



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

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Defense Business and Industry

India seeks 6 AK-630 guns to bolster border security near Pakistan. [SHARE](#)

04-Oct-25

In a strategic move to enhance border security and protect civilian population centers and religious sites near the Pakistan border, the Indian Army has initiated a tender for the procurement of six AK-630 30mm mobile air defence gun systems as part of Mission Sudarshan Chakra. This mission, aimed at establishing a comprehensive security shield by 2035, incorporates advanced technologies for surveillance, cyber security, and air defence. The AK-630 systems, known for their high rate of fire of up to 3,000 rounds per minute and a range of 4 km, will be mounted on trailers towed by high mobility vehicles and are designed to counter threats from unmanned aerial vehicles, rockets, and artillery. This procurement follows the lessons learned from Operation Sindoor, where Pakistan's military targeted civilians and religious sites, prompting a robust response from Indian forces. The integration of these systems into India's air defence architecture not only strengthens its defensive capabilities but also aligns with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, promoting self-reliance in defence technology. Overall, this initiative underscores India's commitment to safeguarding its territory and citizens against external threats while enhancing operational readiness along its borders.

IAF Chief Confident in AMCA's 2028 Flight, 2035 Induction Plans [SHARE](#)

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In a recent press conference ahead of the 93rd Air Force Day, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh of the Indian Air Force (IAF) expressed strong optimism regarding several key indigenous defense initiatives. He confirmed that the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) is on schedule for its first flight in 2028 and formal induction by 2035, emphasizing a commitment to the Atmanirbhar Bharat policy. The Air Chief also

underscored the significance of the upcoming Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mk2, which he described as an extension of the existing Mk1A, featuring enhanced payload, range, and combat capabilities, and aimed to address the IAF's current squadron shortages amidst regional tensions. Furthermore, approximately 75% of the Sukhoi Su-30MKI fleet is slated for a modernization program dubbed the Super Sukhoi, which will enhance avionics, radar systems, and weapon integration, ensuring the aircraft remains a cornerstone of IAF capabilities well into the 2030s. ACM Singh also indicated that while the IAF is considering foreign acquisitions such as the Rafale and Su-57 to bridge immediate gaps in squadron strength, any purchases will depend on the manufacturer's commitment to technology transfer under the Make in India initiative. This comprehensive focus on indigenous programs and modernization reflects India's strategic aim of achieving self-reliance in defense, thereby bolstering national security and technological independence while enhancing operational readiness to address evolving geopolitical challenges. The IAF's proactive measures demonstrate a clear direction towards strengthening its air power and maintaining a credible deterrent against regional threats, all while fostering a robust domestic defense industry.

Europe boosts defense technology investment amid rising geopolitical tensions and security needs. [SHARE](#)

04-Oct-25

Europe is witnessing a historic surge in defense technology investments driven by escalating geopolitical tensions, notably the war in Ukraine. Venture capital funding in this sector is expected to increase 300% by the end of 2025 compared to 2019. Key initiatives such as the European Union's ReArm Europe Plan, unveiled in March 2025, aim to mobilize over €800 billion for defense innovation, including a €150 billion loan instrument (SAFE) for joint procurement and enhanced European Investment Bank support. Major European countries, including the UK, Germany, and France, are significantly boosting their

military budgets, with the EU's overall defense spending projected to reach €381 billion in 2025. These measures reflect a strategic push for military self-sufficiency, reducing reliance on external suppliers, especially the US, and focusing on advanced technologies like AI, drones, and autonomous systems. This substantial investment and modernization effort open avenues for global cooperation and innovation-driven growth. For Indian defense firms, particularly small and midcap companies with a presence in Europe, this presents opportunities to supply components and subsystems, leveraging India's cost advantages and skilled workforce amid Europe's drive to strengthen its defense industrial base. This evolving European strategy marks a significant shift towards longer-term security resilience.

India and France conclude talks to boost defense cooperation. SHARE

04-Oct-25

India and France have concluded the 21st Army-to-Army Staff Talks in Paris, focusing on enhancing bilateral defense cooperation, including exchanges in cutting-edge technologies, joint military exercises, and training collaborations. Concurrently, the Indian Air Force engaged in the 22nd edition of Air Staff Talks, further solidifying defense ties. These dialogues reflect a robust partnership driven by a commitment to 'Atmanirbhara' (self-reliance) in defense sectors, with an emphasis on ongoing civil nuclear cooperation and strategic dialogues addressing regional security issues. The discussions underscore the significance of India-France relations in promoting stability and innovation in defense, showcasing both nations' resolve to respond collaboratively to global geopolitical challenges.

