

# The Transformation of HAL



## **VAYU** Exclusive Interview with Mr T Suvarna Raju, Chairman / MD Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

**VAYU**: As part of HAL's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, certain major milestones have been identified concerning projects currently in hand and the launch of new initiatives. These include the HTT-40 basic turboprop trainer, Light Utility Helicopter (LUH), HAL turbofan and turboshaft engines, and establishment of a helicopter complex facility at Tumakuru. Kindly share the status of these programmes.

**TSR**: Basic trainer aircraft Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40 (HTT-40) has been developed with internal funding. The maiden flight of the first prototype (PT-1)

took place in May 2016. Presently, PT-1 is under flight trials. Additionally, two more prototypes are being manufactured to speed up the flight trials and development process. The project is going on in full throttle as we aim to get the aircraft certified in 2018. After this series production would follow.

HAL has successfully carried out the first technical flight of prototype (PT-1) of LUH in September 2016. LUH PT-1 is currently under flight trials and HAL plans to build two more prototypes to accelerate the development in order to achieve certification by December 2017. Series production of the LUH would follow

at the new facility coming up at Tumakuru near Bengaluru.

The design and development of a 25 kN turbofan engine (HTFE-25) is making good progress since the engine's inaugural run in December 2015. HAL has carried out more than 100 trial runs and also achieved engine run at 100% RPM. This engine can be used on trainer aircraft apart from business and executive jets.

Another engine currently being developed is 1200 kW turboshaft engine (HTSE-1200). The Design Concept Document has been prepared and released, with design optimisation and detail design