



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

February 04,2025 | Day 035

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
HAL	3729.75	3528.55	+5.7%
APOLLO	128.46	122.33	+5.01%
SIKA	2398.65	2286.3	+4.91%
LT	3439.15	3289.2	+4.56%
BEL	284.5	274.15	+3.78%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
TEMBO	603.15	634.9	-5.0%
MAZDOCK	2196.25	2234.3	-1.7%
MARINE	208.78	211.65	-1.36%
BEML	3424.2	3467.35	-1.24%
LMW	15488.9	15646.05	-1.0%

Defense Business and Industry

Saab Promises Quickest Gripen E Delivery for IAF MRFA Bid

📱 SHARE

04-Feb-25

Saab is positioning its Gripen E fighter jet as the leading contender for India's Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) program, highlighting its advanced technology and quickest delivery potential. The company attributes its rapid production capabilities to sophisticated manufacturing techniques, including AI and additive manufacturing, and proposes a robust technology transfer plan that would enhance India's domestic defense industry through local production and a Gripen Design Centre in Bangalore. This initiative aims to enable India to customize the Gripen E and support indigenous projects, ultimately positioning India as a future export hub for the aircraft, thus advancing its status as a global defense exporter.

General Atomics Quickly Replaces MQ-9B Drone After Bay Loss

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04-Feb-25

General Atomics has swiftly replaced an MQ-9B SeaGuardian drone lost in the Bay of Bengal due to a power failure during a surveillance mission, ensuring the Indian Navy's continued operational capabilities. Since 2020, these drones have enhanced the Navy's intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities in the Indian Ocean Region, crucial for monitoring piracy and military activities. The rapid replacement underscores the commitment to support India's maritime security amidst escalating geopolitical tensions. This incident highlights both the complexities

of operating advanced UAVs in challenging environments and the importance of maintaining maritime domain awareness for India's national security interests.

Indian Navy to Replace INS Vikramaditya with IAC-2, Not Expanding Fleet

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04-Feb-25

The Indian Navy has opted to replace the aging INS Vikramaditya with the upcoming Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC-2) instead of expanding to a three-carrier fleet, prioritizing the development of IAC-2 as a direct replacement. This decision reflects a strategic shift, emphasizing indigenous warship-building capabilities while ensuring the Navy retains its strength with two operational carriers. The IAC-2, projected to incorporate advanced technologies like EMALS and AAG, showcases India's growing defense prowess and commitment to enhancing maritime capabilities. While the move raises concerns about power projection in multiple theaters, it ultimately strengthens India's position alongside a select group of nations capable of designing and building aircraft carriers.

HAL to Unveil Upgraded IJT-36 Sitara Neo Star at Aero India 2025

📱 SHARE

04-Feb-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) will unveil the upgraded Intermediate Jet Trainer (IJT-36) Sitara Neo Star at Aero India 2025, showcasing significant advancements in its avionics, including modern navigation systems and enhanced communication capabilities. This upgrade addresses previous challenges faced during the project's development and is crucial for bridging the gap between basic pilot training and advanced combat aircraft operations. Successful certification and user trials are anticipated

to culminate in full-scale production by 2028, significantly enhancing the Indian Air Force's training capabilities and preparing pilots for modern air combat scenarios. HAL's commitment to innovation reflects India's growing defense self-reliance and modernization efforts.

Russia to Unveil Su-75 Checkmate Stealth Fighter at Aero India 2025



04-Feb-25

Russia will showcase its Su-57E stealth fighter and the Su-75 Checkmate at Aero India 2025, the latter being a static prototype with an offer for local production in India under the Make in India initiative. This proposal could significantly enhance the Indian Air Force's capabilities and support India's defense export ambitions. Russia aims to position India as a primary customer for the Su-75, amidst competition from advanced fighters like the F-35 and China's J-20. While the Su-75 faces developmental challenges, India's ongoing Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft program emphasizes the country's commitment to advancing its indigenous capabilities.

Decoding India's AIP Submarine Development: DRDO vs. French Role



04-Feb-25

A recent debate on social media has emerged regarding the development of India's Fuel Cell-based Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) system for submarines, centering on the roles of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the French Naval Group. While DRDO claims to have developed the AIP technology, the French company's involvement has primarily been in the integration and certification phases. This distinction highlights India's commitment to indigenous defense capabilities while benefiting from international collaboration. The nuanced understanding of development versus integration is crucial, showcasing how India can advance its defense technology while effectively partnering with global industry leaders.

DRDO Showcases LCA Tejas's Stealth Advantage from Composites



04-Feb-25

The DRDO has highlighted the LCA Tejas's low Radar Cross-Section (RCS) due to its extensive use of composite materials, which constitutes 45% of its airframe by weight. This innovative approach not only enhances the aircraft's stealth capabilities, making it

less detectable by enemy radar, but also contributes to improved fuel efficiency and maneuverability. The Tejas, while not originally designed as a stealth fighter, has inadvertently gained a tactical edge in modern aerial warfare through its composite structure. This achievement reflects India's commitment to advancing defense technologies and sets a precedent for future projects in military aviation, showcasing DRDO's leadership in composite manufacturing.

