



# Defence Professionals News & Analysis

January 05,2025 | Day 005

### Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
APOLLO	138.25	123.96	+11.53%
IDEAFORGE	645.8	621.15	+3.97%
PREMEXPLN	551.05	534.5	+3.1%
MTARTECH	1771.15	1720.4	+2.95%
AZAD	1885.45	1848.85	+1.98%

### Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
TEMBO	859.0	882.45	-2.66%
LMW	16838.35	17243.0	-2.35%
BEL	291.95	296.8	-1.63%
BHARATFORG	1296.15	1315.7	-1.49%
LT	3659.9	3713.5	-1.44%

## Defense Business and Industry

### India's RPSA Project Set for Cabinet Approval to Boost Defense



05-Jan-25

India is advancing its Remotely Piloted Strike Aircraft (RPSA) project, which is nearing approval from the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS). This project, led by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), focuses on enhancing stealth capabilities through reduced Radar Cross Section (RCS) and the integration of AI for real-time adaptations. With strong support from the Indian Air Force, the RPSA aims to bolster India's defense capabilities, allowing for strategic operations without risking human pilots. This initiative aligns with India's goal of achieving self-reliance in defense technology, showcasing its commitment to innovation and enhanced national security amidst evolving geopolitical challenges.

### French Commander Praises Rafale, Questions China's 6th-Gen Fighters



05-Jan-25

A French Naval Commander has downplayed the capabilities of China's sixth-generation fighter jets, describing them as a distant aspiration while emphasizing the proven strengths of the Rafale, which is set to enhance the Indian Navy's capabilities with an upcoming contract for 16 Rafale Marine aircraft for the INS Vikrant. He highlighted that while the Rafale may not be stealthy, its design allows for versatile mission execution and regular upgrades, distinguishing it from other aircraft. The comments come amid ongoing

debates in India regarding its own aircraft programs, underscoring the strategic importance of reliable partnerships like that with France in strengthening India's defense capabilities.

### Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Calls for DRDO to Innovate and Collaborate



05-Jan-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has challenged the DRDO to complete 100 critical projects by 2025, emphasizing the need to adapt to the fast-evolving technological landscape. He urged collaboration with start-ups and the private sector to foster innovation and enhance DRDO's R&D initiatives. Singh highlighted the importance of aligning with advanced global technologies and the dual-use potential of defense technology for civilian applications. This strategic vision reflects India's commitment to bolster its defense infrastructure through enhanced capabilities and stakeholder collaboration, positioning DRDO as a catalyst for significant advancements in both defense and civilian sectors.

### IAF's Sukhoi Su-30MKI Gets Indigenous EW Suite Yodha and Anidra



05-Jan-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has completed the development of its indigenous electronic warfare (EW) suite, Yodha and Anidra, to enhance the combat capabilities of the Sukhoi Su-30MKI fighter aircraft. Yodha focuses on self-protection with airborne jammer pods, while Anidra improves threat detection with advanced radar warning receivers. Both systems are part of a modernization initiative to maintain the aircraft's operational effectiveness for another 30 years, reflecting India's commitment to self-reliance in defense technology under the "Aatmanirbhar Bharat"

initiative. The integration of these advanced systems significantly boosts the IAF's capabilities in contested environments against sophisticated threats.

## HAL Moves Closer to Finalizing GE-F414-INS6 Engine Deal SHARE

05-Jan-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is progressing towards finalizing a deal for the local production of GE-F414-INS6 engines, crucial for India's next-generation Tejas MkII combat aircraft, by March 2025. This initiative, aligned with the Make in India program, includes a remarkable 80% technology transfer, encompassing advanced features such as hot-end coatings and laser drilling. Ongoing negotiations focus on manufacturing licenses, technical support, and commercial terms to ensure a mutually beneficial agreement. This collaboration not only enhances India's indigenous defense capabilities but also signifies a strategic step towards self-reliance in aerospace technology, bolstering national security amidst evolving geopolitical challenges.

## Indian Navy to Develop High-Speed UAVs for IOR Surveillance SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Indian Navy is advancing plans to develop long-range, high-speed unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to enhance surveillance capabilities over the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), aiming for improved maritime domain awareness. This strategic initiative aligns with India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat mission, promoting self-reliance in defense technologies, while current acquisitions include MQ-9 Reaper drones for ISR roles. The Navy seeks to address speed and range limitations of turboprop-powered UAVs by engaging Indian defense firms and potentially collaborating with international technology providers. The initiative is crucial given the IOR's geostrategic importance and the need for real-time situational awareness amid increasing foreign naval presence.

