



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

April 01,2025 | Day 091

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
ROSSELLIND	61.36	53.86	+13.92%
PREMEXPLN	368.2	336.65	+9.37%
HBLPOWER	511.7	472.5	+8.3%
IDEAFORGE	372.15	346.25	+7.48%
NIBE	1097.65	1045.4	+5.0%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
ZENTEC	1430.95	1478.55	-3.22%
BEL	292.0	301.32	-3.09%
BDL	1245.15	1281.4	-2.83%
MAZDOCK	2578.55	2643.8	-2.47%
APOLLO	119.72	122.72	-2.44%

Defense Business and Industry

India Leases KC-135 Tankers to Boost Air Force and Navy Readiness

SHARE

01-Apr-25

India has signed a contract with US-based Metrea Management to wet lease KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft for the Indian Air Force (IAF) and Indian Navy, marking the first instance of wet leasing in India for flight refuelling. The KC-135 will enhance operational readiness amid challenges faced by the aging Ilyushin Il-78MKI fleet, which suffers from maintenance issues and low availability rates. This interim solution addresses immediate operational needs while India navigates bureaucratic hurdles in procuring new tankers, reflecting a proactive strategy to bolster aerial capabilities in light of heightened tensions along the Line of Actual Control with China.

HAL shares jump 6% as Defence Ministry inks Rs 62,700 crore deals

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01-Apr-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) shares surged by 6% following the Defence Ministry's signing of contracts worth Rs 62,700 crore for the supply of 156 light combat helicopters (LCH) and associated equipment. The orders include 66 LCHs for the Indian Air Force and 90 for the Indian Army, highlighting India's commitment to enhancing its indigenous defense capabilities. Additionally, a contract was signed with Metrea Management for leasing a flight refuelling aircraft to bolster air-to-air refuelling training. This development has led to positive market reactions, with analysts upgrading HAL's stock ratings, reflecting

confidence in the company's growth trajectory amid increasing defense spending.

HAL Secures Rs 30,400 Crore Revenue Amid Delivery Challenges

SHARE

01-Apr-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) reported stable revenue of Rs 30,400 crore for FY25, despite challenges in Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) and Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) deliveries due to engine shortages and accidents. The company significantly improved its order book to Rs 1.84 trillion, supported by contracts such as the procurement of 156 Light Combat Helicopters (LCH) Prachand worth Rs 62,777 crore, marking HAL's largest contract with the Ministry of Defence. Additionally, UBS raised HAL's stock target by 30% following these developments, anticipating that stabilizing supply chains and increased defense spending will enhance HAL's performance in FY26. The LCH Prachand is expected to have 65% indigenous content, further bolstering India's defense manufacturing ecosystem and indicating a positive trajectory for domestic defense procurement.

Indian sources deny HAL transferred sensitive tech to Russia

SHARE

01-Apr-25

Recent reports from The New York Times alleging that an Indian defense firm, HAL, transferred sensitive technology to Russia have been strongly refuted by Indian government sources, who labeled the claims as "factually incorrect and misleading." The articles noted that while HAL received equipment from the British H.R. Smith Group, there was no concrete evidence proving the technology reached Russia, highlighting that HAL has diligently adhered to international trade obligations. Indian officials criticized the media outlet for failing to

conduct proper due diligence and emphasized the country's robust regulatory framework guiding its defense exports. This controversy underscores India's ongoing challenge of balancing its historical defense ties with Russia while increasingly seeking to diversify its defense partnerships amid geopolitical shifts.

IIT Kanpur and Indian Army Join Forces on UAV Training Tech SHARE

01-Apr-25

IIT Kanpur and the Indian Army have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop training and simulation technologies for UAV operators, specifically the Remote Piloting Training Module (RPTM) and the Software-In-The-Loop Simulator (SITL). These systems will simulate various UAV operational scenarios, enhancing training efficiency while minimizing costs and risks. The initiative, led by Dr. Subrahmanyam Saderla, not only promotes self-reliance in defense but also highlights IIT Kanpur's expertise in aerospace engineering, fostering innovation in India's defense capabilities. This collaboration is a significant step towards strengthening India's position in advanced defense technologies and enhancing operational preparedness.

Taiwan Takes Delivery of First F-16C/D Block 70 Jets from US SHARE

01-Apr-25

Taiwan has received its first of 66 F-16C/D Block 70 jets from the US, enhancing its air defense capabilities amid rising regional tensions. The aircraft, equipped with advanced features like the AN/APG-83 radar and electronic warfare systems, will bolster Taiwan's defense, particularly in the eastern region. This delivery underscores the US's commitment to Taiwan's military support through the Taiwan Relations Act, despite potential delays in integrating cutting-edge technologies. The situation reflects ongoing geopolitical dynamics, highlighting Taiwan's strategic importance and the necessity for India to monitor such developments in the Indo-Pacific region for its own defense posturing and regional stability.

Mahindra Wins Rs 2,700 Crore Deal for Scorpio Pik-Ups for Army SHARE

01-Apr-25

Mahindra Automotive has secured a substantial Rs 2,700 crore contract to supply 1,986 Scorpio Pik-Up vehicles to the Indian Armed Forces, reinforcing the country's self-reliance in defense manufacturing. This contract is part of a broader initiative to modernize the

military's light vehicle fleet, with Mahindra already delivering over 5,000 variants to date. The Scorpio Pik-Up's rugged design and off-road capabilities make it highly suitable for diverse terrains across India. This deal not only enhances military mobility but also supports local employment and industrial growth, reflecting the government's commitment to an Aatmanirbhar Bharat and reducing dependence on foreign imports.

