



# Defence Professionals News & Analysis

January 13, 2025 | Day 013

## Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
APOLLO	121.18	119.35	+1.53%
HIGHENE	601.8	595.6	+1.04%

## Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
MAZDOCK	2028.3	2223.15	-8.76%
ZENTEC	2266.75	2458.45	-7.8%
HBLPOWER	527.85	568.9	-7.22%
BDL	1116.35	1200.45	-7.01%
GRSE	1371.4	1472.1	-6.84%

## Defense Business and Industry

### Tejas MkII Boosts Combat Power with Advanced Information Fusion



13-Jan-25

The Tejas MkII, India's advanced Light Combat Aircraft, is enhancing combat capabilities through innovative information fusion technologies. It will integrate a range of sensors, including an upgraded AESA radar,IRST, and advanced warning systems, to provide comprehensive situational awareness and improve operational effectiveness. The aircraft's information fusion algorithms will unify data from various sources, allowing for rapid decision-making and reduced cognitive load on pilots. This positions the Tejas MkII as a formidable asset in aerial combat, ensuring that India remains at the forefront of modern military aviation and enhances its strategic defense posture.

### Solar Industries Launches Advanced UAV and Munitions Facility in Nagpur



13-Jan-25

Solar Industries has inaugurated a state-of-the-art facility in Nagpur for manufacturing UAVs, loitering munitions, and counter-drone systems, marking a significant step towards indigenous defense capabilities. The facility aims to produce up to 1,000 loiter munitions annually, with the first indigenous model, Nagastra-1, already inducted into the Indian Army. This advancement in drone technology, including its reusable "kamikaze" capabilities, positions India to enhance its military effectiveness, especially in light of increasing drone-related threats. With an investment of INR 10,000 crore planned over the next decade, this

initiative supports India's self-reliance in defense and strengthens its operational capabilities in modern warfare scenarios.

### Nag Mk 2: Successful Trials Boost India's Anti-Tank Capabilities



13-Jan-25

The successful field evaluation trials of the indigenously-developed Nag Mk 2, a third-generation Anti-Tank Fire-and-Forget Guided Missile, were conducted at Pokhran Field Range, demonstrating precise target destruction across its operational range. The trials included the Nag Missile Carrier version-2, confirming the entire weapon system's readiness for induction into the Indian Army. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh and DRDO Chairman Dr. Samir V Kamat praised the collaborative efforts of the Indian Army, DRDO, and the defense industry in achieving this milestone. This development enhances India's self-reliance in defense capabilities, reinforcing strategic deterrence against regional threats.

### Italian Ambassador: Italy poised to be India's defense partner



13-Jan-25

Italian Ambassador to India, Antonio Bartoli, highlighted the potential for Italian defense firms to partner with India, focusing on sectors like aircraft, shipbuilding, and electronics. He emphasized the importance of defense collaboration in light of geopolitical instability, advocating for a strategic roadmap to strengthen industrial ties. The Italy-India partnership is positioned within the Indo-Mediterranean region, crucial for global trade and investment, with both nations aiming to enhance connectivity and cooperation on shared challenges. This collaboration reflects a deepening relationship, as evidenced by frequent meetings

between the leaders of both countries, paving the way for significant advancements in defense and trade.

## China Unveils New Warship to Boost Drone Warfare Capabilities



13-Jan-25

China has launched its Type 076 amphibious assault ship, which is designed to function as a drone carrier, thereby enhancing its uncrewed combat capabilities. The PLA Navy emphasizes the growing role of drones in modern warfare, integrating unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) across various vessels, including its aircraft carriers. This development highlights China's ambition to modernize its naval forces and adapt to evolving military strategies. For India, this underscores the importance of advancing its own naval capabilities and focusing on drone warfare technology to maintain strategic parity in the region, especially amid China's escalating military advancements.

## Sweden to test advanced drone swarms amid NATO integration



13-Jan-25

Sweden, recently joining NATO, plans to test innovative drone swarm technology developed by Saab during the Arctic Strike exercise. Defence Minister Pal Jonson emphasized the need for rapid enhancement of defense capabilities in response to geopolitical tensions, particularly stemming from Russia's actions in Ukraine. The autonomous drone swarms are designed for diverse tasks including reconnaissance and identification, showcasing Sweden's commitment to modernizing its military. As Sweden aims to increase its defense spending to 2.6% of GDP by 2028, this move reflects a broader trend among NATO countries to bolster their defense strategies amid evolving security challenges.

## Eighth TEJAS Trainer Achieves First Flight, Boosting IAF Readiness



13-Jan-25

The eighth TEJAS Trainer aircraft, developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), successfully completed its maiden flight, marking a significant advancement in India's indigenous defense capabilities. Despite facing engine delivery delays from General Electric, the successful flight of the LT5208 supports the Indian Air Force's (IAF) operational readiness by enhancing pilot training for advanced combat systems. The TEJAS MK-1A variant, critical for future IAF fleet composition, is expected to enter operational deployment despite ongoing supply chain challenges.

