

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED BEFORE JULY 31, 1988

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

AIR MARSHAL P SINGH DESIGNATED AS NEW AIR OFFICER COMMANDING-IN-CHIEF
OF WESTERN AIR COMMAND, IAF

New Delhi, Shravana 7, 1910
July 30, 1988

Air Marshal P Singh, AVSM, VM & Bar has been appointed as the new Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Western Air Command. He will take over his new appointment on August 1, 1988 from Air Marshal MM Singh, PVSM, AVSM, Vr C, who is proceeding on retirement.

A graduate of the Empire Test Pilot's School, UK, Air Marshal P Singh has the distinction of being a highly experienced Experimental Test Pilot. He has flown over 100 different types of aircraft. These include all the types with the IAF and some of the most modern combat aircraft in the world. He has made significant contribution to Indian Military Aviation by test flying of new production-line aircraft and carrying out various important flight evaluation trials. This was officially recognised and he was awarded Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 1978. He has flight evaluated all the MIG series of aircraft including MIG-27 and the latest MIG-29 as also many other modern fighter aircraft which are in the Indian Air Force like Jaguar and Mirage-2000. He has logged about 6,000 hours of flying.

An alumni of National Defence College, Air Marshal P Singh has held a number of important Field and Staff appointments. He has commanded a supersonic combat squadron, a premier fighter base and the Aircraft and Systems Testing Establishment (ASTE), the only institute of its kind in our country.

He has also held the important appointments of AIR I of an Operational Command, Director of Training and Assistant Chief of Air Staff(Operations) at Air Headquarters. Currently he is the Deputy Chief of Air Staff at Air Headquarters.

Air Marshal P Singh is Commodore Commandant of No. 101 Squadron Air Force, popularly known as the "Falcons". The Squadron played a decisive role in halting the Pakistani offensive in Chhamb sector in 1971 operations and won the highest number of Gallantry awards in the IAF for acts of bravery during the operations.

For his distinguished and meritorious services, he has been awarded Vayu Sena Medal in 1971, Bar to Vayu Sena Medal in 1974 and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 1978.

KC/MKD

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