



India's MoD Delegation Sees Russian 'Universal Soldiers' – the IL-76MD-90A and IL-78MK-90A Military Transports

India's delegation led by Mr. Apurva Chandra, Director General Acquisition of the Ministry of Defense, on tour of defense facilities in Russia's Privolzhsky Federal District visited Ulyanovsk-based Aviastar-SP, constituting a part of the United Aircraft Corporation's Transport Aviation Division.

Russian specialists made a detailed presentation of Russia's state-of-the-art [IL-76MD-90A](#) and [IL-78MK-90A](#) aircraft.

The rather high interest of foreign specialists in the IL-76/78 family is attributed to its versatility, providing deployment in various roles to include fire-fighting, tanker, transport, flying hospital, airborne CP, and AWACS.

The aircraft is suitable for regional airlift of troops, military equipment, and cargo, as well as their air dropping. The IL-76/78 can be deployed from unpaved runways, something to consider since not all military transports in the world can boast such capability. Being consistent with ICAO's noise and emission requirements, Russia's advanced Ilyushins also service international commercial lines.

Specialists tend to call the platform a 'Universal Soldier', capable of performing tasks in the most complex climatic and weather conditions anywhere in the world. Besides, its deep modernization encompassing deployment of new avionics makes its operation far easier, while replacement of the original D-30KP2 engines with modern PS-90A-76s results in better performance and cost effectiveness. Another point in favor of the new power plant is that it will run well even at +40°C without trading off the take-off weight.

"Indian pilots have first-hand experience in flying Ilyushins catering to operational and tactical needs of their military. This explains our meticulous assessment of Russia's modern military transports and tankers, as well as AWACS aircraft based on the platform," explains Mr. Apurva Chandra.

Russian Ilyushins have proved to be reliable and effective heavy-lift aircraft. India has accumulated considerable experience in operating the type. This and the infrastructure already established in India will prove to be instrumental in providing commonality of parts and components for its aircraft fleet, as well as training and maintenance systems. Besides, the price tag and maintenance costs are relatively low compared to what other manufacturers of similar platforms offer. In terms of cost-effectiveness the Russian ILs are superior to almost every other aircraft, which in itself is a quality mark.

"India is our longtime and reliable partner. It is very much symbolic that paving the way for a full-fledged cooperation of the two countries in aviation were two IL-14Ss in the Salon (VIP) configuration gifted by the head of the Soviet state to the Government of India. As of today,



India's Air Force and Navy have between them a considerable number of Russian-made aircraft with Ilyushin's IL-76s, IL-78s, and IL-38s among them. Russia is ready to both upgrade the aircraft already in service and supply new equipment meeting long-term requirements of Indian partners," notes UAC's Vice President for Transport Aviation and CEO of Ilyushin Aleksey Rogozin.

[Rosoboronexport](#) is the only state-owned arms trade company in the Russian Federation authorized to export the full range of military and dual-purpose products, technologies and services. It is a subsidiary of the Rostec Corporation. Founded on 4 November, 2000, now Rosoboronexport is one of the leading world arms exporters to the international market. Its share in Russia's military exports exceeds 85 percent. Rosoboronexport cooperates with more than 700 enterprises and organizations in the Russian defence industrial complex. Russia maintains military technical cooperation with more than 100 countries around the world.

Rostec State Corporation is a Russian corporation that was established in 2007 to facilitate the development, production and export of high-tech industrial products designed for civilian and military applications. The Corporation comprises over 700 organizations that are currently part of 11 holding companies operating in the military-industrial complex and 3 holding companies working in civilian industry, as well as 80 directly managed organizations. Rostec's portfolio includes well-known brands such as AVTOVAZ, KAMAZ, Kalashnikov Concern, Russian Helicopters, VSMPO AVISMA, UralVagonZavod, etc. Rostec companies are located in 60 constituent entities of the Russian Federation and supply products to more than 70 countries. In 2016, the consolidated revenue of Rostec amounted to 1 trillion 266 billion rubles, while the consolidated net income and EBITDA amounted to 88 and 268 billion rubles respectively. In 2016, the average salary in the Corporation was 44,000 rubles. According to Rostec strategy, the main objective of the Corporation is to ensure that Russia has a technological advantage in highly competitive global markets. Rostec's key objectives include the introduction of a new techno-economic paradigm and the digitalization of the Russian economy.

Ulyanovsk Aircraft Enterprise JSC "Aviastar-SP" («Авиастар-СП») is one of the largest and most promising enterprises in Russia, occupying a worthy place among the world's leading manufacturers of aviation equipment. The enterprise's capacities allow successfully implementing large-scale innovative and production projects. The production complex has a wide range of technological operations: from stamping and machining to the final assembly and testing of aircraft. The long-term strategic development program of JSC "Aviastar-SP" is able to suffice all the needs of the Russian aviation market in modern and comfortable aircraft.

JSC "Aviastar-SP" is a member of the Transport Aviation Division of PJSC "United Aircraft Corporation" and is involved in the implementation of a number of transport and civilian programs: IL-76MD-90A, IL-78M-90A, IL-112V, MS-21, SSJ100, An-124.

PJSC "IL" was founded in 1933. The main tasks of the company are the development of military transport and passenger aircraft, as well as special-purpose aircraft.

For the needs of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation the new heavy military transport aircraft IL-76MD-90A was put into serial production, a light military transport plane IL-112V and a convertible fuel tanker IL-78M-90A are launched into production. Work is underway to modernize the IL-76MD and IL-78M type aircraft, as well as the IL-38 anti-submarine aircraft. It is planned to create a regional IL-114-300 airliner, a wide-body long-haul airliner IL-96-400M and a medium multipurpose transport aircraft IL-276 in perspective.



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