

73rd  
Independence  
Day Special



# THE NATION BUILDERS

India ranked 44th in a list of 167 countries in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index for 2018—an indication that the country has a long way to go before achieving optimal infrastructure development across the board, be it power, roads, bridges, dams or urban renewal projects. Last December, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman unveiled projects worth Rs 102 lakh crore—to be implemented over the next five years—as part of an infrastructure push. The Centre and the states will execute 39 per cent each of these projects, the remaining being with the private sector. These will cover power, railways, urban irrigation, mobility, education and health. This April, the Centre set a target of constructing roads worth Rs 15 lakh crore in the next two years.

India is also witnessing significant interest from global investors in the infrastructure space, where private equity and venture capital investment touched an all-time high of \$14.5 billion (Rs 1.08 lakh crore) in 2019 while seven merger/ acquisition deals worth \$1.46 billion were struck. Experts say India can drastically reduce dependence on imported products by developing an efficient domestic industrial ecosystem. Larsen & Toubro has been developing a strong supply chain of local vendor partners and nurturing a local manufacturing/ construction ecosystem that creates cost-effective substitutes for the global markets. Such models will make the sector more self-reliant and give companies the edge in securing high-value projects globally.





**AIMING HIGH**  
L&T CEO & MD  
S.N. Subrahmanyam  
(centre) at the Statue  
of Unity project site  
in Gujarat

**LARSEN & TOUBRO**  
ESTABLISHED: 1938

## Heavy Lifters

**L**arsen & Toubro (L&T), the \$21 billion (Rs 1.58 lakh crore) technology, engineering, construction, manufacturing and financial services conglomerate, is synonymous with some of the marquee projects in India and West Asia, be it the integrated construction of 11 world-class airport terminals in India and the Gulf; the manufacturing of critical components and systems for Indian space missions and the country's first nuclear-powered submarine; hydrocarbon projects in India, West Asia, Southeast Asia and Africa; or creating infrastructure for the 2019 Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj at-

tended by millions of pilgrims.

Over the past eight decades, L&T has built a reputation for quality, reliability and strong customer orientation. L&T's products, including high-tech process plant equipment, have been installed in over 30 countries. It has been contributing to Indian defence and aerospace for over 35 years—most recently the tracked self-propelled howitzer, K9-Vajra-T. L&T has built over 50 defence ships and contributed to the development of ISRO's PSLV and GSLV programmes and the Mars Orbiter and Moon missions.

—M.G. Arun

### WHAT ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT MEANS TO ME

**"India can drastically reduce dependence on imported products, including from China, by setting up processes to develop a large-scale, efficient and cost-effective domestic industrial ecosystem. The atmosphere is right and we should accelerate this"**

—S.N. Subrahmanyam, CEO & MD, L&T



### KEY INNOVATION

L&T staff uses over 50 digital solutions, including IoT, AI and machine learning, at hundreds of project sites across the globe. Over 3,000 R&D engineers work on technological innovations—they have filed for 986 patents and won 148.

### DOMESTIC SALES

Rs 96,985 crore in 2019-20

### EXPORTS

Rs 48,467 crore in 2019-20

### USP

Much before Make in India, L&T had been demonstrating India's engineering, construction and tech prowess to the world

### GAP FILLED

L&T is engaged in high-impact sectors, such as infrastructure, construction, defence, hydrocarbon and heavy engineering, shipbuilding, aerospace, electricals and mining

### TOWERING ACHIEVEMENT

L&T has connected over 11,000 construction machines across projects digitally to monitor productivity and safety. It built the Statue of Unity, the world's tallest statue, in Gujarat in a record 33 months.



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**L&T DEFENCE**  
ESTABLISHED: 1985

## Self-reliance on Fast Track

**L**&T Defence is India's largest defence private sector player involved in several programmes for the navy, coast guard, army and air force, with a shipyard on the east coast and a manufacturing facility on the west coast. Currently, it is executing the largest contract awarded to an Indian private company by the Union ministry of defence through global competitive bidding. It won the contract worth Rs 4,500 crore

to supply 100 units of 'K9 Vajra' 155 mm/ 52 calibre tracked self-propelled howitzer guns in 2017. The self-propelled howitzers are a three-decade-old requirement and are being delivered to the Indian Army at a dizzying pace. The first 51 guns were delivered ahead of schedule in January this year. The remaining 49 guns will be delivered by December, again ahead of schedule, despite the Covid-19 pandemic.

### WHAT ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT MEANS TO ME

**"Building platform programmes, like the K9 Vajra, contribute to the economy with a large multiplier effect through domestic tiered value chain and enable the private industry to play a significant role in building a national defence industrial base"**

—J.D. Patil, Whole-time Director (Defence and Smart Technologies), Larsen & Toubro Limited



**PRIVATE PLAYER** J.D. Patil with a K-9 Vajra at L&T's Armoured Systems Complex in Gujarat

**KEY INNOVATION**  
Delivering the system with 50 per cent indigenous content (by value), including local production of over 13,000 components per gun system through a supply chain of about 500 Indian Tier-1 manufacturers, with over 100 of them from the MSME segment

**DOMESTIC SALES**  
Rs 4,000 crore per annum

**EXPORTS**  
Being offered for export to several Asian countries

**USP**  
Much before 'Make in India', L&T had been demonstrating India's engineering, construction and

tech prowess to the world

**GAP FILLED**  
The firm converted a globally tendered programme into a 'Make in India' one. Whereas earlier some guns would be made in South Korea and the rest in India, now all guns are being made in India.

**PRIZED INITIATIVE**  
L&T has established a new 40-acre greenfield manufacturing-integration-testing complex called the Armoured Systems Complex (ASC) in Hazira, Gujarat. The ASC can manufacture and integrate a range of advanced armoured platforms, such as future combat vehicles and tanks.

## ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VESSEL PROGRAMME

ESTABLISHED: 1983



**HOME TURF** INS Arihant sailing near Visakhapatnam

## Sub Powerhouse

**I**ndia's first nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), the INS Arihant, completed its first deterrence patrol in November 2018. A deterrence patrol, when a submarine sails with its full complement of nuclear weapons, represents the activation of the third leg of India's nuclear triad of land, air and sea-launched nuclear weapons, two decades after India entered the nuclear club and 35 years after it formally began the project. The Arihant, commissioned in 2016, vaulted the country into an exclusive club of five other nuclear weapon states—the US, UK, France,