



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

April 08,2025 | Day 098

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
AVANTEL	112.76	106.39	+5.99%
PTC	167.18	157.91	+5.87%
MARINE	172.29	163.31	+5.5%
AZAD	1284.25	1218.25	+5.42%
SIKA	622.0	591.45	+5.17%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
LOKESHMACH	156.06	166.65	-6.35%
NIBE	1173.45	1200.3	-2.24%
TANEJAERO	290.15	296.05	-1.99%

Defense Business and Industry

Bharat Electronics shares rise 4% on Rs 2,210 crore IAF contract

SHARE

08-Apr-25

Bharat Electronics (BEL) shares surged by 4.45% following a significant Rs 2,210 crore contract from the Indian Air Force for an Electronic Warfare Suite for Mi 17 V5 helicopters. This contract, which includes advanced systems like Radar Warning Receiver and Missile Approach Warning System, enhances the helicopters' combat survivability. BEL has secured total orders of approximately Rs 2,803 crore in the current financial year alone, reflecting its strong position and commitment to indigenously developed defense technologies. With a remarkable turnover of around Rs 23,000 crore for FY 2024-25, BEL's increasing market presence underscores the growing reliance on domestic defense manufacturing in India.

INS Aridhaman: India's 3rd Nuclear Submarine Set for 2025 Induction

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08-Apr-25

India is set to enhance its naval capabilities with the induction of INS Aridhaman, its third Arihant-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, by the end of 2025. This submarine, featuring increased missile capacity and a 70% indigenous content, plays a critical role in India's nuclear deterrence strategy. Concurrently, the Rambilli naval base under Project Varsha is nearing completion, designed to provide a stealthy operational base for SSBNs, thus bolstering India's security against growing Chinese influence in the Indian Ocean Region. These initiatives underscore India's commitment to

maintaining a credible second-strike capability and securing its maritime interests amid regional tensions, particularly concerning China's growing presence and a potential Chinese-backed airbase in Bangladesh. Overall, India's strategic investments reflect a robust response to emerging threats and a dedication to self-reliance in defense manufacturing.

Private Sector Collaboration Key for India's 110kN AMCA Engine Development

SHARE

08-Apr-25

India's defense sector is making significant strides with the development of the 110kN thrust engine for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), as discussed by Baba Kalyani and confirmed by DRDO's GTRE. Kalyani emphasizes the need for collaboration among private sector companies to master the engine's critical hot core technology, while GTRE highlights the engine's core upgradeability, which could evolve to meet future demands, including a sixth-generation fighter. This indigenous development aligns with the government's Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, aiming to reduce reliance on costly foreign imports and establish India as a competitive player in the global aerospace market. The successful realization of these engines signifies a crucial advancement in India's defense manufacturing capabilities and strategic self-reliance.

Exercise SARVSHAKTI: Indian Army Embraces AI and Drone Warfare

SHARE

08-Apr-25

The Indian Army's Exercise SARVSHAKTI showcased significant advancements in integrating drones and AI into military operations, marking a shift towards Manned-Unmanned Teaming (MUM-T) for Multi-Domain Operations. This indigenous initiative demonstrated real-time data processing and tactical integration,

enhancing situational awareness and decision-making capabilities. Concurrently, the successful testing of kamikaze drones in Pathankot reflects a proactive approach to modern warfare, emphasizing low-cost, precision strikes. With plans to scale MUM-T and incorporate swarm technology, India's defense modernization is not just theoretical but operationally validated, positioning the Indian Army to effectively counter evolving threats along the Line of Actual Control.

Vietnam Strengthens U.S. Defense Ties to Balance Trade Surplus SHARE

08-Apr-25

Vietnam is set to enhance its defense and security ties with the United States by purchasing more American goods, amidst ongoing trade negotiations aimed at addressing a significant trade surplus. Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh has requested a 45-day delay in the imposition of U.S. tariffs while seeking faster delivery of commercial aircraft. Since the U.S. lifted its arms embargo in 2016, defense exports to Vietnam have been limited, though potential sales of military transport planes are being discussed. This move underscores Vietnam's strategic intent to balance trade relations and strengthen its defense capabilities, reflecting a growing partnership with the U.S. in the region.

China's J-50 Stealth Fighter Raises Concerns for USAF, But India Remains Skeptical SHARE

08-Apr-25

The J-50, China's emerging sixth-generation stealth fighter, showcases advanced technologies including a tailless design for enhanced stealth and manoeuvrability, AI integration for combat scenarios, and potential capabilities for controlling drones and employing hypersonic missiles. While the U.S. Air Force expresses concern over the J-50's implications for air superiority, Indian defense officials like General Anil Chauhan and Air Chief Marshal AP Singh remain skeptical about its operational readiness, citing China's developmental challenges. This development reflects a growing technological rivalry that may impact regional security dynamics, particularly in the Indo-Pacific, although China's capacity to match Western advancements remains questionable.

