

MKU and Thales Sign Two MoUs to Develop Optronic Devices and Close Quarter Battle Rifles for Indian Army

MKU Limited and Thales have joined hands for strategic co-operation in the development and production of optronic devices and F90 close quarter battle (CQB) rifle for Indian Army.

Under the two memoranda of understanding (MoUs), the companies will co-develop the optronic devices, which along with the F90 rifles will be manufactured in India at MKU's facilities in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. Both the products will be offered to the Indian Army and the central paramilitary and police forces under 'Make in India'.

Speaking on the occasion, managing director, MKU, Neeraj Gupta said, "MKU is pleased to sign the strategic cooperation MoUs with Thales. This partnership will not only focus on meeting the requirements of our forces in India but will also look at exporting the products to other parts of the world".

Senior executive vice-president for Land & Air Systems at Thales, Alex Cresswell said, "We are very pleased to work in close collaboration with MKU for the development

of weapons and optronic devices to address specific needs of the Indian and international markets. This co-development partnership reaffirms our commitment to India and is the result of our ambition to support soldiers on operations".

The strategic cooperation for optronic devices between Thales and MKU is committed to enhancing the night-fighting capabilities of the Indian Army and homeland security forces, the companies said in a joint statement. The statement further added that, "It envisages manufacturing of optronics equipment including weapon sights, night vision goggles, handheld thermal imagers and thermal infrared sensor engine for soldier systems, and other image intensification and thermal imaging systems for soldiers and platforms respectively" II

