



# Defence Professionals News & Analysis

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## Defense Business and Industry

### Indian Navy commissions Ikshak, boosting indigenous hydrographic capabilities. [SHARE](#)

05-Nov-25

The Indian Navy is set to enhance its hydrographic survey capabilities with the commissioning of the Ikshak, the third vessel of the Survey Vessel (Large) class, on November 6, 2025, at Naval Base, Kochi. Built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd. with over 80% indigenous content, Ikshak exemplifies India's commitment to self-reliance under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative. Equipped with advanced hydrographic and oceanographic technology, including Autonomous Underwater Vehicles and a helicopter deck, the vessel will play a crucial role in ensuring safe navigation and maritime safety. This significant addition marks a milestone in the Indian Navy's efforts to strengthen its survey capabilities and safeguard the nation's maritime frontiers, reflecting a growing strategic focus on indigenous defense capabilities.

### Dassault Aviation expands Pune centre to bolster Rafale and Falcon programmes. [SHARE](#)

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Dassault Aviation has announced the expansion of its engineering centre in Pune, doubling its capacity to over 150 engineers as part of its commitment to India's Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives. This facility plays a pivotal role in supporting the Rafale and Falcon aircraft programmes, aligning with Dassault's offset obligations linked to the Rafale contract with the Indian Air Force. The expansion underscores India's growing capabilities in advanced aerospace manufacturing and aims to position the nation as a global hub for defence production and innovation. By fostering local engineering expertise and enhancing collaboration with Indian partners, this development

strengthens bilateral cooperation and significantly contributes to India's ambition of transitioning from an importer to a leader in aerospace technology.

### India and Indonesia close to finalizing BrahMos missile deal. [SHARE](#)

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India and Indonesia are nearing the conclusion of negotiations for a significant BrahMos cruise missile deal, with only final approval from Russia pending. This potential contract, a reflection of strengthened defence ties and shared interests in maritime security, follows high-level discussions and visits by Indian officials, including Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan. The BrahMos missile, known for its advanced capabilities, is expected to enhance Indonesia's coastal defence and deter external threats. This deal marks another achievement for India's defence export ambitions under the Make in India initiative and reinforces its position as a reliable security partner in the Indo-Pacific, amid rising regional tensions and competition.

### GSAT-7R satellite launch enhances Indian Navy's maritime defense capabilities. [SHARE](#)

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The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the GSAT-7R satellite on November 2, 2025, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, enhancing the Indian Navy's space-based communications and maritime domain awareness. This satellite, which replaces the GSAT-7 (Rukmini), aims to provide extensive telecommunication coverage across the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), an area of increasing Chinese influence. The GSAT-7R was deployed using ISRO's most powerful rocket, the LVM3, signaling a significant leap in India's strategic capabilities. The development underscores India's commitment to bolstering its maritime defense infrastructure amid growing geopolitical challenges in the region.

## Indian Navy's Abhimanyu drone to enhance carrier fleet by 2026. [SHARE](#)

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The Indian Navy is set to integrate the Abhimanyu drone into its carrier fleet by 2026, enhancing its operational capabilities with AI, stealth features, and air-to-air kill capabilities. Developed by NewSpace Research and Technologies, Abhimanyu serves as a loyal wingman for carrier-based fighters, including the MiG-29K and Rafale-M, significantly improving situational awareness and tactical flexibility in the Indo-Pacific region. With AI-driven autonomous operations and a focus on cost-effectiveness, the drone aims to manage complex missions while reducing pilot exposure. This initiative marks a pivotal advancement in India's naval aviation strategy, emphasizing indigenous technology development and operational readiness in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape.

## Ankathi Raju appointed as Director of DRDO's Missile Development Lab. [SHARE](#)

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Eminent scientist Ankathi Raju has been appointed as the new Director of the Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL) in Hyderabad, where he will oversee significant advancements in India's missile development programs. Raju brings over three decades of expertise, having played a pivotal role in various projects including the solid fuel ducted ramjet propulsion system and liquid propulsion systems for missiles like Prithvi and Agni. His leadership at the Armament Research and Development Establishment resulted in the development of advanced artillery systems such as the Enhanced Rocket System and Guided Pinaka. Raju's appointment underscores India's commitment to self-reliance in defense technology and enhances the capabilities of its missile defense infrastructure in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape.

## Kochi's Fuselage Innovations secures ₹1 crore for revolutionary UAV system. [SHARE](#)

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Kochi-based startup Fuselage Innovations has secured a ₹1 crore grant under the USHUS Maritime Innovation Support Program, jointly initiated by IIM Kozhikode and Cochin Shipyard Limited in late October 2025. The funding supports the development of their cutting-edge UAV Launch and Recovery System (LARS), designed to enable oscillation-free drone operations from standard cranes in offshore and dynamic maritime

environments. This milestone marks significant progress toward deploying indigenous UAV capabilities critical for maritime security and offshore surveillance. The grant ceremony involved key representatives from Cochin Shipyard Limited, underscoring industry-academia collaboration in India's strategic push for advanced drone technologies. Fuselage Innovations' work aligns with India's broader effort to enhance self-reliance in defence and maritime technology, reflecting the strategic imperative to safeguard India's vast coastline against emerging security challenges. Fuselage's innovation also holds potential dual-use benefits for civilian maritime applications. The move solidifies Kerala's growing role in India's defence technology ecosystem.

