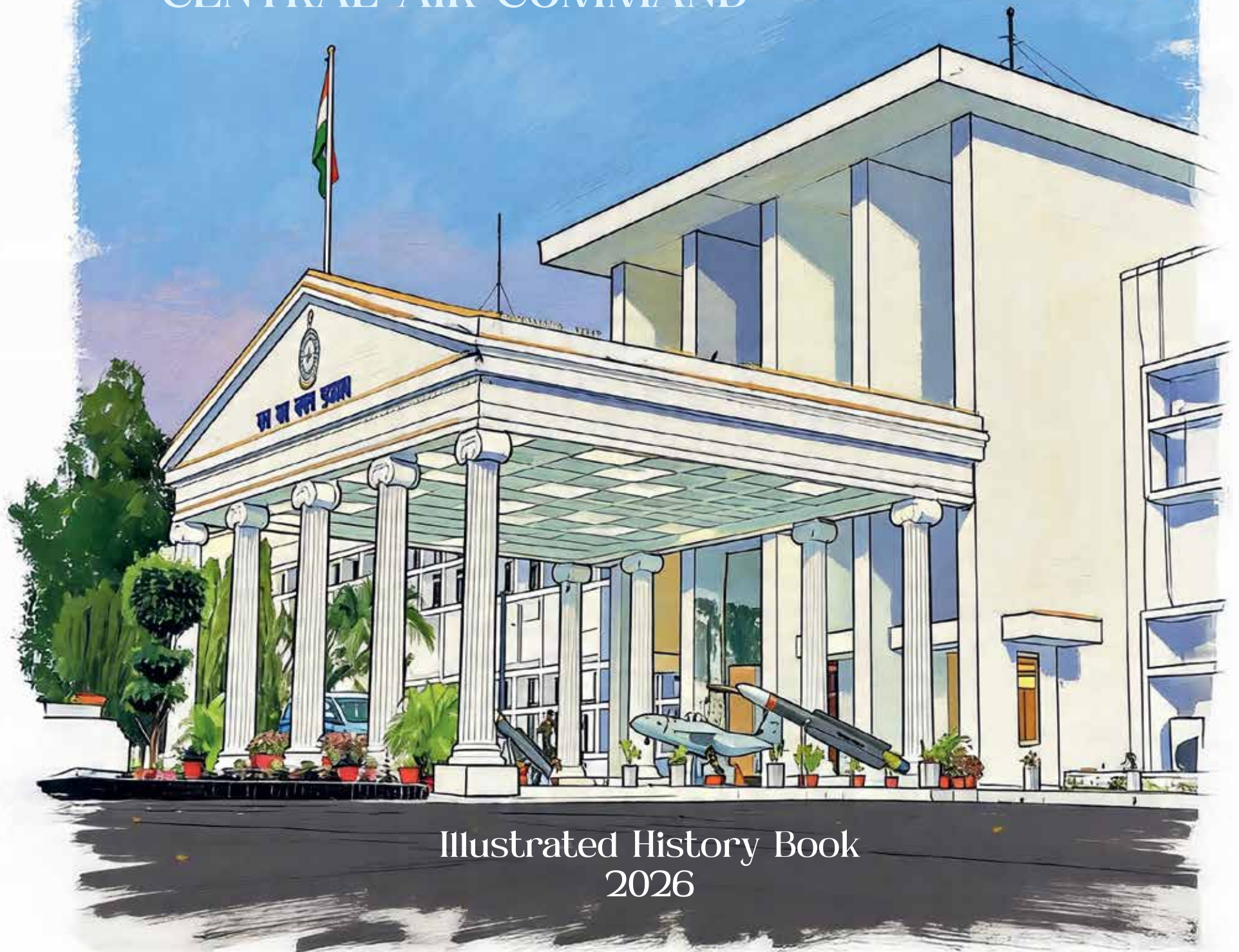


मध्य वायु कमान
CENTRAL AIR COMMAND



Illustrated History Book
2026



दमनीया: आत्मशत्रवः
Vanquish the Enemy





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दमनीयाःआत्मशत्रवः

Central Air Command: Sixty Years In Prayagraj





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Air Chief Marshal AP Singh
PVSM, AVSM
Chief of the Air Staff

Message

from Chief of the Air Staff

The Indian Air Force’s saga is one of courage and glory, scripted by the dedication of its men and women. From the fiercest air battles to the most compassionate rescue missions, the IAF has consistently demonstrated its versatility and resolve. The valour displayed in ‘Operation Sindoor’ reaffirms our commitment to protecting the nation’s skies and its sovereignty.

In this grand saga, Central Air Command’s role has been pivotal. As the custodian of the nation’s strategic air combat and combat support assets, the Command has been operating steadfastly across a vital and expansive sector. Its role as an operational powerhouse, equipped with cutting-edge platforms, mirrors the IAF’s own trajectory of technological advancement and strategic foresight. I have absolute faith that guided by its motto, “दमनीयाः आत्मशत्रवः”, CAC will overcome every challenge that the future may hold.

This illustrated history book is a vivid testament to the enduring culture of excellence that defines the Command. The meticulously chosen imagery within these pages breathes life into the stories of sacrifice and triumph. In doing so, it rightly honours the pioneers, veterans and serving personnel whose unwavering dedication has shaped the IAF. This book will stand as a timeless resource for aviation scholars, enthusiasts and future generations seeking to understand the legacy of air power in central India. I compliment the editorial team for their dedicated efforts in bringing this edition to life.

I wish all personnel and families of the Central Air Command continued success in their future endeavours.

Jai Hind! _____



Message

from AOC-in-C, CAC



Air Marshal B Manikantan
PVSM, AVSM, VM
Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief

After its inception in March 1962 under the leadership of AVM Jaswant Singh at Kolkata, Central Air Command relocated to Prayagraj in February 1966 under AVM Sondhi. Since then, the Command has stood as the vigilant sentinel of India's heartland, most aptly from the hallowed airfield at Bamrauli where India's aviation history first took wing on 18 February 1911 when a French pilot Henri Piquet flew a Humber-Sommer Biplane to Naini with 6500 letters during the Kumbh mela. Thus, it is with profound pride and a deep sense of legacy that I present this commemorative volume of the 'Illustrated History Book' of CAC.

The history of CAC is woven into the very fabric of India's aviation. Over the decades, the Command has played a key role in the IAF's journey into a modern networked force. The transformation has been driven by visionary leadership, innovative technology and unwavering commitment of the air warriors and their families. This journey, marked by operational triumphs, humanitarian missions and quiet dedication, is vividly captured in this Book, which has curated our illustrious past. Within these pages, you will witness the gleaming might of modern aircraft, the austere beauty of operational landscapes, and most importantly, the resolute faces of our IAF personnel and their true embodiment of our motto: 'Vanquish the Enemy'. These images display the meticulous planning of a mission, raw power of a scramble and quiet professionalism that defines us.

This edition is a tribute to the unwavering dedication of every air warrior, past and present, who has ensured that our skies remain sovereign and secure. I extend my warm appreciation of the meticulous efforts by the editorial and research teams who have painstakingly woven together threads of history, memory, and imagery into a cohesive and inspiring narrative.

May this volume inspire future generations to look up, dream and answer the call of duty.

Jai Hind! _____



Our Field Commanders



Air Cmde JS Rajput
AF Station, Agra



Air Cmde Madhup Gangola
AF Station, Bareilly



Air Cmde Yogesh Issar VSM
AF Station, Gorakhpur



Air Cmde Manish Sinha
AF Station, Bamrauli



Gp Capt Sanjeev Sajwan
AF Station, Bhowali



Gp Capt S Pillai
AF Station, Bhopal



Air Cmde Amiya Tripathi
Adv HQ CAC



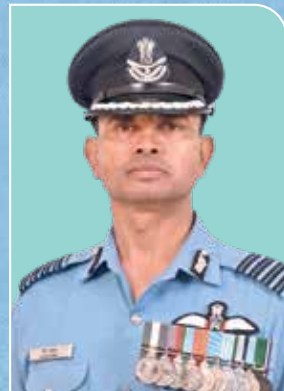
Air Cmde Nanda Kumar Bala
ANTF



Air Cmde Manish Sharma VM
AF Station, Gwalior



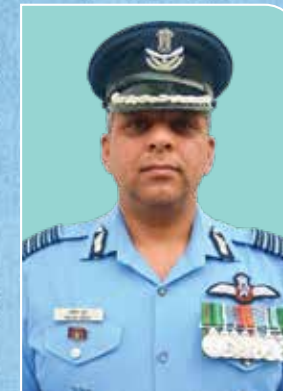
Gp Capt NS Panwar
AF Station, BKT



Gp Capt Shiv Kumar
AF Station, Nagpur



Gp Capt Anup Singh VM
AF Station, Memaura



Gp Capt Sachin Sood
4 AFSB



Gp Capt BS Randhawa
AF Station, Bihta



Gp Capt Raveesh Rakesh
AF Station, Darbhanga



Gp Capt Romil Sharma
HQ CAC (U)



Guiding
Lights of CAC

A Rich Legacy of Leadership:
AOsC-in-C, CAC



Air Marshal B Manikantan
PVSM, AVSM, VM
AOC-in-C

Senior
Leadership



SOA
AVM Aman Kapur
VSM



AD CDR
AVM AK Wahi
AVSM, VM



AVM K Jaswant Singh
03 Mar 62 - 01 Jan 63



AVM Shivdev Singh PVSM
14 Jan 63 - 16 Feb 66



AVM Kundan Lal Sondhi
16 Feb 66 - 31 Dec 66



AVM Hari Chand Dewan
PVSM
01 Jan 67 - 29 Mar 68



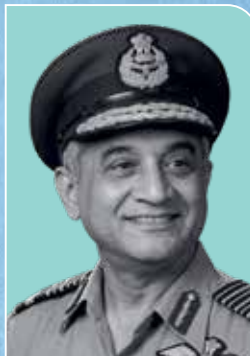
AVM Hrushikesh Moolgavkar MVC
30 Mar 68 - 31 Mar 71



AVM Maurice Barker
PVSM
01 Apr 71 - 15 Jun 72



Air Mshl Bandi Sreeramulu
Krishnarao PVSM
26 Jun 72 - 25 Jun 74



Air Mshl Idris Hasan Latif
PVSM
27 Jun 74 - 28 Feb 76



Air Mshl George Kanisht Kumar John PVSM
01 Mar 76 - 31 Jan 77



Air Mshl Gian Dev Sharma
PVSM, AVSM
01 Feb 77 - 30 Nov 78



SASO
Air Mshl PV Shivanand
AVSM, VM



SMSO
AVM Koduri Appa Rao
VSM



AIR I
Air Cmde Sagar M Paranjpe
VM



AIR II
Air Cmde Sameer Pradhan
VM



AIR III
Air Cmde Umapathi Sivam



PMO
Air Cmde KS Pramod Chandra



CP80
Air Cmde Sudhir Yadav
VSM



CLMO
Air Cmde KS Ganesh



CENGO
Air Cmde Mukesh Sharma



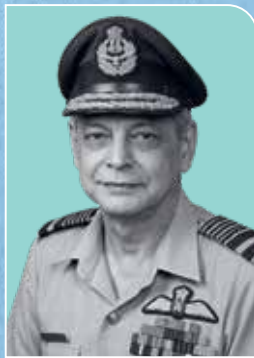
A Rich Legacy of Leadership: AOsC-in-C, CAC



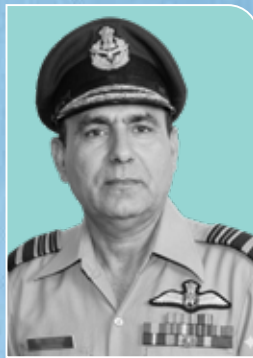
Air Mshl Trilochan Singh
Brar PVSM, AVSM
10 Feb 79 - 20 Sep 81



Air Mshl Balwant Wickram
Chauhan PVSM, AVSM
21 Sep 81 - 31 Dec 83



Air Mshl Denis Anthony
Lafontaine PVSM, AVSM, VM
01 Jan 84 - 31 Oct 84



Air Mshl Ripu Daman Sahni
PVSM, AVSM, ADC
06 Nov 84 - 31 May 86



Air Mshl Johney William Greene
PVSM, AVSM, VRC, VM
01 Jun 86 - 31 Mar 87



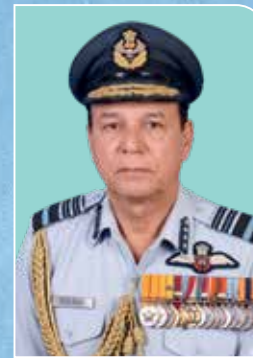
Air Mshl Dev Nath Rathore
VRC, VSM, ADC
01 Jun 95 - 30 Jun 96



Air Mshl Vinod Patney
AVSM, VRC
01 Jul 96 - 31 Mar 97



Air Mshl Srinivasapuram
Krishnaswamy
PVSM, AVSM, VM & BAR
01 Apr 97 - 30 Nov 97



Air Mshl Vinod Kumar Bhatia
PVSM, AVSM, VRC & BAR
22 Dec 97 - 31 Oct 99



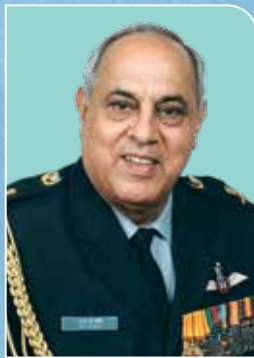
Air Mshl Vinod Patney
SYSM, PVSM, AVSM, VRC, ADC
01 Nov 99 - 31 Jul 2000



Air Mshl Nirmal Chandra
Suri PVSM, AVSM, VM
01 Apr 87 - 29 Feb 88



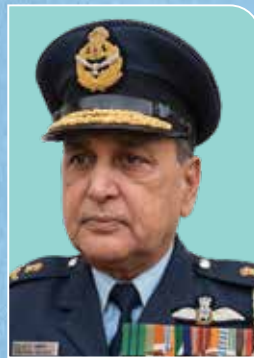
Air Mshl Mohinder Singh
Bawa PVSM, AVSM, VM
01 Mar 88 - 31 Dec 90



Air Mshl Swaroop Krishna
Kaul PVSM, MVC, ADC
11 Feb 91 - 30 Apr 92



Air Mshl Pondicherry
Jayarao Jayakumar
PVSM, AVSM
01 May 92 - 26 Feb 93



Air Mshl Naresh Kumar
PVSM, AVSM, VM, ADC
01 Mar 93 - 31 May 95



Air Mshl Vinod Kumar Verma
PVSM, AVSM, VM
01 Aug 2000 - 30 Apr 02



Air Mshl Shashindra Pal Tyagi
PVSM, AVSM, VM
15 May 02 - 31 Jan 03



Air Mshl Brijendra Mohan Bali
PVSM, AVSM, VM
01 Feb 03 - 31 Mar 04



Air Mshl Raghu Rajan
PVSM, ADC
01 Apr 04 - 30 Apr 05



Air Mshl Jaspal Singh Gujral
PVSM, VM, VSM, ADC
13 May 05 - 31 Oct 06

A Rich Legacy of Leadership: AOsC-in-C, CAC



A Rich Legacy of Leadership:
AOsC-in-C, CAC



Air Mshl Pradeep Vasant Naik
VSM, ADC
01 Nov 06 - 31 Dec 07



Air Mshl Packiam Paul
Rajkumar
PVSM, AVSM, ADC
01 Jan 08 - 30 Jun 09



Air Mshl Gurdip Singh
Kochar
PVSM, AVSM, VM, ADC
01 Jul 09 - 31 Oct 11



Air Mshl Arup Raha
PVSM, AVSM, VM
02 Nov 11 - 31 May 12



Air Mshl Jasvinder
Chauhan
PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC
01 Jun 12 - 31 Jul 14