## HAL Sees Increased Demand for AL-31F Spares Amid Supply Issues SHARE

05-Jan-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is witnessing a surge in demand for AL-31F engine spares due to disruptions in Russian supply chains amid the ongoing conflict, impacting countries reliant on the Su-30 family of fighter jets. While HAL aims to capitalize on this opportunity by catering to nations like Malaysia and Vietnam, it faces hurdles related to Russian export

clearances. This scenario underscores the complexities of international defense collaborations and suggests a potential shift towards greater Indian autonomy in defense production, establishing India as a key hub for Su-30 maintenance in Asia and reducing reliance on Russian approvals in the future.

## Indian Army's Para Special Forces to Boost Recon with 200 Drones SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Indian Army's elite Special Forces Para is enhancing its reconnaissance capabilities with the acquisition of 200 Black Hornet Nano Drones, developed by Norway's Prox Dynamics AS. This lightweight drone, measuring just 16 cm and weighing 18 grams, is designed for stealth and agility, with a range of up to 2 kilometers, making it ideal for covert operations. Its deployment in challenging terrains along India's northern and eastern borders highlights its effectiveness in border surveillance and counter-insurgency missions. This move reflects India's commitment to modernizing its military capabilities, ensuring that its forces maintain a tactical edge in complex operational environments.

## Indian Navy's Talwar Class Frigates Boosted with New Armaments SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Indian Navy has significantly upgraded its Talwar Class frigates by incorporating the A-192M Naval Gun and transitioning to a Vertical Launch System (VLS) for the Shtil-1 Air Defense system. The A-192M enhances firepower with improved range and accuracy, suitable for both surface and aerial threats, while the VLS allows for a greater missile inventory and faster reloading, which boosts the frigates' defensive capabilities. These advancements not only enhance lethality but also align the fleet with modern naval warfare demands, particularly the need for effective multi-target engagement at extended ranges, underscoring India's commitment to strengthening its maritime defense architecture.

## IAF Enhances Deep-Strike Power with Air-Launched Ballistic Missiles SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is strategically shifting to air-launched ballistic missiles (ALBMs) like Rampage and ROCKS to enhance its deep-strike capabilities, recognizing the vulnerabilities of cruise missiles against modern air defenses. This transition emphasizes high speed, maneuverability, and

penetration capabilities, enabling more effective engagement of high-value targets. Notably, IAF is not only integrating foreign technology but also pursuing indigenous ALBM development, reflecting India's commitment to self-reliance in defense. This evolution in strike capabilities positions the IAF to better deter adversaries and address the complexities of a dynamic security landscape, showcasing India's proactive approach in modernizing its military assets.

## IAF Moves to Procure Advanced Astra Mk2 Missiles for Air Superiority SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is advancing its aerial combat capabilities through the limited procurement of the Astra Mk2 air-to-air missile, which boasts a range of 160 kilometers and significant enhancements over the Astra Mk1. These improvements include enhanced maneuverability and an advanced indigenous seeker, making the missile more effective in complex electronic warfare scenarios. This step underscores the IAF's commitment to integrating indigenous technology and strengthening its deterrence posture in the region, reflecting India's focus on self-reliance in defense. The Astra Mk2 is anticipated to be a pivotal asset for maintaining air superiority and addressing aerial threats effectively.

## IAF Plans 120+ Tejas Mk2 Jets to Modernize Aging Fleet by 2040 SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has committed to acquiring 120 Tejas Mk2 jets, with the potential to exceed 250 to replace its aging fleets of Jaguar, Mirage-2000, and MiG-29 by 2040. This move is part of India's strategy for self-reliance in defense technology, following the order of 220 Tejas Mk1/Mk1A jets from HAL. The Tejas Mk2, powered by the GE-F414 engine, is anticipated to fulfill various operational roles and may later be upgraded with a more powerful engine linked to the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft program. This modernization is crucial for enhancing IAF's combat capabilities in the coming decades.

## HAL Targets 90% Indigenous Content in AMCA Mk2 by 2033 SHARE

05-Jan-25

India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) MkII program aims for 90% indigenous content by 2033, with HAL targeting its first prototype by late 2028. The fighter jet will be powered by a domestically developed 110kN engine, highlighting India's commitment to

technological independence. While achieving complete indigenization may inflate costs, sourcing 10% of components internationally for non-critical systems ensures operational efficiency and mitigates supply chain risks. This ambitious program positions India alongside leading nations in fifth-generation fighter development and is expected to enhance the domestic aerospace ecosystem, fostering industrial growth and skilled employment opportunities.

