



Mine Ploughs on T-90 Tanks

Why in News

Recently, the **Ministry of Defence** has signed **Rs. 557 crore contract** with the **BEML Limited** (formerly known as the **Bharat Earth Movers Limited**) for the procurement of **1,512 mine ploughs for T-90 Tanks**.

- The induction is **expected to be completed by 2027**.

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Key Points

- **T-90 Tanks:**
 - These **Russian-origin** tanks are the **Indian Army's main battle tanks**.
 - Indian Army recently deployed them in the **Galwan Valley** sector of Ladakh amid the **face-off with Chinese troops**.
- **Mine Ploughs:**
 - Mine ploughs **help tanks to clear minefields and minimize risks to men and**

machines.

- After being fitted on T-90 Tanks, they will **facilitate individual mobility** to the tanks while negotiating a minefield.

▪ **Advantages:**

- The **mobility of the tank fleet will enhance manifolds** which in turn would **extend the reach of the armoured formations deep into enemy territory** without becoming a mine casualty.
- The decision is expected to boost the government's **'Make in India'** initiative.
 - As per the procedure, the contract has **Buy and Make (Indian) categorisation** with a minimum of **50% indigenous content** in the Make portion.

BEML Limited

- It was **established in 1964** as a **Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)**.
- It has **partially disinvested** and presently the **Government of India owns 54%** of total equity and the rest 46% is held by public and financial institutions, foreign institutional investors, banks and employees.
- The company operates under **three major business verticals** viz. **Mining and Construction, Defence and Rail and Metro.**

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