HAL to Deliver First Batch of LCH Prachand Helicopters by 2028 SHARE

01-Apr-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is set to deliver the first batch of five Light Combat Helicopters (LCH) Prachand by mid-2028, following a landmark deal valued at over ₹62,700 crore with the Ministry of Defence. This agreement reflects India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing under the Make in India initiative, with 90 helicopters for the Army and 66 for the Air Force, specifically designed for high-altitude operations. The Tumkur facility will enhance local production capabilities, aiming for over 65% indigenous content, thus reducing reliance on imports while bolstering India's defense industrial base and strategic autonomy, especially in relation to its borders with China and Pakistan.

DRDO to Present Tejas MkII, Netra AWACS at LAAD 2025 in Brazil SHARE

01-Apr-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India will showcase advanced military technologies, including the Tejas MkII and Netra AWACS, at LAAD 2025 in Brazil, highlighting India's growing position in the global defense market. This exhibition offers DRDO a strategic opportunity to engage with Latin American countries, which are increasingly seeking cost-effective defense solutions. The display underscores India's commitment to self-reliance through the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative and aims to foster export opportunities amidst rising international interest. By presenting its innovations, DRDO not only demonstrates technological prowess but also positions India as a competitive player in the global defense landscape.

Indian Navy's Vision 2047: TEDBF Development and 6th Gen Goals SHARE

01-Apr-25

The Indian Navy has unveiled its Vision 2047, emphasizing the development of the Twin Engine Deck-

Based Fighter (TEDBF) as a 5th Gen Minus platform while considering a leap towards 6th-generation capabilities by 2047. This strategic pivot aims to replace the aging MiG-29K fleet with a more practical, technologically relevant fighter that mitigates operational costs and maintenance challenges. The TEDBF is designed to support India's maritime strike and air defense needs, reflecting the country's commitment to self-reliance under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. This forward-looking approach positions the Indian Navy to adapt to evolving global aerial combat dynamics and counter regional threats, particularly from China's naval expansion.

Spain Considers India's Pinaka MRBLs Following French Interest



01-Apr-25

Spain is in discussions with India regarding the potential procurement of the indigenous Pinaka Multi-Role Rocket Launchers (MRBLs), following interest from Armenia and France, according to Satyanarayan Nuwal of Solar Defence. Spain's current commitment to the Elbit Systems-based Silam rocket launcher program reveals a strategic intent to enhance its artillery capabilities while exploring cost-effective alternatives. The Pinaka's advanced range and rapid salvo rate position it as a competitive option, appealing to European defense planners facing budget constraints and security challenges. A deal would significantly bolster India's standing in the global defense market, challenging established systems like the PULS and HIMARS.

Tejas Mk1A Program Soars with 7th Jet LA-5039's Successful Flight



01-Apr-25

The Tejas Mk1A program is gaining significant momentum, with the successful maiden flight of the 7th aircraft, LA-5039, marking a critical milestone in India's indigenous fighter jet initiative. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has impressively rolled out seven jets within a year, showcasing its ability to meet the Indian Air Force's (IAF) modernization requirements despite earlier production challenges. The Tejas Mk1A, featuring advanced systems like AESA radar and missile capabilities, is central to enhancing India's defense self-reliance, with the IAF acquiring 83 units under a substantial contract. This accelerated production reflects HAL's commitment to addressing the IAF's squadron strength shortfalls, signaling a promising future for India's defense capabilities.

IAF Faces Squadron Shortage Amid Su-30MKI and Tejas Delays



01-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is facing a critical decline in squadron strength, currently operating at 31 of its authorized 42 squadrons, primarily due to delays in upgrading the Su-30MKI and hesitance in fully committing to the indigenous Tejas Mk1. Indecision over the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program further exacerbates the situation, as its first flight is now pushed to the late 2020s, leaving the IAF vulnerable against modern threats from Pakistan and China. These delays highlight the urgent need for decisive action to enhance capabilities and maintain operational readiness amidst rapidly evolving regional threats.

CABS Upgrades Netra AEW&C into Next-Gen Radar Demonstrator



01-Apr-25

India's Centre for Airborne Systems (CABS) is repurposing a Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) system into a technological demonstrator, advancing indigenous radar technology amid rising regional threats. This initiative, approved by the Defence Acquisition Council, aims to enhance the Netra Mk1A with Gallium Nitride (GaN)-based AESA radars, potentially extending detection ranges to 400 kilometers and improving target discrimination. With China and Pakistan expanding their AEW&C fleets, the addition of six Netra systems will significantly bolster India's airborne surveillance capabilities, crucial for strategic defense and maintaining air superiority in the region. This development underscores India's commitment to self-reliance in defense technology, aligning with its broader national security goals.

HAL's HTFE-25 Engine Program Faces Delays, Targeting 2027-28



01-Apr-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's (HAL) HTFE-25 turbofan engine program, crucial for India's aerospace self-reliance, has encountered delays, with projections for completion now pushed to 2027-2028. Initially launched in 2013, the program has achieved significant milestones, including successful test runs and a state-of-the-art facility to enhance testing capabilities. However, the absence of a dedicated flying testbed and a firm commitment from the Indian Air Force complicate its progress. Despite these challenges, HAL envisions the HTFE-25 powering various platforms, including UAVs, which could bolster India's position in

the global aero-engine market and reduce reliance on imports, provided it resolves its timeline challenges and collaborates effectively with the private sector.

