

EU-India Aerospace Technology Access Platform

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Background

EU–India Aerospace Technology Access Platform aims to facilitate connections between European aerospace companies, technology centres, and research organisations and the rapidly expanding Indian aerospace, defence, and space ecosystem.

Key Objectives

- Technology transfer and commercialization
- Strategic partnerships and joint R&D initiatives
- Market access and business expansion in India
- Industrial collaboration across aerospace, defence, and space sectors
- Co-development and deployment of advanced aerospace technologies
- Intellectual Property (IPR), licensing, and technology transfer facilitation

Opportunity

- Combine Europe's aerospace innovation with India's fast-growing aerospace and defence market.
- Enable technology transfer, co-development, and strategic partnerships.
- Provide European companies with a structured pathway to enter and expand in India.

Agenda



Agenda	Time (in minutes)	Speaker
Opening Remarks	10	Simone Sparano – EEN SG Aerospace and Harsha Lingam, GBI
Technology demand from the Indian market	30	Himanshu Kumar, GBI
Intellectual property and collaboration with India	30	Harsha Lingam, GBI
How the B2B meeting process works	5	Harsha Lingam, GBI
Individual bilateral meetings (B2B)	10min/meeting	GBI

Objectives of the Platform



The platform responds to a clear demand identified by GBI–EEN India to:

- Enable European aerospace companies to access and expand in the Indian aerospace, defence, and space markets
- Facilitate technology transfer, industrial collaboration, and co-development opportunities
- Support market entry, localization, and commercialization of advanced aerospace technologies
- Promote EU–India partnerships across civil aviation, defence aerospace, space systems, and advanced manufacturing

This initiative will serve as a structured pathway for European organizations to explore India not only as a high-growth market, but also as a strategic partner for aerospace innovation, manufacturing, and long-term technology collaboration.

Free Trade Agreement (FTA) + Trade & Technology Council (TTC) – Paving way towards fostering new Indo-EU relations



EU India Free Trade Agreement (FTA):

- Aims to reduce tariffs, improve market access for goods and services, and align regulations on digital trade, sustainability, and investment protection¹.
- Aims to significantly boost bilateral trade across diverse thematic sectors (e.g. automobiles, textiles, pharma, green tech, IT and manufacturing sectors).

EU-India Trade and Technology Council (TTC): High-level bilateral forum designed to deepen cooperation between India and the European Union across three critical domains –Trade & Investment, Strategic Technologies (AI, 6G, quantum computing), Clean & Green Energy (hydrogen, battery supply chains).

- The TTC operates through three Working Groups: Digital & Strategic Technologies, Green & Clean Energy Technologies, Trade Investment & Supply Chain Resilience
- Engagement channel for Productech's SMEs: TTC Working Groups especially, Working Group 3 of TTC targets Trade, Investment & Supply Chain Resilience, directly benefiting manufacturing SMEs.
- Opens pathways for Portuguese SMEs to: Co-develop with Indian partners, Access India's growing industrial base, Participate in joint R&D and tech transfer

India's Aerospace Sector Overview



- India's aerospace and defence market was valued at **US\$31.8 billion in 2026** and is projected to reach **~US\$48 billion by 2032**.
- India is the **3rd largest air transport market globally**, serving approximately **174 million passengers**.
- The aviation sector contributes **US\$53.6 billion** to India's GDP.
- The industry supports around **7.7 million jobs** across aviation, aerospace manufacturing, MRO, and related services.
- Growing demand, infrastructure expansion, and increasing focus on domestic manufacturing are creating significant opportunities for aerospace innovation and investment.



Why India? A Fast-Growing Aerospace Market



- Rapidly expanding **middle-class population** driving air travel demand.
- India is the **world's 3rd largest domestic aviation market**.
- Strong growth of **Low-Cost Carriers (LCCs)** increasing fleet expansion and aircraft procurement.
- Rising passenger traffic and airport infrastructure development across Tier 2 & Tier 3 cities.
- Increasing demand for aircraft components, systems, and aerospace services.



EU-India Aviation Partnerships



The EU and India have a long-standing aviation partnership through regulatory cooperation between the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and India's Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). India is one of the EU's most important aviation partners given the rapid growth of the Indian aviation market.

A major development occurred in March 2026 when EASA and DGCA signed a Working Arrangement on industrial aviation production. The agreement supports "**Make in India**" aerospace manufacturing aligned with European standards and facilitates industrial cooperation, including **Airbus helicopter** production in India.



Aerospace Clusters & Industrial Ecosystem



Major Aerospace Hubs

- **Bengaluru** – Aerospace, defence, space, R&D
- **Hyderabad** – Aerospace manufacturing, avionics, missiles
- **Chennai** – Precision engineering and aerospace components
- **Pune** – Manufacturing and advanced engineering
- **Nagpur** – MRO and aerospace logistics

Why It Matters

- Established industrial infrastructure
- Skilled workforce availability
- Supplier ecosystem concentration
- Access to ports, airports, and logistics networks



Aerospace Manufacturing & Supply Chain



European aerospace companies are increasingly localizing manufacturing in India:

- **Airbus** is expanding its industrial footprint through aircraft and helicopter production initiatives in India, including the H125 helicopter assembly program in Karnataka.
- **Dassault Aviation** has partnered with **Tata Advanced Systems** to manufacture Rafale fighter aircraft fuselages in India for both domestic and global markets. This is the first time Rafale fuselages will be produced outside France.
- **Leonardo** and **Adani Defence & Aerospace** have announced cooperation to establish helicopter manufacturing capabilities in India.
- **Safran** is working with **Bharat Electronics Limited** on aerospace and smart weapon systems localization.



