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सेना होगी और मजबूत

बालाकोट में मचाई जा चुकी हैं आतंकी ठिकानों पर तबाही....

इस्राइल से स्पाइस 2000 बम फिर खरीदेगा भारत



स्पाइस अंग्रेजी के SPICE शब्द (Smart, Precise Impact, Cost-Effective) से बना है और इसे इस्राइल ने विकसित किया है। स्पाइस बम 3 तरह (स्पाइस 1000, स्पाइस 2000 और स्पाइस 250) के हैं। स्पाइस 2000 का वजन 900 किलो का होता है जिसमें आगे के हिस्से में MK-84, BLU-109 और RAP-2000 समेत कई तरह के बम लगे होते हैं।

एजेंसी, (नई दिल्ली): पुलवामा आतंकी हमले के जवाब में भारत की ओर से 26 फरवरी को किए गए बालाकोट एयरस्ट्राइक में जिस स्पाइस बम का इस्तेमाल किया गया था, भारतीय सेना अब इसी एडवांस बम को इस्राइल से खरीदने जा रही है। सूत्रों के अनुसार, भारतीय

वायुसेना अपने हथियारों को और एडवांस बनाने के मकसद से इस्राइल से स्पाइस-2000 बम खरीद रही है। इस बम को किसी भी इमारत को ध्वस्त करने के लिए योजनाबद्ध तरीके से लगाया जा सकता है। इस बम का पुराना वर्जन पहले किसी इमारत में भेदने और

फिर इमारत के अंदर धमाका करने में सक्षम था।

स्पाइस 2000 का इस्तेमाल भारतीय वायुसेना ने बालाकोट में छिपे जैश-ए-मोहम्मद के आतंकीयों को निशाना बनाते हुए उनका खात्मा करने के लिए किया था। स्पाइस बम ने आतंकीयों के ठिकाने को नष्ट

करने के लिए पहले वहां बड़ा होल बनाया, फिर अंदर घुसा जहां खुफिया सूत्रों से मिली जानकारी के अनुसार 26 फरवरी से पहले जैश के करीब 300 आतंकी छिपे हुए थे। सूत्रों के अनुसार, इस हमले में बड़ी संख्या में आतंकी ढेर हो गए थे और खासा नुकसान भी पहुंचा था। इसके अलावा भारतीय वायुसेना सुखोई 30 फाइटर एयरक्रॉफ्ट को भी अपने बेड़े में शामिल करना चाहती है, जिससे सेना

की क्षमता में और वृद्धि हो और दुश्मन के साथ हवाई संघर्ष में जोरदार ढंग से मुकाबला कर सके। स्पाइस 2000 बम ने पाकिस्तान में एयरस्ट्राइक के दौरान लक्ष्य पर निशाना साधते हुए पहले एक मीटर तक का गड्ढा बनाया। बाद में सरकार ने दावा किया कि वहां पर बड़े पैमाने में आतंकी ठिकानों को नष्ट किया गया है।

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Thu, 09 May 2019

Air Force looks at buying advanced 'bunker buster' version of Spice-2000 bombs

"The IAF is now planning to acquire the bunker buster or the building destroyer version with Mark 84 warhead which can decimate targeted buildings," government sources told ANI.

New Delhi: Buoyed by its success in the Balakot air strikes against a Jaish-eMohammed terrorist camp in Pakistan, the Indian Air Force is now planning to buy an advanced version of the Spice-2000 bomb, which can completely destroy buildings and bunkers.

During the Balakot strikes, the Air Force had dropped Spice-2000 bombs from Mirage2000 fighter aircraft after a pack of 12 of these fighters crossed the Line of Control to strike the Jaish facility in the Khyber Pakhtunwa province.

However, the Spice-2000 bombs used in the Balakot strikes were the penetrator version which made holes using their weight in the concrete rooftops of the buildings in the Jaish camp which don't destroy buildings but explode inside killing people with the mix of 70-80 kg explosives with shrapnel.

