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## K-4 medium-range ballistic missile | National Current Affairs | 31 Dec 2025

### Why in News?

India successfully test-fires 3,500-km **K-4 Medium-Range Ballistic Missile** from **nuclear-powered submarines**.

### Key Points

- **Launch Platform:** The launch was carried out from **INS Arighaat**, a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (**SSBN**) of the **Indian Navy**, in the **Bay of Bengal**.
- **Strategic Significance:** Enhances India's **sea-based nuclear deterrence** and contributes to the **nuclear triad** — the ability to deploy nuclear weapons from **land, air, and sea**.
- **Second-Strike Capability:** The test strengthens India's **second-strike capability**, ensuring that even after absorbing an initial attack, India can respond decisively.
- **DRDO Role:** The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** developed the K-4 missile, which uses **solid fuel and advanced navigation systems**.
- **Ballistic missiles:** They are **rocket-propelled weapons** that follow a **free-fall trajectory** after launch. They can carry **conventional or nuclear warheads** and be launched from **land, sea, or air**.
  - Based on range, they're classified as **short** (< 1,000 km), **medium** (1,000–3,000 km), **intermediate** (3,000–5,500 km), or **long-range or intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs)** (> 5,500 km).
  - **Agni-V** is India's longest-range missile, an ICBM with a range of over 5,000 km.

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## Bharat Taxi Initiative | National Current Affairs | 31 Dec 2025

### Why in News?

The Government of India has launched **Bharat Taxi**, a **first-of-its-kind driver-owned, cooperative ride-hailing initiative**, aimed at providing a fair, transparent and equitable alternative to private taxi aggregators.

### Key Points

- **Bharat Taxi:** It is a **government-backed ride-hailing platform** developed as a **cooperative model**, where **drivers are shareholders and co-owners** instead of being dependent on traditional private companies.
- **Objective:** The scheme aims to **empower taxi drivers** by ensuring fair earnings, reduce dependence on private aggregators (like Ola and Uber), and offer **affordable, transparent**

**transport services to passengers.**

- **Cooperative Structure:** The service is operated by **Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Limited.**
- **Launch:** The service is set to launch across the country from **January 1, 2026.**
- **Driver Benefits:** Driver-owned model, No commission and Profit sharing.
- **Passenger Benefits:** Transparent pricing, Affordable rides and Multiple vehicle options.

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PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/statepcs/01-01-2026/chhatisgarh/print>