HAL Seeks Collaboration with Russia on New Fighter Jet Development SHARE

04-Oct-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has expressed its readiness to collaborate with Russia on new fighter jet models, emphasizing the strong historical ties in technology transfer and co-development between the two nations. This partnership is illustrated by the successful Su-30MKI program, where HAL has produced over 200 units and integrated advanced upgrades. The potential cooperation may extend to Russia's Su-75 Checkmate stealth fighter, aligning with India's ambition for indigenous capabilities through the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program. Such collaboration could provide India with timely access to fifth-generation fighter capabilities while

solidifying its defense industrial policy amid diversifying international partnerships, particularly with Western suppliers. The development highlights India's strategic intent to maintain robust ties with Russia despite evolving geopolitical dynamics.

DRDO enhances Agni missiles with stealthy TELs, boosting indigenous defense capabilities. SHARE

04-Oct-25

India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is advancing the development of indigenous Transporter Erector Launchers (TELs) for the Agni missile series following a successful rail-launch test of the Agni-Prime missile. This strategic shift aims to enhance mobility and stealth, moving away from traditional truck-trailer configurations that are vulnerable to surveillance and logistical challenges. Collaborating with private sector giants like Tata Motors and Mahindra Defence, DRDO seeks to achieve 80% indigenization by 2028, although investment hurdles remain. The innovation is crucial for bolstering India's second-strike capability amid rising tensions in the Indo-Pacific, signaling a commitment to modernizing its defense infrastructure while fostering private sector participation in defense manufacturing.

DRDO's 300 kW laser weapon to target MALE UAVs from 20 km. SHARE

04-Oct-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is advancing its defense capabilities with the development of a 300 kW high-power laser weapon system, designed to counter aerial threats such as MALE-class UAVs from a range of 20 kilometers. This sophisticated system, incorporating adaptive optics and a large-aperture beam directing telescope, aims for precision targeting against diverse threats, utilizing advanced beam control technologies to ensure effectiveness even in challenging atmospheric conditions. The initiative, reflecting lessons learned from recent border engagements, underscores India's commitment to enhancing its counter-UAV arsenal and maintaining strategic superiority. Scheduled for field trials by 2027-28, this project signifies a pivotal step in India's modernization efforts, reinforcing its defense posture amidst evolving security challenges.

India's defense policy reform to recognize foreign subsidiaries as local vendors.



04-Oct-25

India is set to reform its defense procurement policy by allowing wholly owned subsidiaries of foreign defense companies to be recognized as Indian vendors. This change, discussed by a special task force led by former cabinet secretary Rajiv Gauba since August 2025, aims to simplify procurement, reduce bottlenecks, and align with the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. The new policy will level the playing field between local companies and foreign subsidiaries, encouraging global giants like Lockheed Martin and Boeing to establish operations in India. Proposed reforms include transitioning from nomination-based to open tendering systems, enhancing private sector participation, and standardizing requests for proposals. This overhaul, expected to be finalized before the 2026 budget, may unlock investments of \$10-15 billion over the next decade, boosting domestic manufacturing and technology transfer. Critics emphasize the need for safeguards to ensure genuine indigenization and protection for indigenous firms. These reforms complement recent measures such as the Defence Procurement Manual 2025, which promotes innovation and ease of doing business for domestic defense manufacturers, supporting India's ambition to build a robust, self-reliant defense ecosystem.

Indian Army to acquire two Akash Prime regiments for enhanced air defense.



04-Oct-25

The Indian Army is set to acquire two regiments of the upgraded Akash Prime surface-to-air missile system, following successful trials and demonstrated effectiveness during recent conflicts, notably against Pakistani Fatah guided rockets. This strategic procurement aims to bolster India's air defense capabilities, particularly in high-altitude regions, aligning with the country's goal of achieving 50% indigenisation by 2030 under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. The Akash Prime enhances operational efficiency with improved range and electronic countermeasures, while concurrent orders for the Quick Reaction SAM system further strengthen point defenses. This development underscores India's commitment to modernizing its defense forces in response to evolving regional threats, ensuring tactical superiority and enhancing national security.

Tejas MkII prototype rollout delayed to mid-2026 for tech upgrades, but IAF production on track.



