



RFID of Ammunition Stock

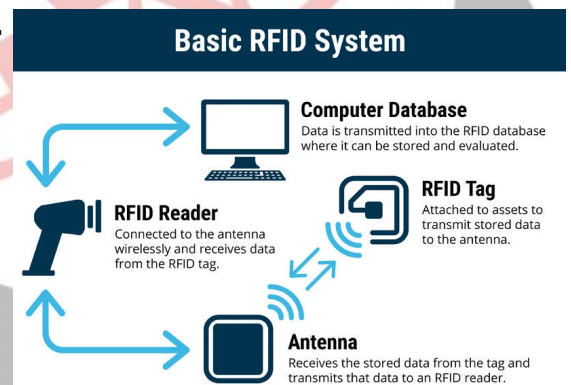
Why in News

Recently, the Indian Army commenced implementation of [Radio Frequency Identification \(RFID\)](#) tagging of its ammunition inventory.

- Earlier in 2021, the Union Government [integrated the E-Way Bill \(EWB\) system with FasTag and RFID.](#)

What is Radio Frequency Identification?

- RFID is a **type of passive wireless technology** that allows for tracking or matching of an item or individual.
- **The system has two basic parts: Tags and Readers.**



- The **reader gives off radio waves and gets signals back from the RFID tag**, while the **tag uses radio waves to communicate** its identity and other information.
- A **tag can be read from up to several feet away** and does not need to be within the direct line-of-sight of the reader to be tracked.
- The technology has been **approved since before the 1970s** but has become much more **prevalent in recent years** due to its usages in things like global supply chain management and pet microchipping.

What is RFID of Ammunition Stock?

- The RFID implementation has been **steered by the Ordnance Services Directorate of the Indian Army**, in conjunction with **Munitions India Limited (MIL)**, Pune, the newly created entity formed post corporatisation of the [Ordnance Factories Board \(OFB\).](#)
- The RFID tagging is **in conformity with global standards in consultation with GS-1 India, a Global Standards organisation** set up by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- The RFID **tags will be interpreted and used for asset tracking** by the Enterprise Resource Application run by the **Computerised Inventory Control Group (CICG)** of the Ordnance Services Directorate

What is the Significance?

- It will **transform management of ammunition and bring in a quantum jump in ammunition lot management and tracking capability.**
- It will make ammunition storage and use by soldiers safer and provide **enhanced satisfaction to the field Army.**
- It **shall lead to increased efficiency in all technical activities** carried out in Ammunition Depots and reduce inventory carrying costs.

Source: PIB

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