

Air Warriors in Olive Green



*Boeing AH-64E Apache of the IAF
(Image from Boeing)*

Lt Gen BS Pawar on why “Attack Helicopters must be organic with the Army”!

All major armies of the world, including those of our adversaries, have full fledged air wings of their own, comprising various types of helicopters, including attack as also fixed wing aircraft in their inventory. Both China and Pakistan have very potent attack helicopters in the aviation inventory of their respective armies. Pakistan Army Aviation already have Russian Mi-25/Mi-35 and US Huey Cobra attack helicopters and have recently acquired new Chinese Z-10 attack helicopters, recently inducted by the PLA. According to reports, the Pak Army is also in process of acquiring 30 new generation attack helicopters from Turkey, the A-129 ATAK, reportedly being a copy of the Italian ‘Mangusta’ attack helicopter but with far better high altitude capability.

It is therefore surprising that the Indian military mind is still stuck in the quagmire of unresolved command and control aspects, that of an aerial weapon platform which



*Indian Army Commandos during
exercise (image via author)*