

Suryakiran Aerobatic Team celebrates 30 years



The iconic Indian Air Force formation aerobatic team, the Suryakiran Aerobatic Team, marked its 30th Anniversary at Air Force Station Bidar on 26 May 2026. The occasion commemorated three decades of inspiring the nation through precision aerobatics and exceptional airmanship.

The celebrations were graced by the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, and Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Training Command, Air Marshal S Shrinivas. In a special highlight of the event, CAS and AOC-in-C flew with the team during the commemorative aerial display.

A poignant “Hollow Diamond” formation was flown in remembrance of the brave team members the Suryakiran Aerobatic Team lost during its illustrious journey. The tribute reflected the deep camaraderie, courage and enduring spirit that define the team. Popularly known as the “Ambassadors of the Indian Air Force”, the nine aircraft formation aerobatic team has inspired millions through professional flying in close formation encompassing thrilling manoeuvres at low levels.

The team, “Suryakiran” – meaning “Rays of the Sun” – was formed on 27 May 1996 at Air Force Station Bidar, initially flying the Kiran Mk.II aircraft. In September 1996,