

# VSHORAD missile system

written by iasexam.com | 13/01/2023



**Context-** The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) to procure the Very Short Range Air Defence System or VSHORAD (IR Homing) missile system.

## Key Highlights

- VSHORAD missile system is designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), among other weapon systems for the Army and Navy at a total cost of Rs 4,276 crore.
- India has been in talks with Russia since 2018 in order to procure the Igla-S air defence missiles at a cost of \$1.5 billion under the VSHORAD programme in a bid to replace the Russian Igla-M systems which have been in use with the Army.
- It is specifically meant to kill low-altitude aerial threats at short ranges,
- This missile is a man-portable Air Defence System (MANPAD) .
- It incorporates many novel technologies including a miniaturized Reaction Control System (RCS) and integrated avionics, which have been successfully proven during the tests.
- The missile, meant for neutralizing low-altitude aerial threats at short ranges, is propelled by a dual-thrust solid motor.
- The design of the missile including the launcher has been highly optimized in order to ensure easy portability.
- Being man-portable and lightweight compared to the other missile systems in the Army's armoury, the missile can be deployed in the mountains close to the LAC at a short notice.

- When inducted, the missiles will be a critical air defence missile for the forces, even for an all-equipped infantry unit, and will be the best option for mountain warfare.
- The procurement of VSHORAD, as a robust and quickly deployable system, will help strengthen India's air defence capabilities.
- The AoN is the first step in the long capital procurement process in the defence system.
- Defense officials also estimate the missile systems can be delivered to the forces in another three to four years with industry support if the orders are placed on time.