

# **Project 75 India**

## Why in News

The <u>Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)</u> 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 <u>Air Independent Propulsion system</u> 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 <u>strategic partnership model</u> 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 submarinebuilding 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 <u>Indian</u> <u>Coast Guard</u>.
- 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

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