

The Indian Air Force signs up for 36 Rafale

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Thales, a member of the Rafale team, alongside Dassault Aviation, welcomes the selection of the Rafale omnirole combat aircraft by the Indian Air Force. The official signing ceremony for the acquisition of 36 Rafale aircraft was held today, September 23rd, in New Delhi, India, in the presence of the Indian Defence Minister, Manohar Parrikar, the French Defense Minister, Jean-Yves Le Drian, the Chairman and CEO of Dassault Aviation, Eric Trappier and the Chairman and CEO of Thales, Patrice Caine.

Thales provides a number of state-of-the-art equipment and systems aboard the Rafale. They include the RBE2 AESA radar, the Spectra electronic warfare system, optronics, the communication navigation and identification system (CNI), the majority of the cockpit display systems, power generation systems and a logistics support component.

This contract will create hundreds of jobs on Thales manufacturing sites, in particular at Elancourt, Bordeaux, Brest and Etreilles, as well as for numerous partners and sub-contractors.

> Key points

- 36 Rafale (28 single-seat and 8 twin-seat) ordered by India in September 2016.
- 24 Rafale ordered by Egypt in February 2015, 24 Rafale ordered by Qatar in May 2015.
- 7,000 people work on the Rafale at Dassault Aviation, Thales, Safran, as well as 500 subcontractors.

➤ Notes to editors - Thales in India

With a presence in India since 1953, Thales currently employs over 300 people at its Indian branch. The Thales India headquarters is located in New Delhi, and it has other operational offices and sites at Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai and Mumbai. Thales plays an essential role in India's growth, by sharing its technology and its expertise on the defense, transportation and aerospace markets. Thales' strategy of developing its industrial presence in India is in line with the Indian Government's "Make in India" policy. Thales has formed several cooperative partnerships with public and private sector industries. Thales has been closely associated with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for more than 50 years and has formed joint ventures with Samtel, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and L&T Technology Services.

➤ About Thales

Thales is a global high technology leader in the aerospace, transportation, defense and security markets. With 62,000 employees in 56 countries, Thales reported sales of 14 billion euros in 2015. Over 22,000 engineers and researchers give Thales a unique capability to design and deploy equipment, systems and services to meet the most complex security requirements. Its exceptional international footprint allows it to work closely with its customers all over the world.

"All Thales teams would like to thank the Indian authorities for the trust they have placed in us. Rafale's new export success demonstrates our ability, alongside Dassault Aviation and its partners, to constantly meet the customer's highest expectations through innovation, the mastery of advanced technology and industrial excellence".

Patrice Caine, Chairman and CEO, Thales group.

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