

# Defence Pro News & Analysis

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#### **Top Gainers**

Stock	Close	Prev	Change	
ZENTEC	1759.95	1650.55	+6.63%	
HIGHENE	683.3	653.85	+4.5%	
NIBE	1845.1	1768.15	+4.35%	
TANEJAERO	495.45	477.8	+3.69%	
AZAD	1450.65	1401.45	+3.51%	

#### **Top Losers**

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
ROSSELLIND	100.91	105.2	-4.08%
GRSE	1636.35	1664.1	-1.67%
LT	3487.1	3532.4	-1.28%
MARINE	230.19	232.72	-1.09%
PTC	196.45	197.83	-0.7%

#### **Defense Business and Industry**

#### DRDO Unveils Advanced High-Pressure Compressor Drums for Aero Engines

09-Oct-24

The DRDO has successfully developed high-pressure compressor (HPC) drums for aero engines, marking a significant advancement in India's defense manufacturing capabilities. This achievement aims to enhance self-reliance by reducing dependency on foreign suppliers for critical aerospace components. The innovative technology, validated by the Indian Air Force, paves the way for further advancements in indigenous aerospace production. This breakthrough is crucial for India's strategic autonomy in defense, particularly as geopolitical tensions rise in the region. By achieving this milestone, India not only strengthens its military aircraft production but also enhances operational reliability and safety, ensuring that its air force can maintain an edge in combat readiness and effectiveness. This development exemplifies the potential of collaborative efforts across various defense organizations, laying the groundwork for future innovations in the aerospace sector.

#### Launch of Unmanned Combat Drones Under Rafale F5 Standard

09-Oct-24

Sebastien Lecornu, the French Minister of the Armed Forces, announced the launch of a new unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV) designed to enhance the Rafale F5 by 2030. The initiative, celebrated at a ceremony for the 60th anniversary of the French Strategic Air Forces, aims to solidify France's technological edge in aerial combat through advanced stealth and autonomous capabilities. The UCAV will draw from the nEUROn program's successes, ensuring France's operational independence and superiority in future military engagements. The establishment of the UCAV marks a significant step in France's defense strategy, reinforcing its commitment to maintain a competitive edge in an evolving geopolitical

landscape. Collaborative combat with the Rafale F5 will enhance operational effectiveness, particularly in complex scenarios. By leveraging the nEUROn program's innovations, France demonstrates its focus on integrating cutting-edge technology into its military framework, ensuring readiness against emerging threats while fostering European defense collaboration.

#### Russia Seeks to Rekindle Project 75I Partnership with India, Proposing Amur 1650 Submarine with 80% Local Content and AIP Technology

09-Oct-24

Russia has unexpectedly shown renewed interest in collaborating with India on the Project 75I submarine program, proposing to build the Amur 1650 submarines with a high level of localization. This comes after their withdrawal from the project in 2022 due to stringent requirements. The potential integration of India's indigenous AIP system could enhance the viability of this partnership amidst competition from Germany's TKMS. This development underscores both nations' desire to strengthen defense ties, particularly in maritime capabilities. The proposed collaboration could leverage Russia's submarine design expertise alongside India's manufacturing ambitions, presenting a strategic opportunity to enhance India's naval prowess while deepening bilateral relations in defense. How the Indian Navy balances this offer with existing commitments to Germany will be crucial in shaping future defense cooperation.

#### India's AMCA Stealth Fighter to Boast Cutting-Edge Sapphire-Encased Electro-Optical Targeting System

09-Oct-24

India's Optics and Allied Engineering Pvt. Ltd. has unveiled an advanced Electro-Optical Targeting System (EOTS) for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), enhancing its fifthgeneration capabilities. This development underscores India's commitment to self-reliance in defense technology and positions the AMCA competitively against global fighters. The EOTS, housed in a durable sapphire casing, enables precision targeting

while maintaining stealth, critical for modern aerial warfare. The introduction of the EOTS marks a pivotal step in India's defense capabilities, enhancing the AMCA's operational effectiveness in contested environments. By prioritizing stealth and advanced targeting systems, India aims to bolster its air combat readiness and technological autonomy. The collaboration between Optica and the DRDO not only reflects a strategic push towards indigenization but also aligns India's aerial prowess with global standards, addressing emerging threats and ensuring a robust defense posture in the region.

#### Bengaluru's Varchas Aerospace Boosts Tejas Mk-1A with New Engine Charge Amplifier

09-Oct-24

Varchas Aerospace has been chosen by HAL to develop a crucial engine charge amplifier for the Tejas Mk-1A aircraft, following a Danish export blacklist that jeopardized the program. This strategic pivot underscores India's push for indigenous defense capabilities amid global supply chain vulnerabilities. With prototype testing underway, the collaboration reflects not only resilience in India's defense manufacturing but also a proactive approach to mitigate risks associated with geopolitical tensions, ensuring the Tejas program remains on track for future operational readiness.

#### ADE to Localize UAV Fuel Systems

09-Oct-24

ADE is working on indigenizing essential components of its UAV fuel systems to reduce reliance on foreign manufacturers, thereby enhancing India's self-sufficiency in UAV technology. The initiative targets ten critical long lead components, including various pumps, valves, and filters necessary for optimal fuel management within UAVs. This move not only aims to lower costs but also to bolster domestic manufacturing capabilities in the aerospace sector. The indigenization of UAV fuel system components is a strategic effort for India to enhance its defense manufacturing ecosystem, reduce vulnerabilities from foreign dependencies, and stimulate local industry growth. By focusing on critical components, ADE is positioning itself to drive technological advancements and improve operational reliability in its UAV systems, which is crucial for India's national security objectives and self-reliance in defense technology.

### IAF Chooses JSR Dynamics to Enhance 250kg Bomb Range with ADITI 1.0

09-Oct-24

The Indian Air Force has selected JSR Dynamics to develop Range Extension Kits for its 250kg High-Speed Low-Drag bombs, enhancing its precision-strike capabilities under the iDEX program. This initiative aims to significantly extend the operational range of IAF munitions by over 150 kilometers, integrating advanced guidance systems for improved targeting. The move underscores India's commitment to indigenous defense development, reducing reliance on foreign systems while bolstering the IAF's operational effectiveness in modern warfare. This development reflects India's strategic shift towards self-reliance in defense, aligning with the 'Make in India' initiative while addressing regional security challenges. By enhancing

standoff capabilities, the IAF can execute precision strikes with reduced risk, a vital factor in contemporary conflict scenarios. The collaboration with a domestic technology firm fosters innovation and strengthens the defense industrial base, ultimately contributing to national security objectives.

