

Defence Acquisition Council

Why in News?

The <u>Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)</u> accorded **Acceptance of Necessity (AoN)** for capital acquisition proposals worth Rs 70,500 crore for the Armed Forces & <u>Indian Coast Guard</u> under 'Buy Indian-IDDM' (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured).

What are the Highlights of Acquisition Proposals?

Indian Navy:

 Out of the total proposals, Indian Navy proposals constitute more than Rs 56,000 crore, which largely includes indigenous <u>BrahMos cruise missiles</u>, <u>Shakti Electronic Warfare (EW)</u> systems, <u>Utility Helicopters-Maritime</u> among others.

Air force:

 Long Range Stand-Off Weapon for the <u>Indian Air Force</u> gets a nod, which is to be integrated on <u>SU-30 MKI aircraft</u>.

Army:

 Also, 155mm/52 Caliber <u>Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS)</u>, along with High Mobility & Gun Towing Vehicles will be procured for the Indian Army.

Hindustan Aeronautics:

Hindustan Aeronautics is a big beneficiary of this announcement by DAC, as it shall supply
<u>Advance Light Helicopters MK-III</u> to the Indian Coast Guard. The Helicopter will be able to
carry a suite of surveillance sensors which will enhance the surveillance capabilities, along
with giving full night capability and Instrument Flight Rules capability for operations of the
Indian Coast Guard.

■ The Medium Speed Marine Diesel Engine:

• Under the <u>Make-I category</u>, the Medium Speed Marine Diesel Engine will be manufactured indigenously.

What is the Defense Acquisition Council?

- The 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