

## Dhruv-NG (Next Generation)

### Why in News?

Recently, the Pawan Hans Limited has secured a 10-year contract for Rs. 2,141 crore to deliver 4 Dhruv-NG helicopters to the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

#### Dhruv

- It is an **Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH)**.
- **Developed by** - Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- It was initially designed with Germany's assistance.
- **In service** - It was 1<sup>st</sup> flown in 1992 but entered service after certification in 2002.
- **Type certified by**
  - For military operations - Centre for Military Airworthiness Certification (CEMILAC)
  - For civil operation - Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)
- **4 military variants** - Dhruv Mk-I, Mk-II, Mk-III & Mk-IV.
- Over 335 military helicopters are operational as on date and have logged over 3, 75,000 cumulative flight hours.
- **Civilian version** - It has been in service since 2003.

- **Dhruv-NG (Next Generation)** - It is a multi-role, multi-mission helicopter.
- It is the **civil variant of the Dhruv Mk III**, which is widely employed by Indian defense forces.
- **Developed by** - Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- **Weight** - 5.5 tonne.
- **Powered by** - 2 indigenous Shakti engines with Cat 'A' performance.
- **Specialty** - It is capable of day and night operations.
- It is also fitted with AS4 (Applicability Statement) compliant systems.
- It received a restricted type certificate from the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) in June 2023.
- **For ONGC operation** - This will be the 1<sup>st</sup> time the chopper will be deployed in offshore operations like transporting staff to and from duty stations on oil and gas rigs.

*Pawan Hans has been a key industry player in the Indian offshore industry, providing helicopter services to ONGC, British Gas, HOECL, Petro Gas, and others.*

- **Significance** - It is a "reliable and cost-effective product" for service provider Pawan Hans Limited.

*These Dhruv-NG helicopters are scheduled to go into service in 2025, largely to meet Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) crew change requirements.*

## References

1. [The Hindu| Dhruv-NG](#)
2. [Business Standard| Advanced Light Helicopter-Dhruv](#)