## India's Project PRAGYASHAKTI Enhances Electronic Warfare with AI Integration [SHARE](#)

05-Nov-25

India has launched Project PRAGYASHAKTI, an advanced 25-month initiative to unify and enhance its electronic warfare (EW) capabilities across the Army, Navy, and Air Force. Managed by DRDO with private industry partners, the project integrates multi-origin EW systems, including American, Russian, French, and Indian technologies, under a common AI-driven software framework. The system's architecture comprises eight specialized modules for tasks like signal interception, threat detection, jamming, and electronic counter-countermeasures, deployed across airborne, surface, and ground platforms. This scalable, cloud-based framework enables real-time data sharing, improving situational awareness and rapid response in complex electromagnetic environments. Operational tests are due within 18 months, marking a strategic leap for India's autonomous digital warfare capability. The project enhances India's strategic autonomy and resilience amid regional electronic warfare competition, especially relevant to its security challenges along contested borders.

## Bharat Electronics aims for global growth amid rising defense demand. [SHARE](#)

05-Nov-25

Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) is strategically positioned to capitalize on India's evolving defense landscape, marked by the recent approval of Rs 79,000 crore in procurements by the Defence Acquisition Council. With over 400 players in the private sector, BEL reported a significant revenue increase of nearly 26% year-on-year, reflecting robust demand across all three

armed forces. The company aims to enhance its global footprint, targeting defense exports to soar from \$2.8 billion in FY25 to \$5.8 billion by FY29, thus reducing dependency on the domestic market. This shift aligns with India's broader defense modernization efforts, highlighting BEL's potential as a key player in the global defense industry amid increasing international acceptance of Indian defense products.

## Hanwha and Milrem Launch THeMIS-K Unmanned Ground Vehicle for Korea SHARE

05-Nov-25

On November 5, 2025, Hanwha Aerospace and Milrem Robotics introduced the THeMIS-K, an advanced unmanned ground vehicle (UGV) designed for the Korean military, showcased at Seoul ADEX 2025. This collaboration merges Hanwha's remote-controlled weapon systems with Milrem's versatile UGV platform, emphasizing AI-driven automation in combat and logistics, which is crucial for reducing troop risks. The THeMIS platform's operational success in various conflict zones underscores its reliability and adaptability, aligning with India's interest in enhancing defense self-reliance through international partnerships. This development highlights the increasing significance of unmanned systems in modern warfare, reinforcing the strategic capabilities of allied nations in the Indo-Pacific region and promoting a collective defense posture.

## Defense Policy and Budgeting

### IAF Chief supports theaterisation for improved tri-services cooperation. SHARE

05-Nov-25

In a recent address at the India Defence Conclave, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A P Singh expressed openness to the proposed theaterisation plan aimed at enhancing tri-services synergy, clarifying that any new structure should prioritize national interests and emerge from thorough discussions. He emphasized the importance of a joint framework that incorporates the Army, Navy, Air Force, para-military forces, and civilian entities, particularly regarding drone operations. Singh reaffirmed the critical role of air power, illustrated by Operation Sindoor, while cautioning that drones, although useful, cannot independently secure victories in warfare. This initiative reflects a strategic shift towards integrated military operations, vital for

addressing contemporary security challenges effectively.

## Gen Chauhan stresses jointness and tech for future-ready forces SHARE

05-Nov-25

Chief of Defence Staff, Gen Anil Chauhan, emphasized the necessity of jointness in the Indian Armed Forces to safeguard national interests amid evolving global security dynamics during a talk at the National Defence College. He highlighted the integration of cutting-edge technologies, such as drones and AI, as crucial for adapting to modern warfare. Concurrently, Indian Army chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi reviewed advancements in drone warfare and operational preparedness at Kharga Corps, noting significant contributions to combat capabilities and humanitarian initiatives. This focus on synergy among services and technological innovation is pivotal for enhancing India's military readiness and operational effectiveness, reflecting a strategic shift towards a future-ready defense posture that responds adeptly to multidomain challenges.

## Politics

### Rajnath Singh blames Rahul Gandhi for inciting anarchy over Army reservations. SHARE

05-Nov-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of attempting to create anarchy by demanding reservations in the Indian Armed Forces, asserting that the military should remain above caste politics. Speaking at a rally in Bihar, Singh emphasized that the Indian Army's sole allegiance is to "Sainya Dharma," and warned against politicizing the military, which has historically ensured national pride and security. Singh also criticized Gandhi for his comments on the representation of particular demographics within the Army, describing them as divisive and irresponsible. He reiterated the government's commitment to national security, citing the success of Operation Sindoor as a testament to the armed forces' readiness to retaliate against terrorist threats. This debate underscores a broader concern regarding the politicization of national defense and highlights the prevailing narrative within the current government to protect the integrity and unity of the armed forces, which is crucial for maintaining public confidence and national security in India.