DRDO Boosts Pinaka MkIII with Ejectable Rocket Ignition System SHARE

01-Apr-25

India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is enhancing the Pinaka MkIII multi-barrel rocket launcher with an innovative "Ejectable Rocket Ignition System" to improve efficiency, range, and rapid reloading. This development aims to make the Pinaka MkIII superior to existing systems like Russia's BM-30 Smerch, with a target range exceeding 120 kilometers.

Lockheed Martin to Brief IAF on F-35; Local Assembly Possible with Large Order SHARE

01-Apr-25

Lockheed Martin is organizing a high-level briefing for the Indian Air Force (IAF) and Ministry of Defence (MoD) to discuss the F-35 fighter jet, potentially paving the way for local assembly in India if a substantial order of around 110 units is placed. This comes despite prior dismissals from Indian officials regarding an active F-35 offer. The discussion reflects India's ongoing interest in enhancing its defense capabilities, particularly in the context of regional dynamics, including Pakistan's plans for procurement of J-35 and to expand its Chinese Z-10ME helicopter fleet. India's significant commitment could align with broader US defense strategies, making local production a viable option while reinforcing its strategic partnership with the US.

US Invites India to Collaborate on Next-Gen Stealth Tanker Program SHARE

01-Apr-25

The US Department of Defence is inviting India to join its Next-Generation Air Refueling System (NGAS) program, aiming to enhance technological ties and modernize the USAF's aging tanker fleet amid budget challenges. This collaboration aligns with the deepening US-India defense partnership, promoting shared development and cost. However, India must balance this opportunity against its own defense priorities and complex procurement processes, ensuring that integration with its industry is viable. Despite the uncertainties surrounding NGAS's future, India's strengths in software and aerospace could

significantly contribute to the program, enhancing interoperability within coalition forces.

Tejas Mk2's Adaptive Architecture Enables Weekly Software Upgrades SHARE

01-Apr-25

India's Tejas Mk2 fighter jet program is set to revolutionize operational capabilities with its new architecture allowing for near-weekly software updates, enhancing combat readiness and adaptability to emerging threats. This agile approach, featuring advanced mission computers and an Open Architecture Computer, enables the Indian Air Force to seamlessly integrate new technologies and systems, keeping pace with global advancements in aerial warfare. Additionally, significant strides are being made in reducing Naxal influence in India, with affected districts shrinking from 35 in 2015 to just six now, reflecting improved security measures and governance. Collectively, these developments underscore India's commitment to modernizing its defense capabilities while addressing internal security challenges.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

Defence Ministry Supports DRDO Amid Project Cost Concerns SHARE

01-Apr-25

The Defence Ministry has defended the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) amidst concerns over project delays and cost overruns, citing a CAG report that revealed significant delays in 119 of 178 projects. The ministry emphasized that DRDO's project priorities align with national security needs and that challenges such as design changes and user trial delays contribute to these issues. Furthermore, the ministry is working to enhance private sector involvement in defence R&D through initiatives like the Technology Development Fund, which aims to strengthen domestic manufacturing capabilities. This approach underscores the complexities of indigenous defence development while highlighting the need for improved project execution.

Defence Ministry Fully Utilizes Capital Budget, Strengthens Aatmanirbhar Bharat SHARE

01-Apr-25

The Ministry of Defence has achieved a significant milestone by fully utilizing its allocated capital budget

for the first time in recent years, enhancing India's military preparedness and aligning with the #AatmanirbharBharat initiative. This achievement signifies improved financial discipline and strategic resource allocation toward modernizing equipment and strengthening operational readiness while promoting indigenous defense production. By prioritizing homegrown solutions, the MoD aims to reduce reliance on foreign imports, foster self-reliance in military technology, and support economic growth through job creation. This proactive approach not only boosts military capabilities but also positions India to assert greater strategic autonomy in the geopolitical landscape.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

India-US Naval Exercise Tiger Triumph Kicks Off April 1



01-Apr-25

The fourth edition of the India-US tri-service exercise, Tiger Triumph, commenced on April 1, focusing on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations. This 13-day exercise, taking place primarily off Kakinada, involves the Indian Navy's INS Jalashwa, INS Gharial, INS Mumbai, and INS Shakti, along with troops from the Indian Army and Air Force. It underscores the strengthening of Indo-US strategic ties and the shared commitment to regional stability. Concurrently, India is also conducting the INDRA naval exercise with Russia, showcasing India's strategic autonomy by engaging with both military powers. This dual engagement strategy reflects India's growing influence and its ability to maintain balanced relations while enhancing its military capabilities. Overall, these exercises highlight India's proactive approach to disaster response and regional security cooperation.

China's Military Drills Signal Threat as Taiwan Seeks Support



01-Apr-25

Tensions in the Taiwan Strait have surged as China conducts military exercises involving 19 warships and over 50 fighter jets, framing this as a warning to Taiwan following President Lai Ching-Te's comments that China is a "foreign hostile force." The drills, termed "Joint Sword 2024," signal Beijing's readiness to respond militarily to any Taiwan independence moves, described by China as courting "ultimate destruction." Taiwan's Defence Ministry condemned these actions, highlighting the destabilizing impact on the Indo-Pacific

region and asserting its right to self-determination. As regional militarization escalates, Taiwan is bolstering its military readiness and seeking international support, especially from the U.S. and Japan, to counter Chinese aggression.

