



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

April 13, 2025 | Day 103

Defense Business and Industry

Indian Army Seeks T-90 Tank Mock-Ups to Combat Drone Threats [SHARE](#)

13-Apr-25

The Indian Army has issued a Request for Information (RFI) for mock-ups of T-90 S/SK main battle tanks as part of its Make in India initiative to enhance defense against drone threats. These decoys will replicate the tanks' acoustic, thermal, and dimensional signatures to mislead enemy sensors and protect actual assets. The specifications mandate realistic replication, including external features and durability across varied terrains. This proactive approach reflects the Army's commitment to adapt to evolving battlefield dynamics, ensuring increased survivability of armored units in contested environments, and reinforces the significance of domestic production capabilities in strengthening national defense.

DRDO to Unveil 300kW 'Surya' Laser Weapon by 2027 for Aerial Defense [SHARE](#)

13-Apr-25

India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is set to develop a 300-kilowatt laser weapon system named "Surya" by 2027, aiming to counter aerial threats like drones and missiles within a 20-kilometre range. This directed energy weapon (DEW) reflects India's commitment to enhancing its indigenous defense capabilities, employing advanced technologies for precision targeting and atmospheric compensation. The modular design allows for future power scaling, making it adaptable to evolving threats. Mounted on transportable vehicles, the Surya system signifies India's strategic move towards next-generation military technologies, placing it among a select group of nations pursuing advanced DEW capabilities for future warfare scenarios.

ST Engineering iDirect Unveils Upgraded Excelerator Partner Program [SHARE](#)

13-Apr-25

ST Engineering iDirect has launched its enhanced Excelerator Partner Program, designed to recognize outstanding partner performance, foster collaboration, and accelerate time to market. This initiative replaces the previous bePART program and offers a range of benefits, including tiered rewards, advanced training, and a self-service partner portal that simplifies operations. The program aims to strengthen long-term partnerships and support partners in achieving growth through innovative tools, expert guidance, and market development funds. By reinforcing these partnerships, ST Engineering iDirect is committed to enhancing business success and adaptability in a rapidly evolving marketplace, ultimately benefiting both partners and their customers.

L3Harris and Kuiper Join Forces for Advanced Military SATCOM Solutions [SHARE](#)

13-Apr-25

L3Harris Technologies has partnered with Kuiper Government Solutions LLC (KGS) to deliver advanced hybrid Satellite Communications (SATCOM) solutions tailored for military and government applications. This collaboration is aimed at enhancing global connectivity with high-speed, low-latency technology, leveraging L3Harris's established communication systems and KGS's satellite network. The partnership is expected to improve the resilience and security of communication networks for various users, including defense sectors. Given India's strategic emphasis on secure and reliable communication systems for its defense forces, such innovations in SATCOM technology could bolster India's own capabilities in contested operational environments, aligning with its goals for enhanced defense resilience and sovereignty.

GA-EMS and Rafael Collaborate on Bullseye Long-Range Missile [SHARE](#)

13-Apr-25

General Atomics Electromagnetic Systems (GA-EMS) has partnered with Israel's Rafael Advanced Defense Systems to develop the Bullseye long-range precision-guided missile, designed for multi-platform launch capabilities from air, ground, and sea. This missile will be built in the U.S., adhering to military specifications, aiming to support various Department of Defense missions. The collaboration leverages Rafael's advanced missile technologies and GA-EMS's manufacturing expertise, ensuring affordability and effectiveness. With a modular design, Bullseye promises adaptability to evolving mission needs, with operational readiness testing planned for late 2025, reinforcing U.S. national security interests through innovative defense capabilities.

Rheinmetall and Patria Provide Advanced Mortar for Hungary's Lynx [SHARE](#)

13-Apr-25

Patria has entered a supply agreement with Rheinmetall for delivering 24 advanced NEMO mortar systems, designed for integration into Hungary's Lynx KF41 vehicles under the ZRINYI programme. The Patria NEMO is a fully automated, 120 mm mortar system that offers enhanced fire control capabilities and rapid engagement times, making it suitable for modern military operations. Successful integration trials conducted in September 2024 demonstrated the system's compatibility with the Lynx platform, significantly expanding its operational capabilities. This collaboration emphasizes the commitment to providing state-of-the-art solutions for enhancing Hungary's armored vehicle fleet, reflecting a broader trend of advanced military procurement in Europe.

