



## Of Special Interest (to Indian eyes) at Le Bourget 2019

### The Very Obvious !

With imminent handover of the first Dassault Rafales to the Indian Air Force just some months away, the cynosure of all eyes, particularly Indian, were the graceful lines and thunderous visage of Dassault's Rafale fighter which dominated the Company's static display outside the main hall at the

53<sup>rd</sup> Paris Air Show. Strategically positioned, the Rafale was visited by special invitees while the general public were treated to superb aerobatic displays by the *Armée de l'Air* every afternoon.

The first Indian Air Force pilots and engineers selected for Rafale conversion training have already been in France for

several months even as other IAF pilots, on Su-30MKIs have cross-flown with French Air Force pilots at the recent *Garuda* Exercise (*see separate article*). The only evidence of an IAF Rafale at the Show this time was the model amongst a number displayed at the Dassault stand in Hall 2.