Air Mshl Amar Preet Singh
PVSM, AVSM
01 Jul 22 - 31 Jan 23



Air Mshl Ravi Gopal
Krishana Kapoor
PVSM, AVSM, VM
01 Feb 23 - 31 Aug 24



Air Mshl Ashutosh Dixit
AVSM, VM, VSM
01 Sep 24 - 30 Apr 25



Air Mshl Balakrishnan
Manikantan
PVSM, AVSM, VM
01 May 25-Till Date



Air Mshl Kulwant Singh Gill
AVSM, YSM, VM(G), ADC
01 Aug 14 - 31 Dec 15



Air Mshl Shyam Bihari
Prasad Sinha
PVSM, AVSM, VM, ADC
01 Jan 16 - 31 Dec 18



Air Mshl Rajesh Kumar
PVSM, AVSM, VM(G) ADC
01 Jan 19 - 31 Jan 21



Air Mshl Amit Tiwari
PVSM
AVSM, VM
01 Feb 21 - 31 May 21



Air Mshl Richard John
Duckworth
AVSM, VSM
01 Jul 21 - 30 Jun 22

A Rich Legacy of Leadership:
AOsC-in-C, CAC



PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS (GALLANTRY) RECIPIENTS LAST 10 YEARS



SL. NO.	RANK	NAME	BRANCH/TRADE	UNIT	YEAR
VIR CHAKRA					
1.	Wg Cdr	Joy Chandra	F(P)	1 Sqn	15 Aug 2025
2.	Sqn Ldr	Siddhant Singh	F(P)	7 Sqn	15 Aug 2025



SL. NO.	RANK	NAME	BRANCH/TRADE	UNIT	YEAR
SHAURYA CHAKRA					
1.	Wg Cdr	Sandeep Singh	F(P)	ANTF	15 Aug 2015
2.	Wg Cdr	Vernon Desmond Keane VM	F(P)	27 Sqn	15 Aug 2024



PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS (GALLANTRY) RECIPIENTS LAST 10 YEARS



SL. NO.	RANK	NAME	BRANCH/TRADE	UNIT	YEAR
VAYU SENA MEDAL (G)					
1.	Sqn Ldr	Kapil Kareem	F(P)	1 Sqn	26 Jan 2015
2.	Sgt	Ravinder Kumar Jakhar	PJI	PTS	26 Jan 2015
3.	Wg Cdr	Rajiv Dobhal	F(P)	TACDE	26 Jan 2016
4.	Wg Cdr	Sukhwinder Singh Multani	F(P)	159 HU	26 Jan 2017
5.	Sqn Ldr	Ramesh Sharma	F(P)	24 Sqn	26 Jan 2017
6.	Gp Capt	Pranav Raj	F(P)	9 Sqn	15 Aug 2019
7.	Sqn Ldr	Rahul Basoya	F(P)	9 Sqn	15 Aug 2019
8.	Sqn Ldr	Pankaj Arvind Bhujade	F(P)	9 Sqn	15 Aug 2019
9.	Sqn Ldr	B Karthik Narayan Reddy	F(P)	7 Sqn	15 Aug 2019
10.	Sqn Ldr	Shashank Singh	F(P)	7 Sqn	15 Aug 2019
11.	Wg Cdr	Uttar Kumar	F(P)	24 Sqn	15 Aug 2021
12.	Wg Cdr	Bibhu Dutta SK Jenamani	F(P)	159 HU	26 Jan 2021
13.	Sqn Ldr	Vivek Gairola	F(P)	8 Sqn	26 Jan 2021
14.	Wg Cdr	Chinmaya Patro	F(P)	159 HU	26 Jan 2022
15.	Wg Cdr	Vishhal Lakesh	ADM	PTS	26 Jan 2024
16.	Gp Capt	Akshay Vinayak Agashe	F(P)	8 Sqn	15 Aug 2024
17.	Sqn Ldr	Prathamesh D Dongre	F(P)	1 Sqn	26 Jan 2025
18.	Gp Capt	Ankur Hakim	F(P)	2232 Sqn	15 Aug 2025
19.	JWO	Kirpal Singh Salaria	PJI	PTS	26 Jan 2026



PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025 (OP SINDOOR)



SL. NO.	RANK	NAME	BRANCH	UNIT	AWARD
1.	Wg Cdr	Joy Chandra	F(P)	1 Sqn	VrC
2.	Sqn Ldr	Siddhant Singh	F(P)	7 Sqn	VrC
3.	Gp Capt	Ankur Hakim	F(P)	2232 Sqn	VM (G)
4.	Gp Capt	Sushil Kumar	F(P)	1 Sqn	M-in-D
5.	Gp Capt	Sahil Kapoor	F(P)	TACDE	M-in-D
6.	Wg Cdr	Milind Londhe	F(P)	2401 Sqn	M-in-D
7.	Wg Cdr	Manish Kumar Singh	F(P)	2232 Sqn	M-in-D
8.	Wg Cdr	Shree Krishna	AE(M)	2232 Sqn	M-in-D
9.	Wg Cdr	Sunil Kumar	AE(L)	25 MMPU	M-in-D
10.	Wg Cdr	Priti Yadav	Adm/FC	310 TRU	M-in-D
11.	Sqn Ldr	Sahil Sahu	F(P)	1 Sqn	M-in-D
12.	Flt Lt	Samarth Shukla	F(P)	9 Sqn	M-in-D



HISTORY OF CENTRAL AIR COMMAND

In 1958, No. 1 Operational group (formed in 1947) was revived and given the responsibility of supervising air operations in the Eastern and Central sectors. In 10 Jun 1963, Headquarters Central Air Command (CAC) was initially established at Rani Kutir, Kolkata to control air operations in the central region, overseeing Indo-Nepal and Indo-Tibetan borders.

Headquarters Central Air Command relocated to the city of Prayagraj (erstwhile Allahabad) in February 1966. The selection of Prayagraj as a permanent location for the Headquarters was based on the strategic location of the town, which is equidistant from most Stations and at sufficient strategic depth. Prayagraj, which witnessed a great deal of aviation activity in World War II, also possessed adequate infrastructure to cater for a Command Headquarters with the proximity of the airfield at Bamrauli. As one of the premier Commands of the Indian Air Force, Central Air Command has evolved with time and has seen a paradigm shift in the employability of airborne platforms.

Today, Central Air Command occupies a geographical area spreading over eight states which includes Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and parts of Odisha.

Vintage and legacy fleets have been replaced with modern, potent and lethal platforms. Canberras, Spitfires, Liberators, Gnats, MiG-25, Packets, An-12s and Mi-4s have made way for next generation aircraft like the Mirage 2000, Su-30 MKI, Jaguar, AWACS, IL-78, Mi-17 V5 and ALH Mk-III.

CAC has a rich history of achievements and over the years has assumed great importance in safeguarding the skies of the nation. The Command HQ is the hub of all operational activities and squadrons under it have participated in all major operations since independence, playing a vital role in the Liberation of Bangladesh in 1971.



CAC's JOURNEY OVER THE DECADES





FIRST DECADE 1962-1970

The first decade witnessed the two prominent conflicts of 1962 and 1965 with China and Pakistan, respectively. In both these wars, Helicopter and Transport aircraft of CAC performed diligently towards reconnaissance, air maintenance and CASEVACs along the un-surveyed and treacherous terrain of the Himalayas.



1963 : Ab-initio training commences at Prayagraj: HT-2s



The squadron conducted missions in the challenging high-altitude terrain with landings at Fukche, Chushul and Leh.

Packets of the 'Striking Yaks' (12 Sqn) in Ladakh in Nov 1961



CAC An-12 over the Himalayan Heights



Canberras of 106 Sqn

INDO-CHINA WAR 1962

The Indo-China war of 1962 saw transport aircraft and helicopters of Central Air Command operating under extreme weather conditions and challenging terrain towards sustenance of our ground forces. They provided support by carrying out reconnaissance, logistics support, casualty-evacuation and communication missions in the unmapped and unsurveyed Eastern Himalayan region.



Wg Cdr Jag Mohan Nath receiving Maha Vir Chakra

1965 WAR

In the 1965 war, Canberras of No. 106 Sqn 'Lynx' of Agra delivered punitive blows to the enemy with devastating effect on the air bases at Chaklala, Mauripur, Multan, Peshawar and Sargodha with the tempo continuing into the night. The most gallant one was carried out deep into enemy territory, striking Peshawar airbase. The Sqn also earned the first Maha Vir Chakra of the IAF in this war.



CAC aircraft in action during the 1965 war



The Crew and the Lethal Hunter

INDO-PAK WAR 1971

The decisive victory of the Indian Force in the 1971 war against Pakistan and the liberation of Bangladesh are proud chapters in the history of Central Air Command. At 1747 hrs on 03 December 1971, Pakistan Air Force launched simultaneous attacks on a number of forward bases of the Indian Air Force. Canberras of

CAC spearheaded a swift retaliation before midnight on 03 December, striking Pakistan airbases with devastating precision. In a major attack, they struck the storage area at Drigh Road and scored direct hits on the oil storage tanks at Karachi, destroying about 60 per cent of Pakistan's oil reserves.



'Battle Axes' (7 Sqn) leading the way

SECOND DECADE 1962-1970

The second decade started with a bang as the IAF played a decisive role in the 1971 Indo-Pak war and CAC Sqns led from the front towards the objective of liberating Bangladesh. The Command was primarily responsible for strategic bombing and transport missions.



Mi-4 of 'Daring Eagles' (105 HU) in action

From 03 December 1971, Hunters of No. 7 Sqn 'Battle Axes' and Canberras of 106 Sqn 'Lynx' swung into action to cause significant damage to bridges, airfields and other military infrastructure. In a devastating blow to the enemy's morale, the critical bridge over Teesta river was hit with precision, limiting his mobility.



As the battle progressed, a large scale 'Airborne assault', was executed to para drop a thousand troops of 2 Para (Mahar) into enemy territory of Tangail led by 12 Sqn, the 'Striking Yaks'. The fate altering heli-bridging operations over the Meghna river from 09-11 Dec 1971, which also included Mi-4 helicopters of 105 HU 'Daring Eagles', was a defining moment as it ensured the cutting off of the retreating Pak Army (93 Brigade) and ensured the final surrender by Paki forces in Dacca on 16 Dec 1971.



Oil painting depicting CAC's role in the liberation of Bangladesh



Defining punch by the 'Striking Yaks' (12 Sqn) at Tangail



Tigers setting the tempo



Jaguars in action

This decade brought about the advent of supersonic era in CAC which now emerged as a formidable fighting force against the Northern adversary. 24 Sqn 'Hawks' added to CAC's punch, with the feared MiG-21 T-96 fighter joining the team and 12 Sqn, 'Striking Yaks', transitioned from Packets to Antonov-32s after a stellar job in the rugged terrain of Siachen.



'Striking Yaks' (12 Sqn) setting course for Op Pawan

THIRD DECADE 1981-1990

The third decade of CAC was especially significant in the operational evolution of CAC through the induction of modern platforms as 7 Sqn 'Battle Axes' and 1 Sqn 'Tigers' moved to Gwalior equipped with Mirage-2000s and 27 Sqn 'Flaming Arrows' to Gorakhpur with Jaguars, thereby boosting CAC's arsenal.



MiG-21 T-96 joins the CAC team

CAC forces (Mirages and An-32s) were key participants in Op Poomalai in Sri Lanka. This was followed by Op Pawan wherein CAC's Mi-8s played a significant part. Roles included induction of leading elements of 54 Div to Jaffna, braving challenging ops like landing on the ALGs of Batticaloa and Vavuniya and SHBO in the jungles of northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

On 03 November 1988, Op Cactus in Maldives saw IL-76s of 44 Sqn 'Mighty Jets', lead the way ex-Agra to an overwhelming success.



CAC forces in Op Pawan

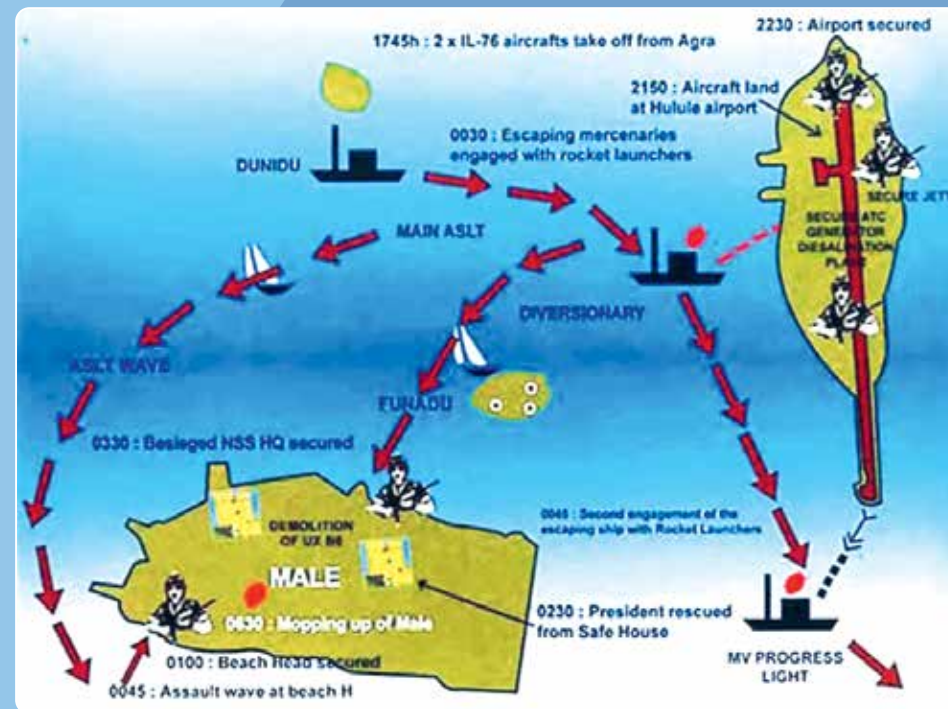


An-12 in Leh



OPERATION CACTUS:

Maldives, a small island nation in the Indian Ocean Archipelago off the west coast of India, came under sudden attack by heavily armed seaborne raiders on 3rd November 1988. The Indian Government's decision to render help to the incumbent president, militarily, in response to his appeal led to 'Operation Cactus'. The same night, a battalion of Indian Army's 50th Parachute Regiment was airlifted to Maldives in two IL-76 aircraft of 44 Squadron, based at Agra. The aircraft flew for over 2000 km nonstop and landed at Hulule airport at 0030 hours on a dark unlit runway without any airfield aids. This displayed the IAF's capability in Airborne Ops by executing a Spl Ops Msn with flawless professionalism. Thereafter, the Sqn maintained an air bridge between Agra and Hulule, flying five more sorties. Within hours, the Indian forces secured the airfield which facilitated the ground action of restoring the Govt's rule. Mirage 2000 of Central Air Command flew low passes over the scattered islands in a show of strength in support of the government. The swift Indian military response made possible by Indian Air Force strategic lift capability brought an end to the mercenary invasion in a brief and bloodless encounter. In essence, 'Operation Cactus', which quelled the undemocratic misadventure of the rogue mercenaries, was almost entirely undertaken by the forces of Central Air Command.



The mighty jet that saved the democracy in Maldives



FOURTH DECADE 1991-2000

During this period, CAC transformed into the 'Strategic Command' of the IAF with MiG-25 Foxbats at Bareilly, the IL-76 and IL-78 tanker at Agra for heavy lift to high altitude and long range missions respectively.