India to Receive Fourth S-400 Squadron by Year-End 2025



04-Feb-25

India is set to receive its fourth squadron of Russian S-400 Triumf air defense missile systems by the end of 2025, enhancing its aerial defense capabilities amid rising regional tensions. The acquisition, part of a \$5.43 billion deal for five squadrons initiated in 2018, reflects India's commitment to bolstering its military infrastructure despite delays caused by the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Already deployed along sensitive borders with Pakistan and China, the S-400 systems are crucial for deterring aerial threats, and the upcoming delivery will further solidify India's strategic defense posture in a complex geopolitical landscape. This development underscores the enduring military cooperation between India and Russia.

Bharat Electronics Advances LCA Tejas Mk IA Supply, Eyes More Orders



04-Feb-25

Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) is on track with its component supply for the 83 LCA Tejas Mk IA aircraft, fulfilling critical contracts with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) without delays. BEL is supplying avionics systems and electronic components essential for the aircraft's operations, such as Digital Flight Control Computers and various sensors. The company is optimistic about securing an additional order for 97 Tejas aircraft, which would significantly enhance the Indian Air Force's fleet of indigenous fighters. This progress underscores India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing and the strong potential for future expansions in the indigenous fighter program.

India Unveils Agni-V with MIRV Tech, Enhancing Nuclear Deterrence



04-Feb-25

India's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh confirmed the successful deployment of the Agni-V intercontinental ballistic missile with Multiple Independently Targetable

Re-entry Vehicle (MIRV) technology, marking a significant enhancement to the nation's nuclear deterrence capabilities under "Mission Divyastra." This advancement allows India to strike multiple targets simultaneously, reinforcing its strategic posture against regional threats, particularly from China and Pakistan. The Agni-V's range exceeds 5,000 kilometers, placing India among a select group of nations with MIRV capabilities. This development is anticipated to reshape the strategic balance in South Asia, contributing to greater deterrence stability, especially amid ongoing regional arms races.

GE and HAL Close to \$1.5B F414 Engine Deal, Boosting India's Defense

04-Feb-25

General Electric (GE) and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) are nearing a \$1.5 billion deal for 99 F414-GE-INS6 engines, crucial for India's Tejas Mk2, AMCA, and TEDBF programs, with a significant increase in technology transfer from 56% to 80%. This agreement, expected to finalize by March 2025, will enhance HAL's expertise in jet engine manufacturing, aligning with India's self-reliance goals in defense technology. The deal will boost India's air power with over 200 units set for delivery by 2038-39, showcasing a strong commitment to developing a robust domestic defense industrial base and advancing technological sovereignty in the aerospace sector.

India's VHF Radar System Detects Stealth Jets Up to 200km

04-Feb-25

India has enhanced its air defense capabilities with a new VHF radar system from Bharat Electronics Limited, capable of detecting stealth aircraft like China's J-20 and Pakistan's potential J-35A within a 200-kilometer range. This radar exploits longer wavelengths, which are less susceptible to stealth technology, providing crucial early warnings and helping the Indian Air Force (IAF) respond effectively to stealth incursions. By integrating this radar into its air defense network, India demonstrates a commitment to a layered defense strategy that mitigates stealth advantages, significantly altering the strategic landscape in the region and acting as a deterrent against potential aggression from neighboring countries.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

India Boosts IAF with Rs 48,614 Crore for Advanced Aircraft and Engines

04-Feb-25

The Indian government has allocated Rs 48,614 crore in the upcoming defense budget to enhance the Indian Air Force's (IAF) capabilities by investing in advanced aircraft and aero engines. This initiative seeks to modernize the IAF amid concerns over dwindling fighter squadrons and aims to promote self-reliance through the 'Make in India' initiative. The funding will support new acquisitions like Rafale jets and the indigenous Tejas, alongside upgrades and R&D for future engine technology. This investment is critical for operational readiness, economic growth, and positioning India as a significant player in the global defense market, despite challenges like procurement delays and integration complexities.

Trump's nominee to reassess Biden's firearm export restrictions

04-Feb-25

President Trump's nominee for the Commerce Department, Howard Lutnick, plans to review the Biden administration's restrictions on firearms exports intended to curb illegal sales to foreign criminal organizations. The Biden administration's rules, imposed in April 2024, target sales to non-governmental users in 36 countries identified as high-risk for firearm diversion, projecting a \$40 million annual decrease in U.S. exports. Lutnick's comments reflect concerns from industry stakeholders about significant financial losses due to these regulations. The impending Senate Commerce Committee vote on Lutnick's nomination underscores the ongoing debate over balancing security measures against the interests of U.S. manufacturers and exporters.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Indian and Maldivian Forces Launch "Ekuverin" Exercise to Boost Ties

04-Feb-25

The 13th edition of the joint military exercise "Ekuverin" between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Force has commenced in the Maldives, emphasizing the strengthening of bilateral defense ties

in the Indian Ocean Region. This exercise, which means "Friends" in Dhivehi, will focus on enhancing interoperability in counter-insurgency, counter-terrorism operations, and joint humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. The opening ceremony was attended by significant officials, including the Maldives National Defence Force Chief and the Indian High Commissioner. This collaboration underscores India's commitment to regional stability and security, reinforcing its strategic partnerships in a geopolitically vital area.

