

# Defence Professionals News & Analysis

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

### IAF's Rafale, Jaguar, and Mirage jets land on Ganga Expressway airstrip. Share

03-May-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) demonstrated its operational capabilities through a flypast and landing exercise involving Rafale, Jaguar, and Mirage jets on a 3.5kilometer airstrip at the Ganga Expressway in Uttar Pradesh. This initiative is crucial for evaluating the expressway as a potential emergency runway, enhancing defense preparedness with features supporting both day and night operations. The airstrip, equipped with over 250 CCTV cameras, allows for low altitude operations and is a significant strategic asset, marking a milestone in the IAF's ability to conduct 24/7 operations, ultimately bolstering India's readiness in national emergencies.

## India Enhances Air Defense with RFP for VSHORADS-NG Systems S SHARE

03-May-25

India is significantly enhancing its air defense capabilities with the Ministry of Defence issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for 48 launchers, missiles, and night vision sights for the indigenous Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS-NG). This initiative aligns with the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, promoting self-reliance in defense. Amid rising tensions with Pakistan, the urgency for effective air defense systems is underscored, particularly given the recent terror attack in Kashmir. The VSHORADS-NG, developed by DRDO and Indian partners, is designed to counter threats. showcasing advanced evolvina aerial technology and portability. Furthermore, this procurement emphasizes a commitment to indigenous production, aiming to reduce reliance on foreign systems while positioning India strategically amid regional security challenges. Overall, the move reflects increasing proactive measures by India to solidify its defense posture and address contemporary security threats.

#### Pakistan Air Force's Propaganda Video Misattributes BrahMos Missile Share

03-May-25

The Pakistan Air Force's DGPR has released a misleading propaganda video claiming India's BrahMos missile as a Pakistani asset, further damaging its credibility. The video, which includes unrelated footage from SpaceX and video games, highlights a pattern of misinformation aimed at portraying parity with India despite evident technological gaps. This act, particularly egregious given the BrahMos's association with Indian defense innovation, has sparked outrage in India, with analysts condemning it as a desperate attempt to mislead the public. Such tactics reveal Pakistan's struggle to bolster its defense narrative amid ongoing regional tensions, ultimately undermining its own claims of military capability.

### Modi pledges \$200 million to modernize Angola's military forces. SHARE

03-May-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a \$200 million defense credit line for Angola, aimed at modernizing its armed forces, during discussions with Angolan President Joao Manuel Goncalves Laurenco. This initiative not only strengthens bilateral ties but also signifies India's commitment to counter-terrorism efforts and support for the Global South. The talks included collaboration in areas such as digital public infrastructure, space technology, and capacity building, reflecting India's intent to enhance its influence in Africa. Such strategic partnerships bolster India's role in regional security and reinforce its position as a key player in global defense cooperation.

#### India's Defense Ministry Seeks Three High-Altitude UAVs for IAF SHARE

03-May-25

India's Ministry of Defence has issued a Request for Information to acquire three High-Altitude Pseudo-

Satellites for the Indian Air Force, aimed at enhancing aerial surveillance and bolstering indigenous defense technology under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. These solar-powered UAVs will operate approximately 20 kilometers, providing extended ISR capabilities over critical borders with Pakistan and China. This move follows regional tensions post the Pahalgam terror attack, emphasizing India's proactive defense strategies. The initiative, led by DRDO's I-STAR project, reflects а commitment to domestic development while aligning with India's broader defense modernization and space ambitions, potentially allowing for significant operational freedom in addressing security challenges.

### India's Akash Air Defence: A Robust Shield Against Aerial Threats SHARE

03-May-25

India's Akash Air Defence System is a critical asset in countering aerial threats from Pakistan, including military jets and drones. Developed by DRDO and produced by BDL and BEL, the system boasts a range of up to 45 km and can engage multiple targets, making it ideal for contested airspace. Its capabilities have been demonstrated through successful tests, including neutralizing UAVs in exercises. As Pakistan enhances its arsenal with Turkish and Chinese drones, India's focus on the Akash system ensures a robust defense strategy, promoting self-reliance in defense production and potentially countering the Pakistan-Turkey-China alliance while increasing India's defense exports.

### Solar Industries: A Defense Stock Soaring 1,300% with More to Come Share

03-May-25

Solar Industries India's shares have soared 1,300% over the past five years following its strategic shift into defense, where revenues now comprise approximately 18-20% of total sales. It secured a ₹6,084-crore contract for Pinaka rocket munitions and a ₹10,200crore agreement for launcher ammunition, underpinning an order pipeline in excess of ₹48,000 crore. With a global footprint spanning more than 75 countries through 39 manufacturing facilities, Solar leverages its high-energy expertise in materials propellants. Beyond conventional artillery, the company developing advanced solid propellant formulations for satellite launch vehicles and space propulsion applications, has unveiled a line of kamikaze drones featuring integrated warheads and precision navigation, and is exploring composite casings and additive-manufactured boost components to

performance and reduce weight. Analysts forecast a compound annual revenue growth rate exceeding 22% and anticipate margins improving above 25% as these new ventures—backed by strong government support for indigenous defense and aerospace innovation—begin to scale, positioning Solar Industries for sustained leadership in India's evolving security landscape.