L3Harris Secures Extension for Key Space Force Maintenance Program [SHARE](#)

13-Apr-25

L3Harris Technologies has been awarded an extension by the U.S. Space Force for the Maintenance of Space Situational Awareness Integrated Capabilities (MOSSAIC) program, crucial for monitoring deep space objects. This contract, now in its sixth year, underscores L3Harris's long-term commitment to enhancing the U.S. Space Force's ability to identify and respond to space-based threats. The company has been a reliable partner for over three decades, providing essential upgrades and maintenance to ensure high reliability for U.S. space surveillance efforts. This move reflects the

increasing importance of space domain awareness in maintaining strategic superiority in an evolving geopolitical landscape.

Naviris and Eurosam Complete Key Review for Horizon Upgrade [SHARE](#)

13-Apr-25

Naviris and Eurosam have successfully completed the first Critical Design Review (CDR) for the Horizon Mid-Life Upgrade Programme, crucial for enhancing the operational capabilities of the French and Italian Navies' Horizon-class ships, originally delivered between 2009 and 2011. Scheduled upgrades from 2026 to 2030 will incorporate advanced technologies, notably the Aster missile-based PAAMS Anti-Air Warfare system and updated Electronic Warfare Systems. This initiative, awarded in July 2023, aims to address obsolescence and improve performance against modern threats, thus extending the vessels' effectiveness and reliability. The upgrades solidify the Horizon-class ships as vital assets for national defense, showcasing a commitment to maintaining cutting-edge naval capabilities.

ASELSAN Upgrades BARBAROS-Class Frigate for Enhanced Naval Power [SHARE](#)

13-Apr-25

ASELSAN has completed a significant upgrade of the BARBAROS-Class Frigate TCG ORUCREIS as part of the BARBAROS-MLU Project, modernizing 21 critical systems with advanced indigenous solutions. This initiative enhances the frigate's capabilities, including improvements in radar, electronic warfare, and communications, thereby strengthening the Turkish Naval Forces' defense strategy. ASELSAN's President emphasized the project as a benchmark in naval modernization, showcasing their commitment to providing advanced systems to both the Turkish Navy and allied forces. This development highlights Turkey's growing expertise in defense technologies, marking a competitive edge in maritime security within the region and beyond.

GA-ASI Partners with Hanwha to Boost South Korea's UAS Defense [SHARE](#)

13-Apr-25

General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) has partnered with South Korea's Hanwha Aerospace to develop Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), following a successful flight demonstration of the Gray Eagle STOL from the ROKS Dokdo. This collaboration aims to enhance South Korea's defense capabilities and bolster

the U.S.-South Korea alliance, with Hanwha investing over 300 billion KRW to expand UAS production and R&D. The Gray Eagle STOL offers operational flexibility from various platforms, enhancing battlefield effectiveness. This partnership not only promises significant job creation but also positions Korea as a competitive player in the global UAS market, reflecting a strategic investment in sovereign defense capabilities.

India Boosts Electronic Warfare Capabilities for Modern Threats



13-Apr-25

India is enhancing its electronic warfare (EW) capabilities in response to complex security challenges, drawing lessons from global conflicts like the Russia-Ukraine war and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The Indian Army has developed indigenous EW systems such as Samyukta and Himshakti, aligning with the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. Dedicated EW Brigades are operational along sensitive borders, integrating EW with cyber and space assets to build a comprehensive information warfare strategy. To further strengthen its capabilities, India is encouraged to invest in AI-driven technologies, foster collaborations between defense firms and start-ups, and expand training programs to ensure preparedness for future conflicts, thereby promoting strategic deterrence and operational effectiveness.

India's LRGB Success: A Step Towards Developing a 1,500-kg Glide Bomb



13-Apr-25

India's successful development of the Long-Range Glide Bomb (LRGB) marks a pivotal advancement in its precision strike capabilities, with plans to develop a heavier 1,500-kg variant informed by Russia's effective use of the FAB-1500 in Ukraine. The LRGB, capable of striking targets up to 100 km away with high accuracy, enhances the Indian Air Force's (IAF) operational flexibility against fortified positions along the borders with China and Pakistan. The proposed 1,500-kg glide bomb would amplify destructive power, extend range, and remain cost-effective compared to existing missiles, while rigorous testing and collaboration with private firms are essential to address challenges in scaling and integration within the IAF's diverse fleet.

Indian Army Launches Innovative Wire-Guided FPV Drone for Infantry



13-Apr-25

The Indian Army has unveiled a groundbreaking wire-guided, jam-proof First Person View (FPV) drone aimed

at enhancing infantry capabilities and achieving self-reliance in defense technology. This new UAV, with a range of 2-10 kilometers and the potential for a longer variant, promises unmatched precision and resilience against electronic warfare, essential for modern combat scenarios. Its psychological impact is significant, instilling fear among adversaries while allowing real-time reconnaissance and precision strikes. By prioritizing mass production for widespread platoon-level deployment, the Indian Army is set to transform ground warfare, enhancing operational autonomy and effectiveness against asymmetric threats along the Line of Actual Control and Line of Control.