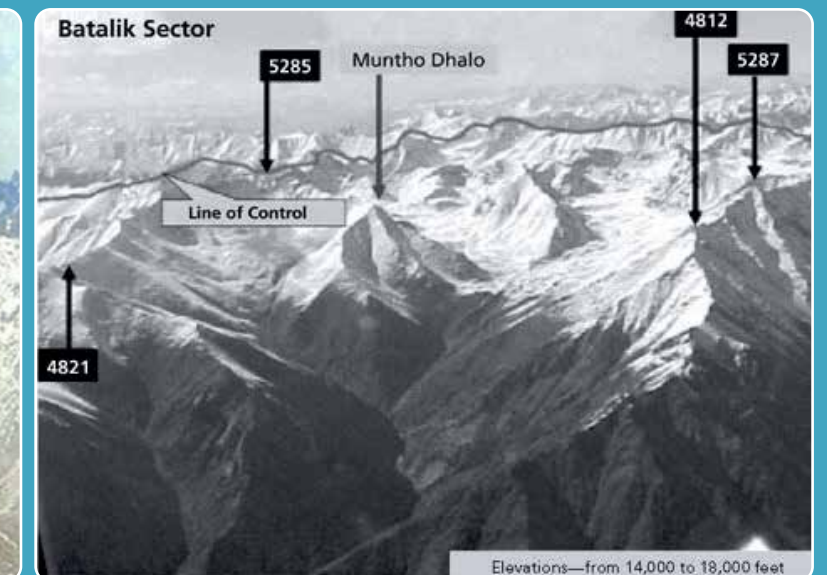
The Mighty Jets - IL-76 - at Agra



MiG-25: The impervious Foxbat

During the Kargil war in 1999, CAC Sqns based at Gwalior and Gorakhpur were actively involved in annihilating the Pakistani forces and their proxies in the high ranges of the Himalayas. MiG-25s flew daring recce Missions well into enemy territory to gather vital intelligence of enemy dispositions and movements. Mirages from Gwalior rose to the occasion, striking with precision and relentless effort, as exemplified by the historic precision strikes over Tiger Hill and Muntho Dhalo.

'Operation Safed Sagar' during the Kargil war in 1999 emphatically established the superiority of the Indian Air Force in terms of capability and professional edge over the Pakistan Air Force. Mirage 2000s of Central Air Command were at the forefront in carrying out air defence and ground attack missions. The use of precision munitions like Laser Guided Bombs on targets at enemy's supply depot at Manto Dhalo and the strategic posts over Tiger Hill, with lethal accuracy, changed the course of war and was the decisive factor in the eventual outcome of the conflict. Transport aircraft and helicopters of Central Air Command were extensively used for logistic support roles.



Transport fleet of CAC operated 24x7 for inducting CAC AD elements and fighter Sqns to the Western front while also maintaining robust logistical lines to sustain the fighting potential. Thus, the roles played by CAC's aircraft and AD elements were critical in ensuring the victory in Op Safed Sagar, which was the operational highlight of this decade.

Lethal blow: Op Safed Sagar (1999)



FIFTH DECADE 2001-2010

During this decade, CAC's aircraft fleet expanded to include Su-30 MKI multi role fighter ac and Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mk III ac, apart from Mirage-2000s, Jaguars, Mi-17s, An-32s, Avros, Canberras, IL-76s and IL-78s (FRAs). With this wide range of strategic aircraft, CAC retained its position as a formidable operational command on the Northern frontier.



Advent of the Su-30 Era



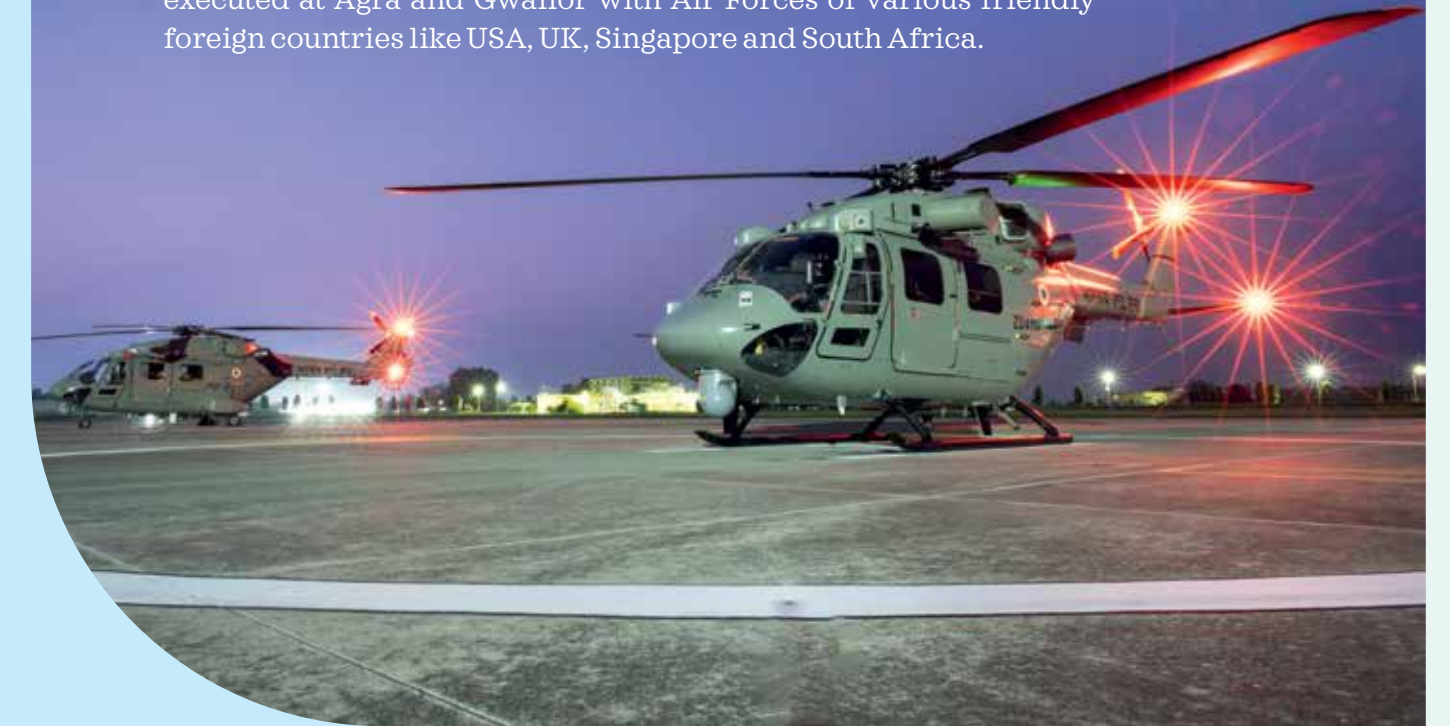
Our 'Eye in the Sky' - AWACS

TACDE moved from Jamnagar to Gwalior in 2001, and upgraded itself with the induction of the 'Bison' on 05 April 2005 and the Su-30 MKI in 2010.



The initial fleets at TACDE

Central Air Command has been involved in exercises with other friendly foreign countries over the years. The first ever international exercise of the IAF, codenamed 'Garuda', took place when Mirage 2000 aircraft of the French Air Force arrived at Gwalior in 2003. The eight day exercise witnessed the active participation of Mirage 2000s, Jaguars and MiG-21 'Bisons' of CAC. Subsequently, CAC continued the momentum with numerous inter-national exercises executed at Agra and Gwalior with Air Forces of various friendly foreign countries like USA, UK, Singapore and South Africa.



The versatile 'Snow Tigers' - ALH Mk III of 111 HU

CAC was among the first responders in the aftermath of the Bhuj earthquake on 26 January 2001, wherein An-32s, IL-76s and Mi-17s flew tirelessly to provide relief. The same Sqns swung into action three years later when Tsunami struck the Andamans, where 12 Sqn 'Striking Yaks' were among the first responders to the destruction at Carnicobar airfield. On 28 May 2009, CAC witnessed a landmark event with the induction of IL-76 based AWACS, with No. 50 Sqn 'Adwitiya' born at Agra as the 'Eye in the Sky' for the IAF.



SIXTH DECADE 2011-2020

During the decade, CAC continued to operate a potent mix of combat, transport and helicopter aircraft. With the induction of Mi-17 V5 helicopters, newly raised 158 and 159 HUs became part of the Anti Naxal Task Force, operating from airfields in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand over hostile jungles in Op Triveni.



Mi-17 V5 of 'Silver Falchions' (159 HU)



'Flaming Arrows' (27 Sqn) poised for action

CAC's next moment of glory came on 26 February 2019 during the famous Balakot air strikes, when IAF Mirages from Gwalior displayed their potency by striking the terror camps in POK. CAC's HADR capability was also on display while responding to the Nepal earthquake in 2015.



An Artist's depiction of Balakot Strikes



Mirage 2000s of 'Battle Axes' trained for perfection

No. 50 Sqn 'Adwitiya' matured during the decade and contributed significantly to air surveillance, command & control and network-centric operations enhancing the IAF's ability to monitor large areas of airspace. Commencement of large-scale flying exercises in CAC AoR ex-Gwalior, in the Integrated Training Area (ITA) led by TACDE and No. 9 Sqn 'Wolfpack', added to the IAF's operational training levels.

Thus this decade emerged as a modernisation phase bringing about versatility and enhanced 'fire power' for deterrence.



SEVENTH DECADE 2021 ONWARDS

As Central Air Command steers into the seventh decade, Mirage-2000s, Jaguars and Su-30 MKIs continue to form the offensive punch of this Command. The transport fleet witnessed a new induction at Agra with the versatile C-295, medium lift tactical transport aircraft, joining the CAC fleet on 27 Jan 2025. The robust Mi-17 V5s continue flying for anti-naxal operations and air maintenance, while ALH Mk III are active with op requirements in the rugged terrain of Central Sector.



C-295 joins the CAC team



CAC's Fly-past over the auspicious Sangam: AFDP 2023

In Oct 2023, CAC hosted a grand Air Force day fly-past involving over seventy aircraft, over the Triveni Sangam at Prayagraj. This air show mesmerized a 'Sea of humanity', comprising of 10-15 lakh people, who witnessed the event. Gallant performance in Op Sindoor earned CAC two Vir Chakras, one VM (Gallantry), nine Mention-in-Dispatches, one CDS, ten CAS, two CISC and thirty four AOC-in-C Commendations.

ELF ACTIVATION



At Jalalabad, Shahjahanpur 02 May 2025

Activation Emergency Landing Fields - Expanding Horizons

A stretch on Lucknow - Agra expressway, developed by the Uttar Pradesh Government as a landing strip for fighters and transport aircraft, was successfully activated for the first time on 22 November 2016 with Su-30s and Mirages initiating the concept, followed by larger scale landing ops on 24 October 2017 with 18 combat aircraft participating to validate the concept of 'Emergency Landing Fields' (ELFs) for the first time.



HUMANITARIAN AID AND DISASTER RELIEF



CASEVAC: ANTF Ops

Over the years, Transport and Helicopter Squadrons of Central Air Command have played a significant role in providing succour to our countrymen in times of natural calamities. They have reached out to people in the most adverse conditions for timely evacuation and provided aid and relief whenever disaster struck. Quick and effective response during Odisha super Cyclone 1999, Bhuj Earthquake 2001, Tsunami

2004, 'Op Rahat' at Kedarnath in 2013, 'Op Meghrahat' at Srinagar in 2014, flash floods in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh during 2017 and 2018 respectively, Kerala floods of 2018, COVID I & II and the recent flash floods at Harsil, Uttarakhand during 2025 are the significant ones among many other relief missions executed by CAC aircraft.



EX TARANG SHAKTI : 2024



Adwityas in the Exercise

In August-September 2024, India hosted Tarang Shakti 24, its first and largest multinational air combat exercise, bringing together 10 foreign air forces and 18 observer nations. Designed to showcase India's indigenous military capabilities, the exercise fostered international collaboration and interoperability among participating forces.

Conducted in two phase-at Sullur & Jodhpur, the drills featured 70-80 aircraft per phase, including fighters, helicopters, special operations aircraft, mid-air refuellers, and AWACS. The IAF fielded Rafales, Su-30 MKIs, Mirage 2000s, Jaguars and Mig-29s, while foreign forces deployed F-18s, F-16s, Typhoons, A-10s and the Global Eye AEW & C.



OP BLACK FOREST



In action at ground zero

In April-May 2025, 159 HU of 44 Wg participated in Operation Black Forest, the largest single operation ever undertaken to combat the Naxal threat, conducted in Koreguttalu Hills along the Chhattisgarh-Telangana border. The unit played a crucial enabling role in supporting ground forces during this high intensity operation. Over the course of the mission the Unit flew 155 sorties logging over 170 hours and transported over 2750

troops and 155 tonnes of operational equipment in and out of the conflict zone. Additionally, the unit carried out the evacuation of 22 casualties and 12 mortal remains ensuring timely medical support and dignified handling of the fallen. This operation reaffirmed the Units unwavering commitment to eradicate the Naxal threat and its pivotal role in supporting Op Triveni since induction.

WINGS AND UNITS





4 WING (AGRA)



First IL-78 MKI and crew with the Hon'ble Raksha Mantri in Russia

The Station was formed on 15 August 1947 at the airfield which was in existence even before independence, and was utilised actively during the Second World War. The station was home to the valiant Canberra Sqn and is known as the hub of para training conducted in the 'Para Training School' in which the PJIs train troopers of Indian Army, Navy, NSG and IAF Garuds.



C-295 Full Motion Simulator at Agra

Presently, the station is equipped with An-32s, heavy lift aircraft and the new C-295s. The base plays an important role in mobility, reach and ensuring a battlefield transparency and management.



Annual Aerospace Safety Council Meeting - 2025

12 SQUADRON



**STRIKING
YAKS**



First aircraft and Locations of 12 Sqn

No.12 Squadron of Indian Air Force, the “Striking Yaks”, proudly claims the mantle of IAF’s oldest transport squadron-established on 01 Dec 1945 in Kohat (present day Pakistan) and later relocated to Agra after partition. Initially flying Spitfires and Dakotas, it evolved through iconic platforms like the C-119 Packet and An-32, playing critical roles in the protection of Kashmir in 1948 to the 1971 Tangail airdrop and UN missions in Congo. Today, the Sqn operates the latest and modern Airbus C-295.

Early in 1948, an enemy column began moving southeast from Gilgit along the middle Indus and after by passing Skardu, took control of Kargil and Dras. It appeared that nothing could stop them from marching to Leh. It was at this juncture that on 24 Mar 1948, Air Commodore Meher Singh with Major General Thimmayya (later Chief of Army Staff) made the historic fight over the treacherous Himalayas at 23000 feet height to Leh through the uncharted area of the region. The effort that followed to save this region from the enemy earned the Squadron eleven Vir Chakras.

During the 1965 war, the squadron flew 730 hours airlifting more than 1,000 tonnes of equipment and supplies. In 1971, the squadron was moved to the airfield at Phaphamau in October. On 12 Dec 1971, the Squadron flew a record of 116 hrs in a single day and also led the first airborne assault into East Pakistan, at Tangail, that facilitated our Infantry assault towards liberating Bangladesh.

The squadron also played a vital role in commencing air maintenance over Siachen glacier. This mantle was carried by the reliable Packets till 1985 and then passed onto to the robust An-12s of 12 Sqn and An-32s that ensured the success of ‘Op Meghdoot’.