Rajnath Singh refutes Rahul Gandhi's misrepresentation on China.



04-Feb-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has strongly rebuked Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for allegedly misrepresenting the statements of the Army Chief regarding the India-China border situation during a parliamentary debate. Singh clarified that the Army Chief's remarks were focused solely on the temporary disturbance of traditional patrolling patterns by both nations, which have since been restored following disengagement efforts. He emphasized that Gandhi's claims about Chinese incursions into Indian territory were unfounded and reiterated historical facts about Aksai Chin and the territory ceded by Pakistan to China. Singh expressed disappointment over Gandhi's remarks, which he deemed irresponsible, particularly since they pertain to national security and territorial integrity. Singh's defense underscores the importance of factual discourse in sensitive matters, and he urged for a responsible approach to discussions about India's territorial challenges, especially in light of the strategic competition with China. The exchange highlights the critical need for unity and clarity in addressing defense and national security issues, as well as the ongoing implications of India's geopolitical landscape on domestic politics.

China Criticizes US-Philippines Drills Amid South China Sea Tensions



04-Feb-25

The ongoing tensions in the South China Sea were highlighted as the Chinese military conducted routine patrols over Scarborough Shoal, coinciding with US-Philippine joint air drills. PLA spokesperson Colonel Li criticized the exercises, accusing the Philippines of colluding with foreign powers and vowing to safeguard China's sovereignty. Meanwhile, the Philippines has increased military vigilance, monitoring Chinese vessels within its EEZ. The joint drills, involving Philippine

FA-50s and US B1-B bombers, aim to reinforce Manila's territorial claims amid rising assertiveness from Beijing. This situation underscores the complex geopolitical dynamics in the region, emphasizing the importance of alliances for regional security and stability.

Netanyahu Meets Trump to Discuss Gaza Ceasefire and Hostages



04-Feb-25

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is in the U.S. for crucial talks with President Donald Trump regarding the fragile ceasefire in Gaza and the release of hostages amidst ongoing tensions with Hamas. While Trump acknowledges the challenges in ensuring the ceasefire holds, he seeks to leverage U.S. influence to advance a second phase of negotiations that includes hostages' release and a potential Israeli military withdrawal. Netanyahu faces internal pressure from his right-wing coalition to resume military operations, which complicates the situation further. Moreover, discussions are anticipated around Iran's nuclear ambitions and a normalization deal with Saudi Arabia, suggesting a broader geopolitical strategy at play. The intricate dynamics highlight the criticality of U.S.-Israeli relations in shaping the Middle East's security landscape.

India-Russia Relations: A Special Global Partnership Celebrated



04-Feb-25

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla emphasized the historic and deep-rooted friendship between India and Russia, calling their bilateral ties "very special" on the global stage. During the visit of a Russian parliamentary delegation, he highlighted the significant cooperation between the two nations, which has evolved into a Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership encompassing various sectors. Birla praised Russia's fruitful BRICS chairmanship and outlined India's parliamentary processes that foster non-partisan discussions on crucial issues. This ongoing collaboration underscores the mutual trust and respect essential for strengthening India-Russia relations, reflecting a commitment to deepening political, strategic, and cultural ties.

Jaishankar: Global standards unfairly applied to India's neighbors



04-Feb-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar criticized the inconsistent global standards applied to India's eastern and western neighbors, emphasizing that principles

related to democracy and military rule are selectively enforced. He highlighted India's ongoing territorial challenges and the overlooked issue of terrorism, urging for a more equitable application of international law. Jaishankar also underscored the significance of strengthening India-EU relations amidst global volatility, noting their status as major economic partners with shared interests in defense and technology cooperation. This strategic engagement is essential for stabilizing the international order and addressing contemporary conflicts more equitably.

Jaishankar: Strengthening India-EU Ties Crucial in Today's World SHARE

04-Feb-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar emphasized the increasing importance of the India-EU relationship in today's volatile world during the IIC-Bruegel annual seminar. He noted that this partnership can serve as a stabilizing factor amidst global uncertainties and highlighted the need for convergence in policies despite existing differences. Jaishankar acknowledged the strategic awakening of Europe, which could enhance defense, security, and technological cooperation with India. He underscored the necessity of adapting to a multipolar world, stating that while some established international frameworks persist, a more nationalistic approach may emerge in critical areas, ultimately reinforcing the foundational democratic values shared between India and the European Union.

