



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

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Defense Business and Industry

HAL to Introduce Indigenous Quartz Radome for Tejas Mk1A Radar



08-Feb-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is poised to transition to a locally developed Quartz Radome for the AESA radar of the Tejas Mk1A fighter jets, pending rigorous testing results. This move, aimed at enhancing the indigenous fighter jet program, is expected for the second batch of 97 aircraft, while the first batch of 83 jets will retain the imported radome. Concurrently, HAL has successfully completed testing for the ELTA ELM 2052 AESA radar, which significantly boosts the Tejas Mk1A's capabilities, along with the ongoing integration of the Astra Mk1A missile, designed for beyond visual range combat. The successful development and integration of these advanced systems underscore India's commitment to self-reliance in defense, potentially marking a pivotal milestone for the domestic defense industry and enhancing the operational effectiveness of the Indian Air Force.

Aero A2Z to Launch Advanced Radar Solutions for Indian Forces



08-Feb-25

Aero A2Z Services is set to unveil advanced, battle-proven radar solutions tailored for the Indian Armed Forces at Aero India 2025. These innovative systems, developed in collaboration with DRS RADA Technologies, address a range of operational needs, including countering unmanned aerial threats and artillery. The partnership emphasizes India's push for self-reliance in defense technology and aligns with the Make-in-India initiative. Aero A2Z's upcoming state-of-the-art facility near Gurugram aims to enhance India's defense capabilities, supporting both current and future military programs while ensuring technological sovereignty and export potential. This strategic collaboration marks a significant step in fortifying India's defense readiness against evolving threats.

DRDO Expands Research Focus to Boost Defense Innovation and Collaboration



08-Feb-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has redefined and augmented its research verticals and thrust areas across its Defence Industry Academia - Centres of Excellence (DIA-CoEs), expanding from 65 to 82 focused research areas. This strategic realignment aims to enhance interdisciplinary collaboration and resource utilization among institutions, addressing future defense technology challenges effectively. Notable new research areas include Compound Semiconductor Technologies and Software Defined Radios. This initiative is expected to foster innovation and strengthen India's defense capabilities, ensuring that academia and industry play a significant role in advancing the country's security technology landscape.

Aero India 2025: Su-30MKI vs. Su-57 – A Clash of Titans



08-Feb-25

A striking image from Aero India 2025 of the Sukhoi Su-30MKI alongside the Su-57 has sparked significant discussion within India's defense community regarding their capabilities. While the larger Su-30MKI is recognized for its operational reliability, the stealthy Su-57 promises to redefine aerial warfare with its advanced technology. This juxtaposition has led to speculation about a mixed fleet strategy that leverages the strengths of both aircraft. The ongoing interest in integrating the Su-57 highlights India's commitment to modernizing its air force and embracing fifth-generation fighter capabilities, crucial for maintaining regional defense superiority.

UP's BrahMos Facility Set to Boost India's Missile Production



08-Feb-25

India's defense capabilities are set to be significantly enhanced with the upcoming BrahMos Aerospace Plant

in Uttar Pradesh, which will focus on producing the advanced BrahMos-NG missile. This state-of-the-art facility, located within the Lucknow Defence Node, aims for an annual production capacity of 80 to 100 missiles, improving tactical flexibility for the armed forces. The BrahMos-NG's compact design allows for deployment across various platforms, reinforcing India's strategic deterrence. Additionally, this initiative aligns with the 'Make in India' program, fostering local employment and technological advancement while solidifying India's position as a leading defense power.

MoD Signs ₹642 Crore Deal with BEL for Navy's EON-51 Systems

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08-Feb-25

The Indian Ministry of Defence has signed a contract worth Rs 642 crore with Bharat Electronics Limited for the acquisition of 28 EON-51 Electro Optical Fire Control Systems for the Indian Navy's Offshore Patrol Vessels and Cadet Training Ships. This initiative, categorized under Buy (Indian-IDD), aims to bolster indigenous defense capabilities and generate employment over the next three years, promoting the participation of various Indian industries, including MSMEs. Such contracts reinforce the government's commitment to achieving self-reliance in defense, aligning with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision while enhancing operational capabilities for the Indian Navy.

