

triggering a massive transformation in procurement processes and bringing needed transparency in public procurement.

■ **DAC Approves Acquisition Proposals worth Rs 84,328 crore to Enhance Armed Forces' Capabilities**

The Indian Defense Acquisition Council (DAC) has approved the acceptance of necessity for 24 capital acquisition proposals worth Rs 84,328 crore (\$11.5 billion) for the Armed Forces and Indian Coast Guard. The proposals, which include the procurement of futuristic infantry combat vehicles, light tanks, mounted gun systems, and ballistic helmets for soldiers, will modernize the Armed Forces and boost the defense industry as part of the government's "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" initiative. Of the 24 proposals, 21 worth over Rs. 82,000 crore have been approved for procurement from indigenous sources. The approved proposals will also strengthen the Indian Air Force with enhanced missile systems and advanced surveillance systems, and improve coastal surveillance for the Indian Coast Guard with the procurement of next-generation offshore patrol vessels.