PM Modi to Discuss Trade and Defense with Trump on Feb 13 SHARE

04-Feb-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit the US on February 12 to meet President Trump, marking his first bilateral trip since Trump's second term began. The discussions will focus on enhancing trade and defense cooperation, amid concerns about US tariff policies. Both leaders aim to bolster the India-US strategic partnership, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region, with a noteworthy emphasis on expanding energy ties, especially in nuclear cooperation. Modi's government is also looking to amend its nuclear liability law to facilitate collaboration on small modular reactors, indicating India's commitment to advancing its nuclear energy capabilities alongside US partnerships.

Pakistan's ISI Meets Anti-Taliban Leaders as Afghanistan Turns to India SHARE

04-Feb-25

Pakistan's ISI recently convened anti-Taliban leaders in Turkey, aiming to influence political dynamics in Afghanistan amid deteriorating ties with Kabul, which has strengthened its trade relations with India. Afghanistan's trade with India reached \$763 million in just ten months, establishing India as Kabul's largest trading partner after Pakistan and Iran. The Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce has urged the Taliban to facilitate easier Indian visas for Afghan businessmen, emphasizing the potential for enhanced trade. This shift showcases Afghanistan's pivot towards India, countering Pakistan's influence while highlighting the growing economic partnership between New Delhi and Kabul despite regional tensions.

NATO Chief: Europe's Defense Relies on U.S. Support SHARE

04-Feb-25

NATO Chief Mark Rutte emphasized that Europe cannot sustain a viable defense strategy without U.S. support, highlighting the importance of transatlantic cooperation amidst ongoing trade tensions under President Trump. He dismissed the idea of an independent European defense strategy as impractical and reinforced the necessity of a united front against geopolitical threats, notably from Russia. While European NATO members are increasing defense spending, Trump's demands for higher contributions and trade retaliations have created friction. Rutte underlined that despite disagreements, the collective determination to maintain strong deterrence remains paramount, indicating NATO's role in addressing strategic challenges, particularly in contested regions like the Arctic.

Pakistani President's Beijing Visit Highlights Security Worries Over CPEC SHARE

04-Feb-25

Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari's five-day visit to China highlights growing security concerns over Chinese investments in Pakistan, particularly related to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). With over \$65 billion pledged, the visit aims to bolster economic cooperation and enhance counter-terrorism measures amidst escalating attacks on Chinese nationals and projects by groups like the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA). Despite Beijing's frustration over ongoing violence, Islamabad has resisted Chinese requests for deploying security forces, asserting its

sovereignty. This situation illustrates the delicate balance Pakistan must maintain between safeguarding foreign investments and addressing internal security challenges, a critical aspect as its ties with China deepen.

SCO Secretary-General Yermekbayev Visits India to Boost Ties



04-Feb-25

SCO Secretary-General Yermekbayev's first official visit to India signifies an important step in strengthening diplomatic ties within the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). During his meetings with Indian officials, including External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, discussions will center on enhancing multilateral cooperation among member states, addressing regional security concerns, and promoting economic collaboration. The SCO's composition, including major players like China, Russia, and Pakistan, underscores its pivotal role in regional stability and development. This visit reflects India's proactive engagement in the SCO since becoming a full member in 2017, illustrating its commitment to fostering international cooperation and addressing shared challenges effectively.

Indian Air Force Cautious on U.S. Jets Amid Conflict Concerns



04-Feb-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) remains cautious about integrating American fighter jets due to concerns over U.S. support during potential conflicts with Pakistan or China. Historical precedents, such as arms embargoes during the 1971 Indo-Pakistani War and limitations during the Kargil conflict, underscore the risk of U.S. sanctions affecting military readiness. The IAF's wariness stems from the U.S. government's control over spare parts and software updates for American aircraft, which could leave India vulnerable in critical situations. This scenario highlights the need for India to maintain a balanced defense strategy, incorporating indigenous and Russian platforms to ensure operational autonomy and readiness in the face of geopolitical uncertainties.

Military Operations

Trishakti Corps Executes Live-Fire Drills in Sikkim Mountains



04-Feb-25

The Indian Army's Trishakti Corps recently conducted a successful live-fire exercise in the challenging high-altitude terrain of Sikkim, demonstrating its operational readiness, rapid deployment capabilities, and precision strike proficiency. This exercise, along with previous events like Exercise Devil Strike, emphasizes the Army's commitment to maintaining high efficiency and adaptability in diverse operational environments, particularly in high-altitude warfare. Furthermore, the Assam Rifles contributed to community engagement by organizing initiatives focused on drug awareness and weapons familiarization for NCC cadets, reinforcing their role in youth empowerment and social responsibility. Collectively, these activities reflect the Indian Army's dedication to evolving its operational capabilities while fostering a sense of patriotism and discipline among the nation's youth, thereby strengthening national defense.

China's Military Prepares for Conflict with Underground Bunkers



04-Feb-25

China is significantly enhancing its military capabilities, preparing for potential conflict, particularly around Taiwan, with extensive underground facilities and hardened air bases. Satellite imagery reveals a massive new command complex near Beijing, designed to withstand nuclear attacks and facilitate wartime operations, reflecting Xi Jinping's orders for accelerated military modernization. Additionally, the PLA is fortifying air bases, increasing the number of hardened shelters and runways, creating a strategic imbalance with the U.S. military. These developments indicate a clear deviation from China's proclaimed commitment to peaceful development, suggesting a readiness to assertively pursue its territorial ambitions in the region.

