



Project 75 India

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Why in News

The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)** has approved the issuance of a **Request For Proposal (RFP)** for the construction of **six conventional submarines** under **Project-75I (India)**.

RFP is a project announcement posted publicly by an organization indicating that bids for contractors to complete the project are sought.

Key Points

- **About the Project:**

- This project envisages **indigenous construction of submarines equipped with the state-of-the-art Air Independent Propulsion system** at an estimated cost of **Rs. 43,000 crore**.
- Project 75 (I), **approved in 2007, is part of the Indian Navy's 30 year Plan for indigenous submarine construction.**
- It will be the **first under the strategic partnership model** which was **promulgated in 2017 to boost indigenous defence manufacturing.**
 - The **strategic partnership model** allows domestic defence manufacturers to join hands with leading foreign defence majors to produce high-end military platforms to reduce import dependence.
 - Acquisitions under the Strategic Partnership model refer to **participation of private Indian firms along with foreign OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) in 'Make in India'** in defence.

- **Significance:**
 - **One of the Largest 'Make in India' Projects:**
It will serve to facilitate faster and more significant absorption of technology and create a tiered industrial ecosystem for submarine construction in India.
 - **To Ensure Self-Reliance:**
From a strategic perspective, this will help reduce current dependence on imports and gradually ensure greater self-reliance and dependability of supplies from indigenous sources.
 - **To Protect Indo-Pacific:**
This is keeping in mind the rapid increase of nuclear submarine arsenal by People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) (CHINA) and to protect the Indo-Pacific from future domination by the adversary.
- **About 30-year Submarine Plan:**
 - The **Cabinet Committee on Security, in June 1999**, had approved a 30-year submarine-building plan which included **construction of 24 conventional submarines indigenously by 2030**.
 - **P75I succeeded the P75** under which six diesel-electric attack submarines of the Kalvari class, based on the Scorpene class, were being built at MDL (Mazagon Dock Limited) – the third submarine, INS Karanj, was commissioned in March 2021.
 - Of the total **24 submarines** to be built in India, **six** will be **nuclear-powered**.
 - India has **only one nuclear submarine, INS Arihant**, at the moment. The **INS Arighat**, also a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, is to be commissioned soon.
 - **INS Chakra**, a nuclear submarine, which is taken on lease from Russia, is believed to be on its way back to the country of origin.

Defence Acquisition Council

- DAC is the **highest decision-making body in the Defence Ministry** for deciding on new policies and capital acquisitions for the three services (Army, Navy and Air Force) and the **Indian Coast Guard**.
- The **Minister of Defence is the Chairman** of the Council.
- It was formed, after the Group of Ministers recommendations on 'Reforming the National Security System', in 2001, post Kargil War (1999).

Source: TH