

# Defence Professionals News & Analysis

April 03,2025 | Day 093

#### **Top Gainers**

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
KRISHNADEF	768.8	710.25	+8.24%
SIKA	646.55	612.2	+5.61%
MAZDOCK	2737.55	2603.95	+5.13%
NIBE	1203.8	1146.5	+5.0%
MARINE	181.49	173.07	+4.87%

#### **Top Losers**

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
BHARATFORG	1117.1	1152.95	-3.11%
AZAD	1359.65	1393.3	-2.42%
TANEJAERO	308.2	314.45	-1.99%
APOLLO	123.16	124.72	-1.25%
MTARTECH	1326.15	1339.75	-1.02%

#### **Defense Business and Industry**

#### L&T Signs \$253M contrcat with Hanhwa for K9 Vajra Howitzer Components Share

03-Apr-25

L&T has signed a \$253 million contract with Hanwha Aerospace for supplying components for 100 additional K9 Vajra-T self-propelled howitzers, building on the successful delivery of the first batch in 2017. This deal, which emphasizes increased local production to 60%, reflects the deepening defense partnership between India and South Korea and aims to enhance the Indian Army's operational readiness, particularly in challenging terrains like Ladakh. The K9 howitzer, known for its precision and rapid-fire capabilities, is a significant asset in India's artillery modernization drive, which includes the integration of various indigenous artillery systems. Hanwha's reliable performance under the initial contract has positioned it as a trusted partner in India's defense landscape, further encouraging collaboration between the two nations.

#### Kirloskar Oil Engines' shares rise after winning Rs 270 crore defense

order. 🕓 SHARE

03-Apr-25

Kirloskar Oil Engines has secured a significant order worth Rs 270 crore from the Ministry of Defence for the design and development of a medium-speed marine diesel engine with a capacity of 6MW, part of the Make-in-India initiative. The project, which includes over 50% indigenous content, will receive 70% funding from the Government of India and aims to produce scalable engines for the Indian Navy and Coast Guard. Following

this announcement, the company's shares rose by 1.37%, although they remain significantly lower than their 52-week high. This order underscores India's commitment to enhancing self-reliance in defense manufacturing and bolstering the capabilities of its naval forces.

### Paras Defence Partners with MicroCon to Supply Advanced Drone Cameras Share

03-Apr-25

Paras Defence and Space Technologies has signed an initial agreement with Israel's MicroCon for the supply of advanced drone camera technology, positioning itself as an exclusive domestic supplier. This collaboration is expected to significantly enhance India's self-reliance in defense technologies while reducing costs by 50-60% for high-quality ISR payloads. The partnership aims to improve operational efficiency in both defense and civilian sectors, leveraging advanced features like AI analytics and thermal vision. With the Indian drone market projected to grow significantly, this initiative addresses a critical need and reflects the country's commitment to bolstering its indigenous defense capabilities.

### Tata Secures 3-Year Maintenance Contract for 54 IAF Airfields SHARE

03-Apr-25

Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) has been awarded a significant three-year maintenance contract for airfield infrastructure at 54 Indian Air Force (IAF) bases, marking a pivotal move in bolstering India's defense capabilities. This contract aligns with the government's Make in India initiative, emphasizing self-reliance by reducing dependency on foreign suppliers. TASL's responsibilities include maintaining essential systems like Navigational Aids and Air Traffic

Management, crucial for operational readiness and aviation safety. The IAF's ongoing modernization efforts and indigenization goals are further supported by TASL's extensive expertise in aerospace and defense technology, reinforcing India's commitment to enhancing its military infrastructure and operational efficiency.

### BEL Secures ₹593 Crore Deal for Akash Missile Maintenance S SHARE

03-Apr-25

Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has secured a Rs 593.22 crore contract with the Indian Air Force for the maintenance of the Akash missile system, further enhancing its strategic role in India's defense sector. The company reported a significant turnover of approximately Rs 23,000 crore for FY 2024-25, a 16% increase from the previous year, and has an order book totaling Rs 71,650 crore, highlighting its growth trajectory. BEL's commitment to indigenization and global outreach is evident as it aims to strengthen its market position in strategic electronics. This development underlines India's focus on self-reliance and modernization in defense capabilities, crucial for national security.

### Bharat Forge Launches Advanced Artillery Manufacturing Hub in Jejuri Share

03-Apr-25

Bharat Forge Limited has inaugurated a state-of-the-art facility in Jejuri, near Pune, to manufacture advanced indigenous artillery systems, particularly the Advanced Towed Artillery Gun Systems (ATAGS). This facility is pivotal for India's self-reliance in defense production and aims to fulfill a significant order of 307 ATAGS units for the Indian Army. Additionally, the company has already supplied 100 guns, including 18 ATAGS, to European nations, showcasing India's capability to export defense hardware. Bharat Forge aims to become the largest artillery producer globally by 2030, capitalizing on the rising demand for military equipment spurred by ongoing global conflicts, such as the Ukraine war. This expansion emphasizes India's strategic objective to modernize its military capabilities while enhancing its position in the global defense market.

### GA-ATS to Unveil Do228 NXT at Key Global Aerospace Shows Share

03-Apr-25

General Atomics AeroTec Systems (GA-ATS) is set to launch the Do228 NXT aircraft, focusing on

international markets by participating in three major aerospace trade shows in 2025: DEFEA in Athens, LIMA in Malaysia, and the Paris Air Show. The Do228 NXT is a versatile aircraft well-suited for special missions and passenger transport, capable of short take-offs and landings, making it ideal for diverse operations in challenging environments, including unpaved runways. This strategy emphasizes GA-ATS's commitment to global outreach and underscores the Do228 NXT's potential for effective maritime surveillance and operational flexibility in regions like South-East Asia and the Himalayas.

