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## Two successful launches of Made in India BrahMos from land and air platform validates its lethality

*With today's launch, IAF has got the capability to strike from large stand-off ranges on any target both at sea or on land with accuracy in different weather conditions and day and night*

*By Huma Siddiqui*

New Delhi: The Indo-Russian BrahMos Air-Launched Cruise Missile (ALCM) was successfully launched by the Indian Air Force (IAF) from the Russian Su-30 MKI against a sea target. With this success, the IAF gets the desired strategic reach and become the ultimate “game-changer” in the 21st century.

With today's launch, IAF has got the capability to strike from large stand-off ranges on any target both at sea or on land with accuracy in different weather conditions and day and night.

According to the officials, the test, conducted in user configuration revalidated the ship attack capability of the advanced air-launched cruise missile. At the time of the launch, the missile was gravity dropped from the air combat platform's fuselage and the two-stage weapon's engine fired up and straightaway propelled towards the intended target positioned at the sea piercing the same with pinpoint accuracy.



With today's successful launch of BrahMos from Su-30MKI has re-established it as the world's most powerful conventional airborne weapon to attack targets on sea and land from the air. As has been reported earlier, in May this year had successfully tested the missile against a land-based target in the Car Nicobar Islands region.

The air version of the BrahMos missile is a 2.5 ton and with a range of 300 km, it has been developed and designed by BrahMos Aerospace Pvt Ltd (BAPL). Also, there has been major participation by the IAF from the time of the inception of the missile and has worked closely with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), state owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and BAPL.

The IAF has played a significant role in developing the software of the SU-30 MKI and the state-owned HAL has made both mechanical and electrical modifications on the fighter aircraft enabling it to carry the missile. Says IAF, “The integration of the weapon on the aircraft is a complex process and it involves all stakeholders including the HAL, DRDO and BAPL to carry out the modifications on board the Su-30 MKI.”

Today's test was the third live launch of the weapon, November 2017 witnessed the first time it was launched making IAF the first air force in the world to have successfully fire an air-launched surface attack missile of this category on a sea target.

Under the joint venture between India and Russia, efforts are on to increase the speed of the missile to up to Mach 5 which will make it into a hypersonic weapon.

Earlier in the day, the BrahMos was successfully launched from a land-based mobile launcher where maximum components were of Indian origin, primarily the missile airframe, fuel management system and DRDO designed seeker.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/defence/two-successful-launches-of-made-in-india-brahmos-from-land-and-air-platform-validates-its-lethality/1797721/>

## How air, land-attack versions of BrahMos missile are strengthening Indian defence forces

### BrahMos missile successfully test-fired

India successfully test-fired two BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles from land and air platforms to check its capability to hit targets with precision and accuracy.

### Land-attack missile fired from a mobile launcher

According to the officials, the land-attack missile was fired from Launch Pad-3 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at a base off the coast of Odisha by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and targeted a ship.

### Air version testfired from IAF's Su-20MKI

The air version of the missile was launched by the Indian Air Force (IAF) from Sukhoi-30MKI and it also successfully hit a target in the sea. During the test, the missile was gravity dropped from the air combat platform's fuselage and the two-stage weapons engine fired up and the missile straightway propelled towards the intended target positioned at the sea, piercing it with "pinpoint" accuracy, defence officials said in a statement.

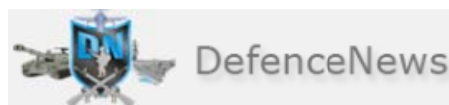
### How it boosts IAF?

BrahMos missile provides Indian Air Force with a much-desired capability to strike from large stand-off ranges on any target at sea or on land with pinpoint accuracy by day or night and in all weather conditions.

### Who developed the missile?

A medium-range ramjet supersonic cruise missile, BrahMos can be launched from submarines, ships, fighter jets, or land. The missile has been developed as a joint venture between the DRDO and the Federal State Unitary Enterprise NPO Mashinostroyeniya (NPOM) of Russia.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/how-air-land-attack-versions-of-brahmos-missile-are-strengthening-indian-defence-forces/how-it-boosts-iaf/slideshow/72868899.cms>



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## IAF and defence ministry bargain on 83 LCA deal, bring down cost by over Rs 10,000 crores

The finance wing of India's Defence Ministry with the Indian Air Force negotiated with the government-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and got the price of the 83 Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) reduced by more than Rs 10,000 crores in New Delhi today, December 18.

### Long Wait ::

The original price of the 83 Tejas Mark-1A was stipulated at Rs 50,035 crores. This deal was made final by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) in November 2016, when the biggest decision-making body in the Defence Ministry approved the IAF to purchase these aircraft at the original price.

Defence sources told ANI that: "The draft contract of the deal has been readied by the HAL and the cost of the deal has now come down to around Rs 40,000 crore. This is Rs 10,000 crore less than the Acceptance of Necessity given by the Defence Ministry in 2016."

