

CARL-GUSTAF M4 MAY BE PRODUCED IN INDIA, SAYS SWEDEN'S SAAB

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Swedish defence major SAAB on Tuesday announced plans to manufacture its Carl-Gustaf M4 weapon system in India.

The manufacturing would be done by a new fully SAAB-owned subsidiary, Saab FFV India Pvt. Ltd. "This is the first time, we will be setting up a manufacturing facility for this outside Sweden," said Gorgen Johansson, senior vice president, SAAB, in an interaction with the media. "We will transfer the technology to India. The first product will roll out in 2024," he said.

However, they are yet to receive the government approval for the new venture, Mr. Johansson said, while declining to give details on the volume of investment and the production capacities planned. The location of the new facility is yet to be decided and they will have competition for it, he added.

The Indian Army has already ordered the M4 version, he said in response to a question. Mr. Johansson said the company would first meet requirements of the Indian forces, and later look at exporting the sub systems to Sweden from where they would go into the global supply chain.

The new facility would be partnering with Indian sub-suppliers which will fulfil the 'Make in India' requirements, he stated.

The Army has been using the iconic Carl-Gustaf since 1976 and currently operates the Mk2 and Mk3 versions.

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