BSF Blocks BGB's Border Construction Efforts in Bengal



04-Feb-25

On January 31, 2025, the Border Security Force (BSF) intervened to stop the Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB) from constructing a sentry post bunker near the India-Bangladesh border, highlighting ongoing tensions and violations of bilateral agreements. The BSF also

thwarted attempts to build illegal houses under BGB observation within a restricted zone. These actions reflect India's proactive stance in maintaining border integrity amid rising confrontations due to recent political upheavals in Bangladesh, which have disrupted previously established protocols. The BSF's call for a command-level meeting with BGB officials underscores the importance of reaffirming adherence to joint guidelines to prevent escalation of tensions and ensure effective border management.

movements, while also navigating the complexities of peace negotiations with militant groups.

NIA Arrests Two in Tamil Nadu for Hizb-ut-Tahrir Radicalization Plot



04-Feb-25

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested two individuals in Tamil Nadu linked to Hizb-ut-Tahrir (HuT), a banned organization aiming to radicalize youth and establish an Islamic caliphate in India. The accused, Kabeer Ahmed Aliyar and Bava Bahrudeen, conspired to conduct secret propaganda and showcase military strength of Islamic nations to incite violence against the Indian government. The NIA's ongoing investigation seeks to uncover co-conspirators and HuT's funding networks. In a separate case, the NIA arrested two suspects in the 2019 murder linked to the Popular Front of India, highlighting the agency's commitment to tackling extremism and maintaining national security.

Assam STF nabs another associate of Bangladesh's ABT terror group.



04-Feb-25

The Assam Police's Special Task Force (STF) has arrested a key operative of the Bangladesh-based Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT), marking the 15th arrest linked to this radical group. The detainee, Nasim Uddin SK, is believed to be involved in acquiring weapons and manufacturing IEDs to destabilize India's security. The ongoing Operation Praghat, directed by STF Chief Partha Sarathi Mahanta, aims to dismantle a network allegedly orchestrated by operatives in Bangladesh and Pakistan, targeting the nation's peace and sovereignty. This operation underscores India's proactive measures to counteract the growing threat of terrorism on its soil and protect its integrity.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Former Territorial Army Man Killed in Kulgam Terror Attack



04-Feb-25

A former Territorial Army man, Manzoor Ahmad Wagay, was shot dead in Kulgam, Jammu and Kashmir, while attempting to protect his wife and niece, who were also injured in the attack. The incident, which occurred outside a mosque, is believed to be a retaliatory act following recent successes of security forces against local militant groups, including the killing of a Hizbul Mujahideen commander. Political leaders, including J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, condemned the violence and assured that justice would be served. The rising challenges posed by a small number of local militants, as well as foreign fighters, continue to be a concern for security forces, yet their recent achievements indicate a significant decrease in local militant activity. This tragic event underscores the ongoing struggle against terrorism in the region and the need for continued vigilance and support for security measures.

Govt issues notice to ULFA under UAPA amid peace talks



04-Feb-25

The Indian government has issued a show-cause notice to the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, requesting an explanation on why it should not be declared an unlawful association for another five years. This comes after ULFA's disbandment and subsequent settlement with the Union government in December 2023, following a significant split within the group. The notice mandates ULFA to respond within 30 days and to appear in court in March 2025. The ongoing legal proceedings reflect India's commitment to maintaining national security and addressing separatist

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

Surge in DDoS Attacks: APIs Targeted Amid Evolving Threats



04-Feb-25

In a surge of 3000% over three months, India faced a significant rise in API-targeted DDoS attacks, totaling over 1.2 billion, with 271 million specifically aimed at APIs. These sophisticated attacks exploit the digital infrastructure, impacting business continuity and costing companies millions in downtime. As the threat landscape evolves, organizations must adopt modern

defenses such as AI-driven threat detection and cloud-based protection to safeguard their APIs. The increasing complexity of cyber threats necessitates robust security strategies, making it imperative for businesses to enhance their defenses to maintain trust and operational integrity in a highly interconnected world.

Miscellaneous

Rahul Gandhi Critiques 'Make in India' Amidst Chinese Threats

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04-Feb-25

Rahul Gandhi criticized the Modi government's 'Make in India' initiative, calling it a failure that has left India vulnerable to Chinese incursions. He claimed Chinese troops occupy 4,000 sq km of Indian territory and warned that India relies on Chinese-made components for defense. He noted manufacturing's GDP share fell from 15.3% in 2014 to 12.6% in 2024, the lowest in 60 years, urging a focus on domestic production. While supporting the concept, he blamed poor implementation for India's dependence on Chinese imports. He proposed leveraging key technologies to boost manufacturing and jobs, arguing broader reforms are needed to achieve technological sovereignty and economic resilience.