"The IAF is now planning to acquire the bunker buster or the building destroyer version with Mark 84 warhead which can decimate targeted buildings," government sources told ANI.

The acquisition is likely to be done through the emergency powers granted to the three services for buying any equipment of their choice worth up to Rs 300 crore to prepare for any hostilities, they said.

Under the powers, the Army has already made up its mind to buy Spike anti-tank guided missiles deployment against any possible armoured threat posed by the enemy troops.

The Spice-2000 bombs have been acquired from Israel which is one of the main weapon and ammunition supplier of the Air Force.

The Balakot air strikes were conducted by the Air Force in response to the Pulwama terrorist attack on a CRPF convoy in which 44 personnel lost their lives

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/air-force-looks-at-buying-advanced-bunker-buster-version-of-spice-2000-bombs/articleshow/69229514.cms>

hindustantimes

Thu, 09 May 2019

Human error may have led to Aero India crash

One pilot was killed while the two others were injured in the crash of two Hawk advanced jet trainers of the Surya Kiran Aerobatic Display Team

By Rahul Singh

New Delhi: A human error may have caused the mid-air collision of two planes rehearsing for an aerobatic show near Bengaluru's Yelahanka Air Force Base in February, according to two Indian Air Force (IAF) officials familiar with an ongoing investigation into the crash.

One pilot was killed while the two others were injured in the crash of two Hawk advanced jet trainers of the Surya Kiran Aerobatic Display Team.

The British-origin jets were rehearsing complex aerobatic manoeuvres to be performed during the five-day airshow, Aero India-2019. It was the second crash involving IAF aircraft in February since a Mirage 2000 trainer crashed in Bengaluru on February 1. Two pilots were killed in that crash.

One of the officials cited above, who requested anonymity, said the initial investigation points to a pilot error as the jets were flying in an "incorrect formation" while performing the mirror manoeuvre.

In a mirror manoeuvre, it appears to spectators on the ground that one jet in the formation is flying inverted exactly above the other. But the planes in reality have to maintain minimum lateral separation to eliminate chances of a collision.

"It is a very tight formation. But the pilots have to maintain a minimum lateral separation. It appears the jets did not maintain that separation that day. The Hawk flying below the inverted plane should not have been exactly under it," the second official said, also on condition of anonymity.

The jet flying below had two pilots in it. A single pilot flew the inverted one above. Footage of the collision showed that the aircraft on top descended rapidly with its nose crashing into the tail of the jet below before snapping off into pieces.

Wing Commander Sahil Gandhi, who was flying the inverted jet, was killed in the crash. The two injured pilots in the other plane ejected and parachuted to the ground.

An IAF spokesperson refused to comment saying the probe into the crash was still on. "However, the next course of action will be determined by the findings of the IAF probe. If found culpable, it could have serious implications for the erring pilot," an IAF official said.

The Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team consists of India's finest fighter pilots trained to perform death-defying stunts. It is equipped with Hawk Mk 132 trainers and carries out dazzling displays with its trademark nine-aircraft formation.

The IAF inducted its first batch of Hawks in February 2008 to simplify the training of rookie fighter pilots from subsonic trainers to supersonic fighters.

India ordered 123 Hawks, manufactured by defence and aerospace giant BAE Systems, of which 24 were delivered in flyaway condition while the remaining were license-produced at Bengaluru's Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. The Navy operates 17 Hawks while the remaining belong to the IAF.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/human-error-may-have-led-to-aero-india-crash/story-SxvtqtAA3diRmGhkjyFuyJ.html>



Thu, 09 May 2019

Iran partially withdraws from 2015 nuclear deal

Threatens more action if 5 other nations fail to act in 60 days

Tehran: Iran today said it had stopped respecting limits on its nuclear activities agreed under a 2015 deal with major powers until they find a way to bypass renewed US sanctions.

The well-trailed announcement came as Washington stepped up its rhetoric against Tehran, accusing it of planning "imminent" attacks and deploying an aircraft carrier strike group with several nuclear-capable B-52 bombers to the region.

