

Protected Mobility Vehicles

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In news— Recently, the Indian Army has floated a Request for Information (RFI) to purchase Protected Mobility Vehicles (PMV) for high-altitude areas and for deserts and plains.

About Protected Mobility Vehicles (PMV)-

- The PMV is essentially **a wheeled armoured personnel carrier.**
- It **provides protection to the soldiers travelling inside the vehicle from mine blasts and sudden attack by small arms.**
- The **troops in these vehicles could be members of any quick reaction team** heading to a point of conflict, or members of patrolling parties heading to border areas.
- The **Army** floated an RFI for information from vendors for **PMV to deploy in areas above the height of 4000 metres and for deserts and plains.**
- PMVs must have ballistic protection and should be able to protect the vehicle from grenade and mine blasts.
- It should have a **maximum speed of 90 km on road and 40 km per hour on cross country terrain.**
- They should be able to operate in temperature ranges of 40 degree centigrade to minus 15 degree in high-altitude areas.
- The vehicles are required to have a weapon mount to enable a **7.62 mm Light Machine Gun (LMG) to be fitted and a turret with 360 degree rotation for a LMG.**
- It is also required to have **11 firing ports with five each on the starboard** and port side of the vehicle and one at the rear.
- The PMV should be **able to ford in water with depth of 1000 mm** without any special preparation.
- In April 2022, the Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) handed over the first of such Infantry Protected

Mobility Vehicles (IPMVs) to the then Chief of Army Staff, Gen MM Naravane.

- **The TASL is now the first private sector company in the country to produce such wheeled armoured personnel carriers** and has developed the IPMV in collaboration with the DRDO.