



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

March 05,2025 | Day 064

Top Gainers

| Stock | Close | Prev | Change |
|-----------|---------|---------|--------|
| TANEJAERO | 284.05 | 253.4 | +12.1% |
| AZAD | 1355.15 | 1259.25 | +7.62% |
| HIGHENE | 453.9 | 423.4 | +7.2% |
| AVANTEL | 117.38 | 109.74 | +6.96% |
| ZENTEC | 1133.45 | 1076.4 | +5.3% |

Top Losers

| Stock | Close | Prev | Change |
|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| TEMBO | 554.85 | 679.1 | -18.3% |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Defense Business and Industry

DRDO Successfully Tests Indigenous Life Support System for LCA Tejas

🔗 SHARE

05-Mar-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted high-altitude trials of its Indigenous Integrated Life Support System (ILSS) for the LCA Tejas aircraft, utilizing an On-Board Oxygen Generating System (OBOGS). The ILSS demonstrated its capability to function effectively at altitudes of 50,000 feet and during high-G maneuvers, achieving stringent aeromedical standards. With 90% indigenous content, this system enhances India's self-reliance in aerospace technology and could be adapted for other aircraft like the MiG-29K. This achievement underscores India's commitment to advancing defense technologies and aligns with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, showcasing robust collaboration between DRDO, HAL, and Indian industry partners.

Ka-226T and Ansat to be Enhanced with New VK-650V Engine

🔗 SHARE

05-Mar-25

The Russian Minister of Industry and Trade announced that the Ka-226T and Ansat helicopters will be certified with the new VK-650V engine, enhancing Russia's aviation capabilities and its defense collaboration with India. The VK-650V engine, boasting advanced technologies and a power output of 650 hp, is crucial for the Ka-226T's versatility and operational effectiveness, particularly in India's high-altitude regions. This development aligns with India's urgent need for light utility helicopters for rapid response

missions, further solidifying the strategic defense partnership between India and Russia. The integration of the VK-650V into the Ka-226T represents a significant technological advancement and showcases the mutual benefits for both nations in defense procurement.

Solar Industries Secures ₹239-Crore Grenade Contract with Defence Ministry

🔗 SHARE

05-Mar-25

Solar Defence and Aerospace Ltd, a subsidiary of Solar Industries, has secured a significant ₹239-crore contract from the Ministry of Defence to supply multi-mode hand grenades to the Indian Army. This contract underscores India's commitment to bolstering its defense manufacturing capabilities, aligning with the Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives aimed at achieving self-reliance in defense production. The modern multi-mode grenades, introduced to replace outdated World War-era models, demonstrate a strategic move towards enhancing the operational readiness of the armed forces. Furthermore, Solar Group's recent achievements, including a ₹2150 crore order for exporting defense materials, highlight the growing prominence and reliability of indigenous defense manufacturers in meeting the evolving security needs of the nation.

Defence Committee Advocates Private Sector in Military Aircraft Production

🔗 SHARE

05-Mar-25

An Indian defence committee has urged the integration of the private sector in military aircraft manufacturing to enhance the Indian Air Force's capabilities, which are

currently hindered by a falling squadron strength of 31 against a target of 42. This recommendation aims to alleviate pressure on Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd and expedite fighter deliveries amidst rising tensions with China and Pakistan. Air Chief Marshal AP Singh has emphasized the need for India to add 35-40 fighters annually to address existing gaps. The move could significantly boost India's private defence firms and streamline the manufacturing process, enabling better preparedness for national security challenges.

Indian Army and TCOE Partner to Boost Air Delivery Systems SHARE

05-Mar-25

The Indian Army and Telecom Centres of Excellence (TCOE) India have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance the air delivery system through the development of an indigenous NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) integrated aerial delivery system. This collaboration underscores India's commitment to self-reliance in defense, focusing on utilizing advanced satellite navigation and telecom technologies for improved operational logistics, particularly in challenging terrains. Key military leaders emphasized the importance of this initiative in boosting operational readiness and ensuring effective deployment of essential supplies. By fostering innovation and integrating indigenous technologies, this partnership represents a significant step towards enhancing India's defense capabilities.

Gandiva: India's Game-Changing Air-to-Air Missile with 340 km Range SHARE

05-Mar-25

India's advanced air-to-air missile, renamed Gandiva, is poised to transform aerial warfare dynamics with an impressive range of 340 kilometers, surpassing current competitors like China's PL-15 and the U.S. AIM-174. This missile will enhance the Indian Air Force's capabilities, particularly when deployed on the Sukhoi Su-30MKI and Tejas jets. Furthermore, India's defense exports have soared to approximately USD 2.63 billion, a 32.5% increase from the previous year, highlighting a significant push towards self-reliance in defense production. The government's commitment to indigenization is evident through initiatives like the Positive Indigenisation List, aimed at reducing imports and bolstering domestic manufacturing capabilities.

F-35 Fleet Achieves 1 Million Flight Hours, Ensuring Air Supremacy SHARE

05-Mar-25

Lockheed Martin has announced that the global F-35 fleet has surpassed 1 million flight hours, underscoring the aircraft's pivotal role in ensuring air dominance for the U.S. and allied forces. This milestone reflects not only the F-35's unmatched capabilities but also the dedication of its pilots and maintainers. The aircraft has been successfully employed in combat operations, including the F-35C's recent deployment, and is being enhanced to address emerging threats alongside other advanced platforms. As the F-35 continues to evolve, it remains a cornerstone of allied airpower, promoting peace through strength in a complex geopolitical environment.

Indian Navy Enhances Strength with Induction of INS Himagiri and Udaygiri SHARE

05-Mar-25

The Indian Navy is set to bolster its maritime capabilities with the induction of two advanced stealth frigates, INS Himagiri and INS Udaygiri, as part of Project 17A. These Nilgiri-class warships, built with 75% indigenous components, highlight India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing. With a focus on multi-role capabilities, they are equipped for anti-air, anti-surface, and anti-submarine operations, enhancing the Navy's operational versatility. Their advanced stealth technologies and integrated combat management systems position them as critical assets in safeguarding vital sea lanes in the Indo-Pacific, addressing challenges like piracy and territorial disputes, while reflecting a maturing domestic defense ecosystem.