An-12 of 12 Sqn over the chilling heights of Siachen



An-32 -The versatile workhorse joins CAC

Some of the prominent operations that it participated in are:

- 1. Op Poomalai.** Two aircraft took part to drop urgent relief supplies to the beleaguered Tamils in Jaffna on 04 Jun 1987. This was the beginning of Sri Lanka Operations.
- 2. Op Pawan.** Leading elements of 54 Division were inducted into Jaffna on the morning of 30 Jul 1987. During the operations, the squadron operated from ALGs like Batticoloa and Vavunia.
- 3. Bombing Role.** After trials at Pokhran range in Oct/ Nov 1989 and Jan 1990, An-32s were cleared by ASTE for the bombing role by day and night and ‘Striking Yaks’ led from the front for the same.
- 4. Op Safed Sagar.** During the Kargil crisis the squadron swung into action and put in considerable effort in transporting essential supplies and support equipment, to our front line forces.



In Feb 2025, the modern C-295 aircraft replaced the An-32. The Sqn took its first operational step with the participation in Op Sindoor by executing vital missions in support role.





50 SQUADRON



‘ADWITIYA’



The invincible ADWITIYAS’

‘ADWITIYA’ was raised at Agra on 01 October 2008, catapulting IAF into select nations equipped with the AWACS capability. ADWITIYA- meaning “unique or second to none”- embodies a singular capability, being the sole platform to deliver a composite electronic surveillance picture through the seamless integration of radar and passive sensors. The fusion of these sensors renders it highly agile, mobile and most sought after entity by the Combat planners. The squadron motto “Aham Sarvatra Sarvagya” is taken from the holy book ‘Bhagvad Gita’ signifying Omnipresence and knowledge.

Since its inception, the squadron has participated in more than 40 exercises which include marquee exercises such as Gaganshakti, Livewire, Garuda, Chakravyuh, Trishul and Tarangshakti. The above fact is testament to the Squadron’s unmatched professional aptitude and operational domain expertise.

The squadron has been the first responder during pertinent missions like the Balakot strike, Dokhlam and Eastern Ladakh standoffs. The squadron maintained round the clock electronic surveillance, closely monitoring adversary activities and providing crucial updates to e-ORBAT during these situations.

During ‘Op Sindoor’, squadron displayed operational excellence undertaking missions across AORs of 5 IACCS nodes of WAC & SWAC, conducting round the clock operations from multiple bases across the two commands. Within 10 days of conflict and heightened alert state, the squadron flew highest amongst all units involved in the operation. The squadron’s unwavering commitment to the nation’s cause and the core values of the IAF have been consistently demonstrated, time and again.



78 SQUADRON



Exercise Red Flag 2008

78 Sqn was raised as the first FRA Unit of the IAF on 16 Dec 2002. This heralded the advent of Air to Air Refueling (AAR) capability of the IAF and Indian Navy. The Sqn commenced operations with six IL-78 flight refueling aircraft (FRA) and 116 personnel. The ethos of the squadron is brought out eloquently in its crest - "Steadfastness - Excellence - Valour". 'Op Bandar' in 2019 was the first opportunity for the Sqn to show its mettle in a 'real time' scenario by providing combat support to the precision strikes at Balakot.



Symbolic aircraft key being handed over by the Uzbekistan Defence Minister to Raksha Mantri on 28 Feb 2003



Additional to its role of AAR, the squadron was also employed in HADR missions during the Tsunami of Dec 2004 flying 250 hours in ten days, airlifting over 600T of load and 3500 passengers to and from the A&N islands. In Jan 2005, it provided a fuel bridge to the Kashmir Valley which was cut off from the mainland due to unprecedented snowfall, airlifting over half a million litres of ATF.



*Exercise Tactical Leadership Programme 2024
over Dubai: on way to Egypt*



In action



Exercise Veer Guardian 2023

251 SIGNAL UNIT



Personnel at work

251 SU was established at Agra on 09 Dec 1965 and since then has living true to its name of Vigilant Eagles. Since Jul 1971 the unit has been operating as an Air Defence Direction Centre (ADDC) for the Agra sector and functions towards providing surveillance and traffic management in the region. The unit's participation in all exercises and ops has earned it many laurels in the past, with the most recent one being the 'Best Radar Unit' in the 2023.



620 GARUD FLIGHT



Scaling the chilling heights

620 Garud Flight, the 'Gallant Juggernauts' was raised as a combat element at 4 Wing on 25 Jan 2016 with an objective that lives true to its motto of 'Vinashay Dushkritam' or 'Annihilation of Evil'. The unit is tasked with defined roles for conventional and sub-conventional operations

and in 2018, during Op Rakshak, was deployed for Counter-Insurgency/Counter-Terrorism operations in Jammu & Kashmir. The unit is also involved intrinsically with the ANTF in executing the task of Op Triveni since Oct 2016.



Small Team Insertion and Extrication



Garuds with the COAS at Gunji



RL firing



2225 SQUADRON



2225 Squadron was raised with Pechora (SAM-III) Surface to Air Missile system on 25 Feb 1987 at Pune and relocated to Agra on 25 Jan 1988. The Squadron undertook its first Op deployment to Srinagar in May 1988 to participate in Exercise 'Suraksha' and during 'Op Parakram', was deployed effectively Jammu.



P-18 at a forward location



Jaws of the mighty beast



Ex-Gaganshakti-24

The Sqn successfully took part in 'Ex Astrashakti' at Air Force Station Suryalanka in May 1988, Feb 1992, Mar 1993, Dec 2019 and recently on 04 Dec 2024. From 'Ex Abhyas-I' in Mar 1990 to 'Ex Gaganshakti' in Apr 2024, the Sqn successfully participated in all major AD Exercises. 2225 Sqn is the only Pechora Sqn to mobilise and operate from such distances during Ex-Gaganshakti. The strategic deployment of radar in the sector is a force multiplier towards keeping an eye on northern adversary.



PARA TROOPERS TRAINING SCHOOL



'SKY HAWKS'



Invincible bond: Trooper and the Sqn

The bond between the Akashganga skydiving team and the An-32 is a legacy that will be unmatched in many a times to come. The skill of these troopers is second to none with the impeccable display of complex manoeuvres in open space and high speeds.

The glorious history of 'Sky Hawks' spanning over seven decades now, dates back to the days of Second World War. In Oct 1941, 50 Independent Para Brigade was formed at Delhi and Air Landing School of the Air Force was formed at Willingdon (now Safdarjung) Airport New Delhi, with five RAF Officers, four RAF PJIs and Army instructors.

In 1947, the Indian element of 12 PJIs along with 38 trainee PJIs of No. 3 PJI course moved to Agra. Thus PTS came into being at its present location and the refresher courses continued on three Dakota aeroplanes that were inducted in Aug 1949.

The unit's participation in the Indo-Pak conflict of 1965 and 1971 were priceless with the highlight of the Tangail Drop for the liberation of Bangladesh. Operations Poomalai, Pawan, Cactus (Maldives) and many humanitarian relief operations were some more feathers in the hat that followed thereafter.





NO 7 PROVOST AND SECURITY (UNIT)



No.7 P&S Unit AF was established during Second World War initially as a Det of 4 P&S Flt at Kanpur and thereafter came into being in 26 Jun 1953 within the precincts of AF Stn Agra. In Jul 1959 it took shape as a complete Provost Flight, upgrading to a unit in 1976. In its responsibility of maintaining discipline and decorum, the unit continues to play a vital role in the healthy functioning of the station.



The IAF(P) personnel putting their best foot forward

11 TETTRA SCHOOL



11 TETTRA School was initially formed as MCF Gajraj in Apr 1985 at Agra after induction of the IL-76. This training school became an independent unit on 25 Feb 90 as No. 2 TTCU and later renamed as 'IL-76 TETTRA School' in Jul 1997. Along with the IL-78 MKI, 11 TETTRA commenced the training on the AWACS, followed by the AEW&C from Jul 2019 onwards and recently, in 2024, the school took on the responsibility of conducting technical courses on the modern C-295 MW also.



Practical Training



15 WING (BAREILLY)



After the Chinese aggression in 1962, it was felt necessary to have a base in the central sector to provide Air Defence to this region and provide air support to Army units in the Uttarakhand hills. Air Force Station Bareilly was thus established in Aug 1963.

The Station played an important role in the 1971 Indo-Pak conflict when 221 Sqn equipped with Su-7 aircraft moved to Panagarh and carried out ground attack and photo reconnaissance in eastern Pakistan. Later during the war, 221 Sqn moved to Ambala to continue operations against West Pakistan and returned to Bareilly only after the war. The station also served as a base for the An-12s for bombing operations in western sector.

In Aug 1981, 102 Sqn was raised with Mig-25s giving the station the distinction of the only strategic recce base of IAF. 111 HU with Cheetah and Chetak helicopters replaced 117 HU in early 1983 and 102 Sqn went on to play the pivotal role during Kargil conflict with important reconnaissance missions.



Personnel at work during Ex Dhruv Tara



Su-30 MKI in action



The new millennium saw the base shift from legacy to modern systems as 24 Sqn and 8 Sqn moved in with Su-30, 111 HU re-equipped with state of the art ALH-MK III, 259 SU with MPR radar, 354 TRU with LLTR and 464 MOF with the Aslesha Radar.

With growing threat from Northern border, the base has developed into a strategic asset for the IAF. The base has been part of all campaigns from Balakot, Galwan to Op Sindoor. 111 HU has been at the forefront of HADR and anti-Naxal operations, while radar units have been deployed for ensuring a gap free coverage in the northern borders.

Other than operational commitments, base units have been part of various multi-national exercises both in India and abroad showcasing IAFs professionalism and 111 HU and 24 Sqn were awarded Presidential Standards for their legacy of excellence.



Demonstration by Garuds



24 SQUADRON



'HAWKS'



24 Squadron is a premier front line fighter Squadron since its formation on 16 February 1962 at Chabua with the De Havilland Vampire fighter-bomber aircraft. During the 1962 Chinese aggression, the Hawks undertook Combat Air Patrol and were tasked with reconnaissance of some of the narrowest and most treacherous valleys of eastern Himalayas so as to facilitate supply drop missions by the Dakotas.

During the Indo-Pak war of 1965, the Sqn moved to Kalaikunda and in the dawning year of 1966, the Hawks unfurled their wings over Bareilly, where they took up arms beneath the banner of the legendary Gnat. During 1971 war, the Hawks once more etched their name in history, delivering decisive air power from Tezpur that shaped the outcome of the war.



The legendary Gnat



Hawks at Tezpur



Hawks with SU-30 MKI

During Op Sindoor, Hawks were deployed from Air Force Station Srinagar wherein the Sqn actively participated in the Operations by providing Combat Air Patrols and scrambling from ORP to keep the skies free of any hostile aircraft. The relentless presence of the Hawks not only ensured favourable air situation but also served as a powerful deterrent to the enemies.



The maintenance personnel and their arsenal

259 SIGNAL UNIT



This unit was established with P-30(M) radar in May 1967 at Pandillapaili, 45 kms away from Suryalanka.

The unit participated in 'Op Safed Sagar' in 1999 and during Ex Livewire, in Apr 2013, participated as the nodal AD unit in Central Air Command AOR. In Apr 2015, MPR was commissioned with its induction into the unit with the unit displaying the effectiveness in Ex Gagan Shakti in 2018.



MPR Radar



111 HELICOPTER UNIT



Snow Tigers in action during HADR: Post Dharali flash floods May 2025

111 HU was raised on 03 Jan 1963 with 10 Mi-4 helicopters in Tezpur and is one of the oldest helicopter units of the Indian Air Force. The unit first saw action in 1965 war with Pakistan and earned laurels for its valour in 1971 with a host of gallantry awards. In 1976, the light and agile Chetak/Cheetah replaced the Mi-4s and the unit moved to its present location in Bareilly.

In 2004, the unit created the world record of highest landing at an altitude of 23,250 ft. The unit received citation by Chief of Air Staff in 2009 and was presented the prestigious



High altitude landing by Cheetah

President's Standard in March 2012. As on date, the unit operates the state of the art ALH Mk III helicopters in an AOR that ranges from the majestic Himalayas to the vast Gangetic plains of central India.

The unit extensively operates in UB Hills and has undertaken numerous CASEVACs and HADR operations and earned appreciation for its commendable work in Op Rahat in Uttarakhand floods in 2013. The unit has also been actively involved in the anti-Naxal operations as part of Op Triveni in Chhattisgarh.



8 SQUADRON



'PURSOOTS'

8 Squadron was formed on 01 Dec 1942 at Trichinopoly with the ground attack role, equipped with Vultee Vengeance Dive Bombers and by 15 Oct 1944 received four Spitfire aircraft, earning the distinction of the “The First Spitfire Sqn” of the IAF. The fully Indianised Squadron converted to Spitfire MK XIV in Dec 1945 and on 12 Jun 1946 the Squadron moved to Kolar where it changed over to Tempest

II aircraft in Mar 1947. In Aug 1951, the PURSOOTS entered the jet age with the Sqn converting to Vampire MK 52 aircraft in the ground attack and air defence roles. On 17 Feb 1969 the Pursoots opened another glorious chapter when they were re-equipped with the supersonic MiG-21. Thereafter the Sqn moved to Tezpur in 1977 and to its current location at Bareilly in Nov 2007, equipped with the formidable Su-30 MKIs.



OPERATIONS BY THE 'EIGHT PURSOOTS'

During World War 2, the squadron moved to Double Mooring, 3 miles from Chittagong on 07 Dec 1943. As the war front had moved quite South and SE during the last week of Feb 45 the Squadron was asked to redeploy itself at BAIGACHI for the Air Defence of Calcutta. On 14 Jun 1945, the Squadron moved by HMS Devonshire to Rangoon. At Mingladon, it replaced 607 Squadron and took over all their aircraft and equipment.

On 02 Oct 1947, the Sqn moved to Khambalia in Saurashtra for the Junagarh operations where it stayed till 28 Nov 1947. During Kashmir operations, it was a matter of great pride and distinction for the “Eight Pursoots” to be one of the pioneer

fighter squadrons to take participate in first post-independence war of strategic importance.

On 07 Sep 1965, the first strike of eight aircraft was carried out to attack Baktanwala airfield in the Sargodha complex in Pakistan. The Sqn carried out many close support missions in various enemy sectors during which it destroyed tanks, gun positions and bridges and bombed the Ichhogill canal.

On 18 Oct 1971, a day prior to Diwali, the Sqn was ordered to move in two sections to Agra and Bombay (now Mumbai) in the air defence role. On 03 Dec 1971, after a month and a half's waiting, Pakistan declared war on India. In May 2025, the Sqn made its mark in Operation Sindoor from Adampur.



17 WING (GORAKHPUR)



17 Wing, was established at Gorakhpur on 15 Jun 1963 in the aftermath of Chinese aggression. Initially the station supervised the training on Vampire aircraft. In 1965, 16 Sqn equipped with Canberras moved from Kalaikunda and 21 Sqn, with Gnats also moved in the same year. A Dakota Sqn moved in 1975 and in 1979 was replaced with Avros.

The base was also home to No. 1 Sqn which was replaced by 27 Squadron equipped with Hunter-56A aircraft in Jan 1985. Thereafter, the sqn was re-equipped with Jaguars and 16 Sqn followed suit, leading to there being two sqns operating the same type. 105 HU equipped with Mi-8s also moved to this Wing on 03 Aug 1987 and in 2023 were replaced with Mi-17 V5s of 158 HU.



