

Major Defence Procurement Approval | Jammu & Kashmir | 07 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, <u>India's Defence Council</u> approved military hardware procurement worth **Rs 1.45 lakh crore**, emphasizing indigenous suppliers for modernizing the forces.

Key Points

- Indigenous Procurement Focus: 99% of the funds will be spent on indigenous suppliers.
- Major Approvals:
 - 1,770 Future-Ready Combat Vehicles (FRCVs) for the Indian Army
 - Construction of seven additional <u>Project-17B</u> stealth frigates for the navy.
 - Acquisition of 26 Rafale-M fighters for INS Vikrant
- Additional Procurements:
 - Air defence fire control radars.
 - Equipment for cross-country mobility, such as forward repair team (tracked) vehicles.
 - Upgraded capabilities for the <u>Indian Coast Guard</u>, including Dornier-228 aircraft and nextgeneration patrol vessels.
- Procurement Categories:
 - Indian-IDDM (Indigenously Designed, Developed, and Manufactured)
 - **Buy (Indian)**: Includes products with 50% or 60% indigenous content, depending on design and development.
- Self-Reliance Measures:
 - Phased bans on imports of weapons and subsystems.
 - Increased FDI limit from 49% to 74%.
 - Separate budget allocation for locally made hardware.
- 2024-25 Defence Budget:
 - Total allocation of Rs 6.22 lakh crore.
 - <u>Capital expenditure</u> of Rs 1.72 lakh crore, with Rs 1.05 lakh crore earmarked for domestic procurement.

Defence 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).