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Daily PIB summary**Exercises Pitch Black 2026 and Udara Shakti 2026**

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WHY IN NEWS

- Indian Air Force concluded participation in multilateral Exercise Pitch Black in Australia and bilateral Exercise Udara Shakti in Malaysia.

EXERCISE PITCH BLACK 2026

- Biennial multilateral air combat exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).
- IAF deployed Rafale fighter aircraft to engage in Large Force Employment (LFE) missions alongside over 20 nations.

EXERCISE UDARA SHAKTI 2026

- Bilateral air combat exercise between the Indian Air Force and the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF).
- Conducted at Subang, Malaysia, featuring combat maneuvers alongside Su-30MKM and F/A-18 Hornet fighters.

KEY TERMS

- **Large Force Employment (LFE):** Military exercise missions involving high volumes of aircraft operating in coordinated air defense scenarios.

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PRELIMS FACTS

- Pitch Black is a multilateral air exercise hosted by Australia.
- Udara Shakti is a bilateral exercise between India and Malaysia.

KEY DATA

- **Exercise Pitch Black:** Multilateral (Host: Australia) - Major Indo-Pacific multilateral air combat exercise involving IAF.
- **Exercise Udara Shakti:** Bilateral (India-Malaysia) - Key bilateral defense engagement between IAF and Royal Malaysian Air Force.

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