DRDO and Rathi Aerospace Collaborate on Gas Generator for SAAW



13-Apr-25

The DRDO has partnered with Rathi Aerospace Labs to develop a low-temperature gas generator for the Smart Anti-Airfield Weapon (SAAW) program, enhancing India's precision-guided munitions capabilities. This innovation operates at 150°C, improving reliability and efficiency while reducing logistical burdens. The SAAW, capable of striking targets from 100 km, is crucial for Indian airpower, and Rathi's design simplifies integration into munitions, enhances stealth, and holds potential for various defense applications. This collaboration exemplifies India's focus on public-private partnerships, supporting the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, and aiming for 90% self-reliance in defense production by 2029, fostering innovative solutions and accelerating development timelines.

Zorawar Light Tank Prepares for Rajasthan Trials Ahead of 2027 Induction



13-Apr-25

India's indigenous Zorawar light tank, developed by Larsen & Toubro and DRDO, is set for critical firing trials in the Rajasthan desert, marking a significant step towards its 2027 induction into the Indian Army. Following successful high-altitude tests in Ladakh, these upcoming trials will assess its performance in extreme heat, emphasizing India's commitment to self-reliance amid regional security challenges, particularly with China. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has praised the project for enhancing strategic capabilities along the Line of Actual Control. The rigorous evaluation will ensure the tank meets operational requirements for a long service life, reinforcing India's defense modernization efforts.

Indian Army to Replace Bofors Guns by 2030 for Modern Artillery

SHARE

13-Apr-25

The Indian Army is set to phase out the iconic Bofors FH77 guns by 2030, transitioning to advanced artillery systems like the indigenous Dhanush and the Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS). The Bofors guns, pivotal during the Kargil War, are now facing obsolescence due to maintenance challenges and outdated technology. The Dhanush offers superior range and reliability, while the ATAGS promises advanced automation and a range exceeding 48 km. This systematic replacement ensures that the Army maintains its artillery capabilities without interruption, showcasing India's commitment to modernizing its defense forces and enhancing operational effectiveness in contemporary warfare.

BrahMos Afterburner Set to Boost Kaveri Engine Thrust to 78.4kN

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13-Apr-25

BrahMos Aerospace is set to enhance the Kaveri Derivative Engine (KDE) with a new afterburner, boosting its thrust to 78.4kN, critical for manned fighter jets. This advancement positions the Kaveri engine as a viable alternative to foreign engines like the GE F-404, which loses thrust in India's challenging climatic conditions. The afterburner's capability to improve thrust significantly marks progress in India's indigenous aero-engine development, potentially allowing the IAF's Tejas Mk1A to transition to the Kaveri engine, thus reducing import dependency. However, challenges such as performance validation, weight optimization, and combustion stability remain to be addressed before full deployment.

Parliamentary Defence Committee Celebrates DRDO's Semiconductor Innovations

SHARE

13-Apr-25

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence, led by Shri Radha Mohan Singh, recently visited the Solid State Physics Laboratory (SSPL) of DRDO, highlighting India's advancements in semiconductor technology crucial for self-reliance in defense. They were impressed by innovations in Silicon Carbide (SiC), Gallium Nitride (GaN), and quantum technologies, which are essential for modern military capabilities including radar and communication systems. The committee emphasized the importance of reducing dependency on foreign suppliers and advocated for sustained investment in indigenous research and

production to enhance India's competitiveness in global defense. This initiative aligns with the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision, underscoring India's commitment to technological sovereignty and innovation in defense.

Ethereal Exploration Unveils India's Top Semi-Cryo RP-1 Test Facility

SHARE

13-Apr-25

Bengaluru-based Ethereal Exploration Guild Private Limited has unveiled India's most advanced semi-cryogenic RP-1 test setup, crucial for its Pegasus engine development program. This facility, capable of withstanding pressures up to 200 bar, enhances India's indigenous propulsion technology, positioning the country competitively in the global space race. The setup's automation and precision enable rigorous testing and qualification of rocket engines, aligning with India's push for self-reliance in aerospace. By developing semi-cryogenic propulsion, Ethereal is poised to create cost-effective launch vehicles, propelling India toward a leading role in the international space market. This achievement reflects India's growing expertise in aerospace innovation.