#### Airbus Transforms Six Used A-321s into India's Next-Gen Netra MkII AEW&CS

09-Oct-24

Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh announced the development of the Netra MkII Airborne Early Warning and Control System (AEW&CS) based on modified Airbus A321 aircraft, marking a major modernization effort for the Indian Air Force (IAF). The project, which involves collaboration between the DRDO and Airbus, aims to transform commercial jets into advanced surveillance platforms equipped with cutting-edge military technologies. Once operational, the Netra MkII will enhance the IAF's capabilities in surveillance and reconnaissance, providing a strategic advantage in addressing both conventional and asymmetric threats. The Netra MkII AEW&CS signifies a pivotal advancement in India's defense modernization, enhancing the IAF's operational readiness. By leveraging Airbus's expertise in military aircraft modification, the initiative aims to provide realtime intelligence through sophisticated avionics communication systems. This development is crucial as India faces diverse security challenges, allowing the IAF to maintain air superiority and respond effectively to emerging threats in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape.

#### Kolkata's Drones Tech Lab to Create Helicopter-Launched Drones for IAF

09-Oct-24

Drones Tech Lab from Kolkata has won the iDEX ADITI 1.0 challenge for developing a helicopter-launched weaponized drone, earning recognition from India's Ministry of Defense. This innovative drone features advanced capabilities like precision targeting, pilot control, and compatibility with Mi-17 helicopters. The success of this initiative underscores India's commitment to fostering domestic defense technology and enhancing the operational efficiency of the Indian Air Force. The win signifies a notable advancement in India's defense innovation landscape, aligning with the government's focus on self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat) in military capabilities. Drones Tech Lab's solution not only meets strategic operational requirements but also strengthens India's position against potential threats, showcasing the growing role of startups in bolstering national security.

## Telangana's Simpliforge Creations and IIT-Hyderabad Unveil India's Largest 3D-Printed Structure for the Army

09-Oct-24

The Indian Army has inaugurated Madhya Pradesh's first and its largest 3D-printed building at Morar Cantonment, developed in partnership with Simpliforge Creations and IIT Hyderabad. This innovative structure, designed to house barracks for 14 soldiers, showcases advanced construction technology aimed at enhancing troop housing in challenging terrains. The rapid

construction and durability of 3D-printed buildings indicate a significant shift towards modernizing military infrastructure. This initiative represents a strategic move to leverage technology for improving the living conditions of soldiers deployed in remote areas. By adopting 3D printing, the Indian Army can expedite construction timelines and enhance building resilience, thereby addressing logistical challenges while potentially lowering costs. The success of this project could pave the way for broader applications of 3D printing in military infrastructure.

### India's Rafale-M Jet Costs Soar to \$161M—60% Hike from 2016 IAF Deal

09-Oct-24

India is set to enhance its naval aviation capabilities by acquiring 26 Rafale-M fighter jets from France, with estimates suggesting a cost of \$161 million per jet. The procurement will support operations on India's aircraft carriers, improving its strike and reconnaissance capabilities amidst growing regional tensions. This acquisition reflects India's commitment to modernizing its military forces, following a series of high-profile defense purchases in recent years. The Rafale-M acquisition represents a strategic move to strengthen India's maritime power in the Indo-Pacific, an area of increasing geopolitical significance. With advanced capabilities and a robust armament suite, these jets will improve India's operational readiness against potential threats, particularly in light of tensions with China and Pakistan. This procurement aligns with India's broader defense strategy to ensure dominance in crucial maritime corridors and enhance deterrence capabilities in a rapidly evolving security environment.

### IAF Questions RTA-90's Military Use, Calls for Design Revamp to Boost Cargo Capacity

09-Oct-24

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has raised concerns regarding the military utility of the proposed HAL/NAL Regional Transport Aircraft-90 (RTA-90), emphasizing its limited cargo capacity and the extensive modifications needed for military operations. While the Ministry of Defence (MoD) supports the project for civilian purposes under the UDAN program, the IAF remains cautious about its practical military applications. Despite reservations, the IAF is open to considering the RTA-90 for specific missions, provided its design can be adapted appropriately. This situation highlights the ongoing tension between the IAF's operational requirements and the MoD's push for indigenous development. The IAF's concerns stem from past experiences with aircraft that lacked versatility, demonstrating an aversion to potential inefficiencies. The need for a dual-use aircraft that balances civilian and military roles presents significant design challenges, necessitating innovative solutions to enhance cargo capacity while ensuring the aircraft's operational effectiveness for military purposes. The outcome of this collaboration will be critical in determining the RTA-90's viability and broader implications for India's defense aviation sector.

#### US Greenlights \$175 Million MK-54 Torpedo Sale to Boost India's Naval Power

09-Oct-24

The U.S. has sanctioned the sale of 53 MK-54 lightweight torpedoes to India for \$175 million, enhancing the Indian Navy's

anti-submarine capacity. This acquisition aligns with India's broader defense modernization efforts and reflects the strengthening of Indo-U.S. strategic ties. The timely induction of the Seahawks by next year will bolster India's maritime capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region amidst rising security challenges.

### Tata's WhAP 88 Facility in Morocco: A Gateway for African Exports

09-Oct-24

Tata Advanced Systems Limited is setting up a manufacturing facility in Casablanca, Morocco, to produce the WhAP 88 armored vehicle, with an annual output of 100 units. This move is part of Tata's strategy to enhance defense exports and cater to African markets, with Morocco already ordering 150 vehicles. The initiative demonstrates Morocco's commitment to bolstering its military capabilities and marks a significant step in India's defense manufacturing expansion. The establishment of TASL's facility in Morocco underscores the growing defense collaboration between India and Morocco, facilitating India's entry into the African defense sector. By positioning the WhAP 88 as a locally produced asset, Tata not only enhances its export potential but also contributes to Morocco's military modernization. This project reflects the strategic importance of defense partnerships in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape and highlights the increasing demand for reliable and versatile armored vehicles in Africa.

