



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

March 13,2025 | Day 072

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
DATAATTNS	1663.1	1586.3	+4.84%
SOLARINDS	10097.15	9781.1	+3.23%
MAZDOCK	2316.0	2255.9	+2.66%
BEML	2553.7	2490.1	+2.55%
MIDHANI	270.06	265.03	+1.9%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
TEMBO	491.6	679.1	-27.61%
NIBE	843.4	887.75	-5.0%
BHARATFORG	1039.25	1090.2	-4.67%
ROSSELLIND	57.58	59.92	-3.91%
MARINE	161.43	166.93	-3.29%

Defense Business and Industry

Keel Laid for Second Fleet Support Ship for Indian Navy



13-Mar-25

The keel-laying ceremony for the second of five Fleet Support Ships (FSS) for the Indian Navy took place at L&T Shipyard, Kattupalli, marking a significant milestone in India's naval capabilities. These FSS, designed to enhance Blue Water operations, will support fleet replenishment at sea, carrying essential supplies and enabling prolonged missions. Additionally, they will assist in Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief operations during crises. This project underscores the Indian government's commitment to Aatmanirbhar Bharat and indigenous shipbuilding, showcasing a robust public-private partnership that will bolster the domestic defense industry and promote self-reliance in military capabilities.

IAF to Equip Tejas Jets with Meteor Missiles Amid Astra MkIII Development



13-Mar-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is actively working to enhance the combat capabilities of its indigenous Tejas fighter jets by seeking to integrate advanced Meteor beyond-visual-range air-to-air missiles (BVRAAM) from European manufacturer MBDA, while concurrently developing its own Astra MkIII missile. The integration of Meteor, renowned for its extensive no-escape zone and superior performance, would significantly boost the operational effectiveness of the Tejas aircraft against potential threats from neighboring countries. This initiative underscores India's commitment to self-

reliance in defense technology and could pave the way for local production of the Meteor missile, reinforcing Indo-European defense cooperation. In a complementary development, the IAF successfully test-fired the Astra missile from a Tejas Mk1 prototype, achieving a direct hit on a target and showcasing the advanced guidance systems of this indigenous weapon, which is already in service. This successful test launch marks a crucial milestone towards the induction of the Tejas Mk1A variant and reflects a collaborative effort among multiple Indian defense organizations. Collectively, these advancements signal India's strategic focus on strengthening its air combat capabilities amidst an evolving geopolitical landscape, ensuring that the IAF remains equipped with cutting-edge technology to safeguard national interests.

Bharat Electronics Q4 orders hit Rs 7,200 cr; Nomura urges buy.



13-Mar-25

Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) has reported order inflows of Rs 7,200 crore in Q4, supporting Nomura India's recommendation to buy the stock with a target price of Rs 363, suggesting a potential 27% upside. BEL is expected to achieve its annual guidance of Rs 25,000 crore, bolstered by ongoing negotiations and significant upcoming orders in missile systems and radar technology, with projected total inflows of Rs 85,000 crore from FY25-FY27. Increased defense spending in Europe is likely to further enhance BEL's prospects, given its strategic collaborations with major OEMs, aligning with global trends of military modernization amid rising security threats.

Indian Navy Boosts Logistics with Commissioning of LSAM 23 SHARE

13-Mar-25

The Indian Navy has successfully commissioned the LSAM 23, the ninth Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile (ACTCM) barge, at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai. This induction, part of a contract with the MSME Suryadipta Projects Pvt. Ltd., aligns with the Government of India's Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiatives, showcasing the growing capabilities of indigenous shipyards. With eight barges already delivered, the LSAM 23 enhances the Navy's operational efficiency by facilitating the transportation and handling of ammunition and articles, strengthening logistical support for maritime operations. This development underscores the Indian Navy's commitment to fostering local industry and improving self-reliance in defense logistics.

Sikorsky's UAS Achieves Successful Dual-Mode Flight Tests SHARE

13-Mar-25

Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin company, has successfully flown its rotor blown wing uncrewed aerial system (UAS) in both helicopter and airplane modes, showcasing advanced control laws and operational stability. Weighing 115 pounds, the prototype demonstrated remarkable maneuverability, achieving a top cruise speed of 86 knots and performing complex transitions essential for versatile missions. This innovation emphasizes Sikorsky's commitment to creating next-generation VTOL UAS capable of diverse applications like search and rescue and reconnaissance. The integration of Sikorsky's MATRIX™ flight autonomy system enhances its operational capabilities, aligning with emerging military and commercial needs, positioning India to benefit from advanced aerial technologies as it aims to strengthen its defense capabilities.

Indian Air Force Targets 1,000 Combat Jets by 2047 SHARE

13-Mar-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has set an ambitious goal to expand its fleet to 60 fighter squadrons by 2047, necessitating the induction of 500-600 new fighters to counter regional threats, particularly from China and Pakistan. The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has directed Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to produce 12 Light Combat Aircraft (Tejas) in 2025, scaling up to 20 annually thereafter, reflecting a strong commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing. With a current

fleet significantly below its sanctioned strength, the IAF is focusing on indigenous production through programs like the Tejas Mk-2 and the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA). This strategy emphasizes modernization and the integration of advanced technologies, aiming to achieve operational readiness while reducing dependence on foreign imports, thus reinforcing India's position as a formidable air power by its centenary in 2047.

Unistring Tech Wins Rs. 10.3 Crore DRDO Contract for EW System SHARE

13-Mar-25

Unistring Tech Solutions Pvt Ltd has secured a Rs. 10.3 crore contract from the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to develop an advanced Compact Electronic Warfare (EW) system, slated for completion in 10 months. This achievement not only signifies UTS's commitment to enhancing India's indigenous defense capabilities but also positions the company as a leader in next-generation defense technologies. With expertise in electronic warfare and a strong focus on research and development, UTS aims to deliver state-of-the-art solutions that bolster national security and support the Indian Armed Forces, marking a significant step towards self-reliance in defense technology.

