



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

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Defense Business and Industry

Indian Navy to Commission Androth, Enhancing Indigenous ASW Capabilities

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05-Oct-25

The Indian Navy is poised to commission the Androth, its second Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), on October 6, 2025, at the Naval Dockyard in Visakhapatnam, under the aegis of Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar. This induction signifies a substantial advance in the Navy's ASW capabilities, featuring over 80% indigenous content and exemplifying India's commitment to maritime self-reliance through the efforts of Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers. The commissioning of Androth, alongside recent additions like Arnala, Nistar, Udaygiri, and Nilgiri, underscores the Navy's focus on indigenisation, innovation, and operational readiness, reflecting the strategic importance of bolstering India's maritime security architecture in an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape.

ICGS Akshar joins Indian Coast Guard, enhancing maritime security capabilities.

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05-Oct-25

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has enhanced its maritime capabilities with the commissioning of the ICGS Akshar, the second of eight Adanya-class Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs), at Karaikal, Puducherry. This 51-meter vessel, designed by Goa Shipyard Limited, boasts over 60% indigenous content, aligning with the Government's Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives. The ship, displacing approximately 320 tons and powered by dual 3,000 kW diesel engines, achieves a top speed of 27 knots and features advanced systems like the Integrated Bridge System (IBS) and Integrated Platform Management System (IPMS) for operational efficiency. Armed with a 30 mm CRN-91

naval gun and two remote-controlled 12.7 mm guns, ICGS Akshar is equipped for a range of missions, including maritime law enforcement and coastal security patrols, thereby bolstering India's surveillance capabilities in its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This induction not only reflects the Coast Guard's modernization efforts but also strengthens India's maritime vigilance along the Eastern Seaboard, crucial for maintaining national security, safeguarding maritime interests, and ensuring safe passage in the region. The name "Akshar," meaning imperishable, symbolizes the enduring commitment of the Indian Coast Guard to protect the nation's extensive maritime frontiers.

Defence Ministry Allows Private Sector in Missile, Ammunition Production for Self-Reliance.

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05-Oct-25

The Indian Defence Ministry has announced a significant policy shift allowing private sector participation in missile and ammunition production, as part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative aimed at enhancing self-reliance in defense manufacturing. This reform removes the No-Objection Certificate requirement from state-owned Munitions India Limited, enabling private firms to produce a variety of munitions and participate in missile development, thus diversifying supply channels for the armed forces. The change addresses critical shortages highlighted during recent military operations and aims to bolster India's military capabilities amid global supply constraints. This initiative is pivotal for fostering a competitive defense ecosystem, ensuring uninterrupted military supplies, and advancing India's strategic autonomy in an increasingly complex security environment.

IAF Chief cites engine supply issues pushing HTT-40 deliveries to early 2026.

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05-Oct-25

Air Chief Marshal AP Singh addressed delays in the delivery of the indigenous Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40

(HTT-40) basic trainer aircraft, attributing the setbacks to engine supply chain disruptions. Initially slated for induction in late 2025, the first aircraft is now expected in early 2026, with HAL urging Honeywell to expedite engine deliveries. Despite current limitations in training capacity using existing aircraft, the IAF is managing to sustain pilot training temporarily. However, prolonged delays could jeopardize operational readiness amidst changing regional security dynamics. The HTT-40 is crucial for replacing aging trainer aircraft and advancing India's self-reliance in defense manufacturing, emphasizing the need for timely resolution of supply issues to ensure the IAF's preparedness.

Indian Navy and BrahMos Aerospace to Enhance Submarine Strike Capabilities.



05-Oct-25

The Indian Navy, in collaboration with BrahMos Aerospace, is advancing plans to integrate a submarine-launched variant of the BrahMos missile on the Project-75I submarines, significantly enhancing India's underwater strike capabilities. This initiative, part of a broader focus on self-reliance under the Atmanirbhar Bharat program, aims to develop advanced diesel-electric submarines equipped with Air Independent Propulsion systems. While the integration of dedicated Vertical Launch Systems poses engineering and financial challenges, it promises greater offensive power by enabling the launch of up to eight BrahMos missiles from submerged positions. The successful implementation of this project is crucial for bolstering India's naval capabilities and ensuring a robust response to regional security challenges, reflecting a strategic shift in India's defense posture.

GTRE aims for over 90% local content in Kaveri engine for IAF.



05-Oct-25

In a significant advancement for Indian defense aviation, the Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) has announced plans to enhance the indigenization of the Kaveri Derivative Engine (KDE), aiming for over 90% local content to support the Indian Air Force's future programs. Currently at 85% indigenization, the KDE, initially developed for the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft, is set for integration with the older Tejas variant for performance validation before transitioning to trials for the Remotely Piloted Surveillance Aircraft (RPSA). This initiative not only aims to bolster supply chain resilience through

partnerships with major domestic firms but also signifies India's commitment to reducing reliance on foreign technology, thereby strengthening national defense capabilities and fostering self-reliance in critical aerospace sectors.