ADA Criticized for Outdated AMCA Model at Aero India 2025

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08-Feb-25

The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) is facing criticism for displaying an outdated 1:1 scale model of the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) at Aero India 2025, which does not represent the latest design iterations. Observers noted that the model, believed to be from 2020, lacks advancements in stealth and operational capabilities essential for a fifth-generation fighter. This incident highlights the importance of effectively showcasing India's aerospace developments and timely communication of progress in complex projects. As the AMCA project aims to enhance India's defense capabilities, ADA must clarify the current state of development to restore confidence among enthusiasts and stakeholders.

Trump Administration Approves \$7.4B Arms Sale to Israel Amid Tensions

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08-Feb-25

The Trump administration has approved military sales to Israel worth approximately \$7.4 billion, despite

objections from Democratic lawmakers seeking more information. This package includes munitions and guidance systems, with Boeing and Lockheed Martin as principal contractors. Critics argue this decision undermines congressional oversight, a long-standing practice in U.S. arms sales. Amid rising tensions from recent conflicts, including Hamas attacks on Israel, the approval reinforces the U.S.'s commitment to Israel's defense amidst regional threats. This bypassing of congressional review raises concerns about governance and accountability in foreign military sales, emphasizing the complexities of U.S.-Israel relations in a volatile geopolitical landscape.

India and France to Finalize AI Roadmap During Modi's Visit

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08-Feb-25

During PM Modi's visit to France, India and France are set to finalize an AI roadmap as part of their 2026 Year of Innovation initiative, focusing on technology in various sectors, including defense. The collaboration aims to promote ethical AI development while establishing partnerships in small modular reactors and advanced modular technologies, bolstered by India's recent amendments to the Atomic Energy Act. Additionally, discussions will cover the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor, and France plans to increase its intake of Indian students significantly. This cooperative approach strengthens India-France relations and enhances India's technological capabilities in defense and other critical areas.

Boeing KC-46 and Airbus A330 MRTT Compete for IAF Tender at Aero India 2025

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08-Feb-25

At Aero India 2025, Boeing's KC-46 Pegasus is vying with Airbus's A330 MRTT for a crucial Indian Air Force tender for new aerial refueling platforms. The KC-46, known for its advanced refueling capabilities and operational versatility, aims to enhance India's aerial refueling fleet, while the established A330 MRTT underscores its proven record and capabilities. This competition not only highlights technological advancements but also reflects strategic partnerships and cost-effectiveness, aligning with India's Make in India initiative. Ultimately, the outcome will significantly impact the IAF's operational range and combat readiness in strategic theaters, reinforcing India's defense modernization efforts.

Dynauton Systems to Launch India's First Jet-Powered Munition Kaatil at Aero India 2025

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08-Feb-25

Dynauton Systems, part of Dynamatic Technologies, is set to unveil Kaatil, India's first jet-powered loitering munition, at Aero India 2025, marking a significant advancement in indigenous defense technology. Weighing 12 kilograms with a 1-kilogram payload, Kaatil boasts a speed of 600 kmph and a precision strike capability with a Circular Error Probable of just 2 meters. Its autonomous operation in GNSS-denied environments enhances operational flexibility and reduces risk to human operators. Kaatil's introduction promises to transform India's aerial combat capabilities and strengthen its strategic deterrence, reflecting the country's commitment to self-reliance and innovation in defense.

25 Companies Seek Collaboration with GTRE for New Jet Engine

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08-Feb-25

The Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) has garnered interest from 25 companies eager to collaborate on developing a new engine for India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program. This enthusiasm aligns with GTRE's partnerships with foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) and highlights the expertise these firms bring in high-temperature materials essential for modern jet engines. Their involvement supports the 'Make in India' initiative, reduces reliance on foreign suppliers, and fosters local skill development. The indigenous production overseen by GTRE ensures compliance with military specifications and quality standards, significantly enhancing India's aerospace capabilities and self-sufficiency in defense technology.

Astra Mk IV: DRDO's Next-Gen BVRAAM to Feature Innovative Motor

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08-Feb-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is developing the Astra Mk IV, a next-generation Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) that aims to enhance the Indian Air Force's capabilities. This missile will incorporate a Triple Pulse Solid Motor, which is expected to offer a cost-effective propulsion alternative, providing extended range and improved maneuverability through segmented propulsion. The program is still in the conceptual phase, with ongoing discussions regarding technical parameters. This advancement reflects India's commitment to

modernizing its defense systems and achieving greater operational efficiency in aerial combat scenarios, ensuring a formidable edge over potential adversaries.