#### Marion Smeyers named SVP of Operations & Procurement at ATR S SHARE

03-Apr-25

Marion Smeyers has been appointed as Senior Vice-President of Operations and Procurement at ATR, effective May 1, 2025, succeeding Eric Segura. With extensive experience in industrial operations from her roles at Airbus, including managing the A321 Final Assembly Line, Smeyers is expected to enhance operational excellence across ATR's supply chain. Her focus will be on stabilizing production and preparing for ramp-up, emphasizing efficiency, performance, and sustainability. This leadership change reflects ATR's commitment to innovation and operational improvement in the competitive regional aircraft market, positioning the company for future growth and resilience.

## RECONIQ Software: Elevating Defense Systems with Advanced Solutions Share

03-Apr-25

RECONIQ Software GmbH has emerged as a key player in defense and security software, leveraging over 70 years of experience from the PLATH group to provide high-performance solutions for system integrators. Their ICAS reconnaissance software is already operational in over 20 countries, offering near-real-time data management and advanced database systems tailored for defense needs. The company focuses on modern software architectures compatible with AI and machine emphasizing manufacturerlearning, independent solutions for diverse sensor integration. With its new market independence, RECONIQ aims to enhance collaborations with both national and international addressing partners, the growing technological demands in the defense sector effectively.

### EINSA partners with Milrem Robotics to promote UGVs in Spain Share

03-Apr-25

Milrem Robotics has partnered with Spanish defense firm EINSA to market and support its unmanned systems, particularly the THeMIS unmanned ground vehicles (UGVs), in Spain. EINSA will handle commercial management and integrated logistics support, enhancing the operational capabilities of the Spanish armed forces with advanced robotic solutions already proven in 19 countries, including for Ukraine. This collaboration is strategic, as it strengthens Spain's defense capabilities and expands Milrem's reach in the European market, ultimately fostering technological advancements and operational efficacy in modern warfare. Such developments reflect increasing global reliance unmanned systems for applications, underscoring the importance of innovation in defense strategies.

### Florintree backs Tonbo with Rs 175 crore for defense tech growth Share

03-Apr-25

Tonbo, an Indian defense technology startup, has successfully raised Rs 175 crore in a Series D funding round led by Florintree Advisors and EXIM Bank, valuing the company at Rs 1,500 crore ahead of its IPO. Founded in 2012, Tonbo specializes in advanced vision equipment for military applications, including night vision goggles and thermal sights, inspired by the dragonfly's superior visual capabilities. With a growing global presence and significant orders totaling over Rs 800 crore in FY23, Tonbo is well-positioned to drive innovation in India's defense sector, exemplifying the potential for Indian firms to lead in advanced military technology.

### Taiwan Strengthens Air Force with First Block 70 F-16 Fighters Start

03-Apr-25

Taiwan has received its first Block 70 Fighting Falcon fighters, part of an \$8 billion deal for 66 F-16C/D jets aimed at modernizing its air force amid rising tensions with China. These advanced fighters feature state-of-the-art technologies, including AESA radars and enhanced mission systems, allowing for greater operational capabilities. However, despite bolstering its defense, Taiwan still faces challenges from China's PLAAF, notably its fifth-generation Chengdu J-20 stealth fighters, highlighting an ongoing imbalance in air power. This situation underscores the strategic importance of air superiority in the region, affecting not only Taiwan's

defense posture but also broader regional security dynamics.

### HSL Posts Positive Net Worth After 40 Years, Eyes Mini Ratna Status Share

03-Apr-25

Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) has achieved a historic milestone by recording a positive net worth for the first time after four decades, with a provisional income of ₹1,586 crore and a profit after tax of ₹166 crore in FY 2024-25. This success is attributed to its "Magic of Five" strategy, focusing on operational excellence and digital transformation, alongside significant reforms like round-the-clock production shifts and advanced technologies. HSL's expansion of its supplier base and plans for infrastructure modernization, including a new Goliath crane, are pivotal for enhancing India's defense shipbuilding capabilities and demonstrating the effectiveness of revitalizing public sector enterprises in bolstering national defense.

### HAL to Produce 100 CATS Warriors Annually for IAF's Edge SHARE

03-Apr-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is ramping up its production of the Combat Air Teaming System (CATS) Warrior UAV to 100 units annually, collaborating with private suppliers. This unmanned system is designed to operate alongside the Indian Air Force's fighter jets, enhancing operational capabilities at a cost-effective \$5-10 million per unit. The IAF views the CATS Warrior as a crucial force multiplier, potentially transforming its operational strategies as it integrates unmanned systems into its fleet. Meanwhile, India's defense ties with the US are strengthened through joint exercises like Tiger Triumph, showcasing India's commitment to enhancing its defense capabilities in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape.

### DRDO and Industry Launch Advanced Armoured Platforms in Pune Share

03-Apr-25

In a significant advancement for India's defense capabilities, the metal cutting ceremony for the Advanced Armoured Platforms (AAP) was held on April 2, 2025, at Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) and Bharat Forge Limited in Pune. This collaborative effort between the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and private industry partners aims to deliver versatile infantry combat vehicles with both wheeled and tracked variants by October 2025. The

AAP reflects the government's focus on indigenization and efficient public-private partnerships, promising enhanced mobility and firepower to meet diverse operational needs. This expedited timeline signifies a transformative approach in defense manufacturing, bolstering the Indian Army's capabilities while reducing historical delays.