DRDO's NSTL develops advanced lightweight torpedo to enhance Indian Navy's capabilities.



05-Oct-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation's Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL) is advancing an upgraded Lightweight Torpedo, enhancing speed and endurance while retaining a 25 km operational range. This next-generation torpedo, designed for the Indian Navy's anti-submarine warfare capabilities, aims for a 42% increase in underwater speed, potentially reaching 47 knots, through advanced propulsion and battery technologies. As the Indian Navy faces evolving maritime threats, particularly from China's advanced submarines, the upgraded torpedo will bolster its operational readiness. NSTL's focus on indigenous development supports India's self-reliance strategy and aims to attract export opportunities, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region, while fostering job creation and technological advancements through local production partnerships.

Tejas Mk1A squadron receives indigenous Swayam Raksha Kavach EW suite, enhancing defense capabilities.



05-Oct-25

India's defense capabilities received a significant boost with the integration of the indigenously developed Swayam Raksha Kavach Electronic Warfare suite into the second batch of 97 Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mk1A fighters, contracted for Rs 62,370 crore with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. This advanced system enhances the aircraft's survivability against radar threats, replacing foreign technology and emphasizing India's self-reliance in defense avionics. The suite features a state-of-the-art Radar Warning Receiver and an Advanced Self-Protection Jammer, underscoring a commitment to indigenous development with over 64% local content. This initiative not only strengthens operational capabilities but also heralds a new era of technological independence in India's defense sector, pivotal for maintaining strategic superiority in contested airspace.

Defence Ministry to Seek Global Bids for \$5B MTA Project to Boost IAF's Capabilities



05-Oct-25

The Indian Ministry of Defence is set to issue a global tender for the procurement of 60 to 80 Medium Transport Aircraft (MTA), estimated at over \$5 billion, to address the Indian Air Force's declining airlift capabilities. This initiative under the 'Make in India' program aims to foster domestic manufacturing, with international aerospace firms like Embraer, Lockheed Martin, and Airbus partnering with Indian companies. The MTA will replace aging Soviet-era aircraft, significantly enhancing logistics for military operations and humanitarian missions while promoting self-reliance in defense. With a minimum indigenous content requirement of 50-60%, this procurement is essential for restoring the IAF's operational edge, particularly along India's northern borders. The expected delivery of the new aircraft by 2030 marks a strategic advancement in India's defense capabilities.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

IAF Advocates Caution on Theaterization Amid Government Push for Jointness



05-Oct-25

Recent discussions surrounding India's defense theaterization plan highlight a divergence between the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the government, emphasizing the importance of jointness over immediate structural changes. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have underscored the operational necessity of tri-service coordination, particularly demonstrated during Operation Sindoor. However, IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal A. P. Singh has expressed reservations about hasty implementation, advocating for a joint planning and coordination center instead. The debate reflects broader concerns about adapting foreign military models to India's unique strategic context, particularly as the IAF's recent successes in air power projection enhance its influence in these discussions, highlighting the need for a tailored approach to national defense.

Politics

BJP criticizes Congress for siding with enemy over JF-17 engine claims.



05-Oct-25

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has criticized the Congress Party's remarks regarding reports of Russia supplying advanced RD-93MA engines for Pakistan's JF-17 fighter jets, deeming it an act of "reckless information warfare" that aligns with the enemy's narrative. Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh claimed this development signifies a failure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's diplomacy, suggesting that India's strategic ally has chosen to provide military support to Pakistan despite ongoing negotiations for defense agreements between India and Russia, such as the procurement of S-400 missile systems. Ramesh emphasized that Modi's focus on image-building and global spectacle has not translated into tangible diplomatic successes, particularly in isolating Pakistan. The incident raises significant concerns about the evolving dynamics of international military partnerships and highlights the challenges India faces in countering its adversaries while maintaining crucial alliances, particularly in light of the geopolitical complexities involving Russia, Pakistan, and China. The situation underscores the urgency for India to strengthen its diplomatic efforts to safeguard national interests amid shifting alliances in the region.

BJP criticizes UPA for lacking will to respond post-26/11 attacks.