04-Oct-25

The rollout of the Tejas MkII prototype has been delayed to mid-2026 due to ongoing technology validations and necessary upgrades, particularly concerning the GE F414-INS6 engine and the Uttam Mk2 AESA radar system. Initial plans targeted a late 2025 rollout, but refinements based on feedback from the Tejas Mk1A and integration challenges have necessitated this revised timeline. Despite the delay in the prototype's debut, the Indian Air Force (IAF) remains committed to ramping up production, aiming for low-rate production by 2029 and full squadron induction by the mid-2030s, with a target of over 120 units to strengthen India's air defense capabilities. This delay underscores India's cautious approach to operational reliability and technological maturity as part of its broader aerospace development efforts, including the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program. HAL's adoption of advanced digital manufacturing also supports precision and faster production. The Tejas MkII is a critical step for the IAF in phasing out aging fleets and boosting indigenous fighter technology to ensure strategic air superiority against regional threats. The news was confirmed as of October 2025.

Tejas Mk1A completes missile trials, ready for IAF induction soon.



04-Oct-25

India's indigenous Light Combat Aircraft Tejas Mk1A has successfully completed its final weapons integration trials, including live-firing of the Astra beyond-visual-range missile and ASRAAM close-combat missile, marking a pivotal milestone for imminent induction into the Indian Air Force. The trials, conducted in late September 2025 at HAL's Nashik facility, validated the aircraft's combat readiness and seamless integration with a modern weapons suite, enhancing its multi-role capabilities. Developed under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, the Tejas Mk1A features critical upgrades such as the indigenous Uttam AESA radar, advanced electronic warfare systems, and increased fuel capacity, positioning it as a 4.5-generation fighter. With 180 aircraft on order to replace the aging MiG-21 fleet, HAL is set to begin deliveries this month, despite minor delays in engine supply, as the IAF prepares for user trials ahead of frontline deployment by early 2026, strengthening India's aerial defense autonomy and operational preparedness.

Politics

Congress questions government and military claims on Operation Sindoor, seeking transparency amid success reports.



04-Oct-25

The Congress party has raised concerns regarding the government's narrative surrounding Operation Sindoor, questioning the consistency of statements from high-ranking defense officials, including the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and the Air Force Chief. Ajay Rai, the Uttar Pradesh chief of Congress, has called for transparency, suggesting that differing accounts indicate potential irregularities in the government's claims. Meanwhile, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has reported significant successes during the operation, asserting that it inflicted heavy damage on Pakistani forces, including the destruction of multiple fighter jets and achieving the longest-range kill in its history at 300 km. While India maintains that its strikes were precise and targeted against militant infrastructure, Pakistan contests these claims, alleging civilian casualties and downed Indian jets, which India has categorically denied. The political debate ignited by these discrepancies highlights the tension in South Asia, particularly regarding cross-border terrorism and military accountability. This situation underscores the critical need for clear communication from the government to bolster public confidence in national security operations and the broader implications for regional stability amidst ongoing geopolitical rivalries.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Jaishankar and Brazil's advisor discuss enhancing strategic cooperation.



04-Oct-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met with Celso Amorim, Special Advisor to Brazil's President, to discuss strengthening strategic cooperation between India and Brazil. The meeting, part of the 6th India-Brazil Strategic Dialogue, addressed collaboration in defense, security, energy, and critical minerals, building on the commitments made during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's July visit to Brazil. Both nations aim to enhance their partnership in various sectors, including trade and technology, while reaffirming their

commitment to multilateral cooperation in forums like BRICS and IBSA. This dialogue underscores India's proactive approach to forging stronger ties with Global South nations, which is critical for regional stability and economic growth.

Pakistan aims to reclaim its role as a U.S. ally amid U.S.-China tensions.



04-Oct-25

Pakistan is strategically reasserting itself as a critical U.S. ally amid rising U.S.-China tensions, reminiscent of its frontline role during the Soviet-Afghan War. High-level diplomatic engagements, including visits by Pakistan's Army Chief to the U.S., mark a renewed bilateral relationship focused on defense cooperation, counterterrorism, and economic projects such as a proposed \$1.2 billion port on the Arabian Sea. The U.S. aims to leverage Pakistan's unique geographic position near China, Iran, and Afghanistan to enhance regional influence, including access to the strategic Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan. However, this recalibration presents significant domestic risks for Pakistan, as closer U.S. ties could empower the military establishment and hardline elements, destabilizing civilian governance and exacerbating internal security challenges. Balancing this newfound U.S. partnership with its longstanding alliance with China—Pakistan's main economic and security partner—remains a complex challenge, as China views U.S. encroachment with suspicion. Pakistan's attempt to "make profits both ways" may strain its internal stability and regional ties, with potential for increased radicalization and geopolitical friction as the country navigates the complex dynamics of great power competition in South Asia.