India's Plasma Stealth Device: A Breakthrough in Radar Evasion SHARE

05-Mar-25

India is advancing its defense capabilities with the development of an innovative plasma stealth device aimed at significantly reducing the radar cross-section (RCS) of military assets. Utilizing rectangular and elliptical tiles in plasma chambers, this technology absorbs and deflects radar waves, enhancing the survivability of military platforms. Experimental tests in both controlled and outdoor settings have shown promising reductions in RCS, showcasing the technology's potential against various radar systems. Unlike traditional stealth methods, plasma-based stealth offers a dynamic, adjustable solution, though

challenges remain in operational deployment regarding power and integration with existing systems, positioning India as a key player in global stealth technology research.

LUH Program Under Scrutiny: Test Pilot Flags Design Concerns



05-Mar-25

India's Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) program, developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), faces serious scrutiny due to design flaws highlighted by a senior test pilot. Concerns about the LUH's autorotation performance and directional stability suggest it may not meet critical safety standards, which could endanger pilots during emergency scenarios. Despite the program's ambition to enhance India's self-reliance in rotorcraft production, unresolved issues threaten operational timelines and could lead to reliance on foreign alternatives. The situation calls for urgent transparency and accountability from HAL, as any delays in certification and induction may exacerbate existing rotorcraft shortages within the Indian armed forces.

Indian Navy to Test DRDO's VSHORADS for Enhanced Defense on Warships



05-Mar-25

The Indian Navy is set to test the Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO) Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) for integration into its frontline warships as a Close-In Weapon System (CIWS). This adaptation aims to enhance naval defensive capabilities against a spectrum of aerial and surface threats, particularly cruise missiles and drones. Positioned below the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) in the defensive hierarchy, the VSHORADS-based CIWS will offer a quick-reaction capability to counter smaller, faster-moving targets, thereby significantly bolstering the Navy's operational readiness and modernizing its arsenal by replacing older systems like the Barak-I missiles.

Tejas MkII to Integrate CATS Warrior UAVs for Advanced Combat



05-Mar-25

The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) are integrating the Tejas MkII fighter jet with semi-autonomous UAVs, known as CATS Warrior loyal wingmen, utilizing advanced AI technologies for coordinated operations. This initiative aims to enhance combat capabilities in high-threat environments, allowing manned and

unmanned platforms to collaborate effectively. The Tejas MkII will serve as a testbed for these technologies, which will later benefit India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA). The development of loyal wingman drones signifies a strategic advancement in India's defense capabilities, elevating operational flexibility and effectiveness in modern warfare while reinforcing India's commitment to enhancing its indigenous defense industry.

Pakistan Air Force Plans All-5th Gen Fighter Fleet by 2047



05-Mar-25

The Pakistan Air Force (PAF) is pursuing an ambitious plan to establish an all-5th generation fighter fleet by 2047, driven by its Project Azm, alongside potential acquisitions of China's FC-31 and Turkey's TF-X. This transformation aims to enhance regional air superiority and is marked by collaborations for technology transfer. However, PAF faces significant challenges, including financial constraints, technological hurdles, and the need for extensive operational integration. While their phased approach reflects a strategic advancement, India's defense industry and forces must remain vigilant and bolster their capabilities to counterbalance any potential shifts in regional aerial dynamics and maintain national security.

Navy Supports TEDBF Program as 5th Gen Minus Fighter Advances



05-Mar-25

India's Twin Engine Deck-Based Fighter (TEDBF) program is advancing steadily, with the Navy committed to its 5th Gen Minus classification despite speculation about a full fifth-generation upgrade. An official from the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) affirmed that the Preliminary Design Review (PDR) is on track for completion by late 2025, emphasizing no plans to integrate an Internal Weapons Bay (IWB), which would require extensive redesign. This pragmatic approach highlights the Navy's focus on balancing capabilities such as maritime strike and air defense with cost-effectiveness, opting for features like stealth coatings and semi-recessed weapon layouts to manage radar signatures while maintaining operational flexibility.

India Unveils Jalkapi XLUUV: 20-Ton Submarine with 45-Day Endurance



05-Mar-25

India's defense sector has reached a significant milestone with the development of the Jalkapi XLUUV,

an Extra-Large Unmanned Underwater Vehicle weighing 20 tons and capable of operating autonomously for 30 to 45 days. This innovative submarine, showcased at Aero India 2025, enhances the Indian Navy's underwater capabilities in the strategically vital Indian Ocean Region. Developed by Rekise Marine, it features advanced sensors for comprehensive surveillance and autonomous navigation. The Jalkapi's design and operational depth make it versatile for various missions, including anti-submarine warfare and electronic surveillance, marking a noteworthy step towards self-reliance in defense technology and highlighting the vital role of India's private sector in defense innovation.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

Rajnath Singh: Embracing Advanced Solutions for Modern Security Threats



05-Mar-25

Defense Minister Rajnath Singh emphasized the need for advanced solutions to counter rapidly evolving security threats, such as cyberattacks and space-based espionage, during the DRDO Collaboration Conference. He highlighted the importance of a holistic approach to national security, urging institutions to collaborate and break silos to adapt to unconventional threats. Singh praised the DRDO for enhancing India's defense capabilities, noting the development of critical technologies for internal security, including small arms and surveillance equipment. The minister's call for timely deployment of scalable products underlines the commitment to equip security forces with modern tools to address contemporary challenges effectively.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

France Warns Against Seizing Russian Assets for Ukraine Aid



05-Mar-25

European nations are debating the use of frozen Russian assets to support Ukraine amid shifting U.S. military aid policies under President Trump. France's Finance Minister has expressed caution against outright asset seizures, citing international law and financial stability risks, while advocating for utilizing only the interest generated from these assets. The G7 has previously agreed to channel funds from frozen

assets, with estimates of interest earnings potentially reaching up to €20 billion by 2027. However, the proposal for outright confiscation has sparked division within Europe, with the UK supporting it while France and Germany remain wary, emphasizing the need for legal and economic prudence. Ultimately, this situation highlights the complexities of international law and the geopolitical ramifications of financial strategies in the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