#### Indian Navy's Lithium-Ion Submarine Batteries Nearing Operational Use SHARE

03-Apr-25

The Indian Navy is on the brink of operationalizing lithium-ion battery packs for its submarines, particularly the Kalvari-class, as revealed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited. These indigenously developed batteries are currently undergoing rigorous testing and promise to significantly enhance submarine performance with higher energy density and quicker recharge times, eventually phasing out older lead-acid systems. This development marks a pivotal step towards India's strategic autonomy in defense technology, allowing the country to reduce reliance on foreign suppliers. Once trials are completed successfully, these batteries could also be integrated into future submarine projects, including the ambitious Project-75I.

#### **AVNL Collaborates with Russia to** Customize Sprut Tank for India Share

03-Apr-25

Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL) is partnering with Russian firms to develop a customized variant of the 2S25 Sprut-SD light tank for the Indian Army's Light Tank Competition, aiming to meet the demands of highaltitude operations along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China. This initiative aligns with India's #AatmanirbharBharat initiative, emphasizing indigenization while integrating advanced systems like drones and AI. The competition includes contenders like the DRDO-L&T Zorawar, which has already secured an initial order and offers modern features, raising concerns about the Sprut's thin armor and outdated design. Overall, this development highlights India's strategic focus on enhancing armored capabilities amidst evolving security challenges.

#### Private Sector Key to Advancing India's AMCA Jet Engine Tech S SHARE

03-Apr-25

Baba Kalyani, Chairman of Kalyani Group, advocates for private sector collaboration to develop a 110kN thrust engine for India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft

(AMCA), emphasizing the need to master the hot core section of jet engines. He highlights the current gap in India's aerospace capabilities, largely dependent on foreign technology. Kalyani suggests that forming a consortium of companies, such as Godrej Aerospace Advanced Systems, could technological advancement and help India achieve selfreliance in jet engine production. This initiative not only aims to reduce expenditure on foreign imports but also positions India as a competitive player in the global defense market.

#### **Bharat Forge Partners with Duma Engineering for Defense**

Innovations Share

03-Apr-25

Bharat Forge, through its subsidiary Kalyani Strategic Systems Limited, has formed a joint venture with Spain's Duma Engineering to establish a new defense technology company focused on advanced solutions for India, Europe, and export markets. Holding a 90% stake, this collaboration aims to leverage Bharat Forge's manufacturing expertise and Duma's engineering capabilities to meet the rising demand for modern defense systems amid geopolitical tensions. While this venture enhances Bharat Forge's global presence, it also presents challenges in competing with established European defense firms and navigating complex regulations. Overall, this strategic initiative aligns with India's broader goal of enhancing indigenous defense manufacturing and expanding its foothold international markets.

#### **Geopolitics and Security Alliances**

#### Rajnath Singh: Embracing Hybrid Warfare for Future Conflicts 🕟 SHARE

03-Apr-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh highlighted the importance of hybrid warfare in future conflicts, emphasizing the need for the Armed Forces to incorporate unconventional tactics alongside modern technology and intelligence in their strategic planning. Addressing the Army Commanders Conference, he acknowledged the current geopolitical uncertainties and praised the collaboration between the Army and CAPF/Police forces in counter-terrorism efforts in Jammu and Kashmir, which contributes to regional stability. Singh urged for ongoing discussions on defense diplomacy, indigenization, and modernization, asserting the necessity of doctrinal changes to ensure the military remains future-ready, thereby reinforcing India's strategic posture in a complex global landscape.

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03-Apr-25

The Tamil Nadu Assembly has unanimously passed a resolution urging the Indian government to retrieve Katchatheevu islet from Sri Lanka to fishermen's rights. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin emphasized that past political narratives wrongly attributed the cession to the state government, asserting that previous leaders opposed agreements made in 1974 and 1976. The resolution calls for a review of the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement and to negotiate the release of Indian fishermen imprisoned by Sri Lanka. This issue highlights the ongoing struggles of Tamil Nadu fishermen and the need for diplomatic efforts to ensure their rights safeguarded in international waters.

### India-Japan Dialogue Enhances Maritime Security in Indo-Pacific Share

03-Apr-25

The 7th India-Japan Maritime Affairs Dialogue emphasized enhancing maritime security in the Indo-Pacific, focusing on cooperation in maritime domain awareness, countering illicit maritime activities, and capacity building. Led by officials from both nations, the dialogue underscored their shared commitment to a Free and Open Indo-Pacific, reinforcing international maritime law and regional stability. Additionally, Prime Minister Modi and Japanese Prime Minister Ishiba previously reaffirmed their dedication to strengthening the Special Strategic and Global Partnership across various sectors, including defense and security. This collaboration is vital for fostering a peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific, highlighting the significance of India and Japan's strategic alliance amidst regional challenges.

# Kashmiri Businessman: Pakistan's Balochistan Actions Hurt Kashmir Credibility Share

03-Apr-25

Kashmiri businessman Mubeen Shah criticized Pakistan's military actions in Balochistan, arguing they undermine its credibility while countering its claims of supporting Kashmiri rights. He highlighted how India is leveraging these military missteps to challenge Pakistan's narrative, warning Kashmiris of a similar fate.

Shah called for Pakistan to resolve Balochistan's grievances rather than suppressing dissent, pointing out that the region's unrest contrasts with Pakistan's self-portrayal as a defender of Kashmir. His remarks reflect growing disillusionment among Kashmiris regarding Pakistan's intentions, particularly as India's diplomatic efforts gain momentum following the revocation of Article 370, potentially impacting Pakistan's influence in the Valley.

