



## Exercise Desert Flag-VI: UAE

### Why in News

For the first time, the **Indian Air Force (IAF)** is participating in the **Exercise Desert Flag-VI**, hosted by the [United Arab Emirates \(UAE\)](#) Air Force.



### Key Points

- **About:** Ex Desert Flag is an **annual multinational large force employment warfare exercise** hosted by the **UAE Air Force**.
- **Aim:** To provide operational exposure to the participating forces while training them to undertake simulated air combat operations in a controlled environment.
- **Exercise Desert Flag-VI:**
  - **Duration:** It is about a **three week long exercise** scheduled from 3<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at **Al-Dhafra air base, UAE**.
  - **Participants:** The air forces of the UAE, India, [United States of America](#), [France](#), [Saudi](#)

[Arabia](#), [South Korea](#) and [Bahrain](#).

- **India's Participation:** The IAF is participating with six [Su-30 MKI](#), two [C-17 Globemasters](#) and one IL-78 tanker aircraft.

▪ **Joint Military Exercises with the UAE:**

- With the UAE, India has **In-UAE BILAT** (bilateral **naval** exercise) as well as **Desert Eagle-II** (bilateral **air force** exercise).

▪ **Recent Engagements:**

- India participated in the [NAVDEX 21 \(Naval Defence Exhibition\) and IDEX 21 \(International Defence Exhibition\)](#).
  - The exhibitions showcase the latest technologies and innovation in the global defence sector, support the growth of UAE's defence industry, and forge new relationships between major international companies.

▪ **Examples of Other Multinational Exercises:**

- [Pitch Black](#): Biennial, multilateral air combat training exercise of **Australia**.
- [Red Flag](#): Multilateral air exercise of **USA**.

[Source: PIB](#)

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