## Union Ministers to Boost Assam's Development and Host Air Show SHARE

05-Nov-25

Two Union Ministers are set to visit Assam from November 7 to November 9, 2025, marking significant developmental strides in the region. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will inaugurate key projects in Guwahati, including the state's first semiconductor plant and a new river terminal, while laying the foundation for a state university in Gohpur. On November 9, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will attend a spectacular Air Show in Guwahati featuring 150 aircraft, including Rafales and Sukhois, highlighting the Indian Air Force's operational excellence and aiming to inspire the youth of the Northeast towards careers in defense. This visit underscores Assam's strategic importance and showcases India's commitment to infrastructure and defense advancements in the region.

### Geopolitics and Security Alliances

## India and Israel enhance defense ties with new strategic MoU. SHARE

05-Nov-25

India and Israel have significantly strengthened their strategic defense partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) during the 17th meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on defense cooperation held in Tel Aviv. Co-chaired by Indian Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh and Israeli Maj Gen (Res) Amir Baram, the MoU establishes a comprehensive framework aimed at expanding collaboration in areas including strategic dialogue, military training, defense industrial cooperation, and advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. This agreement underscores the mutual benefits derived from the shared expertise of both nations, reinforcing their commitment to counterterrorism and addressing common security challenges. The strategic partnership reflects a unified vision and policy direction, facilitating the sharing of advanced technologies and promoting joint development and production initiatives between the two countries. The deepening of defense ties is notable in the context of the evolving global security landscape, as both nations seek to enhance their operational capabilities and technological innovation in response to shared threats, particularly in combating radical terrorism. This development not only signifies a reinforcement of Indo-Israeli relations but also

highlights the growing importance of multilateral defense collaborations in addressing regional and global security challenges.

## Israel's Foreign Minister Praises India as a Superpower, Seeks Strategic Partnership SHARE

05-Nov-25

During a recent visit to New Delhi, Israel's Foreign Minister Gideon Saar and Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar engaged in discussions aimed at fortifying the bilateral strategic partnership between the two nations, with a strong focus on counterterrorism cooperation, economic collaboration, and technological advancements. Saar hailed India as a global superpower and emphasized the mutual commitment to combat terrorism, particularly condemning the recent attack in Jammu and Kashmir. Both leaders reaffirmed their dedication to a zero-tolerance approach towards terrorism, with Jaishankar expressing India's support for the Gaza Peace Plan and the necessity for a durable solution in the region. They also signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance training and collaboration between their foreign services, signifying a deepening of diplomatic ties. The talks underscored the importance of cooperation in security, trade, and emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, reflecting a shared vision for regional stability and prosperity. This engagement not only highlights the growing strategic alignment between India and Israel but also positions both nations as key players in addressing global security challenges, reaffirming their roles in an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape.

## India and US strengthen military ties through Hawaii defence talks. SHARE

05-Nov-25

India and the United States have conducted strategic defence talks in Hawaii, co-chaired by Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit and Lt Gen Joshua M. Rudd, aimed at deepening military cooperation and promoting a secure, free, and open Indo-Pacific region. This meeting coincided with the signing of a landmark ten-year Defence Framework Agreement by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth in Kuala Lumpur, marking a significant milestone in bilateral defence relations. The framework establishes a long-term roadmap for enhanced military collaboration, capability development, and joint projects across various domains, including land, sea, air, space,



and cyberspace. Both leaders emphasized the importance of this agreement as a transformative step in their partnership, focusing on mutual trust and addressing emerging security challenges. The strategic dialogue highlighted the commitment to regional stability and deterrence, reinforcing the cooperative efforts to foster a rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific. This framework is expected to significantly advance India-US defence ties, facilitating deeper integration in defence technology and industrial collaboration, ultimately enhancing the security architecture of the Indo-Pacific region. The developments underscore the growing alignment of interests between the two nations, suggesting a robust future for their defence partnership amidst a dynamic geopolitical landscape.

## Shared defense innovation essential for national security, says Army Chief

Dwivedi.  [SHARE](#)

05-Nov-25

At the India Defence Conclave 2025, Chief of Army Staff Gen Upendra Dwivedi emphasized the necessity of shared defense innovation and strategic partnerships to navigate complex global threats. He highlighted India's two-and-a-half front challenge and the empowerment post-Operation Sindoor, which afford greater flexibility for the armed forces in terms of development and induction. Gen Dwivedi stressed the importance of investing in emerging technologies like AI and unmanned systems, advocating for a collaborative approach among academia, industry, and the military to enhance defense capabilities. The focus on indigenous systems and military-civil fusion aims to transform India's defense landscape while fostering manufacturing growth and enhancing defense exports, underscoring the need for robust R&D in achieving self-reliance in defense.

