

# IAF's Mil Mi-26: The giant rotorcraft



**D**esigned by Marat Tishchenko, the Russian Mil Mi-26/Izdiliye 90 (NATO Code: Halo) heavy lift transport helicopter entered operational service with Soviet Air Force in 1983. A conventional semi-monocoque structure of pod and boom type, vital areas

are protected by with titanium armour plating. Lift is provided by eight blade titanium main rotor with a span of 32 metres. The helicopter has a fixed undercarriage and non-retractable tricycle type landing gear with carbon disc brakes with differential braking for steering.