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With an indigenous production programme for F-16 in place, the Indian Air Force and Indian industry is set to propel into the future

F-16 Block 70: Resetting the Standards

The F-16's iconic shape remains relatively unchanged from the famous fighter's original design. However, internal structures and systems on the F-16 have been continuously modernised to incorporate new, advanced technologies. The F-16's unprecedented success stems from relentless operational modernisation informed by real-world combat experience.

Enter the F-16 Block 70, the latest iteration of that continuous improvement process. The Block 70 resets the standard for fighter aircraft. Weapons systems, sensors, avionics, engine, operational capability upgrades, and structural upgrades enable the F-16 to stay ahead of emerging threats. No other 4th Generation platform even comes close to matching to F-16's record of real-world combat experience and operational effectiveness.

Unmatched Combat Prowess

The F-16 flies farther, intercepts faster, accelerates quicker, and turns more tightly than any of its competitors. The F-16's 9G capability and immense thrust-to-weight ratio enables it to dominate the skies with unmatched agility, lethality and survivability. And unlike any of its competitors, the F-16 has the combat hours to prove it.

Unparalleled Mission Reach

Even with the addition of targeting systems and two 2,000 pound (lb) class Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAMs), the F-16 Block 70 has a mission radius exceeding 1,300 km—30 per cent greater than that of the F-16's closest competitor.

The F-16 can strike more targets, at greater ranges, than any of its competitors. It can carry twice the payload of competing aircraft at the same range, which translates directly to air-to-surface mission effectiveness.

Advanced, Integrated Capabilities

The APG-83 Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar delivers significantly enhanced situational awareness, flexibility and quicker all-weather targeting. The APG-83 provides pilots with unprecedented target area detail and digital map displays that can be tailored with slew and zoom features on the new high-resolution 6"x 8" Center Pedestal Display (CPD) screen. The high-resolution display allows pilots to take full advantage of AESA and targeting pod data.

The F-16 Block 70 also delivers with an advanced modular mission computer (MMC), gigabit ethernet capability, and enhanced memory and throughput to enable future growth as technology advances. The F-16 Block 70 architecture enables India to indigenise the aircraft with unique systems, sensors, and weapons to meet specific sovereign service and national requirements.

A Powerful Partnership

Lockheed Martin has partnered with India for more than 25 years and remains committed to fostering technology development, manufacturing and strategic collaboration. That strategic partnership is reflected in our successful joint venture company with Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL), which manufactures major airframe components for the C-130J airlifter and S-92 helicopter.

The F-16 programme proposed for India is unprecedented in scope, including the opportunity for India to become the exclusive home of worldwide F-16 production and exports.