Bangladesh Eyes Closer Ties with India, Urges Visa Resumption



05-Mar-25

Bangladesh is seeking stronger ties with India, hoping for the resumption of visa services following strained relations after the ousting of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The interim government, led by Muhammad Yunus, emphasizes a constructive relationship with India while navigating internal challenges, such as attacks on minorities. Concurrently, Bangladesh's growing ties with Pakistan, including maritime trade and defense cooperation, raise concerns for India, especially given historical context and the involvement of radical groups. India remains vigilant, with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar highlighting the need for Bangladesh to decide its relationship trajectory with India amidst these geopolitical shifts. This evolving dynamic poses potential challenges to India's national security interests in the region.

Foreign Secretary Misri to Visit Russia on March 7 for Talks



05-Mar-25

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri is set to visit Russia on March 7 for discussions on bilateral cooperation, including trade and energy ties, amid the ongoing Ukraine conflict. His meetings will likely address the impact of Western sanctions on India-Russia energy relations and the situation of Indian nationals serving in the Russian military, following reports of casualties and missing personnel. Misri's visit comes shortly after Defense Minister Rajnath Singh's trip to Russia, highlighting India's continued engagement with Moscow despite geopolitical tensions. This visit underscores India's strategic partnership with Russia, fostering dialogue amidst evolving global dynamics.

Geopolitical Shifts Favor India's Ambitious Tech Aspirations



05-Mar-25

The NITI Aayog CEO emphasized the necessity for India to enhance its technological ambitions to effectively

compete with global powerhouses like the USA and China, thereby positioning itself as a leader in technology. He highlighted the favorable geopolitical landscape aligning with India's goals, suggesting that with focused efforts, India can elevate its status on the global stage. This perspective not only underscores the importance of technological advancement for national security but also reflects the growing recognition of India's potential in shaping global technological trends. Ultimately, this aligns with India's broader defense strategy aimed at achieving self-reliance and enhancing its strategic capabilities in an increasingly competitive world.

India's Naval Diplomacy: Strengthening Security from Gulf to Sea SHARE

05-Mar-25

India's naval diplomacy has significantly expanded its presence across the Indo-Pacific and the Persian Gulf, with 221 deployments in 2023-24, solidifying its role as a stabilizing maritime power amidst rising Chinese assertiveness. The Indian Navy's strategic engagements, including joint patrols and naval exercises with ASEAN nations, aim to counter China's influence while enhancing economic security through the protection of vital trade routes. Additionally, India's approach blends military cooperation with soft diplomacy, showcasing its commitment to regional stability without forming overt security alliances. This strategy positions India as a key player in shaping the balance of power in contested waters, particularly as US-China tensions rise.

Philippine Defense Chief: Allies Will Resist China's Air Restrictions SHARE

05-Mar-25

Philippine Defence Secretary Gilberto Teodoro warned that the Philippines and its allies would respond to any Chinese attempts to impose air defense restrictions over the South China Sea, citing increasing Chinese aggression as a significant threat to national and global security. Recent encounters involving Chinese military aircraft have heightened tensions, prompting discussions of contingency measures among allied nations like the US and Australia. Teodoro emphasized that a potential Air Defence Identification Zone by China would breach international law, rallying like-minded countries against such transgressions. This situation underscores the urgent need for a cooperative security framework among nations in the Indo-Pacific to counterbalance China's assertiveness.

Zelensky: Lasting Peace is Possible Amid Ongoing Negotiations SHARE

05-Mar-25

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky emphasized that a lasting peace is achievable amid ongoing discussions with U.S. leadership and European allies, despite the U.S. suspending military aid and intelligence sharing with Ukraine. The Kremlin responded positively to Zelensky's willingness for negotiations, although they remain skeptical about direct talks with him. Zelensky seeks U.S. security guarantees to prevent future Russian aggression, while Moscow has captured additional territory in Ukraine. The situation reflects a complex interplay of military dynamics and diplomatic negotiations, highlighting the need for a unified stance from Ukraine and its allies to secure favorable terms for peace.

Germany Eyes Major Rearmament Amid US Commitment Concerns SHARE

05-Mar-25

Germany is poised for significant rearmament as Chancellor candidate Friedrich Merz plans to increase defense spending by 100 billion euros annually, a historical move since World War II. This shift comes amid a perceived weakening of the US defense commitment, prompting Germany to take a leadership role in European security. Experts express concerns over the logistics of such massive funding, including weapon production and economic impact, while also highlighting potential tensions with EU partners regarding defense spending priorities. Overall, Germany's rearmament reflects a pivotal shift in European defense dynamics, indicating a more proactive stance in ensuring regional security.

US reportedly halts intelligence sharing with Ukraine, sparking concerns. SHARE

05-Mar-25

The U.S. has reportedly cut off intelligence-sharing with Ukraine, potentially hindering its military operations against Russian forces, according to the Financial Times. However, a Kyiv official claims that intelligence continues to flow from the U.S., as stated by Bloomberg News. This situation indicates a complex dynamic in U.S.-Ukraine relations, where intelligence gaps may affect the efficacy of Ukrainian operations. The uncertainty surrounding the intelligence-sharing policy raises concerns about the overall strategy of Western allies in supporting Ukraine against Russian aggression, further complicating the geopolitical landscape in Eastern Europe.

Briton Sentenced to 19 Years in Russia for Fighting in Ukraine SHARE

05-Mar-25

A Russian court sentenced British citizen James Scott Rhys Anderson to 19 years in prison for participating in the conflict for Ukraine as a mercenary. Captured during Kyiv's offensive, he was charged with a "terrorist act" after admitting to fighting for financial gain, reportedly receiving approximately \$400 monthly. This case highlights Russia's stance on foreign fighters, categorizing them as mercenaries rather than prisoners of war, which raises critical questions about international norms and the treatment of combatants. Such legal actions reflect Russia's broader strategy to deter foreign involvement in the Ukraine conflict while asserting control over narratives surrounding the conflict's conduct.