### NxtGen and Thales Boost India's Sovereign Cloud Security Share

03-May-25

NxtGen Cloud Technologies has partnered with Thales to enhance the security of India's sovereign cloud infrastructure, integrating defense-grade cybersecurity measures. This collaboration aims to address the increasing sophistication of cyber threats while ensuring compliance with Indian regulatory requirements. By utilizing Thales' technologies, the initiative provides robust encryption, sovereign key management, and Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC), all within India's borders, thereby eliminating foreign oversight. This strategic move not only strengthens national security but also supports the growth of regulated sectors like banking and public services, showcasing India's commitment to advancing its digital infrastructure with cutting-edge security solutions.

### US Approves \$3.5B Missile Sale to Saudi Arabia Before Trump's Visit Share

03-May-25

The United States has granted initial approval for a \$3.5 billion sale of 1,000 AIM-120C-8 advanced air-to-air missiles to Saudi Arabia, as part of a broader arms deal ahead of President Trump's visit to the region. This sale aims to bolster Saudi defense capabilities, aligning with U.S. foreign policy objectives. Despite controversies surrounding Saudi actions, including the Yemen conflict and the Khashoggi incident, the deal underscores the U.S.'s commitment to its allies in the Gulf, fostering regional stability. Such arms sales reflect a strategic partnership that benefits both nations while enhancing security dynamics in a volatile region, ultimately supporting India's interests in maintaining regional balance.

### Apollo Micro acquires IDL Explosives to boost defence manufacturing. S SHARE

03-May-25

Apollo Micro Systems Limited, via its wholly owned subsidiary Apollo Defence Industries Private Limited, has on May 2, 2025 signed a share purchase agreement

to acquire 100 percent equity of IDL Explosives Limited from GOCL Corporation in an all-cash deal valued at ₹107 crore—comprising 78.65 lakh equity shares priced at ₹136.04 each-subject to customary regulatory and corporate approvals. Established in 2010 under the Hinduja Group banner, IDL Explosives reported a turnover of ₹623 crore in FY 2024 and specializes in bulk industrial explosives for mining and infrastructure projects, a capability that now augments Apollo's defense-grade ammunition portfolio. This strategic acquisition aligns with Apollo's long-term vision of evolving into a Tier-I OEM weapon systems supplier by integrating explosive manufacturing into its existing aerospace and defense offerings, thereby enhancing indigenous production across artillery and missile platforms. The move underscores broader consolidation trend in the Indian defense sector and mirrors policy initiatives promoting self-reliance-most notably the 'Make in India' defense push and recent private sector-friendly reforms-positioning companies like Apollo at the forefront of national defense modernization while reducing import dependency. The transaction is expected to close within two to three pending shareholder months, and regulatory clearances.

### India Showcases Advanced Autonomous Defense Tech at Babina Share

03-May-25

India recently showcased its next-generation autonomous defense technologies at the Babina Field Firing Ranges, emphasizing strides toward self-reliance defense. Notable displays included Sheshnag-150 long-range swarm drone and the multiutility unmanned ground vehicle, Sapper Scout, both designed to enhance operational capabilities against complex threats. The Sheshnag-150's advanced Al allows for autonomous target engagement and ISR operations, while the Sapper Scout aims to support various military tasks, reducing personnel risk. This demonstration reflects India's proactive approach to modernizing its military in light of regional challenges, particularly from nations like China and Pakistan, underscoring the need for continued investment in indigenous defense technologies to achieve greater self-reliance.

### Army Design Bureau Fuels Indigenous Assault Rifle Development S SHARE

03-May-25

The Army Design Bureau (ADB) has rapidly emerged as a cornerstone of India's indigenous small arms

ecosystem, leveraging the Aatmanirbhar framework to shepherd over 350 projects valued at approximately ₹1.8 lakh crore toward fruition. Following the induction of the ASMI 9 mm submachine gun-India's first fully homegrown SMG-the ADB is now channeling its focus into next-generation assault rifles capable of supplanting the decades-old INSAS standard. Key initiatives include the Multi-Calibre Individual Weapon System (MCIWS), an adaptable rifle platform developed by ARDE and OFB since 2015, and the newly unveiled UGRAM 7.62×51 mm rifle, created under DRDO's Development-cum-Production Partner programme alongside private industry partners. Concurrently, joint ventures such as Indo-Russian Rifles Private Limited are gearing up to deliver AK-203 rifles from a dedicated production facility in Amethi, ensuring parallel import substitution. Central to ADB's strategy is the mobilization of uniformed innovator talent, who, alongside private firms, are refining design, prototyping, and high-precision manufacturing processes. Through these collaborative efforts, the ADB is accelerating selfsufficiency, catalyzing domestic defence production lines, reducing reliance on foreign imports, and fostering a robust indigenous small arms industry.