Strengthening Trade Ties: India and Bangladesh in Textiles

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04-Feb-25

Indian High Commissioner Pranay Verma emphasized the strengthening trade connectivity and economic engagement between India and Bangladesh during a session with Bangladesh's textile sector, highlighting the crucial role of the Ready-Made Garments (RMG) sector in Bangladesh's socio-economic development. He noted that increased participation from Bangladesh in the upcoming Bharat Tex 2025 event in New Delhi could foster investment and technology partnerships, enhancing supply chain linkages. Verma reaffirmed India's commitment to a "stable, positive, constructive" relationship with Bangladesh amidst a complex geopolitical backdrop, while also addressing shared challenges like climate change. The robust trade relations position India as Bangladesh's largest trading partner, underscoring interdependence and mutual benefits derived from their cooperation.

Canada Unveils \$1.3B Fentanyl Border Initiative as Trump Halts Tariffs

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04-Feb-25

Recent developments highlight significant U.S.-Canada and U.S.-Mexico agreements aimed at combating fentanyl trafficking and related crises. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a USD 1.3 billion border initiative involving nearly 10,000 personnel to enhance detection and interception capabilities against fentanyl, while U.S. President Trump has paused tariffs on Canadian goods for 30 days, reflecting a cooperative approach. Concurrently, Trump also agreed to suspend proposed tariffs on Mexico for a month, with Mexico deploying 10,000 National Guard troops to its northern border to curb drug trafficking and unauthorized migration. Both nations are establishing joint security cooperation and working groups to tackle drug cartels. These strategies underscore a multifaceted effort to address both security and trade concerns, ultimately aiming for enhanced regional stability and safety.

US Air Force to Showcase at Aero India 2025 in Bengaluru

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04-Feb-25

Aero India 2025, scheduled from February 10-14 in Bengaluru, is set to be the largest and most technologically advanced aerospace exhibition in Asia. The event will focus on fostering international partnerships and promoting indigenous defense capabilities, with significant participation from over 800 exhibitors, including the U.S. Air Force, which will showcase various aircraft despite canceling F-35 demonstrations. The Indian Ministry of Defence has implemented upgrades at Air Force Station Yelahanka and introduced measures for enhanced digital connectivity, sustainability, and safety. Emphasizing innovation, the event will also facilitate collaborations between startups and established firms, positioning Aero India as a pivotal platform for global aerospace advancements while highlighting India's growing defense capabilities and strategic partnerships.

Fly Jinnah to Launch Direct Dhaka-Karachi Flights via India

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04-Feb-25

Fly Jinnah, a Karachi-based airline, is set to launch direct flights between Dhaka and Karachi, following a recent shipping link between Bangladesh and Pakistan. This move, approved by Bangladesh's Civil Aviation Authority, signifies a warming of relations, as evidenced by Bangladesh's recent deal to import rice from Pakistan and the lifting of visa restrictions. The

initiative aims to enhance connectivity and foster trade, tourism, and healthcare exchanges, with plans for Bangladesh's national carrier to also operate routes to London. Overall, these developments indicate a promising new era of bilateral cooperation between the two nations.

USAID Ends India Operations as Economic Growth Soars SHARE

04-Feb-25

The USAID has announced the cessation of its operations in India, a decision deemed to have negligible impact due to India's robust economic growth and evolving partnership with the US. Once a major aid recipient, India is now a key global player, notably in the Indo-Pacific region through initiatives like the Quad. The phased reduction of USAID funding reflects India's increasing self-reliance, with the planned \$140 million in fiscal support being minor compared to India's over \$600 billion budget. This shift signifies a maturation of US-India relations, emphasizing collaborative efforts on global challenges rather than traditional aid dependency.

Bhutan Army's COO meets Indian Defence Minister to boost ties SHARE

04-Feb-25

Chief Operations Officer of the Royal Bhutan Army, Lt Gen Batoo Tshering, visited India from February 2-5, 2025, where he met with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to discuss enhancing Bhutan's defense preparedness. Singh reaffirmed India's commitment to supply military equipment and support Bhutan's capability development, aligning with India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy. Lt Gen Tshering expressed gratitude for India's ongoing assistance in modernizing Bhutan's defense capabilities and training its forces. The discussions also touched on the sensitive situation in the Doklam plateau, reinforcing the strategic partnership between India and Bhutan. This visit underscores the importance of continued collaboration between the two nations to address mutual security concerns and promote regional peace and stability.

China Retaliates with Tariffs, Escalating Trade Tensions with U.S. SHARE

04-Feb-25

China has retaliated against the U.S. by imposing tariffs on various U.S. imports, igniting a renewed trade war amidst ongoing tensions over issues like drug trafficking. The Chinese government announced a 10% tariff on crude oil and additional tariffs on coal and

LNG, while also initiating investigations into U.S. companies. This escalating trade conflict raises concerns in global markets about prolonged instability. With the U.S. and China struggling to reach economic agreements, the likelihood of further tariffs remains high, indicating a complex geopolitical landscape that could affect supply chains and economic forecasts in both nations and beyond.

