

CONTENTS

S. No.	Title	Source	Page No.
Defence News			1-3
1	पाकिस्तान सीमा के करीब गरजेगी वायुशक्ति, दिखेगी 'सिंदूर' की झलक	<i>NavBharat Times</i>	1
2	Calling Rafale the 'hero' of Operation Sindoor, Vice Chief of Air Staff seeks more fighter planes for IAF	<i>The Hindu</i>	1
3	Rafale, Su-30, Tejas to be part of 'Vayu Shakti' at Pokhran, will highlight Operation Sindoor success	<i>The Indian Express</i>	2
4	भारत-अमेरिका के बीच वज्र प्रहार 23 फरवरी से	<i>NavBharat Times</i>	3
Science & Technology News			4-5
5	INSA and NIScPR Signed MoU to Advance Science Communication and Policy Research	<i>Press Information Bureau</i>	4

Defence News

पाकिस्तान सीमा के करीब गरजेगी वायुशक्ति, दिखेगी 'सिंदूर' की झलक

Source: NavBharat Times, Dt. 12 Feb 2026

■ नई दिल्ली: पाकिस्तान बॉर्डर के पास जब वायुसेना के 77 फाइटर जेट, 43 हेलिकॉप्टर और 8 ट्रांसपोर्ट एयरक्राफ्ट 'वायुशक्ति' सैन्य अभ्यास में शामिल होंगे तो ये 'ऑपरेशन सिंदूर' की भी झलक देंगे। राजस्थान के पोकरण फील्ड फायरिंग रेंज में 27 फरवरी को यह सैन्य अभ्यास होना है, जो 2 घंटे 35 मिनट 27 फरवरी चलेगा। इस दौरान को पोकरण 277 वेपन, 23 फायरिंग रेंज टारगेट और करीब में होगा यह 12 हजार किलो सैन्य अभ्यास विस्फोटक इस्तेमाल होंगे। वायुसेना के

वाइस चीफ एयर मार्शल नागेश कपूर ने कहा कि ऑपरेशन सिंदूर का संदेश साफ था कि आतंकवाद को बिल्कुल बर्दाश्त नहीं करेंगे। सरजमीं पर हर आतंकी घटना का जवाब देंगे। 'वायुशक्ति' में ऑपरेशन सिंदूर की झलक देखने को मिलेगी। इस ऑपरेशन में राफेल हीरो रहा। क्या 114 और राफेल मिल रहे हैं? वाइस चीफ ने कहा कि और मल्टी रोल फाइटर जेट शामिल करने की योजना है, पर अंतिम फैसला लिया जाना बाकी है।



'वायुशक्ति' सैन्य अभ्यास में राफेल, सुखोई-30, मिग-29, तेजस, जगुआर जैसे फाइटर जेट हिस्सा लेंगे।

राफेल से जगुआर तक...लेंगे हिस्सा

'वायुशक्ति' में दिन-रात दोनों वक्त की ऑपरेशन क्षमता दिखाई जाएगी। इस अभ्यास में राफेल, सुखोई, मिग-29, तेजस, जगुआर शामिल होंगे। साथ ही अपाचे, LCH प्रचंड, चिनुक और ALH भी होंगे। सेनाओं का इंटिग्रेशन भी दिखेगा। एम-777 और एयर डिफेंस गन एल-70 के साथ स्पेशल फोर्स के कमांडो हिस्सा होंगे। C-295 पहली बार ऑपरेशनल रोल में दिखाया जाएगा।

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वाइस चीफ ने बताया, किराना हिल्स का सच

'ऑपरेशन सिंदूर' में पाकिस्तान के किराना हिल्स पर हमले के बारे में एयर मार्शल नागेश कपूर ने कहा कि हमने आतंकी ठिकानों और कई पाकिस्तानी सैन्य ठिकानों पर हमला किया था। लेकिन वहां (किराना हिल्स में) जो धमाका हुआ, वह किस वजह से हुआ और किस वेपन से हुआ, हमें जानकारी नहीं है। किराना के विडियो उन्होंने जारी किए। हमने कच नहीं किया।

Calling Rafale the 'hero' of Operation Sindoor, Vice Chief of Air Staff seeks more fighter planes for IAF

Source: The Hindu, Dt. 12 Feb 2026

Vice Chief of the Air Staff Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor on Wednesday (February 11, 2026) described the Rafale fighter jet as the "hero" of Operation Sindoor and said the Indian Air Force (IAF) is looking to induct more such Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA), with Rafale planes among the contenders. "Rafale was definitely the hero during Operation Sindoor among other heroes. The Indian Air Force is looking forward to inducting more MRFA, which is going to be Rafale or any other aircraft under deliberations. A concrete decision has yet to be taken. We are looking for newer generation air crafts [to add] into our inventory," he said.