Prime Tooling Reaches Key Milestone in Missile Propulsion Tech SHARE

08-Apr-25

Hi-Tech start-up Prime Tooling has achieved a significant milestone in developing indigenous missile propulsion systems, aligning with India's Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. Their new Rotating Detonation Engine (RDE) promises increased efficiency and performance for tactical missiles, with a range of 300-500 km. This advancement enhances India's missile capabilities and strengthens its emphasis on self-reliance in defense technology. Prime Tooling's expertise in high-precision aerospace components and military-grade equipment further underscores its commitment to delivering reliable and innovative solutions for India's defense sector, contributing to the nation's strategic objectives and operational readiness.

India and Israel Successfully Test Barak Air Defence System SHARE

08-Apr-25

Israel's IAI and India's DRDO have successfully completed tests of the Barak MRSAM air defense system, marking a critical step towards its full operational deployment across the Indian armed forces. The system has already been integrated into the navy and air force, with recent trials demonstrating its effectiveness in intercepting aerial threats. Capable of engaging targets up to 70 kilometers away, the MRSAM offers flexible deployment on both land and sea platforms. The successful tests underscore the robust technological collaboration between India and Israel, strengthening bilateral relations and enhancing India's defense capabilities in a rapidly evolving security landscape.

BSS Materiel Tests AI-Powered Autonomous Small Arms System SHARE

08-Apr-25

Dehradun-based BSS Materiel has conducted internal trials of its AI-driven autonomous weapon system for small arms, specifically a prototype for a 12.7mm caliber weapon. This advancement highlights India's commitment to integrating cutting-edge technology in defense, enabling autonomous target identification and engagement. The system employs advanced sensors and machine learning algorithms to enhance precision and speed in combat, potentially reducing soldiers' cognitive load. However, concerns about the system's operational transparency and reliability persist, emphasizing the need for responsible development and deployment of such technologies in military contexts.

Overall, this initiative showcases India's proactive stance in modernizing its defense capabilities through AI integration.

Indian Army Seeks Advanced Drone Defense Systems for Tanks SHARE

08-Apr-25

The Indian Army has issued a Request for Information (RFI) for approximately 75 Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems (C-UAS) to be integrated into its T-90 and T-72 tanks, enhancing their defense against the rising threat of drones in modern warfare. This initiative reflects India's proactive approach to modernizing its armored capabilities, particularly in light of lessons learned from recent conflicts like Ukraine, where armored units faced significant drone threats. The C-UAS systems will incorporate both soft-kill and hard-kill measures, ensuring comprehensive protection in diverse terrains, particularly along the challenging borders with China and Pakistan, highlighting the Army's commitment to addressing evolving battlefield challenges.

DRDO Plans to Develop 300kW Surya Laser Weapon by 2027 SHARE

08-Apr-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has announced plans to develop a 300kW Surya Directed Energy Weapon (DEW) by 2027, a significant advancement in India's defense technology. This system, leveraging high-energy lasers, aims to counter various threats up to 20 kilometers away, showcasing India's commitment to self-reliance in defense capabilities. Key technologies include advanced tracking systems and adaptive control mechanisms, ensuring precision and efficiency. The Surya DEW, designed for versatility and operational effectiveness, will be ground-transportable, underscoring India's strategic focus on next-generation warfare systems to enhance national security and maintain regional stability.

IndoWings Launches LM-250 Loitering Munition for Pinaka MBRL SHARE

08-Apr-25

Noida-based IndoWings has launched the LM-250, a loitering munition system designed for integration with the Pinaka Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL), significantly enhancing India's artillery capabilities. With a range of 20-25 kilometers, this system allows for precision strikes while minimizing exposure to enemy defenses, transforming the Pinaka from an area saturation platform to one capable of tactical precision.

The LM-250 can be launched in swarms, harnessing the mobility of the Pinaka mounted on a Tatra truck for rapid deployment and relocation, thereby improving operational flexibility. This development underscores India's commitment to modernizing its defense capabilities and maintaining a strategic edge in dynamic battlefield scenarios.

India Set to Launch 52 Military Satellites for Enhanced ISR Capabilities SHARE

08-Apr-25

India is poised to enhance its military capabilities by launching 52 dedicated satellites for intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR), as announced by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan. This initiative, part of a broader military space doctrine expected within three months, emphasizes the importance of space in national security and integrates public-private partnerships to bolster capabilities. The satellites will provide comprehensive coverage using advanced sensors and imaging systems, crucial for monitoring threats from neighboring countries. This strategic move highlights India's commitment to solidifying its position as a space power amid a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape, particularly concerning its rivalry with China.