IAI Launches NIART SYSTEMS to Enhance India's Railway Safety SHARE

13-Mar-25

Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) has launched NIART SYSTEMS, a Smart Mobility startup in partnership with India's DCX Systems, targeting enhanced safety in the railway sector through advanced long-range obstacle detection technology. This initiative aligns with India's TRI-NETRA project, aimed at improving rail safety amid harsh weather and potential sabotage. The innovative system integrates radar and electro-optical sensors, offering reliable hazard detection up to 1,200 meters, thereby reducing accidents and service disruptions. This collaboration not only reinforces the safety of India's vast railway network but also positions the country as a leader in adopting cutting-edge railway technology, paving the way for future advancements in autonomous train operations.

Indra Group Unveils IndraMind: Cutting-Edge AI for Defense Ops SHARE

13-Mar-25

Indra Group has launched IndraMind, an advanced AI system aimed at enhancing automation in defense and

civil operations amid increasingly complex multi-domain environments. This system promises to improve situational awareness, operational decision-making, and threat identification, thereby providing strategic advantages in real-time combat scenarios. IndraMind's open-layered architecture supports interoperability and scalability, making it adaptable to future technological advancements. By facilitating advanced cyber defense, enhancing command and control systems, and improving wargaming and operational research, IndraMind positions Indra Group as a critical player in the European defense landscape, underscoring its commitment to modernization in both military and civilian sectors.

Altechna Joins TALOS-TWO to Develop Europe's Laser Weapons SHARE

13-Mar-25

Altechna has joined the TALOS-TWO project, a €25 million initiative aimed at developing Europe's first fully sovereign 100 kW-class laser-directed energy weapons by 2030. The project involves 21 partners from eight countries, enhancing Europe's collective defense by integrating advanced laser technologies into national defense programs. It focuses on real-world applications, refining laser output and targeting precision while establishing a European supply chain to reduce dependency on external suppliers. This collaborative effort underscores the importance of joint security measures for Europe, particularly in light of ongoing regional conflicts, and aims to ensure that Central and Eastern Europe can counter modern threats effectively with upgraded military capabilities.

GA-ASI Successfully Tests Gray Eagle ER with PLEO Satellites SHARE

13-Mar-25

General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) has successfully conducted flight tests of the Gray Eagle Extended Range (GE-ER) Unmanned Aircraft System utilizing Proliferated Low Earth Orbit (PLEO) satellite communications, marking a significant development for U.S. Army aviation capabilities. The GE-ER, designed with a Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA), enables rapid integration of advanced technologies for enhanced operational flexibility and survivability in multi-domain operations. Future iterations, like the Gray Eagle 25M, are set to further enhance adaptability against evolving threats, ensuring a robust defense posture. Such advancements underscore the importance of integrating modern

technologies into defense systems to maintain a strategic edge in global engagements.

Saudi Arabia Chooses Western Sixth-Gen Fighter Over Chinese J-35 SHARE

13-Mar-25

Saudi Arabia has opted to collaborate with Western powers on a sixth-generation fighter jet, rejecting China's J-35 stealth fighter, which indicates a shift in its defense procurement strategy. This decision, highlighted at the G20 Summit, reflects concerns over the reliability of Chinese military technology and a preference for superior Western alternatives. Saudi Arabia's long-term vision aims to enhance its military capabilities while integrating into a Western defense ecosystem, thereby positioning itself for a sustainable future beyond oil reliance. This development underscores the challenges facing China's defense industry in a competitive Middle Eastern arms market, where quality and performance are paramount.

Armenian Spetsnaz Boosts Night Ops with Indian Spartan-S Monoculars SHARE

13-Mar-25

Armenian Spetsnaz has recently adopted the advanced Indian-made Spartan-S thermal monoculars developed by Bengaluru-based Tonbo Imaging, marking a significant step in India's role as a supplier of high-tech defense equipment. The Spartan-S, known for its lightweight design and versatility, enhances the operational capabilities of the Spetsnaz, particularly for reconnaissance and night operations amidst heightened regional tensions. This integration of Indian technology signifies Armenia's strategic shift towards diversifying its defense procurement and reducing dependency on traditional suppliers, while also showcasing India's growing reputation as a reliable provider of advanced military solutions. Overall, this collaboration underscores the effectiveness of Indian defense innovation in meeting international security needs.

BrahMos NG Set for First Flight Test in 2026, Boosting India's Defense SHARE

13-Mar-25

India's next-generation BrahMos missile, BrahMos NG, is set for its first flight test in 2026, with production expected to start between 2027-2028. This advanced missile is significantly lighter and more compact, weighing 1.3 tonnes and measuring 6 meters, while maintaining a formidable speed of Mach 2.8-3.0 and a range of 290 km. Designed for interoperability across

diverse platforms, including lighter aircraft and smaller naval vessels, BrahMos NG will enhance India's strategic strike capabilities, particularly in the Indian Ocean Region. This development highlights India's commitment to modernizing its defense arsenal and maintaining a technological edge in regional security dynamics.

HAL's CATS OMCA: Upgrading Legacy Aircraft for Future Combat

 **SHARE**

13-Mar-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is set to showcase its innovative CATS OMCA (Combat Air Teaming System- Optionally Manned Combat Aircraft) at Aero India, aimed at transforming legacy aircraft into advanced combat platforms for the Indian Air Force (IAF). This technology could be integrated into the Kiran MkII and MiG-27 aircraft, with a focus on enhancing operational capabilities in strike missions, decoy operations, and protective roles. The initiative reflects IAF's strategy to leverage retired aircraft to maintain tactical superiority, ensuring effective and safe missions in contested areas while increasing overall sortie survivability. This move underscores India's commitment to advancing its defense capabilities through innovative technology and strategic resource management.