Iran said it was responding to the sweeping unilateral sanctions that Washington has reimposed since it quit the agreement one year ago, which have dealt a severe blow to the Iranian economy.

It said it would stop implementing some of the restrictions it had agreed with immediate effect.

Tehran said it would abandon more if the remaining parties to the agreement — Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia — failed to start delivering on their commitments to sanctions relief within 60 days.

President Hassan Rouhani underlined that the ultimatum was intended to rescue the nuclear deal from his US counterpart Donald Trump who has repeatedly called for it to be scrapped since he pulled out on May 8, 2018.

"We felt the (deal) needed surgery and that the year-long sedatives have not delivered any result. This surgery is meant to save the (deal), not destroy it," Rouhani said at a cabinet meeting broadcast live on state television.

Robert Kelley, a former UN nuclear inspector now with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, said the commitments Iran was dropping had no bearing on its ability to develop an atomic bomb. He said Iran was simply seeking to "save face" after "striking a deal which was not respected by the other side". Under the landmark deal agreed by Trump's predecessor Barack Obama, the parties to the agreement were supposed to lift nuclear-related sanctions on Iran in return for it reining in its activities to ease fears it was seeking the capability to produce an atomic bomb.

But the promised sanctions relief has failed to materialise as European and Asian banks and oil companies have moved swiftly to abide by the renewed US sanctions for fear of financial or commercial repercussions. Rouhani slammed European countries for seeing the US as the world's "sheriff" and said this keeps them from making "firm decisions for their own national interests". —

AFP

US: Tehran moved missiles by boat

- The decision to send an aircraft carrier and a group of Air Force bombers to the Middle East was based in part on intelligence indications that Iran had moved short-range ballistic missiles by boat in waters off its shores, an American official said
- The movement was among a range of recent indications that Iran might be considering or preparing to attack US forces in the region, he said
- The official said it was not clear whether the boats with missiles represented a new military capability that could be used against the US forces or were only being moved to shore locations

Russia, Iran blame Washington

- Russia and Iran condemned the US for Tehran's forced move to scale back some curbs to its nuclear programme, while putting the onus on European powers to offer Iran sanctions relief
- "Putin has repeatedly spoken of the result of unthought-out steps regarding Iran and by that I mean the decision taken by US (to quit the deal). Now we are seeing those consequences are starting to happen," the Kremlin spokesman said.

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/world/iran-partially-withdraws-from-2015-nuclear-deal/770301.html>



Thu, 09 May 2019

Iran says it will not honour nuclear curbs

U.S. deploys aircraft carrier in region

Tehran: Iran said on Wednesday it had stopped respecting limits on its nuclear activities agreed under a 2015 deal with major powers until they find a way to bypass renewed U.S. sanctions.

The announcement came as Washington stepped up its rhetoric against Tehran, accusing it of planning "imminent" attacks and deploying an aircraft carrier strike group with several nuclear-capable B-52 bombers to the region. Iran said it was responding to the sweeping unilateral sanctions that Washington has reimposed since it quit the agreement one year ago, which have dealt a severe blow to the Iranian economy.

Iran's Supreme National Security Council said that it no longer considered itself bound by the agreed restrictions on stocks of enriched uranium and heavy water.

It said after 60 days, it would also stop abiding by restrictions on the level to which Iran can enrich uranium and modifications to its Arak heavy water reactor that were designed to prevent the production of plutonium. Uranium enriched to much higher levels than Iran's current stocks can be used as the fissile core of a nuclear weapon, while heavy water is a source of plutonium which can be used as an alternative way to produce a warhead.

President Hassan Rouhani said the ultimatum was intended to rescue the nuclear deal from his U.S. counterpart Donald Trump who has repeatedly called for it to be scrapped since he pulled out on May 8, 2018.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/iran-says-it-will-not-honour-nuclear-curbs/article27073646.ece>

Locking CO2 in a rock may check global warming

Saint-Ursanne: Swiss scientists are injecting carbon dioxide into rock deep inside a mountain to discover if the gas leaks out or if it can be locked away to stop it contributing to climate change.