ADA Unveils Final TEDBF Design with Rafale-Inspired Features

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08-Feb-25

The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) has confirmed the final design for the Twin Engine Deck Based Fighter (TEDBF), featuring a Rafale-like appearance and incorporating Diverterless Supersonic Inlets (DSI). This significant move aims to enhance the Indian Navy's carrier-based capabilities with an indigenous fighter jet, planned to replace the aging MiG-29K fleet. With an estimated cost of ₹14,000 crores, the Navy intends to procure at least 80 units, possibly increasing with a future aircraft carrier. The TEDBF's design emphasizes India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing, reducing dependence on foreign hardware while enhancing operational versatility across various mission profiles.

Thales Alenia Space and NIBE partner for India's first private Earth observation satellite.

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08-Feb-25

Thales Alenia Space has signed a contract with NIBE Space to supply a high-resolution optical satellite for India's first private Earth Observation constellation, aimed for operational capability by 2025. This collaboration, part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision, highlights India's commitment to enhancing its space technology and self-reliance in defense. The partnership aligns with NIBE's extensive experience in manufacturing critical defense components, showcasing India's growing capabilities in the space sector. The contract signing, attended by Maharashtra's Chief Minister, underscores the importance of international cooperation in advancing India's strategic interests in space and defense technology.

AjnaLens to Launch India's First AI-Driven Military Mixed Reality at Aero India 2025

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08-Feb-25

AjnaLens is set to unveil India's first AI-powered military-grade Mixed Reality (MR) solutions at Aero India 2025, marking a significant advancement in defense technology. These innovative MR glasses will enhance situational awareness for soldiers by integrating real-time data, tactical information, and advanced imaging capabilities, while AI will facilitate

quicker decision-making through predictive analytics and threat assessments. The customizable applications of the technology promise to cater to diverse military needs, from training to real-time combat scenarios, thereby bolstering operational efficiency across India's armed forces. This development underscores India's commitment to integrating advanced technologies into defense strategies, enhancing national security and operational readiness.

Indian Navy's MiG-29K Unveils Belarusian Talisman Pod at Aero India 2025 [SHARE](#)

08-Feb-25

At Aero India 2025, the Indian Navy showcased its MiG-29K fighter jet equipped with the advanced Belarusian ADS Talisman pod, which significantly boosts the aircraft's electronic warfare capabilities. This state-of-the-art system can effectively counter various missile threats, including those with radar and infrared guidance, enhancing the MiG-29K's defensive measures. The Talisman pod not only jams enemy missile guidance but also protects against friendly fire, underscoring India's commitment to modernizing its military aviation. This integration reflects India's strategic emphasis on adopting cutting-edge technologies to ensure robust aerial defense in an increasingly complex regional security environment.

DRDO Launches NASM-MR Missile on MiG-29K at Aero India 2025 [SHARE](#)

08-Feb-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) showcased the Naval Anti-Ship Missile-Medium Range (NASM-MR) at Aero India 2025, marking a significant advancement in India's indigenous defense capabilities. Integrated on the Indian Navy's MiG-29K, the NASM-MR can engage small to medium-sized warships up to 300 kilometers away, thereby enhancing India's naval reach and lethality. Notably, it features a unique scoop-type air intake, potentially improving engine performance over water. This missile offers a versatile medium-range anti-ship capability deployable from both surface vessels and aircraft, reinforcing India's maritime strategy and response to emerging naval threats effectively.

IAF Boosts Defense with Dharashakti EW Systems Near China-Pak Borders [SHARE](#)

08-Feb-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is enhancing its electronic warfare capabilities by forward deploying the

indigenous Dharashakti EW system along the borders with Pakistan and China, marking a significant step in its defense preparedness. This advanced system is reportedly more effective than the Israeli Scorpius-G, capable of jamming enemy AEWCS, fighter radars, and SAR, while also disrupting encrypted communications. This strategic deployment aligns with India's focus on self-reliance in defense technologies, reducing dependence on foreign systems, and enhancing situational awareness. As India faces complex security challenges, the introduction of Dharashakti is expected to provide a crucial operational edge in potential conflicts.