India condemns Pakistan's PoJK crackdown as a result of systemic exploitation.



04-Oct-25

India has condemned the recent violent protests in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), which have led to multiple deaths, characterizing them as a direct result of Pakistan's oppressive governance and exploitation of the region's resources. The Ministry of External Affairs emphasized that Jammu and Kashmir, including Ladakh, remains an integral part of India, asserting that Pakistan must be held accountable for its human rights violations. The protests, driven by demands for improved public facilities and reforms, have resulted in significant unrest, with clashes reported in several areas. This situation underscores

the ongoing turmoil in PoJK and highlights the need for accountability and reform in the region, further illustrating the complexities of the India-Pakistan relationship regarding territorial claims and human rights issues.

Trump urges Israel to cease Gaza attacks after Hamas's partial peace agreement.



04-Oct-25

U.S. President Donald Trump has issued an ultimatum to Hamas to accept his peace plan for Gaza by Sunday evening, warning that failure to comply would result in severe military repercussions. Following Hamas's partial acceptance of the plan, which includes the release of hostages and potential disarmament, Trump emphasized the need for urgent negotiations to prevent further escalation of violence in the region. The proposed plan involves Israel halting its military operations, returning hostages, and implementing a temporary governance structure for Gaza, with Trump and former British Prime Minister Tony Blair overseeing the process. However, significant objections remain from Hamas regarding disarmament and foreign oversight, highlighting the complexities of achieving a lasting ceasefire. This situation is critical as it marks the second anniversary of the ongoing conflict, which began with Hamas's attack on Israel, resulting in significant casualties and displacements. The broader implications of this crisis extend beyond the immediate humanitarian concerns, affecting regional stability and international diplomatic relations in the Middle East.

MEA urges Bangladesh to investigate violence against minorities, not blame others.



04-Oct-25

India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) criticized the interim government of Bangladesh, led by Muhammad Yunus, for shifting blame regarding recent violence against minorities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal emphasized the need for the Bangladeshi government to introspect and investigate local extremist actions rather than deflecting responsibility onto external entities, such as India. This statement came in response to allegations made by Bangladeshi officials suggesting foreign involvement in the unrest. The MEA pointed to escalating violence and human rights abuses against indigenous people, calling for accountability and support for minority communities facing persecution. This situation reflects broader regional concerns about

governance and minority rights in Bangladesh, which may affect India's diplomatic and strategic interests in South Asia.

Rajnath Singh warns Pakistan on Sir Creek, affirming India's territorial integrity and readiness to respond.



04-Oct-25

Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh recently reaffirmed India's unwavering commitment to its territorial integrity regarding the Sir Creek border dispute with Pakistan, warning of a strong response to any Pakistani aggression in the area. This warning comes amid rising tensions following recent attacks and military escalations. The Sir Creek, a strategically significant tidal estuary, has long been contested due to differing interpretations of colonial-era boundary lines, with both nations laying claim to valuable maritime resources. The unresolved dispute underscores the need for bilateral dialogue as third-party interventions remain unlikely post the 1984 Simla Agreement. Singh's remarks emphasize India's readiness to defend its interests, reflecting a broader strategy to enhance national security amidst persistent regional challenges.

Gaza reports heavy Israeli airstrikes despite Trump's ceasefire appeal.



04-Oct-25

Gaza's civil defense agency reported extensive Israeli airstrikes on Gaza City, contradicting U.S. President Trump's appeal for a ceasefire, which followed Hamas's willingness to negotiate the release of hostages and disarmament. The overnight bombardments led to the destruction of 20 homes, causing significant casualties, including fatalities among civilians. The Israeli military acknowledged the situation but did not confirm specific strikes. This escalation highlights the fragility of peace efforts amidst ongoing hostilities, emphasizing the urgent need for diplomatic resolutions to prevent further humanitarian crises. The developments underscore the complexities of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the challenges in achieving a sustained ceasefire while ensuring security for all parties involved.

Russia continues supplying engines to Pakistan's JF-17, ignoring India's concerns amidst strained ties.



