

Agni-V: How India’s Brahmastra is reshaping Asia’s strategic balance

India's latest test of the Agni-V missile is not a mere technical exercise or a photo-op headline. It is a blunt reminder that India is no longer a power limited by geography or caution. For decades, our nuclear deterrent was geared towards Pakistan, with only partial coverage of Chinese territory. That era is gone. India has moved from strategic restraint to strategic assertion. With Agni-V, Beijing, Shanghai, and every critical hub in China now sit squarely within range. Pakistan, with its geography, was, in any case, home ground for such a punishment. The map of Asia has been redrawn.

This is no routine missile. It is India’s Brahmastra — decisive, devastating, and impossible to ignore. With Agni-V, India has entered an era of proactive and pre-emptive cold strike capability much more devastating than what was exhibited on the night of 9/10 May at Nur Khan Pakistan Air Force base and adjoining areas. The aim is to deter, defeat and cripple any misadventure, with AGNI-V being an instrument of deterrence in peace and a force of decision in war.

Beyond Data Points

On paper, the numbers are staggering: a range between 5,500 and 8,000 kilometres, a payload capacity of 1.5 tonnes, three-stage solid fuel propulsion, and re-entry speeds that touch Mach 24. Fired from Abdul Kalam Island, it can hit deep inside adversary territory in minutes. It can carry lighter warheads for extended reach, navigate mid-course corrections, and

shrug off interception attempts.

But numbers, while impressive, do not capture the psychological shift. Agni-V forces every hostile war room — whether in Beijing or Islamabad — to live with a new reality: there is no safe distance anymore. Deterrence is not about physics; it is about psychology. Agni-V changes the enemy's mind before it changes the battlefield.

From Cold Start to Cold Strike

For years, India’s planners debated the “Cold Start” doctrine, a plan to launch swift conventional incursions against Pakistan before the nuclear threshold was crossed. It looked elegant on paper but remained an ambitious military concept with little politico-military harmony. Mobilisation delays, political hesitation, and international pressure made it almost impossible.

Agni-V pushes India into a different space altogether: Cold Strike. Not divisions of tanks rolling across borders. Not weeks of build-up. But deep, precise, almost instantaneous blows at the adversary’s most critical strategic assets — command, control infrastructure, strategic assets, and airbases. The power to deliver a decisive strike within minutes of a launch order. That is not a theory. That is Cold Strike.

Deterrence, Finally Whole

Deterrence works only if the enemy believes two things: that you have the capability to destroy him, and that you will not hesitate if pushed. Earlier, gaps in India’s



reach gave China reason to gamble. That illusion is gone. Agni-V covers every Chinese target that matters. It restores equilibrium.

Even under India’s stated No First Use doctrine, retaliation is now beyond question. Any nuclear strike against India guarantees annihilation in return, a certainty no adversary can intercept or absorb. It slams shut the space for reckless adventurism.

Launching a missile is easy. Delivering it through hostile skies is the real challenge. Agni-V is built to survive. Its advanced guidance allows evasive manoeuvres mid-course. Its countermeasures confuse radars. At Mach 24 re-entry speeds, even the most

advanced missile defence shields cannot promise interception.

And this is only the baseline. Future versions will likely carry MIRVs — Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicles. One missile, many warheads, each aimed at different targets. For an adversary, that is a nightmare. Even if one gets intercepted, others will rain down.

Lethality with Choice

A 1.5-tonne payload with a nuclear warhead option provides it with teeth. India could launch counter-value strikes, hitting cities and crippling civilian infrastructure. Equally, it could execute counter-force missions, knocking out enemy nuclear facilities, missile silos, or

India pushes back: Why strategic partnership with America cannot be one-sided



White House Trade Advisor Peter Navarro, in a strongly worded article in the Financial Times, accused India of cosyng up to Russia and China. He alleged that India is “acting as a global clearinghouse for Russian oil, converting embargoed crude into high-value exports while giving Moscow the dollars it needs”. Navarro further warned India: “If India wants to be treated as a strategic partner of the US, it needs to start acting like one.” He attempted to link India’s oil procurement process to funding Russia’s war machinery.

Navarro accused India of selling refined oil to Europe, Africa, and Asia. The EU has imposed a ban on the import of refined oil, effective January 2026; until then, such trade remains legal in Europe — but not acceptable to Navarro. He also criticised India for imposing high tariffs and trade barriers on US goods. Interestingly, there was no mention of China, which imports far more crude oil.

US Secretary of State Marc Rubio partially justified not placing tariffs on China, stating: “If you were to go after Russian oil sales to China — well, China just refines that oil. That oil is then sold into the global marketplace, and anyone buying that oil would be paying more for it or would need to find alternative sources.” India is following the same process, yet it remains

an easier target since China could block the export of critical minerals to the US — as it did in April, responding to Trump’s tariffs.