## Trump Respects PM Modi; Seeks Trade Breakthrough With India

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05-Nov-25

US President Donald Trump expressed a strong respect for Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, highlighting ongoing high-level trade negotiations aimed at achieving a mutually beneficial agreement between the two nations. White House spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt confirmed that the discussions are serious and constructive, reflecting a renewed commitment to enhancing bilateral ties. This comes after a challenging period characterized by tariff hikes and differing energy procurement strategies amid US sanctions on Russia. Recent Indian efforts to diversify energy supplies and

align more closely with US regulations demonstrate a willingness to recalibrate relations and strengthen collaborative opportunities in sectors like clean energy, electronics, and defense production. The Trump administration's engagement underscores India's pivotal role in the Indo-Pacific economic landscape, aiming to counterbalance China's influence. The upcoming negotiations are viewed as a critical test of the pragmatism and partnership necessary for long-term mutual growth, suggesting a potential shift from transactional disputes to a more structured economic relationship. The emphasis on shared strategic interests could redefine the India-US relationship, fostering a more robust alliance in a rapidly evolving geopolitical environment.

## Russia boosts Venezuela's air defenses, signaling long-range missile support.

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05-Nov-25

In late October and early November 2025, Russia has significantly enhanced Venezuela's air defense capabilities by delivering advanced systems, including the Pantsir-S1 and Buk-M2E, amid escalating U.S. military presence in the Caribbean. These transactions, which also included Su-30MK2 fighter jets and S-300VM missiles, reflect deepening strategic ties between Moscow and Caracas. Russian lawmakers have hinted at future transfers of long-range weapons, potentially complicating U.S. strategic calculations in the region. This development not only bolsters Venezuela's defense posture but also signifies Russia's intent to assert its influence in the Western Hemisphere, challenging U.S. dominance and altering the geopolitical landscape.

## Romania secures 18 Dutch F-16s for NATO and pilot training.

 [SHARE](#)

05-Nov-25

On November 3, 2025, Romania announced the acquisition of 18 ex-Dutch F-16 fighter jets for a nominal price of one euro, alongside VAT charges totaling 21 million euros. This strategic deal enhances NATO's eastern flank and reinforces Romania's role in regional security, particularly in light of rising geopolitical tensions. The F-16s, stationed at the European F-16 Training Center, will be dedicated to pilot training for Romanian, NATO, and Ukrainian airmen, supporting Ukraine's defense capabilities. This acquisition highlights Romania's growing importance as a defense and training hub in Eastern Europe, as it transitions toward modernizing its fleet and potentially

moving towards the F-35 program, thereby contributing significantly to NATO's operational readiness.

## Australia's AUKUS partnership achieves success with advanced quantum clock trials.



05-Nov-25

Australia has successfully completed a six-week trial of advanced quantum clocks, developed by QuantX Labs and the University of Adelaide, under the AUKUS Pillar Two initiative. This technology aims to enhance defense capabilities in GPS-denied environments, facilitating secure communications and improved navigation with superior timing accuracy. The trials, supported by over \$2.7 million in government investment, align with Australia's 2024 National Defence Strategy, emphasizing the importance of emerging technologies in national security. The outcomes will be shared with AUKUS partners—the US and UK—further solidifying Australia's role in cutting-edge military advancements. This development underscores the strategic significance of collaborative defense innovation within the AUKUS framework, enhancing operational effectiveness against potential threats.

## Pakistan's civil-military tensions escalate, impacting relations with the Taliban and U.S. involvement.



05-Nov-25

Recent tensions between Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban have escalated, as Taliban spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid accused the Pakistani military of undermining peace efforts with the Afghan government to further its strategic interests. Reports indicate that the U.S. military is utilizing Pakistani airspace for drone operations in Afghanistan, complicating diplomatic relations. Pakistan's recent military actions, including airstrikes in Taliban-controlled regions, have resulted in significant civilian casualties, deepening mistrust. The situation reflects long-standing historical tensions rooted in territorial disputes and shifting political dynamics in Pakistan's governance. This development highlights the fragility of regional stability and the ongoing complexities of U.S.-Pakistan relations in the Afghan context.

## India and Belgium enhance strategic partnership in defense and trade.



05-Nov-25

India and Belgium have strengthened their strategic partnership during the third round of Foreign Office

Consultations in Brussels, emphasizing collaboration across various sectors, including defense, technology, and renewable energy. Both nations highlighted recent high-level exchanges, including a notable visit by Princess Astrid of Belgium, which has revitalized cooperation. The discussions also focused on enhancing the broader India-European Union relationship, particularly negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement to boost trade volumes. Additionally, defense and security collaboration emerged as a key priority, addressing emerging global challenges and emphasizing joint training and coordination in multilateral platforms. This partnership not only aims to bolster bilateral ties but also contributes to regional stability and a rule-based international order, reflecting India's growing influence in global geopolitics.