04-Oct-25

Russia has chosen to continue supplying RD-93MA engines to Pakistan's JF-17 fleet, despite India's appeals to halt these deliveries following the recent

India-Pakistan conflict. This decision underscores the complexities of the Indo-Russian strategic partnership, historically built on military cooperation and mutual defense, now strained by Russia's economic interests and need to diversify arms sales amid Western sanctions. The RD-93MA engines are crucial for enhancing the JF-17's capabilities, which pose a direct threat to India's air force assets like the Tejas and Rafale. This situation may compel India to accelerate its defense diversification efforts towards Western platforms, signaling a potential shift in regional military dynamics and challenging traditional alliances.

Japan's think-tank warns of space warfare in future India-Pak conflict. SHARE

04-Oct-25

A Japanese military think-tank, the National Institute for Defense Studies, has warned that a future India-Pakistan conflict, which they codenamed Op Sindoor 2.0, could escalate into space warfare, with India potentially using its Anti-Satellite (ASAT) missile capabilities developed after the successful 2019 Mission Shakti test. The 2025 conflict between India and Pakistan, known as Operation Sindoor, involved missile strikes and intense engagements across land, air, and space, marking India's first space war that included attempts to outmaneuver Pakistani and Chinese satellite surveillance. Indian Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh recently affirmed the readiness of India's ASAT capabilities, highlighting their strategic importance while underscoring the challenges posed by emerging modern warfare technologies. The think-tank's forecast signals an evolution in Indo-Pak conflict dynamics, where space assets could be targeted to disrupt military operations. This raises global concerns about the risks of orbital debris and the broader implications for space security, stressing the need for international efforts to prevent a destabilizing arms race in space. The warning aligns with growing strategic cooperation between India and Japan amid regional security challenges.

India and Australia to conduct AUSTRAHIND 2025 joint military exercise from October 13-26. SHARE

04-Oct-25

India and Australia are set to conduct the fourth edition of their bilateral military exercise, AUSTRAHIND 2025, from October 13 to 26 at Irwin Barracks in Perth. This joint exercise aims to enhance operational capabilities in urban and semi-urban terrains under a United Nations mandate, reflecting both nations' commitment

to global peace and security. Following the successful conclusion of the third edition in Pune, which included combat scenarios and cultural exchanges, AUSTRAHIND has evolved into an annual event alternating between the two countries since its inception in 2022. This exercise underscores the growing defense cooperation between India and Australia, crucial for fostering interoperability and strategic partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region amidst shifting geopolitical dynamics.

US officials refute rumors of troop return and Bagram control. SHARE

04-Oct-25

US officials have categorically denied rumors that American troops have returned to Afghanistan or regained control of the Bagram airbase, dismissing the claims as "entirely baseless." Reports of these rumors emerged amid speculation on Afghan social media following Taliban directives for nearby residents to evacuate. Former President Trump suggested negotiating for the base's return, warning Afghanistan of "bad things" if his demands were not met. Afghanistan's Foreign Minister firmly rejected any negotiations for regaining US control, emphasizing the country's commitment to an independent foreign policy. The situation reflects ongoing tensions and the complexities of US-Afghan relations post-US withdrawal, underscoring the delicate geopolitical dynamics in the region.

Pakistan and PoK protesters reach agreement to end violent unrest. SHARE

04-Oct-25

The Pakistani federal government and protesters in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) have reached an agreement to end violent demonstrations that erupted after failed negotiations, resulting in at least 10 fatalities. The accord, comprising 25 points, includes measures such as financial compensation for victims' families, enhancement of local educational facilities, and improvements in healthcare and infrastructure. A high-powered committee will oversee the implementation of this agreement. The unrest underscores the persistent discontent within PoK regarding governance and development issues, reflecting wider instability in Pakistan, which could further complicate regional security dynamics and India-Pakistan relations. The resolution, while a temporary relief, highlights the need for long-term solutions to address grievances in the region.

Israel prepares for initial phase of Trump's Gaza peace plan. SHARE

04-Oct-25

Israel's army is actively preparing for the initial phase of former President Trump's peace plan aimed at resolving the ongoing Gaza conflict and facilitating the return of hostages, following Hamas's conditional acceptance of the proposal. Trump's initiative has received endorsement from Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu, though skepticism persists regarding Hamas's genuine commitment to demilitarization and the comprehensive execution of the plan. This development underscores the complexities of Middle Eastern geopolitics, where peace efforts often hinge on trust and verification. The situation reflects the broader challenges faced by international actors in mediating conflicts, particularly in regions marked by longstanding hostilities and divergent interests.