VTOL Aviation India Launches VLM_X: A Revolutionary UAV for Warfare SHARE

08-Apr-25

VTOL Aviation India Pvt Ltd has launched the VLM_X, a made-in-India Vertical Take-Off and Landing (VTOL) loitering munition UAV, enhancing India's capabilities in modern warfare. This innovative UAV features AI-driven target recognition, enabling precision strikes against a variety of threats in complex environments without the need for runways. With a range of 30 kilometers, operational altitude of 6,000 meters, and low aural signature, the VLM_X promises to offer a decisive edge for India's armed forces. Developed under the Make in India initiative, it reflects the country's commitment to self-reliance in defense technology, addressing diverse security challenges while minimizing risks to personnel and expensive assets.

DRDO Unveils WhAP 88 at LAAD 2025, Eyeing Latin American Market SHARE

08-Apr-25

India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will showcase the Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP) 88 at the LAAD 2025 Defence Expo in Brazil, targeting the Latin American

armored vehicle market. Following a landmark contract with Morocco for up to 400 units, this amphibious vehicle highlights India's strategic shift towards becoming a credible global defense supplier under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative. The WhAP 88's versatility and proven performance suit the diverse operational needs of LATAM nations, which are modernizing their forces. This move signifies India's ambition to expand its defense exports and enhance international collaborations, reflecting a commitment to indigenous design and manufacturing in defense capabilities.

AVNL Proposes Customized Sprut Tank for Indian Army's High-Altitude Needs, Competing with DRDO-L&T's Zorawar



08-Apr-25

State-owned Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL) has proposed a modified 2S25 Sprut-SD light tank for the Indian Army's high-altitude warfare needs, competing against the domestically developed Zorawar tank by DRDO and L&T. AVNL's design aims to blend Russian technology with Indian components, enhancing firepower and survivability for operations along the LAC with China. However, the Sprut's lighter armour raises concerns compared to the Zorawar's advanced features, which include artificial intelligence and active protection systems. Ultimately, this competition underscores India's strategic push for indigenous defense capabilities amid regional military challenges, reinforcing the #AatmanirbharBharat initiative in defense manufacturing.

highlighting the vital people-to-people ties bolstered by a large Indian diaspora in the UAE. The visit underscores the strategic importance of UAE to India in trade and defence and reflects a commitment to deepening bilateral relations across multiple sectors, including infrastructure and technology. This collaboration is poised to benefit both nations and strengthen regional stability.

Trump Warns Iran of Danger If Nuclear Talks Fail



08-Apr-25

President Donald Trump announced that the U.S. and Iran would engage in direct talks regarding Iran's nuclear program, but Tehran's foreign minister indicated that discussions would be indirect, mediated by Oman. Trump warned that failure to reach an agreement would place Iran in "great danger." Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu expressed support for U.S. diplomatic efforts while emphasizing the need to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, suggesting a potential model similar to Libya's disarmament in 2003. The geopolitical landscape remains tense, with Trump's military presence in the region and heightened concerns over Iran's nuclear ambitions, especially in light of recent conflicts involving Hamas and Hezbollah. Overall, while the U.S. seeks to negotiate a deal, the skepticism from Iran about direct negotiations highlights the complexities of achieving a diplomatic resolution in a volatile Middle East.

Sri Lanka Commends India's Key Role in Boosting Maritime Security



08-Apr-25

Sri Lanka has praised India's steadfast support in enhancing its maritime capabilities, emphasizing the shared vision for a secure Indian Ocean Region following Prime Minister Modi's recent visit. The Sri Lankan Deputy Minister of Defence highlighted collaborative efforts needed to address challenges like maritime security and transnational crimes. Additionally, significant agreements were signed, focusing on infrastructure, energy, and health cooperation, underlining India's pivotal role in Sri Lanka's development. The ongoing defense relationship, characterized by joint exercises and military cooperation, reinforces India's strategic influence in the region, promoting stability and security amidst evolving geopolitical dynamics.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and UAE Crown Prince discuss defence cooperation in New Delhi.



08-Apr-25

In a significant diplomatic engagement, Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met with UAE Crown Prince Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum in New Delhi, focusing on enhancing the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two nations. Both leaders emphasized the need to scale up defence cooperation, including training exchanges and industry collaboration, aiming for joint ventures and co-production projects. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar also welcomed the Crown Prince,

Geopolitical shifts boost demand for alternatives to Starlink [SHARE](#)

08-Apr-25

Geopolitical shifts are driving the demand for sovereign satellite networks as nations seek alternatives to U.S. services like SpaceX's Starlink, particularly in Europe where there is a renewed focus on defense capabilities. The European initiative IRIS2 aims to establish a multi-orbit broadband constellation to reduce reliance on foreign systems, although skepticism regarding its speed and efficacy persists. Meanwhile, Starlink remains dominant with over 5 million subscribers, but competition is intensifying as U.S. companies innovate in direct-to-device satellite services. This evolving landscape highlights the urgent need for enhanced space sovereignty, especially as geopolitical dynamics shift.