### Maoists Ready for Peace Talks Before HM Shah's Chhattisgarh Visit Share

03-Apr-25

The Maoists in Chhattisgarh have expressed a willingness to engage in peace talks ahead of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit, citing significant losses among their ranks. However, state officials, including Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma, emphasized that any discussions must adhere to constitutional principles and be free of preconditions. The government remains committed to its anti-left-wing extremism operations, with Home Minister Shah aiming for the eradication of Maoism by March 2026. The ongoing military operations have intensified, reflecting the government's strong stance against insurgency while also remaining open to constructive dialogue, reinforcing India's commitment to restoring peace and order in affected regions.

#### **Military Operations**

### Tragic IAF Jaguar Crash Claims Pilot's Life; Another Injured Share

03-Apr-25

On April 3, 2025, a Jaguar Trainer fighter jet of the Indian Air Force (IAF) crashed in Jamnagar, Gujarat, resulting in the tragic death of Flight Lieutenant Siddharth Yadav, while another pilot sustained injuries. The incident was attributed to a technical malfunction, prompting the pilots to eject and averting civilian harm, as confirmed by the IAF. Eyewitness accounts described a loud explosion, with emergency services swiftly managing the fire and debris. In the aftermath, Abhishek Yadav, the deceased pilot's brother, criticized the IAF's continued use of these aging aircraft, labeling them "relics from the 70s." While such criticisms highlight the need for modernization, it's essential to recognize the IAF's commitment to safety and the swift response that prevented further casualties during the incident.

### Pakistan Violates Ceasefire Twice in Poonch, Indian Army Responds Share

03-Apr-25

In recent days, Pakistan has violated the ceasefire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, with incidents occurring on April 1 and April 3. Following a mine blast allegedly caused by Pakistani intruders attempting to plant IEDs, the Pakistani Army resorted to unprovoked firing to cover their retreat, prompting a robust response from the Indian Army that reportedly resulted in casualties Pakistani personnel. Indian among Armv spokespersons reaffirmed the effectiveness of their response while emphasizing their commitment to maintaining the 2021 ceasefire understanding. The situation continues to be closely monitored by Indian forces, reflecting their preparedness to counter infiltration attempts and uphold security along the LoC. This escalation underscores ongoing tensions and the persistent challenges posed by cross-border terrorism.

### India-US Tiger Triumph Exercise Kicks Off in Vishakhapatnam S SHARE

03-Apr-25

The 4th edition of the India-US joint exercise Tiger Triumph 2025 commenced in Vishakhapatnam, focusing on enhancing joint response capabilities in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR). Key participants include the Indian Army's Amphibious Warriors and US Marines, with training events covering special operations and emergency medical procedures. The exercise emphasizes interoperability during large-scale HADR operations, showcasing the deepening strategic maritime partnership between India and the US. Notably, both nations will enhance operational readiness through combined training phases, including an amphibious landing and establishment of a humanitarian relief camp, further solidifying their defense cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.

#### Armenia Considers Tejas Mk2 to Strengthen Air Power Against Azerbaijan S SHARE

03-Apr-25

India is advancing its defense cooperation with Armenia as the latter explores upgrading its air force capabilities, particularly in light of Azerbaijan's acquisition of JF-17 jets. The Armenian delegation showed interest in the Tejas Mk2 fighter jet, which boasts enhanced specifications, including a powerful F414 engine and improved agility, compared to the Mk1A. As HAL aims for a 2025 prototype rollout, this

aligns with India's strategic goal to expand its defense exports. The region's tensions underscore the importance of robust air power, as Armenia currently operates a limited fleet that may struggle against Azerbaijan's growing aerial capabilities.

### IAF's Mirage-2000 Simulates Pakistan's J-10CE for Enhanced Training Share

03-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force's Tactics and Air Combat Development Establishment (TACDE) is utilizing Dassault Mirage-2000 fighters to mimic Pakistan's J-10CE, enhancing pilot training for potential aerial engagements. This initiative aims to sharpen combat skills against the technologically advanced J-10CE, which features superior avionics and weaponry compared to older PAF aircraft. By simulating the J-10CE's performance and tactics, IAF pilots can better understand and exploit vulnerabilities, such as its reliance on Chinese supply chains. This strategic preparation underscores India's commitment to maintaining air superiority in South Asia amidst evolving regional threats. Overall, the IAF's proactive measures highlight its focus on tactical innovation to counter emerging challenges effectively.

### Myanmar Praises India's Swift Aid in Earthquake Relief Efforts S SHARE

03-Apr-25

India's Operation Brahma is actively providing crucial rescue and relief efforts in Myanmar following a devastating earthquake, with local residents expressing immense gratitude for India's rapid assistance. An NDRF team of 80 skilled rescuers, supported by the Indian Air Force, has already delivered substantial aid, including 625 metric tonnes of humanitarian materials. The operation showcases India's commitment as a first responder in regional crises, with the Indian Army also providing medical assistance, including life-saving surgeries. This humanitarian endeavor not only reflects India's dedication to disaster relief but also strengthens its diplomatic ties with Myanmar during a time of need.

#### **Terrorism and Counterterrorism**

### Rashtriya Rifles Redeployed to Combat Terrorism in Jammu S SHARE

03-Apr-25

The Indian Army's Rashtriya Rifles (RR) is redeploying to the Jammu region to counter a rise in terrorist activities, particularly from Pakistan-backed groups, following the establishment of the 72nd Infantry Division in Ladakh. This strategic move aims to leverage the RR's extensive counter-insurgency experience, having eliminated over 8,500 terrorists since 1990, to enhance security in districts like Poonch and Rajouri. Analysts view this redeployment as crucial for addressing evolving threats, with expectations of improved local intelligence and rapid operational responses. The RR's return is seen as a necessary action to disrupt Pakistan's exploitation of the security vacuum in the region.