## India and Belarus enhance ties through high-level diplomatic dialogue.



05-Nov-25

India and Belarus have enhanced their bilateral ties through high-level diplomatic engagements aimed at expanding commerce and sectoral linkages. The recent eighth round of Foreign Office Consultations in Minsk, led by Indian Secretary (West) Sibi George, focused on political, economic, cultural, and educational cooperation, along with regional security matters. Both nations reaffirmed their commitment to diversify trade and foster long-term economic relations, with discussions highlighting India's support for a multipolar international framework. This partnership, rooted in mutual respect since Belarus's independence, reflects India's strategic interests in strengthening ties with Eastern European nations, thereby reinforcing its diplomatic footprint in the region and enhancing its global diplomatic engagements.

## Imran Khan brands Pakistan's Army Chief Asim Munir a dictator.



05-Nov-25

In a recent statement, former Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan has condemned Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir, labeling him "the most oppressive dictator" in Pakistan's history. Khan, currently imprisoned, accused Munir of severe tyranny and mental instability, citing violence against civilians and his wife's solitary confinement as examples of state brutality. He rejected any negotiations with the current government, deeming it ineffective under Munir's influence, and claimed that the legal cases against him are baseless and intentionally delayed. This situation underscores the ongoing political turmoil in Pakistan, reflecting a

deepening rift between civil leadership and military authority, which could have significant implications for Pakistan's stability and governance.

## White House cautiously optimistic as Supreme Court reviews Trump's tariff authority. SHARE

05-Nov-25

The White House is closely monitoring a Supreme Court case that could redefine the executive branch's authority over tariff powers, with significant implications for future administrations. Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt emphasized the administration's confidence in its legal arguments, framing the issue as crucial not only for President Trump's legacy but for national economic security. Trump asserts that his tariff policies have bolstered the U.S. economy and sovereignty, while critics warn of potential market destabilization from unchecked executive control. Legal experts suggest that the ruling may shape the future of presidential powers in economic matters, highlighting a broader debate on economic nationalism versus international trade relations. This case underscores the intersection of constitutional limits and economic strategy, pivotal for U.S. resilience amid global competition.

## Jaishankar reaffirms India's commitment to support Sri Lanka's stability and cooperation. SHARE

05-Nov-25

During a recent meeting in New Delhi, Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar reaffirmed India's commitment to supporting Sri Lanka, emphasizing the importance of collaboration for regional stability. Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa highlighted the critical fishermen dispute across the Palk Strait, advocating for a structured framework rooted in international law to address illegal fishing practices while safeguarding livelihoods. The discussions reflect a renewed diplomatic effort between India and Sri Lanka, aiming to resolve longstanding tensions and foster economic cooperation. This engagement underscores the significance of maritime collaboration in ensuring sustainable resource management and strengthening bilateral ties, essential for stability in the South Asian region.

## India and Nepal strengthen energy integration for regional cooperation. SHARE

05-Nov-25

India and Nepal have recently advanced their regional energy integration with a significant agreement to boost cross-border electricity exchange and expedite the development of transmission infrastructure. On October 29, 2025, in New Delhi, key agreements were signed between India's POWERGRID and the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) to establish two joint venture entities tasked with constructing high-capacity 400 kV cross-border power transmission lines connecting Inaruwa (Nepal) to New Purnea (India) and Lamki (Dododhara) (Nepal) to Bareilly (India). These projects aim to facilitate faster, more reliable power trade, strengthen grid resilience, and enhance regional energy security. Furthering this cooperation, the 17th Joint Technical Team meeting held in Pokhara from November 3-4, 2025, reached a seven-point agreement focusing on electricity exchange expansion, transmission line construction, and project timelines, including the Butwal–Gorakhpur 400 kV line expected operational by May 2026. This strengthened partnership underscores India's commitment to supporting Nepal's hydropower potential and integrating clean energy resources for sustainable growth, reinforcing decades of diplomatic ties and positioning the two nations as key drivers of South Asian energy collaboration.

## Military Operations

### CDS Chauhan advocates integrating Operation Sindoor lessons into India's theater commands for enhanced military effectiveness. SHARE

05-Nov-25

At the India Defence Conclave 2025, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan emphasized the incorporation of lessons learned from Operation Sindoor into India's ongoing theaterisation model, aimed at enhancing the military's operational efficiency. He highlighted that approximately 90% of the work on creating theatre commands is complete, stressing the need for integrated capabilities across the Army, Navy, and Air Force to respond more effectively to diverse security challenges, particularly with respect to ISR (intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance) and kinetic operations. Air Chief Marshal Amarpreet Singh echoed this sentiment, praising the swift termination of

the conflict with Pakistan during Operation Sindoor as a model for conflict resolution, contrasting it with other prolonged global conflicts driven by ego. Both military leaders underscored the importance of adapting to modern warfare's new normal, which includes improved air defense, counter-UAS strategies, and electronic warfare capabilities. The discussions reflect a significant shift in India's defense strategy towards a more unified military framework, enhancing coordination between services to counter evolving threats. This ongoing reform is critical, as it aligns with broader geopolitical dynamics and underscores India's commitment to maintaining a strategic edge amid regional tensions, thereby reinforcing its position as a responsible regional power.

