

# AIR, LAND, MARITIME AND SECURITY

UK COMPANIES ARE INTEGRAL TO INDIA'S DEFENCE SECTOR



The UK and India have a long history of defence cooperation driven by shared interests in regional and international security.

**£15bn** India's annual defence procurement budget.  
**75%** ringfenced for domestic production in FY23-24.



**£50bn** UK's annual defence budget.  
**#2** UK is the world's second largest exporter after the USA.



**74%** India increased foreign ownership cap in 2020. Up from 49%.



**2023**

Bilateral ties were strengthened at the first India-UK 2+2 Foreign and Defence Dialogue.

**2030**

Roadmap for UK-India Future Relations includes ambitious plans for defence cooperation.

The UK and India now have partnerships and security agreements in technology exchange, maritime security, defence trade, and joint military exercises. BAE Systems, Thales, MBDA Systems and Rolls Royce have operated in India for several decades. BAE Systems integrates many Indian SMEs into its global supply chain.



## MARITIME SECURITY

**Indian Coast Guards patrol shorelines with UK-designed vessels.**

- For the first time, two Royal Navy ships, RFA Argus and RFA Lyme Bay, underwent maintenance at Larsen and Toubro's Shipbuilding facility in Kattupalli, Tamil Nadu.
- As part of a £193m contract, James Fisher Defence has delivered two 'Third Generation' fly-away submarine rescue systems to the Indian Navy.
- The UK's Ultra Electronics and Mahindra Defence Naval Systems Ltd. have partnered on a £60 million contract to produce underwater warfare equipment for Indian and global markets.
- GE Power Conversion and Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited signed an MoU to develop indigenous advanced technology for Integrated Full Electric Propulsion System for naval vessels.



## MILITARY HARDWARE

**The UK is co-developing defence technologies that reduce India's dependency on foreign imports.**

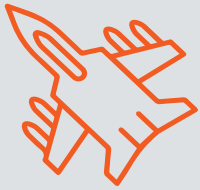
- BAE Systems is partnering with Mahindra to produce 145 M777 ultra-light weight howitzers and has signed a licensing and manufacturing agreement with Larsen & Toubro to offer the BvS10 Articulated All-Terrain Vehicle to the Indian Armed Forces.
- Pearson Engineering UK have partnered with BEML to supply more than 1,500 Track Width Mine Ploughs to the Indian Army.
- Argon Electronics, UK, won its first order to supply the Indian Army with chemical detector simulators, including CAMSIM, ChemPro100-SIM, and GID-3-SIM.
- Bharat Dynamics Limited is working with Thales UK to produce the next generation of Very Short-Range Air Defence System missiles and with MBDA UK to manufacture Advanced Short Range Air-to-Air Missiles in India.



## JOINT EXERCISES

**These activities enhance interoperability and mutual understanding.**

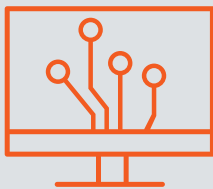
- **Ajeya Warrior** is a biennial exercise between Indian and British armies focusing on counterterrorism and peacekeeping.
- **Konkan** has the Indian Navy and Royal Navy collaborating on anti-submarine warfare, surface, and air operations.
- **Indradhanush** lets the Indian Air Force and Royal Air Force improve air operations.
- **Cobra Warrior** is a multinational air combat exercise at RAF Waddington, with Indian Air Force participation.



## AIR SUPERIORITY

**The Indian Air Force and the Indian Navy use British Hawk Advanced Jet Trainers for all its fast jet pilot training. The Indian Navy also flies Sea King helicopters.**

- For 60+ years, Rolls-Royce and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited have collaborated on military engines. In 2021, they signed a 'Make in India' agreement for Adour engine parts to support Rolls-Royce's global clients.
- Rolls-Royce is advancing gas turbine technology in partnership with the Indian Defence Research and Development Organisation (Indian DRDO).
- Thales provides RBE2 radar and other subsystems as part of the Rafale Fighter Consortium to the Indian Air Force.
- The Royal Air Force and Indian Air Force are organising joint flying exercises.
- MBDA has established a Final Assembly Integration and Test facility in Coimbatore to support the Jaguar and LCA platforms for ASRAAM.



## COUNTER TERRORISM & INTELLIGENCE SHARING

**The UK and India are collaborating to combat extremist threats and improve global security.**

- Thales UK and Kalyani Group are co-developing next-generation weapon systems for India's defence and law enforcement sectors.
- Smiths Detection UK and BEL signed an MoU to manufacture advanced X-ray screening technology in India.
- British firearms maker Webley & Scott is manufacturing small arms in India for defence and police forces.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

- In 2022, the UK and India defence ministries established a UK-India Electric Propulsion Capability Partnership working group.
- India and the UK have held six Cyber Dialogues to foster cooperation between cyber agencies.
- In 2024 Indian DRDO and the UK Ministry of Defence signed a Letter of Arrangement for joint defence R&D.
- BAE Systems delivers cutting-edge training and simulation systems in pilot training, battlefield simulations, and command and control systems.
- UK's Littoral Response Group will train with Indian forces in 2024 and the Carrier Strike Group in 2025.



## FUTURE FOCUS

As part of the 2030 Roadmap, India and the UK are collaborating on several initiatives involving advanced military technologies, cyber defence, and unmanned aerial vehicles.

Exciting opportunities exist for UK companies. Those with innovative technologies and proven solutions should move beyond a buyer/seller relationship and consider how they can support the Make in India agenda. Success requires being on the ground, building partnerships and understanding local culture. There is much to learn from others who've been in the market.

The UK India Business Council can advise on the 2030 roadmap. It can help you establish operations, find partners and capitalise on the opportunities within India's defence sector.



**They are two large countries and it's a strategic relationship. But we must remember that there's plenty of other people also interested in India's defence sector. We must differentiate ourselves. We must explain our vision and how our proposition will be the best.**

**Rolls Royce President, Kishore Jayaraman**

## BILATERAL TRADE STATISTICS

FY 2023 - 2024

**£39.7bn**

Trade between UK and India

**£23.1bn**

Indian exports to the UK

**£16.6bn**

Indian imports from the UK

**971**



Indian companies in the UK

**635**

UK companies in India

## GET IN TOUCH

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