



Indian Air Force

89th Foundation Day of Indian Airforce



IAF is considered one of the most admirable air forces in the world. 1932 by the British Empire. It then had a strength of 25 soldiers of which 19 were combat pilots. Ever since then, IAF has gone through extreme modernization and expansion both in technology and strength of man.

Royal Indian Air Force (RIAF) 1945 to 1950



- The Air Force Was Established on October 8, 1932
- Sir Thomas Walker Elmhirst was the first Commander-in-chief of the Indian Air Force.
- Air Marshal Subroto Mukerjee was the first Indian Chief of Staff of the Air Force.
- From 1945 to 1950, it was called the **Royal Indian Air Force (RIAF)**. After the formation of the Republic in the year 1950, the Government of India removed 'Royal' from its name.

seventh strongest & fourth largest air force in the world



- It is the fourth largest Airforce in the world after U.S.A, Russia, China with approximately 139,576 active personnel, 140,000 reserve personnel and 1,748 plus aircraft after the Independence Indian Airforce took part in four wars, three with Pakistan and One with the People's Republic of China.

HAL HF-24 Marut: "Spirit of the Tempest"



- It was a fighter-bomber aircraft, developed by HAL in association with Kurt Tank as lead designer. This was the first Indian-developed jet aircraft, and the first Asian jet fighter-bomber to reach beyond the test phase and to the successful production and active service. A total of 147 Marut aircraft were manufactured for Indian Airforce, played an essential role in the 1971 Indo- Pakistan war.

Indian Air Force stations

- The Indian Air Force currently operates seven Air Commands. Each command is headed by an Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the rank of Air Marshal.
- The Air Force currently has over 60 air stations all over India. These are grouped into seven commands: Western Air Command at New Delhi, Eastern Air Command at Shillong, Central Air Command at Prayagraj, Southern Air Command at Thiruvananthapuram (Trivandrum), South Western Air Command at Gandhinagar, Training Command at Bangalore and Maintenance Command at Nagpur. The largest airbase is in Gujarat.
- There are a number of newer air stations being built as well, in line with India's strategic doctrine. The Indian Navy has some separate air stations for its aviation wing.

"Touch the sky with Glory" from Bhagwat Gita

- The IAF's motto "Touch the sky with Glory" is from the Bhagavad Gita, where it aims to destroy the enemies by using air power to defend the nation.
- Its motto "Nabha Sparsham Deeptham" is taken from the eleventh chapter of the Gita. The way Lord Krishna shows his supreme divine form to Arjuna, in a similar way, the Indian Air Force aims to overwhelm the adversaries with the application of aerospace power in defence of the nation.









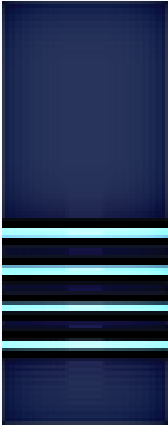
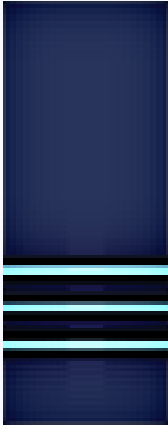
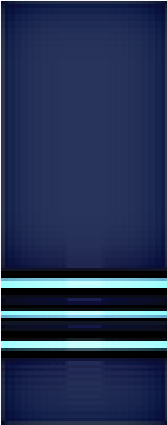


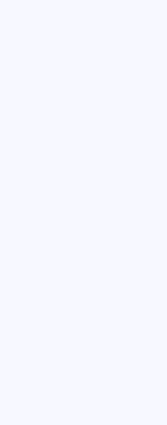


Combat Aircraft

Aircraft	Origin	Type
Dassault Rafale	France	Multirole
Sukhoi Su-30	Russia India	Multirole
HAL Tejas	India	Multirole
MiG-29	Russia	Multirole
Mirage 2000	France	Multirole
SEPECAT Jaguar	United Kingdom	Ground attack
MiG-21	Soviet Union	Interceptor

Air Force Ranks and Insignia of India

Rank group	General/flag officers				
 Indian Air Force ^[1] [V·T·E]					
	Marshal of the Indian Air Force	Air Chief Marshal	Air Marshal	Air Vice Marshal	Air Commodore
	Ceremonial/ War time rank	Held by the Chief of Defence Staff or the Chief of the Air Staff			

Field/senior officers			Junior officers		Officer cadet
					
Group Captain	Wing Commander	Squadron Leader	Flight Lieutenant	Flying Officer	Flight Cadet