

# Defence Professionals News & Analysis

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

### Indian Army Strengthens Air Defense with New Igla-S Missiles Share

04-May-25

The Indian Army has bolstered its air defense capabilities with the recent procurement of Russian-origin Igla-S shoulder-fired missiles amid escalating tensions with Pakistan. This contract, valued at approximately Rs 260 crore, is part of an emergency procurement effort to enhance protection against aerial threats. Additionally, the Army is seeking to acquire more launchers and advanced versions of air defense systems, reflecting a commitment to counter the increasing use of drones by adversaries. The Indian defense forces are also enhancing their drone detection capabilities, showcasing their proactive strategy to maintain operational readiness and safeguard national security in volatile regions.

### Ordnance Factories Cancel Employee Leaves for National Security Share

04-May-25

In response to rising India-Pakistan tensions, key ordnance factories, including the Ordnance Factory Chanda in Maharashtra and the Ordnance Factory Khamaria in Jabalpur, have cancelled employee leaves to maintain operational readiness and meet ambitious production targets. This internal directive, aimed at uninterrupted ensuring arms production amidst heightened security concerns following recent incidents. affects thousands of workers and underscores the urgency of fulfilling both domestic and international defense commitments. While there is no formal central government order mandating these measures, the factories emphasize the necessity of maintaining a sufficient workforce to support national security efforts. The situation reflects India's proactive approach to enhancing its defense capabilities while managing geopolitical challenges, reinforcing the commitment to operational preparedness as critical to national security interests.

### India successfully tests stratospheric airship for military surveillance. S SHARE

04-May-25

India has successfully conducted the maiden flight trials of a stratospheric airship platform designed to enhance military surveillance capabilities, a significant achievement as only a few countries possess such technology. The trials, overseen by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) at Sheopur, Madhya Pradesh, involved launching the airship to an altitude of around 17 km, with onboard sensors collecting data for future developments. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasized that this indigenous capability will bolster India's intelligence, and reconnaissance surveillance, (ISR) particularly amid rising tensions with Pakistan. This advancement reflects India's commitment strengthening infrastructure its defense and technological self-reliance.

### FIIs Boost Stakes in Indian Defense Stocks by Up to 3,931% SHARE

04-May-25

Data for Q4 FY25 reveal that FIIs dramatically increased their stakes in key Indian defence firms, with Paras Defence & Space Technologies' holding jumping from 0.13 percent in FY24 to 5.24 percent—a 3,930.7 percent surge; Apollo Micro Systems saw its FII share rise from 0.19 percent in September 2024 to 0.93 percent by March 2025, while Bharat Dynamics' holding climbed from 2.95 percent to 3.25 percent over the same period. BEML recorded a modest uptick from 6.7 percent to 7.3 percent, and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers witnessed FII exposure edge up to 3.85 percent from 3.71 percent. Sika Interplant Systems also attracted fresh foreign interest, with FII stake rising to 3.11 percent from 2.77 percent. This record inflow mirrors India's 9.5 percent defence budget increase to ₹6.81 lakh crore for FY26-its highest ever-with a significant push for capital outlay and indigenous manufacturing

under initiatives such as iDEX and the PLI scheme, driven by regional security dynamics and self-reliance mandates.

### India's Defence Ministry Moves to Acquire Next-Gen VSHORADS SHARE

04-May-25

The Indian Defence Ministry has initiated the procurement of a next-generation Very Short Range Air Defence System (Vshorads-NG) to enhance air defence capabilities in diverse terrains and all-weather conditions. The request for proposal includes acquiring 48 launchers, 85 missiles, and a missile test station, emphasizing a minimum of 50% indigenous content. The Vshorads-NG is designed to counter aerial threats, including fighter jets and helicopters, with a range of 6 km. This initiative reflects India's commitment to strengthening its indigenous defense capabilities and improving operational readiness against evolving air threats, ensuring effective terminal and point defense across various operational environments.

### India Enhances Maritime Surveillance with \$131M HawkEye 360 Deal Share

04-May-25

India has secured a \$131 million deal with the US for HawkEye 360 technology, enhancing its maritime surveillance capabilities amidst rising Indo-Pacific tensions. This advanced satellite technology will bolster India's maritime domain awareness by detecting 'dark' ships that evade detection, aiding in monitoring smuggling, illegal fishing, and piracy in the Indian Ocean. The integration of HawkEye 360 will complement existing assets like the P8i aircraft and align with QUAD's initiative for enhanced Indo-Pacific maritime awareness. This deal not only strengthens US-India strategic ties but also empowers India to better ensure navigation safety and respond to maritime threats effectively.

### IAF Boosts Defense with Pseudo Satellites and New Army Missiles SHARE

04-May-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to enhance its capabilities with the acquisition of pseudo satellites (HAPS) and the Indian Army will receive the next-generation Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS). These systems are crucial for persistent surveillance, intelligence gathering, and air defense amid rising tensions with Pakistan. The HAPS platforms will provide continuous monitoring, communication, and electronic signal interception,

while the VSHORADS missile system offers operational flexibility and advanced targeting capabilities. These procurements align with India's Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative to promote self-reliance in defense, although immediate military readiness may not be affected due to the acquisition process timelines.

