



INDIAN AIR FORCE CONCLUDES HIGH-TEMPO MULTINATIONAL EXERCISES PITCH BLACK AND UDARA SHAKTI 2026

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 22 AUG 2026 8:41PM by PIB Delhi

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully concluded its participation in two pivotal international flight engagements: Exercise Pitch Black 2026 in Australia and Exercise Udara Shakti 2026 in Malaysia. The dual-nation deployment underscored the IAF's operational reach, advanced tactical coordination, and commitment to strengthening strategic defence partnerships across the Indo-Pacific region.

During Exercise Pitch Black 2026, hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), the IAF deployed its frontline Rafale aircraft to operate alongside Air Forces from over 20 participating nations. Executing complex Large Force Employment (LFE) missions in a high-threat, multi-domain environment, the exercise enabled seamless tactical integration, cross-learning, and enhanced interoperability among coalition partners.

Following the operations in Australia, the IAF contingent deployed directly to Subang, Malaysia, for Exercise Udara Shakti 2026. IAF aircrew executed high-intensity combat sorties and joint tactical manoeuvres alongside the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF), flying with and against Su-30MKM and F/A-18 Hornet aircraft. The bilateral engagement focused on refining air combat tactics, subject matter expert exchanges (SMEE), and optimizing combined operational flexibility.

Throughout both deployments, joint operations extended beyond the cockpit to include maintenance practices, mission planning exchanges, and cultural interactions, bolstering professional camaraderie across ranks.

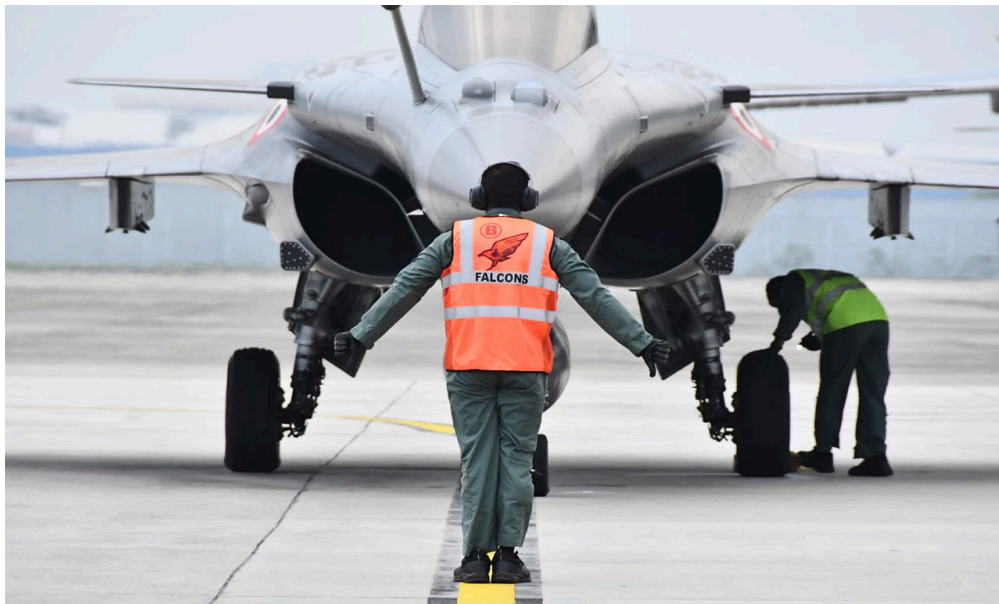
The Indian Air Force remains dedicated to enhancing regional stability, fostering interoperability, and advancing collaborative security initiatives through continuous joint training engagements across the global defence community.











JS/VK/SM

(रिलीज़ आईडी: 2302406) आगंतुक पटल : 2661

इस विज्ञप्ति को इन भाषाओं में पढ़ें: Urdu , हिन्दी , Punjabi