05-Oct-25

BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra criticized the previous UPA-led government for lacking the political will to retaliate after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, despite the Indian armed forces being ready for action. He claimed that former Congress leaders, including Sonia Gandhi and Manmohan Singh, bowed to U.S. pressure against a military response, undermining national security. Patra's remarks were a response to former Union Minister P. Chidambaram's admission regarding foreign influence on policy decisions. Emphasizing the decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Patra asserted that India has transformed into a nation that combines military courage with political determination, contrasting sharply with the past. This discourse highlights ongoing political tensions surrounding national security and

defense strategies in India, showcasing the need for strong leadership in safeguarding national interests.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Pakistan Army warns of dire consequences after Indian leaders' statements. SHARE

05-Oct-25

Recent tensions between India and Pakistan have escalated following stern warnings from Indian military leaders and counter-responses from Pakistani officials. Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasized India's readiness to cross borders to ensure national security, underscoring that any misadventure by Pakistan in the disputed Sir Creek area would provoke a decisive military response capable of reshaping the regional landscape. Additionally, Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi warned Pakistan to cease sponsoring terrorism, stating that India's restraint observed during Operation Sindoor would not be applicable in future encounters. In reaction, Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif issued threats of catastrophic consequences for India, asserting that Pakistan would respond decisively to any conflict and accusing India of using provocative rhetoric to distract from domestic issues. Asif's comments, which included claims of a historical defeat for India, were met with further assertions from Indian military officials regarding their operational successes against Pakistani air assets during recent clashes. The exchange of aggressive statements from both sides signals a heightened risk of military confrontation, reinforcing concerns about stability in South Asia. The situation remains precarious, as both nations grapple with their strategic postures, leaving the international community watchful of potential escalations that could have severe implications for regional peace and security.

Russia denies supplying engines to Pakistan, reaffirming India ties. SHARE

05-Oct-25

In a significant diplomatic clarification amid rising geopolitical sensitivities, Russia has firmly denied speculations regarding the potential supply of upgraded RD-93MA turbofan engines to Pakistan for the JF-17 Thunder Block III fighter jets. A senior Russian source emphasized that the rumors lack credibility and do not reflect the current strategic cooperation between Russia and India, especially with a high-level summit scheduled for December 2025 in New Delhi, where President Vladimir Putin is set to meet with Prime

Minister Narendra Modi. The source suggested that the circulating claims might be politically motivated attempts to undermine the robust ties between Russia and India, which have a long-standing defense partnership highlighted by collaborative projects such as the S-400 air defense system and the BrahMos missile system. As both nations continue to navigate a challenging global landscape, their defense cooperation remains a cornerstone of their relationship, with India emerging as a significant market for Russian defense technology and energy resources. The denial of the RD-93MA supply claims serves not only as a reassurance of the strategic alignment between Moscow and New Delhi but also as a countermeasure against narratives that could disrupt their collaborative efforts. This clarification underscores the resilience of the India-Russia relationship, particularly in the face of evolving international dynamics and the importance of maintaining a united front on defense and economic matters.

Media report highlights global indifference to PoJK civilian deaths from Pakistani forces' repression. SHARE

05-Oct-25

Recent unrest in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) has highlighted severe human rights violations perpetrated by Pakistani troops against civilians protesting for basic rights such as affordable electricity and food. The ongoing protests, led by the Jammu Kashmir Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC), have faced brutal repression, with reports indicating at least ten civilian deaths and over a hundred injuries from live fire and tear gas. Human rights experts criticize the global silence regarding these atrocities, contrasting it with international reactions to conflicts in other regions, such as Gaza. The situation has exposed the hypocrisy of Pakistani leaders who have historically propagated anti-India narratives while neglecting the plight of their own people. The protests underscore a grassroots revolt against decades of mismanagement and exploitation in PoJK, revealing that the region, rich in resources, remains impoverished under oppressive governance. This escalation of dissent serves as a critical reminder of the stark socio-political divides in Kashmir, urging the international community to hold Pakistan accountable for its actions while emphasizing India's commitment to supporting the rights and dignity of all Kashmiris. The emerging realities in PoJK challenge the long-standing narrative of Pakistan as a benevolent force for Muslims in the region, instead exposing a regime that has consistently failed its populace.

Rajnath Singh's historic visit to Australia strengthens India-Australia defense ties.



05-Oct-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is scheduled to undertake a significant two-day official visit to Australia from October 9-10, 2025, at the invitation of Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Richard Marles. This visit marks a historic occasion as it commemorates five years since the establishment of the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) and represents the first visit by an Indian Defence Minister to Australia under the current government since 2014. Key highlights of the visit include crucial bilateral discussions with Minister Marles, as well as a business roundtable in Sydney, where industry leaders from both nations will engage to explore new and meaningful initiatives aimed at enhancing the bilateral relationship and defense partnership. During the visit, three pivotal agreements are expected to be signed, focusing on bolstering cooperation in information sharing, maritime security, and joint activities. This engagement reflects the expanding defense collaboration between India and Australia, which has evolved significantly over time, incorporating military exchanges, high-level visits, training programs, and increased maritime cooperation. Both nations share common values rooted in democratic traditions and are committed to addressing security concerns in the Indo-Pacific, particularly in light of China's growing military assertiveness in the region. The visit is poised to further solidify the enduring partnership between India and Australia, enhancing collective defense capabilities and regional stability.