#### Challenges for Nigeria's and Pakistan's VT-4 Tanks: A Reliability Issue? SHARE

03-Apr-25

The Chinese VT-4 tank, utilized by Nigeria and Pakistan, is facing significant operational challenges, evidenced by the destruction of a Nigerian VT-4 in battle and mechanical failures reported in both countries. Nigeria's fleet of 35 units suffers from frequent breakdowns and a lack of spare parts, while Pakistan reduced its order from 468 to 258 due to concerns over performance. These issues reflect broader concerns regarding Chinese military exports, particularly the reliability and after-sales support, potentially undermining future sales. Both nations are at a disadvantage as they contend with evolving threats, particularly from a modernizing Indian Army, which has enhanced its armored capabilities with the T-90S and indigenous Arjun MBTs.

#### **Cybersecurity and Information Warfare**

#### Trump's Adviser Mike Waltz Faces Scrutiny for Using Gmail for Sensitive Military Talks S SHARE

03-Apr-25

National Security Adviser Michael Waltz is under scrutiny for using his personal Gmail account for sensitive military discussions, raising cybersecurity concerns. This follows a previous incident where he mistakenly included a journalist in a Signal chat about a military strike. Critics, including Democratic lawmakers, argue this lack of judgment jeopardizes national security, while Waltz's past criticisms of others' email practices add to the controversy. Despite pressures for his resignation, Trump has decided to retain Waltz, citing media bias against him. Cybersecurity experts warn that relying on personal email for government communication poses significant risks, emphasizing

need for stringent adherence secure communication protocols.

#### Mil Personnel & Veterans

#### **Defence Minister urges AMC to leverage** technology for soldier healthcare S SHARE

03-Apr-25

In a recent address at the 261st Raising Day celebrations of the Army Medical Corps (AMC) in Delhi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasized the importance of adopting cutting-edge technologies to healthcare services for soldiers. acknowledged the AMC's efforts in integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the establishment of innovative medical practices, such as Advanced Mobile Surgical Units and Al-powered medical triage systems, which have significantly improved emergency response times and patient care. Singh also highlighted the necessity engaging in simulator-based training establishing additional research and training centers to further improve medical proficiency. He praised Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin, the first female Director General of Armed Forces Medical Services, as a symbol of "Nari Shakti" in the military, underscoring the increasing participation of women in the armed forces. Furthermore, Singh urged the AMC to explore training opportunities for medical professionals from developing nations, thereby enhancing international standing in military diplomacy and civil-military convergence in defense technology to support both military and civilian health sectors. These efforts reflect India's commitment to maintaining superior medical readiness and service quality for its armed forces while also contributing to global military healthcare standards.

#### **Defence Minister Reviews Indian Army** Strategies at Commanders

Conference S SHARE

03-Apr-25

The Army Commanders Conference, being held from April 1 to 4, 2025, in New Delhi, focused on comprehensive security challenges, organizational restructuring, and modernization through indigenization. Defence Minister Rajnath emphasized the Indian Army's critical role in national security and the need for adaptation to evolving warfare dynamics, including cyber and hybrid threats. He commended the Army's effective response to crossborder terrorism and the synergy with other security forces in Jammu and Kashmir, which has contributed to regional stability. Furthermore, Singh highlighted the importance of incorporating advanced technology in military strategy and maintaining continuous dialogue on defense issues, asserting the government's commitment to support the Army's modernization and the welfare of veterans and their families. The conference reiterated the significance of dynamic planning and the need for doctrinal updates to ensure the Armed Forces remain prepared for future challenges.

#### Miscellaneous

### Defence Ministry Approves Civil Operations at Adilabad Airport S SHARE

03-Apr-25

The Ministry of Defence has granted in-principle approval for civil aircraft operations at the historic Adilabad airfield in Telangana, which will be developed as a joint-use facility alongside a future Indian Air Force training establishment. The Airports Authority of India will facilitate the construction of a civil terminal and necessary infrastructure. This marks the second airport approval in the state since December 2023, following the nod for Mamnoor Airport in Warangal. Telangana Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Modi and Union Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu, highlighting the government's commitment to enhancing regional connectivity and infrastructure development, which is crucial for both civil aviation and defense readiness.

#### Indian Air Force Officer Shubhanshu Shukla Set for Space Mission Share

03-Apr-25

Indian Air Force officer Shubhanshu Shukla is set to fly to the International Space Station next month as part of Axiom Mission 4, marking a significant milestone as he becomes the second Indian to venture into space. This mission, which lasts 14 days, is critical for Shukla's preparation for India's Gaganyaan mission, the nation's first human spaceflight program aimed at sending a three-member crew into orbit. Collaboratively developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation and NASA, Gaganyaan represents India's growing ambitions in space exploration. Shukla's participation in Ax-4 underscores India's commitment to advancing its aerospace capabilities and international partnerships in this field.

### Myanmar quake toll tops 3,000 as military calls ceasefire for aid S SHARE

03-Apr-25

A devastating 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck Myanmar nearly a week ago, leading to a death toll surpassing 3,000, according to the military government. The disaster injured around 4,715 individuals, with 341 still unaccounted for, highlighting the severe impact on infrastructure and buildings. In response to the crisis, Myanmar's military has declared a ceasefire to facilitate relief efforts, demonstrating a strategic move to garner support and manage humanitarian assistance. This situation underscores the necessity for regional cooperation in disaster response and reconstruction, reflecting the broader geopolitical dynamics in Southeast Asia and the importance of stability in the region.