Adani Defence Secures 5-Year Artillery Exports Deal, Boosts India

SHARE

13-Apr-25

Adani Defence has secured a five-year export deal for artillery shells, solidifying its position in the global ammunition market while enhancing India's role in the defense supply chain. The company's Kanpur facility, one of South Asia's largest, plans to double its small arms ammunition production to 300 million rounds annually by 2025 and has begun producing 155mm artillery shells with significant export bookings. While prioritizing exports to meet rising global demand, Adani has also committed to reserving 33% of its artillery production for the Indian armed forces, reinforcing national security and self-reliance in defense manufacturing amid geopolitical tensions. This initiative promises economic growth and job creation in Uttar Pradesh.

IAF to Upgrade 84 Su-30MKIs with Indigenous AESA Radar by 2026

SHARE

13-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) will enhance 84 Sukhoi Su-30MKI fighter jets with the indigenous Virupaksha GaN-based AESA radar starting in 2026 as part of the 'Super-30 Program', bolstering its air superiority against regional threats, particularly from advanced Chinese and Pakistani aircraft. The upgrade features significant

improvements in detection range, weight, and efficiency, transforming the aircraft into a more formidable platform. The initiative reflects India's commitment to self-reliance in defense technologies and involves collaboration with private industry for manufacturing, ensuring a robust domestic defense sector. This investment is vital for maintaining a credible defense posture in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape.

Urgent Need to Accelerate India's AMCA Development Amid Global

Advances  **SHARE**

13-Apr-25

India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), a 5.5-generation stealth fighter, faces increasing urgency for development due to the rapid advancement of sixth-generation fighter programs globally. Air Marshal S.B.P. Sinha (Retd.) emphasizes the AMCA's tailored capabilities for India's strategic requirements rather than competition with future aircraft like the US F-47 or China's J-36. While the Cabinet Committee on Security has approved prototype development, projections suggest the first flight won't occur until 2028-2029, risking overlap with global sixth-generation entries. Sinha stresses the necessity for speed and efficient execution to ensure the AMCA serves as a critical asset for India's defense needs over the next three decades.

GTRE Confirms Upgradable 110kN AMCA Engine for Future 6th Gen Fighters

 **SHARE**

13-Apr-25

India's Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) has confirmed the upgradability of its 110kN thrust engine for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), allowing for future enhancements to 125-145 kN thrust, essential for a potential sixth-generation fighter. This modular engine design supports advanced capabilities like supercruise and stealth, with initial prototypes of the AMCA utilizing the American F414 engine. The indigenous engine is expected to be ready by the early 2030s, assisting in the long-term replacement of the IAF's Su-30MKI fleet, projected to retire by 2045. GTRE's strategy underscores India's commitment to advancing its indigenous defense technology and air combat capabilities.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

India-Tanzania Launch Africa-India Maritime Engagement Exercise

 **SHARE**

13-Apr-25

The Indian Navy's inaugural Africa-India Key Maritime Engagement (AIKEYME) exercise commenced with a harbor phase in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, co-hosted by India and Tanzania, and attended by dignitaries such as Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Sanjay Seth and Tanzania's Minister of Defence Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax. This landmark exercise involves participation from multiple African nations, including Comoros, Djibouti, and South Africa, aiming to enhance maritime cooperation and security in the Indian Ocean Region, aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions). Notably, the Indian Navy's Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi is visiting Tanzania to oversee this multinational wargame, which focuses on joint strategies and interoperability among participating navies to tackle maritime threats such as piracy and trafficking. Furthermore, the exercise encompasses the deployment of the INS Sunayna as the Indian Ocean Ship (IOS) SAGAR, which brought together naval personnel from nine friendly foreign nations, indicating India's commitment to fostering international partnerships and ensuring secure shipping lanes. The initiative underscores India's strategic intent to strengthen its diplomatic ties with African nations while promoting collective regional security, thereby opening avenues for further collaboration in addressing common challenges in maritime security.

India's New Submarine Base to Counter China's Sea Power Expansion

 **SHARE**

13-Apr-25

India is set to launch a new advanced naval base near Rambilli in Andhra Pradesh, aimed at bolstering its naval capabilities and countering China's rising influence in the Indian Ocean. This facility will support India's nuclear submarine fleet, including the upcoming INS Aridhaman, enhancing operational secrecy and India's second-strike capability. The commissioning of this base aligns with heightened strategic competition between India and China in the Indo-Pacific region, reflecting India's commitment to securing its maritime interests and ensuring regional stability. This development underscores India's proactive approach in

fortifying its defense posture amidst escalating geopolitical tensions.