Russian airstrike on Ukraine kills five, damages energy infrastructure.



05-Oct-25

In a significant escalation of hostilities, Russia launched a mass overnight air assault on Ukraine, resulting in at least five fatalities and extensive damage to civilian energy infrastructure, particularly in the Lviv region. The attack involved over 50 missiles and nearly 500 drones, targeting residential buildings and energy facilities, leaving thousands without power. Ukrainian officials condemned the strikes as a continuation of Moscow's strategy to undermine civilian morale, while NATO allies, particularly Poland, heightened air defenses in response to the threat. This incident underscores the ongoing volatility in Eastern Europe and the urgent need for diplomatic resolutions as

winter approaches, complicating humanitarian efforts and energy security in the region.

Brazil's Defence Minister visits India to boost South-South defence cooperation and partnerships.



05-Oct-25

Brazil's Defence Minister is set to visit India, emphasizing the growth of South-South defence cooperation amid global supply chain challenges. This delegation will explore partnerships in defence, aerospace, and critical technologies, with a spotlight on Embraer's C-390 Millennium aircraft for India's Medium Transport Aircraft program. Brazil is also evaluating India's Akash missile system for its air defence initiatives, despite procurement delays. Notably, Brazil plans to enhance its diplomatic presence in India by establishing dedicated military attaches, facilitating operational coordination and technology dialogues. This visit aligns with India's aspirations for defence exports and Brazil's military modernization, marking a potential shift towards a robust collaborative defence framework between the two nations, rooted in strategic autonomy rather than dependency.

Pakistan and PoK leaders reach agreement to end violent protests.



05-Oct-25

After days of violent protests in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), which resulted in at least 10 deaths and numerous injuries, the federal government and protest leaders signed an agreement to restore peace. The accord includes a 25-point plan addressing various demands, such as compensation for victims, improvements in education and healthcare, and infrastructure development, including the construction of tunnels and an international airport. While the agreement aims to alleviate local grievances and enhance governance by reducing the cabinet size, it underscores the chronic instability and dissatisfaction in PoK. This situation highlights the ongoing challenges faced by Pakistan in maintaining order in its administered territories, further complicating its internal and external relations.

Pakistan seeks US assistance for Arabian Sea port development.



05-Oct-25

Pakistan's military leadership, led by Field Marshal Asim Munir, has approached US officials with a proposal to construct and operate a new port on the Arabian Sea in Pasni, Balochistan, aiming to access the region's critical

minerals. This initiative follows a meeting between Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and former President Donald Trump, where Sharif sought US investments in various sectors, including agriculture and energy. The proposed port would not serve military purposes but instead focus on enhancing infrastructure, potentially linking the port to resource-rich areas via a rail network. This development highlights Pakistan's strategy to bolster its economic ties with the US, while also raising implications for regional dynamics concerning mineral trade and infrastructure development.

Bangladesh Army Chief may skip India's UN troop chiefs conclave amid strained ties.



05-Oct-25

Bangladesh Army Chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman is reportedly unlikely to attend the United Nations Troop Contributing Countries (UNTCC) Chiefs Conclave in New Delhi from October 14 to 16, amid strained bilateral relations following the formation of Bangladesh's interim government. An unnamed official indicated that a junior officer may represent Bangladesh instead. The conclave, hosted by India, aims to enhance dialogue and cooperation among military leaders from over 30 nations, reaffirming India's commitment to UN peacekeeping and its significant role as a major troop contributor. This development underscores the importance of regional military cooperation and India's proactive stance in maintaining peace and stability through international frameworks, despite challenges in diplomatic ties with neighboring countries.

Pakistan shifts focus to using Bangladesh for anti-India operations, targeting Kashmir and beyond.



05-Oct-25

Recent intelligence indicates a shift in Pakistan's strategic focus towards leveraging Bangladesh as a proxy to target India, particularly Jammu and Kashmir. Under the leadership of interim adviser Muhammad Yunus, Bangladesh has reportedly become a breeding ground for terror groups supported by the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), amidst a backdrop of internal unrest and violence. These groups, including Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh and Harkat-ul-Jihadi-Islami, are believed to be positioning themselves for operations across various Indian states. However, Indian agencies, bolstered by robust intelligence and counter-terrorism efforts, are better equipped to thwart these threats,

underlining that while challenges persist, the resilience of India's security apparatus remains strong. This development highlights the evolving dynamics of regional security, emphasizing the importance of vigilance and preparedness in countering cross-border terrorism.

