FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS

FIP/DGCA/2026-24 **02 November 2026**

To
Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
Chief of the Air Staff
Indian Air Force, Air Hq's,
Moti Lal Nehru Marg,
New Delhi – 110106

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR APPOINTMENT AS THE CHIEF OF THE AIR STAFF

Dear Air Chief Marshal Dixit,

1. On behalf of the **Federation of Indian Pilots (FIP)** which has more than 5500 pilots as members from fixed and rotary wing, it gives us immense pleasure and a deep sense of pride to extend our heartiest congratulations and warmest felicitations on your appointment as the Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force.

2. Your elevation to **the highest leadership position in the Indian Air Force is a fitting recognition of an illustrious career spanning nearly four decades**, marked by exceptional professional competence, exemplary leadership, dedication and an unwavering commitment to the service of our nation. Commissioned into the Indian Air Force on 06 December 1986, you have had an outstanding journey as an accomplished Fighter Pilot and a distinguished Military Leader, embodying the finest traditions, values and ethos of the Indian Air Force. Your professional journey reflects the qualities that define an exceptional air warrior — **courage, discipline, operational excellence, strategic foresight and an enduring commitment** to the highest standards of military aviation. **Your contribution to the Operational Preparedness, Capability development and Modernisation of the Indian Air Force has been commendable** and stands as an inspiration to generations of aviators.

3. On a more personal note, I as President, **Wg. Cdr CS Randhawa (Retd.)**, recalls with great satisfaction the association with you during my tenure as a Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI) at the Air Force Academy from Jun 1984 till Jun 1987. Having had the opportunity to be associated with young officers during their formative years of military flying training. I take particular pride in witnessing your remarkable professional journey and your ascent to the highest office in the Indian Air Force. It is indeed a matter of immense gratification for a former Instructor to see an Officer associated with those formative years distinguish himself so exceptionally in his career.

C-1202 Lotus Corporate Park, Off Western Express Highway, Near Jai Coach Signal,
Goregaon East, Mumbai - 400063. India. Mobile: + 91 8169164840 / 9888855541
E-Mail: president@fipindia.com • Website: fipindia.com • Regn. No.: F-18362 Mah. 927

4. Your achievement is also a reflection of the **enduring legacy of the Air Force Academy**, which continues to nurture generations of outstanding Pilots and Military Leaders who serve the nation with distinction. Your journey from a young commissioned officer to the Chief of the Air Staff is an inspiring testament to professional dedication, perseverance, merit and leadership.

5. The Indian Air Force today stands at a particularly significant juncture in its evolution. The changing geopolitical landscape, emerging security challenges and the rapidly transforming character of aerial warfare place unprecedented demands on air power and national defence preparedness. The integration of advanced technologies, indigenous platforms, next-generation combat capabilities, network-centric operations and enhanced jointness among the three services will be critical in shaping the future of India's aerospace power. Our IAF has emerged outstanding since the independence of our country.

6. We are confident that your vast operational experience, professional insight and visionary leadership will provide the Indian Air Force with the necessary direction and impetus to successfully navigate these challenges. Under your stewardship, we are certain that the Service will continue to enhance its combat potential, strengthen Operational preparedness, accelerate modernisation and maintain its formidable reputation as one of the most respected air forces in the world.

7. As the Federation of Indian Pilots, representing the interests and professional aspirations of Pilots and the wider Aviation Fraternity, we hold the **Indian Air Force in the highest regard**. The **Military Aviation community has always been a source of inspiration for professional standards, flying discipline, operational excellence and Safety**. The contribution of the Indian Air Force to the development of aviation in our country and to the nurturing of generations of highly skilled aviators is immeasurable.

8. We look forward to the continued strengthening of the **bonds between the Military and Civil Aviation communities**, particularly in areas of **professional exchange, Aviation Safety, Human Factors, Training Standards and the advancement** of India's Aerospace Capabilities. The collective experience and knowledge of our aviation fraternity can contribute meaningfully to the larger national objective of making Indian aviation safer, stronger and globally competitive.

9. On this momentous occasion, the **Federation of Indian Pilots** once again conveys its **profound congratulations and best wishes**. We wish you great success, good health and every fulfilment in discharging the enormous responsibilities of your prestigious office.

C-1202 Lotus Corporate Park, Off Western Express Highway, Near Jai Coach Signal, Goregaon East, Mumbai - 400063. India. Mobile: + 91 8169164840 / 9888855541
E-Mail: president@fipindia.com • Website: fipindia.com • Regn. No.: F-18362 Mah. 927

May your tenure take the Indian Air Force to even greater heights of Operational excellence, professional distinction and glory, upholding its proud motto of "Touch the Sky with Glory." The uniform may be laid aside upon retirement, but the pride, camaraderie and lifelong bond with the Indian Air Force remain eternal. It is in this spirit that I convey my very best wishes to you.

With Highest Regards and Warm Felicitations,

For and on behalf of the Federation of Indian Pilots (FIP)

Yours faithfully,

Wg. Cdr. C. S. Randhawa
President,
Federation of Indian Pilots (FIP).

C-1202 Lotus Corporate Park, Off Western Express Highway, Near Jai Coach Signal,
Goregaon East, Mumbai - 400063. India. Mobile: + 91 8169164840 / 9888855541
E-Mail: president@fipindia.com • Website: fipindia.com • Regn. No.: F-18362 Mah. 927