

**Speech by Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick at the event on Defence
Ecosystem with NewSpace Research and Tech
24th June 2026**

H.E. Mr. Hajime Sasaki, State Minister of MLIT,
Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a pleasure to be present at an event that will showcase, in some measure, India's Defence production has emerged and the entrepreneurial skills of our startup leaders. Over the past decade, the evolution of India's defence production landscape has emerged as one of our most remarkable transformations. Responding to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's call to create a new self-sufficient India, or *Aatmanirbhar Bharat*, I am happy to inform you that India has improved and expanded greatly its defence design, development, and manufacturing.

2. Our journey towards self-reliance in defence production is ensuring the security of our supply chains, a greater operational readiness, and technological sovereignty, to say nothing of the reasonable prices at which our defence products are available. Some of this prowess was on display during the recent success of our armed forces in Operation Sindoor last year.

3. Today India is manufacturing a wide range of advanced military and dual-use technologies across domains. This includes frontline warships, artillery systems, armoured vehicles, critical subsystems like radars, electronic warfare suites, and communication networks. In aerospace and emerging domains, Indian companies are building unmanned aerial systems, drone swarms, satellite components, and space-enabled defence solutions.

4. The technological prowess of our scientists and engineers coupled with the skills of our entrepreneurs has produced this transformation. India has gone from being a large importer of weapon systems some years ago to producing sophisticated weapon systems for use in the air, land and sea. Our innovative private companies have achieved success through their innovation and risk-taking in areas such as aerospace, drones, AI, cyber systems and advanced materials.

5. India and Japan share a Special Strategic and Global Partnership rooted in mutual trust, democratic values, and a shared vision for a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific. Over the years, this relationship has evolved from economic cooperation and close political ties to a robust defence and security partnership as well. The leadership of our two countries is committed to achieving our joint vision of a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific anchored in respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity. I believe that there are promising avenues for deeper collaboration between India and Japan in defence production.

6. It is my pleasure today to welcome to Tokyo Mr. Julius Amrit, the Co-founder and Chief Operating Officer of NewSpace Research and Technologies, one of India's leading deep-technology aerospace companies. I visited his production shop floor in Bengaluru last month and had the opportunity to see for myself the significant progress made by the firm in intelligent cyber-physical unmanned systems, self-healing drone swarms, mesh-networked UAVs, persistent surveillance platforms and high-altitude systems. His products use indigenously-developed or widely-sourced technology. It is notable that many products made by NewSpace are used by the Indian armed forces. I understand his company employs 400 engineers. I hope very much that his visit here will produce mutually beneficial collaborations with Japanese companies in the same field.
