

The Big Purchase - India's Rafale-M Deal: War Rhetoric or China Strategy?

On 28 April 2025, India and France
signed a USD 7.4 billion contract for
26 Rafale-M aircraft.

Timed amid Indo-Pak standoff—
but the **motive runs deeper!**



Framed by Indian media
as a response to
post-Pahalgam tensions
with Pakistan.



Media-driven war rhetoric obscures the real motive:
long-term maritime strategy against China—not Pakistan.

Tactical Reality Check

**India's Premium Fighters
Neutralised — Rafale Myth**

BUSTED

**Pakistan Air Force shot down 5 Indian
aircraft including 3 Rafales.**



Pakistan's BVR (Beyond Visual Range)
superiority debunked the myth of Rafale's
battlefield edge in South Asia.



Why the Indian Obsession With Rafales?

War Hysteria a Cover

Rafale-M:

- Offers limited strategic value in the context of a conflict with Pakistan.
- Naval Fighter meant for carrier-based operations redundant where India already has airbases close to Pakistan.
- Carrier-based jets are overkill where land bases already exist.

**India's Emotional,
False Narratives distract from its
Actual Strategic Calculations.**

Aimed at the Asia-Pacific

The platform's true relevance lies in the
Asia-Pacific theatre to counter platforms
like the Chinese J-15 and J-35.

Strategic Location: Nicobar Islands



Long-range, maritime power
projection not border warfare!

**Rafale-M: More about
Countering China than
responding to Pakistan.**

Death Knell for Tejas-N



Spells **DOOM** for India's
Local Aviation Industry,
particularly Tejas-N.

**Indigenous Innovation Out:
Imported Convenience In!**

Rafale-M Deal: Long-Term Decision Disguised as Crisis Response



**India's military standoff used as a narrative tool to
accelerate a pre-planned procurement aimed at
countering China not Pakistan.**

Source: Syed Ahmed Ali, "Strategic Camouflage:
India's War Rhetoric and the Rafale-M Deal," May 9, 2025, www.casstt.com.

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