## Thailand Eyes Indian Armoured Vehicles After Tata Truck Success SHARE

05-Jan-25

Thailand is considering the procurement of Indian-made armoured vehicles as part of its military upgrade, highlighted during the recent India-Thailand Defence Cooperation Seminar. Indian companies like Tata Advanced Systems, Mahindra Defence Systems, and Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited showcased a variety of armoured vehicles, emphasizing their quality, innovation, and cost-effectiveness. The prior procurement of Tata trucks by the Thai Army establishes a foundation for deeper military cooperation, benefiting Thailand with advanced military hardware and positioning India as a significant defence exporter in the Indo-Pacific region. This potential partnership could enhance regional security alignments while advancing India's self-reliance in defence production.

## Indian Navy to Equip Carriers with Directed Energy Weapons Against Aerial Threats SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Indian Navy is planning to enhance its aircraft carriers' defense capabilities by integrating Directed Energy Weapons (DEWs) in response to the growing threats of loitering munitions and cruise missiles. This initiative involves deploying 3 to 4 DEW systems per carrier, including a 30 kW system for drones and a more powerful 100 kW system for cruise missiles, developed by the DRDO. The integration aims to provide comprehensive protection and counter the evolving dynamics of naval warfare. Despite challenges like power supply and space constraints, this proactive modernization effort showcases India's commitment to maintaining a robust naval defense posture amid increasingly sophisticated aerial threats.

## Pakistan's JF-17 Block 4 Eyes 5th Gen Features, While India Refines Tejas Mk2



05-Jan-25

The competition in South Asia's fighter jet development is heating up, with Pakistan's JF-17 Block 4 program aiming to incorporate fifth-generation features like Internal Weapons Bay (IWB) and Diverterless Supersonic Inlets (DSI), set for debut in 2028. In contrast, India's Tejas Mk2, while enhancing the Tejas Mk1A, lacks these advanced features, potentially limiting its performance and future upgrades. The differing philosophies reflect Pakistan's aggressive pursuit of technological advancements, while India's incremental approach focuses on evolving existing designs. While the Tejas Mk2 represents a significant improvement, its missed opportunity for fifth-generation capabilities may challenge its competitiveness in modern aerial warfare.

### Defense Policy and Budgeting

## India's Defence Ministry Shifts Focus to Capabilities Post-2024



05-Jan-25

The Indian Defence Ministry is prioritizing capability enhancement in 2025 after a record ₹1.26 lakh crore in domestic production and ₹21,083 crore in exports in 2024, driven by 'Make in India' initiatives. Major contracts, particularly for indigenous platforms and advanced weapon systems, are set to be signed, with significant deals expected with France for Rafale Marine jets and Kalvari submarines. The focus on enhancing military capabilities remains critical amid geopolitical tensions, particularly with China, highlighting a strategic shift towards modernization and self-reliance in defense production, especially in light of global demands for advanced military equipment.

## India's Aero Engine Breakthrough Expected by 2025



05-Jan-25

India's pursuit of indigenous aero engine technology is set to be a game-changer, with significant developments expected by 2025. The Kaveri engine project faced challenges in the past, but the collaboration with global partners like General Electric for F414 engines and interest from Rolls-Royce and Safran for joint development signifies a robust push towards self-reliance under the Atmanirbhar Bharat

initiative. Key hurdles include technological complexities, material science limitations, and inadequate testing facilities, which India aims to overcome through enhanced R&D and international partnerships, particularly as Aero India approaches. This strategic focus on aero engine development is critical for bolstering India's defense and aerospace capabilities.

## Pentagon Report Urges India to Accelerate Military Modernization Against China's Rise



05-Jan-25

A recent U.S. Pentagon report underscores China's rapid military modernization, warning that it poses a significant threat to India's national security. The document highlights China's advancements in naval, air, and missile capabilities, including the world's largest navy and the development of long-range bombers. It calls for India to adopt a "mission mode" in its military modernization to counter this growing threat. Experts emphasize the need for India to prioritize advanced weaponry and enhance indigenous defense production, particularly as China aims to expand its global military presence and reshape the Indo-Pacific balance of power, necessitating a reassessment of India's defense strategy.

