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Exercise Udara Shakti 2026: IAF-RMAF Bilateral Air Exercise Concludes in Malaysia

14 August 2026 · 1 min read

✓ Every fact web-verified against primary sources

Exercise Udara Shakti 2026, the third edition of the bilateral air exercise between the **Indian Air Force (IAF)** and the **Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF)**, concluded at **Subang Air Base, Selangor, Malaysia**, on **August 14, 2026**, after running since August 10.

Participating Assets

The IAF fielded **4 Rafale** fighters (101 Squadron) and **2 C-17 Globemaster III** transport aircraft (81 Squadron); the RMAF fielded **2 Su-30MKM** fighters (No. 12 Squadron), **2 F/A-18D** fighters (No. 18 Squadron) and an **A400M** transport aircraft (No. 8 Squadron). Exercise directors were **Group Captain Parijat Jha** (IAF) and **Colonel Shamsul Shahreen bin Isa** (RMAF).

Background

The exercise focused on joint field training, operational coordination and professional exchange between the two air forces, forming part of India's **Act East Policy** and its growing defence engagement with ASEAN nations. Bilateral air exercises of this kind serve both **interoperability** and strategic-signalling functions within India's broader Indo-Pacific defence-diplomacy posture.

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EXERCISE UDARA SHAKTI 2026:

3rd edition, IAF-RMAF bilateral air exercise; August 10-14, 2026, Subang Air Base, Selangor, Malaysia

IAF assets: 4 Rafale (101 Squadron), 2 C-17 Globemaster III (81 Squadron)

RMAF assets: 2 Su-30MKM (No. 12 Squadron), 2 F/A-18D (No. 18 Squadron), 1 A400M (No. 8 Squadron)

Exercise directors: Group Captain Parijat Jha (IAF), Colonel Shamsul Shahreen bin Isa (RMAF)

Policy context: India's Act East Policy, ASEAN defence engagement

Sources: Indian Air Force, Ministry of Defence

Source: Exercise Udara Shakti 2026: IAF-RMAF Bilateral Air Exercise Concludes in Malaysia — Ujiyari.com | Free
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