India strengthens Andaman Nicobar as a submarine base to counter China's IOR ambitions.



05-Oct-25

India is strategically enhancing the Andaman and Nicobar Islands as a vital submarine base to counter China's growing maritime influence in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). This development aims to secure vital shipping lanes, especially the Malacca Strait, which is crucial for China's energy supply. With substantial investments planned, including upgrades for supporting naval operations and intelligence-gathering capabilities, India seeks to establish a robust anti-access/area denial (A2/AD) posture against the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN). The successful implementation of this strategy not only fortifies India's defense posture but could also significantly disrupt China's economic vulnerabilities, marking a pivotal shift in regional power dynamics.

Modi and Starmer to discuss India-UK ties, trade, and defense.



05-Oct-25

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer will visit India on October 8-9 for talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Mumbai, marking his first visit since taking office. This meeting aims to reinforce the India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, especially following the recent landmark free trade agreement aimed at doubling bilateral trade to \$110 billion by 2030. The discussions will cover vital areas, including defense, technology, and climate, while also engaging with industry leaders on economic opportunities. The visit underscores the strengthening ties between India and the UK, enhancing mutual investment and cooperation, particularly in strategic sectors, thereby highlighting India's growing role in global geopolitics.

Canadian envoy's credentials accepted, signaling improved India-Canada relations after diplomatic tensions.



05-Oct-25

President Droupadi Murmu accepted the credentials of Canadian High Commissioner Christopher Cooter, marking a significant step in mending India-Canada

relations, which deteriorated over allegations of Indian involvement in the killing of Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. Diplomatic ties had soured following mutual expulsions of diplomats last year; however, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney agreed in June to restore stability. The appointment of seasoned diplomats, including Dinesh K Patnaik for India, signifies a constructive approach towards resolving outstanding issues. This development is crucial as it reflects India's commitment to diplomatic engagement while safeguarding national interests amid geopolitical tensions.

Military Operations

KONKAN-2025 Exercise Launched by Indian and Royal Navies Off Western Coast

05-Oct-25

The Indian Navy and the Royal Navy commenced Exercise KONKAN-2025 on October 5, 2025, off the western coast of India, emphasizing the growing military ties between the two nations. This bilateral exercise, which has evolved over two decades in scale and complexity, aims to enhance interoperability and mutual understanding in maritime operations. The exercise is divided into two phases, featuring a harbor phase with professional interactions and cultural engagements, followed by a sea phase focusing on complex maritime operational drills, including anti-air, anti-surface, and anti-submarine exercises. The UK's Carrier Strike Group, led by the HMS Prince of Wales, along with assets from Norway and Japan, is participating alongside India's indigenous aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant, demonstrating a unified commitment to maintaining secure, open, and free seas in the Indo-Pacific region. The engagement signifies a reaffirmation of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership outlined in the India-UK Vision 2035, aimed at solidifying defense collaboration and regional maritime stability. The participation of both nations reflects their shared ambition for a modern defense partnership, highlighting their status as blue-water, multi-carrier navies capable of conducting complex multi-domain operations. This collaboration not only strengthens military capabilities but also reinforces a rules-based international order in the Indo-Pacific, marking a significant step towards enhancing security cooperation and joint operational readiness between India and the UK.

INS Sahyadri's visit to Malaysia enhances India-Malaysia naval cooperation in Indo-Pacific security.

05-Oct-25

Indian Navy's indigenous stealth frigate, INS Sahyadri, made a significant port call at Kemaman, Malaysia, on October 2, 2025, as part of its Eastern Fleet Operational Deployment to the South China Sea and Indo-Pacific. This visit, marked by warm receptions from the Royal Malaysian Navy, highlights India's commitment to strengthening maritime military cooperation, interoperability, and regional security partnerships. The frigate's history of goodwill missions and joint exercises, such as Exercise Samudra Laksamana, underscores the deep-rooted cultural and strategic ties between India and Malaysia. As both nations navigate the evolving geopolitical landscape of the Indo-Pacific, their collaboration serves as a testament to their shared interests in maritime security and prosperity through initiatives like India's MAHASAGAR and Malaysia's alignment with ASEAN frameworks.

Bhutan appreciates Indian Army's swift helicopter rescue after floods.

05-Oct-25

The Royal Government of Bhutan has expressed profound gratitude to the Indian Army for its swift and effective response to the recent flash floods along the Amochu River. Following the floods, which left several families stranded, the Bhutanese authorities sought urgent assistance from the Indian Army. In a commendable display of cooperation, the Indian Army deployed two helicopters that successfully airlifted four workers trapped in a remote area, ensuring their safe recovery and subsequent medical care. The operation, conducted amid challenging weather conditions, was a collaborative effort involving local rescue teams and the Bhutanese military, further highlighting the enduring friendship and mutual support between India and Bhutan. This incident not only underscores India's commitment to regional stability and humanitarian assistance but also reinforces the strategic partnership between the two nations, rooted in historical ties and shared borders. The successful rescue operation exemplifies the Indian defense establishment's capability to respond effectively to crises beyond its borders, enhancing its reputation as a reliable partner in South Asia.