Indian Army Unveils Polaris RZR Pro 44 ATV to Boost Readiness in Sikkim

 **SHARE**

13-Mar-25

The Indian Army has recently showcased the Polaris RZR Pro 44 All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) in Sikkim, enhancing its operational capabilities in the challenging terrains of the Northeast. This high-performance ATV, capable of rapid troop deployment and logistics support, proves essential for navigating the region's unique geographical challenges, particularly near the Line of Actual Control with China. Its compact design and air-transportability facilitate quick responses to urgent missions, bolstering the Army's readiness amid increasing border tensions. The induction of the RZR Pro 44 is part of a broader modernization initiative aimed at improving tactical mobility and operational efficiency in remote areas, crucial for effective border patrolling and counter-insurgency operations.

Airbus and Boeing Hesitate on India's Local Assembly Push

 **SHARE**

13-Mar-25

Airbus and Boeing are resisting India's calls for local Final Assembly Lines (FALs) despite the nation's

burgeoning aviation market, projected to order nearly 2,000 aircraft in the next two decades. Their reluctance is influenced by past experiences in China, where establishing an FAL led to the rise of local competitor COMAC. This strategy prioritizes preserving their core operations and preventing local competition over engaging in India's Make in India initiative, which aims to enhance domestic manufacturing and job creation. Critics argue that this shortsightedness may alienate a crucial market, suggesting that embracing local assembly could secure their dominance and tap into India's cost-effective labor.

Adani Defence and Elbit to Develop Armed Akshi 7 Drone

 **SHARE**

13-Mar-25

Adani Defence and Aerospace, collaborating with Israel's Elbit Systems, is developing an armed variant of the Akshi 7 unmanned aerial system (UAS), showcased at Aero India 2025. This next-generation drone features Medium Altitude Long Endurance capabilities, capable of carrying payloads up to 575 pounds and remaining airborne for 24 hours, making it ideal for intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and combat roles. Its advanced avionics and NATO STANAG 4671 compliance enhance operational flexibility and interoperability with allied forces. This partnership highlights India's commitment to indigenous defense innovation while leveraging global technology to strengthen its military capabilities in modern warfare.

L&T Eyes Fighter Jet Production to Address IAF's 200+ Aircraft Gap

 **SHARE**

13-Mar-25

Larsen & Toubro (L&T), India's largest private-sector defense firm, is considering entering fighter jet manufacturing to address the Indian Air Force's (IAF) critical shortage of over 200 aircraft. L&T's potential involvement could enhance domestic production, particularly in the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas program, amid calls from Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh for urgent modernization. While L&T's existing manufacturing capabilities provide a foundation, challenges such as HAL's monopoly and significant investment requirements could complicate execution. Additionally, the ongoing MRFA tender for foreign aircraft adds complexity to balancing imports and domestic production in revitalizing the IAF's fleet.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

General Anil Chauhan Champions India's UAS Advancements and Security SHARE

13-Mar-25

The Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS) hosted a seminar on UAS Warfare, where General Anil Chauhan emphasized the transformative role of drones in modern warfare, highlighting India's advancements in indigenous UAS and counter-UAS technologies under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative. He called for a cohesive approach to countering drone threats, particularly along India's borders, while encouraging collaboration between military and industry leaders. Discussions also focused on AI integration, legal frameworks, and the need for a holistic national counter-UAS strategy, showcasing India's commitment to enhancing its defense capabilities and ensuring national security amid evolving geopolitical challenges.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Russia Open to Peace Talks with US Amid Ukraine Ceasefire SHARE

13-Mar-25

Recent developments indicate a potential dialogue between Russia and the United States regarding a peace initiative for Ukraine, following Ukraine's acceptance of a proposed 30-day ceasefire. Russian spokeswoman Maria Zakharova confirmed readiness for discussions with U.S. officials, although skepticism remains about Russia's commitment to peace, as Ukrainian President Zelensky expressed doubts about Russia's intentions. Kremlin aide Yuri Ushakov dismissed the ceasefire as merely a temporary respite for Ukrainian forces, emphasizing Russia's desire for a long-term settlement that considers its interests. This situation reflects the complexities of negotiating peace amid ongoing military actions, underscoring the challenges that remain for both U.S. and Ukrainian officials in securing a lasting resolution to the conflict.

Mizoram activist urges action on Myanmar refugee influx threatening security SHARE

13-Mar-25

A Mizoram activist has urged Union Home Minister Amit Shah to address the surge of Myanmar refugees

entering the state, which poses significant national security concerns. Since the military coup in Myanmar in February 2021, around 35,000 refugees, primarily ethnically similar to the local Mizo population, have sought shelter in Mizoram. This influx has led to a rise in crime, including drug smuggling and the use of fake identification documents, straining local resources and creating risks to public safety. The activist argues that while India values humanitarianism, immediate intervention is necessary to maintain law and order and protect Indian citizens' interests.

Dalai Lama States Successor Will Emerge Outside China's Control SHARE

13-Mar-25

The Dalai Lama has declared that his successor will be born in the "free world," specifically outside China, emphasizing the continuation of Tibetan Buddhism's values. He asserts that this move defies Beijing's claims of authority to choose his successor, which China insists is historically its right. The Dalai Lama, who has lived in India since fleeing Tibet in 1959, argues that a successor recognized by China would lack legitimacy. This statement further intensifies the ongoing geopolitical tension between India and China over Tibet, with India supporting the Dalai Lama's cultural and spiritual leadership, reinforcing its position as a sanctuary for Tibetan aspirations.

