

# India to buy French Rafale fighter jets

India's defence ministry has announced that it will buy 126 French-made Rafale combat aircraft in a massive \$11 billion deal that will increase the might of the world's fourth largest air force

**Engines**  
Twin  
**SNECMA**  
**M88-2**  
turbofans,  
each rated at 75kN

**Dassault Rafale**  
was lowest bidder in  
two-way competition with  
**Eurofighter Typhoon**.  
Both aircraft saw action  
during recent Libyan  
campaign

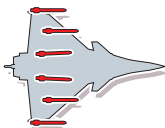
## SPECIFICATIONS

Type	Single / twin-seat multirole fighter
Entered service	December 2000
Max. take-off weight	24,500kg
Maximum speed	Mach 1.8 (1,910km/h)
Combat radius	1,850km

**Armament:** One 30mm cannon with 125 rounds,  
up to 9.5 tonnes of weapons on 14 hardpoints

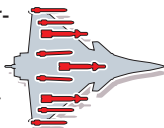
### Typical air defence

mission  
6 x Mica  
air-to-air  
missiles  
(AAMs)



### Ground-attack

3 x laser-guided  
bombs,  
6 x Mica  
AAMs



### Nuclear strike

Nuclear  
stand-off  
missile,  
6 x Mica  
AAMs