Government Push & Manufacturing Opportunities



Policy Support for Aerospace Growth

- **Make in India** initiative promoting local aerospace manufacturing and technology transfer.
- Production-linked incentives and investment-friendly policies for advanced manufacturing.
- Focus on developing a robust domestic aerospace supply chain.
- Expansion of aerospace and defence industrial corridors.
- Growing demand for international partnerships, joint ventures, and localization initiatives.

Opportunity for EU Companies

- Manufacturing partnerships
- Technology licensing & transfer
- Supplier development & localization



India's Defence Transformation

- One of the world's largest defence spenders with increasing focus on indigenous capabilities.
- Modernisation of air force, naval aviation, and unmanned systems.
- Growing investments in:
 - Aircraft systems & components
 - Avionics & electronics
 - UAVs and autonomous systems
 - MRO and lifecycle support

Opportunity for EU Companies

- Co-development programs
- Defence technology collaboration
- Advanced materials & aerospace systems



Defence Aerospace Cooperation



The signing of the EU–India Security and Defence Partnership in January 2026 created a formal framework for cooperation on defence industries, aerospace technologies, maritime security, cyber security, and emerging defence capabilities.

This opens opportunities for:

- Joint aerospace R&D
- Defence industrial partnerships
- Aircraft systems manufacturing
- Avionics and electronics
- MRO (Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul)
- Aerospace supply chain integration



Emerging Business Opportunities for EU Aerospace Companies



High-Potential Areas

- **Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul (MRO)** services
- Aerospace components and precision engineering
- Advanced composites and lightweight materials
- Airport and air traffic management technologies
- Sustainable aviation technologies and **SAF ecosystem**
- **Space and satellite** technologies
- **Digital aviation, AI, simulation, and Industry 4.0** solutions



Strategic Defence Technology Opportunities for European Companies in India



India's defence sector is actively seeking advanced technologies to strengthen national security, modernize armed forces, and enhance indigenous capabilities. Key priority areas include:

- Surveillance & Attack Drones (UAV/UAS Systems)
- Night Vision & Electro-Optical Devices
- Electronic Warfare (EW), Jamming & Deception Systems
- Offensive Cyber & Cyber Defence Capabilities
- Software Defined Radio (SDR) & Secure Communications

Opportunity for European Companies

- Technology transfer and co-development partnerships
- Joint ventures under Make in India and defence indigenisation initiatives
- Supply of advanced sensors, payloads, communication systems, and mission software
- Collaboration with Indian defence manufacturers, DPSUs, and private sector OEMs
- Participation in defence modernization and next-generation battlefield programs

Advanced Attack Drone Capability Requirements for India



Operational Requirements

To support modern battlefield operations, border security, and precision strike missions, India is seeking advanced attack drone capabilities with the following specifications:

Key Performance Parameters

- **Operational Altitude:** Up to **20,000 feet**
- **Mission Range/Coverage:** **200 km**
- **Loiter Endurance:** **4–5 hours**
- **Low Acoustic Signature:** Low-noise propulsion systems for covert operations
- **Advanced EO/IR Payloads:** High-resolution day/night vision cameras
- **ISR Capability:** Real-time Intelligence, Surveillance & Reconnaissance
- **Shooter–Sensor Integration:** Seamless target acquisition and strike coordination

Electronic Warfare (EW) Capability

- Radio Frequency (RF) jamming
- Communication disruption and denial
- Signal intelligence and threat detection
- Electronic deception and battlefield dominance

Events in the Aerospace Sector



Event	Dates	Why It Matters
AeroDef India 2026	Expected in 2026, New Delhi	Focused on aerospace and defence manufacturing, supply chains, components, precision engineering, and industrial partnerships.
Aero India 2027	Expected February 2027, Bengaluru	India's flagship aerospace and defence exhibition featuring global OEMs, defence agencies, startups, and government stakeholders.
India Space Congress / Bharat Space Conclave	Expected in 2026–2027 (Dates TBA)	Leading platforms for India's rapidly expanding commercial space ecosystem, covering satellite manufacturing, launch services, Earth observation, downstream applications, and private-sector space innovation.

Facilitate EU–India Aerospace Collaboration & Matchmaking



Approach:

Identify and engage relevant Indian aerospace ecosystem stakeholders, including aerospace OEMs, defence organizations, space agencies, research institutions, manufacturing partners, startups, and industry clusters.

Enable collaboration through:

1. **Partnership Matchmaking**
(Technology providers, industrial partners, licensing opportunities, co-development projects)
2. **Market Access Support**
(Industry insights, stakeholder engagement, regulatory guidance, localization strategies)
3. **Technology & Innovation Engagement**
(Pilot projects, joint R&D, technology transfer, capability-building initiatives)

Outcome

- Structured EU–India aerospace collaboration opportunities
- Accelerated technology transfer and commercialization pathways
- Stronger partnerships across aerospace, defence, space, and advanced manufacturing sectors
- Enhanced market access and long-term industrial cooperation between Europe and India

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