

# India's First Defence Electronics Policy Imminent

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*The Indian Ministry of Defence (MoD) is expected to approve its first-ever Defence Electronics and System Design Policy imminently.*

The policy is aimed at developing the private sector to decrease dependence on the public sector for the provision of defence electronics. A government-appointed panel comprising the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) and the National Association of Software and Services Companies

(NASSCOM), both industry bodies, and Roland Berger, a defence consulting firm, presented the MoD with their Defence Electronics and System Design Policy Recommendations in July.



According to the draft policy, which is now awaiting final approval from the MoD, Defence Public Service Undertakings (DPSU) will cease production of any defence electronics system or component that the private sector begins manufacturing in the future. DPSUs will be responsible for only designing the technology while the private sector takes on the manufacturing task.



The policy, the first of its kind is expected to come into effect in September, will allow the formation of a task force comprising of members from the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), IESA and NASSCOM “to identify what can be done immediately to exploit opportunities available” as a first step, MN Vidyashankar, president of IESA told *AMR*.

The panel estimates that the defence and aerospace electronics market in India will be worth \$72 billion over the next decade.

*by Bindiya Thomas*

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