

# Navy seeks bids to build submarines

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NEW DELHI

The Defence Ministry on Tuesday issued the Request For Proposal (RFP) for construction of six advanced conventional submarines for the Navy under Project-75I.

The deal which has been delayed is the first under the strategic partnership model of the procurement procedure to make progress.

“The RFP was issued to shortlisted Strategic Partners (SPs) or Indian applicant companies for the project viz, Mazagaon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) and Larsen & Toubro (L&T),” the Defence Ministry said. The project cost is estimated upwards of ₹40,000 crore.

The Indian SP partners have to respond to the RFP within 12 weeks. They are free to tie up with any of the five Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) that have been shortlisted earlier. The procurement process now gets under way and will take at least two years for the deal to be signed, a defence official said.