### India's Advanced Air Defence Outshines Pakistan's HQ-9 System S SHARE

04-May-25

India's multi-layered air defence architecture, featuring systems like the S-400 and Barak-8, significantly outmatches Pakistan's capabilities, primarily the HQ-9. The S-400's 400 km range and advanced AESA radar technology provide superior detection and engagement capabilities, allowing India to dominate aerial threats effectively. In contrast, Pakistan's reliance on older systems and Chinese technology limits effectiveness against high-speed threats. India's integrated defence network fosters strategic depth and resilience, enhancing its deterrence posture in the region. Ultimately, India's investments in indigenous systems bolster self-reliance while ensuring a robust air defence strategy capable of neutralizing potential adversarial incursions.

### Kaveri Engine Program Gains Funding to Advance Ghatak and Tejas Mk2 SHARE

04-May-25

India's Kaveri engine program is set to receive new funding, enhancing the development of the Kaveri Derivative Engine (KDE) for the Ghatak UCAV and Kaveri 2.0 for future Tejas variants. Defence Minister Rajnath Sinah's announcement underscores commitment to self-reliance in military aviation technology, aiming to reduce dependency on foreign engines like the GE F404 and F414. Significant recent progress includes successful high-altitude tests of the KDE and ongoing efforts to achieve a thrust of 90 kN with Kaveri 2.0. This funding boost aligns with the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, emphasizing the strategic necessity for India to develop its own aero-engine capabilities.

### Indian Navy Receives 200 Advanced Remote-Controlled Life Buoys Share

04-May-25

Saif Automations Services LLP has delivered over 200 innovative remote-controlled life buoys to the Indian Navy, enhancing maritime safety significantly. Developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence, these self-propelled devices can operate for up to 90

minutes, reach victims faster than traditional methods, and ensure the safety of both victims and rescuers. With features like high visibility, robust communication, and versatility for various rescue scenarios, the buoys embody the spirit of the Make in India initiative and represent a transformative leap in water rescue technology. The Indian Navy's adoption underscores their strategic importance in enhancing operational capabilities and promoting indigenous defense innovation.

### Embraer Eyes India as Asia-Pacific Hub for C-390 Assembly Line S SHARE

04-May-25

Embraer has proposed establishing a final assembly line for its C-390 Millennium tactical transport aircraft in India, contingent upon winning the Indian Air Force's (IAF) Medium Transport Aircraft tender. This initiative aims to fulfill India's requirement for 60-80 aircraft and position India as a regional hub for exports and maintenance in the Asia-Pacific. By partnering with Mahindra Defence Systems, Embraer emphasizes local production under the Make in India initiative, creating a self-sustaining ecosystem with training programs and MRO services. This move not only meets India's transport needs but also leverages its strategic location and skilled workforce, enhancing its role in regional defense capabilities.

### Astra MkII: India's Advanced Air-to-Air Missile Set for 2026 Share

04-May-25

India's Defence Research Development and Organisation (DRDO) is enhancing aerial combat capabilities with the Astra MkII, a next-generation air-toair missile set for operational readiness by 2026. With a range of 140-160 km, it features advanced technologies like a dual-pulse rocket motor and indigenous RF seeker, boosting precision and maneuverability against targets. The missile is designed for integration across various IAF platforms, promoting self-reliance in defense technology and reducing dependency on foreign suppliers. The cost-effectiveness of the Astra MkII, at approximately Rs 78 crore per unit, positions it as a strategic asset for the Indian defense forces, underscoring India's commitment to indigenous military capabilities.

### GTRE Demands Full IPR and ToT for AMCA Engine Development S SHARE

04-May-25

India's Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) has mandated 100% Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Transfer of Technology (ToT) for the engine powering the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), highlighting its commitment to self-reliance in defense technology. Rolls-Royce leads with a proposal that aligns with India's goals, offering a clean-slate engine design and full IPR, while Safran and GE's offers fall short due to partial IPR retention. This strategic stance reflects lessons from past collaborations, ensuring India retains control over critical technologies, crucial for future advancements in its defense capabilities and aerospace industry, positioning the nation as a potential global player in aero-engine manufacturing.

### Pakistan Secures 240 Limited-Range PL-15E Missiles, Leaked Docs

Show Share

04-May-25

A leaked document reveals that Pakistan has acquired 240 PL-15E missiles with a limited range of 145 kilometers, contrary to claims of procuring the advanced PL-15 variant used by the Chinese military. This deal, worth approximately USD 1.4 billion, includes 20 J-10CE fighter jets and highlights China's role as a major defense supplier to Pakistan. The downgrade of the missile's capabilities raises questions about the effectiveness of the PAF's air-to-air combat potential. This revelation underscores India's strategic advantage in the region, reinforcing the need for continued investment in advanced defense systems to maintain regional security and deterrence against potential threats.