### Geopolitics and Security Alliances

## French Carrier Strike Group Visits India to Boost Naval Ties



05-Jan-25

The recent visit of the French Carrier Strike Group, led by the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier FNS Charles de Gaulle, to India from January 3-9, 2025, highlights the deepening naval ties between India and France. During this visit, the focus is on enhancing interoperability between the two navies through a series of engagements, including a Passage Exercise with the Indian Navy's Western Fleet, professional exchanges, and Subject Matter Expert Exchanges (SMEEs) in Goa and Kochi. A significant facet of this cooperation is the impending deal for 26 Rafale Marine fighter jets, poised to be deployed from India's aircraft carrier INS Vikrant. Rear Admiral Jacques, Commander of the French Navy Strike Group, emphasized that sharing the same aircraft would facilitate mutual learning and better integration between the two forces. This collaboration is further reinforced by participation in the upcoming 42nd annual Varuna exercise, aimed at improving interoperability



amidst multi-dimensional threats in the maritime domain. The evolving India-France partnership, characterized by extensive joint military exercises over the past two decades, underscores the shared commitment to maritime security in the strategically vital Indian Ocean region. France's presence in the Indo-Pacific not only addresses immediate security concerns but also serves as a counterbalance to rising geopolitical tensions, fostering long-term stability and a free maritime environment.

## Israeli Airstrikes in Gaza Kill 14 Amid Truce Efforts



05-Jan-25

Israeli airstrikes in Gaza have killed at least 14 Palestinians recently, contributing to a weekend death toll of 102, amid intensified efforts for a ceasefire. The strikes targeted various locations, claiming both militants and civilians, with Israeli officials asserting that dozens of Hamas fighters were neutralized. The backdrop includes a significant escalation of violence following a deadly Hamas attack on Israel on October 7, 2023. As mediators from the U.S. and Arab nations work towards a truce, the situation remains critical, highlighting the urgent need for diplomatic resolution to prevent further humanitarian casualties and restore stability in the region.

## China Criticizes US Plan to Ban Its Drones Amid Tensions



05-Jan-25

Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning has condemned the U.S. for considering a new rule to ban Chinese-made drones, arguing it generalizes national security concerns and disrupts normal economic exchanges. She warned that such measures could jeopardize global supply chains and international cooperation, asserting that China would take "all necessary measures" to protect its rights. This situation underscores the escalating tensions between the U.S. and China, particularly regarding trade and technology, as both nations become increasingly defensive of their economic interests. For India, this development could signal opportunities to enhance its own defense capabilities and bolster partnerships with nations seeking alternatives to Chinese technology.

## Gaza ceasefire talks in Qatar resume amid ongoing violence



05-Jan-25

Negotiations for a ceasefire in Gaza have resumed in Qatar amid ongoing violence, with Israel reporting fresh

airstrikes resulting in numerous civilian casualties. Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz confirmed efforts to secure the release of hostages taken by Hamas during their October 2023 attacks, while Hamas demands a cessation of hostilities and withdrawal of Israeli forces. Despite mediation by Qatar, Egypt, and the U.S., previous peace efforts have faltered. Meanwhile, the U.S. is poised to proceed with an \$8 billion arms sale to Israel, reinforcing its military support during this protracted conflict, which has seen significant loss of life on both sides.

## Military Operations

## Indian Army Enhances Mobility in Sikkim with ATOR N1200 Vehicle



05-Jan-25

The Indian Army is significantly enhancing its operational capabilities in Sikkim's challenging terrains with the integration of the indigenized ATOR N1200 Specialist Mobility Vehicle (SMV), derived from Ukraine's SHERP N1200. This versatile vehicle excels in extreme conditions, navigating snow-covered peaks and rocky paths while also possessing amphibious capabilities. Its design, featuring adjustable low-pressure tires, allows it to handle diverse terrains, ensuring troop mobility and logistical support. The deployment of the ATOR N1200 not only strengthens the Army's operational readiness but also reinforces India's strategic presence in critical regions, showcasing the effectiveness of indigenized defense solutions in meeting modern military challenges.

## Ukraine Launches New Counter-Attack in Russia's Kursk Region



05-Jan-25

Russia has reported a new Ukrainian counter-attack in the Kursk region, where Ukrainian forces have gained ground in recent months. The Russian defense ministry stated that Ukrainian troops launched an assault involving tanks and armored vehicles, which was repelled, although reports suggest that fighting has put Russian forces on the defensive. Ukrainian President Zelenskiy claimed significant losses for Russian and North Korean troops in this region, as the ongoing conflict intensifies ahead of potential peace talks. The situation highlights the challenges Russia faces in maintaining its positions while Ukraine seeks to leverage its recent territorial gains for negotiations.