Pentagon Chief: Military Poised to Stop Iran's Nuclear Ambitions

🔗 SHARE

13-Apr-25

The U.S. Defense Secretary emphasized military readiness to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear capabilities, while expressing hope for a diplomatic solution. Indirect talks between U.S. and Iranian diplomats commenced in Oman, considered a positive step. Despite the diplomatic efforts, military action remains a viable option, as indicated by President Trump's statements on potential collaboration with Israel. Analysts warn that Iran may soon possess a deliverable nuclear weapon, which Tehran denies. This situation underscores the complexities of international security, highlighting the necessity for robust defense strategies and alliances, such as India's focus on strengthening its defensive posture amid regional and global security threats.

Trump hints at progress in Russia-Ukraine talks amid frustrations

🔗 SHARE

13-Apr-25

U.S. President Donald Trump indicated that peace talks regarding the Russia-Ukraine war might be progressing positively, emphasizing the need for decisive action. He expressed frustration over Russia's pace in negotiations and hinted at imposing sanctions on countries purchasing Russian oil if delays continue. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov acknowledged Trump's understanding of the conflict, particularly criticizing NATO's expansion as a root cause. The dialogue between U.S. and Russian officials, which appears stalled over ceasefire conditions, continues amidst mutual accusations of violating energy strikes agreements. This situation underscores the complexities of diplomatic efforts amid ongoing hostilities, with significant geopolitical implications for stability in the region.

Germany to Strengthen Foreign Policy Ties with India, Says Envoy

🔗 SHARE

13-Apr-25

Germany is set to significantly enhance its foreign policy focus on India, as highlighted by German Envoy Ackermann at the Carnegie Global Tech Summit in New Delhi. This includes a strategic document titled "Focus on India," which prioritizes defense, trade, and energy security, and marks a commitment to deepen security cooperation, notably through reciprocal logistical

support agreements. Merkel's successor, Merz, will continue fostering strong ties with India, while the EU-India Free Trade Agreement negotiations are expected to accelerate with aims for a substantial conclusion by 2025. This renewed commitment reflects a strategic shift in Germany's approach towards a robust partnership with India amid changing geopolitical dynamics.

Indian Supercars Reach Border, Surprise Chinese Forces

🔗 SHARE

13-Apr-25

A recent event saw a convoy of Indian supercars reaching the Indo-China border at Bum La in Arunachal Pradesh, surprising Chinese forces. This unusual sight is attributed to India's strategic infrastructure development along its borders, enhancing logistical capabilities for the armed forces while inadvertently creating a motorsports haven. The newly constructed expressways facilitate high-speed driving, drawing automotive enthusiasts and promoting regional tourism. This development not only showcases India's progress in connectivity but also symbolizes a bold assertion of freedom and adventure in frontier areas, contrasting with the typically austere military presence at the border.

Military Operations

IAF Concludes INIOCHOS-25 in Greece, Strengthening Global Ties

🔗 SHARE

13-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully concluded the multinational exercise INIOCHOS-25 in Greece, involving air forces from fifteen countries. The IAF showcased its capabilities with Su-30MKI fighter jets and IL-78 refuellers, enhancing operational excellence and multinational cooperation. This exercise not only refined tactics and interoperability but also highlighted India's commitment to global defense partnerships, particularly against the backdrop of regional influences from Pakistan and Turkey. INIOCHOS-25 bolstered India's strategic position as a formidable air power, offering insights into advanced tactics that will inform future modernization efforts, thus reaffirming India's role in international defense collaboration and joint operational capabilities.

Indian Army neutralizes Pakistani drone with DRDO's advanced system. SHARE

13-Apr-25

The Indian Army successfully downed a Pakistani surveillance drone along the LoC near Jammu using the DRDO-developed Integrated Drone Detection and Interdiction System (IDDIS). This advanced system employs a 2-kilowatt laser beam that precisely targets and disables drones by concentrating energy on critical components to induce rapid overheating and failure, effectively neutralizing threats from 800 to 1,000 meters away. Complementing the laser, IDDIS integrates robust electronic warfare measures including jamming and spoofing techniques that disrupt the drone's communications and GPS signals, while its sensor fusion—drawing on radar and EO/IR inputs—provides comprehensive target tracking to ensure swift engagement with minimal collateral damage. This multifaceted capability not only demonstrates India's innovative approach to countering aerial threats but also reinforces its strategic shift toward indigenous high-tech defence solutions. In parallel with the current system, DRDO is advancing a 30-kilowatt laser variant to neutralize larger threats such as fixed-wing aircraft and missiles, with plans already underway for an even more powerful 300-kilowatt system named "Surya" to further extend operational range. This successful interception underscores India's proactive integration of cutting-edge counter-drone technologies to secure its borders against evolving surveillance and smuggling operations.