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

05-Oct-25

India and Australia are set to conduct the AUSTRAHIND 2025 joint military exercise from October 13 to 26, aimed at enhancing the operational capabilities of both armies in urban and semi-urban terrains under a UN mandate. This exercise will focus on realistic combat drills, mission planning, and humanitarian operations, promoting interoperability and mutual understanding between the forces. Building on the successful 2024 edition held in Pune, AUSTRAHIND has become a pivotal platform for defense cooperation under the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, reflecting both nations' commitment to maintaining a free and rules-based international order. The upcoming exercise, taking place in Perth, underscores the strengthening defense ties amid evolving Indo-Pacific security dynamics, highlighting the strategic importance of collaborative peacekeeping efforts.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Home Minister Shah demands Naxals surrender by March 2026 or face consequences. SHARE

05-Oct-25

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has firmly ruled out negotiations with Naxalites during a recent address in Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, emphasizing a strict deadline of March 31, 2026, for surrender under the government's rehabilitation policy. He asserted that the central and state governments are committed to fostering development in Naxal-affected areas, citing significant investments of over ₹4 lakh crore in Chhattisgarh. Shah urged the Naxals to abandon violence and return to the mainstream, highlighting that the real cause of underdevelopment in Bastar is Naxalism itself. This stance reinforces the government's commitment to security and development, aiming to eradicate the Naxal threat and empower local communities, thereby fostering stability in the region.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

Chhattisgarh Police Bust China-Linked Cyber Fraud Network Using 500+ Mule Accounts SHARE

05-Oct-2025

On Sunday, Chhattisgarh police achieved a breakthrough under Operation Cyber Shield, arresting four accused in Raipur in connection with a sprawling mule-account network orchestrated by Chinese nationals. The investigation uncovered transactions amounting to crores of rupees flowing through over 500 bank accounts, and revealed the suspects had cheated more than 500 victims across multiple Indian states. Raids were carried out at two sites—Gole Chowk (Dagania) and Katora Talab—and the syndicate's fake offices were sealed. The accused ran fraudulent matrimonial websites such as erishtaa.com, jeevanjodi.com, and royalrishtey.com, using deceptive photos to lure victims into making payments. Cases were registered under various provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita: 79 mule accounts at DD Nagar police station, 17 at Azad Chowk. Forensic scrutiny of mobile phones and transaction logs showed that mule accounts were procured, controlled, and operated remotely via APKs by Chinese operatives, with the Indian agents earning commissions per transaction. The police are gathering ongoing intelligence from banks and expect more arrests in the supply chain of these accounts. The four arrested—Gajsingh Suna (32) from Balangir, Odisha; Bhikhu Sachdev (32) from Dwarka, Gujarat; Sahil Kaushik (23) from Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh; and Harshit Sharma (18) from Raipur—have been remanded to judicial custody. Seized items include 50 mobile phones, 10 desktop computers, SIM cards, and some 60 bank account kits.

US Army Flags “Very High Risk” in NGC2 Battlefield Network Developed by Palantir, Anduril SHARE

05-Oct-2025

A September 2025 internal U.S. Army memo, seen by Reuters, has raised significant security concerns about the Next Generation Command and Control (NGC2) battlefield communications platform, developed by Palantir Technologies, Anduril Industries, Microsoft, and other partners. The memo, authored by Army Chief Technology Officer Gabrielle Chiulli, describes the NGC2 prototype as “very high risk,” citing fundamental security flaws such as uncontrolled user data access, lack of

activity tracking, and unverified software security. It also notes that third-party applications hosted on the system contain hundreds of high-severity vulnerabilities, creating the potential for adversaries to gain persistent, undetectable access. Despite these warnings, Anduril and Palantir maintain that the issues are being addressed as part of normal development, with Palantir asserting that no vulnerabilities were found in its platform. The assessment follows Anduril receiving a \$100 million contract in July 2025 to develop the NGC2 prototype with partners including Palantir and Microsoft. The system was tested in March 2025 during live-fire artillery exercises at Fort Carson, Colorado, demonstrating faster and more reliable performance than legacy networks. Leonel Garciga, the Army's Chief Information Officer and Chiulli's supervisor, stressed that the memo is part of a standard process to triage cybersecurity risks and implement mitigation measures. The memo's contents were first reported by Reuters, citing their access to the internal Army document.