Belgium seeks to enhance defense ties with India for strategic autonomy. SHARE

05-Mar-25

Belgium's Foreign Minister Maxime Prevot emphasized the need for Europe to develop strategic autonomy in defense during a visit to India, highlighting India's potential role in bolstering European military capacity. This aligns with a prospective defense pact between India and Belgium, as the Belgian delegation, led by Princess Astrid, met with PM Modi. Prevot acknowledged the changing global landscape, underscoring the importance of flexibility and unity within the EU while maintaining strong ties with the US. This initiative reflects India's growing influence in global defense partnerships and the recognition of its capabilities in addressing European security challenges.

US Engages in Secret Talks with Hamas on Hostage Release SHARE

05-Mar-25

The Trump administration is reportedly engaged in secret negotiations with Hamas regarding the release of U.S. hostages held in Gaza, as per Axios. U.S. special envoy for hostage affairs, Adam Bohler, has been directly involved in these discussions based in Doha. This development underscores the complexities of U.S. foreign policy in the region, as it navigates sensitive dialogues with groups like Hamas, which could impact broader geopolitical dynamics. The ongoing talks highlight the challenges faced in hostage situations and the intricate balance between security and diplomatic engagement in conflict zones.

India, UAE Discuss Advancements in Economic Corridor Initiative SHARE

05-Mar-25

India and the UAE are advancing discussions on the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC), led by T.K. Ramachandran from the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. This initiative, launched at the G20 Summit, aims to enhance trade infrastructure and digital frameworks, including a Virtual Trade Corridor and MAITRI, to streamline processes and reduce costs. With trade between India and the UAE exceeding \$85 billion, the corridor also seeks to bolster energy cooperation and digital connectivity while addressing regional challenges. This collaboration underscores the commitment to deepen bilateral ties and enhance global economic connectivity, positioning India strategically against evolving geopolitical dynamics.

J&K Assembly Erupts Over NC Call for Talks with Pakistan SHARE

05-Mar-25

An uproar in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly arose when NC leader Ali Mohammad Sagar called for renewed talks with Pakistan, prompting BJP MLA Sunil Kumar Sharma to assert that terrorism and dialogue are incompatible. Sharma challenged the NC's consistent push for talks despite claims of sacrifice, while another NC MLA raised concerns about escalating drug abuse in the region. The government acknowledged a rise in inpatient addiction cases but noted an overall decrease in registered drug addiction cases, attributing improvements to initiatives like the Nasha Mukht Abhiyan. This debate underscores the complexities of security, governance, and public health in J&K, highlighting differing political viewpoints on engagement with Pakistan amidst local challenges.

Military Operations

New Israeli military chief takes command amid Gaza tensions SHARE

05-Mar-25

Israel has appointed Eyal Zamir as its new military chief amid ongoing tensions and a fragile ceasefire with Hamas, following the significant security failures during the October 7, 2023, attacks. Zamir, who has a robust military background including key operations during previous conflicts, replaces General Herzi Halevi, who resigned after admitting shortcomings in response efforts. The new commander emphasized a

commitment to achieving "absolute victory" over Hamas and restoring national unity, signaling a tough stance against both Hamas and Iranian influence in the region. Prime Minister Netanyahu has echoed support for Zamir, highlighting the importance of U.S. assistance in bolstering Israel's military capabilities and achieving strategic objectives. This leadership change occurs in a context where Israel has faced international scrutiny over its military actions in Gaza and broader geopolitical challenges, and Zamir's experience and assertive approach are expected to shape Israel's operations moving forward, particularly regarding the remaining hostages and ongoing conflict dynamics in Gaza and Lebanon.

Indian Army Leads Rescue Efforts After Telangana Tunnel Collapse SHARE

05-Mar-25

The Indian Armed Forces are actively aiding the ongoing rescue operations following the collapse of the Srisailem Left Bank Canal (SLBC) tunnel in Telangana, where eight individuals have been trapped since February 22, 2025. Efforts include dewatering, desilting, and debris removal, utilizing advanced equipment like conveyor belts and excavators. Despite the challenges posed by muck and water, the restoration of the conveyor belt has accelerated debris clearance. Additionally, a robotics team is exploring the use of robots for further operations, while scientists from the National Centre of Seismology are conducting seismic studies. The involvement of multiple agencies, including the Indian Army, Navy, and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), highlights India's commitment to a coordinated and vigorous rescue effort, showcasing the nation's resilience and capability in crisis management.

Seminar Highlights Integration of Air and Naval Forces in IOR SHARE

05-Mar-25

A seminar titled "Synergizing Air and Naval Forces: Enhancing Combat Power in the Indian Ocean Region" was hosted by the Southern Air Command and the Centre for Air Power Studies, with Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan emphasizing the strategic importance of the Indian Ocean Region. He highlighted the need for integration of air and naval forces, real-time intelligence sharing, and joint operational exercises to boost India's defense posture. Air Marshal SP Dharkar reinforced the necessity for coordinated threat analysis and the use of unmanned systems in maritime security, showcasing India's commitment to

inter-service cooperation and modernization in response to evolving geopolitical challenges.

Bangladesh deploys Turkish drones near India, prompting vigilance SHARE

05-Mar-25

Bangladesh has acquired and is operating Turkish TB-2 Bayraktar drones near the Indian border, as concerns grow over its ties with Pakistan, particularly regarding intelligence cooperation. Indian defense sources confirm these drones have been conducting surveillance missions, prompting India to enhance monitoring efforts, including radar installations. The Indian Army Chief expressed apprehension over the potential use of Bangladeshi territory by Pakistani officials for terrorism targeted at India. This situation underscores the need for India to remain vigilant and proactive in safeguarding its borders and countering any external threats that could destabilize the region.