#### Indian Army Welcomes Full Fleet of 100 Robotic Mules from AeroArc

09-Oct-24

The Indian Army has ordered 100 advanced Robotic Mules from AeroArc, enhancing soldier capabilities in diverse terrains and operational environments. These versatile robots can carry weapons, sensors, and perform critical tasks while improving soldier safety and efficiency. This procurement underscores India's commitment to modernizing its military through indigenous technology, ensuring adaptability in high-risk scenarios. This milestone reflects a strategic shift in the Indian Army towards integrating advanced robotics into its operational framework, aligning with global trends in military modernization. By deploying Robotic Mules, the army not only boosts operational effectiveness but also prepares for future warfare's complexities, particularly in challenging environments. The emphasis on indigenous solutions also strengthens domestic defense capabilities, fostering innovation and self-reliance.

#### Indian Navy Pursues N-CCAV to Enhance Manned Fighter Capabilities

09-Oct-24

The Indian Navy is initiating a partnership with private sector companies to develop a Naval-Collaborative Combat Air Vehicle (N-CCAV) to counter maritime threats and enhance its operational capabilities. This initiative aims to address challenges posed by high-end anti-access/area denial defenses while providing cost-effective strike options. The N-CCAV will integrate with existing assets to improve air-to-surface capabilities and operational flexibility in contested environments. The push for the N-CCAV underscores the Indian Navy's strategic

imperative to modernize its fleet amidst evolving maritime threats. By leveraging private sector innovation, the Navy seeks to enhance its deterrent capabilities while maintaining operational cost-efficiency. This initiative reflects a broader trend in defense modernization, emphasizing the need for integrated, adaptable solutions to counter sophisticated adversarial systems, enhancing India's maritime security posture in a complex geopolitical landscape.

### IAF Pursues Next-Gen Autonomous Swarm Drone Interceptors

09-Oct-24

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is engaging private sector firms to develop a multi-domain loitering aerial interceptor system to counter drone swarm attacks on critical installations. This advanced system will utilize collaborative swarming techniques and multiple neutralization mechanisms, including hard and soft kills, to address the complexities of modern aerial threats. The IAF aims for a versatile, easily deployable solution capable of operating autonomously. The IAF's initiative reflects a proactive approach to evolving aerial threats, particularly as adversaries increasingly deploy drone swarms as a tactical advantage. By integrating private sector innovation, the IAF aims to enhance its defense capabilities through cutting-edge technology. This collaboration not only fosters domestic defense manufacturing but also ensures that the IAF remains at the forefront of counterdrone technology in the face of rapidly evolving warfare dynamics.

### IAF Pursues Mobile Tethered Aerostat for Boosted Radar and Communication

09-Oct-24

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is collaborating with private companies to develop a road-mobile tethered aerostat system with radar and communication capabilities for enhanced lowlevel coverage. This initiative aims to address the limitations of ground-based systems by providing a mobile solution that can operate at altitudes of 2,000 to 5,000 feet, covering 80-120 kilometers. The system's flexibility and rapid deployment potential will significantly bolster the IAF's aerial defense and surveillance capabilities in challenging terrains. The development of a tethered aerostat system represents a strategic advancement in India's air defense framework. This innovative approach will address current radar and communication limitations, especially in border and coastal regions, allowing for improved detection of aerial threats. By prioritizing rapid deployment and minimal crew requirements, the IAF aims to enhance operational efficiency and responsiveness to dynamic security challenges. Furthermore, the potential for future scalability ensures that the system can adapt to evolving tactical needs and technological advancements.

### IAF's 114-Jet MRFA Tender: A 5-Year Quest Unfolds

09-Oct-24

The Indian Air Force's (IAF) Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) program plans to procure 114 advanced fighter jets, with a timeline that could stretch into the early 2030s. The process will begin with obtaining Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) and issuing

a Request for Proposal (RFP) by 2025, followed by extensive vendor selection and contract negotiations. This procurement is crucial for modernizing the IAF's aging fleet and enhancing its capabilities amid changing regional security dynamics. The MRFA program is vital for ensuring the IAF maintains its operational effectiveness as older aircraft retire. The complexity of global procurement, technology transfer agreements, and local manufacturing commitments under the Strategic Partnership model adds to the lengthy timeline. Given the evolving geopolitical landscape, expediting this process is essential for India to bolster its aerial capabilities and achieve strategic autonomy in defense manufacturing.

### Bharat Forge Sets Sights on Future: Ready to Develop Light Tanks

09-Oct-24

Bharat Forge's CMD Baba Kalyani announced the development of a light tank under 25 tonnes, signaling a significant advancement in India's defense self-reliance. With advanced features such as an Integrated Fire Control System and Explosive Reactive Armor, this project could enhance the Indian Army's capabilities, particularly in challenging terrains like the Himalayas. The initiative resonates with India's ongoing efforts to foster domestic defense production and innovation. The development of Bharat Forge's light tank reflects a strategic shift toward indigenization in India's defense sector. By focusing on advanced technologies, the light tank aims to address operational challenges in difficult terrains, particularly against adversaries in the mountainous regions. This initiative not only enhances military readiness but also strengthens India's defense manufacturing ecosystem, aligning with national policies aimed at reducing reliance on foreign arms.

### GRSE Unveils INS Nirdeshak: The Indian Navy's Newest Survey Vessel

09-Oct-24

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd has delivered INS Nirdeshak, the second of four large survey vessels for the Indian Navy, marking its 110th warship delivery. The new ship enhances the Navy's capabilities in hydrographic surveys and maritime data collection, vital for operational readiness. It embodies India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing under the Atmanirbharta initiative. The delivery of INS Nirdeshak underscores GRSE's pivotal role in enhancing India's maritime security and operational capabilities. As the Navy increasingly relies on indigenous assets, this delivery not only strengthens national defense but also aligns with broader strategic objectives, including regional maritime security and the capacity for humanitarian missions.

