Dvipa Defence Expands 'Ugram' Firearms Series for Indian Forces

Dvipa Defence, a private firm based in Hyderabad, is working on an expanded series of indigenous firearms based on its "Ugram" assault rifle. This initiative is a key part of India's push for self-reliance in the defense sector, aiming to develop a comprehensive range of small arms for the country's armed forces. The Ugram rifle, a 7.62 mm x 51 mm caliber weapon, was developed in partnership with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to meet the specific requirements of the Indian Army.

The Ugram rifle, whose name means "ferocious" in Sanskrit, was designed to replace aging imported and locally made rifles. The project has been lauded for its rapid development, with five fully functional prototypes created and tested at DRDO's Armament Research & Development Establishment (ARDE) in Pune in just 100 days. This rapid pace showcases the company's technical capabilities and aligns with the Indian government's "Make in India" and "Atmanirbhar Bharat" (Self-Reliant India) initiatives.

The rifle features a robust, rivet-free design, a long-stroke piston mechanism for enhanced reliability, and a monolithic Picatinny rail for attaching various accessories. All pressure-bearing parts are made of high-strength steel, while the handguard, pistol grip, and buttstock are constructed from ergonomic polymer materials. The Ugram fires NATO-standard 7.62 mm x 51 mm ammunition, a strategic choice that reflects the Indian military's shift toward heavier rounds for increased lethality and effectiveness.

To support this project, the Technology Development Board (TDB) under the Ministry of Science and Technology has provided financial assistance to Dvipa Defence. This funding is facilitating

the development, testing, and commercialization of the Ugram series, including the creation of a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility. A crucial next step is the field trials of 10 Ugram rifles by the Border Security Force (BSF). If successful, these trials could lead to wider adoption across the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and potentially the Indian Army, helping to reduce the country’s reliance on foreign platforms. This development marks a major advancement for India's defense technology and its strategic goal of achieving greater autonomy in critical military technologies.