AOC-in-C with GOC-in-C in Sep 2025 at Pithoragarh



Visit by the SOA



Army Commander slithering down from a Mi-17 V5, being flown by AOC-in-C, CAC at a helipad located at 14,000 ft AMSL in Sep 2025 - Ex Dhruvtara



158 HELICOPTER UNIT



**‘SILVER
FALCHIONS’**

158 HU was raised on 10 Dec 2012 at Air Force Station Phalodi with Mi-17 V5 helicopters and became operational in Sep 2013. The unit was quickly tested during Op Rahat, where it rescued 3318 lives and airlifted 78.35 tons of relief material, marking the beginning of its distinguished operational journey. It subsequently played a significant role in the Nepal earthquake relief operations, undertook flood relief missions, and executed major firefighting tasks across challenging terrains in India. The unit also pioneered specialized operations such as STIE and Helocasting on Mi-17 V5 helicopters and developed indigenous firing solutions, reflecting a high degree of innovation and professionalism.

Following its relocation to Air Force Station Gorakhpur in Aug 2022, the unit entered a decisive consolidation phase under Central Air Command, assuming critical

responsibilities in Anti-Naxal Operations under Op Triveni across Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Odisha, with deployments at Ranchi and later Raipur. It continues to provide sustained air maintenance in the high altitude regions of Uttarakhand in support of Indian army and ITBP units, while simultaneously undertaking HADR and VIP missions across Northern and Central India. A major milestone was achieved in Nov 2024 when the unit successfully carried out night air maintenance in high-altitude areas for the first time, significantly enhancing its operational capability. The unit also demonstrated exemplary jointmanship during Ex Dhruvtara-25 by executing complex troop insertion missions. Seamlessly transitioning from SWAC to CAC, the Unit, known as the “Silver Falchions”, was awarded the “Best Helicopter Unit of CAC” in 2024, reflecting its continued excellence and adaptability.



Over the years, the unit has actively participated in major operations such as Op Maitri and Op Karuna, numerous flood relief and firefighting missions across the country, and key exercises including Ex Gaganshakti, Ex Kavach and Ex Dhruvtara, along with joint exercises with foreign armies. The Unit's operational excellence is further underscored by the award of three Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry) to its personnel. Within a short span, the unit has established itself as a highly professional and dependable force, consistently upholding its motto “Yat Dharma Tato Jayah” and its commitment to service and excellence.

The formidable force

27 SQUADRON



**'FLAMING
ARROWS'**



The Pioneers with their 'Gnat'

The squadron was raised on 15 Feb 1957 at Adampur, equipped with British Origin 'De Havilland Vampires'. After 19 months of extensive flying, the squadron was re-equipped with 'Hawker Hunter Mk 56' in Sep 1958 and relocated to Ambala. This marked the entry of 'Flaming Arrows' into the group of 'Transonic Squadrons' of Indian Air Force. Within years of raising, the squadron was baptised into combat during Operation Vijay in Dec 1960 for the liberation of Goa.

Thereafter, the squadron moved to Halwara, where even before the adrenaline rush came down, India went to war with Pakistan in Sep 1965.

The squadron achieved the first confirmed kills for the Hunter in history of air combat, when two of its pilots Flt Lt DN Rathore and Fg Offr VK Neb shot down two Pakistani F86 Sabres - both pilots were awarded Vir Chakra. The squadron also contributed to 'Graveyard of Pattons' by destroying several enemy tanks in Gujranwala sector. The squadron won 5 'Mention in Despatches' during the war. January 1985 marked the squadron's entry into supersonic club as it was equipped with Jaguar deep penetration strike fighter at Gorakhpur.



12 AIR FORCE HOSPITAL



12 Air Force Hospital is a 110 bedded Hospital located in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, in the city of Gorakhpur and is the only Hospital under CAC AoR. The Hospital has all the basic specialties, which includes Medicine, Surgery, Gynecology, Anesthesia, Dermatology, Eye, ENT, Physiotherapy and Radiology. The hospital provides secondary level care and also has been entrusted with extending HADR assistance. 12 AFH caters to a huge population of approximately more than 1.7 lacs, which includes huge load of challenging Geriatric cases. It was established as Military

Hospital Kunraghat, at the Gorkha Recruitment Depot. Subsequently, the hospital was handed over to the Air Force authorities on 1st April 1967 and rechristened as 12 Air Force Hospital.

The hospital moved to its present location in 1985, and has been growing over the years. It was initially established as a 75 bedded hospital and after construction of two new additional wings in Aug 2006, the bed strength of the hospital was increased to 110 and few more specialties were added gradually.

29 WING (PRAYAGRAJ)



Ab-initio trainer: HPT-32

Bamrauli Civil Aerodrome was handed over to the IAF in 1962 and the Civil Aviation Training Centre was taken over for establishing a Pilots' Training Establishment (PTE). Experienced pilots and Auxiliary Air Force Pilots were pulled out of Squadrons and assigned to train new recruits in the art of flying. The station from the early days has now grown into a Wing which was established in 1971. Initially, only one transport squadron (48 Sqn) operated from this Wing, which took part in the Indo-Pak War in 1971 and 'Op Pawan' in Srilanka in 1987. With the establishment of BFTS in 1987, the station embraced the role of ab-initio training on the HPT-32s.



Air Force Day Parade on 08 Oct 2023

On 8th Oct 2023, the Indian Air Force celebrated its 91st anniversary. Keeping with the new practice of hosting Air Force Day at different parts of the country, the event for that year was conducted at Air Force Station Bamrauli followed by the customary fly-past over Sangam.



Fly-Past at Sangam - Oct 2023



Indian Air Force at Mahakumbh 2025 from 13 Jan - 26 Feb 2025

Air Force Station Bamrauli played a pivotal role in ensuring a safe, organised and successful Maha Kumbh 2025 highlighting the Indian Air Force's unwavering commitment towards Nation Building. During Maha Kumbh, ATC at 29 Wg efficiently handled 3648 scheduled and 1904 non-scheduled flights ensuring seamless operations. The Base also rose to the occasion in welcoming pilgrims travelling by air for the world's largest religious gathering at Prayagraj. In addition to flying operations, extensive administrative support was rendered to facilitate a smooth and comfortable visit for Air Force personnel, veterans and their families to Maha Kumbh 2025



*Hon'ble Prime Minister of India arriving for
Maha Kumbh Mela - 2025*



Chief of the Air Staff during 'Sangram 1857' Cyclothon

Sangram 1857 Cyclothon from Prayagraj To Fatehpur

A Cyclothon commemorating the Sangram 1857 from Meerut to Delhi reached at Air Force Station Bamrauli on 11 Jan 2025. Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, PVSM, AVSM, Chief of the Air Staff, joined the team from Air Force Station Bamrauli towards Fatehpur. The Cyclothon covered a distance of 1900 km and touched the flash points of the 1857 revolution.

No 4 Air Force Band presented a special musical performance at Amar Shaheed Chandra Shekhar Azad Park, Prayagraj on 15 Aug 2025. Air Marshal B Manikantan, AOC-in-C Central Air Command graced the musical evening as Chief Guest. The Band presented a series of patriotic and heart-warming compositions creating an atmosphere of pride and patriotism among audience.



Live Musical performance by No 4 AF band; 15 Aug 2025



The Audience



A UNIQUE JOURNEY IN BAMRAULI



GP CAPT B MANIKANTAN VM
STN CDR, 29 WG
2009-10



AIR MARSHAL B MANIKANTAN
PVSM, AVSM, VM
AOC-in-C, CAC
2025-26

BASIC FLYING TRAINING SCHOOL





New IAF Ensign Trooping by BFTS in AFDP 23 at the Sangam



First Pilots' course at BFTS

Basic Flying Training School was established on 16 Dec 1987. With the Air Force Academy operating at the limits of its capability, a decision was taken to establish a new ab-initio flying training establishment at Allahabad (Now Bamrauli) to impart training on the indigenously developed HPT-32. The first batch of flight cadets of the 142 Pilots course made their way to Allahabad (Now Bamrauli), and were housed in a hangar of World War-II vintage.

As the role of the school changed to helicopter flying training, the last of the HPT-32s flew out of BFTS in Dec 2005, and the unit welcomed the Chetak helicopters into its fold. The training flying for the first course on Chetaks commenced on 01 Feb 2006, thus pioneering helicopter flying training for pilots from sister services and para military forces, - thereby, becoming the alma mater for generations of military aviators.

43 REPAIR AND SALVAGE UNIT



AOC-in-C visits 43 R&SU - 2025

During the hostilities with Pakistan in September 1965, a Repair & Salvage party was formed at Kanpur, and was renamed as 43 Repair & Salvage Unit on 13 May 1966. Consequent upon the re-demarcation of the boundaries of various commands in 1971, the functional & admin control of this unit was

transferred from Maintenance Command to Central Air Command. Its revised role included 3rd line repairs of all types of aircraft and gliders of Air National Cadet Corps Squadron. On 27 Feb 1972, No 43 R & SU, AF moved from Kanpur to Allahabad.

71
RMU



RMU personnel at work

71 RMU, AF was originally known as No. 1 RMU, AF and was formed within the premises of BSRU (now known as 9 BRD) at Pune on 01 Apr 1961. Up to Mar 1966 unit was tasked to provide maintenance support to units under Maintenance Command and Training Command. It was renamed in Mar

1966 as 71 RMU and was tasked to support units under CAC and SWAC, thereafter, moved from the premises of 9 BRD to 2 Wing in 1976. In May 1993 the unit moved from 2 Wing, Pune to Bakshi-ka-Talab, Lucknow and, in Nov 1996, to its current location at AF Stn Bamrauli.

820
SU



AOC-in-C visits 820 SU - 2025

The 820 SU was initially established as a Tropo sub control centre in the year 1988. The unit since its inception has developed into the backbone of IAF's communication network. It is one of the only two Network-Operating Centre (NOC) for IAF's captive Cellular Network (AFCEL) handling pan IAF AFCEL operations.



38 WING (BAKSHI KA TALAB)



Visit of AOC-in-C CAC

Bakshi-Ka-Talab took shape as a prominent base in 1963 when 8 C&MUAF was established here to function as a part of the CAC AoR. Later, established as a composite operational Station it now houses flying, AD and SAGW elements along with providing support to various lodger units like the 5 (UP) Air Sqn of NCC.



SMSO Visit

952 SQUADRON 'PATHFINDERS'



DGAO visit at new integrated GCA and Simulator Complex

The Sqn moved to Gorakhpur in Jul 1986 and after operating for 27 years it moved to its current location at Bakshi ka Talab leaving behind the SRE trained technical manpower for operating old/ new system at Gorakhpur. In Oct 2013 the Sqn experienced a fillip with the operationalising of the new ATCR-33S Radar. The Sqn, thus with the effectiveness of its equipment and personnel lives up to its name of the Pathfinders.



Conduct of first OEM Workshop for PAR 8044 at 952 Sqn by M/S Data Patterns



2232 SQUADRON 'KESTRELS'



Kestrels in action

The genesis of 2232 Sqn AF, which was formed on 24 Sep 1999, was a result of a need to minimize operational risk to manned aircraft. Located at Bakshi Ka Talab, the Sqn has been equipped with Pechora-III system with the capability and lethality of weapon system that lived up the Sqn motto, "SEEKING FOR DESTRUCTION".

AIR DEFENCE FLIGHT 'INTERCEPTORS'



Air Defence Flight was raised at Bakshi-Ka-Talab on 11 Jul 1983, with the role of practice interception training for Fighter Controllers of Air Defence College at Memaurya. Initially the unit was equipped with MIG-21 (T-77) aircraft and later in 04 May 1992 moved to Bareilly. In 1998 the unit was merged with 102 Sqn operating MiG 25s and started operating as "B" flight of the Sqn but later with the number plating of 102 Sqn, it once again moved back to Bakshi-Ka-Talab and functioned as an independent unit. AD Flt was also number plated in 12 Jun 2006 and then resurrected in Aug 2015 with Kiran Mk-IIIs. After a temporary relocation to Gorakhpur in Sep 2015, was relocated to its origin in Nov 2019 and so the Interceptors were back to their home base and have remained there since.



Kiran Performs at the air show during AERO INDIA 2023 at Bengaluru



358 TRANSPORTABLE RADAR UNIT 'INVISIBLE INVINCIBLES'



TRU Deployment in Jul 2024

After its raising at Memaura in Dec 2016 the unit became operational in Oct 2017 with a Low Level Transportable Radar which was employed effectively in various operations and after Balakot ops was deployed at Pantnagar for a year playing its role in the integrated AD of the AoR by participating in all ITA cycles.



Smoke Drill conducted during DASI 2025

40 WING (GWALIOR)





AFS GWALIOR: CONGLOMERATE OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

As the premier hub of combat air power, Gwalior is home to the tactical combat training in IAF. Equipped with Electronic Warfare Range, a multi directional air to ground range at Singpur and a Mirage mission simulator, the station validates its significance as the premier home base of fighter ops. TACDE, the ‘Top Gun’ school of the Indian Air Force, moved here in 2002. TACDE brought along various aircraft like MiG - 21 Bison, Jaguar, MiG-29, Sukhoi-30 and Rafale which complemented the established Mirage 2000. In 2014 the first of its kind, indigenously developed surface to air, Akash Missile Squadron, was also commissioned and based at the Wing.



Residency Mess, Gwalior

Gwalior airfield was constructed just before the Second World War and was commissioned by the RIAF in 1940. It is believed that General Wingate, known for his famous “Chindit Warriors”, trained his men here during the Burma campaign. Towards the end of the war, No 7 squadron of RIAF equipped with Hurricanes and one Spitfire Mk - VIII, took charge of the airfield and returned forty years later as the “Battle Axes” re-equipped with Mirage - 2000s.





ORP at 8 Wg during Ladakh Contingency: 2020

No.1 Squadron, Tigers, was raised on 01 April 1933 at Drigh Road, Karachi and equipped with four Westland Wapiti aircraft. The Indian element consisted of six officers and nine technicians then known as Hawai Sepoys.

The early history of 1 Squadron is synonymous with the history of the Indian Air Force. It was formed on the day the Indian Air Force received its first batch of trained pilots from RAF Cranwell - HC Sircar, Subroto Mukherjee (later Air Marshal and the first Indian Chief of the Air Staff), AB Awan, Bhupendra Singh, Amarjit Singh and J N Tandon. They were later joined by AM Engineer, DFC (later Air Marshal and the Chief of the Air Staff),

KK Majumdar, DFC & Bar, Narendra, R H D Singh, Prithipal Singh, “Baba” Mehar Singh, SN Goyal and Arjan Singh (Later Marshal of the Air Force).

The years from 1933 to 1937 were the formative ones for the Squadron when it trained in its primary role of Army co-operation from Drigh Road, Peshawar, Chaklala and Sialkot. The rigorous training was to pay handsome dividends in Sep 1937 when the Squadron was inducted into operations against hostile tribesmen in the North West Frontier province. Fg Offr AM Engineer was “Mentioned-in-Despatches” for gallantry during this operation. On the historic day of 16th March, 1939 Flt Lt Subroto Mukerjee took over the Command of the Squadron from Sqn Ldr CH Smith, thus becoming the first Indian to Command a flight. He later went onto command a Squadron, later a station and finally the Indian Air Force as the CAS.



Tigers ferrying out for Ex Blue Flag 2021

Tigers led the IAF contingent to Israel for Ex Blue Flag in Oct 2021 and proved their mettle yet again. Despite being pitched against technically superior aircraft like F-35s and Rafales in BVR combat, the IAF contingent under the able leadership of the Squadron was recognised as one of the most professional and capable contingents.

As the oldest Squadron of the Indian Air Force, the unit continues to work as a closely-knit community and is determined to continue its tradition as the trailblazers and further its motto of “Ekta mein Shakti”.