# India's Defence Ministry Seeks Light Specialist Vehicles Amid Tensions Share

04-May-25

The Indian Ministry of Defence has issued a Request for Information (RFI) to procure Light Specialist Vehicles (LSVs) for the Indian Army, focusing on enhancing operational capabilities along northern borders, especially in high-altitude areas like Ladakh. These vehicles are vital for rapid deployment, reconnaissance, and counter-insurgency operations, ensuring adequate protection against small arms fire. The LSVs must accommodate at least four soldiers, be lightweight for airlifting, and withstand specific ballistic threats, reflecting the urgent need for agility and security in challenging terrains amidst rising tensions

with Pakistan and China. This initiative underscores India's commitment to modernizing its defense forces and addressing emerging security challenges effectively.

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

### India Boosts Defense Self-Reliance After Pahalgam Attack SHARE

04-May-25

After the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22, 2025, which killed 26 civilians near Baisaran Valley, India has accelerated its defense self-reliance drive. The Defence Acquisition Council approved 26 capital procurement contracts totalling ₹85,000 crore in 2024-25, of which only three involve foreign vendors, directing 95 percent of spending to domestic manufacturers. This record indigenous procurement surge marked a 152 percent increase from the previous year's ₹13,900 crore in local spending, with ₹35,000 crore of the capital budget utilized. Under the Make-in-India Aatmanirbhar Bharat programs, initiatives like the Army's Make-II projects have fostered homegrown capabilities in high-end weapon systems, ammunition, training platforms, and emerging domains such as unmanned aerial systems. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has likewise prioritized homegrown aero-engine development, stressing co-development frameworks for the Kaveri engine project and partnerships between DRDO, private industry, and foreign OEMs for assured technology transfer. Economists estimate that such outlays will generate broad economic multipliers, creating skilled and unskilled jobs across DPSUs, private firms, and SMEs, while bolstering sectors from precision engineering to advanced materials. Amid escalating regional tensions and crossborder hostilities, including missile tests by Pakistan and suspended diplomatic ties, this strategic shift strengthens India's operational readiness through quicker domestic supply chains and tailored equipment, cementing a self-sustaining defense ecosystem critical for autonomous deterrence.

### Rajnath Singh: India will decisively counter threats to security Share

04-May-25

Defense Minister Rajnath Singh emphasized the government's commitment to work closely with the armed forces to respond decisively to threats against India, particularly in the wake of a recent terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. During a security

review meeting led by IGP Kashmir V K Birdi, key focus areas included intelligence gathering, threat assessments, and enhancing inter-agency coordination among police, Army, and intelligence units. The meeting highlighted the necessity for seamless information sharing and operational readiness to maintain peace and stability in the Valley, showcasing the government's proactive stance in ensuring security in sensitive regions

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

### IAF Chief AP Singh discusses security with PM Modi amid tensions. SHARE

04-May-25

Amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan following a terror attack in Pahalgam, Air Chief Marshal AP Singh met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, echoing a similar meeting held by Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi the previous day. The government has underscored its resolve to combat terrorism, granting the armed forces the autonomy to determine the response's mode, targets, and timing. In addition to military readiness, India is considering actions such as suspending the Indus Water Treaty to signal its disapproval of Pakistan's support for terrorism. With bipartisan support for decisive action against the perpetrators, the Indian government committed to a strong stance on national security and regional stability, reinforcing its determination to protect its citizens and interests.

### Pakistan Threatens to Target Indian Projects on Indus River SHARE

04-May-25

Recent tensions between India and Pakistan have escalated following India's suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) in response to a terror attack in Pahalgam. Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has issued stern warnings, stating any Indian infrastructure built on the Indus River would be targeted, framing such actions as aggression. Pakistan's ambassador to Russia underscored this by threatening a full-spectrum military response, including nuclear options, if India disrupts its water supply. The situation is compounded by reciprocal economic sanctions and military posturing, including missile tests from Pakistan. While India maintains an upper hand as the upstream nation, its current infrastructure lacks the capacity to significantly affect Pakistan's water flow. The international community is urging restraint, aware

of the potential for a larger conflict over these critical resources amid rising geopolitical tensions.

### Rajnath Singh to Miss Russia Visit Amid Rising LoC Tensions Share

04-May-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will skip the Victory Day parade in Russia due to escalating tensions along the Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan following a recent terror attack in Pahalgam. His deputy is expected to represent India instead. The situation has intensified with Pakistan's military violating the ceasefire for nine consecutive days, leading to significant cross-border exchanges and the deployment of reinforcements along the LoC. The Indian Army's measured counter-fire demonstrates its preparedness to respond effectively to provocations, reflecting India's commitment to national security amid rising hostilities from Pakistan.

### Navy Chief Discusses Strategic Response with PM Modi Amid Tensions Share

04-May-25

Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi amid escalating tensions with Pakistan following a deadly terrorist attack in Pahalgam. The meeting underscores India's proactive military strategy, with the armed forces now given complete operational freedom to respond. This follows a comprehensive review led by Modi with military chiefs, indicating a strong stance against cross-border terrorism. The Indian government has also implemented significant measures, including suspending mail exchanges and banning imports from Pakistan, reflecting its commitment to national security and a robust counter-terrorism approach. These actions signal India's determination to address threats decisively and maintain maritime security.

