

Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS)

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Context

Recently the US has confirmed providing long-range **Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS)** to Ukraine to aid its war effort against Russia, soon after the US Congress passed a Bill that apportioned \$61 billion worth of funding for Ukraine.

About Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS)

- The ATACMS is one of the most potent missile systems constructed through US-primarily based fingers manufacturer Lockheed Martin.
- This is a surface-to-surface artillery weapon system.
- Its biggest strengths are the long-range of assault, ability to herd cluster munitions, and the weapon device's mobility.
- The missiles have been part of a \$300 million navy aid package deal for Ukraine.
- This weapon's known operators other than the US are Bahrain, Greece, South Korea, Taiwan, and United Arab Emirates.

What is the Range of ATACMS?

- There is a mid-range model of the ATACMS, known as Block 1, and there's an extended-range version, Block 1A. ATACMS Block 1 has a range of 165 km and Ukraine

was provided with these systems last year.

- ATACMS Block 1A, on the other hand, has a maximum range of 300 km that's able to strike targets well beyond the variety of current Army cannons, rockets and other missiles.

Features of ATACMS

- ATACMS are 24/7, all-weather, floor-to-surface, inertially guided missiles.
- It has about 190 miles (305 km).
- **Propulsion:** Single-stage, stable propellant.
- It is generally deployed from changed **Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS)** launch motors.
- Targets encompass air defense artillery sites, surface-to-surface missile system, logistics websites, command and manage complexes, and helicopter ahead operating bases.

Can Ukraine Target Russian Territories with ATACMS?

- Despite the territory of deep interior Russia now being in the variety of the ATACMS, Ukraine can not use it to hit objectives in those places.
- Ukraine has devoted itself to only using the weapons inside Ukraine, not in Russia.
- The US administration has made it clear that the weapons cannot be used to hit targets inside Russia.
- The Biden management is worried that if Ukraine strikes deep into Russian territory, it might anger Moscow and increase the warfare.

Source: *The Indian Express*

UPSC Mains Practice Question

Q. The expansion of glacial lakes in the Indian Himalayas has significant implications for both local communities as well as broader climate change adaptation strategies. Examine. (150 words)