Operating at Leh



7 SQUADRON



**'BATTLE
AXES'**

The 'Battle Axes', as No 7 Squadron is popularly known, with its motto "SHATRUANJAI" or "VANQUISH THE ENEMY", commenced its journey in the IAF on 01 Dec 1942, and is proud to have achieved a unique position among the fighter squadrons of the IAF. The Unit was formed in the Burma Campaign, during the Second World War. The Squadron has thereafter taken part in almost all the major campaigns and operations involving the IAF.

The Sqn was re-equipped with Hurricane ac in May 1945 and saw action on the Burma front. In Oct 1945 it was re-equipped with Tempest ac and in Dec 1948, the Sqn was given the role of a fighter interceptor. It was next equipped with the Hunter ac and saw action in 1965 and 1971 operations on this ac. In July 1973 the Sqn entered the supersonic era with the induction of the MiG-21 MF ac and later in Oct 1981 re-equipped with MiG-21s. The Sqn was awarded 'President's Standard' on 20 Dec 1981. On 28 Jun 1985, the Sqn was bestowed the honour of being the first IAF Sqn to be equipped with the state of art Mirage-2000 aircraft.

The Sqn was involved in OP PAWAN and the Maldives Operations. The Battle Axes have traditionally exhibited impressive capability, courage and valour. Their outstanding achievements in the Indo-Pak conflict of 1965, first-rate record in 1971 war, involvement in Op Cactus of 1988, remarkable contributions in the Kargil conflict including LGB strike on Tiger Hill and the Balakot strike are a few among the many feats.



Sqn Ldr Hem Choudhuari DFC, Commanding Officer of 7 Sqn AF with his navigator/gunner Fg Offr Murat Singh, alighting from their Vultee Vengeance dive bomber after a sortie in Assam, late March 1944.



The Battle axes also played a vital role in Op Sindoor in May 2025 as part of first offensive strike and AD missions. During the conflict, Sqn successfully operated from three different locations on the western front and for the Galant acts was awarded with one Vir Chakra and one M-in-D during the operations. Squadron also took the initiative to plan a specialist weapons firing camp over island targets in ANC AOR, for which the Mirage fleet operated from Carnic for the first time in history.



The Magnificent Eight in Mont-de-Marson in France who ferried in the first batch of Mirage 2000s in 1985



Exercise MahaGujraj 25

TACDE



**'SAPTA
RISHIS'**



TACDE was formed on 01 Feb 1971 at Adampur under the name of Tactics and Combat Development and Training Squadron (T&CD&TS). The Squadron was established exclusively for development of combat tactics for modern fighter aircraft, their implementation and training of aircrew. In the very first year, the squadron was relocated at Ambala, from where it participated in the 1971 Indo-Pak war. It played a stellar role in the 1971 air war and is credited with conducting the dare devil night strikes. The unit was re-designated as Tactics and Air Combat Development Establishment (TACDE) relocated at Jamnagar under HQ SWAC in Dec 1972 and moving to Gwalior April 2001.



TACDE at Jamnagar



In 2010, the mighty SU-30 MKI was inducted into TACDE. By this time, The most significant change to integrated training was achieved on the successful completion of the number 1 Composite Graduate Course in the year 2012, which had components of all the combat and support elements of the IAF, including fighters, transports, helicopters, RPAs, ISR, missiles, electronic warfare and Garud commandoes. This is the only institution in the world after USAF to accomplish such a feat of integrated training.



TACDE's display of Lethality



SASO Visit



In 2024, the conduct of Exercise Tarang Shakti, was a landmark event in the international arena as first of its kind on Indian soil. This mega multi-national exercise brought together the Air Forces of various nations together under the common roof of TACDE. This was a significant step towards the national vision of 2047 by taking bilateral defence ties with friendly foreign countries to the next level. TACDE was chosen to be the soul of this multi-national exercise as the 'White Force' with the responsibility of planning and its conduct.



No. 1 Composite Graduate Course

June 2001 was the advent of a new era of tactics development in the IAF as eleven new disciplines were commenced in the first Composite Graduate Course (CGC) at TACDE. Thus the aim of integrating all combat elements into a composite unit was achieved to train and fight together.



AOC-in-C visits at TACDE - 2025

TACDE's instructional efforts came to fruition in Mar 1974 with the passing out of the No.1 FCL course. Thus, TACDE became an air combat development and training Establishment in true sense.

Integration of FSL (Fighter Strike Leader)/ MFC (Master Fighter Controller) Course. Commencement of 34 FCL in Aug 1989 saw addition of FSL (Fighter Strike Leader) and MFC courses. The FCL/ FSL was conducted using the T-96 ME/ T-75 aircraft while the fighter controllers used the P-30M radar of the nearby 250 SU. From thereon, all FCL courses had FSL and MFC streams. The experience with the integrated FCL/ FSL & MFC courses drove the Establishment to formulate the first bible of combat controlling.



Training across all spectrums



Towards op orientation courses for other combat platforms and sister services, more elements were gradually added with the No 1 Attack Helicopter course, a short orientation course for the attack helicopters and the first ever SAGW component commencing in 1992.



Glimpses of then Sqn Ldr B Manikantan in 1999 in Jamnagar Course i/c of HCL from the Golden Era of TACDE



Chief Guest, Air Mshl B Manikantan AOC-in-C CAC being Presented with a Memento during the 17 CGC Valedictory Function in May 2025



The Team



9 SQUADRON



'AGGRESSORS'

The impact of Japanese onslaught in the sub-continent during World War II (WW II) led to the rapid expansion of the fledgling Royal Indian Air Force (RIAF) to a strength of nine squadrons. It was, thus, in the heat of the Allied offensive against the Japanese forces that No 9 Squadron was born at Lahore.

In June 2005, the Sqn was awarded the 'Battle Honours' by the Hon'ble President for their valiant effort in Op 'SAFED SAGAR' during the Kargil Conflict in 1999. The Sqn proudly identified as WOLFPACK was the first squadron earmarked for induction of the Mirage upgrades and in April 2015, the BHARAT formation comprising of two newly upgraded Mirage 2000s set course to Gwalior.

On 01 Sep 2016, the squadron was assigned the coveted role of an 'Aggressor' squadron, the first of its kind in IAF. This role is to simulate air combat capabilities of our adversaries to enable our squadrons to get a near-realistic combat experience. On 22 Aug 2019, the SU-30 MKI also joined the team of Aggressors as 'B' flight and thus the Sqn now had the distinction of operating two 'air superiority' fighters.

24 MMPU



Diligence and dedication

24 MMPU, erstwhile Vajra Missile Servicing Centre was formed in Jun 1989. Previously, the role of the unit was to carry out preparation, testing and servicing of MAGIC-II missiles, missile launchers and first line test cum charging of nitrogen bottles. Presently the unit undertakes maintenance, testing and rectification of MICA missiles and launchers for the entire IAF.



The Munitions



Personnel at work

310
TRU



'DIVYA DRISHTI'

310 TRU was formed at 40 Wg on 15 Jul 1991. As a front line Mobile Radar Unit, it is christened as Divya Drishti and mobilises often to meet operational requirements.

During Op Safed Sagar, the unit was deployed at its op location in SWAC AoR and conducted continuous operations by controlling offensive fighter sweeps and recce missions along with combat interceptions.



Convoy enroute for deployment in 2025



Unit personnel preparing trenches at Op location



706
SU



706 SU, as a communication network, interconnects the base to ADGES communication to provide speech, teletype and data communications. As a vital link and a feeder to AD of the region, the unit continues to live to its commitment of continued and seamless communication in CAC AOR.

OBS (Out Building Solution) for extension of AFCEL network cover for Remote Locations

2253
SQUADRON



'ADROITS'

2253 Sqn was raised at Pathankot (18 Wg) on 11 Mar 1991. The Sqn was later relocated to its present location, in Gwalior, in Sep 1991. The squadron is christened as “ADROITS” bearing the Motto “SARVADHA VIDHYATE LAKSHYAM” and was deployed during the Kargil operations in 1999 as well as “Op Parakaram” in 2001.



CV in action



Loading of Missiles



The Combat element



2401 SQUADRON



**'AKASH
PIONEERS'**

2401 Squadron was raised with the Prithvi missile system and later, in Mar 2011, moved to Gwalior, re-equipped with the Akash. The Squadron thus became the first indigenised surface to air missile system of IAF, formally inducted into IAF on 11 July 2015 by then Hon'ble Raksha Mantri. The squadron has been aptly christened as 'Wings of Fire' in honor of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam who is considered as Father of India's missile programme of which AMS was an integral part.

As the Akash Pioneers' the unit has been at the forefront of all developmental activities and trials related to the deployment of the potent weapon system. The squadron was first to undertake live firing at ITR Chandipur in 2012 and Pokhran range in 2017 and also has the distinction of intercepting a SOW during trials at Pokhran in 2019.



Sqn Combat team carried out live firing during Ex-Astrashakti-23



Akash Operators' Conference (OPCON)- 2024 was conducted in the Squadron on 18th-19th Jul 2024



First batch of Akash Missiles being received by 2401 Sqn



Hon'ble RM, Shri Rajnath Singh inspecting the equipment at Jhansi

The unit logo depicts the launch envelopes of its two firing units overlapped with an Akash missile to form the alphabet 'अ' and 'P' depicting the word 'Pioneers'

44 WING (NAGPUR)



The formation of Air Force Station Sonagaon dates back to World War-II when a large amount of land was acquired to sustain the war effort. The Nagpur runway developed over the years and by early sixties was a full length operational airfield available for operations. In Jul 1986, 44 Wg was established at Nagpur to induct the multi engine heavy lift IL-76s of the 'Mighty Jets' and thus the station was born as an operational base in CAC AoR.

Op Elements of 44 Wing

159 HU with Mi-17 V5s undertakes operations against the LWE in Chattisgarh, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh under the code name 'Op Triveni'. To give teeth to this operation, Flight (616 Grd Flt) was also moved to the wing for their integration in the operation to provide the SF element.



IL 76 at Base

159 HU



'RUDRAKSH'



Rudraksh's Mi-17 V5 in action

Unit was raised at Hasimara on 11 Feb 2013 and later shifted to Nagpur on 03 Jun 2013. Living up to its motto: 'We are the fuel, we are the fire, we are the offering' the unit took the plunge in to one of the most challenging ops of ANTF and has been operating in among the most hostile environments of the country.

Braving weather or hostile fire while evacuating personnel from combat zones, Rudraksh did not leave any stone unturned in displaying the highest standards of grit and professionalism continuing to operate in the inhospitable and violent jungles of Chhattisgarh for Op Triveni. Along with executing rescue and special airborne operations and providing logistical support to the CAPE, the unit has also been executing routine operations like communication and training.

505
SU



Unit personnel participated in Op Sindoor

No. 505 Signals Unit of the Indian Air Force was formed at Memaura at about 35 Km from Lucknow. The Unit was renamed as 65 SU in Jan 1988, reverting to 505 SU in Sep 1991 and then continuing to function as an Air Defence Directing Centre (ADDC) in Central India upto 14 Aug 2019. The unit is called "Teekshna Drishti" with the motto of 'Satat Tatpar' meaning 'always ready' portraying the essential virtues of camaraderie and performance.



ADC

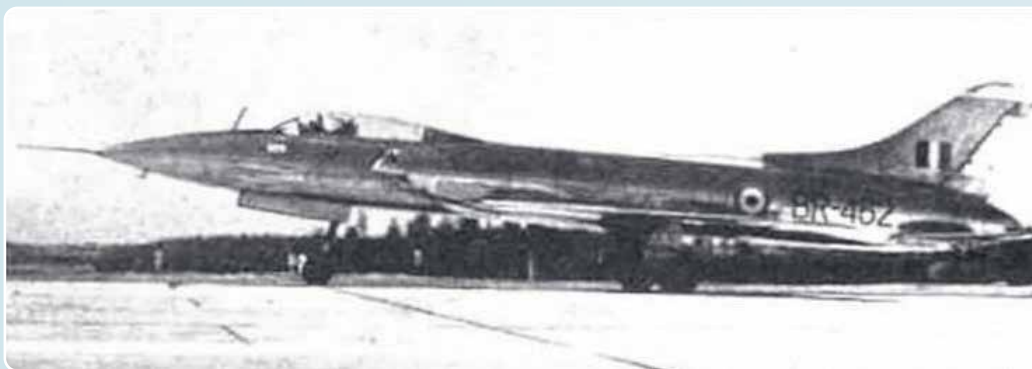


Air Defence College was established to train personnel in running radars/AD operations rooms and thus function as effective Fighter Controllers (FCs). First batch comprising ten officers, drawn from flying branch, were trained in UK and as the pioneers trained subsequent batches of FCs in India. First four courses were conducted at Palam, followed by five courses at Najafgarh and Ambala, thereafter moving to Jodhpur on 01 Oct 1958 as the Controlling & Reporting (C&R) School.

Since early 1960s, in addition to the General Duty (Pilots), Adm branch officers were also inducted into the FC stream for training. Keeping in mind the growing need for a robust air defence set-up and role of training towards the same, C&R School saw increase in stature with its rechristening as the “Air Defence College” in 1980.



The Pioneers (51 FCC)



HF-24 Marut



Presidential Colours in 2018

Induction of women into FC stream in 1994, training of few AE (L) and Navigation branch officers as FCs in 1997-98, training of Flight Cadets for few years (2006-2009) and upgrade of CO's post to Group Captain in 2011 are significant milestones in the journey of the establishment.

Acknowledging the contribution of 60 glorious years to Air Defence of the nation during both peace and war, the Unit was awarded with Presidential Colours in the year 2018 and the Honourable President of India, Shri KR Narayanan awarded the unit crest on 23 February 2001.



CREST

ADC's crest symbolises, the holistic knowledge attained by the trainees covering multiple facets of Air Defence. The ferocious eagle signifies the interceptor force eyeing its prey (enemy aircraft) with an aim to kill or destroy. The electronic wave, which the eagle rides, represents the ground environment of the Air Defence system comprising radar and radio communication, which guides the interceptor. The lamp symbolizes knowledge acquired by a trainee. The unit motto, i.e. “Teach to excel in defence” signifies the dedication of ADC towards training.

343
TRU



Operational assets

The INDRA MK - II PC radar was inducted in Mar 2001 at AF Stn Bikaner and in Aug 2004 moved to Bakshi-ka-Talab under the operational control at 8 C&MU. In Nov 2017 the unit moved to its present location at AF Stn Memaura (505 SU) and was declared operational on 22 Nov 2017, functioning as a vital 'Feeder Sensor' to the node.

789 SU
(Nainital)



SATCOM interference monitoring & detection system at Ops site LKT

The Station maintains a Helipad at LKT which was inaugurated by AOC-in-C CAC on 11 Jun 2024 post trial landing by an ALH (Dhruv) on 05 Jun 2024. MLH (Mi-17) landing on the same was successfully accomplished on 20 Jan 2025 and by a Chinook on Mar 2025 which was a feather in the hat for the station as it enhanced the strategic might of CAC. Due to its geography, the station is prone to the vagaries of weather and during monsoons, winter and summer months it deals with the challenges of heavy rainfall, snowfall and forest fires. A successful Bambi Bucket operation quelled the fire in 2024, in which the unit personnel did not abandon ship and played a vital role in protecting the station from the dangerous flames.



Inauguration of helipad at Ops site LKT by AOC-in-C, Air Mshl RGK Kapoor in 2024

789 SU was formed at Bareilly on 18 Feb 1981. It moved to its present location at Bhowali, Nainital on 09 Sep 1982. Located amidst the scenic hills of Kumaon, the Station operates from three split locations with the technical campus at Lariakanta (LKT) situated at an altitude 8500 ft.