Negotiations for the procurement of the 83 LCA have been going on since 2017. The IAF had issued a single-vendor tender to the HAL for the same in 2017, but the deal hasn't been closed due to issues over the price.

### **Crossed fingers ::**

This is the biggest contract for HAL ever by the defence forces. The Defence Ministry is looking forward to closing the deal during the Defexpo-2019, which is to be held in Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's constituency, Lucknow, in February 2020.

The deal offered in the LCA Mark-1A had not been able to be sealed due to issues over the price. The former Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had formed a committee to investigate and negotiate into the matter. Numerous meetings have been held between HAL and the Defence Ministry's finance wing since then, and the contract is now in the final stage, just waiting to be inked by the two parties.

### **Features of the LCA ::**

The new LCA will have improved serviceability, faster weapon-loading time, enhanced survivability, a better electronic warfare suite and Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar that will enhance its capability significantly.

Tejas LCA had been cleared and provided the Final Operational Clearance (FOC) by the Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification (CEMILAC) earlier this year in Bengaluru during Aero India. The CEMILAC had given a thumbs up to the aircraft's capabilities including the 'beyond visual range' air-to-air and air-to-ground attack capabilities. The aircraft was also deemed to have longer endurance because it can refuel mid-air.

The IAF had inked a contract for 40 Tejas LCAs with the HAL previously. As many as 18 LCAs have been delivered to the IAF so far from the previous deal and a squadron has been formed in Tamil Nadu's Sulur town. The 45 total squadrons have participated in various exercises and demonstrations to exhibit its capabilities to the world.

### **Critics say...**

Critics say that the Indian Air Force should drop its plan to make more Tejas Mark-2s and focus on AMCA fighter jets. The Tejas AF Mark 2 MWF is an enhanced version of the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) and the purchase of these aircraft are called 'a bad bet'. As published in a reputable news website, the fourth generation Medium Weight Fighter (MWF) is a bad bet as it will probably be ready by the end of next decade. China has already procured two fifth-generation fighter jets, which it can sell to Pakistan.

<https://www.defencenews.in/article/IAF-And-Defence-Ministry-Bargain-On-83-LCA-Deal,-Bring-Down-Cost-By-Over-Rs-10,000-Crores-808451>

## रक्षा मंत्रालय के मोल-भाव का कमाल

# 83 लड़ाकू विमानों के सौदे में देश के 10 हजार करोड़ बचाए

नई दिल्ली, (एजेसी): रक्षा मंत्रालय के वित्त विभाग और वायु सेना के नेतृत्व वाले हिंदुस्तान एरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड (एचएएल) ने मोलभाव कर लड़ाकू विमानों की खरीद में देश के करोड़ों रुपये बचाए हैं। मोलभाव की वजह से 83 हल्के लड़ाकू विमानों की डील अब 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये कम पर हुई। रक्षा अधिग्रहण परिषद (डीएसी) ने नवंबर 2016 में 83 तेजस मार्क-1ए विमानों को 50,025 करोड़ रुपये में खरीदने के सौदे पर मुहर लगाई थी। रक्षा मंत्रालय के खरीद संबंधित सभी फैसले डीएसी ही लेता है। रक्षा सूत्रों ने बताया कि रक्षा सौदे का मसौदा एचएएल ने तैयार किया है और मोलभाव के बाद इसकी कीमत 40 हजार करोड़ रुपये तक आ गई है। अब रक्षा मंत्रालय को स्वदेशी इंडस्ट्री के लिए अब तक के सबसे बड़े रक्षा सौदे पर मुहर लगाने की कोशिश में है। दिसंबर 2017 में



● नवंबर 2016 में 83 तेजस मार्क-1ए विमानों को 50,025 करोड़ रुपये में खरीदने के सौदे पर मुहर लगाई थी

वायु सेना ने एचएएल को 83 हल्के लड़ाकू विमान खरीदने के लिए टेंडर जारी किए थे। मगर इसके बाद से कीमतों के लिए बातचीत का दौर जारी था। रक्षा मंत्रालय की वित्तीय शाखा को लगा कि एलसीए मार्क 1ए की कीमतें ज्यादा लगीं और इसके बाद तत्कालीन रक्षा मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने इस मामले को देखने के लिए एक समिति का गठन किया। इसके बाद से दोनों पक्षों के

बीच कई दौर की बैठकें हुईं, लेकिन अब अनुबंध अंतिम चरण तक पहुंच गया है।

अत्याधुनिक सुविधाओं से लैस है ये विमान : अत्याधुनिक सुविधाओं से लैस विमान यह विमान अत्याधुनिक सुविधाओं से लैस है। इसमें हथियारों को तेजी से लोड किया जा सकता है। इसकी निगरानी प्रणाली और इलेक्ट्रॉनिक प्रणाली भी बेहतर है।