#### IAF Plans to Retain MiG-21 Bison as F-404 Engine Delays Impact Tejas Mk1A

09-Oct-24

The Indian Air Force (IAF) plans to extend the service life of its MiG-21 Bison jets due to delays in the Tejas Mk1A aircraft delivery, primarily caused by a shortage of F-404 engines from GE Aerospace. Originally set for retirement by 2025, the MiG-21s will remain operational until the Tejas Mk1A can sufficiently replace them. This development poses a challenge to the IAF's

modernization efforts, emphasizing the vulnerabilities in India's defense supply chain. The IAF's reliance on the aging MiG-21 highlights a critical juncture in India's defense modernization strategy, with delays in indigenous production underscoring the need for resilient supply chains. The anticipated capabilities of the Tejas Mk1A mark a significant upgrade, making the delays even more concerning. This situation not only affects operational readiness but also reflects broader challenges within India's defense procurement and manufacturing ecosystem, necessitating a strategic reevaluation to mitigate future risks.

#### Saab's Sea Wasp ROV: Revolutionizing Mine Clearance for the Indian Navy

09-Oct-24

Saab has proposed its Sea Wasp Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) to the Indian Navy to enhance its capabilities in underwater mine clearance. This advanced system, designed for the detection and neutralization of underwater threats, features a modular design and user-friendly interface. The decision on procurement will hinge on cost-effectiveness and compatibility with existing naval operations. The Indian Navy's interest in the Sea Wasp ROV aligns with its strategic goal of improving maritime security in increasingly contested waters. As regional maritime threats evolve, investing in such advanced technologies not only strengthens operational readiness but also ensures safe maritime navigation. This acquisition could significantly enhance India's countermeasure capabilities against underwater IEDs and mines, safeguarding crucial trade routes and national interests.

#### NSG Upgrades AK-47s with 100 Indigenous AK Mod Kits from SSS Defence

09-Oct-24

The National Security Guard (NSG) of India is modernizing its AK-47 assault rifles by acquiring 100 AK Mod Kits from SSS Defence, enhancing their operational effectiveness in counterterrorism. The upgrade includes advanced features such as a tactical stock, muzzle suppressor, and a modular rail system for customization. This initiative reflects the NSG's commitment to leveraging domestic technology while bolstering India's defense industry. This modernization of the NSG's AK-47 rifles represents a strategic enhancement of India's counter-terrorism capabilities, allowing for improved versatility and adaptability in various operational scenarios. By investing in homegrown solutions, the NSG not only improves its tactical effectiveness but also promotes self-reliance in defense manufacturing. This initiative signifies a broader trend within India's defense strategy to modernize forces while supporting local industries, which is crucial for achieving operational readiness in an evolving security landscape.

#### CCS Poised to Approve 31 Predator Drone Deal Today

09-Oct-24

India is poised to acquire 31 Predator drones, equipped with advanced weaponry, for its military branches, enhancing its surveillance and combat capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region. The deal has received crucial approvals and emphasizes a shift towards bolstering defense ties with the US amid regional security challenges. The integration of these drones marks a

significant leap in India's military modernization efforts. The acquisition of Predator drones underscores India's urgent need to counter Chinese military advancements and bolster its maritime security. With increasing incursions by Chinese vessels in the Indian Ocean, the drones will enhance reconnaissance capabilities and provide a strategic edge. This reliance on US technology reflects a critical pivot in defense procurement, driven by geopolitical dynamics and the necessity for advanced operational capabilities amid delayed indigenous projects.

#### France Tests Advanced Aster Missile Defense System: A Win for India's Trusted Ally

09-Oct-24

France successfully conducted the first test of the Aster 30 B1NT missile, a key component in enhancing its air defense capabilities. Defence Minister Sebastien Lecornu highlighted the missile's potential against aircraft, medium-range ballistic missiles, and hypersonic threats. France's commitment to bolster its military with substantial investments underscores its strategic response to evolving threats, particularly in light of recent regional conflicts. The Aster 30 B1NT missile program is a pivotal advancement for France amidst growing security concerns, especially in relation to Iran's missile capabilities. The integration of this missile into various platforms will not only fortify French air defense but also enhance interoperability with partners, reflecting a shift towards collaborative defense strategies in Europe. France's planned investment emphasizes a proactive stance in addressing both conventional and emerging threats, reinforcing its role as a key player in European security.

#### **Geopolitics and Security Alliances**

#### US Highlights Ongoing Talks with India on Regional Issues, Including Bangladesh

09-Oct-24

The US State Department highlighted that discussions with India often address regional issues, including Bangladesh, following a meeting between Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar. However, specific details regarding the conversation were not disclosed. The backdrop includes unrest in Bangladesh, marked by protests and an interim government led by Muhammad Yunus amid rising violence against minorities. This exchange underscores the importance of India-US relations in addressing regional stability, particularly in the context of Bangladesh's political turmoil. The discussions reflect a broader strategy to enhance bilateral cooperation on significant geopolitical challenges, including the Indo-Pacific dynamics and emerging technologies, while also aiming to stabilize a critical neighboring nation.

#### Ex-US NSA Praises PM Modi's Leadership, Highlights India-US Ties

09-Oct-24

John Bolton, former US National Security Adviser, emphasizes the significance of the India-US relationship as potentially the defining event of the 21st century due to India's rising global influence and strategic role in addressing challenges like the Russia-Ukraine conflict. He commends Prime Minister Modi's leadership and the potential for collaboration through initiatives like the QUAD, while also acknowledging the complexities of mediation in ongoing global conflicts. Bolton underscores the importance of personal relationships between leaders, particularly between Modi and Trump, for fostering strong bilateral ties. Bolton's remarks reflect a growing recognition of India's geopolitical importance amid intensified global competition, especially with China. His comments also highlight India's potential as a mediator in international conflicts, reinforcing its image as a responsible global player. Furthermore, as the U.S. considers its foreign policy direction post-elections, strengthening ties with India under Modi's leadership aligns with broader strategic objectives, particularly in trade and security. This evolving relationship could reshape power dynamics in the Asia-Pacific region.