This milestone underscores HAL's commitment to advancing the TEJAS program, illustrating India's determination to bolster its defense aviation landscape, ensuring a smooth transition to modern aircraft models.

## India Set to Finalize ₹1.5 Lakh Crore Defense Deals by March 31



13-Jan-25

India is poised to finalize defense deals worth 1.5 lakh crore before March 31, including the acquisition of 26 Rafale-Marine fighter jets, three additional Scorpene submarines, and 156 Prachand combat helicopters, enhancing naval and aerial capabilities. Additionally, 307 Advanced Towed Artillery Gun Systems are set to modernize artillery capabilities, with a focus on self-reliance in defense manufacturing. The Indian government's commitment to revising procurement processes highlights its strategic intent to bolster military readiness amidst regional security challenges, particularly concerning China's growing influence. These acquisitions reflect a significant investment in India's defense infrastructure, promoting domestic manufacturing and operational effectiveness.

## Sunita Tools Lands Major Defense Deal for 155-mm Shell Casings



13-Jan-25

Sunita Tools, an Indian precision engineering firm, has secured a substantial contract to supply 100,000 155-mm artillery shell casings, marking its entry into the defense sector. The company has received governmental approval to initiate prototype production, with expectations to complete the order within a year. The deal, valued between \$23 million and \$35 million, underscores the rising global demand for military supplies amidst ongoing conflicts, as noted by Chairman Sanjay Pandey. This contract not only enhances Sunita Tools' revenue potential but also reflects India's growing role in the international defense market, driven by geopolitical dynamics and military preparedness.

## HAL to Present Modified Kiran Mk2 as Optionally-Manned Combat Aircraft at Aero India 2025



13-Jan-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) will unveil a modified Kiran Mk2 as an Optionally-Manned Combat Aircraft (OMCA) at Aero India 2025, enhancing India's military capabilities through its Combat Air Teaming System (CATS). This innovative platform will operate in

both autonomous and ground-controlled modes, primarily serving as a decoy to lure enemy defenses, while also capable of secondary missions like airstrikes. The transformation of the Kiran Mk2 trainer into an OMCA not only demonstrates HAL's commitment to defense innovation but also exemplifies efficient resource utilization, potentially reinforcing India's position in the global defense market and fostering opportunities for international collaboration.

## India's Akash-1S Air Defence System Set for 2025 Export Boost SHARE

13-Jan-25

India's Akash-1S Air Defence System is set for a second export deal in 2025 following its successful first deal with Armenia, highlighting the growing global interest in Indian defense technology. Developed by DRDO, the advanced Akash-1S features enhanced target acquisition capabilities, making it effective in challenging environments. The initial deal valued at Rs 6,000 crore reflects international confidence in India's indigenous solutions, with indigenization over 96%. The ongoing negotiations with another undisclosed country indicate a strengthening reputation of Indian defense capabilities, positioning India as a competitive player in the global defense market and reducing reliance on Western and Russian technologies.

## IAF Pursues Kamikaze Drones to Tackle Swarm Threats SHARE

13-Jan-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is responding to the increasing threat of hostile swarm drones by initiating the acquisition of a specialized Kamikaze drone system, seeking 20 units to defend critical installations from enemy UAVs. This system, designed for one-way missions to counter coordinated drone attacks, reflects the IAF's recognition of swarm technology as a significant challenge in future warfare. The Request for Information (RFI) released by the IAF emphasizes the need for advanced solutions to address the complexities of swarm tactics, highlighting the strategic importance of enhancing India's aerial defense capabilities in an evolving battlefield landscape.

## Geopolitics and Security Alliances

### Zelenskyy Offers North Korean Soldiers for Ukrainian Prisoners SHARE

13-Jan-25

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy announced that Ukraine is prepared to exchange captured North Korean soldiers for its own prisoners held by Russia, following the capture of two North Koreans during ongoing conflict in the Kursk region. Reports indicate that around 300 North Korean troops have died and 2,700 have been wounded since their deployment to support Russian forces, with their high casualty rate attributed to their lack of modern warfare training and ineffective command structure. Notably, North Korean soldiers have reportedly been instructed to commit suicide rather than face capture, raising concerns about their treatment and operational failures. This situation poses not only a humanitarian issue but also highlights the growing military collaboration between Russia and North Korea, potentially enhancing North Korea's military capabilities, which may have significant implications for regional security, particularly for South Korea.