INS Aridhaman Set to Join Indian Navy in 2025 After Sea Trials [SHARE](#)

08-Feb-25

The Indian Navy is set to enhance its strategic deterrence with the upcoming induction of INS Aridhaman, its third nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, expected to be commissioned by mid-2025. After three years of rigorous sea trials, this advanced Arihant-class submarine will bolster India's nuclear triad, which includes land-based missiles and strategic bombers, by providing a crucial second-strike capability. With a range of over 3,500 kilometers and superior stealth technology, INS Aridhaman will strengthen maritime security and demonstrate India's commitment to developing indigenous defense technologies. Its commissioning marks a significant milestone in India's pursuit of strategic autonomy and maritime dominance in the Indian Ocean region.

MiG-29K Upgraded with Indigenous Mission Computer and Astra MkI Missile [SHARE](#)

08-Feb-25

The Indian Navy has significantly upgraded its MiG-29K fighter jets by enhancing the Mission Computer developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to integrate the Astra Mark 1 missile, which offers superior range and performance over the existing Russian R-77. This domestic advancement not only boosts the aircraft's combat capabilities with "fire-and-forget" technology but also underscores India's commitment to self-reliance in defense. Rigorous testing will ensure operational reliability, enhancing the Navy's power projection, especially in long-range engagements. This initiative marks a pivotal step in strengthening India's indigenous defense capabilities and reducing dependency on foreign military technology.

IAF Invites Private Sector for Ammunition Development, Boosting Self-Reliance SHARE

08-Feb-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is initiating a strategic shift to involve private sector companies in the development of critical ammunition, aiming to reduce reliance on public sector firms like HAL and BDL. This move supports India's 'Make in India' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiatives by enhancing self-reliance in defense manufacturing. The IAF plans to provide financial assistance and guaranteed orders to private firms to mitigate investment risks, fostering a co-development model that leverages private innovation alongside public sector expertise. This initiative, aligned with recent policy reforms, is set to stimulate domestic production and create a robust defense ecosystem, ultimately strengthening India's military capabilities.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

India and US Collaborate on Extraditing Mumbai Attack Accused Rana SHARE

08-Feb-25

India is coordinating with US authorities for the extradition of Tahawwur Rana, a key accused in the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, following the US Supreme Court's dismissal of his appeal. The Ministry of External Affairs confirmed that Rana has exhausted all legal options in the US, and discussions on procedural logistics for his surrender are ongoing. This development is significant as it underscores the strong India-US partnership, particularly ahead of Prime Minister Modi's visit to the US, where he will engage with senior US officials, highlighting bipartisan support for combating terrorism and ensuring justice for the victims of the tragic attacks.

India Clarifies Stance After Bangladesh Protests Sheikh Hasina's Comments SHARE

08-Feb-25

The Indian Ministry of External Affairs summoned Bangladesh's Acting High Commissioner in response to negative remarks from Bangladeshi authorities, particularly former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who has been making incendiary comments while living in India since her exile. India emphasized its desire for a constructive relationship but insisted that Bangladesh should not conflate Hasina's personal views with the

Indian government's stance. The situation has escalated in Bangladesh, with violent protests targeting properties linked to Hasina and her party. India's call for mutual respect highlights its commitment to maintaining regional stability and positive diplomatic ties, despite the ongoing turmoil in Bangladesh.

Trump's Gaza proposal strains Saudi-Israeli normalization efforts SHARE

08-Feb-25

President Trump's proposal to relocate Palestinians from Gaza and turn it into a luxury destination has met with strong backlash from Arab nations, particularly Saudi Arabia, which insists on the establishment of a Palestinian state as a nonnegotiable precondition for normalizing relations with Israel. This proposal has not only complicated U.S. efforts to broker a deal but has also fueled accusations of "ethnic cleansing." Saudi leadership, which has historically supported Palestinian aspirations, appears increasingly at odds with Trump's administration, suggesting that any future normalization with Israel hinges on addressing Palestinian statehood. The evolving dynamics indicate growing tensions within U.S.-Saudi relations, impacting Middle Eastern geopolitics.