### Maldives Shifts Course: New Pact Permits Indian Defence Deployments

09-Oct-24

Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi signed a landmark agreement on October 7, 2024, enhancing economic and maritime security cooperation despite Muizzu's initial "India Out" stance. The pact emphasizes India's support in bolstering the Maldivian National Defence Force and includes substantial financial assistance for development projects. This strategic partnership reflects a pragmatic shift in Maldives' foreign policy, recognizing India's crucial role in regional stability. The agreement marks a pivotal shift in Maldives' foreign policy, acknowledging the necessity for robust ties with India amid regional security challenges, including piracy and illegal fishing. Strengthening the MNDF's capabilities and fostering economic collaboration underscores a mutual recognition of interdependence. The deal not only enhances military cooperation but also paves the way for economic recovery and development, showcasing India's commitment as a regional partner and first responder in crises. This evolving partnership could significantly influence the geopolitical dynamics in the Indian Ocean, as both nations seek to counterbalance external influences.

### Ukraine Aims for Year-End Peace Summit with Russia, Says Envoy to Turkey

09-Oct-24

Ukraine intends to hold a peace summit by the end of the year, inviting Russia while sidestepping direct negotiations. The initiative aims for a just peace, leveraging international support. Turkey's participation is significant due to its mediation role and balanced position on the conflict. This development underscores Ukraine's strategic approach to peace negotiations, seeking to involve global powers while maintaining a firm stance against Russian aggression. Turkey's dual role as a mediator and supporter of Ukraine, without imposing sanctions on Russia, highlights its delicate balancing act in regional geopolitics. The outcome of this summit could influence future diplomatic relations and conflict dynamics in Eastern Europe.

#### China's Missile Test: A Strategic Military Imperative Beyond Politics

09-Oct-24

China's recent intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) test from over 1,000 km demonstrates its growing military capabilities while serving as a diplomatic signal. The test's extensive range is intended to enhance operational effectiveness, but raises safety and notification concerns among neighboring countries. These developments highlight the need for continual monitoring of China's military advancements and the implications for regional security dynamics. The ICBM test underscores China's ambition to assert its influence in the Pacific, potentially alarming regional powers like India and Japan. The limited warnings prior to the test reflect a trend of strategic opacity, which could lead to heightened tensions in an already volatile security environment, necessitating robust diplomatic engagement and defense preparedness among affected nations.

#### Hezbollah Hits Back: Claims to Thwart Israeli Intrusions

09-Oct-24

Hezbollah fired projectiles into Israel amid escalating tensions, prompting a strong warning from Israeli PM Netanyahu regarding severe consequences for Lebanon. Netanyahu plans to consult with President Biden on Israel's strategic response as airstrikes on Hezbollah positions intensify. The ongoing violence has led to significant displacement and casualties, deepening the humanitarian crisis. The recent uptick in conflict between Hezbollah and Israel marks a dangerous escalation in an already volatile region. Netanyahu's warnings signify a potential shift towards a more aggressive military posture, while consultations with the US highlight the geopolitical implications. The rising humanitarian toll underscores the urgent need for international diplomatic interventions to prevent further escalation.

#### North Korea's Army Announces Total Severing of Road and Rail Ties with South Korea

09-Oct-24

North Korea plans to sever transportation links with South Korea and enhance border defenses in reaction to joint South Korean military exercises and U.S. nuclear deployments. This escalation reflects Pyongyang's ongoing efforts to display military strength amid perceived threats. The cooperation between South Korea and the U.S. underscores a united stance against North Korean provocations, but it may further exacerbate tensions on the Korean Peninsula, potentially leading to an arms race or increased military posturing by both sides.

### Lebanon's Displaced Seek Safety from Israeli Bombs, Face Distrust

09-Oct-24

Israel's intensified bombardment of Hezbollah positions in South Beirut has led to significant civilian displacement, exacerbating tensions among Lebanon's diverse communities. Locals express concerns that the influx of displaced individuals may include Hezbollah militants, stirring fears reminiscent of the Lebanese civil war. This situation further strains Lebanon's already fragile infrastructure, highlighting the challenges faced by the nation. The ongoing conflict between Israel and Hezbollah has profound implications for regional stability, particularly in Lebanon, which grapples with economic and social crises. The influx of displaced persons could destabilize local demographics and exacerbate sectarian tensions, as communities may become suspicious of each other. Moreover, the potential for Hezbollah fighters to blend in with civilians raises security concerns, complicating efforts for humanitarian aid and reconstruction in a country still healing from past conflicts.

#### North Korea Names New Defence Minister

09-Oct-24

North Korea has appointed No Kwang Chol as its new defense minister amid constitutional changes that eliminate unification-related clauses. The regime's decision not to abandon the 1991 inter-Korean agreement suggests a cautious approach. Analysts speculate that Pyongyang may be waiting for the outcome of the upcoming US elections before altering its strategy toward South Korea. This leadership change could signal a shift in North Korea's military posture and strategic goals, particularly in the context of evolving US-South Korea relations. The removal of unification clauses indicates a potential hardening of its stance, while the focus on external election dynamics may reflect a tactical wait-and-see approach to leverage future negotiations.

#### Israeli Strikes Claim 12 Lives in Gaza, Reports WAFA

09-Oct-24

Israeli airstrikes in Gaza have killed 12 Palestinians, including nine from one family, focusing on the Shejaia neighborhood and Nuseirat refugee camp. This escalation follows Hamas-led assaults, worsening an already critical humanitarian situation. The ongoing conflict highlights the complexities of the Israeli-Palestinian struggle, with military actions resulting in significant civilian casualties and international concern over human rights violations and the urgent need for a ceasefire. The situation underscores the fragility of peace in the region and the cycle of violence that perpetuates humanitarian crises affecting both Palestinians and Israelis.

#### Rajnath and German Counterpart Discuss Anticipated Mega-Submarine Deal in Phone Call

09-Oct-24

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's upcoming visit to India coincides with the critical evaluation phase of the Indian Navy's multi-billion dollar submarine deal, where German firm TKMS is competing against Spain's Navantia. This visit emphasizes the strengthening of defense ties and industrial collaboration, reflecting the strategic importance of defense in India-Germany relations. Concurrently, Prime Minister Sanchez's expected visit highlights the competitive dynamics in defense procurement and geopolitical partnerships. The timing of these high-profile visits underscores the growing defense cooperation between India and Germany, particularly in the context of India's expanding naval capabilities. The submarine deal, part of Project-75I, represents a significant investment in indigenous defense production while

fostering international partnerships. As both nations seek to enhance their defense industrial collaboration, the discussions around supply chain resilience and geopolitical considerations are crucial, reflecting broader global security trends and regional stability in the Indo-Pacific.