### Rajnath Singh Launches Everest and Kangchenjunga Expeditions Share

03-Apr-25

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh recently flagged-off Mount Everest expeditions to and Kangchenjunga, demonstrating India's commitment to high-altitude mountaineering. The Indian Army's Everest team comprises 34 climbers, while the joint Indo-Nepal expedition to Kangchenjunga involves 12 Indian and 6 Nepali climbers, fostering collaboration. A separate NCC team, including cadets, will also attempt Everest. These expeditions aim to showcase the resilience and spirit of the Armed Forces, inspiring youth and emphasizing India's leadership in adventure sports. With prominent military officials and ambassador in attendance, the event underscores the strong ties between India and Nepal in shared cultural and sporting pursuits.

### Indian Army Para Athletes Excel at Khelo India Para Games S SHARE

03-Apr-25

The Indian Army's para-athletes showcased their exceptional talent at the 2nd Khelo India Para Games, securing 15 medals, including four golds. This success underscores the Army's commitment to fostering parasports, having established the Army Paralympic Node in 2017 to rehabilitate injured soldiers through athletics. The athletes' achievements reflect a broader cultural shift within the Army towards inclusivity and excellence, with notable milestones in international competitions, including the recent Paris Paralympics. The Army's strategic focus on nurturing para-athletes illustrates its

dedication not just to sports, but also to empowering individuals who have faced significant challenges.

#### Mallikarjun Kharge honors Sam Manekshaw on his 111th birthday. O SHARE



03-Apr-25

On April 3, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge paid homage to Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw on his 111th birth anniversary, highlighting his pivotal role in India's victory during the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War. Kharge praised Manekshaw's strategic brilliance and tireless service, which spanned over four decades and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari five wars. commemorated the legendary commander, recognizing his contributions to India's military history. Manekshaw, the first Indian Army officer promoted to Field Marshal, remains an enduring symbol of leadership and courage, inspiring future generations in the Indian defense forces. His legacy reinforces the importance of strong military leadership in achieving national objectives.

#### IFA Conference 2025 Kicks Off in Hampi to Enhance Defense Finance S SHARE

03-Apr-25

The Integrated Financial Advisor (IFA) Conference 2025 commenced in Hampi, Karnataka, with senior officials from the Ministry of Defence discussing financial governance and reforms to enhance the operational capabilities of the armed forces. Financial Advisor S.G. Dastidar underscored the expanded role of the IFA system amid external threats and highlighted the importance of technological integration through initiatives like Project SAMPOORNA, aimed streamlining financial processes with automation and data analytics. Key discussions focused on improving capital acquisition, aligning financial practices with Ministry of Finance guidelines, and addressing challenges in Army Commanders Special Financial Powers (ACSFP), emphasizing the need for timely approvals and enhanced private sector involvement. This conference serves as a pivotal platform for driving reforms in defense finance, integrating economic principles, and bolstering the financial framework to adapt to evolving security challenges.

#### Modi and Yunus may discuss ties at BIMSTEC Summit in Thailand 💿 SHARE

03-Apr-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to attend the 6th BIMSTEC Summit in Thailand, where he may hold bilateral talks with Bangladesh's Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus, who has expressed interest in strengthening ties despite recent tensions due to rising Islamist forces in Bangladesh. The summit will focus on adopting the Bangkok Vision 2030 and enhancing maritime transport cooperation to boost trade among member countries. Modi's engagements also include discussions with other leaders and a subsequent visit to Sri Lanka to fortify bilateral relations. This visit underscores India's commitment to regional stability and cooperative growth amidst challenges, particularly concerning China's growing influence in the region.

#### **India Navigates Trade Tensions Amid** Trump's Tariff Announcement 👩 share

03-Apr-25

The recent announcement by President Trump of a 26% reciprocal tariff on Indian imports has raised significant concerns over US-India trade relations. This decision, described by Trump during a White House event as a "declaration of economic independence," aims to address perceived trade imbalances and revitalize American manufacturing. Despite Prime Minister Modi's friendship with Trump, the tariffs highlight tensions stemming from India's high tariffs on American goods, notably in sectors like motorcycles, where India imposes a staggering 70% tariff compared to America's 2.4%. As India negotiates a bilateral trade agreement with the US, the imposition of these tariffs may prompt urgent actions to avoid further economic repercussions, thereby reinforcing India's commitment to strengthening its trade ties with the US while navigating this challenging landscape.

#### **International Crew Completes Training on IOS Sagar, Strengthening Maritime**

Ties SHARE

03-Apr-25

The Indian Navy's Indian Ocean Ship Sagar (IOS Sagar) successfully completed its harbour and sea training phase at Southern Naval Command in Kochi, with 44 international trainees from nine friendly nations participating. This initiative emphasized enhanced maritime cooperation through a curated training program covering seamanship, firefighting, advanced simulator training, embodying the "One Ocean One Mission" motto. The training not only promoted best practices but also acclimatized the international crew to Indian Navy systems, reinforcing regional stability and collective maritime interests across the Indian Ocean Region. Such collaborations highlight India's commitment to capacity building and fostering deeper maritime understanding among partner nations.

### US Man Arrested for Illegally Attempting to Visit North Sentinel Island S SHARE

03-Apr-25

A 24-year-old US national, Mykhailo Viktorovych Polyakov, was arrested for illegally entering the restricted North Sentinel Island in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. He arrived on March 26 and attempted to land on the island on March 29, bringing offerings and using GPS navigation. This was not his first attempt; he had visited the islands previously, trying to record footage of the Sentinelese and other tribes. The Sentinelese are known to be hostile toward outsiders, leading to concerns about their protection and the legality of such visits, prompting police action under relevant laws to prevent further transgressions.