Trump Celebrates \$1B Defense Sales to Japan, Strengthening Ties SHARE

08-Feb-25

Donald Trump praised the U.S.-Japan security partnership, announcing nearly \$1 billion in defense sales to Japan, including \$900 million for advanced missiles. The commitment to increase Japan's defense spending by 2027 was highlighted, alongside discussions to enhance joint military exercises and cooperation on defense technology and cybersecurity. Both leaders reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to Japan's defense under the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation, emphasizing collective efforts to counter China's influence in the Indo-Pacific. This cooperation furthers economic ties and aims to bolster investment and technological development, reflecting a united front against common security challenges.

Host Governments Must Safeguard Diplomatic Sites: MEA SHARE

08-Feb-25

India has condemned the vandalism of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's residence in Dhaka, emphasizing its significance to Bangladesh's national identity. The Ministry of External Affairs regretted the attack, which stemmed from protests against the Awami League,

linked to a speech by Sheikh Hasina. Protestors not only vandalized the residence but also targeted related properties, igniting further unrest. Hasina's call for justice highlights the resilience of history against such acts. This incident underscores the delicate political climate in Bangladesh and reflects the importance of safeguarding diplomatic and historical sites, reinforcing India's commitment to regional stability and support for democratic processes in neighboring countries.

Hamas Frees Three Hostages as Israel Releases Palestinian Prisoners SHARE

08-Feb-25

In a recent development, Hamas released three Israeli hostages, prompting Israel to free 183 Palestinian prisoners, some linked to previous attacks. The condition of the hostages sparked outrage, with comparisons made to Holocaust survivors. This exchange is part of a larger ceasefire deal, mediated by the U.S., aiming to secure the release of all hostages. However, skepticism remains regarding the deal's longevity, especially following U.S. President Trump's controversial proposal for Gaza. This situation illustrates the complex dynamics of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with both sides navigating sensitive issues related to hostages, prisoners, and international diplomacy, highlighting the ongoing humanitarian crisis.

Khamenei Praises Hamas Resistance in Meeting Amid Tensions SHARE

08-Feb-25

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei met with Hamas leaders in Tehran, expressing pride in their resistance against Israel, which he likened to a defeat for the U.S. The meeting coincided with the anniversary of the 1979 Iranian revolution, where Hamas officials conveyed gratitude for Iran's unwavering support. Khamenei remarked that U.S. threats hold no sway over Iran, despite the nation showcasing military strength amid ongoing Israeli actions. This meeting underscores Iran's role as a key supporter of groups opposing Israel, highlighting the geopolitical tensions in the region and Iran's resilience despite international sanctions.

Military Operations

Army and Air Force Chiefs to Fly Together in LCA Tejas SHARE

08-Feb-25

Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi and Air Force Chief Air Chief Marshal AP Singh will fly together in the trainer version of the indigenous LCA Tejas fighter aircraft at Air Force Station Yelahanka in Bengaluru, showcasing jointness and support for Aatmanirbharta ahead of the Aero India airshow. The LCA Tejas, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation and manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, has already seen the induction of around 40 aircraft, with plans for an additional 83 Mark 1As. Delays in supply due to issues with the engine supplier GE of the US have been noted, but the Indian Air Force is also considering acquiring another 97 aircraft. This event highlights the increasing emphasis on cross-domain cooperation among India's defense forces, while also reinforcing confidence in indigenous capabilities, as echoed by Prime Minister Modi's recent sortie in the Tejas.

BSF Thwarts Infiltration, Arrests 7 Bangladeshis and 3 Indian Agents SHARE

08-Feb-25

The Border Security Force (BSF) recently apprehended seven Bangladeshi illegal immigrants and three Indian touts involved in a cross-border infiltration operation near the India-Bangladesh border in West Bengal. Acting on credible intelligence, BSF personnel initially caught two Bangladeshis attempting to escape and subsequently lured the remaining members of their group, hidden in a banana plantation, through strategic communication with the arrested tout. The operation led to the arrest of two additional touts who were facilitating the illegal crossing for a fee of ₹7,000 per person. This coordinated effort not only disrupted the infiltration network but also showcased the effectiveness of the BSF in safeguarding India's borders against illegal immigration and human trafficking, reinforcing the nation's commitment to border security amidst regional challenges.