#### China's Foreign Ministry: Poised to Boost Communication and Trust with India

09-Oct-24

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning acknowledged Indian President Droupadi Murmu's congratulatory message to President Xi Jinping on the 75th anniversary of the People's Republic of China. She emphasized China's readiness to enhance communication and mutual trust with India while highlighting recent disengagement progress along the border. Mao characterized the border situation as stable, reinforcing a willingness for cooperative relations. This exchange reflects a cautious optimism in China-India relations, indicating both nations' desire to stabilize ties amid past tensions, especially regarding border disputes. While China's response to President Murmu's outreach is positive, the emphasis on mutual trust suggests ongoing challenges that require sustained dialogue and diplomatic engagement to ensure a peaceful coexistence.

#### Indians in Israel Look to PM Modi for Resolution in Israel-Hamas Conflict

09-Oct-24

Reena Vinod Pushkarna, an Indian national in Israel, urged Prime Minister Modi to leverage his relationships with Russia, Iran, and Israel to mediate peace amid escalating tensions. She highlighted the struggles of the Indian community in Israel due to ongoing conflicts and criticized the lack of action to free hostages. The situation worsened as Hezbollah launched over 100 rockets at Israel, prompting military retaliation. Pushkarna's plea underscores the crisis faced by Indians in Israel, suggesting a desire for India to play a more proactive diplomatic role in the region. With the recent escalation from Hezbollah, the urgency for a resolution is paramount not only for local stability but also for the safety of the Indian community. As conflicts continue to disrupt daily lives and businesses, India's strategic engagement could potentially influence peace efforts amidst growing hostilities.

#### UNGA President Engages with Hostage Families, Urges Immediate Ceasefire

09-Oct-24

Yang emphasized the UN General Assembly's call for the immediate release of hostages held by Hamas and an immediate ceasefire, reflecting on his meeting with affected families. Meanwhile, Israel has intensified its military operations in Lebanon, targeting Hezbollah positions in response to rocket fire. Recent escalations have led to significant casualties and destruction in Lebanon, underscoring the precarious situation in the region. The ongoing conflict demonstrates the fragile balance of power between Israel and Hezbollah, exacerbated by the humanitarian crisis resulting from military actions. Calls for ceasefire and humanitarian relief underscore the urgent need for diplomatic interventions to prevent further escalation and civilian suffering. The complex interplay of military aggression,

retaliatory strikes, and diplomatic pleas illustrates the challenges facing regional stability and peace efforts.

#### **Military Operations**

#### CRPF Launches Major Initiative to Realign 130+ Battalions for Enhanced Operations and Troop Welfare

09-Oct-24

The CRPF is realigning over 130 battalions to enhance operational efficiency and provide better family time for troops. This reorganization, approved by the Union home ministry, aims to reduce deployment distances and improve logistics for the country's largest paramilitary force. The new structure will come into effect on December 1, addressing challenges posed by evolving internal security needs. This realignment reflects the Indian government's commitment to improve the welfare of CRPF personnel while enhancing operational readiness. The change aims to streamline command and logistics, which is crucial as the force faces diverse challenges across regions. However, concerns about administrative burdens and previous unsuccessful attempts at realignment highlight potential challenges ahead.

#### Key Army Leaders Gather in Sikkim This Week, Defense Minister to Speak

09-Oct-24

The Indian Army's top commanders will convene in Sikkim near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) to assess ongoing tensions with China, marking a significant shift in meeting location. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will address the gathering scheduled for October 10-11, emphasizing the critical nature of the situation along the borders. This marks the first such meeting under Chief of Army Staff Gen Upendra Dwivedi, who notes that while the situation is stable, trust with the Chinese PLA has deteriorated. This meeting underscores India's strategic focus on its northern border, particularly amidst ongoing standoffs with China. By convening close to the LAC, India signals its seriousness about addressing border tensions. Gen Dwivedi's leadership and the emphasis on drawing lessons from global conflicts suggest a shift towards a proactive, informed military strategy, likely aimed at both deterrence and preparedness in an increasingly complex regional security landscape.

### INS Talwar Docks in South Africa for IBSAMAR VIII

09-Oct-24

INS Talwar, a frontline stealth frigate of the Indian Navy, arrived in Simons Town, South Africa, to participate in the IBSAMAR VIII joint military exercise from October 6-18, 2024, alongside Brazilian and South African naval forces. The exercise focuses on enhancing interoperability and operational capabilities in Blue Water Naval Warfare. The initiative underscores India's commitment to strengthening naval ties and fostering security cooperation with like-minded nations, amid growing geopolitical tensions and the need for collaborative maritime strategies.

Strengthening trilateral naval exercises like IBSAMAR VIII not only enhances operational readiness but also builds strategic relationships in the Indian Ocean region, critical for maintaining regional stability. As India deepens its defense collaboration with South Africa and Brazil, it reinforces a collective maritime security framework that counters common threats, ensuring a secure and cooperative maritime environment.

### Indian Navy's MiG-29K Joins Forces with Italian F-35B

09-Oct-24

The Indian and Italian Navies conducted a historic Carrier Strike Groups exercise off India's West Coast from October 1 to 6, marking the first bilateral engagement of its kind. This event included extensive joint operations and professional exchanges, emphasizing interoperability and enhanced command capabilities. The participation of the Indian Air Force further highlighted the collaboration between the two nations. The exercise represents a significant step in strengthening maritime ties between India and Italy, reflecting a growing recognition of shared security interests. Enhanced interoperability among their naval forces not only bolsters regional security but also demonstrates India's commitment to forging strategic partnerships amid evolving geopolitical dynamics, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region.