### Indian Army Boosts Order for Pralay Missiles Amid Regional Tensions Share

03-May-25

The Indian Army plans to increase its order of the indigenously developed Pralay tactical ballistic missile, responding to heightened tensions with China and Pakistan. With a range of 150-400 kilometers and a payload capacity of 800 kilograms, Pralay's quasiballistic trajectory and precision targeting enhance India's tactical capabilities without breaching its No First Use nuclear policy. Initial orders from the Army and Air Force reflect a strategic shift towards modernizing and strengthening deterrence along volatile borders, especially in light of ongoing challenges in eastern Ladakh and the Line of Control. The missile's integration into artillery divisions is expected to significantly bolster India's offensive operational readiness.

# Tejas MkII Development Accelerates with New Fuselage Revealed S SHARE

03-May-25

Recent developments in the Tejas MkII program have sparked excitement, with images of its fuselage emerging from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's (HAL) assembly facility. The MkII aims to enhance the capabilities of the original Tejas models, featuring a

larger airframe, advanced avionics, and a more powerful General Electric F414 engine. The anticipated rollout by October 2024 and maiden flight by March 2026 indicate significant progress, with over 200 units planned for induction into the Indian Air Force. This advancement is crucial for modernizing India's air capabilities, reducing reliance on imports, and ensuring self-reliance in defense manufacturing.

#### PM Modi Unveils ₹1,460 Crore Missile Test Range in Andhra Pradesh S SHARE

03-May-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone for the Navdurga Missile Test Range in Nagayalanka, Andhra Pradesh, valued at ₹1,460 crore (approximately \$170 million). This facility, developed by the DRDO, aims to enhance India's missile testing capabilities, particularly for tactical systems. It will span over 300 acres and feature advanced infrastructure to support comprehensive testing, vital for India's indigenous defense initiatives under the Make in India program. The test range, expected to be operational by 2028, reflects India's commitment to self-reliance in defense technology and is seen as a crucial asset in bolstering national security and military preparedness.

### Pakistan Air Force May Retire AIM-120C-5 Missiles by 2028 Share

03-May-25

The Pakistan Air Force (PAF) may retire its AIM-120C-5 AMRAAM missiles by 2028 due to aging and maintenance challenges, despite their critical role in air superiority, highlighted by their use during the February 2019 clash with India. While potential service life extensions could prolong usability until 2033, costly refurbishment programs and U.S. export restrictions complicate this effort amid strained relations. The PAF may consider alternatives like China's PL-15 missile, but transitioning would demand significant investment and resources. This situation illustrates the growing operational challenges for the PAF as its missile systems age, potentially impacting its strategic capabilities against India.

### DRDO Boosts Indigenous Defense with Key Tech Transfers to BEL and HFCL SHARE

03-May-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has advanced India's self-reliance in defense technology by transferring two critical troposcatter communication system technologies to Bharat

Electronics Limited (BEL) and HFCL Limited. These agreements, part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, emphasize the enhancement of military communication capabilities where traditional systems may falter. BEL will leverage the L/S Band Digital Troposcatter system for high-capacity long-distance communication, while HFCL will deploy a more portable Compact Troposcatter system for tactical operations. This strategic collaboration aims to reduce foreign dependency but raises concerns regarding production scalability and operational testing. Overall, this initiative marks a significant stride towards strengthening India's defense infrastructure through indigenous capabilities.

### India Must Tap Global Aerospace Talent for AMCA Engine Success S SHARE

03-May-25

India's former NSAB adviser, Anshuman Tripathi, emphasizes the need for the country to recruit global aerospace talent, including its diaspora, to successfully develop a 120kN engine for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA). He argues that learning from international practices and acquiring existing technologies is crucial, noting that India has yet to produce a fully operational indigenous jet engine. Tripathi calls for a strategic overhaul, including collaboration with experts from advanced projects and leveraging past successes like the HF-24 Marut. He also highlights the importance of integrating military feedback in engine evaluations to meet Air Force requirements and enhance India's defense capabilities.

## India Unveils Crewless 30mm Turret for Enhanced FICV Firepower Share

03-May-25

India has successfully validated a crewless 30mm turret for its Futuristic Infantry Combat Vehicle (FICV) program, aimed at replacing older BMP-2 vehicles. This advanced turret, which allows remote operation, enhances combat effectiveness while reducing risks to soldiers by keeping them protected inside the vehicle. With a focus on multiple combat roles, including an integrated Anti-Tank Guided Missile launcher, the FICV is essential for modern warfare, especially in India's diverse terrains. This development, part of the \$10 billion FICV program, reflects India's growing defense capabilities and commitment to self-reliance under the "Make in India" initiative, showcasing the contributions Defence Research and Development the Organisation (DRDO) in indigenous advancing technologies.

#### **Defense Policy and Budgeting**

#### GCAP Fighter's Transatlantic Range Boosts IAF's Strategic Edge SHARE

03-May-25

The Global Combat Air Programme's Tempest fighter, with its potential transatlantic range and superior payload capacity, could significantly enhance the Indian Air Force's strategic reach along the sensitive China-Pakistan borders. Its projected ability to operate without aerial refueling allows for prolonged loitering and effective engagement in contested airspaces. However, India's focus on self-reliance through the "Make in India" initiative may complicate collaboration with GCAP partners. Balancing immediate operational needs with long-term indigenous development, such as the Tejas Mk2 and AMCA projects, will be crucial for the IAF's future capabilities amid evolving regional security dynamics.

