

Exercise Orion

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About Exercise Orion:

- It is a **multinational exercise hosted by** the French government.
- It is reportedly the **largest ever multinational exercise being carried out by the French defence forces** which have involved their **Army, Navy and Air Force**.
- It includes ground troops, warships, aircraft carriers and combat aircraft and is meant to **boost military cooperation and interoperability** among participating nations.
- Besides the IAF **and the FASF, Air Forces from Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, U.K. and U.S.** would also be flying in this multilateral exercise.
- The **IAF contingent** will include **four Rafale aircraft, two C-17, two IL-78 aircraft** and 165 air warriors.
- This would be the **first overseas exercise for the IAF's Rafale aircraft**.

Q1) What are Rafale fighter aircrafts?

The Rafale is a twin-jet fighter aircraft able to operate from both an aircraft carrier and a shore base. The fully versatile Rafale is able to carry out all combat aviation missions: air superiority and air defense, close air support,

in-depth strikes, reconnaissance, anti-ship strikes and nuclear deterrence.

Source: [INDIAN AIR FORCE TO PARTICIPATE IN MULTILATERAL INTERNATIONAL EXERCISE ORION AT MONT DE MARSAN, FRANCE](#)

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