

Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control System

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Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control System Latest News

Recently, the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) handed over the Final Operational Clearance (FOC) certificate of the Indigenous 'Netra' Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) system to the Indian Air Force (IAF).

About Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control System

- It is an **airborne radar and command platform** built around an Embraer EMB-145 aircraft.
- It is commonly known as the Indian Air Force's (IAF) **"Eye in the Sky."**
- It is developed indigenously by the **Bengaluru-based Centre for Airborne Systems (CABS)**.
- **India is the fifth country** in the world to develop this capability.

Features of Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control System

- It is designed to detect **incoming projectiles, ships and aircraft at long ranges**, differentiate friend from foe and direct friendly fighters in real time.

- **Detection Range:** It offers real-time battlefield management, **250-500+ km detection ranges and 300° to 360° radar coverage** to track hostile aircraft, drones and missiles.
- It uses the **Brazilian Embraer EMB-145 aircraft as its platform**, on which is mounted an active electronically scanned array radar in its dorsal fin.
- The system encompasses a sophisticated suite of mission equipment, including an **Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA)** radar, **Identification Friend or Foe (IFF)**, mission computer, secure communication networks, electronic support measures (ESM) and communication support measures.
- Unlike ground-based radar, an AEW&C aircraft operates at altitude, allowing it to see farther over terrain and provide a broader picture of aircraft, drones and other airborne activity.
- It can also **share real-time information** with fighter jets, ground stations and other military assets.

Source: PIB

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