### India Prioritizes Strengths in Africa Over Competition with China Share

04-May-25

India is enhancing its engagement with Africa, emphasizing its strengths in skills training and low-cost solutions rather than competing with China, as stated by MEA Secretary Dammu Ravi. During the Angolan President's visit, India approved a USD 200 million Line of Credit for defense procurement and signed multiple MoUs, underscoring Angola's strategic role as the African Union chair. Both nations support UN reform, India's global influence reflecting rising commitment to capacity building, infrastructure partnerships, and people-centric development in Africa.

This approach not only fosters bilateral ties but also strengthens India's presence in the global South.

### Rajnath Singh and Japan's Gen Nakatani to Discuss Defense Ties in New Delhi Share

04-May-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is set to host his Japanese counterpart, Gen Nakatani, for bilateral talks in New Delhi on May 5, 2025, amidst rising tensions between India and Pakistan following a recent terror attack. This meeting aims to deepen bilateral defence cooperation and address regional security concerns, particularly regarding China's assertiveness in the South China Sea. The discussions will focus on enhancing defence industrial cooperation and reviewing strategic situations in the East and South China Seas. This engagement builds on their previous meeting in November 2024 and reflects the growing alignment of strategic interests between India and Japan as part of Special Strategic and Global Partnership, emphasizing the importance of peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

### India Gears Up for Multi-Domain Threats, Says Rajnath Singh SHARE

04-May-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasized India's significant advancements in defense capabilities, asserting the nation's aim to become a leading military power. He highlighted the need for preparedness against multi-domain threats, including cyber and space warfare, while advocating for indigenisation and reduced dependency on foreign suppliers. Key reforms include the corporatisation of ordnance factories and a substantial increase in domestic defense production, targeting Rs3 lakh crore by 2029. Singh also noted India's growing defense exports, with aspirations to bolster global competitiveness while ensuring national security. Under the Modi government, India's defense sector is poised for unprecedented growth, reinforcing its role in global security architecture.

### Pakistan Warns of Nuclear Response Amid Rising Tensions with India S SHARE

04-May-25

The standoff between India and Pakistan has escalated following the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26, prompting Pakistan's envoy to warn of a potential nuclear response if India strikes. Pakistan has claimed to possess credible intelligence of an imminent Indian strike, leading to heightened threats and a breakdown in diplomatic protocols, such as Pakistan suspending the

Simla Agreement. In retaliation, India has taken measures like suspending the Indus Waters Treaty and canceling visas for Pakistani nationals. This escalation reflects a dangerous cycle of rhetoric and strategic maneuvering, with both nations at risk of missteps that could lead to open conflict, though India's position remains focused on countering terrorism and safeguarding national security.

### Putin hopes nuclear weapons won't be needed in Ukraine conflict Share

04-May-25

Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed hope that nuclear weapons will not be needed in the ongoing Ukraine conflict, asserting that Russia has sufficient strength to achieve its objectives. Amid ongoing hostilities, he announced a unilateral 72-hour ceasefire to coincide with Victory Day, although Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy criticized this as a mere pretext for celebration. The conflict remains volatile, exemplified by a recent Russian drone attack on Kyiv that wounded 11 people. This situation underscores the precarious balance of power in the region and highlights the challenges of achieving a genuine ceasefire amid competing narratives and continued military actions.

### Taiwan Spots Chinese Aircraft and Naval Forces Near Its Borders Share

04-May-25

Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence reported eight sorties of Chinese aircraft and seven naval vessels detected near its territory, with six aircraft crossing the median line of the Taiwan Strait into Taiwan's Air Defence Identification Zones. This escalation is part of China's ongoing assertiveness over Taiwan, which it claims as its territory despite Taiwan's independent governance since 1949. A recent survey indicated that over half of the Chinese population opposes using force for unification, suggesting a divide between government actions and public sentiment. This situation highlights the delicate balance of power in the region and the importance of continued monitoring by Taiwan and its allies.

# Sri Lanka to Present Defense Pact with India in Parliament Stare

04-Mav-25

Sri Lankan President Dissanayake announced that a Defence Cooperation Agreement with India will be presented in Parliament, marking the first formalized defense framework between the two nations. This five-

year pact includes provisions for military exchanges, joint exercises, and cooperation in the defense industry, emphasizing shared security interests and Sri Lanka's commitment to not allow its territory to threaten India. In light of increasing Chinese influence in Sri Lanka, this agreement aims to enhance regional security and institutionalize military collaboration. Overall, the pact signifies a shift towards a balanced, respectful partnership, addressing mutual concerns while promoting peace and stability in the Indian Ocean region.

