



Successful first flight of LCA Mk.1A

The first aircraft LA5033 of the Tejas Mk.1A aircraft series took to the skies from HAL facility in Bengaluru on 28 March 2024. It was a successful sortie with a flying time of 18 minutes. “HAL achieved this significant production milestone with concurrent design and development amid major supply chain challenges in the global geo-political environment subsequent to the contract signature in February 2021”, stated Mr. C. B. Ananthakrishnan, CMD, HAL.

The aircraft was piloted by Chief Test Pilot, Gp Capt K K Venugopal (Retd).

“HAL thanks MoD, Indian Air Force, DRDO/ADA, CEMILAC, DGAQA and the MSMEs who have contributed to the success of this programme. With the continued support of these stakeholders, the country can look forward to early induction of the Tejas Mk.1A by the IAF and more numbers through the three lines of production established at HAL”, stated the CMD.

The Tejas Mk.1A will have an advanced electronic radar, warfare, communication systems, additional combat capability and improved maintenance features. ➡