Arctic Shipping Routes Emerge Amid Global Warming Competition SHARE

13-Mar-25

Global warming is creating new Arctic shipping routes, sparking interest from major powers like China and Russia. These routes could potentially reshape global trade dynamics, presenting both opportunities and challenges for countries involved in Arctic geopolitics. For India, this development highlights the need for strategic foresight as it navigates its own interests in the region, particularly in terms of securing maritime routes and enhancing its presence in Arctic discussions. As the competition intensifies, India must bolster its naval capabilities and collaborate with like-minded nations to ensure its strategic interests are safeguarded amidst changing geopolitical landscapes.

PM Modi to Kick Off Raisina Dialogue 2025 with NZ's Luxon SHARE

13-Mar-25

The 10th edition of the Raisina Dialogue will be held in New Delhi from March 17 to 19, 2025, focusing on the theme "Kalachakra: People. Peace. Planet." This

premier conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics will be inaugurated by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and New Zealand's Prime Minister Christopher Luxon, alongside a high-level delegation. Notable attendees include Ukraine's Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha, U.S. Intelligence Chief Tulsi Gabbard, and various European ministers. The event, hosted by the Observer Research Foundation, aims to foster discussions on critical global issues such as international relations, defense, and cybersecurity, highlighting India's growing role in addressing global challenges.

India Voices Concerns on Bangladesh's Treatment of Minorities

13-Mar-25

India recently expressed concerns regarding the release of certain "violent extremists" by Bangladesh, emphasizing the need for the interim government in Dhaka to protect Hindus and other minorities alongside their religious institutions. The remarks have been deemed "unwarranted" by the Bangladeshi Foreign Ministry, indicating a potential strain in bilateral relations. This situation highlights India's commitment to safeguarding minority rights in the region, reflecting its broader defense strategy that emphasizes regional stability and security. Overall, while India's concerns are rooted in protecting vulnerable communities, the response from Bangladesh underscores the importance of diplomatic communication in addressing such sensitive issues.

India Foils Coup Against Bangladesh Army Chief Amid Islamist Threat

13-Mar-25

India played a crucial role in thwarting a coup attempt against Bangladesh Army Chief General Waker-uz-Zaman, led by pro-Pakistani generals associated with the ISI. This intervention not only preserved the integrity of the Bangladesh Army but also countered the rising Islamist influence within the interim government. By alerting General Waker about the coup plans and garnering international support, particularly from the USA, India demonstrated its strategic commitment to regional stability and its support for a politically apolitical military in Bangladesh. The situation remains delicate, as pro-Islamist elements continue to pose a threat to both the army chief and Bangladesh's stability.

Finland boosts Ukraine aid by €200M, enhances defense ties

13-Mar-25

Finland announced a new arms package for Ukraine worth around 200 million euros, reinforcing its commitment to support Kyiv amid ongoing geopolitical tensions with Russia. The aid includes necessary artillery ammunition and emphasizes enhanced defense cooperation, including information exchange and joint defense industry projects. Finnish Defence Minister Antti Hakkanen highlighted Ukraine's strong military capabilities and the importance of learning from its experiences to bolster Finland's own defense strategies. This initiative raises Finland's total military aid to Ukraine to approximately 3.3 billion euros, reflecting a broader trend among European nations to strengthen military ties and prepare against potential aggressions from Russia.

China Advocates Diplomatic Approach for Iran Nuclear Talks

13-Mar-25

China has called for a diplomatic resolution to the Iran nuclear issue ahead of trilateral talks with Iran and Russia in Beijing. The discussions aim to enhance communication and coordination among the parties, with China's Vice Foreign Minister emphasizing the need for calm to avoid escalation. This comes after the U.S. withdrew from the 2015 nuclear agreement, leading to Tehran rolling back its commitments. Beijing's push highlights its role as a mediator in international conflicts, reflecting its strategic interests in maintaining stability in the region, which could indirectly benefit India's security environment by preventing the proliferation of nuclear capabilities in the Middle East.

Russia Claims Control of Key Town as Ceasefire Talks Emerge

13-Mar-25

Russia claims to have regained control of Sudzha, a key town in the Kursk region, while suggesting a US-proposed ceasefire could benefit Ukraine's beleaguered military. The Kremlin argues that a temporary truce might allow Ukraine to regroup but insists on a long-term settlement addressing its interests. President Putin's recent military visit underscores a renewed Russian offensive, while Ukraine seeks to counteract adverse battlefield news. The situation remains complex, with both sides weighing the implications of a ceasefire amidst ongoing military pressures, highlighting the intricate dynamics of the conflict.

between Russian and Ukrainian forces influenced by external diplomatic efforts.

American VP Vance's Historic Visit to Strengthen US-India Ties SHARE

13-Mar-25

US Vice President J.D. Vance, marking the first visit by an American vice-president to India in over 12 years, is set to engage in significant discussions amid a backdrop of strengthening US-India relations. This visit, alongside Tulsi Gabbard's participation in the Raisina Dialogue, underscores a renewed focus on strategic partnerships and defense collaboration. Vance's role as a key communicator of President Trump's agenda, particularly on global issues, reflects the growing importance of India in US foreign policy. The timing and significance of such high-level visits may signal an enhanced commitment to maintaining robust ties, crucial for regional stability in the Indo-Pacific.

Military Operations

INS Ranvir Joins India-Bangladesh Naval Exercise Bongosagar 2025 SHARE

13-Mar-25

The recent India-Bangladesh naval exercise, Bongosagar 2025, involved the participation of INS Ranvir and BNS Abu Ubaidah in the Bay of Bengal, focusing on enhancing interoperability and collaborative responses to shared maritime security challenges. The exercise, which included complex operations such as surface firing, tactical maneuvers, and VBSS, aimed to foster closer ties in tactical planning and information sharing. Despite a diplomatic chill following political changes in Bangladesh, military relations remain robust, with India continuously stepping up defense cooperation, particularly amid concerns over China's influence in the region. This exercise underscores the shared commitment of both nations to counter global security challenges and promotes India's Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) initiative, reinforcing stability in the Bay of Bengal.