### Bangladesh Foreign Secretary voices concerns over border tensions with India SHARE

13-Jan-25

Bangladesh's Foreign Secretary Md. Jashim Uddin expressed concern over border tensions during a meeting with Indian High Commissioner Pranay Verma, particularly regarding recent activities by India's Border Security Force (BSF). Uddin criticized unauthorized barbed wire fencing and ongoing border killings, urging India to adhere to existing bilateral agreements for peaceful resolution. Verma emphasized India's commitment to a crime-free border and cooperation between BSF and Bangladesh's Border Guard. The situation highlights the need for constructive dialogue to address border security issues while maintaining strong bilateral relations, as India has completed significant fencing efforts along the border, leaving some areas unfenced, reflecting the complexities in bilateral negotiations.

## Army Chief: Stable Situation at LAC, Focus on Readiness and Infrastructure SHARE

13-Jan-25

In a recent press conference, Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi addressed the sensitive yet stable situation along the India-China Line of Actual Control (LAC), emphasizing that there are no buffer zones despite ongoing disengagement efforts. He highlighted the importance of enhancing border infrastructure and operational readiness while allowing Corps Commanders to resolve minor issues autonomously. General Dwivedi noted that infiltration attempts from Pakistan into Jammu and Kashmir persist, attributing 80% of remaining terrorists in the region to Pakistan's support of cross-border terrorism. He expressed the Army's proactive measures to stabilize unrest in Manipur and reiterated his vision for a self-reliant, future-ready Indian Army that contributes to national security and nation-building efforts. Overall, these statements underline India's commitment to maintaining a robust defense posture and resolving border tensions through dialogue and infrastructure development.

## Taiwan's spy agency reveals China's ties with gangs for intel. SHARE

13-Jan-25

Taiwan's intelligence bureau reports that China's main spy agency is increasingly collaborating with criminal gangs and shell companies to gather intelligence on Taiwan's defenses, resulting in a rise in espionage arrests, particularly among military personnel. In 2022, 64 alleged spies were prosecuted, a significant increase from previous years. Chinese tactics include leveraging Taiwan's underworld for funding and employing traditional espionage methods, such as seduction. Despite China's efforts, Taiwan's pro-independence Democratic Progressive Party maintains strong support, with the majority of Taiwanese favoring their de facto independence, backed by the United States. This situation underscores the ongoing geopolitical tension in the Taiwan Strait.

## Biden and Netanyahu Discuss Urgent Gaza Ceasefire and Hostages SHARE

13-Jan-25

Joe Biden and Benjamin Netanyahu are engaged in discussions about a potential ceasefire and hostage deal concerning the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict. Biden emphasized the urgency for an immediate ceasefire to facilitate humanitarian assistance and the safe return of hostages, despite internal pressures on

Netanyahu from far-right ministers advocating for continued military action. The talks are set against a backdrop of shifting regional dynamics, including reduced Iranian influence and recent ceasefires in Lebanon and Syria. The outcome of these negotiations is critical, as they could significantly influence regional stability and the humanitarian situation in Gaza.

## China's Combat Drill Near India Highlights Ongoing Tensions SHARE

13-Jan-25

China conducted a high-altitude combat drill near the India-China border shortly before Indian Army Day, signaling ongoing military tensions despite a recent disengagement agreement. The exercise demonstrated China's commitment to modernizing its military capabilities, including advanced technologies like drones and exoskeletons. In response, India has enhanced its military preparedness through winter warfare exercises and upgraded surveillance and infrastructure along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). This situation underscores the need for India to remain vigilant and continue its modernization efforts while navigating complex diplomatic relations with China to ensure lasting stability in the region.

## Military Operations

### PM Modi to Commission 3 Advanced Naval Combatants in Mumbai SHARE

13-Jan-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate three advanced naval combatants—INS Surat, INS Nilgiri, and INS Vaghsheer—at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai, marking a significant advancement in India's defense manufacturing and maritime capabilities. INS Surat, a state-of-the-art Guided Missile Destroyer, features 75% indigenous content, while INS Nilgiri is a next-generation stealth frigate designed for enhanced survivability. INS Vaghsheer showcases India's growing expertise in submarine construction, built in collaboration with France's Naval Group. This commissioning underscores India's commitment to bolstering its naval strength and self-reliance in defense, positioning the country as a formidable player in global maritime security.



## French Carrier Group and Indian Navy Strengthen Ties in Joint Exercises



13-Jan-25

The French carrier strike group (CSG), centered around the aircraft carrier FNS Charles de Gaulle, recently conducted joint air-sea exercises with the Indian Navy as part of Mission Clemenceau 25 in the Indian Ocean. The exercises included tactical manoeuvres between the CSG destroyer and Indian frigate INS Mormugao, as well as joint anti-aircraft drills involving Indian Sukhoi and Jaguar jets with French Rafale Marines. These activities highlight the strong interoperability and strategic partnership between France and India, exemplified by the upcoming 42nd edition of the bilateral naval exercise VARUNA. Such collaborations not only enhance defense capabilities but also strengthen geopolitical ties in the region.

