

Tata Advanced Systems inaugurates Airbus H125 helicopter production line to boost India's vertical-lift capabilities

#H125 #AirbusHelicopters #FinalAssemblyLine #FAL #Tata #TASL #MakeinIndia

Vemagal, Karnataka, India, 17th February, 2026 – Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) has inaugurated India's first private-sector helicopter Final Assembly Line for the Airbus H125 at Vemagal in the southern Indian state of Karnataka.

The H125 helicopter Final Assembly Line facility was inaugurated virtually by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, and Mr Emmanuel Macron, President of France.

Present at the event in Vemagal were Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Defence Minister, Government of India, Ms Catherine Vautrin, Hon'ble Minister of the Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs, Government of France, and Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu, Hon'ble Minister for Civil Aviation, Government of India. Also present were Tata Advanced Systems and Airbus senior leadership teams.

This partnership is a watershed for 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat' (Self-reliant India) in aerospace, marking the first time the Indian private sector will undertake the manufacturing, integration, testing and maintenance of a sophisticated rotary-wing platform in India. By building the civil H125 and potentially its military variant H125M in Vemagal, Tata and Airbus are ensuring that Indian operators have immediate access to world-class technology with localised maintenance and lifecycle support, maximising helicopter availability.

We are proud to establish the H125 Helicopter Final Assembly Line, a first in the private sector in India - a landmark step in the nation's journey towards self-reliance in aerospace and defence. This facility reflects the growing depth of India's industrial capabilities and the strength of our long-standing partnership with Airbus. Together, we are contributing to the creation of a globally competitive aerospace ecosystem in India," **said N Chandrasekaran, Chairman, Tata Sons.**

"The inauguration of the H125 FAL is a defining step towards India's civil and defence sovereignty when it comes to vertical lift capabilities. By establishing this facility with the Tata Group, Airbus is offering the Indian market a versatile and competitive platform with unrivaled performance that is 'Made in India' and tailored for missions across the country's unique topography," **said Bruno Even, CEO of Airbus Helicopters.** "The FAL will also be able to produce the military version H125M with a level of local manufacturing that ensures the Indian

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forces remain mission-ready at all times. It will also be a game-changer for the development of the civil helicopter market," he added.

The 'Made in India' H125 is set to become an essential tool for nation-building by supporting the development of critical civil and para-public market segments such as emergency medical service and disaster management as well as law enforcement and regional connectivity under the Government of India's regional connectivity scheme, UDAN, to bridge the last-mile for tourism and passenger transport.

The H125M is optimised to serve as a high-altitude force multiplier across a spectrum of critical missions. This versatile platform is designed to excel in tactical reconnaissance and surveillance by leveraging its low acoustic and thermal signatures. Additionally, the H125M provides a decisive edge in high-altitude logistics, ensuring the delivery of vital supplies to remote frontline outposts, and serves as a rapid-response asset for search and rescue or medical evacuation operations.

The H125 is the only helicopter in history to have landed on the summit of Mount Everest, giving it a performance ceiling that exceeds existing light utility fleets. For the Indian military, which operates in some of the most challenging high-and-hot environments in the world, this performance can be a critical differentiator.

The H125 is the world's best-selling single-engine helicopter and a member of the Écureuil family, which has accumulated more than 40 million flight hours worldwide. The H125 is also the most popular helicopter in India and South Asia. The first 'Made in India' H125 is expected to be delivered early 2027, and will also be available for export across the South Asian region.

This is the second major Tata and Airbus industrial collaboration, following the C295 military transport Final Assembly Line, cementing a comprehensive military aerospace ecosystem in India. Together, these programmes underscore Airbus' long-term commitment to building a comprehensive aerospace ecosystem in India across manufacturing, assembly, maintenance, design, digital capabilities and human capital development. Airbus currently sources components and services worth over \$1.5 billion annually from India, including complex aerostructures and systems, reinforcing the country's growing role in Airbus' global supply chain.

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About Tata Advanced Systems Limited

Tata Advanced Systems Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Sons, is a significant player in Aerospace and Defence solutions in India. Tata Advanced Systems offers a full range of integrated solutions across: Aerostructures & Aeroengines, Airborne Platforms & Systems, Defence & Security and Land Mobility. Tata Advanced Systems has a strong portfolio of partnerships and joint ventures with leading global aerospace and defence firms, making it an integral partner in the international supply chain and in some instances, a global single source provider for leading aerospace and defence OEMs. With the requisite capabilities, resources and scale, Tata Advanced Systems is equipped to deliver end-to-end innovative solutions throughout the entire aerospace and defence value chain from design to full platform assembly, and is well positioned in technologies that include missiles, radars, unmanned aerial systems, artillery guns, command and control systems, optronics and homeland security apart from world class protected mobility solutions.

About Airbus

Airbus pioneers sustainable aerospace for a safe and united world. The Company constantly innovates to provide efficient and technologically advanced solutions in aerospace, defence, and connected services. In commercial aircraft, Airbus designs and manufactures modern and fuel-efficient airliners and associated services. Airbus is also a European leader in space systems, defence and security. In helicopters, Airbus provides efficient civil and military rotorcraft solutions and services worldwide.



Caption: Airbus H125M, the most capable armed scout helicopter in the single-engine category.

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