

The Hindu, 3 October 2007

IAF to celebrate platinum jubilee in style

New Delhi, Oct. 2 (PTI): Indian Air Force will commemorate its 75th anniversary on October eight by organising an air display by 75 aircrafts that would form the part of the Air Force Day Parade-cum-Investiture ceremony. According to an official release, the force will be organising the air show on its platinum jubilee at Hindon Air Force Station in Ghaziabad. The show would kick-off with a stunt by its microlite aircraft, which recently created a world record for flying around the world in 80 days, the release said. Several other aircrafts will also be demonstrating their manoeuvre abilities during the aerobatics display.

Economic Times, 6 October 2007

After Navy, IAF to give ammo to Left with joint exercise

NEW DELHI: In a move that is sure to annoy the Left, the Indian Air Force has asked the government for permission to take part in the Red Flag, an advanced aerial combat training exercise that is hosted by the US. Air Force chief Fali Homi Major on Friday said the IAF has asked for the governments nod to take part in the exercises that are scheduled to take place in January 2008. The Left had strongly protested against the maritime exercises conducted recently in the Bay of Bengal by India, the US, Australia, Singapore and Japan. And the Left is also likely to protest what it considers deepening defence ties with the US.

The Hindu, 9 October 2007

More than mere air warriors

They say it is all in a days work. Fighting wars, saving lives, ferrying the dead, hobnobbing with Heads of State, jumping out of airplanes, delivering mail, and winning medals. In the Northeast, they have lived in Bashas, often nothing more than makeshift bamboo structures put up on disused taxi tracks. In sub-zero temperatures of Ladakh when placing their un-gloved hands on metal, they have had their skin ripped off like Velcro (it is called cold burn). They have watched their buddies die.

The Hindu, 11 October 2007

Drop in air accident: Antony

New Delhi (PTI): Acknowledging that there has been marked drop in accident rates in the Indian Air Force, Defence Minister A K Antony on Wednesday told Air warriors to put in extra care that crash ratio was reduced further. "There has been strenuous efforts put in by the IAF to reduce air accidents, but more can be done to drop it further," Antony said in his valedictory address to the International Flight Safety Conference attend by air experts from 30 countries. He emphasised that with boom in aviation sector worldwide, airspace would get overcrowded making it imperative that special flying safety measures were thought of and implemented well in advance.

Times of India, 11 October 2007

India, Singapore to hold joint artillery exercise in October

NEW DELHI: Artillery Forces of India and Singapore will participate in a joint exercise near Nasik in Maharashtra, later this month. This was decided at the two-day India-

Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue that ended on Wednesday. The Singapore Army will be represented by an over 100-member contingent, according to a release issued by the Defence Ministry. On Tuesday, both countries signed an agreement on a long-term arrangement for conducting joint training and exercises between the Indian Air Force and the Singapore Air.

Indian Express, 11 October 2007

Deal inked, Singapore to use Bengal airbase for F-16 training

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 9: In a move that is likely to raise hackles of the Left parties, the Government on Tuesday signed a crucial defence agreement with Singapore allowing it to use the Kalaikunda airbase and nearby firing ranges to train its pilots. The Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF), plagued with a shortage of air space and training assets, has been visiting the West Bengal airbase regularly for joint exercises, but this is the first time that a long term arrangement to use Indian facilities for training has been formalised.

The Hindu, 15 October 2007

Nod for fighter aircraft project with Russia

NEW DELHI: Concerned over Indian Air Forces (IAF) depleting force levels, the government has accelerated a plan to jointly develop the next generation fighter aircraft with Russia. The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has cleared the Fifth Generation Aircraft (FGA), along with the price for an additional order for 40 Sukhoi-30 MKI, said sources in the government. It also approved an aircraft-related joint venture between a Russian company and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). The original intention was to clear the proposal around the time of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Russia in December.