



IAF Aircraft Crash in Haryana

Why in News?

On 7th March 2025, an **Indian Air Force (IAF) Jaguar fighter jet** crashed at Ambala in Haryana during a routine sortie after encountering a system malfunction.

Key Points

▪ About Jaguar:

- The Jaguar is a **versatile aircraft used for ground attack, air defense, and reconnaissance missions.**
- It is a **Fifth-generation (5G) fighter aircraft** capable of operating in heavily **contested combat zones**, characterised by the **presence of the most advanced air and ground threats**, both current and anticipated.
- 5G fighter jets have **stealth capabilities** and can cruise at **supersonic speeds** without engaging afterburners.
- It **stands out from fourth-generation (4G)** peers due to its multi-spectral **low-observable design, self-protection, radar jamming capabilities, and integrated avionics.**
- The squadrons of **MiG-21s, MiG-29s, Jaguars, and Mirage 2000s** are scheduled to be phased out by the middle of the next decade.

MiG-21

- Supersonic jet fighter and interceptor aircraft designed by the **erstwhile USSR in the 1950s.**
 - Widely used combat aircraft in history, with more than 11,000 units built and over 60 countries operating it.
- **IAF acquired its first MiG-21 in 1963** and has since **inducted 874 variants** of the aircraft
- Involved in several wars and conflicts involving India. Involved in many accidents and crashes, earning it the nickname **“flying coffin”**.

MiG 29s

- It is a twin-engine, multirole fighter jet, **developed by Soviet Russia in the 1970s.** It has been upgraded since.