Erdogan optimistic about Hamas' readiness for peace negotiations. SHARE

04-Oct-25

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan expressed optimism regarding Hamas' apparent willingness to engage in peace talks, citing their positive reaction to a peace plan proposed by former US President Donald Trump. Erdogan proclaimed that Hamas has historically demonstrated its readiness for peace, suggesting that this moment presents a significant opportunity for achieving lasting stability in the region. This development highlights the complex dynamics of Middle Eastern geopolitics, where Turkey seeks to play a mediating role, potentially influencing broader negotiations in a historically conflict-ridden area. As Erdogan positions Turkey as a key player in peace efforts, the implications for regional security and diplomatic relations remain critical, particularly in light of ongoing tensions involving Israel and Palestine.

Modi praises Trump's efforts on Gaza hostage deal and peace initiatives. SHARE

04-Oct-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed strong support for the reported breakthrough in the Gaza hostage situation, commending U.S. President Donald Trump's leadership in advancing peace efforts. In a recent post, Modi emphasized India's commitment to a durable and just resolution for the region, coinciding with Hamas's willingness to negotiate the release of Israeli hostages in response to a renewed peace initiative. Trump's proactive approach includes a proposed ceasefire and the establishment of a

transitional body to oversee Gaza's reconstruction. This development is significant as it reflects international solidarity in seeking peace in a historically volatile area, highlighting India's continued advocacy for a two-state solution amidst evolving geopolitical dynamics.

Military Operations

Post-Operation Sindoor: India and Pakistan Heighten Naval Readiness SHARE

04-Oct-25

Following Operation Sindoor, India and Pakistan have heightened their naval postures amid ongoing military tensions, particularly in the maritime theatre. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's stark warning to Pakistan underscores India's readiness to respond decisively to any provocations, particularly around the strategically significant Sir Creek area. As Pakistan enhances its naval capabilities, including deploying advanced submarines and missile systems, India remains vigilant, emphasizing its own modernization efforts and regional collaborations, notably with the Philippines in the South China Sea. This evolving situation highlights the shifting dynamics of deterrence, where naval engagements may become increasingly central, raising the stakes for both nations in future confrontations and necessitating careful strategic calculations to avoid miscalculation and escalation.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Muttaqi's India visit focuses on counterterrorism, trade, and regional security. SHARE

04-Oct-25

Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi's visit to India from October 9 to 16 signals a pivotal shift in India-Taliban relations, permitting discussions on counterterrorism, trade, and regional security. The agenda prioritizes cooperative strategies to tackle mutual threats posed by Pakistan, alongside efforts to enhance bilateral trade, improve medical cooperation, and boost educational opportunities for Afghan students. The visit follows prior diplomatic engagements and underscores India's strategic interest in maintaining influence in Central Asia amid China's growing involvement with the Taliban. As Afghanistan seeks to stabilize its ties with India, this engagement marks a critical move in regional geopolitics, potentially

reshaping security dynamics in South Asia and challenging Pakistan's regional hegemony.

General Dwivedi warns Pakistan: Terrorism support jeopardizes existence. SHARE

04-Oct-25

In a strong statement emphasizing India's resolve against cross-border terrorism, Army Chief General Uendra Dwivedi warned Pakistan that continued support for terrorism could jeopardize its existence on the world map. During an address to soldiers at the Sriganganagar cantonment, General Dwivedi declared that India would not exercise the restraint it had shown during Operation Sindoor, which resulted in the destruction of nine terrorist facilities and the deaths of over 100 Pakistani soldiers following the Pahalgam terror attack. He underscored the precision and care taken to minimize civilian casualties during these operations, while also calling for heightened readiness among Indian forces to counter future provocations. The Army Chief highlighted the significance of modernization and technological enhancements in the military, including the integration of unmanned aerial systems. This assertive stance reflects India's growing commitment to a robust defense strategy and signals a shift towards a more proactive approach in dealing with terrorism, reinforcing regional stability and security. General Dwivedi's remarks serve as a reminder to the international community about the repercussions of state-sponsored terrorism and India's readiness to take decisive action to protect its sovereignty.

