



The 'Air' over DefExpo 2020

The Defence Exhibitions Organisation of the MoD have been organising and holding air and defence shows for the past quarter century, being *Aero India* at Yelahanka (north of Bangalore) and in alternative years, *DefExpo* which was always held at Pragati Maidan in the heart of New Delhi before it was shifted to southern Goa in 2016 and two years later to the temple town of Kanchipuram, south of Chennai in Tamil Nadu in 2018.

DefExpo 2020 was held at a virgin site in a new development area of Lucknow the capital of Uttar Pradesh, at Vrindavan Yojna, Sector 15, touted on the internet as “the *biggest park in Asia, having space for family outing, friends, masti, and gf-bf timepass...most of the area is unreachable from families and you can find love birds performing our old ancient art*” (sic)..

Nonetheless, the area had been converted to a massive exhibition site with areas dedicated for display and demonstration of weapon systems including AFVs, howitzers and other machines of war. The biggest defence public sector undertaking in the region is Hindustan



IAF Surya Kiran display team perform at Defexpo (Photo: Deb Rana)