J-K Police and Army Conduct Mock Drill at Wanpoh Station SHARE

05-Mar-25

Jammu and Kashmir Police, in collaboration with the Army, CAPF, RPF, and Fire and Emergency Services, conducted a mock drill at Wanpoh Railway Station to assess emergency response mechanisms and readiness against potential terror incidents. The exercise aimed to enhance coordination and effectiveness among various security forces while identifying areas for improvement in response times. Supervised by senior officials, this initiative underscores the J-K Police's commitment to public safety and reflects a proactive approach to counter-terrorism efforts in the region, thereby bolstering both community confidence and operational readiness.

India-Japan 'Dharma Guardian' Exercise Boosts Military Ties at Fuji SHARE

05-Mar-25

India and Japan are conducting the 'Dharma Guardian' joint military exercise at the East Fuji Training Area, marking a significant enhancement in scale with company-strength troop participation for the first time. This exercise focuses on urban warfare and counter-terrorism, aiming to refine interoperability, combat skills, and disaster response strategies between the two nations' armed forces. It underscores their commitment to regional security and stability in the Indo-Pacific, aligning with recent diplomatic engagements. The exercise is part of a broader military cooperation framework, enhancing their strategic

partnership and reinforcing their vision of a free and inclusive region.

CRPF Officer and Two Jawans Injured in Maoist IED Blast



05-Mar-25

A CRPF Assistant Commandant and two jawans were injured in an IED blast by Maoists in Jharkhand's Chaibasa district during an anti-Maoist operation. They were promptly airlifted to Ranchi for medical treatment. This incident underscores the ongoing conflict as security forces have recently dismantled multiple Maoist hideouts, seizing a significant cache of weapons, including a US-made M-16 rifle. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has indicated that the government's anti-Maoist operations are nearing completion, with an aim to eradicate Maoism by March 2026, highlighting the Indian government's commitment to restoring order and security in affected regions.

India's Air Power Faces Challenges Amid Regional Jet Buildup.



05-Mar-25

India's air power faces challenges as its fleet shrank by 151 aircraft over the past decade, while China and Pakistan increased their numbers significantly. The Indian Air Force (IAF) currently operates 31 squadrons against a sanctioned strength of 42, raising concerns about aerial readiness. In response, India is implementing a robust indigenous expansion plan focused on the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas and the Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) program, which aims to procure 114 jets through international collaborations. Despite these efforts, the IAF's reliance on aging platforms underscores an urgent need to enhance capabilities amid evolving regional dynamics.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Army Jawan Dies in Baramulla; Suicide Suspected Amid Security Threats



05-Mar-25

In Baramulla, Jammu and Kashmir, an Army jawan, Naik B T Rao (25), reportedly died from firearm injuries, with preliminary indications suggesting a suicide. This incident occurred at a forward location, and investigations are underway to confirm the circumstances. Simultaneously, militants targeted a police post in the same district with a grenade attack, which fortunately resulted in no casualties or property

damage. These incidents highlight the ongoing security challenges in the region, necessitating continued vigilance and comprehensive strategies by the Indian defense forces to maintain stability and safeguard personnel against such threats.

Grenade attack attempt on Baramulla police post foiled, no harm done



05-Mar-25

A suspected grenade attack occurred on a police post in Baramulla, Jammu and Kashmir, during the night of March 4-5, but thankfully, no casualties or damage were reported. The police recovered a grenade pin from the scene, indicating an attempted attack, while security forces remain vigilant against potential terrorist activities. In light of recent peaceful elections, intelligence suggests that terrorist handlers across the border are frustrated and have urged increased violence. The Indian Army and police continue to conduct aggressive operations against these threats, reinforcing their commitment to public safety and stability in the region.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

UIDAI Chief Calls for Innovative Strategies to Secure Digital India



05-Mar-25

India, facing significant cyber threats as the second most targeted nation, emphasizes the need for innovative thinking and expertise to safeguard its digital ecosystem, according to UIDAI chief S M D Jeelani. The inauguration of a Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence Lab in Bengaluru, in collaboration with SISA, aims to equip students with relevant skills and foster collaboration in addressing emerging cybersecurity challenges. This initiative aligns with the central government's internship program and contributes to the broader goal of achieving Viksit Bharat by 2047. The establishment of such a lab is crucial for nurturing future cyber leaders and enhancing India's cybersecurity landscape, ultimately driving innovation and resilience.

Survey: Cybersecurity and AI Lead Emerging Governance Risks in India



05-Mar-25

A recent survey by IIA-Protiviti India emphasizes that emerging governance risks, particularly in cybersecurity

and artificial intelligence (AI), are critical for Indian enterprises. Approximately 66% of Chief Audit Executives consider these technologies as top risks. Despite acknowledging the potential of AI and machine learning to enhance internal audits, 82% of respondents use data analytics only moderately or not at all. The survey highlights a significant gap in expertise, with 56% noting a lack of Subject Matter Experts in technical auditing. This underscores the need for organizations to embrace digital transformation and foster a proactive approach to risk management in the evolving technological landscape.

IIT Madras and IIITDM Kancheepuram launch Binary Clash 360 to boost India's cybersecurity talent.



05-Mar-25

IIT Madras and IIITDM Kancheepuram, in collaboration with Protectt.ai, have launched the Binary Clash 360 program to enhance India's cybersecurity talent, focusing on mobile app security through techniques like binary obfuscation. This multi-stage initiative includes boot camps, hackathons, and competitive events, aiming to equip participants with real-world skills and knowledge to combat modern cyber threats. With cash prizes and internship opportunities, the program will nurture a skilled workforce capable of addressing evolving digital challenges, reinforcing India's position as a global digital hub. This initiative exemplifies the commitment to bridging the cybersecurity skills gap and fostering a secure digital environment in India.

