



PRESIDENCIA
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SECRETARÍA DE ESTADO DE COMUNICACIÓN

TRANSCRIPCIÓN

**INTERVENCIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE DEL GOBIERNO, PEDRO SÁNCHEZ,
INAUGURACIÓN DE LA PLANTA DE TATA Y AIRBUS**

Vadodara, India, 28 de octubre de 2024

INTERVENCIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE DEL GOBIERNO, PEDRO SÁNCHEZ

Honorable Prime Minister Modi;

Honorable Indian and Spanish authorities;

Representatives of Airbus and Tata;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a great honor for me to be here today. Today, we are not only officially inaugurating a cutting-edge industrial facility. Today, we are also witnessing how an extraordinary project between two emblematic companies becomes a reality.

Prime Minister Modi, this is also the triumph of your vision: your vision to turn India into an industrial powerhouse, and a magnet for investment and business-to-business collaboration.

This partnership between Airbus and Tata will contribute to the progress of the Indian aerospace industry and will open new doors for the arrival of other European companies.

This project brings together the best of two worlds. Tata is probably the best exponent of Indian industrial strength. Its products and services are present in virtually every country on the planet. Tata is a giant among giants.

As for Airbus, it embodies the very essence of a united Europe, committed to technological innovation and the creation of jobs and prosperity.

For Spain, my country, being an integral part of the Airbus consortium means defending the values it represents. Values on which the very idea of Europe is based: cooperation, modernity and progress. After years of presence in India, where it has grown and boosted civil aviation, Airbus opens a new chapter partnering with India's defence and space industry.



This project strengthens our industrial ties, while underlining our country's deep commitment as a reliable and strategic partner.

And it shows, as well, the capabilities of the Spanish defence industry, with its world-class expertise and its well-earned international reputation.

Spain, like India, is promoting an ambitious roadmap to modernize its productive fabric with decarbonization and digitalization as drivers.

The automotive, aerospace and renewable energies sector are leading a genuinely strategic transformation that my country approaches with confidence and optimism.

The fruits of that commitment are already visible. Last week, the IMF raised its growth forecast for the Spanish economy to 2.9%. This figure is the highest among developed economies and almost four times the average growth forecast for the Eurozone. So, if Indian companies want to grow, believe me: they can trust Spain.

In 2026, the first C295 manufactured in India will be produced by this plant in Vadodara. This aircraft is a symbol of the Spanish and European aeronautical industry. In addition to contributing to modernizing India's defence capabilities, it will also drive technological development, particularly for the state of Gujarat, India's leading manufacturing hub.

Thousands of direct and indirect jobs will be created here, and a new generation of highly qualified engineers and technicians will be trained.

Many of them are currently studying at university and they will find in this center a first-class professional horizon when they finish their training.

Spain will also fulfil its commitment to technology transfer. This is essential for the creation of an authentic industrial ecosystem in this sector: from the manufacture of the aircraft to its delivery; from the production of parts and their assembly, to the performance of all the tests and aircraft maintenance tasks throughout its life cycle.

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Projects of this magnitude have an additional value: their spill over effects for micro, small and medium-sized companies. In short, the possibility of creating an entire business ecosystem linked to this advanced final assembly line.

I know very well what something like this represents. I come from a country where 99% of companies are micro, small and medium enterprises. They play a very valuable role in promoting social and territorial cohesion.

This plant perfectly summarizes the excellent state of bilateral relations between Spain and India. This relationship has grown over the last few years. Today we are taking another step forward. A strategic step, focused on a key industrial and technological field.

The presence of Spanish companies in India and Indian companies in Spain is growing. This growing presence is based on three pillars: a long-term vision, the search for reliable partners, and the commitment to develop industries at the local level to create jobs and wealth across all the territory.

I believe that foreign direct investment must be productive and transformative. It must be more than just opening up new markets. It is a commitment to the future of the receiving country, generating local added value and contributing to the extraordinary future that awaits a country like India.

Dear Prime Minister, dear friends

More than seven thousand kilometres separate Madrid, the capital of Spain, from New Delhi.

But we have long known that this distance can be bridged with will and with talent. In the late 1960s, the talented Paco de Lucia and the great Indian musician Ravi Shankar brought our two countries closer through music. Together, they managed to fuse flamenco and Indian classical music: Spanish guitar with the spirituality of the sitar.

Perhaps they did not know it then, but they were building a bridge between cultures that would open the way to the future. A future that has the face of projects like this.



This plant will be a symbol of industrial excellence, an engine of growth and a testament to the close and growing friendship between our two great countries, India and Spain.

Once again, thank you Prime Minister Modi for your leadership. And to Airbus and Tata, and all those who have made this project possible: I wish you every success.

Thank you very much.

*(Transcripción editada por la Secretaría de Estado de Comunicación)
(Intervención original en español)*