## Tragic vehicle accident in J-K claims two soldiers' lives SHARE

05-Jan-25

In a tragic incident in Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipora district, two soldiers lost their lives and three others were injured when their Army vehicle skidded off the road and plunged into a gorge. The vehicle fell near SK Payen, with the injured personnel quickly transported to a district hospital for urgent medical care before being referred to Srinagar. This unfortunate event underscores the risks faced by the Indian armed forces while navigating challenging terrains in sensitive regions. It highlights the need for improved safety measures and vehicle readiness in high-risk areas to protect the lives of soldiers serving in difficult conditions.

## Terrorism and Counterterrorism

### Four Naxalites and a cop killed in Chhattisgarh encounter SHARE

05-Jan-25

In an encounter in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region, four Naxalites were killed by security forces during an anti-Naxalite operation, which also resulted in the death of a District Reserve Guard (DRG) head constable, Sannu Karam. The gunfight occurred in a forest along the Narayanpur and Dantewada border, leading to the recovery of automatic weapons, including AK-47s and self-loading rifles. This operation highlights the ongoing challenges faced by Indian security forces in combating Naxalite insurgency, underscoring the need for continued vigilance and targeted operations to ensure peace and stability in the region. The commitment of the forces is critical in dismantling such threats to national security.

## Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

### U.S. Lawmakers Seek Clarity on Chinese Cyber Breach at Treasury SHARE

05-Jan-25

U.S. lawmakers are raising concerns following a cyber breach at the Treasury Department linked to Chinese-backed hackers, which exploited a security key related to remote technical support. The breach, detected on December 2, has alarmed officials over national security implications, prompting calls for a formal

hearing with Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen. Although there is currently no evidence of ongoing access by the hackers, the incident underscores vulnerabilities in federal cybersecurity. A Chinese embassy spokesperson dismissed the claims as unfounded, emphasizing the complexity of attributing cyberattacks. This incident reflects growing anxieties about state-sponsored cyber threats and the need for robust cybersecurity measures.

## Mil Personnel & Veterans

### Indian Army Adopts Merit-Based Promotions for Lt. Generals by 2025 SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Indian Army will implement a new merit-based promotion system for Lieutenant Generals starting March 31, 2025, marking a significant shift towards prioritizing performance over seniority. This change aligns with the introduction of the theater command system and aims to enhance operational efficiency amid growing geopolitical challenges from China and Pakistan. While the Indian Air Force and Navy already utilize such a system, some dissent exists among officers, who express concerns about potential political interference in promotions at higher ranks. Overall, this reform could modernize the promotion process and better prepare the Indian Army for contemporary defense needs.

### Vice President Dhankhar Launches NCC Republic Day Camp 2025 in Delhi SHARE

05-Jan-25

Vice President Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurated the National Cadet Corps Republic Day Camp-2025 in Delhi, highlighting the participation of 2361 cadets, including 917 girls, from across India. He emphasized the importance of five pillars essential for national transformation: Social Harmony, Family Enlightenment, Environmental Protection, Cultural Heritage, and Self-Reliance. The Vice President urged cadets to commit to nation-building, underscoring their role in shaping India's future by 2047. His remarks resonate with the broader vision of fostering patriotism and unity among the youth, reinforcing their responsibility towards the country's progress and cultural pride. The event culminated in a vibrant cultural program, showcasing the talents and dedication of the cadets.

## Miscellaneous

### Tragic ALH MK-III Helicopter Crash Claims Three ICG Lives in

**Porbandar**  **SHARE**

05-Jan-25

On January 5, 2025, an ALH MK-III helicopter of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) crashed at Porbandar Airport during a routine training sortie, resulting in the tragic deaths of three crew members: Commandant (JG) Saurabh, Deputy Commandant SK Yadav, and Manoj Pradhan Navik. The helicopter encountered difficulties during landing that led to a fire, and despite immediate rescue efforts, the crew succumbed to their injuries after being taken to a local hospital. Authorities have initiated a Board of Inquiry to investigate the cause of the incident, which is a significant loss for the ICG, known for its critical role in maritime law enforcement and search and rescue operations. This incident underscores the inherent risks faced by defense personnel during training missions and the ongoing need for stringent safety protocols in aviation operations.

