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Analyse & learn from emerging air warfare trends to strengthen defence preparedness: Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh to Air Force Commanders

“Need to focus on air defence systems; drones & aero space to protect India's air domain”

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the two-day Air Force Commanders' Conference in New Delhi on October 26, 2023. During the session, the Raksha Mantri was briefed on the operational preparedness of the Indian Air Force (IAF) by Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari.

In his address to the Commanders, Shri Rajnath Singh emphasised on the need to enhance operational preparedness and highlighted the importance of joint planning & execution of operations by the three services. He urged the IAF commanders to examine the rapidly changing global geo-political situation and assess them in the Indian context.

The Raksha Mantri pointed out that new trends have emerged in the field of air warfare and there is a need to analyse & learn from them to strengthen the defence preparedness. He exhorted the IAF to focus on strengthening the air defence systems; use of drones and making headway in the field of aerospace to protect India's air domain. “There are new challenges emanating from the global security scenario. We must always be ready to deal with them,” he said.

Shri Rajnath Singh praised the stellar role played by the IAF during the recent Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) missions in Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and other flood affected areas. He also congratulated the IAF for successfully organising the Air Force Day Parade and Air Display at Prayagraj, which was well appreciated by the people. Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt and Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan were among those present on the occasion.

The conference, which is held bi-annually, involves discussions on charting IAF's way ahead, given the current geo-political environment and technological imperatives. Eminent national security experts and accomplished personalities from various fields are invited to present their views during the conference.

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