China's Oil Discovery Escalates Tensions, Challenges India's Strategy [SHARE](#)

08-Apr-25

China's recent discovery of over 100 million tonnes of crude oil in the South China Sea could significantly bolster its energy self-reliance and military claims in contested maritime territories, raising geopolitical tensions in the region. This move challenges the existing maritime order and poses a strategic threat to India, particularly affecting its Act East Policy and Indo-Pacific Strategy. Experts suggest India must enhance cooperation with ASEAN nations and deepen QUAD engagement while accelerating oil exploration efforts in Vietnamese waters through ONGC Videsh to effectively counterbalance Chinese dominance. The situation underscores the need for a coordinated response to ensure regional stability and secure energy routes.

Trump Targets China's \$600B Trade Surplus to Curb Military Growth [SHARE](#)

08-Apr-25

US President Trump is escalating the trade war with China, proposing a staggering 104% tariff on Chinese imports to prevent the nation from using its significant trade surplus to bolster its military. This comes as China has earmarked \$245 billion for defense in 2025, further fueling concerns over its military ambitions. Tensions are rising as both countries exchange retaliatory tariffs, with China criticizing the US for "blackmail." The increasing military assertiveness of China, evidenced by its actions in the South China Sea and along its borders, has prompted India and other regional players to enhance their defense capabilities,

reflecting a broader geopolitical shift in response to China's growing influence.

China's Military Drills Normalize Pressure on Taiwan Crisis [SHARE](#)

08-Apr-25

China is significantly escalating military pressure on Taiwan, evidenced by record-breaking PLA activities in the region and the recent provocative Exercise Strait Thunder-2025A, which involved live-fire missile drills and extensive naval operations. This behavior aims to normalize coercive actions against Taiwan, with Beijing employing both psychological warfare and aggressive military tactics. While G7 nations express concern over the rising tensions, China's narrative frames its actions as necessary for national sovereignty, despite Taiwan's peaceful stance. The situation signals a potential for increased conflict, emphasizing the need for vigilance from regional allies, including India, as stability in the Indo-Pacific remains critical for broader security dynamics.

Russia Questions Feasibility of Ukraine Truce Amid Ongoing Tensions [SHARE](#)

08-Apr-25

The Kremlin has expressed support for a truce in Ukraine but raised numerous concerns about its feasibility, indicating skepticism towards US and European proposals. President Trump has voiced frustration over the stalled ceasefire negotiations, while Kremlin spokesman Peskov attributed the lack of progress to Ukraine's unpredictability. Russia's rejection of an unconditional ceasefire and conditional acceptance of a truce depends on the lifting of Western sanctions further complicates the situation. This reflects ongoing geopolitical tensions and highlights the complexities in orchestrating a lasting peace in the region, as both sides grapple with divergent interests and diplomatic challenges.

Amit Shah's Kashmir Visit Sees 3 Separatists Join Indian Constitution [SHARE](#)

08-Apr-25

Home Minister Amit Shah's recent visit to Kashmir coincided with the defection of three more separatists from the Hurriyat Conference, who have pledged allegiance to the Indian Constitution. Shah hailed this development as a sign that separatism is "breathing its last" under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. This shift indicates a diminishing influence of separatist ideologies in the region, reflecting the

effectiveness of the Indian government's strategies aimed at fostering integration and stability in Jammu and Kashmir. The ongoing efforts reinforce India's commitment to national unity and the rule of law, highlighting the positive trajectory for peace in the region.

US Secretary Rubio and EAM Jaishankar Address Tariffs and Ties SHARE

08-Apr-25

US Secretary Rubio and EAM Jaishankar discussed the impact of 26% reciprocal tariffs imposed by the US on Indian imports, aiming for an early conclusion of a Bilateral Trade Agreement to alleviate trade tensions. The tariffs could lead to a projected decline of \$5.76 billion in India's exports to the US by 2025, particularly affecting sectors like steel and agriculture, while also presenting new opportunities. Their discussions reaffirmed a commitment to strengthening US-India strategic cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, reflecting a broader geopolitical alignment amidst regional dynamics and trade challenges, ultimately emphasizing the importance of a balanced economic relationship.

China's Dong Fang Hong 3 Completes Survey, Heightening Indian Ocean Tensions SHARE

08-Apr-25

China's research vessel, Dong Fang Hong 3, has completed a month-long survey of the strategically significant Ninety East Ridge in the Indian Ocean, raising security concerns for India due to its potential military applications. The vessel's advanced capabilities can enhance Chinese submarine operations, which is particularly alarming given India's focus on bolstering naval defenses in the region. The Indian Navy is closely monitoring these developments, as China's pattern of deploying research vessels during critical Indian defense activities suggests an intelligence-gathering strategy. India's relatively limited oceanographic research capabilities, compared to China's, further complicate its ability to secure its maritime interests in its own backyard.