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

#### Rajnath Singh to Miss Russia's Victory Day; Sanjay Seth to Attend S SHARE

03-May-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will skip Russia's Victory Day parade, with Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth representing India amidst rising tensions following the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people. This decision underscores India's security priorities while maintaining diplomatic presence, reflecting the longstanding relationship with Russia, which remains strong despite India's absence at the highest level. The two nations continue to collaborate on significant defense projects, such as the AK-203 rifles and BrahMos missiles, while institutional mechanisms for military cooperation remain intact. Prime Minister Modi's strong response to the attack and his commitment to retaliatory measures against terrorism heightened have regional particularly with Pakistan, but the expected visit of President Putin to India later this year signals ongoing commitment to bilateral ties.

#### India Opts for Targeted Response Over Full-Scale Attack on Pakistan Share

03-May-25

Following the deadly terrorist attack in Pahalgam, which resulted in 26 civilian deaths, tensions between India and Pakistan have escalated significantly. Despite domestic pressure for a full-scale military response, India is likely to pursue targeted actions, supported by enhanced military capabilities including the BrahMos missile and Rafale jets. Both nations are preparing for potential conflict, with residents along the Line of Control bracing for escalation, and India has implemented punitive measures like suspending the Indus Waters Treaty and downgrading diplomatic ties. Prime Minister Modi has granted operational freedom to the armed forces, emphasizing the commitment to combat terrorism decisively while avoiding large-scale conflict due to the nuclear threat involved. This situation highlights India's strategic focus on deterrence and precision strike capabilities to address cross-border terrorism effectively.

#### Pakistani Army Leaders Clash with Chief Over Kashmir Strategy S SHARE

03-May-25

Recent reports indicate a significant rift within the Pakistan Army's leadership, primarily between Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir and several Corps Commanders over Kashmir operations and his hardline rhetoric. This internal dissent is exacerbated by concerns about Pakistan's military readiness amidst internal terrorism and economic instability, with senior officers advocating for a focus on domestic stabilization rather than escalating tensions with India. In a separate meeting, Pakistan's military reaffirmed its resolve to protect territorial integrity against perceived Indian aggression, citing recent incidents as attempts to exploit crises for strategic gains. However, the backdrop of disunity within the military could undermine operational coherence and complicate Pakistan's regional diplomacy, especially as India maintains a strong military posture and operational readiness.

### Pakistan Seeks UNSC Meeting Amid Rising India-Pak Tensions SHARE

03-May-25

Pakistan has asserted its right to request a United Nations Security Council (UNSC) meeting amid rising tensions with India following a recent terror attack in Pahalgam, which resulted in 26 fatalities. Pakistani representatives emphasized the need for the Council to

address what they term a serious threat to regional peace and security. The UNSC, currently presided over by Greece, may convene to discuss the situation, as calls for de-escalation and dialogue grow. While Pakistan's claims reflect ongoing geopolitical strains, India remains resolute in its counter-terrorism efforts, reinforcing its commitment to regional stability and security in the face of provocations.

# Congress Calls for Unity and Strong Action Against Pakistan After Pahalgam

Attack SHARE

03-May-25

Following the Pahalgam attack that claimed 26 lives, the Congress party has called for national unity and a firm response against Pakistan's terror exports. In a resolution, they emphasized the need for a collective national will to hold perpetrators accountable and urged the government to develop a clear strategy to address the situation, while also supporting the victims' families with long-term aid beyond compensation. Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge assured that the opposition stands united with the government against terrorism, highlighting that this moment calls for strength and resilience from all citizens to ensure India's unity and integrity in the face of such provocations.

### India's Shift: Sustained Pressure on Pakistan Post-Attack Share

03-May-25

India's response to the recent Pahalgam attack, attributed to Pakistan-sponsored terrorists, signals a strategic shift towards sustained pressure on Pakistan. The incident, which has intensified national anger, underscores the need for a long-term punitive approach. India has begun with non-kinetic measures, such as holding the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance, impacting Pakistan's critical water resources. This strategic maneuver aims to address Pakistan's ongoing support for terrorism while leveraging its vulnerabilities in water management. The Indian government is reasserting its stance that terrorism and diplomatic relations cannot coexist, marking a decisive step in redefining its engagement with Pakistan amidst rising domestic challenges for its military leadership.

## China's Military Growth Urges India to Boost Defense Readiness S SHARE

03-May-25

China's rapid military modernization poses a significant challenge to India's defense readiness, with the People's Liberation Army (PLA) advancing capabilities across all warfare domains, including land, air, and maritime operations. As China aims to enhance its military strength by 2049 for geopolitical dominance, India must address the growing capability gap through the strengthening of its conventional forces and the development of innovative combat solutions. Despite China's advancements, internal corruption and leadership purges may hinder the PLA's effectiveness, suggesting vulnerabilities that India could exploit. Strengthening India's defense posture is essential to countering potential aggressions, particularly along the Himalayan borders and in the Indo-Pacific region.