Russian Parliamentary Delegation Meets President Murmu to Strengthen Ties SHARE

04-Feb-25

A parliamentary delegation from Russia recently met with President Murmu, who emphasized the positive outcomes of ongoing engagements between India and Russia. She highlighted the importance of such interactions in strengthening cooperation and keeping the partnership relevant, noting the role of mechanisms like the Inter-Parliamentary Commission. Murmu advocated for increased involvement of women and youth parliamentarians from both nations, reflecting a commitment to inclusive diplomacy. This meeting underscores the strategic significance of India-Russia relations in the current geopolitical landscape, reinforcing mutual interests and collaboration in various sectors.

ISRO Adapts NVS-02 Operations After Thruster Valve Setback SHARE

04-Feb-25

ISRO is currently addressing the challenges posed by a thruster valve failure in the NVS-02 satellite, which remains in an elliptical geostationary transfer orbit, compromising its operational capabilities. Despite the issue, the satellite's systems, including communication with ground control, are functioning normally. ISRO is exploring alternative operational strategies to maximize the satellite's utility for critical positioning and navigation services, essential for both civilian and military applications in India. The situation underscores the complexities of satellite management in India's robust space program, reflecting ISRO's commitment to overcoming technical hurdles and enhancing operational resilience.

Union Budget 2025: Promising Growth, Yet Key Areas Lacking SHARE

04-Feb-25

The Union Budget 2025-26 aims to boost India's technology sector through significant allocations for innovation, digital infrastructure, and self-reliance,

including a ₹25,000 crore outlay for electronics manufacturing. However, experts note the absence of direct incentives for AI startups and semiconductor fabs, along with the lack of clear cybersecurity funding, which is crucial amid rising threats. While the budget is seen as a positive step towards a tech-driven economy, the effectiveness of its execution will be critical for achieving the intended growth and competitiveness in the global technology landscape. Enhanced focus on these missing areas would strengthen India's position further in the global tech order.

Jaishankar Dismisses Rahul Gandhi's Claims on Modi's U.S. Visit SHARE

04-Feb-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar refuted Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's claims that his December 2024 visit to the U.S. was to secure a Trump inauguration invite for Prime Minister Modi. Jaishankar clarified that he engaged with U.S. officials and conducted diplomatic meetings, emphasizing that Modi typically does not attend such events. BJP leaders criticized Gandhi's statements, asserting they undermine India's international standing. This exchange highlights the contentious political discourse surrounding India-U.S. relations, where accurate representation is crucial for maintaining diplomatic integrity and national pride, especially as India seeks to enhance its global partnerships and defense collaborations.

SC questions rationale for indefinite detention of Bangladeshi immigrants SHARE

04-Feb-25

The Supreme Court of India has questioned the rationale behind the indefinite detention of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants who have served their sentences under the Foreigners Act. The court sought clarification on the necessity of further nationality verification after conviction and highlighted a lack of progress in the case over the past 12 years. It urged the Union and West Bengal governments to provide updated data on the number of detained immigrants and to explain the delays in deportation processes. The court's inquiries reflect a push for more efficient handling of immigration cases, reinforcing India's commitment to rule of law while addressing humanitarian concerns.

Indian Netizens Playfully Call China's CH-YH1000 Drone "Fat Potato" SHARE

04-Feb-25

Indian netizens have humorously dubbed the Chinese CH-YH1000 drone the "Fat Potato" due to its bulky design, following its successful taxiing tests that indicate progress towards its maiden flight. This playful mockery contrasts with India's own advancements in unmanned aerial technology, highlighting a tit-for-tat between the two nations' aerospace developments. While the humor is prevalent, it also acknowledges China's significant strides in drone capabilities for logistics and military applications. Despite the jest, the CH-YH1000's potential use for long-duration flights and surveillance in contested areas is a notable concern, reflecting the competitive nature of drone technology between India and China.

India's Immigration Strategy Gains Praise Amid US Deportations SHARE

04-Feb-25

India's proactive approach towards illegal immigration has garnered praise following the US deportation of around 200 Indian migrants, highlighting the collaboration between Prime Minister Modi and President Trump. The Indian government reaffirms its commitment to cooperate in deportations while emphasizing the importance of streamlining legal migration channels, particularly for skilled workers through H-1B visas. External Affairs Minister Jaishankar has articulated India's consistent stance against illegal migration and the need to facilitate legal mobility, which is crucial for enhancing bilateral relations. This cooperation reflects India's strategic aim to strengthen ties with the US amidst ongoing discussions on broader security and trade issues.

DRDO's Dare to Dream 5.0 Challenge: Innovate Rocket Motor Design SHARE

04-Feb-25

The Technology Development Fund (TDF) under DRDO has launched the Dare to Dream 5.0 Challenge, inviting innovative solutions for rocket motor design using AI and ML. This initiative aims to improve the design and longevity assessments of Solid Rocket Motors (SRMs), vital for missile systems, by addressing failure modes like surface cracks, particle cracking, and de-bonding. The focus is on developing predictive models to enhance safety margins, as traditional methods have limitations in reliability predictions. This challenge underscores India's commitment to advancing its

defense capabilities through technology and innovation, fostering a robust defense ecosystem.