Military Operations

Navy Chief Prioritizes Seven Key Areas for Enhanced Readiness SHARE

08-Apr-25

Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi has directed naval commanders to prioritize seven key areas, including combat efficiency, fleet maintenance, and integration of new technologies, during the Navy Commanders' Conference. He emphasized the importance of agility and a balanced workforce to adapt to emerging geopolitical challenges, particularly in the Indian Ocean Region where Chinese activities are escalating. Admiral Tripathi commended the Navy's operational readiness and highlighted the role of innovation in strengthening domestic shipbuilding. The Navy is also focused on engaging with regional partners through initiatives like Operation Brahma, demonstrating India's commitment to enhancing regional security and cooperation.

Army Chief Gen Dwivedi visits Srinagar to review security readiness SHARE

08-Apr-25

Chief of Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi visited Srinagar to evaluate the security situation and operational readiness of forces in Jammu and Kashmir. He engaged in discussions with the Chinar Corps Commander, focusing on the region's security challenges and the Indian Army's strategies to address them. Emphasizing the need for jointness and integration among armed forces, Gen Dwivedi highlighted the importance of adaptability and technological innovation in modern warfare. This visit underscores the Army's commitment to maintaining high operational standards and readiness, ensuring effective responses to evolving security dynamics in the region, reinforcing India's proactive stance in safeguarding national security.

Indian, US Troops Unite in Yoga and Martial Arts at Tiger Triumph 2025 SHARE

08-Apr-25

Indian and US troops participated in Exercise Tiger Triumph 2025, engaging in joint yoga, martial arts, and mountain warfare training to enhance interoperability and cultural understanding. Soldiers from the Indian Army's 8 Gorkha Infantry Battalion and the US Army's 11th Airborne Division practiced yoga asanas and the indigenous AMAR martial arts system, promoting physical wellness and combat readiness. The exercise

also included mountain warfare techniques, emphasizing skills vital for operations in rugged terrain. A cultural exchange showcased the Gorkha Fury dance, symbolizing the Indian Army's rich martial heritage, further strengthening the bond between the two nations. This exercise underscores the growing defense cooperation and shared values between India and the US.

Israel Intensifies Gaza Operations; Journalist Killed in Strikes

08-Apr-25

Israeli troops are intensifying their operations in Gaza, with reports indicating they have seized or depopulated two-thirds of the territory. The United Nations notes that significant evacuation orders have forced hundreds of thousands of Palestinians into increasingly restricted areas. A Palestinian journalist was killed during an airstrike that the Israeli military claims targeted a Hamas militant disguised as a reporter. Israel aims to establish a "security zone" around Gaza's perimeter amidst fears of a potential permanent occupation, raising concerns about ongoing humanitarian impacts and regional stability. The situation underscores the complex dynamics of military operations and media within conflict zones.

Urgent Need to Modernize IAF's Jaguar Fleet Amid Crash Concerns

08-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force's Jaguar fleet faces significant challenges, with a troubling crash record highlighting the urgent need for modernization. As of April 2025, the fleet has experienced 50 crashes since its induction, resulting in the loss of 65 aircraft, and currently stands at 115, with only 83 operational. The ageing design and maintenance issues, compounded by underpowered engines and a lack of spare parts, have lowered serviceability rates to 72%. Despite attempts to upgrade avionics, budget constraints have hampered improvements, revealing broader issues within the IAF's reliance on ageing platforms amid critical squadron shortages, particularly essential for countering threats from Pakistan and China.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Discovery of Suspected Bangladeshi Drone in Tripura Triggers BSF Investigation

08-Apr-25

A suspected Bangladeshi drone was found in southern Tripura, raising concerns among local villagers about potential surveillance and cross-border intrusion. The drone was discovered 600 meters from the India-Bangladesh border, prompting investigations by the Border Security Force (BSF) and local police. Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha highlighted ongoing measures to prevent illegal infiltration, including joint patrolling and the establishment of Anti-Human Trafficking units. He reported a significant increase in cases against illegal infiltrators, reflecting the government's commitment to border security in a region that shares an extensive international frontier with Bangladesh.

NIA Raids Ties to Khalistani Terrorist Goldy Brar; Defense Deal Signed

08-Apr-25

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) intensified its search operations across Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in connection with Khalistani extremist Goldy Brar. Acting on credible intelligence, investigators conducted raids and recovered materials that are believed to be integral to a network allegedly responsible for a series of grenade attacks in Gurugram. The seized evidence includes communication devices, documents, and other incriminating items that suggest a premeditated conspiracy. In parallel, authorities are also focusing on US-based gangster Randeep Malik, whose alleged collaboration with Brar has raised significant security concerns. According to recent search insights and media reports, this coordinated operation is a critical component of India's broader strategy to dismantle terrorist networks. The NIA remains vigilant and is working tirelessly to piece together the full spectrum of evidence related to these incidents. These efforts reinforce India's proactive commitment to thwarting threats and protecting national security in an era of evolving challenges. Officials stress that coordinated international efforts significantly strengthen ongoing investigations.