#### Pakistan Urges PoK Residents to Stockpile Amid Indian Tensions Stare

03-May-25

Kashmir's Pakistan-administered Prime Minister announced that residents must stockpile food and medicines due to fears of an impending Indian military strike, amid escalating tensions marked by nightly gunfire exchanges along the Line of Control (LoC). An emergency fund has been set up to ensure essentials are supplied in the region, reflecting the heightened alert status of both nations. India has taken precautionary measures, including suspending visa services for Pakistanis and closing airspace. Amid these developments, Pakistan maintains it is not involved in recent conflicts and threatens retaliation against any Indian military action. This escalation underscores the fragile security dynamics in the region, necessitating diplomatic engagement to avert further conflict.

### India Blocks Pakistani Accounts Amid Rising Tensions Post-Attack Share

03-May-25

Following a deadly attack in Pahalgam that killed 26 civilians, tensions between India and Pakistan have escalated, with Pakistani officials issuing dire warnings of potential war. In response, India has taken significant measures, including downgrading diplomatic ties, suspending the Indus Water Treaty, and blocking several Pakistani digital accounts to combat misinformation and inflammatory narratives. India's actions underscore its commitment to national security amidst ongoing ceasefire violations along the Line of Control. The situation highlights the seriousness of the threat posed by cross-border terrorism and India's proactive stance in safeguarding its sovereignty and integrity.

### Chinese Envoy Urges Pakistan to Pursue Peaceful Dialogue with India S SHARE

03-May-25

Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zaidong, met with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to address ongoing tensions with India, advocating for restraint and dialogue maintain regional to peace. Jiang acknowledged Pakistan's security concerns and emphasized the necessity of a prompt investigation into a recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam, which claimed 26 lives. Both leaders underscored the importance of communication to prevent escalation and stabilize South Asia. China's position as a supportive ally to Pakistan highlights its strategic interests in the region, while reiterating that both India and Pakistan should prioritize cooperation to enhance mutual security and foster stability.

#### Japan Seeks India's Partnership for Next-Gen Fighter Jet Development S SHARE

03-May-25

Japan is seeking India's collaboration in developing a next-generation fighter jet under the Global Combat Aviation Programme (GCAP), a joint effort with the UK and Italy, to alleviate financial burdens and strengthen security ties in the Indo-Pacific region. India's growing defense capabilities and interest in technology transfer align with Japan's proposal, though participation faces challenges due to tensions with Pakistan and India's established ties with Russia. The potential for enhanced defense cooperation through GCAP could solidify the strategic partnership between India and Japan, further promoting stability in the Indo-Pacific and supporting India's Make in India initiative for indigenous manufacturing.

### India Bans Pakistan-Flagged Ships Amid Security Concerns Share

03-May-25

India has recently escalated its stance against Pakistan by banning all imports from the country and prohibiting Pakistan-flagged ships from entering Indian ports. This decision follows a tragic attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, which claimed 26 lives, emphasizing national security concerns. The Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways issued a directive stating that both Pakistan-flagged vessels are barred from Indian ports and Indian vessels cannot dock in Pakistan. This action is aimed at safeguarding Indian assets and infrastructure, reflecting a strong commitment to national security and the development of the Indian shipping industry in light of current tensions.

#### US Ex-NSA: Pakistan's Terrorism Sponsorship Has Consequences Share

03-May-25

Former US NSA John Bolton emphasized that India's suspension of the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) should signal to Pakistan that its sponsorship of terrorism has consequences. Following the Pahalgam terror attack, where civilians were killed by terrorists linked to Pakistan, Bolton suggested that the US-India counterterrorism collaboration must deepen, given the escalating threat from terrorism in the region. He argued that Pakistan's inability to control its territory justifies India's potential military actions against terrorist groups, reiterating the view that Pakistan remains a rogue state, perpetuating regional instability and terrorism, which calls for continued scrutiny and action from the international community.

#### Bangladesh Rejects Retired General's Call to Occupy Indian States States

03-May-25

The Bangladesh government has rejected Major General (Retd) ALM Fazlur Rahman's inflammatory suggestion to occupy India's northeastern states amid rising tensions following a recent terror attack in India. This statement has led to diplomatic strain, prompting Bangladesh's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to clarify that Rahman's views do not represent official policy. The backdrop includes a deterioration in relations following political changes in Bangladesh and provocative remarks by interim leaders regarding India's territorial integrity. India's response has included heightened border vigilance and potential disruptions to cricketing ties, reflecting growing public sentiment against perceived hostility from neighboring nations, particularly in the context of strategic alignments that may affect regional stability.

#### European Airlines Avoid Pakistani Airspace Amid Rising Tensions Share

03-May-25

Major European airlines have begun avoiding Pakistani airspace due to escalating tensions with India, following Pakistan's airspace closure to Indian carriers after a terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir. This has resulted in significant operational disruptions, with airlines like Lufthansa and British Airways rerouting flights, increasing travel times and costs. The closure is economically damaging for Pakistan, leading to substantial losses in overflight fees and operational challenges for its national carrier. The situation reflects broader geopolitical tensions, with both countries

imposing reciprocal airspace restrictions, underscoring the high-stakes nature of their ongoing conflict.