Strengthening Cybersecurity in India's Emerging Tier-2 Cities



05-Mar-25

India experienced over 369 million cybersecurity incidents in 2024, with tier-2 cities like Surat and Jaipur facing a surge in attacks due to weaker defenses. As these cities evolve into technological hubs, they must prioritize robust cloud security strategies to mitigate vulnerabilities, especially with 45% of organizations based there. A proactive approach, including identity management and strict access controls, is essential to safeguard sensitive data. The growing complexity of cloud environments necessitates unified security measures to foster resilience against cyber threats, ensuring these regions can continue to innovate without significant disruption from attacks.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Pune Man Arrested for Running Fake Army Recruitment Scam



05-Mar-25

A defense civilian employee, Subhash Magan Pawar, was arrested in Pune for allegedly running a fake recruitment racket targeting job aspirants for the Indian Army, deceiving them with false job promises and charging around 4.3 lakh each. The operation, led by the Army's Military Intelligence and local police, followed a tip-off regarding Pawar's fraudulent activities, which reportedly affected candidates from financially disadvantaged backgrounds. The investigation began after one victim claimed to have paid 8 lakh, and authorities are now interrogating the accused to uncover the full extent of the scam. This incident highlights the need for increased vigilance against such fraudulent schemes that exploit vulnerable aspirants.

Army probes Brigadier for alleged assault on soldiers at home



05-Mar-25

The Indian Army has initiated an inquiry into allegations that a serving Brigadier assaulted soldiers assigned to his official residence in Poonch on March 1. Reports indicate that the Brigadier's cook was reportedly slapped and abused, with a replacement cook also being subjected to violence. The Army has committed to a fair and transparent investigation, emphasizing the importance of maintaining morale and discipline within its ranks. While this incident raises concerns about conduct, the Army's swift response underscores its commitment to accountability and operational integrity, ensuring that the overall situation remains stable and under control.

Miscellaneous

Karnataka Minister Orders Reclamation of 444 Acres from IAF



05-Mar-25

Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre has ordered the reclamation of 444 acres of forest land illegally held by the Indian Air Force (IAF) in Bengaluru, a decision stemming from a 2017 government order that reclassified the land as reserved forest. Originally allotted to the IAF in 1987, the area was declared

protected after violations of forest laws were flagged by the CAG. Despite this, construction activities began without the necessary Forest Clearance, prompting the Minister to instruct officials to take legal action and seek compliance from the IAF. This situation highlights the government's strong commitment to environmental protection and adherence to regulations, reinforcing the importance of balancing defense activities with ecological preservation.

China Strikes Back: Imposes Tariffs on U.S. Food Imports SHARE

05-Mar-25

China has responded decisively to U.S. President Trump's new tariffs, which increased duties on Chinese imports to 20%. In retaliation, China plans to impose a 10% tariff on various U.S. food products and has blacklisted several American companies, including drone manufacturer Skydio. The Chinese Foreign Ministry has stated that they are prepared to "fight till the end" against U.S. trade policies, urging the U.S. to engage in dialogue instead of confrontation. While the rhetoric is aggressive, analysts suggest China is strategically positioned for a trade war, having diversified its markets. Despite these tensions, both nations appear inclined to avoid a full-scale trade conflict due to its significant economic implications for each side. This ongoing standoff underscores the complexities of international trade relations and the delicate balance between competition and cooperation.

Indian Navy Enhances Sri Lanka Coast Guard's Fire-Fighting Capabilities SHARE

05-Mar-25

The Indian Navy recently handed over fire-fighting equipment to the Sri Lanka Coast Guard Ship Suraksha, originally donated by India in 2017, reflecting the robust maritime collaboration between the two nations. This gesture is part of ongoing efforts to enhance interoperability and strengthen regional maritime security under India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy. India has previously supported the Suraksha with spare parts, emphasizing a commitment to address shared maritime challenges. Such initiatives not only bolster bilateral ties but also reinforce India's role as a key partner in regional security, showcasing its dedication to fostering stability and cooperation in the Indian Ocean region.

Jaishankar's London Visit: Strengthening India-UK Ties SHARE

05-Mar-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's official visit to the UK involved key meetings with Prime Minister Keir Starmer, Foreign Secretary David Lammy, and Home Secretary Yvette Cooper, focusing on advancing bilateral economic cooperation and addressing the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Discussions also covered the progress of the India-UK Free Trade Agreement, enhancing talent mobility, and joint efforts against trafficking and extremism. Jaishankar's engagement with UK business leaders aims to strengthen the GBP 41-billion trade relationship and promote educational exchanges, as seen in his interaction with Chevening Scholars. This visit not only underscores India's commitment to reinforcing ties with the UK but also sets the stage for similar discussions with Ireland, further emphasizing India's strategic diplomatic outreach in the region.

Empowering Rural Growth: Indian Army's Impact on Villages SHARE

05-Mar-25

The Indian Army has significantly contributed to rural development in remote areas, particularly in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, through initiatives aimed at infrastructure, healthcare, education, and community empowerment. With an annual allocation of approximately Rs 150 crore for projects in 100 Vibrant Villages, the Army implements various programs, including medical camps, vocational training, and agricultural support, enhancing local economies and living standards. Notably, Operation Sadbhavana focuses on providing quality education in conflict zones. These efforts foster trust among the local population, promote self-reliance, and support sustainable growth, showcasing the Army's multifaceted role beyond defense and its commitment to national integration and community welfare.

Army Blocks Ayodhya Hotel Plan, Citing Artillery Safety Concerns SHARE

05-Mar-25

The Indian Army has denied permission for the construction of a hotel in Ayodhya's Ghatampur village, citing that the land is designated as a buffer zone for artillery exercises, a decision following an Allahabad High Court order mandating Army no-objection certificates for construction in several villages. This rejection is a setback for local developers amidst hopes of an Ayodhya real estate boom, as the Ayodhya

Development Authority previously denotified land in another village, which has raised concerns over safety and regulatory processes. The case exemplifies the balancing act between local development aspirations and national defense considerations, emphasizing the importance of adhering to safety protocols in military zones.