#### Kuki Leaders Set Three Conditions for April 5 Delhi Talks Share

03-Apr-25

Ahead of April 5 talks in Delhi called by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Kuki leadership has proposed three preconditions for negotiations with the Meitei community to address ongoing ethnic violence in Manipur, which has resulted in over 250 deaths since May 2023. These conditions include restricting movement between the two groups in areas of majority and initiating a structured dialogue during a six-month ceasefire. This situation highlights the complexities of ethnic tensions in Manipur, necessitating thoughtful engagement from the Centre and a commitment to peaceful resolution to restore stability and foster community reconciliation. The government's intervention remains crucial in navigating this sensitive issue.

# ALH Fleet Grounded for Three More Months Amid Safety Investigations S SHARE

03-Apr-25

The Indian military's Dhruv Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) fleet, grounded since a fatal crash in January 2025 due to a critical swashplate assembly failure, is unlikely to return to operational status for at least three more months. Investigations have revealed a systemic issue affecting the swashplate, which is crucial for rotor control, with potential complications linked to saline environments. Hindustan operations in Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is collaborating with the Indian Institute of Science to conduct fatigue testing on the materials used, aiming to identify the root cause of the failures. This extended grounding impacts operational capabilities across the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard, highlighting the importance of addressing safety concerns thoroughly to ensure future reliability and effectiveness of indigenous defense assets.

### Liebherr Achieves Record €14.62 Billion Revenue, Eyes Growth S SHARE

03-Apr-25

The Liebherr Group reported a record revenue of €14.62 billion for 2024, marking a 4.1% growth despite varied demand across product segments, with mobile cranes and aerospace components driving sales. The company invested significantly in R&D, focusing on alternative drives, digitalization, and autonomous technologies, including hydrogen combustion engines and zero-emission mining machines. Liebherr's diversified international presence, particularly in North America and Asia, positions it favorably for future growth, although uncertainties in the economic landscape may impact investment willingness. The firm remains optimistic about moderate growth in 2025, with strong order volumes, particularly in aerospace and mining industries.

### EU Prepares Strong Countermeasures Against U.S. Tariffs SHARE

03-Apr-25

The European Union is ramping up countermeasures against new U.S. tariffs, including a 20% levy on European goods and 25% on imported automobiles, set to take effect soon. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen emphasized the bloc's readiness to protect its interests, highlighting a 156.6 billion goods trade surplus with the U.S. while facing a services deficit. The EU plans to reinstate previously suspended tariffs and propose new ones worth 18 billion, showcasing its determination to negotiate but readiness to act decisively. This escalating trade tension could impact global economic stability, with European leaders calling for measured responses and dialogue amid rising trade barriers.

### EU Stresses Urgency of Finalizing India-EU Free Trade Agreement Share

03-Apr-25

The EU has emphasized the importance of finalizing the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India, supported by strong political backing from leaders like Ursula von der Leyen and Narendra Modi. The ongoing negotiations, which resumed in 2021 after a hiatus, aim to address trade, investment protection, and geographical indications, balancing interests such as India's high tariffs on cars and spirits against its desires for

technology and economic modernization. The FTA is seen as crucial for fostering mutual interests, reflecting a commitment to sustainable growth and competitiveness, particularly in the context of the EU's Green Deal. This partnership highlights India's potential to enhance its global economic standing while contributing to environmental goals.

#### ISRO's Netra Project in Assam to Boost Space Security with Radar in a

Year SHARE

03-Apr-25

ISRO's Project NETRA in Assam aims to establish an advanced early warning system for tracking space debris and safeguarding Indian satellites. The facility will feature a phased array radar capable of detecting objects as small as 10 cm within 2,000 km and is set to be operational within a year, with an investment of around 1,000 crore. This initiative not only enhances India's space security but also fosters local development by providing training and internship opportunities for students. The project underscores India's commitment to protecting its growing satellite assets and demonstrates the nation's strategic foresight in space technology.

#### Start-Up Mahakumbh 2025: Nearly 3,000 Start-Ups Join from 64 Countries Share

03-Apr-25

Nearly 3,000 start-ups are participating in the Start-Up Mahakumbh 2025, reflecting a significant growth from the previous year, with delegates from 64 countries attending the event. The initiative showcases India's deep tech innovations, especially in sectors like spacetech, AI, and healthtech, and includes a grant challenge of ₹50 crores for budding entrepreneurs. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal highlighted the event's importance in enhancing India's economic growth and global entrepreneurial presence, aligning with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. The event underscores the government's commitment to fostering an innovative ecosystem, reinforcing India's position as a global start-up hub.

### AI's Rise Complicates Data Privacy: Cisco 2025 Study Insights Share

03-Apr-25

The Cisco 2025 Data Privacy Benchmark Study indicates a growing complexity in the privacy landscape amid rising Al reliance, with 86% of organizations supporting privacy legislation for its positive business impact. While 90% prefer local data storage for

perceived safety, 91% trust global providers for better protection. Concerns persist about AI misuse, as 64% worry about inadvertently sharing sensitive information. Notably, organizations plan to shift resources from privacy budgets to AI initiatives, underscoring the need for robust AI governance frameworks alongside privacy measures to foster safe AI deployment and sustain customer trust, thereby aligning privacy strategies with business growth.