Air Chief Emphasizes Future Readiness at SWAC Commanders Conference SHARE

08-Feb-25

The Annual South Western Air Command (SWAC) Commanders Conference, led by Air Chief Marshal A.P.

Singh, focused on the IAF's future readiness and operational preparedness to address national defense challenges. Emphasizing capability development, he highlighted the importance of adapting to advancements in military aviation, including space and cyber warfare. The SWAC, vital for air defense against threats from Pakistan, oversees numerous air bases and plays a crucial role in operations like the Kargil War and Balakot Air Strikes. The conference reinforced the integration of Agniveervayu personnel and recognized outstanding contributions in recent exercises, reflecting the command's commitment to maintaining high operational standards.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Five Pakistani Terrorists Killed in LoC Landmine Blast SHARE

08-Feb-25

Five Pakistani terrorists were killed in a landmine blast near the Line of Control in Poonch district while attempting to infiltrate into Indian territory. The incident highlights the effectiveness of the Indian Army's anti-infiltration measures, including landmines, electronic surveillance, and heightened vigilance amidst a security meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The urgency for zero infiltration and a firm stance against terrorism is underscored by recent attacks on ex-servicemen. This incident reaffirms India's commitment to maintaining security along the LoC and combating terrorism, despite political criticism regarding the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

BSF Nabs Seven Bangladeshis, Three Indian Agents at Bengal Border SHARE

08-Feb-25

The Border Security Force (BSF) has apprehended seven Bangladeshi nationals and three Indian agents near the Bengal border, highlighting ongoing concerns regarding illegal immigration and cross-border crime. This operation demonstrates the BSF's vigilance in securing India's borders and underscores India's commitment to countering illegal activities that can threaten national security. The arrests reflect the challenges faced in managing border integrity and the importance of cooperation between security forces and intelligence agencies in tackling these issues. Overall, the incident underscores the Indian defense forces' proactive measures in safeguarding the nation's sovereignty against transnational threats.

Kolkata STF Nabs Three with Illegal Arms and Ammunition SHARE

08-Feb-25

The Kolkata Police Special Task Force (STF) arrested three individuals from Uttar Pradesh in the Burrabazar area for possessing illegal arms and ammunition. The police seized a 9mm semi-automatic pistol, a 7mm semi-automatic pistol, four empty magazines, and 17 rounds of ammunition from their vehicle. The accused have been charged under the Arms Act, and they are set to be presented in court. This operation highlights the ongoing efforts of Indian law enforcement to combat illegal arms trafficking and maintain public safety, reflecting the government's commitment to enhancing security measures in urban areas.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

Indian Army Boosts Drone Security with Indigenous Tech Solutions SHARE

08-Feb-25

The Indian Army is enhancing drone security by collaborating with ZUPPA Geo Navigation Technologies to implement the Suraksha Edge Monitoring Device, which safeguards against cyberattacks by monitoring communication channels. Emphasizing indigenous development, the Army is advancing platforms like Tapas and Archer-NG while engaging with local firms, such as IG Drones, to supply drone technologies free of foreign components. The DRDO is also contributing to anti-drone capabilities with systems like RF jammers. This multi-faceted approach not only fortifies the Army's operational readiness but also reduces reliance on foreign technology, aligning with India's strategic goals for self-sufficiency in defense capabilities.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

BSF Officers to Get High-Altitude Training from Mongolia Experts SHARE

08-Feb-25

In a significant move to enhance India's border security capabilities, mid-level officers of the Border Security Force (BSF) will receive specialized high-altitude training from Mongolia's General Authority for Border Protection (GABP). This initiative follows a recent meeting aimed at improving cooperation between the two forces, focusing on advanced border management

strategies relevant to mountainous terrains. The training will include tactical expertise, survival techniques, and modern surveillance methods, culminating in a joint exercise. Both nations recognized their shared challenges in border management, emphasizing the importance of continued collaboration, with the next round of discussions scheduled for September 2025 in Mongolia.