## Army Commander: Land Control is Key to Victory in Warfare



13-Jan-25

Army Commander Lt Gen M K Katiyar emphasized that victory or defeat in warfare fundamentally hinges on land control, a lesson underscored by the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. He highlighted the urgency of strengthening India's preparedness along its northern and western borders, particularly given the current global climate where disputes often escalate into armed conflict. Katiyar stressed the importance of rigorous training, advanced weaponry, and technological enhancements to ensure the army is fully equipped for potential challenges. This perspective reinforces India's commitment to maintaining vigilance and readiness, given the complexities of regional security dynamics.

## Ongoing Gunfight in Bijapur: Security Forces Clash with Naxalites



13-Jan-25

An ongoing exchange of fire between security forces and Naxalites has been reported in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, following a recent IED blast that injured a CRPF jawan. The police are conducting search operations after recovering the bodies of three Naxals and several weapons in a previous encounter. The security forces, including the District Reserve Guard and Special Task Force, are increasing their presence and implementing demining exercises to mitigate future incidents, especially after a devastating IED blast killed eight jawans and a civilian driver. This highlights the persistent threat posed by Naxal insurgency and

underscores the commitment of Indian forces to restore security in affected regions.

## India Announces Upcoming Missile Test with NOTAM for January 2025



13-Jan-25

India has issued a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) for a missile test scheduled between January 30 and January 31, 2025, covering a 365-kilometer airspace zone, although the missile type remains undisclosed. This NOTAM underscores the event's significance within India's strategic defense enhancements, as the nation continues to develop a range of missile systems to bolster its military capabilities. The restriction of such a large airspace indicates the potential testing of a medium to long-range missile, highlighting the importance of maintaining operational secrecy in defense matters. This initiative reflects India's commitment to advancing its defense readiness in a complex geopolitical landscape.

## HAL Halts Dhruv Helicopter Operations After Porbandar Crash



13-Jan-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has suspended operations of the Dhruv Advanced Light Helicopters following a tragic crash in Porbandar that claimed three lives. This precautionary measure aims to ensure safety while an expert team investigates the cause, focusing on potential mechanical failures or design flaws. The Dhruv, vital for Indian defense forces, has faced scrutiny due to its accident history. HAL's commitment to a thorough investigation reflects its dedication to airworthiness and safety, crucial for national security operations. The outcome will influence future design practices and operational protocols, demonstrating a proactive approach to maintaining the integrity of indigenous military assets.

## Terrorism and Counterterrorism

### Baramulla Police Nab Three Terrorists Linked to Grenade Attack



13-Jan-25

Baramulla Police successfully arrested three terrorists involved in a grenade attack on the 163 Territorial Army security force camp in Hamray Pattan on January 7. Although the attack caused significant damage, there were no casualties or injuries reported. The arrested individuals were found in possession of a hand

grenade, an AK series rifle, a pistol, and a substantial amount of ammunition. One of the terrorists was a mastermind evading arrest for two years in a narco-terror case, while another was a surrendered terrorist's son. This operation highlights the police's commitment to maintaining peace and security in the region, showcasing effective counter-terrorism efforts.

## Army Chief: Pakistan Fuels Terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir



13-Jan-25

Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi labeled Pakistan as the "epicentre" of terrorism, asserting that violence in Jammu and Kashmir is orchestrated from there. He noted that while the 2021 ceasefire with Pakistan is holding, infiltration attempts continue, with 60% of eliminated terrorists being of Pakistani origin. Despite recent attacks, the situation is deemed "firmly under control," aided by the induction of 15,000 additional troops in 2024, which has reduced violence levels. The successful conduct of significant pilgrimages and elections indicates a shift from "terrorism to tourism," reflecting a positive transformation in Jammu and Kashmir.

## Three Maoists Neutralized in Chhattisgarh Security Operation



13-Jan-25

Three Maoists were killed in a recent encounter with security forces in Chhattisgarh, contributing to the ongoing anti-insurgency efforts in the region. The operation, part of a larger campaign against Maoist activities, has seen a total of 12 Maoists neutralized this year, with 219 killed in encounters last year alone. The recovered firearms and explosives underscore the threats faced by security forces. This incident highlights India's commitment to maintaining stability and security in areas affected by Maoist insurgency, reflecting effective strategies employed by the armed forces in combating such challenges. The situation remains critical, but the recent successes indicate a strengthened resolve against this long-standing threat.

## Nine Naxalites with Rs 43 lakh bounty surrender in Chhattisgarh.



13-Jan-25

Nine Naxalites, with a combined bounty of Rs 43 lakh, surrendered in Sukma, Chhattisgarh, citing disillusionment with Maoist ideology and internal conflicts. Notably, the group included high-profile leaders responsible for past attacks on security forces. Their surrender reflects the effectiveness of the

Chhattisgarh government's Niyad Nellanar initiative aimed at promoting development in remote areas, which has garnered local support against extremist ideologies. The police and CRPF's increased presence in the region has pressured Maoist cadres, leading to a notable trend, as evidenced by 792 surrenders last year in Bastar, indicating a potential turning point in the fight against Naxalism in the region.

## Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

### WEF Report: Rising Cyber Complexity Fuels Inequity Between Nations



13-Jan-25

The World Economic Forum's report highlights the growing complexity in the cyber landscape, which exacerbates cyber inequity between developed and emerging economies, affecting organizations of varying sizes. Key concerns include supply chain vulnerabilities and the increasing threat of cyber espionage, with 66% of organizations anticipating a significant impact from AI on cybersecurity by 2025, though only 37% have measures to secure AI tools before use. The report emphasizes the need for collaboration between public and private sectors to enhance cyber resilience amid technological advancements and geopolitical uncertainties, underlining the critical nature of addressing these challenges for ensuring equitable digital progress.

### Governor Urges Universities to Launch Short Cybersecurity Courses



13-Jan-25

Maharashtra Governor CP Radhakrishnan emphasized the need for universities in the state to develop short-term cybersecurity courses to produce a new generation of cyber warriors. During the 'Cyber Education for Cyber Security Awards,' he highlighted the growing global concerns over cybersecurity, particularly as digital technology becomes ubiquitous in India. He advocated for a comprehensive approach to combat cybercrime, which includes enhancing policy frameworks, investing in cybersecurity, and raising awareness among youth and seniors about safe online practices. Radhakrishnan also underscored the importance of training police in cyber capabilities, reflecting a strategic initiative to bolster India's defenses against increasingly sophisticated cyber threats.

## Mil Personnel & Veterans

### Defence Minister and CDS to Mark Veterans' Day in Jammu on Jan 14



13-Jan-25

Defence Minister and CDS Anil Chauhan will attend the Armed Forces Veterans' Day event in Jammu on January 14, held at the Tanda Artillery Brigade. The event will include the hoisting of a 108-foot national flag, the inauguration of a heritage museum in Akhnoor, and cultural performances showcasing the region's heritage. Notably, mobility equipment such as motorized wheelchairs and e-scooters will be distributed to veterans, underscoring the army's commitment to supporting war widows and veterans. This initiative highlights the Indian armed forces' dedication to honoring their sacrifices and enhancing their quality of life, reflecting a strong ethos of care and respect for those who served the nation.

### Bengaluru Army Day Mela Engages Civilians with Military Experiences



13-Jan-25

The Indian Army celebrated its 77th Army Day with a 'Know Your Army Mela' in Bengaluru, attracting thousands of civilians, including students and NCC cadets. Attendees engaged with various military displays, including weaponry and tanks, while also experiencing activities like horse riding and motorbike demonstrations. Key figures such as Major General V.T. Mathew emphasized the importance of connecting civilians with the Armed Forces, fostering motivation to pursue military careers. The event not only highlighted the army's accessibility but also inspired participants, including youths and women, to consider serving in the defense forces, showcasing the army's commitment to engaging with the community and promoting a sense of duty.

### CRPF Launches Online Adoption Platform for Retired K9 Heroes



13-Jan-25

The CRPF has launched an innovative online platform for the public to adopt retired K9s, marking a significant step in animal welfare within India's security forces. This initiative allows retired dogs, who have served in high-stakes operations against Naxalites and terrorists, to find loving homes while ensuring their well-being

through strict adoption guidelines. Adopters undergo a thorough vetting process, and the CRPF will maintain oversight to prevent misuse of these trained canines. This initiative reflects the CRPF's commitment to the welfare of its animals, highlighting the bond between soldiers and their canine counterparts and promoting responsible pet ownership.

### CDS General Anil Chauhan Inspires Cadets at NCC Republic Day Camp 2025



13-Jan-25

Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan visited the National Cadets Corps (NCC) Republic Day Camp 2025, emphasizing the pivotal role of youth in India's future, as they constitute 27% of the population. He praised the cadets for their contributions to social initiatives and highlighted the significance of January, hosting Army Day and Republic Day. During the event, he reviewed the Guard of Honour, inspected social awareness exhibits, and enjoyed a cultural program. By fostering excellence and optimism among the cadets, the CDS reinforced the vision of a proactive and engaged youth, essential for India's growth and development in defense and beyond.

## Miscellaneous

### Army Chief Gen Dwivedi Calls for Reconciliation in Manipur



13-Jan-25

Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi emphasized the need for reconciliation in violence-affected Manipur, asserting that coordinated efforts from security forces and government initiatives have helped control the situation. He highlighted ongoing "cyclic" violence between the Meitei and Kuki communities since May 2023 and acknowledged potential external influences on the conflict. Gen Dwivedi also addressed enhanced surveillance along the India-Myanmar border to mitigate spillover effects from Myanmar's instability. He assured that the Indian Army maintains a harmonious dialogue with Myanmar's military, focusing on intelligence sharing to handle the regional complexities effectively.

