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