Amit Shah urges Naxals to surrender for rehabilitation, rejecting talks. SHARE

04-Oct-25

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has firmly rejected the idea of negotiations with Naxals, urging them to embrace the government's attractive surrender and rehabilitation policy. Speaking at the 'Bastar Dussehra Lokotsav' in Jagdalpur, Shah emphasized a deadline of March 31, 2026, for the eradication of Naxalism, asserting that ongoing violence hinders development in the region. He highlighted the government's substantial investment of over Rs 4 lakh crore in Chhattisgarh, aimed at improving infrastructure and living conditions in tribal areas. Shah called for those misled by Naxalism to abandon violence and join the mainstream, reinforcing the government's commitment to provide essential services and restore rights to the local populace, thereby marking a critical step towards peace and development in the insurgency-affected Bastar region.

Russian drone strike on Ukrainian train injures around 30 civilians. SHARE

04-Oct-25

A recent Russian drone strike targeted a passenger train at a station in Ukraine's Sumy region, injuring approximately 30 individuals, including rail workers, according to Ukrainian officials. President Volodymyr Zelenskiy condemned the attack as an act of terrorism, emphasizing that Russia must have been aware they were striking civilians. This incident is part of a concerning pattern, with Moscow reportedly intensifying airstrikes on Ukraine's railway infrastructure nearly every day over the past two months. The ongoing assaults on civilian targets underscore the urgent need for international attention and action to address the humanitarian crisis and protect innocent lives amid the escalating conflict.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

Data breach at Discord exposes user info and ID photos. SHARE

04-Oct-25

Discord has confirmed a data breach involving a third-party customer service provider that compromised identifiable user information from a limited number of users who had interacted with its support teams. The breach, which occurred on September 20, resulted in the unauthorized access of usernames, email addresses, last four digits of credit card numbers, and a small number of government-issued ID photos, although full credit card numbers and passwords remain secure. Hackers, motivated by financial gain, demanded a ransom from Discord in exchange for not leaking the stolen information, which includes crucial personal data that could assist in resolving crypto-related scams. In response, Discord has taken immediate action by isolating the affected support provider, launching an internal investigation, and engaging law enforcement and a computer forensics firm. This incident underscores the vulnerabilities of third-party service providers and raises concerns about data security within communication platforms, highlighting the necessity for stringent protective measures as cyber threats continue to evolve in sophistication and frequency.

Cyber attackers exploit Grafana flaw, emphasizing urgent patching needs.



04-Oct-25

A coordinated cyberattack exploiting the known Grafana vulnerability CVE-2021-43798 has resurfaced, with an alarming spike in exploitation attempts observed on September 28, 2025. Attackers primarily from Bangladesh, China, and Germany targeted systems internationally, including several critical infrastructure points, leveraging unpatched Grafana instances to execute directory traversal attacks and file disclosures. Despite patches being available since December 2021, many Grafana deployments remain vulnerable, exposing sensitive operational data and internal configurations. In India, Grafana is increasingly used in critical infrastructure, particularly in sectors such as telecommunications, IT services, and government digital monitoring platforms, where it facilitates real-time infrastructure monitoring through dashboards integrated with Prometheus and Kubernetes environments. This usage underlines the urgency for organizations to apply timely patches and adopt a zero-trust security model to prevent further attacks. Recent security updates in 2025 have addressed newer flaws, yet legacy vulnerabilities like CVE-2021-43798 continue to pose significant risks, emphasizing continuous monitoring and prompt remediation as cybersecurity imperatives across India's critical infrastructure landscape.

Hackers claim to have stolen 1 billion Salesforce records via UK retailer attacks.



04-Oct-25

Cybercriminals linked to recent ransomware attacks on British retailers have claimed to have stolen nearly one billion records from Salesforce, targeting companies that utilize its cloud services. The hack was reportedly executed using voice phishing (vishing) tactics aimed at Salesforce clients, rather than hacking Salesforce directly. The group, called Scattered LAPSUS\$ Hunters, has claimed responsibility for breaching around 40 organizations, including major retailers like Marks & Spencer and Jaguar Land Rover, and has launched a dark web site disclosing their alleged victims. Salesforce has denied any compromise of its systems, asserting that its platform remains secure and unbreached. Notably, Salesforce remains one of the most prominent enterprise cloud service providers globally, with India hosting over 13,000 Salesforce employees across multiple cities like Hyderabad,

Bengaluru, and Mumbai. The company has seen a significant increase in its Indian operations, with revenue in India rising by 50% in recent years, and continues to be a leading platform for large Indian corporations such as Tata, Kotak Mahindra Bank, and Mahindra & Mahindra that rely heavily on Salesforce for customer relationship management and enterprise automation.