US State Department Skirts USCIRF's CPC Recommendation for India



01-Apr-25

The recent remarks from US State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce have brought attention to the ongoing discussions regarding India's designation by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) as a Country of Particular Concern (CPC). Despite the USCIRF's continuous recommendations since 2020 citing alleged violations of religious freedom in India, including increased attacks on religious minorities and calls for sanctions on India's intelligence agency, RAW, the US State Department has yet to accept these claims, with Bruce declining to comment on diplomatic considerations or negotiations. India has firmly rejected the USCIRF's findings, labeling the commission as an "entity of concern" and arguing that its reports lack credibility. Notably, while the CPC list includes countries like China and Pakistan, India remains unlisted, indicating a nuanced diplomatic stance from the US on the matter. This ongoing debate not only highlights the complexities of US-India relations but also underscores India's robust internal policies and commitment to sovereignty amid external critiques, affirming its position as a significant global player in maintaining religious tolerance and security.

GTRI urges India to prioritize national interests amid US trade demands



01-Apr-25

The Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) has urged India to prioritize its national interests amid persistent US trade demands highlighted in the USTR 2025 report, which includes contentious issues like tariffs, digital trade, and public health. GTRI emphasizes that certain US expectations, such as dairy import regulations and data localization, could jeopardize India's agricultural integrity and digital sovereignty. Furthermore, significant progress has been made in reducing Naxal-affected districts from 35 in 2015 to just six, reflecting India's commitment to internal security. Overall, India's stance on maintaining its developmental goals and cultural values is crucial in navigating complex international trade dynamics.

Balochistan Enforces Section 144 Amid Rising Security Threats

01-Apr-25

Balochistan has imposed Section 144 to restrict public movement at recreational sites, including popular areas in Quetta, due to security concerns following violence during Eid ul-Fitr prayers, which resulted in multiple fatalities and injuries across Pakistan. Similar safety measures were taken in Punjab, banning temporary mechanical rides for Eid celebrations. The violence appears linked to personal disputes and old enmities, with incidents reported in several regions, raising significant concerns about public safety during festive periods. This situation highlights the ongoing challenges Pakistan faces in ensuring security, which may influence regional dynamics and India's strategic considerations regarding border security and stability in the region.

BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok on April 4: Fostering Trade and Security

01-Apr-25

The 6th BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok on April 4 aims to enhance regional cooperation among seven member states, including India, focusing on trade, security, and development. Key outcomes will include the adoption of the "Bangkok Vision 2030," agreements on maritime transport cooperation, and partnerships with the Indian Ocean Rim Association and UNODC. This summit, under Thailand's chairmanship, emphasizes innovation, green industries, connectivity, and food security, reinforcing BIMSTEC's role in addressing shared challenges faced by South and Southeast Asia's 1.7 billion people. Strengthening institutional frameworks aligns regional goals with sustainable development, showcasing India's commitment to collaborative growth and security in the region.

Pakistan Expands Z-10ME Helicopter Fleet to Counter India's LCH

01-Apr-25

Pakistan is expanding its Z-10ME attack helicopter fleet, reportedly to counter India's acquisition of 156 LCH Prachand helicopters, highlighting increased military cooperation with China and Turkey. This expansion includes potential local assembly of the Z-10ME and the integration of advanced Turkish weapon systems, enhancing its combat capabilities. As India bolsters its aerial firepower with the Prachand's superior high-altitude performance, Pakistan aims to maintain a credible deterrent through this strategic enhancement. Overall, while Pakistan's initiatives reflect

a focused response to India's defense advancements, India's ongoing commitment to indigenous development positions it favorably in the regional security landscape.

Military Operations

Indian Air Force Enhances Ties at INIOCHOS-25 in Greece

01-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force is participating in the multinational exercise INIOCHOS-25 in Greece, which aims to strengthen military ties and strategic partnerships among 15 countries amidst rising tensions involving Pakistan and Turkey. Utilizing Su-30 MKI fighter jets, IL-78 mid-air refuellers, and C-17 Globemaster transport aircraft, the exercise enhances India's defense capabilities and demonstrates its growing significance as a military power in the Mediterranean region. This biennial event focuses on improving tactical skills and interoperability among air forces, while simultaneously projecting a strong signal to adversaries in the region regarding India's commitment to collective security and regional stability.

Army Commanders' Conference in New Delhi Focuses on Security and Reforms

01-Apr-25

The Army Commanders' Conference in New Delhi, running from April 1-4, 2025, is a critical platform for the Indian Army's senior leadership to evaluate national security and operational priorities amid evolving challenges. Chaired by Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, the conference will feature discussions on the Indian Army's reform agenda, collaboration with NITI Aayog, and the vision of a "Saksham & Sashakt Bharat." Key focuses include fostering an agile, adaptive, and technologically advanced force, enhancing organizational health, and improving personnel welfare. These deliberations aim to ensure the Army's readiness and resilience in addressing contemporary security dynamics while prioritizing the well-being of soldiers and their families.

White Tiger Division Showcases Air Defense Prowess in Live Drill

01-Apr-25

The Indian Army's White Tiger Division demonstrated its air defense readiness during a live missile-firing

exercise at Gopalpur, successfully utilizing the 9K33 Osa-AK missile system to achieve all direct hits on aerial targets. This exercise showcased the division's operational expertise and the system's mobility and effectiveness in modern combat scenarios. The Osa-AK, despite being a Soviet-era system, remains relevant and crucial to India's air defense strategy, ensuring preparedness against diverse aerial threats. The exercise underscores the Indian Army's commitment to national security and the continuous advancement of its air defense capabilities in a changing security landscape.