### Pak Army's Anxiety Grows Over Possible Indian Retaliation Share

04-May-25

Recent intercepts disclosed by Indian intelligence reveal Pakistan Army is on high alert, recalling units from rest posts, canceling leaves, and massing artillery along the Line of Control to brace against expected Indian reprisals following the Pahalgam terror strike on April 22. Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif publicly warned of an imminent Indian incursion within the next 24-36 hours, even as Pakistan test-fired its Abdali surface-to-surface ballistic missile demonstrate operational readiness. Pakistani commands have issued orders to front-line units to maintain 24/7 vigilance with guns trained across the border, stockpile 155 mm ammunition, and coordinate with mountain artillery divisions codenamed "Zoe" and "Markhor." Civil authorities in Pakistani-administered Kashmir have allocated an emergency fund of one billion rupees, closed religious seminaries for ten days, and mobilized the Pakistan Red Crescent to prepare shelters and supplies for potential displacement. Continued unprovoked firing by Pakistan has resulting in cross-border small arms and artillery exchanges, have punctuated the fragile ceasefire amid diplomatic expulsions and suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty. Military analysts interpret Pakistan's reliance on reararea artillery and symbolic missile displays as evidence of eroded frontline confidence and fear of a determined Indian response.

### Japan Invites India to Join Next-Gen Fighter Program Against China SHARE

04-May-25

Unconfirmed reports suggest Japan has invited India to join its Next-Generation Fighter Program (GCAP) to counter China's military advances, particularly its J-36 fighter. This collaboration aligns with India's Make in India initiative and could enhance its defense capabilities while promoting technology transfer and

local manufacturing. However, concerns about India's defense ties with Russia and potential technology security risks complicate the partnership. India's decision will hinge on balancing the urgency of modernizing its air force, domestic manufacturing aspirations, and geopolitical considerations, potentially redefining regional alliances and the balance of power in the Indo-Pacific. This opportunity underscores India's growing significance in regional security dynamics.

### India's Agalega Island Base: A Strategic Boost in the Indian Ocean SHARE

04-May-25

India has established a strategic military base on Agalega Island, Mauritius, enhancing its presence in the Indian Ocean and countering China's influence through its Necklace of Diamonds strategy. Inaugurated in February 2024, the base features a 3,000-meter airstrip for P-8I Poseidon aircraft and a deep-water jetty, facilitating maritime surveillance and power projection. This development strengthens India-Mauritius ties and positions Agalega as a key hub for monitoring critical trade routes in the southwest Indian Ocean, essential for securing global commerce and reinforcing regional stability, while also complementing India's broader strategic alliances in the region against the backdrop of China's expanding maritime footprint.

#### **Military Operations**

# Pak Ceasefire Violations Continue; Indian Army Strikes Back Share

04-May-25

A series of unprovoked ceasefire violations by Pakistan along the Line of Control (LoC), marked the 10th consecutive day of such incidents. The Indian Army has effectively responded to these violations, which have escalated beyond localized sectors to encompass multiple areas, including Kupwara, Baramulla, Poonch, and others. The recent surge in hostilities is linked to the Pahalgam terrorist attack, prompting India to initiate punitive measures against Pakistan, including suspending the Indus Water Treaty and downgrading diplomatic ties. The Indian forces are well-prepared, having modernized their artillery for better range and impact, indicating a robust defensive posture in response to Pakistan's aggressive maneuvers. This situation underscores the ongoing tensions and the need for vigilance from Indian security forces as they continue to safeguard national interests against external threats.

### Tragic accident claims lives of three soldiers in J-K gorge crash share

04-May-25

Three Indian Army personnel tragically lost their lives when their vehicle skidded off the road and fell into a 700-feet deep gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district. The accident occurred while a convoy was traveling along national highway 44, highlighting the challenging conditions faced by security forces in the region. Immediate rescue operations involving the army, police, and local volunteers were launched, but unfortunately, the three soldiers—Amit Kumar, Sujeet Kumar, and Man Bahadur—were found dead at the scene. This incident underscores the inherent risks faced by the military in mountainous terrains, reinforcing the importance of road safety measures and the need for ongoing support for our armed forces operating in difficult environments.

#### BSF Detains Pakistani Ranger Amid Heightened Border Security Share

04-May-25

The Border Security Force (BSF) has apprehended a Pakistani Ranger attempting to infiltrate Indian territory near Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan, triggering heightened security measures. The ranger, unarmed and under interrogation, raises concerns about potential espionage or reconnaissance activities by Pakistani forces, especially following recent terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir. With increased patrolling and vigilance in border areas, Indian security agencies are closely monitoring the situation, emphasizing the seriousness of this breach. Diplomatic channels may be activated for formal protest if deliberate violations are confirmed, reflecting the ongoing tensions in India-Pakistan relations and the need for robust border security measures.