Indian scientists simplify quantum randomness for enhanced digital security.



04-Oct-25

Indian researchers at the Raman Research Institute in Bengaluru, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Science and the University of Calgary, have made a significant breakthrough in quantum security by developing a simplified method to generate truly random numbers using quantum computers. This approach uses a single qubit measured over time, eliminating the need for complex optical setups. Demonstrated on cloud-based quantum platforms like IBM's superconducting-qubit system, the technique certifies randomness based on Leggett-Garg inequalities, ensuring unhackable digital security. Published in 2025, this innovation enhances cryptographic systems and provides a practical benchmark for assessing quantum hardware. The development builds on previous research, including efforts in 2022 and 2024, where the team proved the fundamental unpredictability of quantum mechanics and created nearly a million certified random bits. The new method's accessibility marks a step forward toward widespread adoption of quantum-secure communication, with India emerging as a key player in quantum information technology and cybersecurity advancements. The research underscores the potential for India to lead in global quantum security efforts and applications.

New phishing toolkit enhances cyber threats; businesses must adopt AI security measures.



04-Oct-25

A new phishing toolkit named Impact Solutions has emerged on underground cybercrime forums, enabling lower-skilled hackers to conduct sophisticated attacks with ease. The toolkit, which surfaced around October 1, 2025, is designed as an all-in-one platform that allows cybercriminals to craft convincing malicious files using social engineering tactics, such as weaponized shortcuts, HTML pages, and SVG images,

to bypass traditional security filters. It boasts evasion techniques like UAC bypass and anti-virtual machine checks, making it formidable against antivirus systems. Impact Solutions facilitates multi-stage attacks, luring victims with seemingly legitimate invoices or login pages, and can even stage remote payload downloads. As India intensifies its cybersecurity measures, with new guidelines mandating annual audits and breach disclosures in hours, experts warn that such advanced phishing tools pose a significant threat to businesses and critical infrastructure, especially as digital communication continues to expand across the country. This evolving threat landscape underscores the urgent need for AI-driven behavioral detection and proactive security strategies.

US government shutdown raises cybersecurity concerns with CISA expiration.



04-Oct-25

The recent expiration of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (CISA 2015) amidst a U.S. government shutdown has raised significant concerns within the private sector regarding cyber threat coordination. This critical legislation, which facilitates information sharing between private entities and government, has been instrumental in enhancing cybersecurity protections. The inability of lawmakers to reach a consensus on renewing or modifying the Act places the U.S. in a more vulnerable cyber environment, as emphasized by industry coalitions that argue the lapse could lead to increased risks and complexities for businesses. The urgency for reauthorization reflects a broader recognition of the need for robust cybersecurity measures to safeguard economic and national security interests.

Scanning activity on Palo Alto Networks portals surged 500% amid rising cyber threats.



04-Oct-25

Threat intelligence firm GreyNoise has reported a staggering 500% increase in scanning activity targeting Palo Alto Networks login portals on October 3, 2025, with approximately 1,300 unique IP addresses involved, predominantly from the U.S. This surge is reminiscent of a similar spike in scanning activity related to Cisco Adaptive Security Appliances, raising concerns about potential exploits and recent vulnerabilities. The overlap in the fingerprinting of the scanning tools suggests a coordinated effort, reinforcing the need for organizations to maintain updated software versions to mitigate risks. The findings underscore a worrying trend of escalating cyber threats, which could lead to significant vulnerabilities if not addressed promptly, thereby stressing the importance of robust cybersecurity measures in the current digital landscape.

Tenable reveals Gemini AI flaws risking data theft for millions.



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Tenable has identified critical vulnerabilities, collectively termed the Gemini Trifecta, in Google's Gemini suite, potentially allowing hackers to steal sensitive user data unnoticed. These flaws, now remediated, enabled attackers to manipulate logs, search histories, and use the browsing tool to exfiltrate information like location data. The vulnerabilities underscore the necessity for organizations to treat AI-driven features as active attack surfaces, emphasizing the need for robust security measures in AI environments. The incident highlights the evolving security landscape where AI platforms can inadvertently become vehicles for attack, prompting a reevaluation of defenses in response to emerging threats. This situation calls for proactive strategies to safeguard user data in an increasingly AI-centric world.

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