## IAF's Sukhoi Jets Soar Over Mumbai in Exercise Trishul Display SHARE

05-Nov-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) showcased its capabilities during Exercise Trishul, a significant tri-service military drill, as Sukhoi Su-30MKI fighter jets flew low over Mumbai, capturing public attention. This exercise emphasizes the seamless coordination among the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force, highlighting India's readiness to address any emerging challenges effectively. The Ministry of Defence noted that Exercise Trishul embodies the principles of Jointness, Atmanirbharta (self-reliance), and Innovation, underscoring India's commitment to enhancing its defense preparedness through integration and indigenisation. Such displays not only reinforce public confidence in national security but also serve as a reminder of India's strategic focus on modernizing its armed forces amidst evolving geopolitical dynamics.

## Top Army officer inspects Arunachal Pradesh ahead of tri-services exercise. SHARE

05-Nov-25

Lieutenant General Abhijit S. Pendharkar, General Officer Commanding Spear Corps, visited forward areas of Arunachal Pradesh on November 4, 2025, to review operational preparedness ahead of the tri-service Exercise Poorvi Prachand Prahar scheduled for November 11-15, 2025. The Corps Commander inspected ongoing Operation Chaukas activities along India's eastern borders, interacted with troops deployed in harsh high-altitude terrains, and lauded their professionalism and resilience. The exercise in Mechuka aims to enhance joint combat capabilities, multi-domain integration across land, air, and maritime

forces, and validate command and control structures for future conflicts. This major exercise reflects India's strategic emphasis on strengthening border security, ensuring interoperability among the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and demonstrating robust military readiness close to the Line of Actual Control. The visit and exercise underscore India's commitment to operational excellence and deterrence against regional threats in the Eastern Himalayas.

## Future warfare demands evolution in military capabilities and advanced technologies for India's defense readiness. SHARE

05-Nov-25

BAE Systems emphasizes the need for evolution in military capabilities to address the complexities of future warfare, which increasingly integrates technologies such as artificial intelligence and cross-domain interoperability. The company highlights the importance of counter-command, control, communications, computers, combat systems, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and targeting (C5ISRT) technologies to disrupt enemy networks while ensuring a comprehensive operational picture for friendly forces. This focus on advanced solutions aims to bolster mission success by enabling decisive electromagnetic operations and safeguarding the electromagnetic spectrum's use. Such advancements are crucial for enhancing India's defense readiness in a rapidly changing geopolitical landscape, ensuring that Indian forces remain effective against emerging threats.

## Terrorism and Counterterrorism

### Security forces engage terrorists in Kishtwar, Jammu and Kashmir. SHARE

05-Nov-25

An encounter between security forces and terrorists is currently underway in the Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir, specifically in the Kalaban forest area of Naidgam within the Chhatru Sub-Division. The operation, named 'Op Chhatru,' was launched based on specific intelligence and is being conducted in coordination with the Jammu and Kashmir Police. During the engagement, one Army jawan sustained a minor injury and has been transferred to a hospital for medical attention. The White Knight Corps confirmed in a social media post that contact was established with



the terrorists, leading to an exchange of fire. This operation is part of a sustained effort by security forces, as Kishtwar has experienced multiple encounters with Pakistan-based terrorists over the past several months, highlighting the ongoing challenges faced in the region. The significance of this operation lies in the Indian security forces' commitment to combat terrorism and maintain stability in Jammu and Kashmir, reflecting their proactive approach in addressing threats from across the border. The increased frequency of operations in Kishtwar underscores the persistent vigilance required in the mountainous terrain, which has become a hiding ground for terrorists, illustrating the complexities of counter-terrorism efforts in this strategically important area. The persistence of encounters indicates a robust strategy aimed at dismantling terrorist networks operating in the region, reaffirming India's resolve to secure its territorial integrity and protect its citizens from violence and unrest.

### **Four Kuki militants killed in Manipur; foreign rifles recovered.**



05-Nov-25

In a significant operation conducted by the Indian Army and Assam Rifles in Churachandpur district, Manipur, four militants from the United Kuki National Army (UKNA), a non-signatory to the Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement, were neutralized following an exchange of gunfire. The operation, which stemmed from intelligence regarding recent atrocities committed by UKNA, including the killing of a village chief and widespread intimidation of civilians, resulted in the recovery of several sophisticated foreign-made weapons, including an AK-56, self-loading rifles, and tactical gear. This successful engagement underscores the steadfast commitment of Indian security forces to maintain peace and stability in a region grappling with insurgent violence. The persistent threats posed by the UKNA, which has been implicated in various violent incidents, highlight the ongoing challenges faced by local authorities in ensuring civilian safety and restoring order. The incident not only emphasizes the need for effective counter-insurgency operations but also reflects the broader context of security operations vital for preserving the integrity and stability of northeastern India amid rising tensions from outlawed militant activities.

### **Maoist ordnance factory dismantled in Sukma, showcasing declining insurgent capabilities.**



05-Nov-25

Security forces in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district uncovered a significant Maoist ordnance factory during a raid, seizing 17 country-made rifles and various weapon-making materials. The District Reserve Guard (DRG) located the well-camouflaged workshop, indicating a sophisticated operation rather than a makeshift setup. This operation underscores a notable decline in Maoist capabilities, with 563 weapons recovered over the past ten months and the killings of 249 Maoists, including key leaders. The situation demonstrates a shift in the Maoist ranks, where fear is now driving defections and surrender, indicating a tactical advantage for Indian security forces in combating insurgency in the region.