# Pakistan's artillery shortage limits war capability to just four days. S SHARE

04-May-25

Pakistan's military cannot sustain high-intensity combat for more than four days due to a critical shortage of artillery ammunition caused by extensive munitions exports to Ukraine and Israel amid economic pressures. Between February and March 2023, Pakistan Ordnance Factories shipped tens of thousands of roundsincluding 42,000 122 mm BM-21 rockets and 60,000 155 mm howitzer shells-earning \$364 million but severely depleting domestic stockpiles. Arms exports surged from \$13 million in FY 2021–22 to \$415 million in FY 2022–23-a 3,000 percent increase-yet the

financial windfall has come at the cost of operational readiness. Covert supplies of 155 mm shells to Israel further drained strategic reserves, despite Islamabad's public neutrality. Outdated production facilities and surging global demand have hampered the ability to replenish critical munitions, leaving key systems like the M109 howitzer, BM-21 rocket launchers, and even new SH-15 Mounted Gun Systems understocked or idle. To address this, Pakistan partnered with Turkish defense firm Repkon and Wah Industries Limited-via a technology-transfer agreement signed at IDEAS 2024 at Karachi-to establish a domestic production and filling line for NATO-standard 155 mm shells at Wah Cantonment. Former military leaders, including ex-Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa, have acknowledged the inability to sustain prolonged conflict-especially against a strengthening India. Debated at the Special Corps Commanders Conference on May 2, 2025, this crisis underscores Pakistan's vulnerability as its military elite profit while its conventional deterrence capabilities are compromised.

### Ex-military chiefs urge cohesive strategy for India's defense readiness S SHARE

04-Mav-25

India's former military chiefs emphasized the need for a cohesive national security strategy, highlighting the importance of inter-ministerial cooperation and the Agnipath scheme for human resource reform. They underscored the urgency of enhancing India's maritime capabilities for blue water operations and called for increased indigenous shipbuilding capacity. Technological advancements, particularly information warfare, autonomous systems, directed energy weapons, were identified as crucial for future conflicts. The focus on atmanirbharta (selfreliance) is vital, stressing the need for innovation and rapid production capabilities in defense to meet evolving challenges effectively. These insights reflect a comprehensive approach to strengthening India's defense posture amidst contemporary geopolitical dynamics.

### Leh Army Camp Fire Contained; No Casualties Reported S SHARE

04-May-25

A significant fire broke out at an Army camp near Degree College in Leh, prompting a rapid response from local police, Indian Army personnel, and firefighters. Thanks to their swift actions, the blaze was quickly contained, with no casualties or injuries reported. The incident highlights the preparedness and efficiency of

the Indian Army in crisis situations, ensuring the safety of personnel and the integrity of vital military infrastructure. The exact cause of the fire remains undetermined, but the successful management of the incident underscores the importance of quick emergency responses in maintaining operational readiness in sensitive regions like Leh.

### India's Central Asia Base Sparks Fear of Airstrikes in Pakistan Stark

04-May-25

India's strategic presence in Tajikistan, particularly via a lesser-known airbase, has instilled significant fear in Pakistan, as Prime Minister Modi has granted the Indian Army the autonomy to conduct airstrikes against Pakistan if necessary. This military readiness is supported by Pakistan's weak air defenses along its western border with Afghanistan, leaving it vulnerable to potential Indian operations. India's long-standing military ties in the region date back to its support for the Northern Alliance during the Afghan civil war, which enhances its operational advantage. Consequently, the prospect of India executing airstrikes from Central Asia poses a formidable challenge for Pakistan's defense strategy.

### Israeli Cabinet to decide on escalating military action in Gaza. Share

04-May-25

Israeli Cabinet ministers are set to vote on expanding military operations in the Gaza Strip as the humanitarian crisis intensifies, with the Israeli military mobilizing thousands of reserve soldiers. Following a recent missile attack from Iranian-backed Houthi rebels. Israel faces ongoing threats while it responds to Hamas-led attacks that initiated the conflict, which has resulted in significant casualties in Gaza. Israeli officials emphasize the need for a "total victory" against Hamas, with Defense Minister Katz promising severe retaliation against aggressors. The underscores the complex dynamics of regional security and the dire humanitarian conditions affecting millions in Gaza.

### Ukraine Makes History by Downing Russian Jet with Sea Drone Share

04-May-25

Ukraine has reportedly achieved a historic milestone by downing a Russian Su-30 fighter jet using a maritime drone, a first in military history. This strike, executed by Ukraine's Defence Intelligence, occurred off the coast of the strategic port city of Novorossiisk. Following the

attack, Russia responded with a wave of drone strikes on Ukrainian cities, resulting in civilian injuries and extensive damage. As the conflict intensifies, President Zelenskyy has called for stronger international support for air defenses. The evolving nature of warfare, particularly with the use of maritime drones, highlights both the innovations in military strategy and the ongoing humanitarian toll of the conflict.

#### **Terrorism and Counterterrorism**

### Two Arrested in Amritsar for Spying, Linked to Pakistani Intel Share

04-May-25

Punjab Police have arrested two individuals, Palak Sher Masih and Suraj Masih, in Amritsar for allegedly leaking sensitive information about army cantonments and air bases, with links to Pakistani intelligence operatives. The arrests followed a counter-espionage operation, highlighting the ongoing threats posed by foreign intelligence agencies to India's national security. The investigation, initiated under the Official Secrets Act, is uncover further critical expected to emphasizing the need for vigilance against espionage activities. This incident underscores the importance of robust internal security measures to safeguard sensitive military information and protect national interests against external threats.