SpaceX Delays Starship's Eighth Test Due to Booster Issues



05-Mar-25

SpaceX has postponed the eighth test of its Starship rocket due to issues with both the Super Heavy booster and the Starship spacecraft, halting the launch attempt at T-40 seconds. Initial problems with the booster were seemingly resolved, but further complications with Ship 34 prompted a thorough inspection. CEO Elon Musk emphasized the need for clarity before proceeding, signaling a commitment to safety. This test is vital for SpaceX's goal of developing a reusable rocket for missions to the moon and Mars, showcasing the challenges inherent in cutting-edge space exploration technology and the importance of meticulous preparation.

PM Modi and Princess Astrid Discuss Expanding India-Belgium Ties



05-Mar-25

PM Modi recently met with Princess Astrid of Belgium, emphasizing the potential for "limitless opportunities" in sectors like trade, technology, and defense, highlighting the strengthening economic ties between the two nations. India ranks as Belgium's 14th largest export destination, and discussions included an economic mission involving over 180 companies focusing on renewable energy and defense. This collaboration reflects a commitment to enhance bilateral partnerships, particularly in strategic areas like defense, showcasing India's growing role in global trade and technology innovation, which is crucial for bolstering its defense capabilities and international standing.

China Launches Zuchongzhi-3 Quantum Supercomputer, Raising Stakes



05-Mar-25

China has recently unveiled the Zuchongzhi-3 quantum supercomputer, boasting 105 qubits and processing speeds quadrillion times faster than current supercomputers, thereby reinforcing its leadership in quantum computing. This breakthrough is crucial for achieving quantum supremacy, significantly surpassing

Google's Sycamore processor. It reflects a broader competition in advanced technology between nations, particularly in areas impacting national security, artificial intelligence, and more. While this advancement underscores China's technological progress, it also emphasizes the need for India to enhance its own quantum research initiatives to maintain strategic parity and foster innovation in critical defense technologies.

Delhi High Court Grants Bail to Christian Michel in Chopper Scam



05-Mar-25

The Delhi High Court granted bail to Christian Michel, an alleged middleman in the Rs 3,600-crore AgustaWestland chopper scam, after he spent over six years in custody without trial. The court acknowledged his prolonged detention violated his right to a speedy trial, particularly as the investigation remains incomplete. Despite the Enforcement Directorate's concerns about Michel being a flight risk, the judge emphasized the need for trial expediency. This case highlights systemic issues in judicial processes and the importance of timely justice, which is essential for maintaining public confidence in the legal system and accountability in defense procurement.

Assam CM Eyes Interpol in Probe Tied to Congress MP's Wife



05-Mar-25

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced progress in a Special Investigation Team's probe into alleged Pakistani links involving Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi and his wife, Elizabeth, specifically concerning interactions with Pakistani national Ali Sheikh. Sarma indicated the investigation could extend to Interpol, citing Sheikh's suspicious visits to India and social media activity. Gogoi acknowledged the investigation, asserting his visit to the Pakistan High Commissioner was routine. He criticized the BJP's governance in Assam, claiming the party is facing imminent electoral defeat. This situation highlights the ongoing political tensions in Assam, intertwining national security concerns with local electoral dynamics.

Private Sector and Public Engagement Essential for India's Nuclear Goals



05-Mar-25

India aims to achieve 100 GW of nuclear power by 2047, a target emphasized by Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, who highlighted the necessity for

private sector involvement, regulatory reforms, and public awareness to foster confidence in nuclear energy. As electricity demand is projected to increase significantly, nuclear power is deemed essential for meeting base-load needs alongside renewable sources. The government's initiatives include legislative changes, significant contributions from the Nuclear Power Corporation of India, and the introduction of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) to enhance adaptability. A comprehensive public outreach strategy is critical to address safety concerns and promote nuclear energy as a viable, clean alternative.

CBI Seeks US Help in Bofors Scam Investigation Through Investigator

📱 SHARE

05-Mar-25

The CBI has issued a judicial request to the US for information from private investigator Michael Hershman regarding the Bofors bribery scandal linked to the 1980s. Hershman previously claimed that the investigation was undermined by the Congress government, and he was willing to assist the CBI in uncovering pertinent details. Despite previous requests yielding no results, the CBI has sought a Letter Rogatory to gather evidence in the US. This ongoing investigation underscores the importance of transparency and accountability in defense procurement, reflecting India's commitment to resolving historical corruption while maintaining robust defense capabilities, as exemplified by the impact of the Bofors Howitzers during the Kargil conflict.

Critics say Yunus government neglects vital economic reforms

📱 SHARE

05-Mar-25

The interim government in Bangladesh, led by Muhammad Yunus, faces criticism for failing to

implement promised economic reforms, leading to a bleak economic outlook. Despite reports from two reform committees highlighting urgent needs for changes, the government has not acted, causing frustration among stakeholders. The business sector is experiencing a liquidity crisis, with many companies shutting down due to political instability and uncertainty, which has deterred investment. South Korean diplomats have pointed out that this climate hampers economic growth, emphasizing the necessity for the interim government to provide a secure environment for businesses, particularly in the crucial ready-made garments sector, vital for exports.

Income Tax Department to Access Your Digital Accounts from 2026

📱 SHARE

05-Mar-25

Starting April 1, 2026, India's income tax department will acquire the authority to access individuals' social media, emails, and digital assets if they suspect tax evasion, extending their powers under the new Income Tax Bill. While aimed at curbing undisclosed income, experts raise concerns over potential privacy infringements and lack of judicial oversight, deeming the expansive definitions of virtual digital space as vague and prone to abuse. This could lead to constitutional challenges on grounds of privacy infringement, highlighting a critical tension between tax enforcement and individual rights in a digital framework. The balance between effective tax administration and safeguarding personal privacy remains a contentious issue.

Disclaimer: This newsletter provides an independent analysis of news articles and reports published across various media outlets over the past 24 hours. The views and opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the official stance of the publishers or any affiliated organizations. The publishers are not responsible for the accuracy, completeness, or reliability of the content analyzed and make no representations regarding the information contained herein. Readers are encouraged to consult original sources for verification and further context; access to the list of original sources analysed can be made available upon request via email.

