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■ **MoD Signs Multiple Contracts with Indigenous Defence Companies for Procuring Critical Weapons**

Ministry of Defence has signed contracts worth over Rs 19,600 crore with Indian shipyards for the acquisition of 11 Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels and six Next Generation Missile Vessels, as part of the country's efforts to achieve 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence. The contract for the offshore patrol vessels was signed with Goa Shipyard Ltd and Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, while Cochin Shipyard Limited received the contract for the missile vessels. The Defence Ministry has also signed a contract with BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited (BAPL) for procurement of Next Generation Maritime Mobile Coastal Batteries (long-range) and BrahMos Missiles at an approximate cost of over Rs 1,700 crore under Buy (Indian) Category. The delivery of the systems is scheduled to commence from 2027. Meanwhile, the ministry has entered into a contract with Bharat Dynamics Limited for the procurement of improved AWS worth over Rs 8,160 crore.

■ **Gas Regulatory Board In...**