

## **“Defense Industry: Challenges, Solutions, and Opportunities”**

by Mr. Abhay Phansikar ( Director Strategy, Azilen Technologies, Mumbai) on line lecture held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020, 4.30 Pm

*During the webinar Mr.Abhay Phansikar, his thoughts and Experiences on “**Defense Industry: Challenges, Solutions, and Opportunities.**” In this talk, Mr.Abhay phansikar shared his experiences on designing **mission-critical, high end, and high-performance** systems in the defense industry. He also shared different challenges and opportunities available in the defense sector. He also explained how to build an adaptive system that can integrate newer technologies or building a highly cost-effective system to beat the budget.*

### **Introduction**

Defense Sector is the fastest growing sector in India. Defense sector has brought many opportunities for young engineering professionals. It is a field of cutting-edge technology and innovations. Under the Atma-Nirbhar initiative this sector opening up for private participation this is the opportune time to know more. Defense projects are exciting, innovative and challenging - encompassing leading technologies and high-end research. On the other end maintaining the end of life systems of defense project is highly satisfying and encourages us to create jugaad innovations. The session began with a unique short summary of Mr.Abhay Phansikar introduction, his work engagements, and his association with prestigious industries like TaTa, L&T to name a few. His introduction to those Mission Critical Military projects development process projects laid the foundation of the talk. He presented all projects with lots of insights. Talk was followed by engaging interactive Q & A Session. Some of the key takeaways of the talk are as follow.

### **Defense Industry**

Now defense industry is open for all to contribute. There are plenty of ways by which we may connect to defense industry. Defense sector is not just limited to hi-tech technology products but they also need many solutions in different areas like clothes, tents, consumable items, etc. One of the top demanding areas is developing training modules or simulators. However, the requirements by the defense sector are very stringent. In defense eco system, first, you need to develop the prototype and then you may ask for funding. It takes many iterations to finalize the product specifications.

### **Mission Critical Projects**

These projects are not just technically challenging but also extremely complex in nature. Expert shared details of his two key projects development process. First he explained his project on training simulation module. Next project was about developing FPGA boards for Missiles. Later, he shared some of the challenges they have faced and what are the different solutions they have applied to complete these projects successfully. These projects are perfect examples of collaborative work between defense experts and Engineers.

### **Contribution to defense Industry**

There are multiple ways to contribute to defense sector. First is by joining the engineering wing of Military or Defense Labs like DRDO. Second is by working with private sectors/players who are involved in developing defense projects like L& T, Tata, etc. Third is by applying for research grants which are floated by different government agencies. If students like to make their carrier in this filed they need to know their subject thoroughly, and be ready to work in filed.