### Siachen soldiers gain high-speed internet access for better connectivity.



13-Jan-25

Soldiers stationed at the Siachen glacier, the world's highest battlefield, have gained access to high-speed internet services thanks to a collaboration between

Reliance Jio and the Indian Army. This milestone, achieved ahead of Army Day on January 15, marks Jio as the first telecom operator to deliver 4G and 5G connectivity in this challenging environment, leveraging indigenous technology and logistical support from the Army. The successful deployment of this network at altitudes of 16,000 feet, where temperatures can drop to -50 degrees Celsius, enhances the operational capabilities and morale of Indian troops, showcasing India's commitment to improving the welfare of its armed forces even in the most extreme conditions.

## India and Nepal Discuss Trade, Commit to Wheat Supply and Infrastructure Development



13-Jan-25

India recently held an Inter-Governmental Committee meeting with Nepal, focusing on enhancing bilateral trade and economic cooperation. Key discussions included plans for infrastructure development like the electrification of the Raxaul-Birgunj rail line and the construction of Integrated Check Posts to improve cross-border connectivity. India also agreed to expand its Plant Quarantine Order to include additional agricultural products, addressing Nepal's requests. This meeting reflects India's commitment to strengthening economic ties with Nepal and ensuring a steady supply of essential commodities, which is vital for regional stability and prosperity. Such initiatives not only foster good neighborly relations but also enhance India's influence in the Himalayan region.

## Baloch Activist: Enforced Disappearances Lead to Deadly Cycle



13-Jan-25

In a recent interview, Baloch activist Mahrang Baloch highlighted the alarming trend of enforced disappearances in Balochistan, where over 500 individuals have reportedly vanished since February 2023, often linked to state counterinsurgency efforts. Those released from such disappearances frequently face fatal repercussions, illustrating a brutal cycle of violence aimed at silencing dissent. Human rights organizations criticize the Pakistani government's lack of accountability and ineffective investigative mechanisms in addressing these cases. Activists are increasingly raising awareness and seeking justice, emphasizing the urgent need for global attention on this ongoing human rights crisis in the region, which poses significant challenges to stability and peace.

## Jaishankar's 2025 Spain Visit to Boost Defense Cooperation



13-Jan-25

Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will visit Spain on January 13-14, 2025, to enhance bilateral cooperation in various sectors, particularly defense. This visit follows the inauguration of a significant C-295 aircraft assembly plant by Tata Advanced Systems Ltd and Airbus Spain in Vadodara, marking India's first private military aircraft assembly line. The meeting aims to build on the momentum from Spanish President Pedro Sanchez's visit to India in 2024, and will also include discussions on international relations at the Annual Conference of Spanish Ambassadors. This visit underscores India's commitment to strengthening defense ties and economic partnerships with Spain, contributing to regional stability and security collaboration.

## IT Minister Unveils India's First Indigenous 64-bit SoC and Development Boards



13-Jan-25

The IT Minister recently launched the THEJAS64, India's first fully indigenous 64-bit VEGA-based System on Chip (SoC) designed for secure embedded applications, enhancing the country's semiconductor capabilities. Two development boards, ARIES ECO and ARIES NOVA, were introduced to promote hands-on learning in embedded systems, with ARIES ECO specifically aimed at students for practical experimentation. Emphasizing the importance of technological advancement for India's development, the minister highlighted C-DAC's role in equipping around 240 institutions with semiconductor design tools and fostering innovation through competitions and certification courses, ultimately supporting a self-reliant semiconductor ecosystem in India.

## Curfew Imposed in Kangpokpi Amid Naga-Kuki-Zo Tensions



13-Jan-25

Curfew has been imposed in Kangpokpi district, Manipur, due to escalating tensions between the Naga and Kuki-Zo communities over a territorial dispute involving the Konsakhul and Leilon Vaiphei villages. Minor clashes erupted following allegations of assault against a Naga woman, prompting the District Magistrate to enforce an indefinite public curfew. Additionally, a mob in Kamjong district vandalized an Assam Rifles camp, fueled by grievances regarding restrictions on timber transport for housing. While the



situation remains tense, no injuries have been reported, highlighting the need for effective conflict resolution mechanisms to maintain peace in the region and protect local communities.

## Industries Vital for Realizing India's Space Vision 2047: ISRO Chief SHARE

13-Jan-25

ISRO Chairman S Somanath emphasized the critical role of industries in realizing India's Space Vision 2047, particularly in addressing challenges such as regular production of rockets and satellites. With an increasing demand for over 100 satellites in the next few years, the collaboration between public and private sectors is essential for advancing manufacturing capabilities. Somanath highlighted the need to enhance the payload capacity of launch vehicles and develop advanced propulsion systems, while V Narayanan stressed that without robust material and manufacturing teams, the ambitious space projects would remain theoretical. The call for improved industrial participation underscores India's commitment to becoming a leading player in the global space arena.