CMMC Finalization: Implications for State, Local Governments, and Contractors

 **SHARE**

05-Oct-25

The recent finalization of the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) by the U.S. Department of Defense, effective November 10, 2025, imposes stringent cybersecurity standards on defense contractors, requiring assessments from self-certification to third-party audits to protect Federal Contract Information (FCI) and Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI). India's defense sector is also stepping up its cybersecurity with the 2025 Security Manual for Licensed Defence Industries (SMLDI 2025) and new government mandates that emphasize biometric access controls, comprehensive employee vetting, and cyber audits to enhance defenses against cyber threats, particularly from regional adversaries. While CMMC introduces a tiered maturity model covering over 300,000 U.S. defense contractors to ensure standardized cybersecurity readiness, India's approach is more nascent but rapidly evolving through institutional frameworks like the Defence Cyber Agency and DRDO's compliance mandates. Unlike the U.S. model's certification layers, India is focusing on strengthening internal security protocols and cyber operational capabilities within its defense industrial base. Both countries underscore cybersecurity's critical role in national defense, with India's measures reflecting an adaptive response to emerging cyber

warfare threats, positioning it to progressively align with global standards like the U.S. CMMC framework

AI and cybersecurity are vital for future policing strategies, asserts IGP

Jammu.  **SHARE**

05-Oct-25

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Jammu Zone, Bhim Sen Tuti, emphasized the critical role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and cybersecurity in evolving policing strategies during a review meeting aimed at enhancing internal security and law enforcement in Jammu. The discussions, which precede the 60th All-India DGPs and IGPs Conference, scheduled for November in Chhattisgarh, focused on modernizing police infrastructure and adopting innovative approaches to counter emerging security threats. IGP Tuti called for synchronization among police units to boost operational efficiency, reflecting a commitment to align policing initiatives with India's vision for development by 2047. This proactive stance not only addresses contemporary challenges but also positions the police force to anticipate future security scenarios, underscoring the need for a robust and technologically adept law enforcement framework.

WireTap attack threatens Intel SGX, risking sensitive data exfiltration.

 **SHARE**

05-Oct-25

A recently identified vulnerability known as the WireTap attack poses a significant threat to Intel's Software Guard eXtensions (SGX), enabling attackers with physical access to extract sensitive data, including cryptographic keys, from server processors. Detailed in a research paper, this approach utilizes a low-cost tool to intercept data traffic between the CPU and memory, challenging the security foundations of SGX, especially in blockchain applications reliant on its technology for secure transactions. The implications are profound, as compromised SGX keys could allow malicious actors to falsify transactions and disrupt the integrity of decentralized networks. This vulnerability highlights the urgent need for enhanced security measures to protect sensitive information in an increasingly interconnected digital landscape.

AI models like Claude Sonnet 4.5 enhance security flaw detection rates significantly.

 **SHARE**

05-Oct-25

Recent advancements in AI, particularly with language models like Claude Sonnet 4.5, have shown promising

results in identifying software vulnerabilities. Anthropic reports that Sonnet 4.5 improves vulnerability detection rates from 2% to 5%, successfully uncovering new flaws in over a third of tested projects. This enhancement was notably showcased during a DARPA AI Cyber Challenge, where teams utilized large language models to create "cyber reasoning systems" capable of analyzing millions of code lines for potential security issues. The development signifies a pivotal shift in cybersecurity, highlighting AI's growing role in safeguarding digital infrastructure, which is essential for national security and defense strategies, particularly for countries like India that are increasingly investing in advanced technology to bolster their cybersecurity resilience.

Research reveals major security flaws in popular Tile tracking devices. SHARE

05-Oct-25

Researchers from the Georgia Institute of Technology have identified significant vulnerabilities in Tile tracking devices, which are popular among consumers for locating personal belongings. The absence of encryption and the use of static MAC addresses make these devices susceptible to exploitation by malicious actors, raising serious privacy concerns. While Tile's parent company, Life360, claims to have addressed these issues, critics, including the Electronic Frontier Foundation, argue that the company has inadequately responded to calls for improved security measures, unlike competitors like Apple and Google. This situation underscores the urgent need for standardized safety protocols in the Bluetooth tracking device industry to protect users from potential stalking and unauthorized tracking.

Miscellaneous

Army Chief Dwivedi honors athletes at World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi. SHARE

05-Oct-25

General Upendra Dwivedi, the Chief of Army Staff, attended the 2025 World Para Athletics Championships at New Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, where he honored outstanding athletes and awarded medals for their exceptional performances. This event, running from September 27 to October 5, is the largest para sports gathering ever held in India, featuring over 1,000 athletes competing across 186 medal events. General Dwivedi praised the resilience and spirit of para

athletes, emphasizing the Indian Army's commitment to promoting sports and inclusivity. The successful hosting of this championship underscores India's growing prominence in international para sports and reflects the nation's dedication to supporting athletes with disabilities, fostering a culture of excellence and inspiration.