Bambi Bucket Ops

6 C&MU (BIHTA)



Mirage-2000 take off from AF Stn Bihta on 13 Sep 2025

Air Force Station Bihta was established as 6 Care & Maintenance Unit on 07 Jun 1964 after the 1962 Indo-China war. The Station was a vital location in WW II when the Royal Indian Air Force operated from the base to counter Japanese aggression during the war.

The station is a valuable asset for detachments and dispersal of aircraft during contingencies. The unit has thus been providing operational, administrative and maintenance support to all its lodger units.



CAS and President AFFWA with personnel and families of AF Station Bihta



Flood relief operations



7 C&MU (DARBHANGA)



AOC-in-C's visit - 2025

In 02 Oct 2024 a joint and well-co-ordinated effort with the Army and civil administration resulted in the safe recovery of an ALH Mk III which had force landed during flood relief ops.



Loading of Relief Material for Flood Affected Areas of Northern Bihar

Air Force Station Darbhanga was established on 30 Sep 1963 after the Chinese aggression and the erstwhile Maharaja of Darbhanga, Kameshwar Singh, was instrumental in the transfer of this land and infrastructure. Although, no flying Sqn/Unit has been based at AF Stn Darbhanga since its inception, the station remains active with regular transit movements of military and civil aircraft. Since this region is prone to regular floods in the plains of Bihar, the station plays a vital role in fighting them during monsoon months.

4 AFSB (VARANASI)



4 Air Force Selection Board has been operating from its present location at Varanasi since January 1976 to undertake the task of testing and selecting Indian Air Force aspirants for the officer cadre. It also administers Computerised Pilot Selection System (CPSS) Test to candidates of the flying branch including Officers of sister services and friendly foreign countries.



ANTI NAXAL TASK FORCE



'OP TRIVENI'

Indian Air Force had initiated Operation Triveni as a measure to provide aerial support to the forces of State Police and Central Armed Police Forces in the fight against left wing extremism in the Naxal-affected areas of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and adjoining areas of Orissa, Maharashtra and Telangana.

For this, an Anti Naxal Task Force (ANTF) was established in Central Air Command with its HQ at Raipur and detachments at Raipur, Jagdalpur and Ranchi.



ANTF in action



The main task of ANTF involves troop reinforcement in conflict zones, casualty evacuations, carrying mortal remains, air maintenance, surveillance and special tasks.

Under the overall command and control of HQ, Central Air Command, the Anti Naxal Task Force is supported by various units to provide aerial assets such as Mi-17 V5s and the SF by the Garuds.

Troops carrying out Slithering training at Jagdalpur



Night casevac on 23 Jan 2017



Quick Touch and Go at a remote helipad



SASO with other dignitaries during 25th Anniversary of Chhattisgarh's formation : 05 Nov 25



SASO of CAC interacting with personnel





ADV HQ CAC (LUCKNOW)



AOC-in-C visit 30 Jan 2026

Air Force Liaison Cell at Lucknow evolved into the Advance HQ after its raising in Jul 1963 and remained so for the next twenty years, after which it moved to Pune in SWAC in 1991 and back to Lucknow in 2003. Since then the unit has been playing the vital role of a bridge between the HQs of CC and CAC as a seamless link for smooth operations.

Jointness in ops like air maintenance, airborne ops and CASEAVCs has remained the essence of the unit's personnel and thus Adv HQ plays its part in achieving joint objectives for daily functioning and also meeting emergent requirements.

JAG MOHAN NATH FOYER: COMMEMORATING 60 YEARS IN PRAYAGRAJ



CAC Commanders' Conference 2026



VIEW OF THE NEW FOYER



Inaugurated by AOC-in-C CAC on 01 Jan 2026

About

Wg Cdr Jag Mohan Nath, MVC & Bar



Wg Cdr Jag Mohan Nath, MVC & Bar was born on 8 Aug 1930 in Jaipur and grew up in Layyah, Punjab. He served in the Indian Air Force from 1948 to 1969. He is the first Indian IAF officer to be awarded the Mahavir Chakra for his gallant performance in Aksai Chin (1962) in a Canberra of 106 Sqn (Lynx) of CAC based at Agra.

He did not rest on his past laurels and whilst still serving with the Lynx, he was awarded the MVC yet again for his valorous efforts in Canberra missions flown deep into enemy territory, striking the Peshawar air base during the 1965 Indo-Pak war. Wg Cdr Jag Mohan Nath popularly known as Jaggi is, therefore, a name that is eternally etched in CAC's operational history.



SEKHON MARATHON 2025



Central Air Command (CAC) organised the first-ever edition of the 'Sekhon Indian Air Force Marathon 2025', a pan-India event dedicated to honour the supreme sacrifice and valour of Flying Officer Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon, PVC (Posthumous) - the only Param Vir Chakra awardee of the Indian Air Force.

Over 8,000 participants-including Air Warriors, families and citizens-ran across nine CAC Stations in Agra, Bakshi-Ka-Talab (Lucknow), Bareilly, Bihta, Darbhanga, Gorakhpur, Gwalior, Memaura and Prayagraj, celebrating fitness, unity and the indomitable spirit of IAF. At Agra, the event was flagged off by the Senior Air Staff Officer of HQ CAC, Air Marshal PV Shivanand AVSM, VM who also participated in the event to inspire all.



38 Wg



29 Wg



4 Wg



17 Wg



789 SU



LEGACY OF AIR COMMAND HOUSE

Very few residential buildings in the Air Force today have such a story to tell. This CAC Air Command House will always be a part of the IAF's folklore because of its own unique history. A hotel turned

into an observatory turned into an office complex (Pilot's Training Establishment) and now a home. That, in a nutshell, is the journey of this hallowed address.



This house came into being as the 'Barnett hotel' in the early twentieth century and witnessed the birth of Bamrauli aerodrome in 1929. Subsequently its control was transferred from civil aviation to the Air Force in 1962 when it was given the permanent

identity of "The Command House" in 1966, with AVM HC Dewan PVSM as its first occupant. In the premises of this house are some treasured historical structures which have been revived in 2025 for their historical value and heritage.

From this site at Bamrauli, Allahabad, on 18 February 1911, a French pilot Henri Peqult flew the world's first official Airmail Flight, carrying 6,500 letters across the Ganga from Allahabad to Naini.



'The World's First Airmail Service'

Stanvac played a key role in supplying aviation fuel and lubricants to Air Force and early civil aviation in India. Located near the historic Bamrauli airfield, this structure served as a fuel storage and supply facility for the aviation activities.

After Stanvac's dissolution in 1962, its Indian operations became part of HPCL, linking this site among India's first aviation and petroleum facilities.



Standard Vacuum Oil Company

This cylindrical structure houses a very deep well which was erected in 1929. As one of the earliest landmarks of Indian aviation it served as a part of the Bamrauli Air Force Station. Since it witnessed the formative years of both military and civil aviation in the nascent years, it is now preserved to reflect the enduring legacy of service and progress that continues even today.



The 'Well'

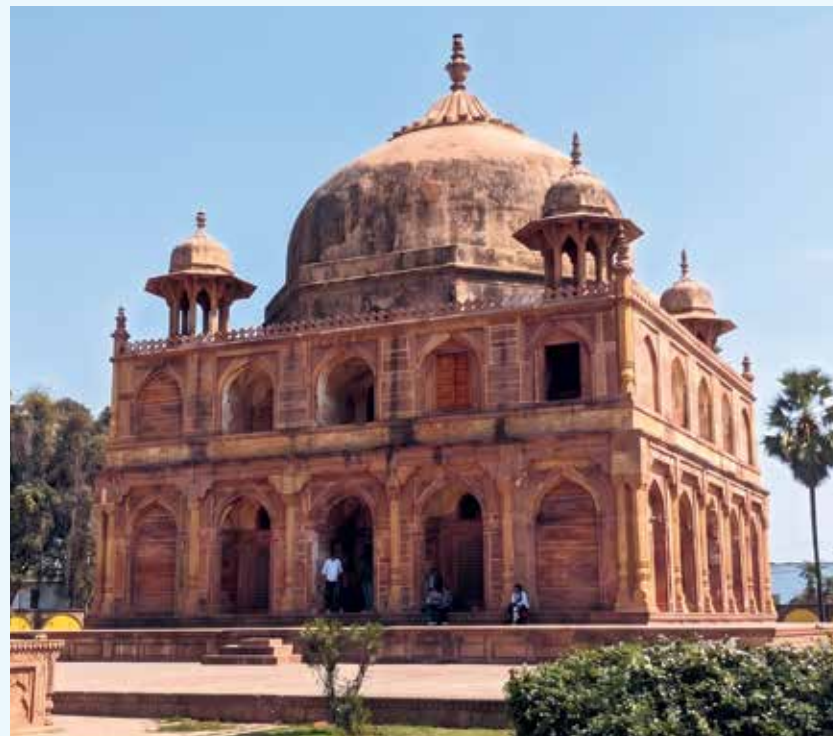
CULTURAL HERITAGE OF CAC AoR

UTTAR PRADESH

Uttar Pradesh is home to many historical monuments and places of religious significance. Geographically, Uttar Pradesh is very diverse with Himalayan foothills in the north and the vast and fertile Gangetic plains below. Hinduism's holy sites like Varanasi, Ayodhya and the Kumbh city, Prayagraj are among a few hallmarks of the rich and diverse culture of this region. Kathak, which is one of the most prominent of the eight dance forms of Indian classical art also originate from here. With many Indian cultures identifying their grass roots to this region, the vast Gangetic plains of the state are often referred to as the Heartland of India.



Carvings on Shantinath temple wall, Deogarh, Uttar Pradesh



The tomb of Khusrau Mirza in Khusrau Bagh, Prayagraj



Bade Hanuman Ji, Prayagraj



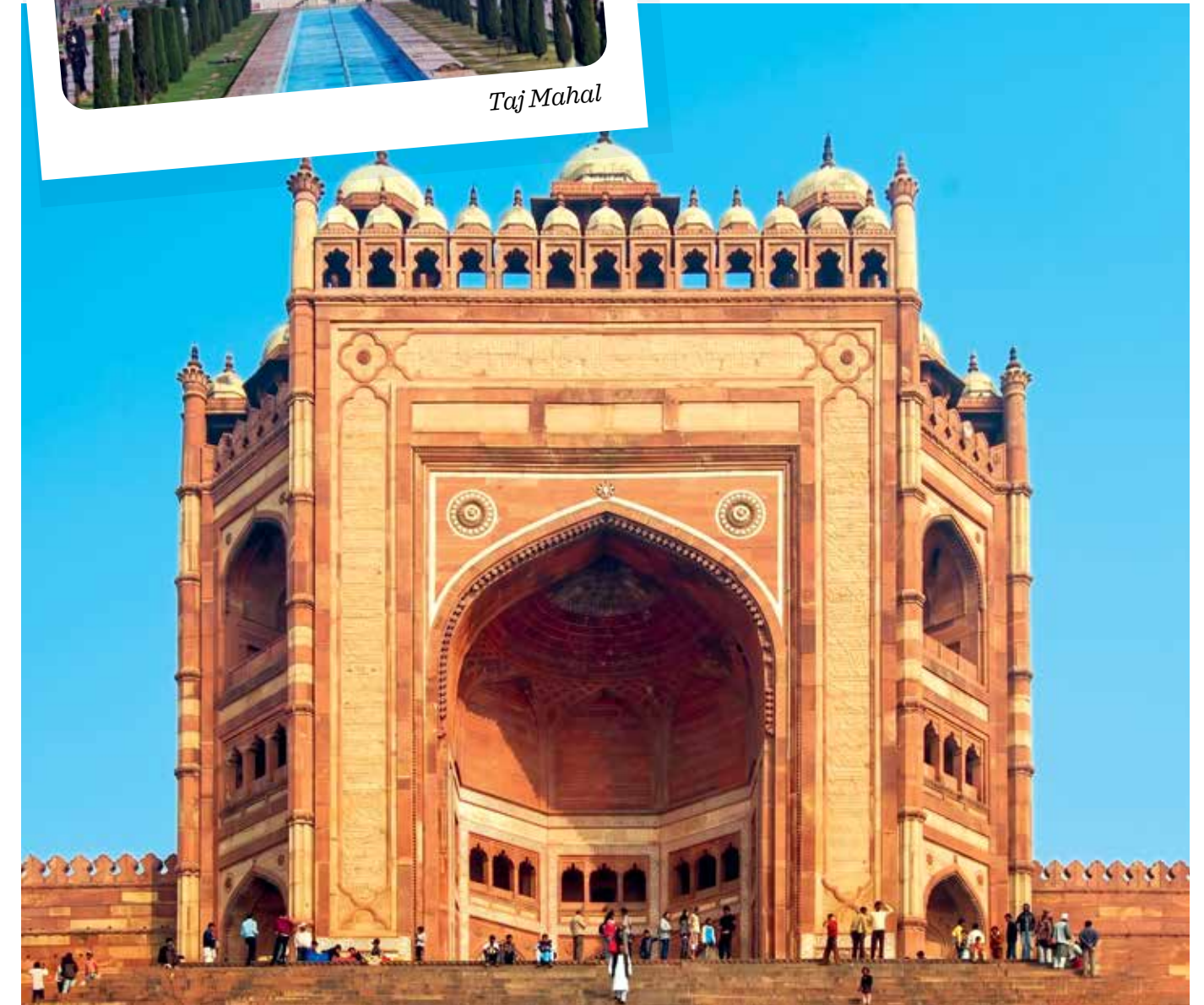
Allahabad University, Prayagraj



Taj Mahal

AGRA

The 17th-century Taj Mahal in Agra is the most popular monument in India, attracting over 7 million visitors annually. Agra is home to the four World Heritage Sites of Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, Sikandra and Fatehpur Sikri.



Buland Darwaza, the 54 Meters tall entrance to Fatehpur Sikri



A popular form of classical dance in Northern India, Kathak originated in Uttar Pradesh in the 16th century as part of temple worship in Vrindavan and Mathura. The region's folk heritage includes songs called rasiya (especially popular in Braj), which celebrate the mythological love of Radha and Krishna. These songs are accompanied by large drums and performed at many festivals.



Kashi Vishwanath Temple, Varanasi



Kathak

VARANASI

Varanasi attracts thousands of Hindu pilgrims every year. Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi is home to the Vishwanath Jyotirling temple, which is one of the most sacred Hindu temples dedicated to lord Shiva.



Ram Mandir, Ayodhya

AYODHYA

As the Ram Janmabhoomi, Ayodhya is also said to be the birthplace of Bahubali, Brahmi, Sundari, King Dasaratha, Acharya Padaliptasurisvarji, King Harishchandra, Shri Rama, Achalbhrata, and the ninth Gandhara of Mahavir Swami. Thus Ayodhya receives 5-6 crore pilgrims every year due to its enhanced popularity after the inauguration of the Mandir in January 2024.

MAHAKUMBH 2025

The 2025 Prayag Maha Kumbh Mela was the most recent iteration of the Kumbh Mela, a Hindu pilgrimage festival that marked a full orbital revolution of Jupiter around the Sun. It was scheduled from 13 January to February 2025, at the Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj. It was the world's largest gathering, and according to data released on 26 February 2025, more than 660 million (66 crores) people had taken a dip in the river. This event marked the completion of a 12-year Kumbh Mela cycle and was officially termed a Maha Kumbh Mela, spanning 45 days.