Hamas sought \$500 million from Iran for the October 7 attack. SHARE

08-Apr-25

Israel has disclosed intelligence indicating that Hamas requested \$500 million from Iran to fund its October 7 attack on Israel, highlighting a financial and operational link between the two. Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz presented a document found in Hamas tunnels, confirming Iran's support for Hamas's agenda against Israel, including ongoing assistance from the IRGC. This revelation underscores Iran's strategic priority in opposing Israel and the U.S., reinforcing the perception of a broad "axis of terror." Amid escalating conflict, discontent in Gaza against Hamas is also growing, with protests emerging against the group despite crackdowns. Israel asserts its commitment to dismantling this Iranian-backed threat.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

Rising Cyber Threats from Deepfakes Target Key Sectors: Report SHARE

08-Apr-25

A government report indicates a significant rise in cyber threats, particularly from deepfakes and AI-generated content, targeting sectors like banking, financial services, and insurance (BFSI). The report, prepared by CERT-In and SISA, highlights a 175% increase in phishing attacks during the first half of 2024 compared to last year, suggesting that AI-driven cyberattacks will pose major challenges by 2025. With adversaries leveraging advanced tools such as deepfakes for social engineering, traditional defenses are becoming increasingly inadequate, necessitating innovative countermeasures to address the evolving threat landscape effectively. This underscores the critical need for enhanced cybersecurity strategies in India's defense and financial sectors.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

BSF: India's Frontline Force Strengthened with New Initiatives SHARE

08-Apr-25

Union Home Minister Amit Shah recently visited the Border Security Force (BSF) outpost in Kathua, Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing the critical role of the BSF as India's "first line of defence" against external threats,

particularly from Pakistan. During his visit, he paid tribute to martyr Assistant Commandant Vinay Prasad and inaugurated several infrastructure projects worth 47.22 crore, including women-friendly barracks and advanced surveillance systems, aimed at enhancing the working and living conditions of BSF personnel. Shah highlighted the BSF's valiant contributions in past wars, asserting that their role has been as significant as that of the Indian Army. He also announced the deployment of over 26 technology-driven initiatives, such as anti-drone systems and tunnel detection technologies, which will greatly improve the efficiency of border security operations. Shah reaffirmed the government's commitment to eradicating terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, ensuring a zero-infiltration policy and a strong focus on the welfare of security forces, including various initiatives to enhance their living conditions and provide support to their families. This visit not only underscores the government's resolve in strengthening border security through technological advancements but also highlights its dedication to recognizing the sacrifices made by security personnel, reinforcing both operational preparedness and morale.

Miscellaneous

31 Maoists Surrender in Chhattisgarh, Joining Lon Varratu Initiative SHARE

08-Apr-25

A total of 31 Maoists, including five women, surrendered in Chhattisgarh's Dantewada and Narayanpur districts following an appeal from Union Home Minister Amit Shah for reintegration into society. Among the surrendered were individuals with bounties on their heads, such as Janmilitia commander Rajesh Kashyap and Janatana Sarkar squad leader Kosa Madvi. This significant development is part of the Lon Varratu (Come Back Home) campaign, which has seen 953 Naxalites surrender since its launch. The government's focused rehabilitation strategy includes providing financial assistance and skill development training to facilitate their reintegration. The increasing number of surrenders highlights a positive shift away from violence and Naxalism, inspired by the government's outreach efforts, ultimately supporting national security and societal stability in the region.

US Supreme Court denies Rana's extradition stay, aiding India's fight against terrorism. SHARE

08-Apr-25

The US Supreme Court has rejected Tahawwur Rana's plea to stay his extradition to India, where he faces charges related to the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks that resulted in 166 deaths. Rana, a former associate of David Coleman Headley, cited poor health conditions and potential hostility in India as reasons for his appeal, but both the Supreme Court and previous rulings dismissed his claims. His extradition has been a protracted process, with approval from the US District Court in May 2023 and a formal announcement by President Trump in February 2025, viewed by Indian authorities as essential for further investigation into the attacks and the involvement of groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba. This decision underscores the strong US-India collaboration in combating terrorism and highlights India's pursuit of justice for the victims of the Mumbai attacks.

Meitei groups AMUCO and FOCS pledge unity for Manipur after key talks. SHARE

08-Apr-25

Following a pivotal tripartite peace meeting in New Delhi arranged by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, two prominent Meitei groups—AMUCO and FOCS—reaffirmed their commitment to Manipur's unity. Emphasizing stability and lasting peace, they underlined the need to safeguard the collective aspirations of the Manipur people. The groups highlighted urgent demands for decisive action against Kuki militants, drug trafficking, and illegal infiltration. This stance reflects their determination to uphold the state's territorial integrity and ensure secure, free movement on highways. Amid ongoing ethnic tensions, the meeting is seen as a crucial first step toward establishing a robust roadmap for resolving longstanding security challenges in northeastern India.

