# Defence & Security · GS - III

**Examine the significance of indigenous missile systems such as Pralay in strengthening India's defence preparedness and strategic deterrence.**

| EXAM YEAR | PAPER | SUBJECT |
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| MARKS | WORD LIMIT |
|---|---|
| 10 | ~150 words |

## Answer Hint

**Indigenous defence technology, DRDO, short-range ballistic missiles, precision strike capability, manoeuvrability, conventional deterrence, border security, defence self-reliance, strategic stability**

## Model Answer

### Introduction

Indigenous missile development is an important component of India's defence modernisation. The Pralay missile, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), represents progress in India's short-range ballistic missile capabilities.

### Strategic Significance

**Precision Strike Capability:** Its reported range of 150–500 km provides the armed forces with an additional conventional strike option.

**Manoeuvrability:** Its ability to manoeuvre during flight can complicate interception by adversary missile defence systems.

**Defence Self-Reliance:** Indigenous development strengthens domestic research, manufacturing and technological capabilities.

**Strategic Deterrence:** Such systems enhance operational preparedness and contribute to India's conventional deterrence capabilities.

### Challenges and Way Forward

India must strengthen testing, production capacity, command-and-control systems and integration with surveillance networks. Responsible deployment and effective crisis communication are also important for strategic stability.

### Conclusion

Pralay reflects India's growing indigenous missile capabilities. Continued investment in research, manufacturing and responsible defence planning can strengthen national security and strategic autonomy.

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