Indian Army Responds to Pakistani Ceasefire Violations in J-K

🔒 SHARE

01-Apr-25

Recent incidents along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir highlight ongoing tensions, with the Pakistani Army violating ceasefire agreements, leading to retaliatory measures from the Indian Army in areas like Poonch. Reports indicate that an infiltration attempt was thwarted, resulting in the alleged deaths of four to five infiltrators, although this remains unverified. Additionally, a mine blast in the Krishna Gati sector prompted brief firing from Indian forces, with no reported casualties. In a separate encounter in Kathua, security forces are actively engaged in operations against trapped terrorists, reflecting the heightened security measures being implemented. These developments underscore the Indian Army's proactive approach in safeguarding national security against persistent threats from across the border while maintaining vigilance in counter-terrorism operations.

Houthi rebels claim to down US MQ-9 Reaper drone amid strikes

🔒 SHARE

01-Apr-25

Yemen's Houthi rebels claimed to have shot down an MQ-9 Reaper drone amid ongoing intense US airstrikes targeting their positions, with President Trump emphasizing a campaign against the group and its Iranian benefactors. The Houthis reportedly used locally manufactured missiles, with their military claims suggesting a significant uptick in their capabilities, as they have purportedly downed 20 drones in total. The US strikes have escalated, now targeting personnel directly, as a response to Houthi threats to attack vessels perceived as Israeli, increasing maritime tensions in the region. This situation highlights the complexity of the conflict and the implications for regional security and US foreign policy.

Israel Strikes Hezbollah Operative in Beirut Amid Tensions

🔒 SHARE

01-Apr-25

Israel's military conducted a strike in southern Beirut targeting a Hezbollah operative, citing the need to eliminate imminent threats against Israeli civilians amid ongoing tensions following a ceasefire. The strike, which resulted in three injuries, followed recent rocket fire from Hezbollah, leading Israel to assert that Lebanon's government must enforce the truce or face consequences. Israeli Defense Minister Katz emphasized that Lebanon bears responsibility for any aggression towards Israel. This situation underscores the fragility of the ceasefire and the persistent threat posed by Hezbollah, which complicates regional stability and highlights Israel's commitment to national security by actively countering perceived threats.

IAF to Phase Out Jaguar, MiG-29UPG, and Mirage-2000H by 2030

🔒 SHARE

01-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to retire its older fourth-generation fighter jets, including the Jaguar, MiG-29UPG, and Mirage-2000H, in a phased manner starting in 2030. This strategic shift aims to bolster India's self-reliance in defense manufacturing through the induction of indigenous platforms like the Tejas MkII and AMCA MkI. The retirement of these aging aircraft will coincide with the production ramp-up of newer models, ensuring a seamless transition and enhanced operational capabilities. The focus on modernizing the IAF's fleet underscores India's commitment to maintaining air superiority and advancing its defense industry.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

UP Family Murders IAF Official for Brother's Bail Money

🔒 SHARE

01-Apr-25

A 51-year-old Indian Air Force civil engineer, SN Mishra, was tragically murdered in his residence in Uttar Pradesh by Saurabh Kumar and his parents, who sought money for Saurabh's convicted brother's bail. The crime involved a planned robbery that escalated to murder when Mishra woke up during the break-in. Saurabh, equipped with an illegal firearm, executed the plot while his parents assisted. This incident highlights vulnerabilities surrounding security in military settings and raises concerns about the potential impact of

crime on the morale of defense personnel and their families, underscoring the need for enhanced protective measures in sensitive areas.

Security Forces Intensify Hunt for Three Escaped Terrorists in Kathua



01-Apr-25

Security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua region are engaged in a critical search and destroy operation to track down three terrorists who recently escaped an encounter. The operation intensified following sightings reported by local villagers, prompting a cordon and multi-agency effort involving the Army, Police, and CRPF. Previous encounters resulted in the deaths of two terrorists and four police personnel, underscoring the ongoing risks faced by security forces. Authorities have detained six individuals suspected of aiding the terrorists, highlighting the importance of dismantling local support networks. DIG Shiv Kumar Sharma emphasized the commitment and morale of the forces, urging vigilance among residents to aid in the counter-terrorism efforts. This operation reflects India's steadfast resolve to combat terrorism and maintain security in vulnerable regions.

Police Detain Six Family Members for Aiding Militants in Kathua



01-Apr-25

The Jammu and Kashmir Police have detained six family members, including four women, for allegedly aiding militants involved in a recent encounter that resulted in the deaths of four policemen. The detainees are linked to an overground worker already imprisoned for supporting militants who attacked an Army convoy last year. Following the militants' crossing of the International Border, security forces are intensifying their search in nearby areas, while Union Minister Jitendra Singh has announced financial aid and jobs for the families of the slain policemen. This incident underscores the persistent challenges of militancy in the region and the ongoing commitment of Indian security forces to counter such threats.

India's Naxal-affected districts plummet from 35 to 6 since 2015.



01-Apr-25

Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced significant progress in combating Naxalism, with the number of most-affected districts reduced to just six from 12, showcasing the Modi government's commitment to national security and development. The decline from 35 districts in 2015 to six today reflects a robust strategy

against left-wing extremism, aiming for a Naxal-free India by March 31, 2026. This achievement underscores the effectiveness of government initiatives in addressing internal security challenges while promoting a strong and secure nation.

Court orders transfer of Tiger Memon's properties to central government, reinforcing India's fight against terrorism.