Pop star Fadel Shaker surrenders to Lebanese military after hiding. SHARE

05-Oct-25

Lebanese pop star-turned-militant Fadel Shaker surrendered to military authorities after 12 years in hiding following his conviction for supporting a terrorist group during violent clashes with the Lebanese army in 2013. Shaker, who had been living in the Ein el-Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp, is set to be tried on new charges related to crimes against the military. His return to custody coincides with the Lebanese army's broader initiative to regulate weaponry within Palestinian camps, a move aimed at reducing sectarian tensions and enhancing national security. This development underscores the ongoing challenges Lebanon faces with militant groups and the importance of strengthening state authority in sensitive areas.

Indian Army's Surya Command honors 'Unsung Sentinels' with 90-ft national flag in Gue. SHARE

05-Oct-25

In Gue, Himachal Pradesh, the Indian Army's Surya Command dedicated a significant 90-foot National Flag to honor the "Unsung Sentinels" of the nation, a tribute to the bravery and dedication of the armed forces. The event, led by Lieutenant General Anindya Sengupta, was attended by local residents, school children, and officials, fostering a spirit of patriotism. Established in 1963 to guard the Central Sector along the Line of Actual Control, Surya Command plays a vital role in national defense and internal security. This ceremony underscores the Army's commitment to its historical roots and its bond with the nation, reinforcing the significance of military presence in safeguarding the country's sovereignty and inspiring future generations.

Hardeep Puri discusses Indian investments with Brazil to enhance energy partnership. SHARE

05-Oct-25

Union Minister Hardeep Puri engaged in discussions with Brazilian officials, including Special Advisor Celso Luiz Nunes Amorim, to bolster the Strategic Partnership

between India and Brazil, focusing on hydrocarbons, energy transition, and renewable technologies. Minister Puri articulated India's intent to invest significantly in Brazil's oil and gas exploration sector, emphasizing collaboration in biofuels and ethanol blending, which aligns with India's clean fuel initiatives. The meeting, held ahead of Brazil's hosting of the 2025 COP30 summit, underlined India's critical role in global climate strategies. This dialogue not only strengthens bilateral ties but also reinforces both nations' commitment to advancing clean energy while ensuring energy security through diversified cooperation.

GalaxEye's Drishti satellite passes tests, set for February 2026 launch.



05-Oct-25

GalaxEye Space Solutions, an Indian space start-up, has successfully completed structural tests for its Drishti satellite model at ISRO's U R Rao Satellite Centre, validating its resilience to space conditions. Scheduled for launch in February 2026 using a SpaceX rocket, the Drishti satellite will form part of a ten-satellite constellation that integrates synthetic aperture radar with high-resolution optical imaging. This innovative design aims to enhance geospatial analysis capabilities, benefiting government and defense sectors by providing all-weather, continuous imaging. The project represents a significant advancement in India's satellite technology, showcasing the country's burgeoning prowess in the global space industry and its commitment to leveraging indigenous talent for cutting-edge developments.

India launches direct air cargo mission to Antarctica from Goa.



05-Oct-25

The National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) has successfully launched a direct air cargo

flight from Goa to Antarctica, enhancing India's logistical capabilities for polar expeditions. The mission, utilizing a DROMLAN-operated IL-76 aircraft, transported 18 tons of vital supplies, including scientific equipment and provisions for Indian research stations. This initiative, highlighted by NCPOR director Dr. Thamban Meloth, emphasizes India's commitment to advancing Antarctic research and self-reliant logistics. The cargo will support ongoing studies in glaciology, oceanography, and climate at key research stations like Bharati and Maitri, marking a significant milestone in India's scientific endeavors in the polar regions. This development underlines India's strategic investment in scientific infrastructure and its role in global climate research.

IAF's 93rd Air Force Day: MiG-21 and Modern Jets Unite in Display



05-Oct-25

As the Indian Air Force (IAF) prepares for its 93rd anniversary on October 8, the celebration will prominently feature a retired MiG-21 Bison, symbolizing the legacy of this aircraft which served for over six decades and played a pivotal role in historical conflicts. The static display at Hindon Air Base will showcase an array of modern assets including the Dassault Rafale and Sukhoi Su-30MKI, reflecting the IAF's evolution towards advanced capabilities while honoring its heritage. The event, expected to attract around 50,000 visitors, highlights the fusion of past and future in the IAF's modernization efforts, reinforcing India's commitment to enhancing its defense posture and technological prowess in the region. This ceremonial transition underscores the significance of historical recognition amidst a forward-looking defense strategy.

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