

ECONOMY

■ TATA and Airbus to 'Make in India' C-295MW Transport Aircraft

In a major boost to 'Make in India', a defence aircraft manufacturing project has been sanctioned in Vadodara, Gujarat. Airbus Defence and Space, S.A., Spain and India's TATA Consortium will jointly manufacture transport aircraft for the Indian Air Force at the plant. The plant is being set up as part of the deal between the Government of India and Airbus Defence and Space for the procurement of 56



C-295MW transport aircraft and associated equipment for the Indian Air Force. As part of the contract, 16 aircraft will be delivered in flyaway condition and 40 will be manufactured in India. This is the first project of its kind in which a military aircraft will be manufactured in India by a private company. The total cost of the project is Rs 21,935 crore. The project offers a unique opportunity for the Indian private sector to enter into technology intensive and highly competitive aviation industry. The TATA Consortium has identified more than 125 in-country MSME suppliers spread over seven states. This will act as a catalyst in employment generation in the aerospace ecosystem of the country and is expected to generate 600 highly skilled jobs directly, over 3,000 indirect jobs and an additional 3,000 medium skill employment opportunities with more than 42.5 lakh man hours of work within the aerospace and defence sector of India. Nearly 240 engineers will be trained at Airbus facility in Spain.