

# Latest developments at HAL

## HAL and Airbus to establish civil MRO

HAL and Airbus have signed a contract for establishing MRO facilities for A-320 family of aircraft during a function at New Delhi. This collaboration with the largest European aircraft manufacturing company will strengthen Make in India mission by achieving self reliance in the aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) industry in India. Under the collaboration, Airbus will supply the A320 family tool package and offer specialised consulting services to HAL to establish MRO facility for A-320 family of aircraft.



## Good year for HAL's Dornier 228 in 2023

Ministry of Defence signed a contract with HAL for procurement of two Dornier aircraft for Indian Coast Guard along with associated Engineering Support package



at an overall cost of Rs 458.87 crore. The aircraft will be procured under the Buy (Indian) Category. The aircraft will be fitted with a number of advanced equipment like Glass Cockpit, Maritime Patrol Radar, Electro Optic Infra Red device, Mission Management System etc.

MoD also signed a contract for procurement of six

Dornier-228 aircraft for the Indian Air Force from HAL at a cost of Rs 667 crore. The aircraft was used by IAF for Route Transport Role and communication duties. Subsequently, it has also been used for training of transport pilots of the IAF. The present lot of six aircraft will be procured with an upgraded fuel efficient engine coupled with a five bladed composite propeller.

Post successful completion of ground run and test flight of the Do-228, RCMA (Kanpur) accorded FCN for Biojet fuel trials on 21 September 2023. The first sortie for two hours with 10% blended fuel on one engine was successfully flown on 22 September 2023. Two sorties with 10% blended fuel on both engines was flown for four hours on 26 September 2023. Third sortie was flown on 27 September 2023. The trials on Do-228 aircraft using 10:90 admixtures of Bio-jet fuel with ATF were successfully completed at 5 BRD on 28 September 2023. Additional 6,000 ltrs of bio-jet fuel is under procurement which would be used in next phase of trials.



## New Design and Test Facility at HALs AERDC

The Defence Secretary, Mr. Giridhar Aramane inaugurated a new design and test facility at HAL's Aero Engine Research and Development Centre (AERDC) in Bengaluru on 29 December 2023. Hailing the important work being done by HAL, Mr. Aramane stated, "HAL has received applause at the highest levels and the government trusts your capability to deliver and make the country self-reliant. Manufacturing sector is the future of our country and in the coming decades, HAL should focus on mastering technologies for all types of aircraft. Think ahead as the entire paradigm of warfare is changing." Thrusting on the role of unmanned aircraft in the future warfare, he encouraged HAL to collaborate with other private companies to develop new platforms. "HAL is the largest DPSU in India and I want it to become the top ten companies in the world," he added. He had a look at the