Indian Air Force conducts Air Show over Maha Kumbh on last day of the auspicious Mela

BIHAR

Bihar's cultural heritage is a rich blend of ancient spirituality (birthplace of Buddhism and Jainism), vibrant folk traditions, significant historical sites like Nalanda and Bodh Gaya, distinctive art forms such as Madhubani painting, and unique festivals like Chhath, showcasing a legacy from Vedic times through Mauryan, Gupta, and Mughal eras. From ancient kingdoms like Magadha to the Mauryan Empire, the sculptures in Bihar date back through various eras. The Pillars of Ashoka, Masarh lion and Didarganj Yakshi are estimated to be at least 2000 years old, and were carved out of a single piece of stone. As for the construction methods, Chanakya in the Arthashastra speaks about brick and stone for their durability and Megasthenes about the use of wood when he describes a wooden palisade encircling the capital city of Pataliputra.



Darbhanga Fort



Great Buddha Statue, Bodh Gaya



Chhath, also called "Dala Chhath", Surya vrat, is a Vedic festival celebrated in Bihar. It is celebrated twice a year: once in the summers, called the Chaiti Chhath, and once around a week after Deepawali, called the Karthik Chhath. The Karthik Chhath is more popular because winters are the usual festive season in Northern India.



MADHYA PRADESH

Madhya Pradesh's cultural heritage is rich with ancient history, tribal art, and classical traditions, featuring UNESCO sites like Khajuraho, Sanchi, and Bhimbetka. Gwalior Fort, Mandu, and Orchha, showcase prehistoric rock art, ornate temples, fortresses, and vibrant folk traditions such as Gond painting and Hindustani music. Innumerable monuments, exquisitely carved temples, stupas, forts, and palaces on hilltops, raise in the visitor's mind visions of empires and kingdoms, of the great warriors and builders, poets, and musicians, saints and philosophers of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. The famous Sanskrit poet-dramatist Kalidasa and the great musician of the Mughal court, Tansen, were from Madhya Pradesh.



Man Mandir, Gwalior Fort



*Kandariya Mahadeva Temple,
Khajuraho*



Tigers in Kanha Tiger Reserve

Madhya Pradesh
is home to eleven
National Parks.
There are also a
number of nature
reserves.

CHHATTISGARH

Chhattisgarh is a vibrant blend of ancient tribal traditions, indigenous art forms and historical architecture. Key highlights include the “Khajuraho of Chhattisgarh” (Bhoramdeo Temple), tribal Bell Metal (Dhokra) art, Pandavani music, and festivals like Bastar Dussehra. From the dense greenery of Bastar to the peaceful surroundings of Chitrakote falls, Chhattisgarh attracts tourists with its untouched forests, impressive waterfalls, and varied wildlife.



Guru Ghasidas Jaitkham



Chitrakoot Waterfalls: broadest in India



Sita Bengra Cave, Ramgarh Hills, Surguja

UTTARAKHAND

Uttarakhand, known as “Devbhoomi” (Land of Gods), is a vibrant blend of deeply rooted spirituality, Garhwali and Kumaoni traditions and artistic expressions. It is characterised by sacred pilgrimage sites like Kedarnath and Badrinath, traditional wooden architecture, unique folk dances (Choliya, Jhora), and intricate crafts like Aipan. As a major centre of Hinduism, the state holds the Char Dham (Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, Badrinath) and hosts the Kumbh Mela in Haridwar and the annual Kanwar Yatra.



Rishikesh view and 13 stories Shiva temple across Lakshman Jhula Bridge over the Ganges



Kedarnath Temple



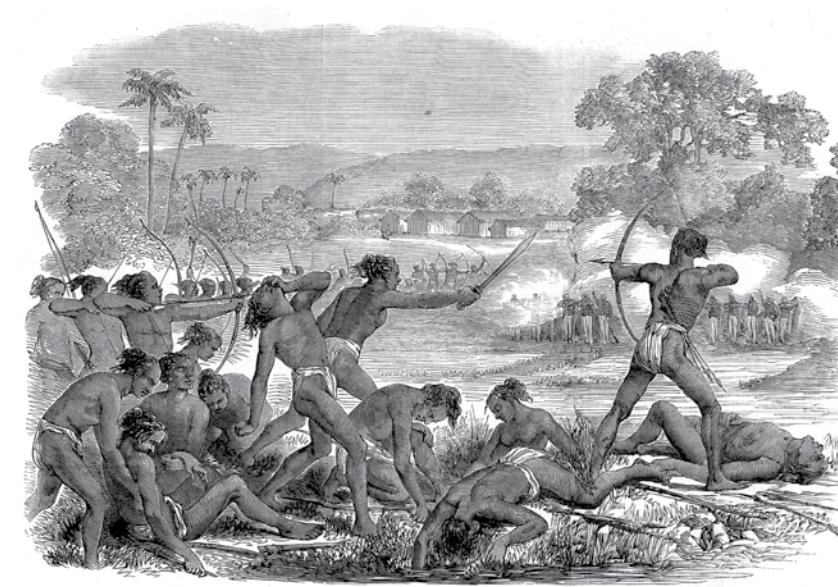
Stone age paintings at Lakhudiyar Caves, Almora

JHARKHAND

Jharkhand is a rich tapestry woven from vibrant tribal traditions, ancient arts and deep nature worship. It is shaped by communities like the Santhal, Munda, Oraon, and Ho. Key elements include energetic folk dances (Paika, Jhumair), unique Tussar silk, Sarhul festival, and ancient cave paintings. Sarhul is the main festival, celebrating the Sal tree and nature worship. The cultural identity is also symbolised by the state's emblem, featuring elephants representing strength, royalty, and rich vegetation.



Baidyanath Jyotirlinga Temple, Deoghar



Santhal rebellion against tax imposition during British Company Raj in 1855



Chhau Dancer in Jharkhand village



Jain temple at Samet Shikharji, the place from where twenty Tirthankars attained 'Nirvana'

ODISHA

Odisha's cultural heritage, deeply rooted in a 2,500-year history, is a synthesis of Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain traditions, characterised by magnificent temple architecture, classical arts and a vibrant tribal culture. The state is renowned for the Kalinga style of architecture, spanning over 2,000 years, including the Jagannath, Konark Sun, and Lingaraj temples. The Rath Yatra (Car Festival) of Lord Jagannath in Puri is the most significant event, representing the core of Odia culture. The state's cultural legacy is deeply connected to its maritime history and the influence of Buddhism which was strengthened after Ashoka's conquest.



Jagannatha Temple



Lingaraja Temple

Odissi dance and music are classical art forms. Based on archaeological evidence Odissi is the oldest surviving dance form in India with an unbroken tradition of 2,000 years and finds mention in the Natyashastra of Bharatamuni, possibly written in 200 BC. However, the dance form nearly became extinct during the British period, only to be revived after India's independence by a few gurus.

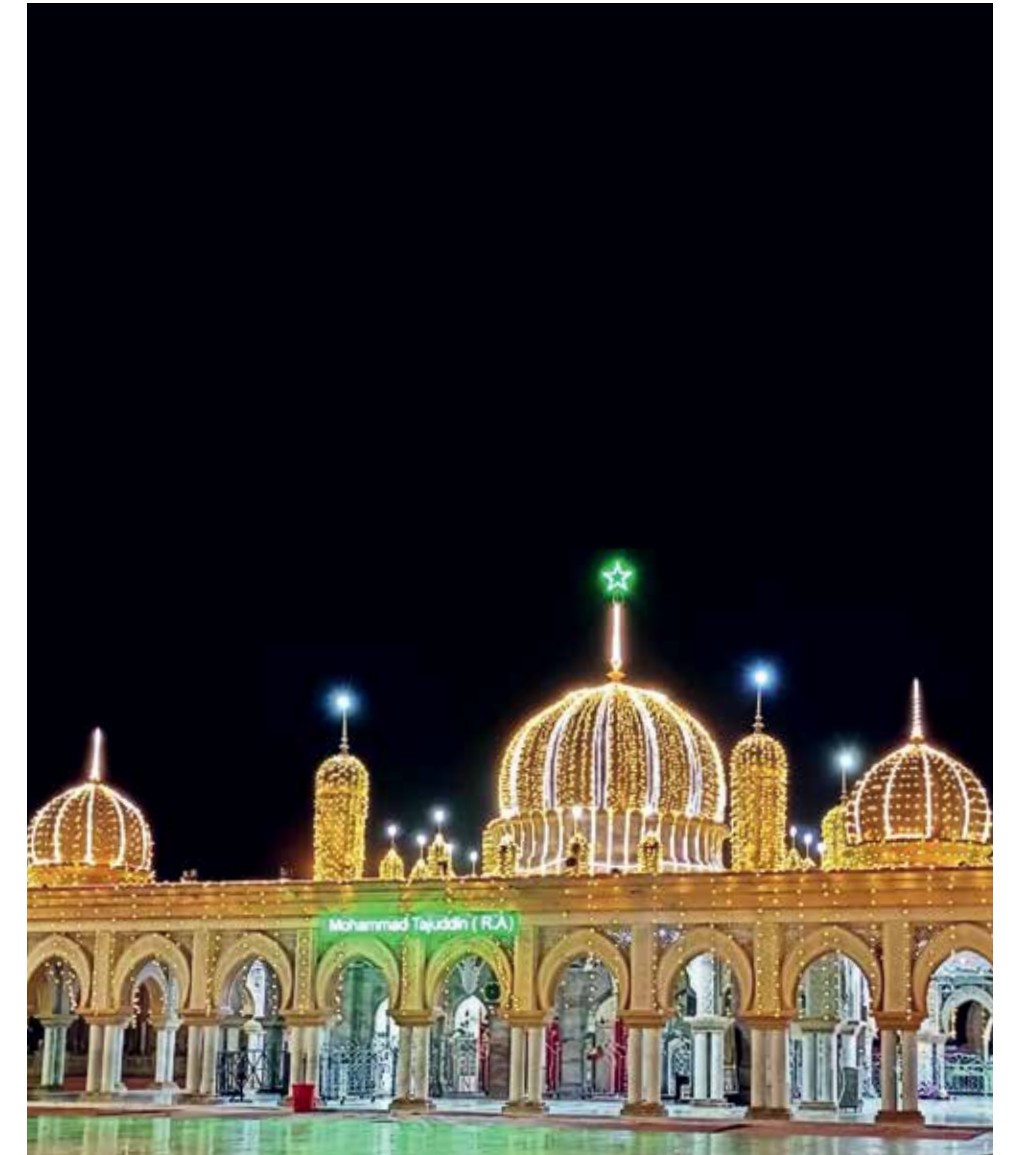


EASTERN MAHARASHTRA

Eastern Maharashtra (Vidarbha region) boasts a distinct cultural heritage rooted in ancient history, unique festivals, and a blend of Marathi and Central Indian traditions. Nagpur, the largest city in the region, is known as the “Orange City”. While sharing state wide festivals like Ganesh Chaturthi and Diwali, the region often celebrates local traditions such as Pola (worship of bulls) also with enthusiasm.



Swaminarayan Temple, Nagpur



Dargah Baba Tajuddin



FROM INCEPTION TO EVOLUTION



In the aftermath of the Indo-Pak War 1965, a physical and emotional support to the families of air warriors was felt necessary. As a result, Foundation of Air Force Wives Welfare Association was laid on 28 Oct 1970. AFWWA was established with the vision of promoting the welfare, empowerment, and holistic development of Air Force families across the nation.

On 29 Oct 2022, Air Force Wives Welfare Association (AFWWA) was renamed Air Force Families Welfare Association (AFFWA). An Association that started with just 07 members is now a family of more than 2 lakhs Sanginis.





AFFWA AT HQ CAC

AFFWA (Regional) CAC is located at Prayagraj which stands at a strategic point both geographically and culturally. Since its inception, AFFWA (R) CAC has played a pivotal role in co-ordinating welfare initiatives across its stations, fostering unity among Sanginis and implementing programmes focused on women empowerment, education of underprivileged children, vocational training, and community outreach.



STANDING STRONG WITH COMMUNITIES IN CRISIS

AFFWA played a compassionate and proactive role in providing relief during the COVID-19 pandemic and flood disasters across various regions. During the COVID crisis, AFFWA extended vital support to Air Force families and the local community by distributing ration kits, masks, sanitizers and essential medicines. Special attention was given to Veer Naris, senior citizens and families in quarantine, ensuring regular welfare checks and emotional support through tele-counselling. Financial assistance was also provided to families facing hardship, and awareness campaigns were conducted to promote health and safety protocols.





SHARING SMILES ACROSS AGES

AFFWA extends its humanitarian outreach beyond the Air Force fraternity by actively supporting orphanages and old age homes. Guided by the spirit of compassion and social responsibility, AFFWA organises visits to these institutions and provides essentials such as groceries, clothing, blankets, medicines, and hygiene kits. On special occasions and festivals, members spend meaningful time with children and elderly residents, fostering emotional support and a sense of belonging.



KNITTATHON AND VAYAN PROJECT BY AFFWA

Mission KNITTATHON launched across all Air Force Stations in Jul 2022, was a drive by AFFWA as a large-scale welfare initiative aimed at combining creativity with social responsibility. 295 Sanginis across various AFFWA (L)s under CAC participated. The collective effort resulted in the preparation of 2812 knitted caps from CAC. The remarkable achievement of the KNITTATHON was recognised internationally with an entry in the Guinness Book of World Records and Limca Book of Records, marking a proud milestone for AFFWA (Regional) CAC also and reflecting the spirit of solidarity and social contribution from Air Force families.



KNITTATHON has metamorphosed into VAYAN Project which is currently underway. Under this project, Sanginis across various AFFWA (L)s under CAC actively contribute by preparing hand-knitted baby garments with a strong focus on quality, uniformity, and hygiene. The VAYAN Project not only encourages creativity and self-reliance among members but also serves as a platform for community support and women empowerment, reflecting the collective spirit of compassion and service within Air Force families.



SUPPORT TO DIFFERENTLY ABLED AND UNDER PRIVILEGED

Six Umeed Vidya Kiran Schools under AFFWA (Regional) CAC provide free education to underprivileged children. AFFWA (L) Memaura runs a Umeed Asha Kiran School for specially abled children. Vatsalya Holistic Centre is a compassionate and service oriented institution dedicated to the care, training and empowerment of specially abled children functioning under AFFWA (L), Agra.

Recently, at AFFWA (L) Gorakhpur, an Umeed Niketan was inaugurated to provide Speech, Occupational & Behavioural therapies and personalised programmes.



NURTURING LITTLE MINDS, SHAPING BRIGHT FUTURES

AFFWA Play Schools are established with the objective of providing a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment for young children of Air Force families. These play schools focus on the holistic development of toddlers and pre-primary children through age-appropriate learning methods that combine education with play.

There are 10 AFFWA Play Schools under AFFWA (R), CAC which provide quality early childhood education and overall growth. These schools are committed to provide value based education through creative activities. With dedicated teachers and child-friendly infrastructure, it lays a strong foundation for confident, disciplined and happy learners.





AFFWA (R) CAC ADVENTURE CAMP & RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Winter Adv Camp was organized at 29 Wg from 23 to 27 Dec 2025. 114 students under CAC AoR participated in activities like Para Hand Gliding, Shooting, Tent Pitching and night treks, which culminated with an enjoyable camp fire.

At every station, the AFFWA Picnic serves as a dedicated day for Sanginis to step away from the routine, interact and build lasting friendships. These gatherings, along with the celebration of festivals like Holi, Diwali, and Christmas, are essential for fostering a true sense of belonging. Through shared joy and mutual support, AFFWA turns every base into a close-knit community.





WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Under the aegis of AFFWA, women empowerment is nurtured through a structured journey from skill development to self-reliance.

AFFWA creates marketing opportunities through Sanginis Fest, Thrift Shops and other ventures offering platform to showcase and sell their products.

To empower families with knowledge and tools to stay healthy and emotionally strong, AFFWA organises various workshops and lectures on medical, educational, environmental, and motivational subjects. These activities have helped families grow and adapt to change.