Tragic Hijacking in Balochistan: 21 Passengers, 4 Soldiers Killed SHARE

13-Mar-25

The recent hijacking of the Jaffar Express train in Balochistan, Pakistan, resulted in the tragic deaths of 21 passengers and four paramilitary soldiers, while

Pakistani security forces successfully neutralized all 33 militants involved in the incident. The Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) claimed responsibility for the attack, asserting that they held over 200 hostages and threatened to execute them if their demands were not met, although these claims remain largely unverified. The Pakistani military undertook a significant operation to rescue the hostages, managing to free over 190 individuals. This incident underscores ongoing security challenges in Pakistan, particularly from militant groups like the BLA, highlighting the need for a robust and coordinated counter-terrorism strategy to safeguard civilians and maintain regional stability.

IAF Acts Against Illegal Constructions Near Digaru Air Force Station SHARE

13-Mar-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has raised concerns about unauthorized structures near the Digaru Air Force Station, prompting a review of over 900 illegal constructions detected within the 900-meter restricted zone established in 2010. The Co-District Commissioner has initiated legal action, serving around 100 notices to property owners, with hearings scheduled to begin soon. This strategic site, crucial for the Eastern Air Command since 1963, underscores the importance of maintaining secure perimeters around military installations to ensure operational integrity and safety. The IAF's proactive measures reflect its commitment to safeguarding defense assets against encroachment.

Israel Strikes Damascus Command Centre Targeting Islamic Jihad SHARE

13-Mar-25

Israel conducted an air strike on a command centre in Damascus, targeting the Palestinian militant group Islamic Jihad, which Israel accused of orchestrating attacks against it. A video released by the Israeli military showed an explosion at the site, followed by smoke. Syrian sources reported the target was a Palestinian individual, though details on casualties remain unclear. This operation underscores Israel's strategic stance against perceived threats in the region, reflecting its commitment to national security and preemptive action against terrorist organizations, highlighting the ongoing tensions in the Middle East and the broader implications for regional stability.

IAF Chief Advocates Unified Strategy for Modern Warfare Challenges SHARE

13-Mar-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief has emphasized the need for a joint military strategy to enhance India's defense capabilities amidst evolving security threats, particularly in cyber and space domains. The IAF is transforming into a future-ready force through network-centric operations, integrating advanced technologies like AI, and establishing regional integrated theatre commands. This strategy aims to bolster air defense systems, acquire cutting-edge platforms, and develop space assets for comprehensive operational effectiveness. Although challenges like limited resources may hinder progress, the IAF's commitment to inter-service cooperation and international partnerships positions it well for addressing future security challenges effectively.

India's BM-04 Missile: A Game Changer Against Chinese Air Defense SHARE

13-Mar-25

India's BM-04 missile system has been identified as a strategic counter to China's advanced air defenses in the Tibetan Plateau, particularly against the People's Liberation Army (PLA). According to Lt Gen P R Shankar (Retd), the hypersonic capabilities of the BM-04 enable it to evade interception by Chinese systems like the HQ-9 and S-400, making it a crucial asset in India's defense strategy amid ongoing tensions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). This development underscores India's commitment to maintaining a credible deterrence posture, allowing it to effectively target key PLA installations with precision while minimizing the risk of counteractions, thereby bolstering its military readiness in a critical geopolitical theatre.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Security forces arrest two terrorist associates in Bandipora, J&K. SHARE

13-Mar-25

Security forces, including the Indian Army, J&K Police, and CRPF, successfully arrested two terrorist associates identified as Naseer Ahmad Parray and Mudassir Ahmad Parray in Bandipora district, Jammu and Kashmir, based on specific intelligence inputs. During the operation at Gandbal-Hajin Road, authorities confiscated a significant cache of arms and ammunition, including a pistol, hand grenades, an

AK-47 magazine, and other war-like stores. The arrests reflect ongoing efforts to combat terrorism in the region and maintain stability, with investigations continuing under FIR NO. 20/2025. This operation underscores the proactive measures taken by Indian security forces to neutralize threats and enhance security in sensitive areas of Jammu and Kashmir, reinforcing India's commitment to counter-terrorism efforts and regional peace.

76 terrorists active in J&K, with 59 being foreign militants. SHARE

13-Mar-25

Currently, 76 terrorists are active in Jammu and Kashmir, with 59 being foreign militants from groups like Hizbul Mujahideen, Jaish-e-Mohammed, and Lashkar-e-Taiba. This represents a significant decline from 91 active terrorists in the same period in 2024 and 135 in 2022. The reduction is attributed to intensified counter-terrorism operations by Indian security forces, which have neutralized 72 terrorists in 2023 alone. The government remains committed to eradicating terrorism, monitoring the evolving situation, and focusing on dismantling the networks of these Pakistan-based terrorist organizations while acknowledging a shift in militant activity towards Jammu, which had previously been largely free of militancy.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

IAF Chief Calls for Adaptation to Cyber and Space Advancements SHARE

13-Mar-25

The Chief of Air Staff (CAS) of the Indian Air Force (IAF), AP Singh, highlighted the necessity for commanders to adapt to global advancements in cyber, space, and electronic warfare during the Commanders' Conference at the Southern Air Command in Thiruvananthapuram. He emphasized the importance of enhancing operational readiness, harnessing human resources, and adopting innovative strategies to address emerging security challenges in a hybrid warfare environment. Additionally, he advocated for joint training and operational synergy among the armed forces to bolster combat effectiveness, reinforcing the IAF's aim to become a more agile and adaptable aerospace power in alignment with national interests.