India Marks 41st Siachen Day, Honoring Heroes of Operation Meghdoot SHARE

13-Apr-25

India commemorates the 41st Siachen Day on April 13, honoring the valorous soldiers of Operation Meghdoot, which in 1984 secured control over the Siachen Glacier, the world's highest battlefield. This operation was a decisive military response to thwart Pakistan's attempts to claim strategic heights, showcasing remarkable coordination between the Indian Army and Air Force. Despite enduring extreme conditions, Indian troops have vigilantly defended this critical area, which holds significant geopolitical importance, controlling routes from Gilgit Baltistan to Leh. The day serves as a tribute to the commitment and bravery of the Siachen Warriors who continue to safeguard the region against adversarial threats.

General Dwivedi Engages with BSF in Punjab, Strengthening Ties SHARE

13-Apr-25

Chief of Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi visited forward areas in Punjab to engage with senior officers of the Border Security Forces (BSF) and discuss national security challenges along the western borders. The interaction emphasized coordination between the Indian Army and BSF, reflecting a strong partnership in ensuring national safety. General Dwivedi assessed the operational readiness of the Vajra Corps and acknowledged the security environment during his visit, presenting mementos to foster camaraderie. This initiative showcases the commitment of both forces to adapt to evolving threats and enhance their collaborative efforts for India's defense.

DSC Trooper Dies from Injuries After UAV Crash in Jammu SHARE

13-Apr-25

A trooper of the Defence Security Corps (DSC) tragically succumbed to injuries sustained from a UAV crash at an airfield in Jammu. Naik Surrender, while on duty, suffered critical burn injuries when the UAV, returning from a surveillance mission, collided with a tower and exploded. The incident highlights the inherent risks associated with advanced military technology, even during routine operations. Investigations are ongoing to determine the circumstances surrounding the crash, emphasizing the need for stringent safety measures in UAV operations to prevent such tragic occurrences in the future. The loss of the soldier underscores the sacrifices made by personnel in service to the nation.

Ukrainian F-16 Downed, Pilot Killed; Russia Points to S-400 Role SHARE

13-Apr-25

On April 12, 2025, Ukraine lost a U.S.-made F-16 fighter jet, resulting in the death of Captain Pavlo Ivanov, likely due to Russian missile fire, potentially from an S-400 system. This incident underscores the challenges Ukraine faces in integrating advanced Western aircraft within a heavily contested airspace dominated by Russian defenses. Despite the F-16s being touted as game-changers, limited pilot training and the absence of modern upgrades leave them vulnerable. President Zelenskyy emphasized the need for military clarity while noting that Ukrainian air defenses were inactive in the area, reflecting ongoing debates about operational transparency and the effectiveness of Ukraine's aerial capabilities against sophisticated Russian systems.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

India Appoints Special Prosecutor as Tahawwur Rana is Extradited



13-Apr-25

The Central government has appointed Advocate Narender Mann as the Special Public Prosecutor for the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack case, a decision formalized by a gazette notification from the Ministry of Home Affairs. This appointment coincides with the extradition of Tahawwur Hussain Rana, a key figure involved in the attacks, who is expected to be held in a high-security ward in Tihar jail after arriving in Delhi from the US. Investigators from the National Investigation Agency (NIA) are interrogating Rana to extract information about other conspirators, including a mysterious figure from Dubai and potential connections to the notorious Dawood Ibrahim and his network. Rana has reportedly confirmed his presence in Mumbai prior to the attack and provided insights into logistics concerning the operation masterminded by David Coleman Headley. The NIA aims to confront Rana with his local associates in Mumbai to piece together the planning of the attacks, which were meticulously organized over three years and involved significant reconnaissance efforts using satellite geotagging. The investigation sheds light not only on Rana's role but also on the larger network involved in the conspiracy, potentially involving other key figures like Zakiur Rehman Lakhvi and Sajid Majeed Mir. The rigorous steps taken by the Indian authorities, including enhanced security measures around the NIA and careful scrutiny of evidence, demonstrate a robust commitment to ensuring justice and accountability for the victims of this heinous attack. This case is a critical juncture in India's ongoing fight against terrorism, emphasizing the need for continued vigilance and cooperation among global security agencies to counter such threats effectively.

