

## **Aero India 2025 – Fact Sheet**

The United States and India partner to promote global security, stability, and economic prosperity through trade, investment, and connectivity. Under the Trump Administration, President Trump, Prime Minister Modi, Secretary of State Rubio, and External Affairs Minister Jaishankar, affirmed a shared commitment to strengthening the strategic partnership between the United States and India, and they have highlighted how our defense cooperation is advancing a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

### **United States Security and Defense Cooperation with India**

- In 2016, the United States designated India as a Major Defense Partner.
- In 2018, India was elevated to Strategic Trade Authorization tier 1 status, which allows India to receive license-free access to a wide range of military and dual-use technologies regulated by the Department of Commerce.
- U.S.-India defense trade cooperation continues to expand with the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA), Communications, Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA), and the Industrial Security Agreement (ISA) now in place.
- Since 2015, the United States authorized India access to numerous sensitive defense articles: military electronics; fire control, laser, imaging, and guidance equipment (category XII); and aircraft and related articles.
- In 2024, the United States approved sales of MQ-9B Remotely Piloted Aircraft, MK 54 MOD 0 Lightweight Torpedoes, Anti-Submarine Warfare Sonobuoys, and MH-60R Multi-Mission Helicopter Equipment to India.
- In March 2024, the United States and India conducted Tiger Triumph, a tri-service (ground, naval, and air forces) exercise between the two countries. During the weeklong exercise, U.S. Marines and sailors partnered with forces from all three of India's armed services to rehearse disaster response and humanitarian aid delivery. Tiger Triumph enables U.S. and Indian Armed Forces to improve interoperability and bilateral, joint, and service readiness in the Indian

Ocean region and beyond to better achieve mutual regional security objectives.

- India also participates in the U.S.-led Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise and trilateral Malabar exercise with the United States and Japan. These military exercises enhance U.S.-India relations and help create a more stable and secure Indo-Pacific region.
- Indian military officers have regularly participated in the International Military Education and Training (IMET) program since 2003. IMET provides professional military education and training to military students by increasing military professionalization, enhancing interoperability between Indian and U.S. forces, and providing technical and operational training.

### **Aero India 2025: Anticipated Highlights**

- [F-16](#): The F-16 Fighting Falcon is a compact, multi-role fighter aircraft. It is highly maneuverable and proven itself in air-to-air combat and air-to-surface attack.
- [F-35A](#): The F-35A's advanced sensor package is designed to gather, fuse, and distribute more information than any fighter in history, giving operators a decisive advantage over all adversaries.
- [B-1B Lancer](#): Carrying the largest conventional payload of both guided and unguided weapons in the Air Force inventory, the multi-mission B-1 can rapidly deliver massive quantities of precision and non-precision weapons against any adversary, anywhere in the world, at any time.
- [United States Air Force \(USAF\) Band](#): The United States Air Force Band of the Pacific's Final Approach Ensemble will once again perform at Aero India 2025. The 10-member rock, band, stationed at Yokota Air Base in Japan, will perform during Aero India's Public Days on February 13 and 14 and at Christ University, Campus Road on February 11 at 5:00 p.m.

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