Inside Mont Terri in the Jura Mountains, a layer of impermeable clay could potentially trap carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas causing global warming.

At a laboratory deep inside the mountain, scientists have begun pumping carbon dioxide dissolved in salt water into the rock. They will see if the gas will interact with the clay and whether a faultline will allow it to seep out.

The first eight-month phase of the experiment involves only 500mg of carbon dioxide pumped into the rock through a borehole. "If this rock has a fault in it, is it possible that the CO2 comes up through the fault. This is what we want to answer," said Alba Zappone, a researcher at Zurich's ETH University.

Geological storage of CO2 already exists, but existing sites are usually in uninhabited places, such as the Algerian desert or under the Norwegian North Sea, said Christophe Nussbaum, the Mont Terri project manager.

"What is new is that, if one day we want to stock CO2 in Switzerland, which is a densely populated region, we need to make sure that the CO2 won't migrate into the surface and contaminate, for instance, drinking water sources. This is one of the major stakes here," Nussbaum said.

Swiss citizens produce an average of about 5.8 tonnes of CO2 annually, he said. The project is supported by Switzerland, France, Canada, Japan and the US, and energy firms.

But environmental organisations like Greenpeace are worried that the project's findings could turn into a "right to pollute" and detract from efforts to reduce emissions, which are driving a disastrous rise in global temperatures.

"What worries us is to see that the necessary efforts needed to limit greenhouse gas emissions are not being made," said Mathias Schlegel, Greenpeace spokesman.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/science/locking-co2-in-a-rock-may-check-global-warming/articleshow/69245535.cms>



Britain passes one week without coal power for first time since 1882

Landmark follows government pledge to phase out coal-fired electricity by 2025

Britain has gone a week without using coal to generate electricity for the first time since Queen Victoria was on the throne, in a landmark moment in the transition away from the heavily polluting fuel.

The last coal generator came off the system at 1.24pm on 1 May, meaning the UK reached a week without coal at 1.24pm on Wednesday, according to the National Grid Electricity System Operator, which runs the network in England, Scotland and Wales.

Coal-fired power stations still play a major part in the UK's energy system as a backup during high demand but the increasing use of renewable energy sources such as wind power means it is required less. High international coal prices have also made the fuel a less attractive source of energy.

The latest achievement – the first coal-free week since 1882, when a plant opened at Holborn in London – comes only two years after Britain's first coal-free day since the Industrial Revolution.

Burning coal to generate electricity is thought to be incompatible with avoiding catastrophic climate change, and the UK government has committed to phasing out coal-fired power by 2025.

Reductions in coal use in the UK have been responsible for halving electricity generation emissions since 2013, according to the Committee on Climate Change (CCC), whose report last week called for the UK to pursue a target of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Fintan Slye, the director of National Grid ESO, said he believed Britain's electricity system could be run with zero carbon as soon as 2025.

He said: "Zero-carbon operation of the electricity system by 2025 means a fundamental change to how our system was designed to operate – integrating newer technologies right across the system – from large-scale offshore wind to domestic-scale solar panels to increased demand-side participation, using new smart digital systems to manage and control the system in real-time."

Greg Clark, the business secretary, hailed the achievement. He said the UK is "on a path to become the first major economy to legislate for net-zero emissions" in the wake of the report.

However, the government has also faced criticism over some of its policies. The CCC's chief executive, Chris Stark, said on Wednesday that proposals to impose higher VAT on solar panels and its failure to give its full backing to onshore wind generation would make meeting a net-zero emissions target more difficult.

"We will need to throw everything at this challenge, including onshore wind and solar," Stark told MPs on the business committee. "Anything that makes it harder is really not in line with the net-zero challenge overall."

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/may/08/britain-passes-1-week-without-coal-power-for-first-time-since-1882>