# Tata Advanced Systems Breaks Ground On New Defence MRO Facility Supporting Lockheed Martin's C-130J Operations In India

**Bengaluru, India, Dec. 8, 2025** — Tata Advanced Systems and Lockheed Martin today announced the groundbreaking of a new Defence Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility in India, developed to support Lockheed Martin's (NYSE: LMT) C-130J Super Hercules aircraft. This milestone builds on the companies' long-standing industrial partnership and will significantly enhance in-country sustainment for the Indian Air Force, while also creating opportunities for broader regional and global support.

The groundbreaking ceremony brought together senior officials from the Indian Air Force (IAF), government dignitaries, industry leaders and senior executives from Lockheed Martin and Tata Advanced Systems.

"Today's groundbreaking reflects how far our collaboration with Tata Advanced Systems and India has come, and where we're headed together," said Lockheed Martin's Chief Operating Officer Frank St. John. "For more than seven decades, we've grown alongside India's expanding aerospace and defense industrial base. This new C-130 MRO facility strengthens that foundation. It brings world-class sustainment capability into India, improves readiness for the Indian Air Force, and creates opportunities that will support regional and global C-130 operators. We remain committed to building capability for India and from India for decades to come."

Commenting on the occasion, Sukaran Singh, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Tata Advanced Systems, said, "This milestone marks more than the establishment of a new facility—it represents India's growing confidence and capability in shaping its own defence future.

The MRO venture strengthens our aerospace ecosystem, creating a foundation for innovation, skill development, and global competitiveness."

The state-of-the-art C-130 MRO facility will provide:

- Depot-level and heavy maintenance
- Component repair, overhaul, and structural checks and testing
- Structural restoration and avionics upgrades
- Expanded training for Indian engineers and maintainers
- New opportunities for Indian suppliers across the C-130 supply chain

Tata Advanced Systems, Lockheed Martin's long-standing partner in manufacturing C-130 empennages and other aerostructure assemblies in India, will play a central role in operating the new facility. Last week, Tata Lockheed Martin Aerostructures Limited (TLMAL) celebrated the delivery of its 250th C-130J tail, marking another achievement in the U.S.-India relationship and decades-long investment commitment. The Defence MRO facility will join the existing global network of Lockheed Martin Certified Service Centers and will be strategically located to service the C-130J Super Hercules, KC-130J and C-130 B-H legacy aircraft in the future.

"The C-130J Super Hercules is a proven workhorse for India's military and humanitarian missions," said Rod McLean, vice president and general manager, Lockheed Martin Air Mobility and Maritime Missions. "This Defence MRO facility will bolster response time and security in the Pacific, ensure world-class sustainment capability within India aligning with the country's ambitions while advancing sustainment capability for the C-130J fleet across the globe.

"The C-130J and India have repeatedly achieved firsts together," said McLean. "The C-130 completed a world-record breaking and unprecedented high-altitude landing at Daulat Beg Oldi. More recently, it touched down at Nayoma Air Base in eastern Ladakh, marking the inauguration of the world's highest operational fighter base. This new MRO represents another historic first and a unique opportunity to lay the groundwork for a generational partnership between the C-130 platform and India."

With a presence that spans more than three decades, Lockheed Martin has been a trusted partner to India's defense and aerospace ecosystem accelerating its manufacturing, skilling and technical capabilities while

demonstrating existing support of “Make in India” initiatives and the vision of the Indian Government.

The construction finishes by end 2026 and the facility expects to receive the first C130 for MRO operations in early 2027.

**About the C-130J-30**

The C-130J-30 delivers unmatched interoperability with global air forces, robust industrial partnerships, and verified low lifecycle costs with significant fuel savings resulting in a reduced carbon footprint compared to other medium-sized jet airlifters. Since the arrival of India’s first
C-130J-30 in 2011, IAF crews have demonstrated the capabilities found only on a Super Hercules — from landing at the world’s highest airfield to daring night operations in inclement weather.

Always evolving, continually innovating and ready for what’s next, the Super Hercules leads the charge by setting standards and shaping the future of tactical airlift missions. The global C-130J fleet spans 23 nations with 20+ air worthiness certifications. More than 3 million flight hours have been logged by 560+ C-130Js in support of 20 different mission requirements, including critical worldwide search and rescue, peacekeeping, combat delivery, maritime patrol, special operations, aerial refueling, commercial cargo transport, medevac and humanitarian response missions. Invaluable insights gained from missions in every scenario equip the C-130J for any challenge. The C-130J Super Hercules delivers unparallelled air mobility in some of the world’s most demanding environments, from high-altitude operations in the Himalayas to the highest airstrips in the world at India’s newly established Nayoma Air Base in eastern Ladakh. For additional information, visit our websites: www.lockheedmartin.com/c130; or www.lockheedmartin.com/india.

**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. More information at ww.tataadvancedsystems.com.

**About Lockheed Martin**
Lockheed Martin is a global defense technology company driving innovation and advancing scientific discovery. Our all-domain mission solutions and 21st Century Security® vision accelerate the delivery of transformative technologies to ensure those we serve always stay ahead of ready. More information at LockheedMartin.com.

Lockheed Martin India’s joint ventures, apprenticeship and community initiatives, and annual suppliers conference underscore its commitment to Indian industry, talent and progress.

Follow @LMIndiaNews on X, for the latest announcements and news across the corporation.

# # #

**Media Contact:**

**Ina Bansal,** Lockheed Martin India, +91 730-391-8744;ina.bansal@global.lmco.com

---

Additional assets available online: Photos (2)

https://news.lockheedmartin.com/2025-12-18-Tata-Advanced-Systems-breaks-ground-on-new-Defence-MRO-facility-supporting-Lockheed-Martin-C-130J-operations-in-India