#### **Terrorism and Counterterrorism**

### Smugglers Assault BSF on Indian Soil; One Infiltrator Shot Dead

09-Oct-24

A Bangladeshi smuggler was killed following a confrontation with Border Security Force (BSF) personnel in Tripura, India, while attempting to smuggle contraband. The incident escalated when smugglers, armed with sharp weapons, overpowered a BSF jawan, prompting him to fire in self-defense. The attack highlights ongoing border security challenges faced by India, particularly in combating cross-border smuggling and ensuring the safety of its security forces.

#### Israeli Foreign Minister Gandler Vows to Track Down Every Terrorist After Oct 7 Attack

09-Oct-24

Israel's Foreign Ministry has pledged to enhance its security measures to prevent future attacks similar to the October 7 Hamas incident, emphasizing a commitment to counterterrorism and collaboration with India. Deputy spokesperson Alex Gandler outlined Israel's strategic objectives in the conflict, while Prime Minister Netanyahu highlighted ongoing military actions against Hezbollah and Iran's influence in Lebanon. This commitment to counter-terrorism partnerships reflects Israel's broader strategy of regional stability, particularly with India, which shares concerns over terrorism, enhancing their bilateral security cooperation amid rising tensions in the Middle East.

#### Mil Personnel & Veterans

#### Missing Territorial Army Jawaan's Body Discovered

09-Oct-24

The body of missing Territorial Army soldier Hilal Ahmad Bhat was found in Anantnag district, Jammu and Kashmir, following a search operation. Security forces had been actively searching for Bhat after he went missing, with intelligence inputs prompting a counter-terrorist operation in the region. The situation underscores ongoing security challenges in Kashmir, where insurgent activities continue to threaten the safety of local forces, necessitating continuous vigilance and coordinated responses from military and police agencies.

#### Miscellaneous

#### Assam CM: 128 Bangladeshi Infiltrators Rejected in Two Months

09-Oct-24

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that 128 Bangladeshi nationals have been pushed back at the India-Bangladesh border in two months, with two apprehended recently. He emphasized the state's vigilance in preventing illegal immigration, asserting that infiltrators cannot enroll in the voters list. The Chief Minister's statements reflect ongoing concerns regarding border security and illegal immigration. The situation at the Assam border highlights the complexities of migration and national security in India. Assam's proactive measures against illegal immigration stem from a socio-political context, where demographic changes can impact local culture and politics. The emphasis on preventing illegal entry, especially from Bangladesh, addresses both security and electoral integrity, ensuring that regional stability is maintained amidst rising humanitarian concerns regarding migrant workers.

### AFSPA Extended for 6 Months in 4 Assam Districts

09-Oct-24

The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) has been extended in four districts of Assam for six months due to recent disturbances in Bangladesh that could impact internal security. The districts of Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Charaideo, and Sivasagar will remain classified as disturbed areas. While the security situation in Assam has improved significantly, the government's decision reflects ongoing concerns about regional stability and the necessity for counter-insurgency measures. The extension of AFSPA indicates heightened vigilance in Assam, particularly in light of unrest in Bangladesh that may spill over. The government's decision balances security needs with previous criticisms of human rights violations under the Act. As the law has been gradually withdrawn from other areas, maintaining it in these districts suggests a cautious approach to prevent any

resurgence of violence while reflecting the complexities of regional security dynamics.

### Kickoff Ceremony for Exercise Malabar 2024

09-Oct-24

The MALABAR 2024 maritime exercise commenced on October 8, 2024, in Visakhapatnam, marking its 28th edition with participation from India, the US, Japan, and Australia. The opening ceremony was attended by high-ranking military officials, emphasizing the exercise's significance in fostering collaboration against common maritime challenges. Running until October 18, the event includes live weapons drills and advanced warfare tactics. MALABAR 2024 exemplifies India's strategic pivot towards enhanced maritime cooperation with allied nations, aligning with its SAGAR vision. The participation of diverse naval forces underscores a collective commitment to secure maritime interests and stability in the Indo-Pacific region amid rising geopolitical tensions.

#### Omar: It's Naive to Expect BJP to Restore Article 370

09-Oct-24

National Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah stated that expecting the restoration of Article 370 from those who revoked it is unrealistic, but emphasized his party's commitment to keeping the issue alive. He expressed hope for special provisions for Jammu and Kashmir following a change in government. Abdullah's remarks reflect a persistent political strategy aimed at regional rights despite current challenges. Abdullah's comments indicate a strategic approach to Jammu and Kashmir's political landscape, emphasizing the National Conference's resolve to advocate for regional autonomy. His acknowledgment of the improbability of Article 370's restoration underscores a pragmatic stance while simultaneously keeping the issue relevant in the political discourse. This could be seen as an effort to galvanize voter support and maintain political pressure on the central government during upcoming elections.

#### PAF Cessna T-37 Trainer Crashes Near Swabi; Pilots Unharmed

09-Oct-24

A Pakistan Air Force training aircraft crashed in Gadoon Amazai, Swabi, due to a technical fault. The pilots ejected safely and were airlifted to a hospital with minor injuries. This incident underscores the ongoing challenges facing the Pakistan Air Force regarding maintenance and technical reliability of their aircraft, reflecting broader issues in military readiness and safety protocols. Such incidents also highlight the need for enhanced pilot training and aircraft oversight to prevent future mishaps, especially in rugged terrains that complicate emergency responses.

#### 15 Sikh Pilgrims Airlifted from Hemkund Sahib After Illness: Key Details

09-Oct-24

Fifteen Sikh pilgrims from Pakistan were airlifted to Govindghat after falling ill during their trek to Hemkund Sahib due to altitude

sickness. The group of over 100 was undertaking a pilgrimage to the sacred site, which attracts over a lakh devotees annually. Authorities swiftly arranged medical assistance for the affected individuals, ensuring their safety and care. The incident highlights the challenges faced by pilgrims in high-altitude locations, where altitude sickness can pose serious health risks. This also underscores the importance of logistical support and emergency services in remote areas, particularly given the growing number of cross-border pilgrimages between India and Pakistan, which fosters cultural ties despite political tensions.