Naxalite IED Blast Kills Jharkhand Constable, Injures CRPF Jawan



13-Apr-25

A Jharkhand Jaguar constable was killed and a CRPF jawan critically injured in an IED blast attributed to Naxalite insurgents in West Singhbhum district, Jharkhand. The incident occurred during an anti-Maoist operation, with security forces actively engaging the militants, who utilized the dense forest for cover. Although the injured jawans were airlifted to Ranchi for treatment, one succumbed to his injuries. This tragedy

underscores the ongoing challenges faced by Indian security forces in combatting Maoist insurgency, highlighting the need for enhanced intelligence and operational strategies to mitigate such ambushes and protect personnel engaged in these critical operations.

32 Killed in Russian Missile Strike on Civilians in Sumy



13-Apr-25

A recent Russian ballistic missile strike on the Ukrainian city of Sumy killed 32 people and injured over 80, prompting President Zelenskyy to condemn the attack as terrorism and call for international action against Russia. The strike, described as a deliberate targeting of civilians during a religious day, utilized cluster munitions, intensifying accusations of war crimes against Moscow. This development comes amidst ongoing tensions, with both Ukraine and Russia accusing each other of breaching a temporary ceasefire regarding energy infrastructure attacks. The incident underscores the urgent need for a unified global response to Russian aggression to restore peace in the region.

Jaishankar Praises US-India Cooperation in Extraditing Terrorist Rana



13-Apr-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar lauded the extradition of terrorist Tahawwur Rana from the U.S. to India as a significant step in combating terrorism and enhancing bilateral relations, particularly in counter-terrorism efforts. Following his arrival in New Delhi, Rana was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and placed in 18-day custody for interrogation. Jaishankar expressed gratitude to U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio for facilitating this process, underscoring the shared commitment of both nations to justice for the victims of the 2008 Mumbai attacks, which claimed 166 lives, including six Americans. This extradition underscores the strengthened India-U.S. cooperation in tackling global terrorism.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

IAF C-130J Faces GPS Spoofing During Myanmar Relief Mission



13-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force's (IAF) C-130J aircraft faced GPS spoofing attacks while delivering humanitarian aid to Myanmar following a devastating earthquake. This

cyberattack misled navigation systems, prompting pilots to switch to internal navigation systems for safety. Despite these challenges, India successfully launched Operation Brahma, transporting six aircraft loaded with essential relief materials, including field hospitals and rescue teams, to the affected region. The majority of these aircraft reported similar GPS interference, raising security concerns regarding possible adversarial actions in the area. Such spoofing incidents often occur in conflict zones, and while the IAF has not publicly commented on further investigations, the ability to adapt and respond swiftly underlines India's commitment to humanitarian assistance despite emerging threats.

Miscellaneous

Russia Celebrates 80 Years of Victory with Events in India SHARE

13-Apr-25

Russia is organizing events in various Indian cities, including Delhi, to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Great Victory over Nazi Germany on May 9. The Russian ambassador, Denis Alipov, has extended an invitation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other Indian officials to attend the grand celebrations in Moscow, acknowledging the significant contributions of Indian soldiers during World War II. This occasion serves not only to honor the sacrifices made but also to strengthen Indo-Russian ties in the context of shared historical narratives. Such events highlight the importance of collaboration and mutual respect between India and Russia in contemporary geopolitics.

Holtec CEO calls for nuclear energy revival in India, citing US ties SHARE

13-Apr-25

Holtec CEO Dr. Kris Singh emphasizes the need for a nuclear energy renaissance in India, highlighting the shared strategic interests with the US in clean energy development. The US has authorized Holtec to deploy its small modular reactor, SMR-300, in collaboration with Indian firms, marking a significant step towards enhancing India's nuclear infrastructure. Singh envisions hundreds of these reactors across India by 2047, which would substantially boost the country's nuclear output and economic standing. He advocates for legislative changes to facilitate private sector involvement in nuclear projects, asserting that India's current self-assuredness and technological prowess position it as a major player in global nuclear energy.

