

MKU's armour for soldiers and their vehicles makes safe combat zones

NEW DELHI. Soldiers in combat zones face problems due to heavy loads of equipment they carry and body armour contributes largely to this load, affecting their load carrying capacities and combat zone operability. "MKU has developed an extremely light weight armour insert for protection against Rifle ammunitions which amazingly weighs in 1 Kg only," said Neeraj Gupta, Managing Director, MKU.

A MSME which is forging new ties both nationally and internationally, a manufacturer and supplier of ballistic protection and surveillance equipment for armed forces, paramilitary forces and police worldwide, MKU has been awarded the NIJ 0101.06 certification by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), USA for a range of advanced hard armour and soft armour configurations and is the only Indian company to have been able to comply with the demanding levels of

this new ballistic testing standard from NIJ.

MKU manufactures a wide range of Armour Plates in either flat or multi curved formations like Double curve, Triple curve and other complex geometries in varied sizes in a very cost effective manner. There is a RFP from the army for 189,000 body armours, to which we have responded. The technical evaluation for this is going on. We expect to be asked for samples to be submitted by March-April 2014 hopefully," Gupta informed. "MKU also has special armour for the Special Forces. We have sold it to 230 forces in 100 countries, fitted more than 1.5 million soldiers and around fifteen hundred platforms for land, sea and air. It gives armour protection against thirty different types of bullet threats and stops bullets from a Kalashnikov, a FAL or an M16," he added. Depending upon specific requirements of required protection & trauma levels, performance, weight, back-face deformation, thickness & costs

and other criteria, MKU can propose & apply different composites and materials as backing structures in its Armour Plates.

The company is also giving superstructure protection for frigates and corvettes of the German, Malaysian and South African Navies. It is armouring Saudi Arabian Coast Guard vessels and fast patrol boat and interceptor boats in partnership with shipyards in Europe, India, Malaysia and the Middle East.

MKU has over 15 years experience in aircraft armouring and has delivered more than 3,000 m² (32,292 sq ft) of hard armour and 1,000 m² (10,764 sq ft) of soft armour. Its recently upgraded facilities to provide an annual capacity of 3,000 m² (32,292 sq ft) or over 200 typical aircraft armour kits. It has armoured Lockheed C-130, Boeing CH-47, Eurocopter BO-105, Sikorsky S-67 Black Hawk Types, UH 60, UH 60M and NH-90 amongst other aircraft. ■