### IAF Set to Reach New Heights: CDS Celebrates 92nd Anniversary

09-Oct-24

On Air Force Day, the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) highlighted the Indian Air Force's (IAF) evolution into a potent, tech-driven force dedicated to national security. Gen Chauhan emphasized the IAF's commitment to indigenous innovation and international collaboration, celebrating its rich legacy of valor. The CDS expressed gratitude to air warriors and their families for their unwavering dedication and service. The CDS's message underscores the IAF's dual focus on modernization and selfreliance while also enhancing international partnerships. The induction of advanced aircraft like Rafale and indigenous platforms signifies a strategic shift towards technological superiority and operational readiness, essential for addressing contemporary security challenges. This commitment not only strengthens India's defense capabilities but also enhances its standing in global defense cooperation, reflecting a proactive approach to safeguarding national interests.

#### US Vigilantly Tracks Global Religious Freedom Conditions

09-Oct-24

The US State Department reaffirmed that the USCIRF operates independently and is not part of the US government, following its

critical report on India's religious freedom. USCIRF's allegations led Indian authorities to label the report as biased and politically motivated, urging the commission to focus on human rights issues in the US instead. Despite the USCIRF's recommendations, the US Secretary of State previously determined that India does not warrant designation as a Country of Particular Concern. The tension between the US and India over religious freedom highlights ongoing diplomatic challenges. India's response reflects its commitment to sovereignty and an assertive stance against foreign critique, especially regarding domestic policies. This incident underscores the broader geopolitical dynamics, where human rights discussions intersect with national interests and international relations, influencing both bilateral ties and regional stability.

### Pakistan's Debt Soars to Unprecedented PKR 70 Trillion

09-Oct-24

Pakistan's federal debt surged by PKR 1,448 billion in the first two months of the fiscal year, raising concerns over fiscal health as domestic and external debts hit PKR 48,339 billion and PKR 22,023 billion, respectively. The IMF recently approved a USD 7 billion bailout, marking Pakistan's 25th program with the fund. Ongoing economic challenges, including high inflation and past economic mismanagement, have left the country in a precarious financial situation. The rapid increase in Pakistan's debt highlights a critical economic crisis exacerbated by political instability and natural disasters. The reliance on IMF loans underscores a cycle of dependency, while the government's acknowledgment that this may be its last program indicates an urgent call for structural reforms. Without significant policy changes, Pakistan risks further economic deterioration and potential default, which could destabilize the region and impact India's security calculus.

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### **Defence Sector Stocks**

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
ROSSELLIND	104.81	105.0	98.7	100.91	226065	-4.08	17.25	286.17	461.96
NIBE	1780.0	1856.55	1780.0	1845.1	29851	4.35	45.87	1953.39	1539.01
ASTRAMICRO	841.9	855.0	831.65	839.15	178905	0.52	44.11	877.33	753.28
DATAPATTNS	2390.0	2445.0	2379.0	2398.05	247115	0.88	39.36	2493.06	2617.35
PREMEXPLN	501.2	521.75	501.2	511.2	154797	2.87	39.82	536.58	475.08
HIGHENE	660.0	690.0	656.15	683.3	9311	4.5	48.88	679.26	702.83
LT	3542.05	3557.7	3481.0	3487.1	1645791	-1.28	37.01	3649.34	3575.64
MAZDOCK	4085.05	4170.9	4070.05	4086.95	901678	0.15	42.68	4194.41	3238.46
MARINE	236.72	238.8	227.52	230.19	149364	-1.09	46.65	231.8	154.06
PARAS	1100.0	1115.0	1086.5	1101.55	160473	2.57	45.95	1105.22	954.97
MIDHANI	381.0	387.0	377.75	380.0	338316	-0.08	41.65	391.06	432.02
DCXINDIA	326.0	329.9	320.25	323.75	159045	0.9	43.92	332.66	338.39
BEML	3636.0	3668.9	3567.65	3577.5	88378	-0.41	38.02	3741.93	3706.97
AVANTEL	179.1	189.2	178.9	181.17	2623283	2.7	52.73	174.8	-
MTARTECH	1744.5	1789.95	1728.0	1783.55	214275	2.67	54.97	1739.81	1894.67
GRSE	1672.45	1706.35	1626.1	1636.35	885531	-1.67	40.85	1715.28	1372.96
BHARATFORG	1485.05	1520.5	1482.35	1510.3	1303802	1.95	44.24	1546.01	1406.08
TANEJAERO	484.9	500.0	484.0	495.45	12862	3.69	43.55	500.51	480.98
SOLARINDS	11352.2	11394.75	11147.75	11237.85	41842	-0.32	52.85	11186.52	9087.69
ADANIENT	3175.0	3179.95	3134.4	3153.75	897335	-0.22	57.83	3057.11	3102.45
APOLLO	102.49	103.4	100.36	101.11	809373	-0.47	43.31	104.53	111.67
BDL	1154.95	1188.0	1145.3	1163.1	1016251	1.21	44.42	1159.52	1137.89
SIKA	2546.65	2750.0	2546.65	2586.65	3885	1.57	47.06	2615.28	2226.88
CFF	597.0	616.95	597.0	610.0	15200	2.8	35.0	663.64	573.68
BEL	282.0	286.6	278.5	282.4	18984175	0.77	46.86	284.21	250.26
HBLPOWER	607.8	623.0	606.5	611.35	955496	1.18	48.73	614.69	533.19
PTC	198.0	202.0	196.01	196.45	789674	-0.7	38.63	213.59	209.14
LOKESHMACH	394.25	397.95	387.45	391.0	55802	0.67	55.06	383.64	389.72
COCHINSHIP	1670.0	1670.0	1620.0	1654.8	272935	0.72	37.94	1731.15	1520.55
KRISHNADEF	694.0	721.85	690.0	699.85	45000	1.02	46.61	719.92	562.22
ZENTEC	1664.95	1790.0	1659.9	1759.95	575629	6.63	60.22	1682.61	1157.87
IDEAFORGE	676.0	711.0	676.0	684.2	236690	1.55	43.65	698.13	735.07
HAL	4386.0	4447.85	4368.0	4386.55	1355805	0.42	45.6	4415.44	4059.11
AZAD	1409.0	1460.0	1390.0	1450.65	138396	3.51	44.35	1483.59	-