

DefExpo-2022

For Prelims: Aatmanirbharta in Defence, Make in India, IADD, Indian Ocean Region plus Conclave.

For Mains: DefExpo-2022 its Objectives and Significance.

Why in News?

The 12th Edition of DefExpo 2022 is being held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

■ The 11th edition of DefExpo was held at Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh) in 2020.

What is DefExpo 2022?

- About:
 - DefExpo is a **flagship biennial event of the Ministry of Defence**, showcasing the land, naval, air as well as homeland security systems.
- DefExpo 2022:
 - It is being held in a first ever four-venue format which promises to engage the public and inspire them to join the Aerospace and Defence manufacturing sector; for 'Aatmanirbharta' in Defence.
 - The aim is to showcase the might of the **domestic defence industry which is now powering 'Make in India, Make for the World'** resolve of the Government and the nation at large.
 - It is the first-ever edition exclusively for Indian companies.
- **Theme:** Path to Pride.
- Key Events:
 - It will host the 2nd edition of the **India-Africa Defence Dialogue (IADD)**, with invites extended to 53 African countries.
 - The IADD will explore **new areas of convergence for mutual engagement, including in areas like capacity building,** training, cyber security, maritime security and counter terrorism.
 - India's approach towards Africa is guided by the Kampala Principles.
 - A separate Indian Ocean Region plus (IOR+) conclave with participation of approximately 40 countries will see India pitching its military hardware to various countries.
 - It will also mark the celebration of one year of the formation of the seven new defence companies, carved out of the erstwhile <u>Ordnance Factories</u>.
 - All these companies will be participating for the first time at DefExpo.

What are the Defence Sector Reforms Under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan?

• **Revision of FDI Limit:** The <u>FDI limit in defence manufacturing</u> under automatic route is raised from 49% to 74%.

- Project Management Unit (PMU): The government is expected to begin time-bound defence procurement and faster decision making by setting up a Project Management Unit (for contract management purposes).
- **Reduction in Defence Imports:** The government will notify a list of weapons/platforms banned for imports and thus such items can only be purchased from the domestic market.
 - Separate budget provision for domestic capital procurement.
- Corporatisation of the Ordnance Factory Board: It will include a <u>public listing of some</u> <u>units</u>, ensuring a more efficient interface of the manufacturer with the designer and end-user.

Source: TH

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