#### **Military Operations**

#### Pakistan tests Abdali missile amid rising tensions with India. Share

03-May-25

Pakistan recently conducted a successful training launch of the Abdali surface-to-surface missile, which has a range of 450 km, amidst escalating tensions with India following the Pahalgam terror attack. This exercise, termed Exercise INDUS, aimed to demonstrate operational readiness and validate the missile's advanced navigation and maneuverability features. Key Pakistani officials, including President Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, expressed confidence in the country's strategic forces for maintaining credible deterrence. This provocative action underscores the ongoing military posturing in South Asia, highlighting the importance of India's defense capabilities and strategic readiness to counter any regional threats effectively.

### Indian Army Responds Firmly to Unprovoked Pakistani Fire Share

03-May-25

During recent nights, the Indian Army has responded to unprovoked small arms fire from Pakistani troops along the Line of Control (LoC) in several regions, marking a continuation of ceasefire violations. India's calibrated retaliation emphasizes deterrence while avoiding escalation, reflecting a serious stance against Pakistani provocations. In addition to military responses, India has taken diplomatic measures, including suspending the Indus Waters Treaty and expelling Pakistani diplomats. The situation has heightened civilian anxieties along the border, with international calls for restraint amidst rising tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbors, underscoring the critical need for maintaining peace and security in the region.

#### India Approves 240 ALHs for Action Amid Tensions with Pakistan Share

03-May-25

Amid escalating tensions with Pakistan, India has cleared nearly 240 Advanced Light Helicopters (ALHs) for operations, despite a recent grounding due to safety concerns following a fatal crash. The clearance, based on recommendations from a Defect Investigation

Committee, is crucial as ALHs play a vital role in troop transport, reconnaissance, and medical evacuation. Safety measures, including increased inspection frequency of control rods, have been implemented. However, concerns about the design flaws persist, impacting the helicopter's export potential, particularly after issues were highlighted from Ecuador's experience with the ALH fleet. This decision underscores India's commitment to maintaining operational readiness in a volatile security environment.

#### Tensions Rise: Pakistan Threatens War Over Water Rights Dispute Share

03-May-25

Bilateral relations between India and Pakistan have further deteriorated following a terror attack in Pahalgam that killed 26 tourists. Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif warned that any violation of the Indus Water Treaty by India, particularly regarding water diversion, would be deemed an act of war. This comment comes after former Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto suggested extreme measures regarding water rights. Indian leaders have responded strongly, particularly following the attack, emphasizing India's stance on nationalism and water security. India's suspension of the treaty underscores its commitment to protecting its interests amid escalating tensions.

#### **Terrorism and Counterterrorism**

### Intensified Security Operations Target TRF Terrorists in Kashmir Share

03-May-25

India is intensifying its security operations in Kashmir Valley amid escalating tensions along the Line of Control, with Pakistan violating the ceasefire for the eighth consecutive day. The Indian Army is responding proportionately, while over 60 overground workers have been detained, reflecting a robust counter-terror strategy. Major combing operations are underway to flush out terrorists believed to be hiding in forests, particularly following a recent attack attributed to Lashkar-e-Taiba, supported by Pakistan's ISI. The situation necessitates vigilance among civilians, and both military and diplomatic channels remain active to manage the evolving security landscape. These efforts underscore India's commitment to dismantling terrorist infrastructure and restoring stability in the region.

#### **Indian Diaspora Worldwide Protests** Against Pahalgam Terror Attack 🕟 SHARE

03-May-25

A significant protest by the Indian diaspora took place in Berlin and across various countries in response to the recent Pahalgam terror attack, which resulted in the deaths of 26 individuals, primarily targeting non-Muslim tourists. Demonstrators condemned terrorism and criticized Pakistan for its alleged support of such activities, with rallies held in cities like London, Paris, and Warsaw. The widespread protests reflected a united demand for justice and accountability against terrorism, emphasizing global solidarity among the Indian community. This mobilization not only mourned the victims but also aimed to elevate international awareness about the threats posed by transnational terrorism in the region.

#### Norway's Ambassador Condemns Pakistan's Terror Attack on India S SHARE



03-May-25

Norway's Ambassador to India condemned the recent Pahalgam terror attack by Pakistan, reinforcing the global stance against terrorism. The U.S. Secretary of State expressed sorrow over the incident and emphasized counterterrorism cooperation with India while calling for de-escalation with Pakistan. In response, India has taken significant measures, including suspending the Indus Water Treaty and granting operational freedom to its armed forces against cross-border violations. The attack has united international condemnation and intensified India's military posture, reflecting a commitment to national security while demanding accountability from Pakistan for its role in terrorism.

#### EAM Jaishankar Discusses Pahalgam Terror Attack with EU VP SHARE

03-May-25

India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar discussed the recent Pahalgam terror attack with European Commission VP Kaja Kallas, emphasizing the need for justice against the five Islamist terrorists responsible for the assault that killed 25 civilians. The attack has escalated tensions between India and Pakistan, with India accusing Pakistan of harboring terrorists. Global leaders, including those from the EU and the US, condemned the attack and urged diplomatic engagement to prevent further conflict. Jaishankar's diplomatic efforts highlight India's commitment to counter-terrorism while navigating the complex geopolitical landscape in South Asia.