59% of Indian firms foresee cyber breaches in 2025: Zscaler [SHARE](#)

13-Mar-25

A recent Zscaler study revealed that 59% of Indian organizations anticipate a significant cyber breach in the coming year, despite 97% of IT leaders believing in their current cyber resilience measures. Only 53% have updated their resilience strategies to tackle modern AI-driven threats, and a concerning 67% have experienced a major failure in the last year. The report emphasizes the need for a shift towards a proactive "Resilient by Design" approach, incorporating Zero Trust principles and AI-powered security to enhance defenses against increasingly sophisticated cyber risks. As India navigates digital transformation, addressing these vulnerabilities is crucial for ensuring business continuity and compliance with evolving regulations.

IDRBT Unveils IBCART 3.0 to Boost Cybersecurity in Banking [SHARE](#)

13-Mar-25

The Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT) has launched IBCART 3.0 in collaboration with Quick Heal Technologies, enhancing cybersecurity capabilities for the banking and financial services sector. This upgraded platform, following previous versions launched in 2014 and 2021, offers broader reach and advanced security controls, including a digital signature-based access mechanism. It will provide curated threat intelligence tailored to the sector's risks, fostering a proactive stance on cybersecurity. This initiative marks a significant step in India's commitment to strengthening its defense against cyber threats, leveraging artificial intelligence for improved security solutions.

India's info security spending to hit \$3.3 billion by 2025 [SHARE](#)

13-Mar-25

Indian enterprises are projected to increase their information security spending to \$3.3 billion by 2025, reflecting a 16.4% rise from 2024, driven by escalating cybersecurity threats and the adoption of cloud technology. Key growth areas include security services and software, with significant investments anticipated in cloud security and data privacy. The shift towards cyber resilience indicates organizations are prioritizing strategies to mitigate the impact of incidents rather than solely preventing them. This proactive approach underscores the evolving landscape of cybersecurity in India, where Chief Information Security Officers are focusing on comprehensive strategies to ensure robust

defenses and business continuity in an increasingly complex threat environment.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Agniveer recruitment for Telangana open until April 10, 2025 [SHARE](#)

13-Mar-25

The Indian Army has opened online applications for the Agniveer recruitment for the 2025-26 intake under the Agnipath Scheme, inviting unmarried male candidates from all 33 districts of Telangana to apply until April 10. Recruitment will cover various categories, including Agniveer (General Duty), Technical, Clerk/Store Keeper Technical, and Tradesmen for both 10th and 8th pass candidates, allowing applicants to choose up to two categories. The online examination for shortlisted candidates is tentatively set for June 2025. This initiative reflects India's commitment to modernizing its armed forces by attracting a diverse talent pool and enhancing operational readiness through the Agnipath Scheme.

INA Veteran Lt. Madhavan Pillai Honors Comrades at 100 [SHARE](#)

13-Mar-25

Lieutenant Rangaswamy Madhavan Pillai, a veteran of the Indian National Army (INA), marked his 100th year by paying tribute to his fallen comrades at the National War Memorial in New Delhi. His life journey, inspired by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, highlights the INA's unique role in India's struggle for independence, with contributions from diverse communities and groundbreaking participation of women. The ceremony serves as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made for freedom and emphasizes the importance of remembering history in shaping India's future. Lt. Madhavan's dedication underscores the enduring spirit of resilience and patriotism that continues to inspire generations.

Indian Army Hosts Engaging Boxing Tournament in Tinsukia, Assam [SHARE](#)

13-Mar-25

The Indian Army successfully organized the Tinsukia Boxing Tournament in Assam from March 11-12, engaging local youth and promoting sportsmanship under Operation Sadbhavana. This event showcased young talent across various age and weight categories, reinforcing the Army's commitment to community

engagement and youth empowerment. Additionally, the Gajraj Corps held a mega ex-servicemen rally in Tamulpur, highlighting the Army's dedication to the welfare of veterans and their families. With over 4,800 ex-servicemen and their families in attendance, the rally emphasized the Indian Army's ongoing support for those who have served the nation, further strengthening the bond between the military and the community.

IAF Agniveervayu Intake 01/2026 exam city slips released; admit cards soon

13-Mar-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has announced the release of the exam city intimation slip for the Agniveervayu Intake 01/2026, which eligible candidates can download from the official website agnipathvayu.cdac.in. The online examination is set to commence on March 22, with admit cards expected to be issued 24 to 48 hours prior to the exam date. This initiative is part of the Agnipath scheme, aimed at modernizing recruitment and enhancing the operational capabilities of the IAF. The timely release of exam-related information highlights the IAF's commitment to an efficient recruitment process and reflects India's proactive approach to strengthening its defense forces.

Miscellaneous

Sigachi Industries partners with Indian Navy for health initiative in Vizag

13-Mar-25

Sigachi Industries Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Navy's INS Kalinga to promote a culture of healthy living through the "Vizag Navy Marathon Promo cum Conditioning Programme." This initiative, set to begin in March 2025 and run until October 2025 in Visakhapatnam, will feature structured fitness events and community engagement activities aimed at encouraging local residents to adopt healthier habits. The collaboration highlights the shared commitment to enhancing public health and wellness in the region, with both parties emphasizing the importance of a long-term dedication to fitness and community solidarity. Amit Raj Sinha, Managing Director and CEO of Sigachi, expressed excitement over joining forces with the Indian Navy to impact the community positively, while Cmde SP Patel, Commanding Officer of INS Kalinga, underscored the initiative's focus on teamwork and perseverance. This partnership reflects a broader trend where private enterprises collaborate with defense institutions to

address societal challenges, demonstrating the Indian defense establishment's role not just in national security but also in fostering community health and wellness.