## ISRO's SpaDeX Satellites Ready for In-Space Docking Test SHARE

13-Jan-25

Isro's SpaDeX satellites are currently 230 m apart and in normal health as they progress towards an in-space docking experiment. Launched on December 30 aboard PSLV C60, the project aims to demonstrate vital docking technology for India's future space missions, including lunar exploration and the Bharatiya Antariksh Station. Although the mission has faced delays, it positions India to join the ranks of nations with space docking capabilities, crucial for complex missions requiring multiple launches. This advancement reflects India's growing prowess in space technology, bolstering its strategic position in the global aerospace landscape.

## Congress Alleges Improper Rs 6 Cr Payment to Kuki Outfit by Manipur Govt SHARE

13-Jan-25

The Congress party has accused the BJP-led Manipur government of improperly disbursing Rs 6.27 crore to the Hmar Peoples Convention (Democratic), a Kuki Zo militant outfit, despite the state withdrawing from the Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement in February 2023. The Congress contends that this transfer of funds violates existing norms, particularly in light of ongoing ethnic violence in Manipur. They emphasize a

need for accountability, citing previous payments to militant groups under similar agreements, currently under investigation. This situation raises concerns about governance and stability in a region grappling with significant conflict, highlighting the complexity of managing peace accords amidst violence.

## Bengal Police Target Fake Passport Rackets Used by Infiltrators SHARE

13-Jan-25

Investigating officials from Kolkata and West Bengal Police are targeting rackets that provide fake Indian passports to illegal Bangladeshi infiltrators, with at least 40 such passports identified linked to false addresses. These infiltrators are reportedly making foreign trips using these documents, and the police have arrested nine individuals, including a retired sub-inspector involved in passport verification. The operation reveals a systematic approach where infiltrators receive fake identity documents starting from ration cards, enabling them to acquire passports. This issue highlights the vulnerabilities in border security and the need for stringent measures to combat illegal immigration, reinforcing the importance of robust identity verification systems in safeguarding national security.

## 5,000 Youths Leave Naxalism for Jobs in Gadchiroli, Says Gadkari SHARE

13-Jan-25

Union minister Nitin Gadkari announced a significant decline in Naxalism in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli, with nearly 5,000 youths returning to mainstream society and securing jobs. He emphasized initiatives that have transformed the previously backward district, such as the establishment of engineering colleges and garment manufacturing, which have created employment for 10,000 tribal youths. Gadkari projected that Gadchiroli would become Maharashtra's highest revenue-generating district in the next five years and highlighted the BJP's commitment to good governance and social upliftment, urging party members to focus on meaningful societal transformation beyond electoral victories. His remarks underline the importance of addressing unemployment, education, and community cohesion.

## Jaishankar to Represent India at Trump's Inauguration, Strengthening Ties SHARE

13-Jan-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will represent India at the swearing-in ceremony of US President-elect

Donald Trump on January 20. This attendance underscores India's commitment to strengthening ties with the United States, especially during a significant transition in US leadership. Jaishankar is expected to engage with members of the incoming administration and other dignitaries, highlighting India's proactive diplomatic approach. The event marks a pivotal moment for US-India relations, as both nations look to enhance collaboration on various fronts including defense and security, reflecting a shared strategic vision in a complex geopolitical landscape.

## Lebanon Set to Appoint New Prime Minister Amid Political Shift



13-Jan-25

Lebanon is on the brink of appointing a new prime minister as President Joseph Aoun consults with lawmakers amidst a tight race between incumbent Najib Mikati and Nawaf Salam. Aoun's election reflects a shift in power dynamics following Hezbollah's setbacks in recent conflicts and is supported by the U.S. and Saudi Arabia. The new prime minister must navigate Lebanon's sectarian power-sharing system while addressing pressing issues such as economic reform and recovery from war damage. This political transition presents a crucial opportunity for Lebanon to stabilize and revive its long-paralyzed government institutions.

## Indian Coast Guard Launches New Training Ship at MDL, Mumbai



13-Jan-25

The Indian Coast Guard's keel-laying ceremony for a new training ship (Yard 16101) took place at Mazagon

Dock Shipbuilders Ltd in Mumbai on January 13, 2025. This 107-meter ship, capable of 20 knots, will support the training of 70 officers, including women, and features advanced technology such as AI-based maintenance systems and drones. Constructed under the Buy (Indian-IDDMM) initiative, the project exemplifies India's commitment to self-reliance in defense production and strategic autonomy. This enhancement of ICG's capabilities is crucial for safeguarding India's maritime interests and reflects a significant step towards fostering a robust domestic defense industry.