## **Cybersecurity and Information Warfare**

### **Apple Releases Urgent Security Update for Critical Device Vulnerabilities**



05-Nov-25

Apple has issued a critical security update for its latest operating systems, iOS 26.1 and iPadOS 26.1, addressing nearly 50 vulnerabilities that pose significant risks to user privacy and device integrity. Released on November 3, 2025, this update targets various devices, including the iPhone 11 series and multiple iPad models. Notable vulnerabilities include CVE-2025-43442, which could allow malicious apps to discover other installed applications, and CVE-2025-43455, which enabled unauthorized screenshots of sensitive information. The company emphasizes the urgency of these updates, highlighting improvements in privacy checks and system resilience, particularly concerning the Apple Neural Engine and the WebKit browser engine. This swift response not only underscores Apple's commitment to user security amid rising cyber threats but also reflects a broader industry trend emphasizing proactive cybersecurity measures. As mobile devices increasingly become central to personal and enterprise computing, the importance of timely updates and robust security frameworks cannot be overstated, reinforcing user trust in Apple's ecosystem as they navigate an evolving threat landscape.

## Google predicts AI will enhance cyber threats by 2026, urging stronger defenses.

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05-Nov-25

Google's Cybersecurity Forecast 2026 report highlights a dramatic shift in the cybersecurity landscape, predicting that adversaries will fully operationalize artificial intelligence (AI) in their attacks, leading to faster and more sophisticated cyber threats. A key focus is the rise of prompt injection attacks targeting enterprise AI systems and the use of AI-driven voice cloning in social engineering. Concurrently, defenders are adapting by implementing AI technologies to enhance security measures, transforming the roles of security analysts. The report emphasizes the urgent need for organizations to invest in advanced defensive capabilities and revised security operations to combat increasingly sophisticated threats, particularly from nation-state actors like Russia and China, which have adapted their strategies in response to technological advancements.

## China's Data Dominance in the Pacific Threatens Regional Stability

 [SHARE](#)

05-Nov-25

As of November 2025, China has emerged as a dominant force in the data war within the Pacific, significantly outpacing U.S. capabilities in digital surveillance and information dominance critical for military operations. This strategic advantage is bolstered by China's extensive investments in artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and control over regional digital infrastructure, allowing for effective interception and analysis of U.S. military data. The implications for India are profound, necessitating an urgent enhancement of data resilience and surveillance strategies to safeguard national interests in the Indo-Pacific. This situation underscores a pivotal shift in regional security dynamics, highlighting the importance of strengthening partnerships and capabilities among India and its allies to counterbalance China's technological advancements and maintain stability in the region.

## Marks & Spencer Reports £11.8M Loss Due to Cyberattack Impact.

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Marks & Spencer reported a significant loss of £11.8 million (\$15.4 million) for the first half of the year, primarily due to a cyber-attack that disrupted its online business. The company's fashion division suffered a sharp decline, with sales down by 16.4% to £1.7 billion

(\$2.21 billion), as the attack hindered online orders and in-store services. Despite an overall sales increase of 22.5% to £7.94 billion (\$10.3 billion), the fashion segment's performance was adversely affected, leading to a drop in operating margin from 12% to 2.7%. Looking ahead, Marks & Spencer aims to stabilize profits and implement cost-reduction strategies to navigate ongoing industry challenges, highlighting the growing importance of cybersecurity resilience in the retail sector.

## AI and Generative Models Transforming Cybersecurity Strategies and Defenses

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The evolving landscape of cybersecurity is being significantly reshaped by Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Generative AI, marking a transition into the Age of Intelligent Cybersecurity. Both cybercriminals and defenders utilize AI, with attackers employing it for sophisticated phishing and malware creation, while defenders leverage it for predictive threat intelligence and automated incident response. This duality underscores the necessity for organizations to adopt AI governance and multi-layered defense strategies to combat increasing threats. The integration of human expertise with AI technologies is essential for developing resilient cybersecurity frameworks that can adapt to emerging challenges and maintain trust in an era defined by digital warfare. The ongoing battle of algorithms emphasizes the importance of ethical AI use for safeguarding critical information and infrastructure.

## India demonstrates 500-km quantum network for secure communications, enhancing cybersecurity.

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A Bengaluru-based startup, in collaboration with the Indian Army, has successfully demonstrated India's first extensive Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) network over a distance of 500 km, marking a significant advancement in secure digital communications and cybersecurity. This QKD network utilizes quantum mechanics principles to securely share cryptographic keys, ensuring enhanced protection against eavesdropping and future quantum attacks. The Indian Army's Southern Command played a crucial role in this achievement, facilitating the optical fibre network required for the trial. Supported under the National Quantum Mission, this milestone positions India as a leader in the quantum revolution, furthering self-

reliance in technology and strengthening the defense sector's digital infrastructure, thereby enhancing national security capabilities.