### Modi pledges decisive action against terrorism and its supporters. Share

04-May-25

Following the deadly Pahalgam terror attack, Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized India's unwavering commitment to combat terrorism and its backers during a joint press conference with Angolan President Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco. Modi's remarks underscored a policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism, coinciding with punitive measures against Pakistan, including a ban on imports and suspension of postal services. The attack, linked to the Pakistanbased Resistance Front, has escalated tensions, prompting India to strengthen security measures and enhance diplomatic efforts to isolate Pakistan internationally. Modi's proactive statements, supported by Angola, reflect India's multidimensional strategy against terrorism, aiming for accountability and regional stability while fostering international cooperation in counter-terrorism efforts.

# Rajnath Singh vows strong retaliation against threats post-Pahalgam

attack 🕲 share

04-May-25

Following the deadly Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 lives, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has vowed a "befitting reply" to those who threaten India, emphasizing his commitment to national security under Prime Minister Modi's leadership. In a public address, Singh highlighted the dual role of Indian soldiers and sages in protecting both the nation's physical and spiritual integrity. India has already taken significant steps against Pakistan, including banning imports and suspending postal services, as well as suspending the Indus Waters Treaty. Prime Minister Modi has also granted the armed forces full operational freedom to respond to the attack, reinforcing a national resolve to decisively combat terrorism. This unified stance showcases India's commitment to safeguarding its sovereignty and responding robustly to external threats.

### Jaishankar and Lavrov Address Pahalgam Terror Attack Aftermath

04-May-25

Following the deadly Pahalgam terror attack on April 22, 2025, which resulted in the deaths of 26 civilians, predominantly Hindu tourists, India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar engaged in discussions with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov to address escalating tensions with Pakistan. Jaishankar emphasized the necessity for justice against the perpetrators, while Lavrov urged for the resolution of disagreements through diplomatic channels. referencing the Simla Agreement and Lahore Declaration. In response to the attack, India has implemented significant diplomatic measures, including suspending the SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme for Pakistan and halting all trade and mail exchanges with the country. This dialogue underscores the importance of international partnerships in combating terrorism and maintaining regional stability while reinforcing India's commitment to accountability and justice for the victims.

### Huthi Rebels Claim Missile Attack on Israel's Main Airport SHARE

04-May-25

Yemen's Huthi rebels claimed responsibility for a missile attack on Israel's Ben Gurion Airport, stating the action supported Palestinians amid ongoing tensions following Hamas's recent strikes. The Huthis asserted that their missile successfully hit its target, although

Israeli defenses intercepted most attacks. The incident caused temporary disruptions in air traffic, with Israeli authorities confirming a missile impact near the airport but not clarifying its origin. The Huthis warned international airlines about the dangers of operating flights to the airport, highlighting an escalation in hostile activities from non-state actors in the region, which poses a challenge to regional stability and security for Israel.

### Maoists Torch Vehicles and Drilling Machines in Jharkhand Attack S SHARE

04-May-25

In Jharkhand's Latehar district, Maoists allegedly torched six vehicles and two drilling machines in Turisat village, prompting police investigations and search operations. The incident occurred late Saturday night, with local laborers reporting that armed individuals in Maoist attire looted their mobile phones before setting the vehicles ablaze. Authorities suspect that a splinter group of the banned CPI (Maoists) may be involved, highlighting ongoing security challenges in the region. This act underscores the persistent threat posed by necessitating Maoist insurgents, strengthened counterinsurgency measures by Indian security forces to protect local communities and maintain law and order.

#### Omar Abdullah and PM Modi Discuss Security Post Pahalgam Attack Share

04-May-25

Following the deadly Pahalgam terror attack attributed to Islamist militants, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah met with Prime Minister Modi to discuss the security situation and the impacts on tourism and communal harmony. This attack has intensified tensions with Pakistan, leading to increased military activity along the Line of Control and prompting a united political front against terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. Abdullah expressed a personal sense of responsibility for tourist safety and emphasized the need to restore confidence in the region amidst ongoing investigations and heightened security measures. The incident has not only caused tragic loss but also raised serious concerns about the stability and governance in Jammu and Kashmir.

# UK Backs India in Terrorism Fight, Strengthens Cultural Ties Share

04-May-25

UK Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Lisa Nandy, affirmed the UK's solidarity with India in its fight

against terrorism during her recent visit, expressing condolences for recent attacks. She emphasized the long-standing relationship between the two nations and highlighted a new cultural cooperation agreement aimed at enhancing collaboration in creative industries. Nandy also expressed enthusiasm for India's upcoming hosting of the Women's Cricket World Cup, noting its potential to inspire young women in the UK. This visit signifies strengthening ties between India and the UK, reflecting a mutual commitment to combatting terrorism and advancing cultural cooperation.