### Drunk Man Claims to be Kasab's Brother, Threatens Bombing at Police S SHARE

03-Apr-25

A 28-year-old drunk security guard named Piyush Shukla was arrested for impersonating the brother of 26/11 terrorist Ajmal Kasab and threatening to detonate a bomb at the police control room and Mumbai Central. The incident occurred at Mulund railway station when Shukla, upset with police for asking him to leave, called the helpline and made the threats. Authorities quickly tracked him down using his mobile phone location. This incident highlights the ongoing challenges of public safety and the serious implications of making threats related to terrorism, underscoring the need for vigilance and strict enforcement of law and order in urban areas.

### Biren Singh Highlights Refugee Issue in Manipur Since 1960s S SHARE

03-Apr-25

Former Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh highlighted the longstanding issue of thousands of refugees settled in Manipur since the 1960s, raising questions about their integration, electoral status, and the implications for the state's demographic balance. His comments come amid ongoing ethnic violence linked to illegal immigration from Myanmar, prompting BJP MLAs to call for a review of the 2001 Census and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) before delimitation. Singh emphasized the need for a reflective approach to understand the consequences of past decisions on the state's identity and social balance, asserting that accountability and a forward-looking perspective are crucial for addressing this complex situation.

#### IIT Madras and IIT Hyderabad Excel in Swarm Rescue Challenge 24-25 Share

03-Apr-25

Teams from IIT Madras and IIT Hyderabad excelled in the Swarm Rescue Challenge 24-25, jointly organized by France's CIEDS and India's DRDO, securing the top three positions. This competition, which focuses on developing advanced drone swarm controllers for search-and-rescue missions, showcased India's burgeoning talent in AI and multi-robot coordination. The success emphasizes DRDO's commitment to fostering innovation in defense technologies and

collaboration with academic institutions, particularly in swarm intelligence, which holds significant potential for surveillance and tactical operations. This achievement not only enhances India's defense capabilities but also highlights the vital role of academia in national security advancements.

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## **Defence Sector Stocks**

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
KRISHNADEF	710.25	780.0	691.0	768.8	120000	8.24	68.43	622.47	713.51
SIKA	612.2	672.0	604.3	646.55	54337	5.61	72.38	550.08	531.79
MAZDOCK	2569.95	2753.45	2554.35	2737.55	4664581	5.13	68.41	2483.89	2279.44
NIBE	1153.85	1203.8	1153.8	1203.8	12712	5.0	64.68	952.49	1651.98
MARINE	172.5	181.72	167.46	181.49	605763	4.87	56.58	166.85	225.25
ROSSELLIND	64.51	70.28	63.6	68.62	101299	4.21	64.13	59.57	243.21
BDL	1305.0	1384.65	1291.15	1343.5	4145227	3.86	65.35	1207.28	1241.31
COCHINSHIP	1397.0	1466.95	1391.15	1461.15	1334533	3.51	60.69	1375.7	1735.94
ASTRAMICRO	678.0	703.9	676.0	700.55	156791	2.86	59.71	659.81	798.99
IDEAFORGE	357.3	376.35	357.3	373.85	251277	2.55	49.49	359.11	608.54
PTC	167.0	174.27	166.57	172.37	2132498	2.44	76.27	158.7	180.36
HBLPOWER	509.0	538.7	507.55	528.5	3615907	2.4	63.18	461.0	570.96
LMW	15260.35	15743.95	15158.2	15605.55	1966	2.26	51.44	15663.81	15998.19
PARAS	978.8	1018.6	978.8	1009.8	234050	2.13	59.11	951.97	1109.76
HAL	4196.55	4328.0	4185.25	4319.2	2369383	2.0	74.35	3792.03	4359.52
CFF	447.55	447.55	447.55	447.55	400	1.99	47.95	440.07	648.84
DCXINDIA	238.0	246.7	236.01	243.88	681185	1.94	48.7	235.89	328.58
BEL	283.0	288.25	282.6	287.5	20968721	1.81	52.91	287.24	290.84
ADANIENT	2339.75	2429.9	2339.7	2410.8	1023200	1.75	63.71	2303.31	2721.3
AVANTEL	112.25	118.9	112.25	117.43	813730	1.67	51.45	114.99	-
HIGHENE	518.45	518.45	506.2	517.0	2228	1.55	56.99	483.72	641.49
MIDHANI	280.1	291.15	280.1	290.25	333718	1.42	55.99	274.95	366.39
DATAPATTNS	1700.0	1778.0	1695.05	1739.75	715421	1.02	55.6	1651.29	2432.35
BEML	3071.4	3180.0	3065.05	3154.45	269554	0.95	62.53	2772.78	3810.24
SOLARINDS	11190.05	11341.0	11177.0	11293.6	46220	0.88	76.95	10378.81	10348.51
GRSE	1682.0	1764.25	1682.0	1729.9	2433114	0.65	70.15	1533.6	1735.65
ZENTEC	1404.95	1473.9	1400.0	1453.6	318851	0.63	57.56	1327.26	1696.5
LT	3400.0	3463.0	3393.0	3420.15	1200631	0.01	56.79	3334.8	3552.26
LOKESHMACH	0.0	165.4	165.0	165.4	4816	-0.75	45.06	152.81	339.3
PREMEXPLN	375.0	380.9	368.6	377.3	218440	-0.84	54.76	350.24	516.04
MTARTECH	1333.0	1357.45	1317.6	1326.15	127020	-1.02	48.08	1315.63	1668.63
APOLLO	122.25	125.25	121.62	123.16	4152844	-1.25	54.31	119.07	110.32
TANEJAERO	308.2	308.2	308.2	308.2	5939	-1.99	46.03	314.08	460.62
AZAD	1370.0	1398.8	1353.55	1359.65	129915	-2.42	48.81	1353.52	1576.29
BHARATFORG	1130.0	1135.8	1082.55	1117.1	2078500	-3.11	47.48	1124.97	1395.09