Tragic Loss: Air Force Paratrooper Dies in Agra Jump Exercise SHARE

08-Feb-25

An Air Force paratrooper, Manju Nath, tragically lost his life during a routine parachute jump exercise in Agra when his parachute failed to open. Out of a group of 12 paratroopers, he was the only one who did not return safely, and his body was later found in a wheat field. Despite being rushed to the hospital, he could not be saved. This incident underscores the inherent risks faced by defense personnel during training exercises, highlighting the need for continuous evaluation of safety protocols to ensure the well-being of those serving in the armed forces. Such tragedies remind us of the courage and sacrifice of our defense forces.

overshadowed by recent deportations of Indians, raising questions about the treatment of those affected. Approximately 487 more Indians may face deportation, as the U.S. emphasizes national security in handling such operations. During the meetings, Modi and Trump are expected to discuss crucial topics like trade, defense cooperation, and technology, with India advocating for more H-1B visas and reviewing import tariffs to enhance bilateral trade, which reached \$118 billion in 2023/24. This visit underscores India's strategic partnership with the U.S. in countering regional challenges, especially from China.

Bengaluru Hosts 15th Biennial Aero-India Seminar Ahead of 2025 Event SHARE

08-Feb-25

The 15th edition of the Biennial Aero-India International Seminar has commenced in Bengaluru, serving as a precursor to Aero India 2025, scheduled from February 10 to 14, 2025. The seminar, focusing on "Futuristic Aerospace Technologies: Challenges in Design Validation," features 1,100 delegates including international representatives from leading aerospace firms and Indian industries. Aero India, Asia's largest air show, is a significant platform showcasing India's advances in aerospace and defense, facilitating strategic dialogues and international collaboration. The previous edition, Aero India 2023, recorded substantial participation and achievements, setting a strong foundation for the upcoming event. This showcases India's commitment to enhancing its defense capabilities and fostering innovation, thereby positioning itself as a global leader in aerospace and defense technologies.

Tragic Discovery: Missing Alaska Flight Found, No Survivors SHARE

08-Feb-25

A search operation by the Coast Guard and U.S. Air Force concluded with the confirmation that none of the ten individuals aboard a missing single-engine turboprop aircraft near Nome, Alaska, survived. The plane, which lost communication shortly after takeoff from Unalakleet, was located about 34 miles southeast of Nome following intensified search efforts, including cellphone tracking. The aircraft reportedly experienced a rapid loss of elevation and speed shortly before its last recorded position. Conditions at Nome Airport included inclement weather, contributing to the tragic outcome, and the Coast Guard expressed condolences to the families affected by this heartbreaking event.

Miscellaneous

RBI mandates extra authentication for safer international online payments SHARE

08-Feb-25

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is set to enhance the security of international online transactions by requiring an Additional Factor of Authentication (AFA) for card-not-present payments to offshore merchants, responding to rising digital fraud. This measure aims to boost consumer confidence in digital payments and aligns with the RBI's commitment to cybersecurity. Additionally, the RBI plans to implement exclusive domains, 'bank.in' for banks and 'fin.in' for financial entities, to reduce phishing risks and establish trust in digital banking. These initiatives position India's payment infrastructure as a leader in cybersecurity, potentially serving as a model for other nations.

Modi's U.S. visit for talks with Trump marred by Indian deportations SHARE

08-Feb-25

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to the U.S. for talks with President Trump is

Delays Loom for ISRO's Astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla's Flight

 SHARE

08-Feb-25

The maiden space flight of ISRO astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla may face delays due to battery issues affecting the return of NASA astronauts from the ISS. SpaceX's Crew-10 mission, initially set for February, could now be pushed to March or even April, as NASA considers reallocating the Dragon spacecraft originally designated for Axiom Space's Axiom-4 mission, which includes Shukla. This situation highlights the complexities of space missions and the dependencies between agencies and commercial partners, emphasizing ISRO's growing role in international space endeavors amidst potential operational setbacks.

Yunus Calls for an End to Attacks on Sheikh Hasina's Family Property

 SHARE

08-Feb-25

Since Sheikh Hasina's ouster, violence in Bangladesh has escalated, with mobs targeting her supporters and vandalizing properties, including the historic family home of her father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Muhammad Yunus has called for an end to these attacks, emphasizing the need for law and order. The interim government, facing criticism and rights violation allegations, has promised reforms and credible elections. India condemned the destruction of Rahman's house, viewing it as a significant symbol of resistance, and has urged Bangladesh to maintain stability. This unrest highlights the fragility of Bangladesh's political landscape and the critical need for dialogue and reconciliation to foster democratic stability.

