind in the private defence manufacturing sector



Mr. Anand Mahindra , Vice Chairman & Managing Director, Mahindra Group and (Right) Brigadier Khutub Hai , Chief Executive Mahindra Defence Systems (MDS) flank the Marksman vehicle at the inauguration of MDS' manufacturing facility, at Faridabad, Haryana, which is the first of its kind in the private defence manufacturing sector.

March 17, 2009, Faridabad: Mahindra Defence Systems (MDS), one of India's leading providers of special light military vehicles, today inaugurated the Mahindra Special Military Vehicles (MSMV) facility at Prithla in Faridabad, NCR. Spread across six acres, this modern plant has facilities for specific military manufacturing applications.

"I am delighted to inaugurate this state-of-the-art facility, the first of its kind in the private sector. Today, the defence space is growing at an exponential rate, creating opportunities for manufacture of world class products. With its technologically advanced manufacturing capability, MSMV will help Mahindra Defence Systems harness the potential in this space," said **Mr. Anand Mahindra, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Mahindra Group.**

"The Mahindra Special Military Vehicles facility will manufacture specialised vehicles for the armed forces, paramilitary forces and Police and is also designed to undertake vehicle development, armouring and conversions. Different lines have been established for different products, ensuring the highest level of quality control and processes.

Aside from manufacturing, the plant also has an advanced facility for R&D, product development, design and prototyping of special vehicles to meet specific customer requirements, which is another first in the private sector," said **Brigadier Khutub Hai, Chief Executive, Mahindra Defence Systems.**

About the Mahindra Special Military Vehicles facility:

MSMV will consist of a prototype shop and a shopfloor of 40000 sq ft for the production of armoured vehicles and a fabrication area. The plant will have a capacity of 500 uparmoured vehicles per year and will roll out uparmoured vehicles such as bulletproof Scorpios, Boleros, the Rakshak, the bulletproof Tourister Bus, Riot Intervention Vehicles and the Marksman light armoured vehicle.

The second phase of operations will see the AXE high mobility vehicle and the Mine Protected Vehicle which is being jointly developed with BAE Systems, being manufactured in a new shed which will be set up in the last quarter of F10. In addition, a short test track will also be constructed behind the factory. This track will have a multiple angle gradient ramp, different profiles like potholes and pave, shower, turning radius and noise test facilities.

MDS initially created the market for light bullet proof vehicles in India and are the country's leading provider of up-armoured and bullet proof vehicles. There are in excess of 700 Rakshak and up-armoured Scorpio vehicles in service in the Indian Army and security / Police forces, as well as in the security forces of some foreign countries. These vehicles have proved themselves repeatedly in operations and developed a formidable reputation.

In January 2009, Mahindra received approval from the Government of India's Foreign Investment Promotions Board to set up a Joint Venture (JV) in India with BAE Systems, the premier global defence and aerospace company, focused on land systems for the Indian market. These solutions will provide greatly enhanced capability for our Indian land forces and open up export markets not previously within our reach.

About Mahindra Defence Systems

Mahindra Defence Systems (MDS) is a division of the US\$ 6.7 billion group Mahindra Group, one of India's leading business houses. MDS is today the country's leading provider of high mobility and light bullet proof vehicles to the armed forces, paramilitary and police forces. There are in excess of 700 Rakshaks and up-armoured Scorpios in service in the Indian Army and security/police forces in India and abroad.

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