Indian Navy to Host Conclave for Quality Assurance in Shipbuilding



04-Feb-25

The Indian Navy will host a Quality Assurance (QA) Conclave on February 7, 2025, at the Manekshaw Convention Centre in New Delhi, focusing on collaborative quality assurance to strengthen the defense manufacturing ecosystem. Emphasizing the

Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, the conclave aims to enhance the Shipbuilding sector's operational efficiency and compliance with world-class standards through discussions on proactive quality control, risk mitigation, and project timelines. This event underscores the importance of fostering partnerships between government, industry, and quality assurance experts to ensure that India's naval platforms meet the highest operational readiness standards, thereby reinforcing national defense capabilities in a competitive geopolitical landscape.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
HAL	3600.0	3738.9	3580.0	3729.75	2467011	5.7	43.39	3860.31	4518.69
APOLLO	125.0	132.45	124.6	128.46	6495344	5.01	51.83	130.36	107.99
SIKA	2500.0	2575.0	2302.0	2398.65	15959	4.91	53.46	2307.98	2611.69
LT	3316.0	3449.0	3307.25	3439.15	4742516	4.56	45.34	3483.4	3599.13
BEL	276.0	286.0	275.9	284.5	29035155	3.78	52.46	274.37	288.17
NIBE	1319.9	1385.0	1302.6	1368.8	27111	3.72	39.63	1463.48	1749.77
DCXINDIA	312.8	321.65	310.1	319.45	276830	3.07	41.55	341.51	340.79
LOKESHMACH	274.25	295.0	274.25	282.15	66562	3.01	41.95	294.05	380.53
TANEJAERO	343.95	355.0	339.65	347.55	25678	2.95	33.68	378.38	489.3
BHARATFORG	1162.95	1199.1	1159.95	1171.9	1501122	2.88	40.85	1199.17	1462.73
AVANTEL	129.0	132.35	129.0	130.71	376777	2.86	40.36	135.48	-
SOLARINDS	9556.15	9835.0	9465.15	9749.75	64898	2.52	50.31	9578.29	10239.78
MIDHANI	300.0	314.9	297.5	306.3	1826452	2.36	42.01	318.55	398.44
PTC	138.9	140.79	137.06	139.54	1348773	1.86	45.45	139.41	193.6
ADANIENT	2278.9	2312.0	2267.55	2301.5	691187	1.75	44.27	2340.78	2888.43
HIGHENE	538.0	538.0	524.05	530.8	2485	1.54	33.44	569.99	708.37
ASTRAMICRO	696.0	723.9	695.6	700.05	133728	1.43	40.69	737.95	821.31
PREMEXPLN	432.3	437.7	429.95	433.65	60568	1.3	42.91	450.86	544.1
DATAPATNS	2009.95	2047.15	1967.55	2024.75	158237	1.23	39.11	2157.66	2675.03
BDL	1179.5	1219.95	1179.45	1191.45	917401	1.14	47.6	1224.2	1255.16
ROSSELLIND	70.9	70.9	68.51	70.25	9760	1.06	42.18	70.51	319.77
GRSE	1548.4	1588.3	1490.0	1521.75	1684885	0.92	47.9	1510.23	1680.46
CFE	575.95	582.0	556.0	572.0	21200	0.78	31.97	634.7	650.84
ZENTEC	1646.2	1670.0	1600.0	1646.15	447086	0.38	32.0	1982.31	1635.39
COCHINSHIP	1435.0	1443.7	1390.0	1412.4	436871	0.13	43.78	1450.11	1784.51
HBLPOWER	581.8	585.0	568.75	574.8	801209	-0.22	50.82	552.92	576.46
AZAD	1520.0	1520.0	1458.3	1485.35	227172	-0.33	42.44	1562.95	1591.11
IDEAFORGE	461.5	472.3	456.1	458.85	107685	-0.54	27.89	529.45	669.15
PARAS	1017.9	1022.95	990.1	997.45	131645	-0.56	45.16	1039.52	1083.66
KRISHNADEF	632.9	637.5	601.25	627.3	162250	-0.88	36.24	697.92	696.01
MTARTECH	1572.0	1590.7	1550.0	1554.5	76502	-0.94	43.32	1611.46	1769.62
LMW	15787.95	15899.95	15325.0	15488.9	1822	-1.0	40.96	15837.96	16243.33
BEML	3499.0	3556.7	3391.95	3424.2	269583	-1.24	40.15	3598.21	4030.09
MARINE	211.2	216.95	202.11	208.78	155773	-1.36	39.0	221.22	212.58
MAZDOCK	2270.0	2298.75	2170.0	2196.25	3509717	-1.7	44.49	2288.53	2094.03
TEMBO	611.1	649.85	603.15	603.15	69309	-5.0	33.24	707.69	447.83