PM Modi Wraps Up Successful Mauritius Visit, Strengthening Ties

13-Mar-25

During PM Modi's recent visit to Mauritius, he was honored with the Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean and upgraded India-Mauritius relations to an Enhanced Strategic Partnership. Key discussions focused on security cooperation in the Indian Ocean, with commitments to support Mauritius' Exclusive Economic Zone through increased military assets and joint surveillance. Eight MoUs were signed, including the construction of a new Parliament building as a gift from India. The introduction of the "Mahasagar" vision aims to promote mutual security and development in the Global South, enhancing ties against a backdrop of growing Chinese influence in the region. Through these initiatives, India reaffirms its role as a key security partner in the Indian Ocean, fostering stability and cooperation in a strategically vital area.

Amid Sanctions, Indian Oil Refiners Diversify Supply Sources

13-Mar-25

India's crude oil imports from Russia showcased volatility due to U.S. sanctions, initially declining to about 1.1-1.2 million barrels per day (bpd) before recovering to 1.54 million bpd in March. While refiners diversified their sources, increasing imports from Latin America and Africa, Russian oil remained a significant component, constituting about 30.5% of overall imports in February. The dynamics shifted as non-sanctioned vessels began delivering Russian oil again, easing supply pressures and stabilizing prices. Despite the challenges posed by sanctions, India's strategic approach of adhering to UN sanctions while navigating U.S. financial systems suggests resilience in its energy procurement strategy, indicating a balanced and pragmatic stance amidst geopolitical complexities. This flexibility aims to ensure energy security while managing international relations effectively.

Vaishnaw hails Starlink's arrival, boosting remote railway connectivity

13-Mar-25

Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw welcomed Elon Musk's Starlink to India, highlighting its potential to

enhance connectivity for remote railway projects. The announcement follows partnerships between SpaceX and major Indian telecom firms Jio Platforms and Bharti Airtel to offer Starlink's broadband services, which came after contentious discussions over spectrum rights. Meanwhile, the Congress party criticized these partnerships, suggesting they were orchestrated by Prime Minister Modi to curry favor with U.S. President Trump, raising concerns about national security regarding control over connectivity. Despite opposition scrutiny, the strategic entry of Starlink is expected to improve connectivity in underserved regions, bolstering India's digital infrastructure and aligning with broader defense and technology initiatives.

Bombay High Court Upholds TISS Suspension of PhD Student for Protests



13-Mar-25

The Bombay High Court upheld the suspension of Ramadas K S, a Dalit PhD student at the Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS), for two years due to his alleged participation in politically motivated protests against the central government. The court emphasized that while Ramadas has the right to express his views, doing so under the institute's banner misrepresented its stance and brought disrepute. TISS argued he could appeal internally, while Ramadas claimed his suspension unlawfully halted his scholarship. This case highlights the tension between individual expression and institutional reputation in academia, illustrating the complexities involved in balancing academic freedom with institutional integrity.

Challenge Norms and Innovate: Defence Minister's Advisor Inspires Youth



13-Mar-25

G. Satheesh Reddy, Scientific Advisor to the Defence Minister, inspired students at the inauguration of Gora Techno Hub in Vijayawada, urging them to challenge conventions and seize opportunities in science and technology. He highlighted India's significant progress in education, with 14 lakh engineering graduates annually and a rising number of startups, now at 1.62 lakh. Reddy emphasized the potential of youth, showcasing examples like Suhas Gopinath and Anirudh Sharma, who exemplify innovation and leadership. He encouraged students, including girls breaking barriers, to set goals and contribute to India's growth, underscoring that their commitment can shape the nation's scientific future and global standing.

CRPF Female Athletes Win Silver in Ski-Mountaineering at Khelo India



12-Mar-25

Female athletes from the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) excelled at the 5th Khelo India Winter Games 2025 in Gulmarg, securing a silver medal in ski-mountaineering and showcasing their skills against top contenders. This achievement underscores CRPF's commitment to women's empowerment in sports, as these athletes not only serve in challenging terrains but also shine in competitive events. The participation of the CRPF in various winter sports categories highlights India's growing recognition and investment in winter sports, inspiring future athletes and emphasizing the importance of empowering women within the defense forces.

Army Claims Victory at Khelo India Winter Games 2025 with 18 Medals



12-Mar-25

The Khelo India Winter Games 2025 concluded with the Indian Army dominating the final medal tally, securing 18 medals, including seven golds, five silvers, and six bronzes, while Himachal Pradesh finished in second place. This year's event took place in Gulmarg from March 9 to 12, featuring over 400 athletes from 19 teams competing across six winter sports for 136 medals. The significance of the Army's performance highlights its commitment to promoting sports among personnel and fostering a spirit of competition and camaraderie. The successful hosting of these games underscores India's growing prowess in winter sports and its ability to adapt event schedules despite challenges like weather conditions.

Rising Violence Against Minorities in Bangladesh Post-Political Turmoil



13-Mar-25

In Bangladesh, reports indicate a significant rise in violence against minority communities, with 92 incidents, including murders and attacks on temples, recorded in early 2024. This surge follows the political upheaval after former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's departure, leading to accusations against the interim government for failing to protect these groups. The Indian government has expressed deep concerns, advocating for stronger measures to ensure the safety of minorities in Bangladesh. The Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council is calling for a national minority commission to address ongoing threats, highlighting the need for urgent international attention as the situation worsens.

IMF Rejects Pakistan's Tax Exemption Request for Investments



13-Mar-25

The IMF has rejected Pakistan's request for tax exemptions on foreign investment projects proposed by the Special Investment Facilitation Council, emphasizing the need for fiscal discipline and sustainable financial practices. Pakistani officials highlighted key investment opportunities, particularly a railway project from Chagai to Gwadar aimed at transporting minerals, but potential investors require state guarantees that the government cannot currently provide due to loan restrictions. Additionally, the IMF is considering a modest reduction in electricity prices while expressing concerns about the slow privatization of Distribution Companies, indicating that economic improvements are contingent upon better governance in the power sector. This situation reflects challenges Pakistan faces in attracting foreign investment amid stringent fiscal oversight.