## Hackers exploit OneDrive using DLL sideloading for code execution.



05-Nov-25

A sophisticated cyberattack has been reported, exploiting Microsoft's OneDrive application through a technique known as DLL sideloading, allowing hackers to execute arbitrary code while evading detection. The attackers strategically place a malicious version.dll file in the same directory as OneDrive.exe, hijacking its process and maintaining persistence on compromised systems. By using advanced hooking techniques that manipulate Windows API calls, the malicious DLL operates invisibly, triggering exceptions to control execution flow without traditional modifications that could trigger security alerts. This incident underscores the urgent need for enhanced cybersecurity measures, including application whitelisting and monitoring of DLL behaviors, to protect trusted applications from such stealthy intrusions, reflecting broader vulnerabilities within digital infrastructure that could impact sensitive data security.

### Miscellaneous

## IAF conducts Brahmaputra rehearsal flights ahead of Air Force Day.



05-Nov-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted rehearsal flights over the Brahmaputra River in Guwahati ahead of the upcoming Air Force Day celebrations. This event highlights the IAF's commitment to showcasing its operational readiness and capabilities, reinforcing India's air power in the northeastern region. The significance of such drills lies in enhancing national security and demonstrating the IAF's strategic reach, particularly in areas with geopolitical sensitivities. As India's defense forces continue to modernize, these rehearsals not only serve as a display of strength but also foster public confidence in the military's ability to protect national interests.

## Guwahati police issue travel advisory for upcoming Air Force Day event.



05-Nov-25

The Guwahati city traffic police has issued a travel advisory for November 8 and 9 in anticipation of the

Indian Air Force Day event, which will feature a flypast at Lachit Ghat. Rehearsals are set for November 5, 6, and 8, leading to significant traffic restrictions from 7 am to 5 pm on these dates. Heavy vehicles, including commercial goods and inter-district buses, will be prohibited in key areas, with diversions established to manage the expected large crowds and VIP movements. This preparation reflects the Indian Air Force's commitment to showcasing its capabilities and enhancing public awareness about its operational significance, thus reinforcing national pride and security.

## Indian Army and IIT Gandhinagar collaborate to enhance defense research.



05-Nov-25

The Indian Army and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Gandhinagar have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance collaboration in research, development, and academic exchange. The agreement, formalized at the EME School in Vadodara by Major General Mohit Gandhi and Professor Rajat Moona, aims to address operational requirements of the Army through innovative research and joint projects. This partnership signifies a strategic move towards strengthening India's defense capabilities by leveraging academic expertise to meet evolving military needs. The collaboration not only underscores the importance of innovation in defense but also promotes a synergy between education and military operations, which is crucial for enhancing national security.

## Surya Kiran jets mesmerize crowds at Nava Raipur's anniversary air show.



05-Nov-25

The Indian Air Force's Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team dazzled spectators with a spectacular air show in Nava Raipur, Chhattisgarh, celebrating the state's 25th anniversary during the Rajat Mahotsav. Led by Group Captain Ajay Dashrathi, the team executed precision maneuvers with their indigenously produced Hawk Mk-132 jets, captivating thousands with formations symbolizing courage and unity. Notably, Squadron Leader Gaurav Patel, a local hero, inspired pride among the audience, reinforcing the connection between the armed forces and the community. This event not only showcased the IAF's technical excellence but also served as a reminder of India's self-reliance in defense capabilities, fostering a sense of patriotism and pride among citizens.

## Gaganyaan-G1 Mission Delayed to March 2026 Due to Spaceport Constraints



05-Nov-25

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced a potential shift of the Gaganyaan-G1 mission to March 2026, a delay from the previously scheduled December 2025 launch, primarily due to capacity constraints at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre. Despite this adjustment, ISRO remains focused on meeting its goal of launching within the 2025-26 financial year. The G1 mission aims to validate critical systems for human spaceflight, with subsequent uncrewed missions G2 and G3 planned ahead of India's first crewed flight targeting 2027. This development underscores ISRO's strategic commitment to advancing its human spaceflight program, ensuring that it maintains a robust timeline despite operational challenges, thus reinforcing India's growing stature in global space exploration.

## India Hosts 3rd Maritime Information Sharing Workshop for Security Cooperation



05-Nov-25

The Maritime Information Sharing Workshop (MISW-25) concluded in Gurugram, India, on November 4, 2025, focusing on enhancing real-time coordination and information sharing in the Indian Ocean Region. Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti emphasized the need for collaboration and interoperability among 57 participants from 30 countries. The workshop highlighted India's proactive maritime initiatives and the importance of regulatory alignment in addressing regional maritime security challenges. A Table Top Exercise using the indigenously developed Maritime Analytical Tool for Regional Awareness (MANTRA) was scheduled for November 5, simulating responses to piracy, drug smuggling, and other maritime threats. This initiative underscores India's commitment to fostering regional security and cooperation, crucial for ensuring maritime stability in a strategically significant area.

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