### Stricter Border Controls Implemented on Mizoram-Myanmar Border

 **SHARE**

05-Jan-25

Security measures have been intensified along the 510-km Mizoram-Myanmar border, necessitating a border pass for residents within a 10 km radius for travel between the two countries. The new protocol, initiated by the Ministry of Home Affairs, reduces the previous movement range from 16 km and mandates that passes, valid for seven days, be issued by the Assam Rifles and local authorities. This ensures proper documentation and biometrics are recorded, fostering better border management and enhancing security. By regulating border crossings, India aims to control illegal movement while maintaining local ties, reflecting a balanced approach to national security and community relations.

### Air Chief Marshal AP Singh's Visit to Lakshadweep Islands for Troop Engagement and Readiness

**Review**  **SHARE**

05-Jan-25

Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, Chief of the Air Staff, recently visited the strategically important

Lakshadweep Islands from 04 to 05 January 2025. During his visit, he engaged with troops from the Indian Air Force, Indian Navy, and Indian Coast Guard, emphasizing the need for high readiness levels amid a changing geopolitical landscape. He acknowledged the professionalism of the forward-deployed forces and underscored the IAF's critical role in managing emerging contingencies. This visit highlights the Indian military's commitment to ensuring national security and its proactive approach to readiness in critical areas of operation.

### Bhubaneswar to Host 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in 2025

 **SHARE**

05-Jan-25

The 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention is set to take place in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, from January 8-9, 2025, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. A highlight will be a virtual address by H.E. Christine Carla Kangaloo, President of Trinidad and Tobago. The event will showcase exhibitions focusing on the Ramayana's legacy, diaspora contributions to technology, and Odisha's cultural heritage. Security measures include police deployment and a control room for visitor assistance, ensuring smooth operations. This convention underscores India's commitment to engaging its diaspora, fostering cultural ties, and recognizing their contributions globally, thus enhancing India's soft power on the world stage.

### U.S. Shrimp Group Calls for Ban on Chinese Seafood Due to Labor Abuse

 **SHARE**

05-Jan-25

The U.S. Shrimp Group is urging a ban on several Chinese seafood processors over allegations of forced labor, particularly involving Uyghurs and potentially North Korean workers. The request to the Department of Homeland Security aims to add these companies to the Uyghur Forced Labour Prevention Act Entity List, thereby prohibiting their products from entering the U.S. market. This initiative reflects broader efforts to promote ethical sourcing in the seafood industry, as U.S. shrimp harvesters face significant competition from firms that may exploit vulnerable labor. The scrutiny of Chinese seafood imports underscores ongoing concerns regarding human rights violations and ethical standards in international trade.

## Maldives Foreign Minister's Visit Strengthens India-Maldives Ties SHARE

05-Jan-25

Maldives Foreign Minister Khaleel recently concluded an official visit to India, engaging in comprehensive discussions with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar. Their talks centered on enhancing India-Maldives relations through economic cooperation, maritime security, and trade, culminating in the signing of an MoU for High Impact Community Development Projects aimed at improving local infrastructure and livelihoods. Khaleel expressed appreciation for India's support in addressing Maldives' fiscal challenges, highlighting the significance of their partnership for economic stability. This visit not only reinforces the historical ties between the two nations but also sets the stage for future collaborations, emphasizing a mutual commitment to socio-economic development.

## ISRO's SpaDeX Mission Live Stream on Jan 7, 2025: India's Docking Leap SHARE

05-Jan-25

ISRO's upcoming SpaDeX mission, set for live streaming on January 7, 2025, aims to showcase India's in-space docking capabilities using two small satellites, SDX01 and SDX02. Successfully achieving this will position India as the fourth nation globally to master this technology, crucial for future satellite servicing and interplanetary exploration. This mission aligns with ISRO's broader goals to enhance its space exploration capabilities, paving the way for more sophisticated projects such as a national space station and lunar missions. The public live stream will allow viewers to witness this significant advancement in India's indigenous technology and aspirations in the space sector.

## Delhi Police Deports Five Illegal Bangladeshi Nationals SHARE

05-Jan-25

Delhi Police has deported five illegal Bangladeshi nationals found residing in Sarita Vihar after their tourist visas expired. The operation, led by the Illegal Immigrant Investigation Team, is part of a broader crackdown initiated to identify and deport illegal migrants; 14 such individuals have already been deported since November 19, 2024. Authorities are emphasizing compliance with the Foreigners Act to enhance monitoring of foreign nationals. This proactive approach underscores India's commitment to national security and lawful immigration, while also holding accountable those who facilitate illegal stays, such as

the guest house owner, thereby reinforcing the rule of law.