NavIC Faces Challenges Amid Government Funding Hesitance

 SHARE

08-Feb-25

India's indigenous satellite navigation system, NavIC, has encountered significant challenges, including recent failures such as the NVS-02 satellite's engine issues and the malfunctions of atomic clocks in earlier satellites. Initially launched to reduce dependence on the U.S. GPS post-Kargil War, NavIC aimed for a seven-satellite constellation by 2016 but has only five operational. Despite hurdles like malfunctions and limited global adoption, the Indian government is pushing for integration with various industries and enhancing capabilities, especially for defense and disaster management. ISRO is now focusing on developing indigenous atomic clocks to reduce reliance

on foreign components and improve the system's overall reliability and performance.

ISRO's SpaDeX Mission Undocking Delayed to 2025 Due to Tech Issues

 SHARE

08-Feb-25

ISRO's SpaDeX mission has faced technical delays in undocking due to power generation mismatches and anomalies in various systems, pushing the timeline from early February to a new expected date in March-April 2025. The mission, crucial for testing technologies for future Indian space endeavors like a space station and interplanetary missions, involves independent operations of two spacecraft, SDX-01 and SDX-02, after separation. While the delay may affect critical payload experiments for Earth imaging and resource monitoring, ISRO engineers remain committed to resolving the issues, emphasizing India's growing capabilities in spacecraft docking, positioning the country among the elite in space technology, alongside the US, Russia, and China.

ISRO's Cryogenic Engine Successfully Tests In-Flight Re-Ignition

 SHARE

08-Feb-25

ISRO successfully conducted a vacuum ignition trial of its cryogenic engine using a multi-element igniter, simulating in-flight conditions for potential restarts. This test aims to enhance capabilities for multiple cryogenic engine restarts during flight, utilizing an innovative bootstrap mode for turbopump initiation. The engine, which has already demonstrated reliable performance with thrust levels of 19t to 22t for the Gaganyaan mission, signifies ISRO's advancing expertise in complex space technology. This trial underscores India's commitment to self-reliance in space exploration, reinforcing its position as a key player in the global space industry and enhancing its strategic capabilities in aerospace technology.

Urgent Alert: High-Risk Security Flaw Affects Android Users

 SHARE

08-Feb-25

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has issued a high-risk security advisory concerning multiple vulnerabilities in Android systems that could enable attackers to gain unauthorized access and execute malicious code. The alert emphasizes that Android versions 12 to 15 are affected, with one vulnerability actively exploited. CERT-In advises users and OEMs to install security updates promptly and adopt best practices, such as

downloading apps from trusted sources and enabling Google Play Protect, to safeguard their devices. This proactive approach underscores India's commitment to cybersecurity, aiming to protect its digital ecosystem from potential threats amid the growing reliance on technology.

Canadian Deported from Assam for Alleged Proselytizing Activities



08-Feb-25

A Canadian citizen involved in alleged proselytising activities in Assam was deported after his visa expired. Jorhat's Superintendent of Police revealed that the individual had been in the region since 2021 and faced scrutiny during his visa renewal process, leading to a report to the Foreigners Regional Registration Office. The resulting Leave India Notice was enforced by local police, culminating in his return to Canada. This incident underscores India's vigilant approach to foreign influence and compliance with visa regulations, reflecting its commitment to maintaining social

harmony and protecting national integrity against unregulated external activities.

Mizoram CM Urged to Keep Lengpui Airport Civilian, Not Military



08-Feb-25

The NGO Coordination Committee (NGOCC) has urged Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma to reconsider the potential handover of Lengpui Airport to the Indian Air Force (IAF), emphasizing that it is the only state-owned airport in India facing financial constraints. The Chief Minister stated that the state government intends to retain ownership and seek financial support for airport upgrades. Currently, the state cabinet has yet to finalize a decision on the handover, with a draft Memorandum of Agreement still pending completion. This situation presents a critical opportunity to balance state management and military needs, ensuring local interests are considered while enhancing national security capabilities.

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