NTPC Pursues Small Modular Reactors to Modernize Energy Sector SHARE

08-Apr-25

India's NTPC is seeking to replace aging coal power plants with small modular reactors (SMRs), marking a significant shift towards nuclear energy. This initiative follows the government's plan to enhance its nuclear capacity to 100 GW by 2047, up from the current 8 GW. NTPC has initiated feasibility studies for SMRs and is in discussions with international firms, including those from Russia and the US, while also planning the

construction of larger nuclear reactors. This move reflects India's commitment to modernize its energy sector, reduce dependence on coal, and attract foreign investment to bolster its nuclear capabilities, aligning with global trends in energy transition.

Mother of IAF Pilot Calls Out State-sanctioned Violence After Jaguar Crash SHARE

08-Apr-25

Kavita Gadgil, mother of a deceased IAF pilot, has voiced her distress following the tragic crash of a Jaguar fighter jet, which claimed the life of Flight Lieutenant Siddharth Yadav. She criticized the continued use of outdated aircraft, highlighting the lack of accountability and reform within the defense establishment, and called it "state-sanctioned violence" against armed forces personnel. Gadgil emphasized the need for improved safety standards and expressed her frustration over the silence surrounding these aviation accidents. In response, the IAF acknowledged the incident and initiated a Court of Inquiry to investigate the cause of the crash.

ISRO Pioneers Efforts for a Debris-Free Space by 2030 SHARE

08-Apr-25

ISRO has demonstrated its commitment to a debris-free space with the successful controlled re-entry of the PSLV-C60 rocket's upper stage into the Indian Ocean, part of its Debris-Free Space Missions initiative targeting elimination of space debris by 2030. The initiative, underpinned by the ISRO System for Safe and Sustainable Space Operations Management (IS4OM), employs techniques like deorbiting to mitigate environmental impacts and enhance space safety. By proactively addressing the global challenge of space debris, India not only safeguards its own space operations but also solidifies its leadership in responsible global space governance, setting a vital precedent for sustainable space exploration worldwide.

Russian Plasma Engine Promises 30-Day Journey to Mars SHARE

08-Apr-25

Russian scientists have developed a promising plasma engine that can potentially shorten the Mars journey to just 30 days, boasting higher efficiency and lower fuel consumption than traditional chemical rockets. This engine operates on continuous thrust, crucial for long-duration missions, although it requires significant electrical power and poses several engineering

challenges, such as managing heat and integrating with existing systems. While the technology indicates a leap forward in deep-space exploration, the need for advancements in energy sources and materials remains critical. Despite its limitations for launch, this innovation highlights the potential for more efficient interplanetary travel, aligning with the global push for sustainable space exploration technologies.

India Considers Local AI Model Storage to Enhance Data Security



08-Apr-25

The Indian government is considering local storage of AI models to mitigate risks associated with data leaks and prevent sensitive information from flowing abroad. Ministry of Electronics and IT Secretary S. Krishnan highlighted that the forthcoming Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, expected to be implemented in 6-8 weeks, will play a crucial role in safeguarding personal data. He emphasized the importance of hosting AI models within India to reduce risks of data exposure. Additionally, there is growing awareness and a positive trend in reporting cybersecurity incidents, indicating enhanced surveillance and capacity to address emerging threats in the digital space.

Sebi slaps Rs 7 lakh fine on Reliance Securities for compliance breaches



08-Apr-25

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has fined Reliance Securities Rs 7 lakh for failing to comply with stock broking norms, following an inspection that revealed incorrect reporting in margin statements and ledger balances. The firm also did not adhere to risk-based supervision guidelines and had adverse findings in cybersecurity audits across multiple periods. Furthermore, Reliance Securities was found to have improperly passed penalties to clients for short margin collections. This enforcement action highlights the importance of compliance and cybersecurity in maintaining investor trust and market integrity in India's growing financial sector.

ISRO to Launch ASSAMSAT Satellites for Assam's Growth and Security



08-Apr-25

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that ISRO will help launch an array of low-

earth orbit satellites in the state, known as ASSAMSAT, which will enhance disaster management, security monitoring, and developmental projects. A command and control center for these satellites will be established in Guwahati, with initial operations expected by January 2026. The initiative aims to boost communication networks and encourage private sector participation while supporting education and skill development. This endeavor is a significant step toward improving Assam's digital infrastructure and leveraging space technology for regional advantage, reflecting India's commitment to advancing its capabilities in space and technology.

UK Court Denies India's Extradition Request for Sanjay Bhandari



08-Apr-25

The UK High Court has denied India's appeal to extradite Sanjay Bhandari, a defense sector consultant accused of tax evasion and money laundering, citing human rights concerns regarding conditions in Tihar jail. The court concluded that extraditing Bhandari would violate his rights under the European Convention on Human Rights, specifically regarding the risk of violence in custody and the fairness of his trial. Although the Indian government can pursue a further appeal to the UK Supreme Court, the rejection of their initial appeal highlights challenges in international cooperation on extradition matters, especially involving significant allegations tied to defense procurement.