01-Apr-25

A special court has ordered the handover of 14 properties belonging to Tiger Memon, a key figure in the 1993 Mumbai bomb blasts, to the central government, marking a significant legal development in the long-standing case linked to terrorism and organized crime. These properties, previously attached since 1994, will aid in addressing the fallout of this tragedy that claimed 257 lives. This move underscores India's commitment to combating terrorism and recovering assets tied to criminal activities

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

BFSI Firms Grapple with AI Risks Amid Data Security Concerns



01-Apr-25

The rapid adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) in the banking, financial services, and insurance (BFSI) sector is raising significant concerns over data security and infrastructure resilience. A survey reveals that 84% of BFSI leaders worry about catastrophic data loss, with only 4% using controlled environments for AI testing, exposing them to regulatory breaches and operational disruptions. Key strategies for addressing these challenges include adopting secure AI frameworks, automating security tasks, and ensuring robust governance. Institutions that effectively manage these risks while promoting innovation will secure a competitive edge and maintain operational integrity in the evolving financial landscape.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Odisha CM Pays Tribute to Martyred Soldier Rajkishore Munda SHARE

01-Apr-25

Havildar Rajkishore Munda, a soldier from Keonjhar district, Odisha, was martyred in action in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh, on March 29. His mortal remains were brought to Bhubaneswar airport, where Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi paid floral tributes, honoring him with full state respect and a police gun salute. This incident highlights the sacrifices made by Indian soldiers in safeguarding the nation's borders, reinforcing the importance of supporting the armed forces and recognizing their valor. The state's tribute underscores the collective respect and gratitude for those who serve, reflecting a strong national sentiment towards honoring military personnel.

Miscellaneous

Myanmar Earthquake: Building Collapses Hinder Rescue Efforts SHARE

01-Apr-25

A devastating 7.7 magnitude earthquake in Myanmar has led to a "pancake" collapse of buildings, complicating rescue efforts, with a death toll reaching 2,719 and over 4,500 injured. The disaster has triggered numerous aftershocks, further damaging structures and increasing public panic. India's National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has dispatched 80 rescuers equipped with dogs to assist in locating survivors amidst the rubble. The crisis is exacerbated by severe shortages of medical supplies, food, and shelter, highlighting the urgent need for international support and cooperation in disaster response efforts in the region.

BRO Reopens Zojila Pass in Just 32 Days Despite Heavy Snowfall SHARE

01-Apr-25

The Border Road Organization (BRO) successfully reopened the Zojila Pass in a remarkable 32 days after a brief but intense closure due to heavy snowfall. This strategic pass, crucial for connecting the Kashmir Valley to Ladakh, faced severe weather challenges, yet BRO personnel managed to clear the accumulated snow in just 15 days under extreme conditions. The

reopening not only facilitates troop and supply movement but also supports the local population's trade and economic activities. This achievement highlights the BRO's commitment and advancements in snow-clearance techniques, significantly reducing historical closure durations from six months to a few weeks, bolstering India's strategic infrastructure in sensitive regions.

Defence Secretary Launches Samvad Magazine to Promote Hindi Use SHARE

01-Apr-25

On April 1, 2025, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh released a special issue of the Hindi magazine Samvad at South Block, New Delhi. This initiative aims to encourage the use of Hindi in official work and promote creativity among personnel, featuring 31 articles authored by both civilian and defense personnel. The magazine's focus on Transparency and Participation in Government Work reflects the commitment of the Indian defense administration to enhance communication and engagement. Additionally, during the event, prizes were awarded for excellence in Hindi work, reinforcing the importance of linguistic integration within the defense establishment. This effort aligns with India's broader goal of promoting regional languages in governance.

INSV Tarini Completes Fourth Leg of Navika Sagar Parikrama II SHARE

01-Apr-25

INSV Tarini has successfully completed the fourth leg of the Navika Sagar Parikrama II expedition, arriving in Cape Town, South Africa. This ambitious mission, led by two women officers of the Indian Navy, showcases India's commitment to women empowerment and maritime cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region. The expedition, which will cover over 23,400 nautical miles, emphasizes India's indigenous capabilities and strengthens ties with South Africa, highlighted by previous naval engagements like INS Talwar's participation in Exercise IBSAMAR. The vessel will spend two weeks in Cape Town for maintenance and community outreach, furthering bilateral relations and enhancing maritime security collaboration.

Sangli honors IAF hero Wing Commander Navale for brave rescue SHARE

01-Apr-25

The Sangli Miraj and Kupwad Municipal Corporation has renamed the Akashwani Road junction in honor of Wing Commander Prakash Navale for his bravery in

rescuing former Odisha Chief Minister J B Patnaik from a Maoist attack in 1980. Navale's decisive actions, despite risking his life and operating a damaged helicopter, exemplify the courage and dedication of Indian defense personnel. He was previously honored with the Shaurya Chakra for his valiant service. This recognition not only highlights his contributions but also reflects the growing appreciation for the sacrifices made by military personnel in ensuring the safety of leaders and citizens alike.

Yunus' Controversial Comments on India's North-East Ignite Tensions



01-Apr-25

Recent comments by Bangladesh's interim leader, Muhammad Yunus, during his visit to China have sparked outrage in India, particularly regarding his characterization of India's northeastern states as "landlocked" and his claim that Bangladesh serves as their "guardian" of ocean access. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma condemned these remarks as offensive and indicative of deeper strategic agendas, especially amidst concerns over Bangladesh's growing ties with China. Indian defense experts have warned that such alliances could threaten India's Siliguri Corridor, a vital passage linking the northeast to the rest of India, and advocate for enhanced infrastructure to bolster connectivity. The Congress party has also expressed alarm, stating that Bangladesh's diplomatic overtures to China are dangerous for the security of the northeast. Overall, these developments highlight increasing geopolitical tensions in the region and the need for India to reinforce its strategic posture.

