



NIIO Seminar 'Swavlamban'

Why in News?

Recently, Prime Minister unveiled 'SPRINT Challenges' during Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) seminar 'Swavlamban'.

- **'SPRINT (Supporting Pole-Vaulting in R&D through [IDEX](#), NIIO and TDAC) Challenges'** is aimed at giving a boost to the usage of indigenous technology in [Indian Navy](#).

What is the Importance of Self Reliance in Defense?

- The defence sector was identified as an important area with many opportunities for self-reliance because it is **one of the critical sectors of the Indian economy** and also from the strategic point of view.
- It has the **potential for tremendous growth** because of the large, talented pool of skill sets in human resources and large-scale modernisation requirements of the Indian Armed Forces.
- The defence sector will strengthen the economy **by generating employment opportunities and saving the exchequer** by reducing the import burden.
 - The size of the Defence Industry, including the Aerospace and Naval Shipbuilding Industry was estimated at **Rs 85,000 Cr (2020-21)**.
- The ongoing [Russia-Ukraine Conflict](#) has too emerged the importance of self-reliance. A strong and well-equipped military **renders a country immunity to any external and internal risk**.
 - With active participation of the private sector, [MSMEs](#) and [start-ups](#), innovation in the defense sector is being promoted through several projects under the [IDEX initiative](#) and **'Technology Development Fund'**.
 - Technology Development Fund (TDF) has been established to promote self-reliance in defence technology as a part of the **'Make in India' initiative**.
 - Indian Navy has **developed necessary capabilities** to not only safeguard India's maritime interests, but also of its friendly countries in line with the vision of **'Security and Growth for all in the Region' (SAGAR)**.

What is Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation?

- **Launch:**
 - **Launched in 2020** by the Ministry of Defence to fulfil its requirements relating to technology.
- **Objective:**
 - To foster innovation and indigenisation for self-reliance in defence in keeping with the vision of [Atmanirbhar Bharat](#).
 - It will put in place **dedicated structures for the end-users to interact with academia and industry**.
- **Structure:** The NIIO is a **three-tiered organisation**.
 - **Naval Technology Acceleration Council (N-TAC)** will bring together the twin aspects of innovation and indigenisation and provide apex level directives.
 - Working group under the **N-TAC** will implement the projects.
 - **Technology Development Acceleration Cell (TDAC)** has been created for induction of emerging disruptive technology in an accelerated time frame.

What are the Other Related Initiatives?

- [First Negative Indigenisation](#)
- [Positive Indigenisation List](#)
- [New FDI Policy in Defence Sector](#)
- [Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020](#)
- [Defence Industrial Corridors](#)
- [Defence Innovation Organisation](#)
- [Defence India Start-Up Challenge](#)

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