### Pakistani Espionage Targets Indian Navy's Aircraft Carriers S SHARE

04-May-25

Recent espionage activities by Pakistani intelligence have targeted the Indian Navy's aircraft carriers, specifically INS Vikrant and INS Vikramaditya, through impersonation and honeytrap tactics aimed at extracting sensitive information. Following the arrest of three individuals for leaking classified details earlier in 2025, these incidents coincide with heightened tensions between India and Pakistan following a terrorist attack attributed to Pakistan-backed elements. The Indian Navy has responded by issuing strict directives safeguard sensitive information, emphasizing the critical need for vigilance against espionage efforts that threaten national security and regional dominance. This underscores the persistent challenges India faces in protecting its key naval assets amidst ongoing geopolitical tensions.

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

### Indian Army Accuses Pakistan of Disinformation Campaign Share

04-May-25

The Indian Army has accused Pakistan of launching a disinformation campaign aimed at undermining India's military leadership and preparedness, fabricating narratives about the removal and dishonor of key military figures. Indian defense officials have debunked these claims, asserting that leadership transitions are routine and that personnel have been honored for their service. The Indian government responded by blocking several Pakistani media channels spreading misinformation, emphasizing the armed forces' readiness and commitment to transparency. This disinformation effort is viewed as a desperate attempt Pakistan in response to India's decisive

counterterrorism actions, showcasing India's resilience against such tactics.

#### Mil Personnel & Veterans

### CRPF dismisses jawan for marrying Pakistani woman without notice Share

04-May-25

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has dismissed jawan Munir Ahmed for marrying a Pakistani woman without informing his superiors, citing national security concerns. His marriage to Menal Khan, which occurred via video call, and her subsequent overstaying on an expired visa were deemed serious misconduct. The CRPF determined that Ahmed's actions compromised state security, leading to his immediate dismissal under Article 311(2)(b) of the Constitution. This incident underscores the importance of vigilance and adherence to protocols within the armed forces, reflecting the Indian defense establishment's commitment to national amidst maintaining security complex geopolitical challenges.

#### Miscellaneous

# Char Dham Yatra 2025 Begins with Badrinath's Grand Opening by Indian Army Band SHARE

04-May-25

The Char Dham Yatra 2025 commenced with the opening of Shri Badrinath Dham, accompanied by the Indian Army's Garhwal Rifles band, reflecting the cultural and spiritual heritage of the nation. Uttarakhand authorities have enhanced security with the deployment of around 6,000 police personnel and advanced surveillance measures, including over 400 CCTV cameras on key routes and sites, ensuring a safe pilgrimage for the estimated 22 lakh pilgrims. This annual pilgrimage, which includes the revered sites of Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath. underscores the government's commitment to facilitating religious practices while maintaining security and order for devotees across India.

### Pakistani journalist lamenting India's ban amid military crackdown.

04-May-25

Pakistani journalist Wajahat Saeed Khan has been banned in both Pakistan and India, expressing disappointment that a democratic nation like India would block him, while he faces persecution from Pakistan's military for his critical reporting. His work has highlighted issues such as military preparedness compared to India and the state of democracy in Pakistan, drawing attention to the tensions between the two countries. This ban follows a crackdown on Pakistani news outlets amid heightened regional tensions, particularly after the Pahalgam terror attack. This incident underscores the complexities of media freedom in South Asia, where national security interests often clash with journalistic integrity.

### Kashmir's Integral Role in India Stressed by Farooq Abdullah Share

04-May-25

After a recent attack in Pahalgam, former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah emphasized Kashmir's integral status within India and expressed hope for the region's progress and development, rejecting any alignment with Pakistan. He condemned terrorism and called for a review of the Indus Waters Treaty, which he believes undermines local interests, while supporting India's recent diplomatic measures against Pakistan, including the suspension of trade and border closures. Abdullah's comments reflect a strong resolve to counter cross-border terrorism and a collective desire for stability in the region, highlighting his belief in India's potential to become a superpower in the future.

# India Blocks X Accounts of Imran Khan and Bilawal Bhutto Amid Security

Concerns S SHARE

04-May-25

The Indian government has blocked the X accounts of former Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan and PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto due to their anti-India rhetoric following a deadly terror attack in Pahalgam that killed 26 people. Additionally, 16 Pakistani YouTube channels have been banned for spreading disinformation targeting India's national security. In response to the attack, India has taken robust measures, including suspending the Indus Waters Treaty and expelling military attaches, reflecting a strong stance against Pakistan-based terrorism. This escalation underscores India's commitment to safeguarding its national

security and countering malicious narratives that threaten public order.

# India Recalls IMF Nominee Subramanian Amid Rising Tensions Share

04-May-25

The Indian government has abruptly recalled Dr. Krishnamurthy Subramanian from his position as Executive Director at the IMF, just ahead of a pivotal meeting concerning a proposed loan to Pakistan, which

India opposes. This decision follows his public critiques of the IMF's data accuracy regarding India's economic growth and allegations of impropriety linked to his book promotion. The timing suggests a strategic realignment to bolster India's diplomatic stance at the IMF, reflecting its hardline approach towards Pakistan amid recent tensions. Critics express concern over silencing dissenting voices, yet India's actions align with its broader geopolitical objectives and commitment to prioritizing national interests in multilateral forums.

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