#### Swiss Minister Cassis Strongly Condemns Pahalgam Terror Attack 🕟 SHARE

03-May-25

Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis condemned the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam, carried out by militants linked to The Resistance Front, which targeted tourists and resulted in multiple casualties, predominantly Hindus. Following a discussion with Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, both leaders emphasized a shared commitment to combat terrorism, with India taking significant diplomatic steps, including suspending the Indus Waters Treaty. The international community, including the EU and the US, has called for restraint and dialogue to prevent further escalation between India and Pakistan. This incident highlights the ongoing challenge of terrorism in the region and the importance of international solidarity in addressing such threats.

#### US Reaffirms Commitment to India in Fight Against Terrorism S SHARE

03-May-25

US State Secretary Rubio reaffirmed America's commitment to assist India in combating terrorism during a conversation with External Affairs Minister Jaishankar, following a deadly attack on civilians in Pahalgam. He expressed condolences and called for justice against the perpetrators while encouraging dialogue between India and Pakistan to de-escalate tensions. The US supports India's counter-terrorism initiatives but emphasizes the need for restraint from both nations to maintain regional stability. This response highlights the delicate balance the US seeks to maintain between supporting India's security concerns and advocating for diplomatic engagement in South Asia.

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

#### India Thwarts Pakistan's Desperate Cyber Attacks and Aggression S SHARE

03-May-25

In the wake of the April 22, 2025 Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 lives. Pakistan-backed hacker collectives such as Cyber Group HOAX1337 and National Cyber Crew launched a coordinated series of defacement and intrusion attempts against Indian digital infrastructure. Their targets included Army Public School websites in Nagrota and Sunjuwan, portals ex-servicemembers' healthcare, serving veterans'

welfare platforms, and family support networks, where attackers sought to post inflammatory messages mocking the victims. These offensive operations phishing reportedly encompassed campaigns, malicious payloads, and distributed defacement attempts against military-affiliated sites, reflecting both strategic opportunism and a sense of desperation. Indian cybersecurity agencies, including CERT-In, the National Cyber Crime Co-ordination Centre, and military cyber units, rapidly identified and isolated malicious traffic, deployed fortified firewalls and endpoint detection systems, and conducted forensic analyses to neutralize threats within hours. The swift mitigation underscores India's growing cyber resilience and highlights Pakistan's reliance on unethical digital tactics to retaliate against counterterrorism pressure.

### Pak Trolls Spread Falsehoods About Indian Army Leadership, Debunked Share

03-May-25

Recent reports reveal a coordinated disinformation campaign by Pakistan-based media targeting senior Indian Armed Forces officers, following India's stringent measures after the Pahalgam terror attacks. Claims about Lieutenant General DS Rana being "sacked" were debunked, as he was promoted instead, while Lieutenant General MV Suchindra Kumar's retirement was misrepresented as a dismissal. Additionally, Air Marshal SP Dharkar's departure was falsely linked to a refusal to engage in conflict, though he completed his tenure honorably. Analysts view these fabrications as typical of Pakistan's strategy to deflect attention from India's decisive actions and highlight the resilience and effectiveness of the Indian military leadership amidst external propaganda.

### Major Data Breach Exposes Personal Info of 290,000 Citizens at BWSSB SHARE

03-May-25

CloudSEK has revealed a significant data breach at the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), compromising the personal data of over 290,000 citizens due to exposed credentials and a publicly accessible admin portal. The breach, attributed to a cybercriminal known as pirates\_gold, raises alarms about public sector cybersecurity and the potential for misuse of sensitive information, including Aadhaar numbers and addresses. The report emphasizes the urgent need for BWSSB to implement a thorough security audit, restrict public access to administrative tools, and adopt proactive threat monitoring. This incident is a critical reminder for public institutions to

enhance their cybersecurity measures to protect citizen data effectively.

#### Mil Personnel & Veterans

#### Indian Army and Ultraviolette Showcase F77 at Veteran Rally Share

03-May-25

The Indian Army partnered with Ultraviolette for a five-day Veteran Outreach Rally across Tamil Nadu, showcasing the F77 electric motorcycles, which symbolize Indian innovation and performance. This event honored the Madras Regiment's veterans and Veer Naris, allowing army personnel to engage with approximately 3,000 attendees, addressing their concerns and providing assistance. Covering over 6,000 kilometers, the rally emphasized respect for the sacrifices of the armed forces. The collaboration highlights the synergy between indigenous technology and military recognition, reinforcing the commitment to veterans while promoting advanced electric mobility as part of India's defense outreach initiatives.