On reports regarding alleged strikes on Pakistan's Kirana Hills during the operation, Air Marshal Kapoor said the IAF had targeted terror infrastructure and several military installations. "Whether we did something there or whether the explosion was caused by something else, we don't know. These videos were presented by their people; we did nothing beyond striking terror and military installations," he said. He was briefing journalists about Vayu Shakti, an upcoming IAF exercise to be held at the Pokharan air-to-ground range near the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan on

February 27. The biennial firepower demonstration will highlight the success of Operation Sindoor and the IAF's capability to rapidly punish the enemy and dominate the operational environment. More than 120 air assets, including 77 fighter jets, will participate. The lineup includes Rafale, Su-30MKI, Mirage-2000, MiG-29, Jaguar, and LCA Tejas aircraft. Helicopters will also take part, including Apache, Chinook, LCH Prachand, and ALH choppers, along with transport aircraft such as the C-130J, C-17, and the C-295, which will make its debut at the event.

Wing Commander Ajit B. Wasane said that 277 weapons would be deployed during the exercise, which will last two hours and 35 minutes. Around 12,000 kg of explosives will be detonated across 43 events involving 23 targets. Surface-to-air systems such as Akash and SpyDer, Short Range Loitering Munitions, and Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems will also be showcased. The drill will feature integrated operations with the Army, including the deployment of M-777 howitzers, L-70 guns, and Special Forces. Conducted under the South Western Air Command, the exercise assumes added significance as it follows last year's almost 88-hour military confrontation between India and Pakistan under Operation Sindoor.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/calling-rafale-the-hero-of-operation-sindoor-vice-chief-of-air-staff-seeks-more-fighter-planes-for-iaf/article70620746.ece>

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Rafale, Su-30, Tejas to be part of 'Vayu Shakti' at Pokhran, will highlight Operation Sindoor success

Source: The Indian Express, Dt. 12 Feb 2026

THE IAF is looking forward to inducting a lot more of the newer-generation aircraft into its inventory, Vice Chief of the Air Staff, Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor, said on Wednesday. Addressing reporters ahead of Exercise Vayu Shakti — where the IAF will demonstrate its full spectrum of combat and firepower capabilities at the Pokhran range close to the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan on February 27 — he said the biennial demonstration this time assumes a different connotation as this is taking place after last year's Operation Sindoor.

He said that while long-distance targeting will not be showcased in this firepower demonstration at Pokhran range, the effects of the strikes on the ground will be demonstrated as part of it. "We will do our demonstration. What message will go out to anyone... it is up to you to decide." In a statement, the Defence Ministry said, "As the first, fastest and fiercest responder, the Indian Air Force will highlight its ability to rapidly punish the enemy, dominate operational environment from the outset and decisively influence the course of operations by transforming tactical actions into strategic outcomes."

It said the exercise will also showcase glimpses of how IAF plays a crucial role in humanitarian assistance and disaster management by providing rapid airlift and rescue and evacuation from conflict zones within the country as well as abroad. "Full spectrum operations by fighter, transport and helicopter platforms including Tejas, Rafale, Jaguar, Mirage-2000, Su-30MKI, Hawk, MiG-29, C-130J, C-295, C-17, Chetak, ALH MK-IV, Mi-17 IV, LCH, Apache, Chinook and Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) will be executed," it said.

The exercise will also feature advanced weapon systems such as Short Range Loitering Munitions (SRLM), Akash, SpyDer and Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems (CUAS), carrying out day, dusk and night missions, it added. "Vayu Shakti will also highlight the success of Operation Sindoor,

reaffirming IAF's primacy in airspace dominance, long-range precision targeting, multi-domain operations and its ability to deliver decisive effects with indigenous platforms guided by the vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'," it said. More than 120 air assets, comprising 77 fighter jets, which include Rafale, Su-30MKI, MiG-29, LCA Tejas, Jaguar, Mirage-2000, Apache, Chinook and LCH Prachand, Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH), among helicopters, and eight transport aircraft will be part of the exercise, with C-295 making its debut in the drill, IAF officers said.

Wg Cdr Ajit B Wasane, who conducted a presentation on the exercise, said that about 12,000 kg of explosives will be detonated during the course of the exercise. "C-295 will be part of this exercise for the first time, and it will showcase its night operation capabilities. Also, among 277 weapons overall, surface-to-air guided weapons such as Akash, SpyDer, will be showcased. There will be integrated and joint operation with the Indian Army too, with their M-777 (howitzer), L-70 and troops of Special Forces taking part in the exercise, which will run for about 2 hours and 35 minutes," he said.