Indian Navy's Retired Il-38 Fleet Awaits Final Tribute at INS Hansa



08-Apr-25

The Indian Navy's retired Ilyushin Il-38 Maritime Patrol Aircraft fleet, known as the Winged Stallions, has concluded its 46-year service, contributing significantly to India's maritime security with over 52,000 hours of flight time. Two aircraft remain at INS Hansa, set for preservation at heritage sites in Gujarat and Karnataka, symbolizing the evolution of naval aviation. As India transitions to modern platforms like the Boeing P-8I Poseidon, this retirement underscores the Navy's proactive modernization in response to challenges such as China's growing submarine presence. The legacy of the Il-38s will inspire future generations, reflecting India's commitment to safeguarding its maritime interests.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
AVANTEL	108.05	113.1	106.51	112.76	1287774	5.99	47.07	113.85	-
PTC	162.0	168.2	160.51	167.18	1329385	5.87	60.19	160.48	179.69
MARINE	166.58	174.01	165.21	172.29	226390	5.5	50.88	168.04	225.44
AZAD	1277.25	1313.0	1242.85	1284.25	134037	5.42	43.96	1344.07	1566.32
SIKA	618.9	639.0	605.0	622.0	27365	5.17	61.76	568.71	531.0
APOLLO	113.02	114.75	111.31	113.37	4535689	4.83	44.59	118.56	110.34
ROSSELLIND	69.98	71.78	66.35	69.16	72816	4.65	60.87	60.98	236.94
PREMEXPLN	360.0	360.0	342.5	353.65	153856	4.58	48.18	350.06	509.17
DCXINDIA	225.98	228.0	218.2	226.26	657096	4.21	41.66	232.63	326.56
ASTRAMICRO	665.05	695.95	665.05	688.45	234317	4.18	55.0	666.58	794.15
BEML	2900.0	2900.0	2798.0	2875.1	308135	3.97	49.83	2813.16	3784.8
ZENTEC	1389.95	1435.35	1375.0	1428.85	493843	3.75	54.29	1361.54	1699.84
BEL	282.45	288.0	276.6	281.45	26787606	3.44	49.06	287.68	290.31
ADANIENT	2270.0	2301.0	2225.0	2285.7	1224362	3.3	49.08	2307.65	2706.31
PARAS	960.1	960.1	924.05	947.8	138069	3.28	48.54	957.09	1102.72
COCHINSHIP	1388.95	1389.0	1343.0	1379.05	982627	3.04	49.78	1386.6	1722.44
LT	3124.95	3193.9	3092.7	3161.1	2877816	3.02	39.05	3322.08	3545.34
GRSE	1575.9	1599.0	1529.0	1565.8	980915	2.78	50.93	1571.04	1732.38
SOLARINDS	10879.9	10999.0	10608.0	10930.75	79486	2.68	61.54	10601.38	10362.75
BDL	1289.0	1309.0	1260.1	1287.5	982571	2.55	56.81	1238.1	1236.91
MTARTECH	1291.0	1299.0	1263.3	1274.5	67310	2.07	44.18	1304.83	1659.35
CFF	451.0	456.3	451.0	456.3	11400	1.99	51.04	441.94	644.38
BHARATFORG	994.95	994.95	947.4	970.35	1980407	1.97	32.14	1110.81	1383.88
MAZDOCK	2410.0	2447.55	2342.0	2358.7	3423754	1.79	45.29	2503.43	2285.2
MIDHANI	265.25	268.8	257.0	262.3	282850	1.51	43.89	274.76	363.41
HBLPOWER	500.95	506.25	482.6	488.15	2279580	1.39	51.92	466.46	570.86
IDEAFORGE	342.25	342.45	329.0	331.95	204723	1.34	39.24	355.52	601.43
DATAPAT'NS	1665.0	1708.3	1634.55	1662.8	388675	1.22	47.48	1677.4	2412.17
LMW	14650.0	14947.65	14650.0	14777.75	1588	0.97	41.77	15569.82	15972.56
HAL	4106.6	4136.4	4000.0	4041.95	2071394	0.84	57.08	3891.78	4340.29
KRISHNADEF	693.0	719.3	656.0	670.25	45750	0.8	52.83	637.93	710.05
HIGHENE	492.6	505.0	483.4	485.0	3019	0.43	48.31	483.91	636.26
TANEJAERO	294.95	294.95	290.15	290.15	8932	-1.99	39.75	313.72	456.06
NIBE	1209.35	1260.3	1160.0	1173.45	44046	-2.24	58.77	988.11	1639.8
LOKESHMACH	0.0	156.06	156.06	156.06	4858	-6.35	40.71	152.34	339.26