## INS Tushil Arrives in Lagos to Boost India-Nigeria Naval Ties



13-Jan-25

INS Tushil, the Indian Navy's advanced guided missile stealth frigate, arrived in Lagos, Nigeria, for an operational turnaround on January 12, 2025, amidst its deployment to the Gulf of Guinea. The visit, marked by a warm welcome from Nigerian Navy officials and local Indian representatives, aims to strengthen bilateral naval cooperation through professional interactions, including exercises and training activities. The crew will also conduct a medical camp to foster people-to-people ties. This engagement highlights India's commitment to maritime security and showcases the enduring friendship and collaborative spirit between India and Nigeria, founded on shared democratic values and developmental goals.

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# Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
APOLLO	119.0	129.49	117.3	121.18	11596696	1.53	57.39	111.8	105.83
HIGHENE	581.15	612.0	572.0	601.8	10363	1.04	41.58	630.05	719.56
LMW	15905.0	16121.15	15750.3	15965.2	5489	-0.23	35.4	16987.44	16293.04
TANEJAERO	398.95	398.95	370.0	393.9	41185	-1.71	34.68	431.13	492.23
ROSSELLIND	71.95	72.0	68.5	69.97	40450	-1.71	28.06	76.84	346.96
LT	3505.55	3534.5	3448.6	3464.3	2137212	-2.03	33.78	3645.3	3618.26
NIBE	1542.9	1579.8	1484.95	1510.6	30004	-2.09	31.45	1691.36	1751.25
BEML	3655.0	3669.95	3557.75	3599.15	269509	-2.78	28.63	4045.32	4008.37
BHARATFORG	1204.8	1211.3	1167.55	1169.85	1720272	-3.31	23.41	1287.05	1459.06
ASTRAMICRO	749.9	759.7	721.85	729.7	265910	-3.58	36.74	787.13	812.62
PARAS	995.1	1017.45	965.0	976.05	147492	-4.07	41.88	1027.19	1052.7
BEL	265.0	268.9	258.3	259.6	19429753	-4.21	26.81	290.89	283.51
SIKA	2362.6	2511.25	2270.0	2337.5	3016	-4.51	34.01	2554.59	2564.5
PTC	134.0	134.02	127.69	128.69	2425648	-4.54	26.32	146.94	198.57
PREMEXPLN	460.0	475.0	445.0	447.85	169262	-4.72	37.2	525.11	535.39
CFE	675.0	693.0	632.05	648.9	14400	-4.78	40.35	690.36	633.93
TEMBO	757.0	764.95	736.1	736.1	70715	-5.0	43.62	806.88	410.57
MARINE	225.2	230.0	222.45	222.45	212939	-5.0	29.92	272.01	202.07
COCHINSHIP	1423.95	1423.95	1359.55	1359.55	500996	-5.0	31.33	1521.53	1748.4
KRISHNADEF	770.0	786.0	727.25	727.25	39000	-5.0	44.31	771.74	671.73
LOKESHMACH	300.2	300.2	283.0	284.65	54440	-5.18	28.53	327.33	391.0
AZAD	1663.0	1667.75	1550.75	1581.2	150117	-5.21	38.6	1736.56	1570.88
HAL	3900.0	3985.25	3772.35	3788.25	1959105	-5.31	25.97	4219.72	4491.29
MIDHANI	313.5	319.0	296.0	301.65	303875	-5.65	29.19	342.3	405.93
IDEAFORGE	571.5	575.7	545.15	548.85	178064	-5.72	34.97	601.52	684.64
MTARTECH	1676.3	1683.85	1572.35	1579.55	201774	-5.77	39.93	1668.28	1788.28
AVANTEL	138.04	140.0	130.0	132.26	956629	-6.08	26.39	155.65	-
DCXINDIA	360.0	364.7	336.0	342.1	964467	-6.12	46.47	350.02	337.99
ADANIENT	2365.0	2365.0	2216.9	2225.15	1559903	-6.29	32.86	2458.46	2959.25
SOLARINDS	9480.0	9493.0	8855.35	8922.4	122899	-6.38	31.15	9859.74	10165.58
DATAPATNS	2190.0	2218.95	2056.7	2089.0	209284	-6.5	28.2	2441.9	2719.53
GRSE	1445.4	1461.8	1350.0	1371.4	604668	-6.84	30.77	1601.31	1623.68
BDL	1175.05	1186.45	1091.9	1116.35	833122	-7.01	42.15	1188.75	1225.32
HBLPOWER	552.15	562.95	525.0	527.85	1998008	-7.22	28.11	630.53	569.6
ZENTEC	2420.05	2445.0	2121.05	2266.75	920852	-7.8	45.79	2455.62	1557.02
MAZDOCK	2165.0	2203.75	2005.0	2028.3	2191902	-8.76	34.61	2305.94	1987.02