## Security Boosted in Manipur After Mob Attack on Police Office SHARE

05-Jan-25

Following a violent mob attack on the Superintendent of Police's office in Kangpokpi district, Manipur, security has been significantly heightened with a substantial deployment of central and state forces. The unrest was sparked by protests against the presence of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Border Security Force (BSF), with accusations of biased actions towards tribal communities. The police responded to the violence, which included stone-pelting and petrol bombs, and have since regained control over the situation. Despite the tensions, local law enforcement is closely monitoring developments to ensure public safety and stability in the area.

## Kharge Blames BJP and Modi for Manipur's Ongoing Violence SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Congress party has criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the continuing violence in Manipur, alleging that the BJP has a vested interest in the unrest. Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge emphasized that Modi's absence from the state since January 2022 reflects a failure to uphold constitutional duties, particularly as violence has led to over 250 deaths and 60,000 displaced individuals. He condemned the recent attack on police in Kangpokpi, attributing tensions to the ongoing deployment of central security forces. This situation underscores the necessity for the government to proactively engage and restore peace in a region marked by instability.

## Indian Government's Ban on Sikhs for Justice Extended for 5 Years SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Tribunal has upheld the Indian government's decision to ban the pro-Khalistani group Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) for five years, citing its connections to terrorist organizations and Pakistan's ISI. The tribunal confirmed evidence of SFJ's efforts in radicalizing youth, financing terrorism, and issuing threats to political leaders, all aimed at destabilizing India and promoting the creation of a sovereign Khalistan. This ruling underscores the government's commitment to safeguarding national integrity and countering threats to security, reinforcing



its stance against groups that undermine peace and unity in the country.

## ISRO Germinates Cowpea Seeds in Space: A Milestone for India SHARE

05-Jan-25

ISRO has successfully germinated cowpea seeds in microgravity conditions aboard the PSLV-C60 POEM-4 platform, marking a significant milestone for India's space exploration efforts. This experiment, part of the Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies (CROPS), aims to understand plant growth in space, essential for long-duration missions. The project showcases India's advancements in automated systems for growing flora in extraterrestrial environments. Furthermore, ISRO is poised to achieve a remarkable feat in space technology with a chaser satellite set to dock with a target satellite, positioning India among a select group of nations proficient in this complex operation.

## Karan Singh advocates for Jammu and Kashmir's statehood restoration. SHARE

05-Jan-25

Senior Congress leader Karan Singh has called for the restoration of full statehood for Jammu and Kashmir, arguing that its current union territory status diminishes its significance within India. He acknowledged some positive outcomes of the abrogation of Article 370, such as improved women's property rights, while advocating for domiciliary laws to protect local land ownership. Singh emphasized the need for a peaceful relationship between the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir government, reflecting on the historical political transitions in the region. His nuanced perspective highlights the balance between restoring autonomy and ensuring governance efficiency in Jammu and Kashmir's evolving political landscape.

## Optiemus and LS Spectrum team up to combat illegal prison communications SHARE

05-Jan-25

Optiemus Unmanned Systems has partnered with German firm LS Spectrum Solutions to develop drone-based spectrum analyzers in India aimed at detecting unauthorized communications, particularly from prisons. This initiative is a significant step towards

reinforcing India's technological capabilities in managing communication frequencies and contributing to homeland security. The partnership emphasizes commitment to the Make-in-India initiative, with potential expansion into spectrum management and electronic countermeasures. This collaboration not only enhances national security but also positions India as a key player in the global defense technology landscape, reflecting its strategic focus on advanced technological solutions for pressing security challenges.

## CII Calls for PLI Scheme Boost for India's eVTOL Sector SHARE

05-Jan-25

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has urged the Indian government to extend the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme to the electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing (eVTOL) industry, aiming to position India as a leader in urban air mobility. This initiative could significantly benefit startups like ePlane Company and Bluj Aero by providing necessary financial support for scaling operations and driving innovation. Additionally, InterGlobe has signed a \$1 billion MOU with Archer Aviation to acquire 200 eVTOL aircraft, signaling a major step toward integrating this technology into India's transport ecosystem. This push not only promises technological advancement but also emphasizes India's commitment to sustainable urban transportation.