Commenting on India-US defence deals and India’s relations with Russia and China, Navarro warned that India could risk sharing technology and opening arms factories in India. He ignored the fact that India has never transferred Russian technology to the US despite its close ties with Moscow over the decades. Navarro also implied that the “Make in India” initiative is not conducive to reducing trade deficits. But why should the India-US relationship be a one-way street? If the US expects India to be a strategic ally, it must act like one. Imposing high tariffs, stalling trade talks, disregarding India’s political constraints, and expecting India to bow to White House demands are not the actions of an ally. The Trump administration’s approach has strained a partnership carefully nurtured by multiple administrations, reinforcing the perception that the US cannot be fully trusted.

Washington expects India to downgrade its ties with Russia and distance itself from China while maintaining its own close ties with Pakistan — India’s sworn adversary. The US also expects India to support Pakistan’s call for a Nobel Prize for Trump, even though Trump’s actions didn’t merit one. Why should India comply while the US freely pursues its own interests? The US insists its relationships with India and Pakistan exist “on their own levels”, yet criticises India for adopting the same stance regarding Russia and the US. When Russian President Vladimir Putin personally calls Prime Minister Modi to brief him on the Alaska talks, it underscores the enduring strength of Indo-Russia relations — ties the US cannot break through pressure tactics. If Washington seeks to exploit Pakistan’s mineral wealth, indirectly strengthening its military aimed at India, why should India stop importing.

3 suspected Syrian nationals detained, 3 absconding

Ahmedabad

Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Ahmedabad, Gujarat Police has achieved a major success. Three of the six suspected Syrian nationals who had come to Gujarat by road from

Kolkata have been detained by the Ahmedabad Crime Branch. All three were claiming to be collecting donations for the war-torn people in Gaza, but the police have taken action as their activities appeared suspicious.

Regd. Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara 390007

Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai 400051

Branch Office: Office No. 201-B, 2nd Floor, WIFI IT Park, Road No.1, Plot No. B/3, Wagle Industrial Estate, Thane (West), Thane- 400604

Notice for Disclosure of Legal Heirs of Deceased Borrower

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Home Loan LBAHR00005412095 (Credit facility) was granted Mr. SHAILESH KUMAR SINGH along with the deceased Mr. ARJESH KUMAR RATHOR by ICICI Bank Ltd. (The Bank). The said credit facility is secured by Mr. ARJESH KUMAR RATHOR by creation of the security interest by way of mortgage, with respect to the property situated at PLOT NO 87, GROUND FLOOR, "DREAM CITY", JITALI ROAD, MOJEDADHAL, BLOCK/SURVEY NO 130, GUJARAT ANKLESHWAR 393003 We would like to inform you that the demise of Mr. ARJESH KUMAR RATHOR has come to our knowledge during field visits conducted by the Bank officials and by telephonic communications on the registered contact numbers. In this regard, letter dated Aug 22, 2025, was previously sent to the registered addresses of the Borrowers and the deceased Mr. ARJESH KUMAR RATHOR, for providing information about the Legal Heirs of the Deceased Borrower. Therefore, this Notice is hereby given for sharing details of the Legal Heirs of the deceased Mr. ARJESH KUMAR RATHOR with supporting documents for updating the Bank's records, within <15> days of publication of this Notice. You may submit the above-mentioned details to Mr. SHAIBAN KURESHI by visiting ICICI BANK LTD BLUE CHIP SANITORIUM COMPOUND SEVASHRAM ROAD, PANCH BATTI BHARUCH Gujarat- 392001 Date : August 26, 2025 Place : Ankleshwar

<SD> Authorised Officer For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. Office Number 201-B, 2nd Floor, Road No 1 Plot No-B3, WIFI IT PARK, Wagle Industrial Estate, Thane (West)- 400604.

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Prakashbhai Jagadiya / Renukaben Jagadiya - LBJAM00004715246	Sub Plot No.291/3, Yogeshwar Dham, R. S. No. 41 Paiki 2, Opp. Ravechi Pan Bedi, Village Dhichda, Jammagar- 361001- August 21, 2025	September 24, 2020 Rs. 15,51,065.00/-	Jammagar

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: August 26, 2025 Place: Jammagar

Sincerely Authorised Officer For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Head Office: Level -3, Wockhardt Towers, East Wing C-2, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051; Tel: 1800 102 4345 ; Website: http://www.truhomefinance.in

Reg.Off.: Srinivasa Tower, 1st Floor, Door No.5, Old No.11, 2nd Lane, Cenatoph Road, Alwarpet, Teynampet, Chennai-600018

APPENDIX-IV-A [SEE PROVISION TO RULE 8(6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/ charged to Truhome Finance Limited (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Limited), the Physical Possession of which have been taken by the Authorized Officer of Truhome Finance Limited, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of the balance due to Truhome Finance Limited from the Borrowers And Guarantors, as mentioned in the table. Details of Borrowers and Guarantors, amount due, Short Description of the immovable property, reserve price and earnest money deposit and date of Inspection are also given as:

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagers	Amount of Recovery and date of Demand Notice	Reserve Price (Rs.) & Bid Increment	Date & Time of Auction	Contact Person Details – (AO and Disposal team)
(1).Patel Maheshkumar Jayantibhai, Present : Flat No. I-11, 1st Floor, Tower-I Aarush Icon, Near Ami Nagar Society, Sahjanand Society, Radhanpur Road, Mehsana-384002 Also : (1.2).Patel Maheshkumar Jayantibhai, Property address: Shop No. G/34 Ground Floor, Dev Business point, Nr. Sai Industrial Estate, Hotel Shivalik, Mehsana Bypass Road, Mehsana- 384002. (2).Patel Monikaben Maheshkumar, Present: Flat No. I-11, 1st Floor, Tower-I , Aarush Icon, Near Ami Nagar Society, Sahjanand Society, Radhanpur Road, Mehsana-384002 Also : (2.2).Patel Monikaben Maheshkumar, Property address: Shop No. G/34 Ground Floor, Dev Business point, Nr. Sai Industrial Estate, Hotel Shivalik, Mehsana Bypass Road, Mehsana- 384002. Loan Account No. SLPHMHSN0000322	Rs.16,38,043/- (Rupees Sixteen lakhs thirty eight thousand forty three rupees Only) as on 09/01/2025 under reference of loan account no. SLPHMHSN0000322 with further interest and other costs, charges and expenses. — 13(2) demand notice dated.16.01.2025	Rs.11,00,000/- (Rupees Eleven Lakh Only) Bid Increment: Rs. 10,000/- and in such multiples.	03rd Oct. 2025 Time : 11 AM to 1 PM.	Ashfaq Patka 9819415477 Dharmendrasinh Chauhan-76007 62777 Property Inspection Date: 06.09.2025, Time.11 AM to 1 PM
		Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (Rs.)		
		Rs.1,10,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Ten Thousand Only Last date for submission of EMD : 02nd October 2025, Time 10.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m.		
Date of Possession & Type 10.08.2025 & Physical Possession Encumbrances known Not known				

Description of Property

All that place and parcel of freehold Immovable Property being Shop No. G/34, on Ground Floor, admeasuring 18.00 sq.mtrs., in the scheme "Dev Business Point", which is situated survey no. 238(old survey no.109/2) at Mouje: Nagar, Ta. & Dist. Mehsana within the state of Gujarat. Boundaries of the property: North:-This Shop Shutter than passage,South:- Shop No. G/27,East:- Shop No. G/33,West:- Shop No. G/35,

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagers	Amount of Recovery and date of Demand Notice	Reserve Price (Rs.) & Bid Increment	Date & Time of Auction	Contact Person Details – (AO and Disposal team)
1.Sanjaykumar Manabhai Prajapati, 2.Sharmishthaben Sanjaybhai Prajapati, Address :- Deri Fali, Ramgadhii, Meghraj, Sabarkantha, Meghraj-383350. Also Address :- Shettal General Store, Ramgadhii, Aravalli, Meghraj-383350. Also Address :- Flat No.503, Block No.B, Dwarkapuri Township, Mouje : Sayra, Taluka : Modasa, District.Arvalli-383315.	Rs. 19,63,274/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakh Sixty Three Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Four Only) as on 10.01.2024 under reference of Loan Account No. SHLHIMMT0000056 with further interest at the contractual rate, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.	Rs. 8,00,000/- (Rupees Eight Lakh Only) Bid Increment: Rs. 10,000/- and in such multiples.	03rd Oct. 2025 Time : 11 AM to 1 PM.	Ashfaq Patka 9819415477 Dharmendrasinh Chauhan-76007 62777 Property Inspection Date:06.09.2025, Time.11 AM to 1 PM
Loan Account No. SHLHIMMT0000056 Encumbrances.Not known.		Rs. 80,000/- (Rupees Eighty Thousand Only)		
Date of Possession & Type	06.04.2024 & Physical Possession			
Encumbrances known	Not known	13(2) Notice Date:12/01/2024	Last date for submission of EMD : 02nd October 2025, Time 10.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m.	

Branch Office : ICICI Bank Ltd Office Number 201-B, 2nd Floor, Road No. 1 Plot No-B3, WIFI IT Park, Wagle Industrial Estate, Thane (West)- 400604

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Hemant Mohanlal Bhatia & Heena Hemant Bhatia TBRAJ00006800866	Flat No. 704, 7th Floor, Wing B, Karishma Apartment Co-operative Housing Society Ltd, Sector B, Dwarkesh Park, Bhatti Lane, Sv Road, Near Polsar, Depot, Cts No. 10, 15, 18, 19, 24, 25, 45 & 46, Village Kandivli, Taluka Borivli, Maharashtra, Mumbai- 400067/ August 22, 2025	March 10, 2025 Rs. 62,82,190.74/-	Rajkot

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: August 27, 2025 Place: Jammagar

Sincerely Authorised Officer For ICICI Bank Ltd.