India-Australia Trade Rockets 66% in Five Years, Boosted by ECTA SHARE

13-Apr-25

India's exports to Australia have surged by 66% over the past five years, largely due to the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) that has bolstered key sectors like automobiles and textiles. This growth highlights Australia's alignment with India's developmental goals, particularly in manufacturing and energy transitions. The evolving Quad partnership among India, Australia, Japan, and the U.S. is also crucial for regional cooperation against global challenges. Experts suggest that while the U.S. remains

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Indian Army Hosts Rally in Agartala for Ex-Servicemen and Families SHARE

13-Apr-25

The Indian Army organized an Ex-Servicemen rally at Agartala Military Station, aimed at reconnecting with veterans and Veer Naris in Tripura. Approximately 1,150 participants attended, receiving updates on post-retirement benefits and assistance with grievances, facilitated by various agencies including the Principal Controller of Defence Accounts. A dedicated SPARSH CELL addressed veterans' queries regarding the pension system. The event showcased the Army's commitment to supporting its veterans and reinforcing the spirit of camaraderie and solidarity that defines the Indian Armed Forces. This initiative underscores the importance of recognizing and addressing the needs of those who served the nation.

CISF Honors 127 Brave Personnel for Their Ultimate Sacrifice SHARE

13-Apr-25

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) recently honored 127 personnel who made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation during a tribute event in New Delhi, led by Director General Rajwinder Singh Bhatti. The ceremony highlighted the courage and dedication of CISF members, emphasizing their crucial role in protecting critical infrastructure across India, including airports, power plants, and government buildings. Families of the fallen heroes received heartfelt recognition, with tributes at the National Police Memorial and a special film showcasing the CISF's valor. Such events reinforce the force's unwavering commitment to national security and the sacrifices made by its personnel.

a dominant power, India's pragmatic approach to its relationships, particularly with the U.S., is essential for enhancing its global standing and achieving mutual benefits.

ISRO's Mangalyaan-2: India's Historic Mars Landing Mission Ahead SHARE

13-Apr-25

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is set to launch Mangalyaan-2, its second Mars mission, aiming for a direct landing on the Martian surface, which would mark India's first attempt to touch down on another planet. Scheduled for no earlier than 2026, the mission will utilize advanced technologies such as aerobraking, supersonic parachutes, and a powered descent system for a safe landing. Featuring a rover for geological studies and a helicopter for aerial exploration, Mangalyaan-2 will deepen our understanding of Mars and signify India's growing capabilities in space exploration, positioning it alongside the US and China in planetary science.

22 Maoists Surrender in Telangana, Highlighting Security Progress SHARE

13-Apr-25

In a significant development for internal security, 22 Maoists surrendered to the police in Telangana's Mulugu district, following a trend of recent surrenders that has seen nearly 250 extremists give up this year. The surrendered individuals, including four Area Committee Members, were offered rehabilitation packages ranging from Rs 25,000 to Rs 4 lakh, highlighting the state's commitment to reintegrating former militants into society. Police officials emphasized the diminishing relevance of left-wing extremism and the importance of a safe environment for local tribes, urging remaining Maoists to abandon their counterproductive paths. This surrender reflects effective law enforcement strategies and evolving community engagement in combating Maoist influence in the region.

EU Space Envoy Seeks Closer Ties with India for Enhanced Cooperation SHARE

13-Apr-25

The EU's Special Envoy for Space, Marjolijn Van Deelen, has expressed a strong interest in enhancing

cooperation with India in the space sector, highlighting both nations as top-tier space-faring countries. She emphasized the importance of a common understanding of threats in space and the need for collaboration in multilateral discussions to establish a secure framework for space governance. India and the EU share objectives in maintaining space as a safe global commons, with ongoing interactions between Indian space companies and the EU's Space Surveillance and Tracking program. This partnership has the potential to strengthen both nations' positions in international space security discussions.

BSF Reunites Missing Andhra Man with Family Near Jammu Border SHARE

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The Border Security Force (BSF) successfully reunited a 50-year-old man, Venkata Rao from Andhra Pradesh, with his family after he was found wandering near the International Border in Jammu. Missing for three months, Rao was identified during a routine check in the Akhnoor sector, where he could not provide complete details. The BSF demonstrated its commitment not only to border security but also to social responsibility by tracing his family and ensuring his safe return, which brought immense relief and joy to them. This incident highlights the dual role of the BSF in maintaining security while also caring for human welfare.

Indian Army Chooses Gurkha for Off-Road Superiority Over Thar and Jimny SHARE

13-Apr-25

The Indian Army's recent order of 2,978 Force Gurkha vehicles emphasizes its preference for rugged, reliable off-road capability over competitors like the Mahindra Thar and Maruti Suzuki Jimny. The Gurkha's historical association with the Army, superior low-end torque for high-altitude operations, robust design, and fully indigenous production align with India's defense strategy and "Make in India" initiative. While the Thar and Jimny offer appealing features, their reliance on imported components and limitations in payload and maintenance make them less suitable for military use. Ultimately, the Gurkha's blend of practicality and simplicity makes it the ideal choice for the Army's diverse operational needs.

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