#### 75-Year-Old Veteran Offers to Rejoin Army Amid Tensions S SHARE

02-May-25

A 75-year-old Indo-Pak war veteran, Captain (Retd) Amarjeet Kumar, has offered his voluntary service to the Indian Army amid rising border tensions following a terrorist attack in Pahalgam that resulted in multiple casualties. In a heartfelt letter to Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, he expressed his readiness to return to the battlefield, citing his experience from the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War. Kumar emphasized the looming threat of war with Pakistan and the potential need for experienced personnel, asserting that he is physically fit and mentally prepared to contribute once more to the nation he served, highlighting a profound sense of patriotism and commitment to India's defense.

### J&K Cop Iftkhar Ali Stays Deportation, Reaffirms Loyalty to India Share

03-May-25

A Jammu and Kashmir policeman, Iftkhar Ali, and his siblings narrowly avoided deportation to Pakistan after the High Court intervened, affirming their longstanding residence in India. Ali, who has dedicated 27 years to the police force, expressed his unwavering commitment to serve India, asserting his identity as an Indian national despite legal ambiguities surrounding his

family's status. The deportation notice emerged amid rising tensions following a recent terror attack, highlighting complex issues of identity and nationality in Jammu and Kashmir. This case underscores the importance of legal recourse in safeguarding the rights of individuals in sensitive geopolitical contexts, reflecting the Indian judiciary's role in upholding justice.

#### Miscellaneous

#### BJP Slams Channi's Comments on Surgical Strikes, Calls Them Harmful Share

03-May-25

The BJP has criticized Congress MP Charanjit Singh Channi for questioning the authenticity of the 2019 surgical strikes against Pakistan, claiming such remarks demoralize the armed forces. Channi's comments came after the recent Pahalgam terror attack, where he demanded decisive government action against Pakistan, implying that the government had not proven the effectiveness of previous strikes. BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra condemned Channi's statements as providing "oxygen" to Pakistan and alleged that Congress leaders have consistently undermined national security. In response to backlash, Channi later stated that Congress stands united with the government during this crisis. The ongoing debate underscores the critical importance of political responsibility during times of national security, as public comments can significantly impact military morale and public perception of defense strategies.

#### India Blocks PM Shehbaz Sharif's YouTube Channel Amid Tensions SHARE

03-May-25

India has blocked the YouTube channel of Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and 16 other Pakistani channels following the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, which resulted in significant casualties. This action, taken under the Information Technology Act, aims to curb the dissemination of provocative and false narratives that threaten national security and public order. Indian authorities have also restricted access to social media accounts of prominent Pakistani figures, highlighting a coordinated effort to manage misinformation amid heightened tensions. Additionally, diplomatic measures such as downgraded relations and the suspension of the Indus Water Treaty reflect India's robust strategy to counter perceived cross-border threats and reinforce national security in response to the Pahalgam tragedy.

#### India Calls for Review of Loans to Pakistan Post-Terror Attack Share

03-May-25

India is urging global multilateral agencies, including the IMF, to reassess the loans and financial support provided to Pakistan, particularly in light of a recent terror attack in Pahalgam that resulted in the deaths of 26 tourists. The IMF is set to evaluate a new USD 1.3 billion climate resilience arrangement for Pakistan amid ongoing financial challenges, including a USD 7 billion bailout package. Additionally, the Asian Development Bank has committed significant loans to Pakistan, raising concerns regarding the effective use of these funds, especially amidst rising tensions in the region. This diplomatic move by India aims to hold Pakistan accountable for its actions while addressing regional security and stability.

### Fishermen Urged to Stay Vigilant Amid Heightened Coastal Security Share

03-May-25

Following the recent Pahalgam terror attack, the Coastal Security Force (CSF) in Karwar has heightened security measures and urged fishermen to report any suspicious boat activity at sea. Karwar, which hosts India's largest naval base, INS Kadamba, has seen increased patrolling and additional checkpoints. Fishermen have been advised to maintain vigilance, especially against suspicious movements near the Pakistan-controlled waters, approximately 250 km away. The Indian Navy remains on high alert, emphasizing the importance of local cooperation in coastal security to safeguard national interests and ensure safety against potential maritime threats.

#### Delhi HC Urges MEA to Support Indians Sentenced to Death in Indonesia Share

03-May-25

The Delhi High Court has directed the Indian Consulate in Indonesia and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to intervene following the death sentences of three Indian nationals convicted under Indonesia's antinarcotics laws. The court recognized the urgent need for legal representation and support, emphasizing the families' financial constraints and the risks of missing appeal deadlines. The defendants, working Singapore's shipping industry, maintain their innocence, citing inconsistencies in the prosecution's case. This highlights the Indian intervention government's responsibility to safeguard its citizens' rights abroad, ensuring due process and emotional support for impacted families during this critical time.

#### India Halts Mail Exchange with Pakistan Amid Terror Tensions S SHARE

03-May-25

India has suspended the exchange of all types of mail and parcels with Pakistan via air and surface routes due to heightened tensions following the Pahalgam terror attack that resulted in 26 fatalities. This decision, implemented by the Department of Posts under the Ministry of Communication, underscores India's commitment to addressing cross-border terrorism, as the government has indicated a resolve to deliver severe repercussions against those responsible for the attack. This move reflects India's proactive stance in safeguarding national security and highlights the ongoing challenges in India-Pakistan relations, particularly in the context of terrorism.

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