

VAYU Interview with

Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, Chief of the Air Staff, IAF



VAYU : *At a recent IAF Commanders' Conference, IAF's 'Vision 2030' was articulated upon. Could you give us an overview on the timelines for these critical objectives to be met?*

The IAF is undergoing a major transformation through induction of state of the art equipment along with up gradation of key legacy platforms and systems. Induction of indigenous Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) and S-400 Air Defence system is expected to start in the immediate future. The induction of Rafale aircraft would be completed as per the contractual timelines and LCA Mk1A shall be available from 2024. Concurrently we expect the Multi Role Fighter Aircraft (MFRA) plans to be firmed up to build our op capability. Other major inductions of AMCA and combat enablers like FRA, AWACS, AEW&C, armed drones etc would be near induction/operational by

2030. Simultaneously, we will transform our capabilities in multi-domain warfare, notably cyber and space, and carry out a thorough overhaul of our training processes to make them future ready.

VAYU : *As of end-July 2021, a total of 26 out of 36 Rafales had been accepted and ferried to India along with the recent induction into 101 Squadron. Meanwhile, there are some disparate reports on*