He said these will be through the use of missiles, bombs and rockets, he said, adding, 43 events in total, and 23 targets, including in the air or on ground, will be part of the demonstration, he said. On procurement plans for Rafales, Air Marshal Kapoor said, "Rafale definitely was a hero, among other heroes, during Operation Sindoor." "Yes, Rafale is the buzzword...The IAF is looking forward to inducting a lot more MRFA (multi-role fighter aircraft), whether that will be Rafale or any other aircraft, is presently under consideration. And, a concrete decision on it has not yet been taken," he said. "The IAF is looking forward to inducting a lot more of newer-generation aircraft in its inventory, and the sooner, the better."

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/rafale-su-30-tejas-to-be-part-of-vayu-shakti-at-pokhran-will-highlight-operation-sindoor-success-10527568/>

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भारत-अमेरिका के बीच वज्र प्रहार 23 फरवरी से

Source: NavBharat Times, Dt. 12 Feb 2026

■ पूनम पाण्डे, नई दिल्ली: भारत-अमेरिका ट्रेड डील पर भले ही उतार-चढ़ाव आते रहे, लेकिन इन दोनों देशों की सेना के बीच संबंध संतुलित बने रहे। अब भारत और अमेरिका की स्पेशल फोर्सेज इसी महीने 'वज्र प्रहार' नाम से साझा अभ्यास करेगी। हिमाचल प्रदेश के बकलोह में 23 फरवरी से 16 मार्च के बीच यह एक्सरसाइज होगी। इसका मकसद दोनों स्पेशल फोर्सेज के बीच जॉइंट ऑपरेशंस में तालमेल बढ़ाना, अनुभव साझा करना और आधुनिक युद्ध तकनीकों को समझना है।

भारत-अमेरिका के बीच 'वज्र प्रहार' की शुरुआत 2010 में हुई थी। यह एक्सरसाइज दोनों देशों में बारी-बारी से होती रही है। इसमें दोनों देशों के अलीट कमांडो शामिल होते हैं। इनका फोकस



स्पेशल फोर्सेज के बीच 2025 में यह साझा अभ्यास अमेरिका में हुआ था।

जॉइंट मिशन प्लानिंग, ऑपरेशनल टैक्टिक्स और स्पेशल ऑपरेशंस में इस्तेमाल होने वाली तकनीकों पर होता है। पिछली एक्सरसाइज में दोनों स्पेशल फोर्स आतंकवाद विरोधी ऑपरेशंस की प्रैक्टिस, एयरबोर्न ऑपरेशंस और पैरा-ड्रॉप, पहाड़ों पर युद्धाभ्यास कर चुकी हैं।

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Science & Technology News

INSA and NIScPR Signed MoU to Advance Science Communication and Policy Research

Source: Press Information Bureau, Dt. 11 Feb 2026

Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and the National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 10 February 2026 at INSA, New Delhi, to promote collaborative activities on science communication and evidence-based science policy research and strengthen evidence-based policymaking in India.

The programme began with welcome remarks by Dr. Brajesh Pandey, Executive Director, INSA. Dr Akhilesh Gupta, Former Senior Advisor, Department of Science and Technology (DST), outlined the genesis and rationale of the MoU and emphasised the importance of sustained institutional collaboration for advancing evidence-based STI policy research.

Dr. Geetha Vani Rayasam, Director, CSIR-NIScPR, highlighted the complementarity between the two organisations and noted that the partnership would enable both institutions to leverage their respective strengths in science communication, policy research, and academic engagement to create meaningful impact in STI policy research. Prof. Anurag Agrawal, Vice President (Policy), INSA, underlined the importance of designing effective policies to guide India towards a sustainable and future-ready science and innovation ecosystem.



Prof. Shekhar C. Mande, President, INSA, reflected on the shared legacy of the two institutions and described the collaboration as particularly significant in the present era of rapid scientific and technological transformation. He emphasised the need for strong policy foundations to guide STI development in the broader context of societal well-being and human survival.

Dr. V. K. Saraswat, Hon'ble Member, NITI Aayog, congratulated both institutions on the partnership and stressed the importance of policy frameworks that support the responsible and human-centric

adoption of disruptive technologies. He highlighted the role of pilot studies, digital twins and similar tools in assessing policy effectiveness and strengthening implementation mechanisms.

MoU aims to promote collaborative policy research studies, joint publications, pilot projects, capacity-building initiatives, outreach programmes and stakeholder consultations. It will also facilitate engagement with government institutions, international organisations, think tanks, researchers and young scholars to strengthen India's STI policy ecosystem. Through this partnership, INSA and CSIR-NIScPR reaffirm their shared commitment to advancing robust, inclusive and forward-looking STI policies through collaborative research, knowledge exchange and dialogue at national and global levels.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2226568®=3&lang=1>

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The Tribune
The Statesman
ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੇਸਰੀ ਜਨਸੱਤਾ
The Hindu
The Economic Times
Press Information Bureau
The Indian Express
The Times of India
Hindustan Times
नवभारत टाइम्स
दैनिक जागरण
The Asian Age
The Pioneer