EAM Jaishankar and Dutch FM Veldkamp Explore Semiconductor Collaboration



01-Apr-25

India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met with Netherlands Foreign Minister Caspar Veldkamp to explore opportunities in semiconductors, green hydrogen, and other sectors, emphasizing the deepened cooperation between the two nations. Their discussions highlighted the importance of multipolarity amidst global strategic developments, showcasing the robust economic engagement that includes the Netherlands being India's fourth-largest source of foreign direct investment, with bilateral trade reaching \$17 billion in 2021-22. The partnership, celebrating 75 years of diplomatic relations, also focuses on collaborative efforts in agriculture, health, technology, and tackling global challenges like climate change and

terrorism. With high-level interactions and initiatives like the Dutch Indo Water Alliance Leadership Initiative (DIWALI), both countries are poised to enhance their multifaceted relationship, reinforcing the commitment to mutual growth and security in the evolving geopolitical landscape.

BluJ Aerospace Pioneers Sustainable Hydrogen-Powered Aviation



01-Apr-25

BluJ Aerospace Private Limited is making significant advancements in sustainable aviation with its focus on hydrogen-powered aircraft, particularly with the successful testing of a Type IV hydrogen storage tank and a hydrogen propulsion system. The Type IV tank, designed with a lightweight polymer liner reinforced with carbon fiber, addresses the challenges of safely storing hydrogen at high pressures while maintaining a low weight, crucial for aviation. This breakthrough underscores BluJ's commitment to decarbonizing the aerospace industry, boasting hydrogen's high energy density and zero-emission output, which produces only water vapor upon combustion. Alongside tank testing, the company has conducted ground tests of its hydrogen propulsion system, showcasing consistent performance and reliability, paving the way for future in-flight demonstrations. The initiative introduces innovative technologies such as autonomous flight and electric power-train, aimed at both urban and regional travel, thus setting a new benchmark in sustainable air transportation while enhancing operational economics and environmental responsibility. Overall, BluJ's developments position it as a leader in the transition to sustainable aviation, with promising implications for the future of air travel.

ISRO's Cartosat-3 Reveals Earthquake Damage in Myanmar



01-Apr-25

ISRO's Cartosat-3 satellite imagery revealed substantial damage caused by a 7.7 magnitude earthquake in Myanmar on March 28, 2025, with significant destruction of key landmarks, including the historic Ava Bridge and several cultural sites in Mandalay and Sagaing. The earthquake, stemming from the active Sagaing Fault due to the convergence of the Indian and Eurasian tectonic plates, resulted in over 2,900 fatalities and extensive infrastructural challenges, complicating rescue efforts. In response, India initiated "Operation Brahma," deploying aircraft with medical supplies and establishing a field hospital, while other nations also provided aid. This incident underscores the critical role

of satellite technology in disaster management and the importance of international cooperation in addressing humanitarian crises, showcasing India's proactive approach in the region.

BSF and BGB Celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr Together at Border, Strengthening Bonds SHARE

01-Apr-25

During the Eid-ul-Fitr celebrations, the Border Security Force (BSF) of India and the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) exchanged sweets at the India-Bangladesh border, reinforcing their commitment to peace and mutual cooperation. Assistant Commandant Sunil Kumar from the BSF noted that such festive exchanges enhance relationships and operational efficiency between the two nations. The celebration reflects broader themes of unity and communal harmony across India, where families participated in prayers and traditional feasts, exemplifying the spirit of togetherness. This reinforces India's strategic approach to fostering goodwill and stability in regional relations, crucial for maintaining security along its borders.

UP Police Investigates Group Waving Palestine Flag After Eid SHARE

01-Apr-25

In Uttar Pradesh, a group allegedly waved the Palestine flag and raised slogans post-Eid prayers, prompting police investigation after the incident was captured on social media. Superintendent of Police Vyom Bindal stated that the police acted swiftly, dispersing the crowd and removing the flags. Authorities are working to identify the individuals involved using CCTV footage. This incident raises concerns about national integrity and the implications of displaying foreign symbols. It highlights the need for vigilance in maintaining public order and ensuring that expressions of sentiment do not escalate into actions that could be perceived as undermining national unity.

Private Trainer Aircraft Crashes in Gujarat, Trainee Pilot Hurt SHARE

01-Apr-25

A private trainer aircraft, operated by an aviation academy, crashed in Gujarat's Mehsana district, injuring a woman trainee pilot who is currently receiving treatment for minor injuries. The single-engine aircraft crash-landed in an open field due to technical issues shortly after takeoff from Mehsana airport. Airport and aviation authorities have been notified, and an investigation into the incident is underway. This incident highlights the need for stringent safety measures and

maintenance protocols within the private aviation sector to ensure the safety of trainee pilots. The resilience of the injured pilot, however, reflects the determination of individuals pursuing careers in the aviation industry.