## INS Tushil Enhances India-Senegal Naval Ties in Dakar Visit SHARE

05-Jan-25

INS Tushil, the Indian Navy's latest stealth frigate, visited Dakar, Senegal, enhancing India-Senegal naval relations. Commanded by Captain Peter Varghese, the frigate engaged in military and cultural activities, showcasing indigenous capabilities and promoting training and interoperability between the two navies. The visit included interactions with Senegalese officials and a session of Yoga, embodying India's commitment to fostering defense cooperation and friendly ties. The upcoming Passage Exercise (PASSEX) aims to strengthen maritime collaboration and regional security, marking a significant step in India's strategic outreach in West Africa. This engagement illustrates India's proactive approach to boosting defense partnerships globally.

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# Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
APOLLO	124.86	139.7	122.35	138.25	37748697	11.53	86.68	103.09	104.99
IDEAFORGE	622.0	652.2	621.5	645.8	306856	3.97	62.93	613.23	688.17
PREMEXPLN	534.45	562.0	530.15	551.05	258319	3.1	59.29	523.68	529.28
MTARTECH	1725.0	1782.9	1721.9	1771.15	371223	2.95	60.71	1679.51	1789.22
AZAD	1844.05	1929.8	1830.0	1885.45	561986	1.98	66.64	1750.02	1555.66
ROSSELLIND	79.34	81.5	79.34	80.68	20388	1.69	43.95	80.29	355.72
BDL	1134.0	1170.5	1128.7	1143.65	407002	1.61	45.96	1205.0	1215.03
ZENTEC	2505.0	2588.0	2505.0	2533.45	293394	1.29	72.35	2338.68	1510.19
LOKESHMACH	336.0	339.9	334.0	336.05	34711	0.83	45.94	344.77	391.02
HIGHENE	659.8	674.95	642.25	652.0	6215	0.8	54.95	653.25	718.19
NIBE	1684.5	1715.0	1670.0	1701.0	13566	0.79	45.37	1774.75	1741.33
MIDHANI	346.7	353.5	346.35	349.35	188090	0.76	48.7	359.89	407.11
SOLARINDS	9770.0	9847.75	9680.2	9744.2	45452	0.47	41.55	10240.48	10138.96
DCXINDIA	370.0	380.0	364.35	368.9	1889931	0.35	66.51	336.12	335.29
CFE	700.0	718.0	685.0	700.4	20600	0.31	54.39	701.36	626.63
ASTRAMICRO	784.95	795.95	784.9	788.45	86798	0.29	49.47	799.1	806.12
PARAS	1016.0	1036.0	1005.0	1009.55	92335	0.24	43.03	1052.03	1040.93
COCHINSHIP	1600.0	1619.8	1580.0	1598.25	410469	0.21	55.8	1577.16	1730.64
PTC	152.5	154.7	151.56	152.37	1291334	0.16	41.63	157.72	199.74
KRISHNADEF	772.95	775.0	761.15	764.4	18000	0.14	58.7	747.99	658.47
MARINE	263.85	270.9	258.25	265.55	196215	0.0	45.87	288.93	197.56
DATAPATNS	2490.8	2542.0	2477.9	2485.25	79116	-0.22	49.14	2541.22	2720.8
HBLPOWER	628.95	633.55	622.5	624.5	633702	-0.36	47.04	656.25	565.49
GRSE	1647.0	1679.8	1632.05	1642.9	339107	-0.41	49.87	1675.28	1601.15
HAL	4240.0	4270.05	4197.0	4206.0	853004	-0.7	41.39	4395.97	4462.72
MAZDOCK	2255.5	2297.85	2231.15	2236.9	1592341	-0.75	43.39	2392.64	1950.38
AVANTEL	158.8	160.5	156.27	157.1	462696	-0.75	45.75	161.89	-
SIKA	2600.0	2619.0	2550.15	2579.95	953	-0.93	49.25	2635.16	2529.4
BEML	4190.0	4229.2	4131.4	4142.4	95436	-1.2	49.11	4240.45	3981.15
ADANIENT	2580.0	2619.0	2556.6	2564.6	932795	-1.27	53.6	2476.99	2978.82
TANEJAERO	456.8	456.8	442.25	444.55	18971	-1.44	51.09	449.81	491.43
LT	3708.0	3719.9	3651.45	3659.9	1290107	-1.44	46.73	3746.78	3617.8
BHARATFORG	1318.2	1322.0	1291.0	1296.15	1816419	-1.49	40.81	1325.71	1455.4
BEL	296.5	297.25	291.5	291.95	8167968	-1.63	44.16	302.03	280.91
LMW	17210.0	17327.45	16700.0	16838.35	7459	-2.35	46.93	17258.29	16228.54
TEMBO	899.0	905.0	845.0	859.0	41463	-2.66	62.11	795.23	395.25