Subscribe to DefenceProfessionals Whatsapp Channel



Defence Sector Stocks

| Stock | Open | High | Low | Close | Volume | Change | RSI14 | SMA20 | SMA200 |
|------------|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|--------|-------|----------|----------|
| TANEJAERO | 258.0 | 287.3 | 258.0 | 284.05 | 67517 | 12.1 | 38.98 | 308.01 | 474.31 |
| AZAD | 1266.0 | 1359.0 | 1266.0 | 1355.15 | 304685 | 7.62 | 47.76 | 1352.2 | 1593.18 |
| HIGHENE | 431.9 | 468.95 | 431.9 | 453.9 | 9171 | 7.2 | 38.13 | 480.73 | 670.9 |
| AVANTEL | 111.4 | 117.85 | 110.0 | 117.38 | 1100042 | 6.96 | 46.06 | 117.59 | - |
| ZENTEC | 1099.0 | 1178.65 | 1077.15 | 1133.45 | 1060452 | 5.3 | 34.07 | 1262.4 | 1662.13 |
| MIDHANI | 244.98 | 257.5 | 244.98 | 257.03 | 388042 | 5.04 | 40.74 | 270.79 | 382.07 |
| NIBE | 914.55 | 947.55 | 905.15 | 947.55 | 15063 | 5.0 | 29.25 | 1180.48 | 1718.79 |
| MARINE | 145.98 | 153.66 | 145.25 | 153.66 | 105332 | 4.99 | 34.83 | 172.05 | 219.96 |
| CFF | 416.5 | 419.6 | 416.5 | 419.6 | 8400 | 4.99 | 33.77 | 475.02 | 653.67 |
| ADANIENT | 2153.95 | 2258.4 | 2148.05 | 2245.85 | 1370106 | 4.71 | 51.87 | 2211.79 | 2810.61 |
| HBLPOWER | 440.0 | 459.9 | 437.3 | 458.6 | 1800504 | 4.52 | 40.78 | 487.72 | 574.49 |
| LOKESHMACH | 145.0 | 156.0 | 143.1 | 155.08 | 37636 | 4.23 | 20.21 | 207.55 | 357.53 |
| MAZDOCK | 2170.0 | 2255.0 | 2151.05 | 2246.7 | 2916402 | 3.89 | 54.55 | 2157.73 | 2192.14 |
| BEL | 265.0 | 275.8 | 263.33 | 274.92 | 28499877 | 3.86 | 56.55 | 261.34 | 290.83 |
| LMW | 14644.0 | 15222.0 | 14524.95 | 15171.0 | 2961 | 3.6 | 54.43 | 14657.97 | 16036.55 |
| PREMEXPLN | 333.95 | 351.85 | 333.0 | 342.95 | 146622 | 3.49 | 36.63 | 376.45 | 533.72 |
| KRISHNADEF | 559.7 | 561.0 | 529.85 | 557.0 | 37500 | 3.48 | 39.33 | 609.6 | 714.34 |
| HAL | 3313.0 | 3435.95 | 3295.95 | 3424.5 | 1884731 | 3.42 | 45.89 | 3473.24 | 4463.57 |
| BHARATFORG | 1020.0 | 1059.7 | 1004.0 | 1057.1 | 677358 | 3.35 | 39.14 | 1078.39 | 1436.52 |
| IDEAFORGE | 346.5 | 358.9 | 342.6 | 352.5 | 380028 | 3.19 | 27.46 | 394.98 | 639.91 |
| PTC | 146.13 | 149.94 | 145.74 | 148.53 | 2277120 | 3.05 | 56.14 | 142.8 | 185.53 |
| DCXINDIA | 234.79 | 247.5 | 234.79 | 240.69 | 620359 | 2.81 | 33.67 | 269.54 | 335.93 |
| MTARTECH | 1278.75 | 1320.0 | 1278.75 | 1312.95 | 124464 | 2.74 | 40.27 | 1391.17 | 1722.0 |
| ROSSELLIND | 55.45 | 56.8 | 54.5 | 56.47 | 82712 | 2.45 | 28.19 | 62.0 | 281.02 |
| GRSE | 1270.35 | 1301.95 | 1257.2 | 1294.4 | 1099481 | 2.42 | 41.71 | 1360.68 | 1719.01 |
| SOLARINDS | 9053.0 | 9291.1 | 9053.0 | 9238.35 | 114123 | 2.21 | 53.44 | 8934.76 | 10257.99 |
| BEML | 2477.8 | 2550.0 | 2472.05 | 2536.75 | 173520 | 1.82 | 30.8 | 2766.34 | 3949.45 |
| PARAS | 873.0 | 894.0 | 866.6 | 884.9 | 111663 | 1.66 | 41.89 | 923.55 | 1103.6 |
| BDL | 1048.5 | 1068.95 | 1030.35 | 1063.5 | 1043442 | 1.35 | 46.06 | 1083.2 | 1264.08 |
| APOLLO | 112.5 | 114.55 | 112.28 | 113.13 | 4695815 | 1.24 | 44.3 | 117.61 | 109.13 |
| LT | 3213.0 | 3245.0 | 3187.85 | 3239.65 | 1945855 | 0.83 | 43.18 | 3262.39 | 3576.23 |
| ASTRAMICRO | 611.8 | 624.0 | 608.2 | 615.35 | 308800 | 0.58 | 37.32 | 641.29 | 815.31 |
| SIKA | 2434.0 | 2479.0 | 2379.95 | 2419.2 | 3302 | 0.34 | 51.04 | 2418.25 | 2646.58 |
| COCHINSHIP | 1264.0 | 1290.85 | 1248.95 | 1265.9 | 825929 | 0.32 | 41.22 | 1300.97 | 1784.57 |
| DATAPATTNS | 1412.35 | 1465.0 | 1392.0 | 1415.05 | 814104 | 0.24 | 28.96 | 1632.35 | 2543.48 |
| TEMBO | 0.0 | 556.05 | 554.85 | 554.85 | 44005 | -18.3 | 36.22 | 656.42 | 466.43 |