India's Legacy in Science: A Call for Innovation and Collaboration SHARE

01-Apr-25

Former ISRO chairman S Somanath highlighted India's historical contributions to global scientific understanding, tracing advancements from ancient texts to modern research. He emphasized the necessity of fostering connections between research organizations, academia, and industry to unlock the nation's potential for future growth. Somanath urged graduates to embrace collaboration, innovation, and risk-taking as essential components for effective leadership and societal progress. He underscored the need for awareness of technology's societal impact and the importance of developing curiosity and resilience in the face of challenges, advocating for a balanced approach to both material and spiritual progress in India's journey towards becoming a powerful nation.

Sunita Williams Excited for India Visit and ISRO Collaboration SHARE

01-Apr-25

NASA astronaut Sunita Williams plans to visit India, expressing excitement about meeting the ISRO team and sharing her space experiences. She praised India's advancements in the space sector and highlighted the country's diversity visible from space, particularly the Himalayas and vibrant cities. Williams noted the potential for collaboration between her and ISRO for future missions, emphasizing India's commitment to becoming a developed nation under PM Modi's leadership. This visit could strengthen ties between Indian and American space programs, showcasing India's capabilities on the global stage and fostering international collaboration in space exploration.

U.S. Court Dismisses Pannun's Summons Claim Against Ajit Doval SHARE

01-Apr-25

A U.S. court has dismissed Khalistan separatist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun's claim of serving a legal summons to India's National Security Advisor, Ajit Doval, during his visit to the U.S. in February 2025. The court ruled that attempts to deliver the summons were inadequate and not compliant with protocol. This ruling aligns with India's position that Pannun's claims are

baseless, as he faces backlash for his separatist activities and is labeled a terrorist by Indian authorities. India's own investigation into the alleged assassination

plot has led to proposed legal action against those involved, indicating a firm stance on national security matters amidst strained diplomatic ties.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
ROSELLIND	57.98	64.63	57.98	61.36	428454	13.92	53.3	58.43	247.35
PREMEXPLN	336.65	383.0	336.6	368.2	644837	9.37	52.54	345.23	519.3
HBLPOWER	490.55	532.4	490.55	511.7	36806766	8.3	60.01	451.92	570.53
IDEAFORGE	348.9	374.75	346.0	372.15	605409	7.48	48.69	356.57	612.3
NIBE	1061.95	1097.65	1029.65	1097.65	26048	5.0	57.59	927.08	1659.25
MARINE	162.95	164.83	159.2	164.83	216311	4.99	46.44	163.68	224.92
MTARTECH	1295.0	1352.05	1282.05	1344.2	188264	4.92	49.8	1309.7	1673.72
DCXINDIA	229.2	244.59	229.2	240.09	1060671	4.76	46.08	234.74	329.56
MIDHANI	271.0	287.5	270.3	283.95	734121	4.44	53.27	270.05	368.03
HIGHENE	502.2	525.0	494.0	515.0	5357	2.53	56.82	475.48	644.83
ASTRAMICRO	672.35	701.0	668.0	686.95	170107	2.17	56.86	651.66	801.54
AZAD	1341.9	1391.5	1333.0	1388.25	94185	2.1	51.91	1340.16	1580.07
PARAS	957.9	988.0	955.0	977.15	127926	2.01	54.22	937.31	1110.37
PTC	163.0	167.1	162.1	166.38	1359087	1.69	70.85	156.08	180.77
KRISHNADEF	692.0	710.0	669.0	689.15	29250	1.55	60.08	602.04	713.43
AVANTEL	113.0	118.26	113.0	114.84	769283	1.4	47.88	114.36	-
HAL	4400.0	4444.95	4207.05	4223.7	6632420	1.11	71.84	3689.26	4368.25
ADANIENT	2312.0	2358.95	2301.0	2335.25	501942	0.84	56.33	2277.39	2729.83
DATAPATNS	1679.8	1724.9	1657.3	1696.25	461330	0.37	51.26	1620.47	2443.39
GRSE	1680.0	1705.0	1660.0	1691.25	605974	0.33	67.67	1485.07	1734.23
CFF	430.2	430.2	428.0	430.2	5000	0.0	41.61	435.58	650.25
SIKA	649.0	649.0	615.0	635.0	21756	-0.77	75.78	533.56	531.49
COCHINSHIP	1407.6	1435.0	1382.0	1393.9	832732	-0.99	52.66	1356.04	1742.22
SOLARINDS	11330.6	11419.8	11090.35	11131.6	74995	-1.0	74.99	10155.19	10334.26
BEML	3227.85	3253.95	3140.25	3169.9	360569	-1.54	63.91	2704.11	3822.57
LT	3480.0	3501.6	3430.0	3436.8	1935147	-1.59	58.72	3313.31	3555.01
LOKESHMACH	0.0	165.0	163.24	164.0	10790	-1.59	44.35	152.74	339.3
BHARATFORG	1160.0	1179.0	1144.05	1148.65	900487	-1.75	53.62	1114.12	1400.52
LMW	16032.9	16095.9	15600.0	15698.75	1287	-1.79	52.9	15567.11	16004.16
TANEJAERO	320.85	320.85	320.85	320.85	6362	-1.99	50.69	308.33	463.34
APOLLO	123.0	124.8	119.33	119.72	5917710	-2.44	50.57	117.77	110.12
MAZDOCK	2634.0	2685.0	2570.0	2578.55	2040072	-2.47	60.69	2432.6	2270.9
BDL	1280.0	1321.3	1231.2	1245.15	1197182	-2.83	56.67	1176.88	1243.5
BEL	302.0	305.8	290.0	292.0	33171384	-3.09	57.42	284.85	291.04
ZENTEC	1442.55	1488.7	1425.55	1430.95	447547	-3.22	55.86	1288.22	1692.76