

BrahMos Missile Sees Export Surge After "Operation Sindoor" Success: Vietnam, Brazil, UAE Lead List of Potential Buyers



The BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, jointly developed by India and Russia, is experiencing a significant surge in global demand following its reported instrumental role in India's "Operation Sindoor." Defence Minister Rajnath Singh confirmed on Friday, July 18, 2025, that over 14 countries have expressed interest in acquiring the advanced missile system, with nations like Vietnam, Brazil, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) leading the list of potential buyers.

"Operation Sindoor," India's military response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, which claimed 26 lives, showcased the BrahMos missile's formidable capabilities. While India has not officially confirmed the missile's combat use, Pakistan acknowledged its deployment. Singh stated that "through Operation Sindoor, India gave a clear message to the entire country of its willingness to respond to terrorist attacks." This effective demonstration has translated directly into heightened international interest.

The BrahMos, first tested in 2001, is renowned as one of the fastest cruise missiles globally, capable of reaching speeds up to Mach 3. It can carry conventional warheads weighing between 200 and 300 kilograms and can strike targets with pinpoint accuracy, as low as 10 meters above the ground or up to 15 kilometers in the air. Its range, once limited to 290 kilometers, has now been extended to 500 and even 800 kilometers in newer variants, making it a highly versatile weapon that can be launched from land, sea, air, and even submarines. Its

"fire and forget" capability, coupled with stealth features and a circular error probability under one meter, makes it exceptionally difficult to intercept.

The Philippines was the first nation to formally contract for BrahMos missiles, signing a \$375 million deal in 2022 for three coastal defense batteries, two of which have already been delivered. Following "Operation Sindoor," other Southeast Asian nations like Vietnam, which is reportedly preparing a \$700 million package, as well as Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, and Brunei, are at various stages of negotiation. Interest extends to Latin America, with Brazil, Chile, Argentina, and Venezuela eyeing naval and coastal defense variants, and several Middle Eastern countries, including Egypt, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, and Oman, engaging in active discussions.

This spike in demand not only underscores the BrahMos missile's operational effectiveness but also highlights India's growing stature as a reliable defense exporter. The recently inaugurated BrahMos Aerospace Integration and Testing Facility in Lucknow is expected to play a crucial role in fulfilling these expanding global orders, further strengthening India's self-reliance in the defense sector and boosting its strategic influence.