Jio Partners with SpaceX's Starlink to Boost Internet Access in India



13-Mar-25

Jio has partnered with SpaceX's Starlink to distribute satellite broadband across India, pending regulatory approvals. This collaboration aims to enhance digital accessibility in underserved regions, such as villages and healthcare centers, where traditional internet infrastructure is limited. Jio will utilize its vast retail network for distribution and provide installation support, complementing its existing broadband services. This initiative aligns with India's goal of bridging the digital divide and promoting high-speed internet access for all citizens, enhancing the overall digital ecosystem and fostering economic growth in remote areas.

ISRO Generates ₹3,827 Crores from Foreign Satellite Launches



13-Mar-25

ISRO has significantly boosted India's presence in the global satellite launch market, generating approximately \$439 million by launching 393 foreign satellites from 2015 to 2024. This achievement reflects India's capability to attract international clients, with collaborations extending to 61 countries in various space fields. Additionally, the Indian government has increased funding for the Gaganyaan Program to 20,193 Crores, enabling a broader initiative that includes the development of the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS), India's first space station, planned to be

operational by 2035. These advancements underscore ISRO's strategic importance in enhancing India's technological prowess and international partnerships in space exploration.

India Unveils Comprehensive Immigration Bill to Boost Security and Growth



13-Mar-25

The Indian government has introduced the Immigration and Foreigners Bill of 2025 to modernize its immigration framework, enhancing national security while promoting economic growth. By consolidating four outdated laws into a unified legislation, it aims to streamline visa processes for tourists, business professionals, and medical visitors, thereby boosting tourism and business opportunities. The establishment of a Bureau of Immigration will oversee compliance and information gathering from travelers, while also ensuring security measures against overstaying foreigners. This legislation is a significant step in balancing security needs with the facilitation of legitimate travel, reflecting India's commitment to creating a hospitable environment for international visitors without compromising on safety.

ISRO Successfully De-Docks SpaDeX Satellites, Boosting Space Ambitions



13-Mar-25

ISRO has successfully achieved the de-docking of its SpaDeX satellites, a significant milestone that enhances India's capabilities for future space missions, including the Bharatiya Antriksha Station, Chandrayaan 4, and Gaganyaan. Union Minister Jitendra Singh praised this accomplishment, attributing the success to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's continual support, which inspires confidence and innovation within the Indian space sector. The SpaDeX mission, initiated on December 30, culminated in the successful docking of satellites SDX01 and SDX02, showcasing India's growing prowess in space technology and its ambitions for advanced space exploration. This progress positions India as a formidable player in global space endeavors, fostering national pride and technological advancement.

LAT Aerospace to Launch 24-Seater Aircraft, Competing with HAL and NAL



13-Mar-25

LAT Aerospace, backed by Zomato founder Deepinder Goyal's \$20 million investment, is set to develop a 24-

seater STOL aircraft aimed at enhancing regional air connectivity in India. This private venture challenges established public sector players like HAL and NAL, which have faced delays with their respective aircraft projects. LAT Aerospace's innovative approach focuses on operating from smaller airstrips, potentially reducing costs and improving access to air travel for

underserved regions. However, the startup must navigate significant capital and regulatory hurdles while competing against HAL's government support and experience, making its journey both promising and challenging in revolutionizing India's aviation landscape.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
DATAPATNS	1590.0	1740.0	1558.15	1663.1	12843543	4.84	49.53	1544.38	2500.46
SOLARINDS	9859.35	10238.7	9781.1	10097.15	252649	3.23	68.55	9112.33	10256.78
MAZDOCK	2267.05	2340.0	2235.9	2316.0	2934181	2.66	57.66	2182.87	2215.03
BEML	2530.0	2641.1	2470.0	2553.7	769797	2.55	38.78	2595.9	3891.31
MIDHANI	268.21	273.88	268.21	270.06	470339	1.9	48.59	261.54	375.82
BDL	1106.85	1152.4	1088.0	1108.25	1806544	1.33	51.25	1061.28	1254.82
BEL	283.0	285.8	279.42	280.07	38015489	1.17	58.59	261.99	290.47
COCHINSHIP	1296.65	1322.35	1269.1	1291.65	893210	0.73	46.36	1279.92	1768.65
SIKA	2497.25	2549.0	2464.0	2500.0	7590	0.7	54.82	2423.65	2641.88
ZENTEC	1225.0	1249.8	1205.4	1214.55	520523	0.7	42.42	1148.13	1669.23
PTC	154.81	157.0	154.41	155.97	2078153	0.57	63.56	147.26	183.31
GRSE	1307.55	1372.65	1282.7	1303.35	2045313	0.3	43.92	1313.17	1718.23
APOLLO	113.45	116.5	111.7	112.75	4532977	0.3	44.74	114.71	109.27
HIGHENE	460.1	467.95	455.0	464.9	6564	0.29	43.83	470.67	661.26
DCXINDIA	227.4	235.99	223.0	225.97	679091	0.26	31.44	247.17	333.17
ASTRAMICRO	629.9	638.75	618.65	623.1	250662	0.03	42.69	621.15	809.93
PARAS	899.9	934.4	890.0	897.4	181338	-0.04	44.99	897.24	1106.26
LT	3202.25	3233.15	3178.05	3187.3	1414376	-0.2	39.83	3228.78	3565.41
AZAD	1299.7	1310.05	1245.3	1278.35	247041	-0.46	42.57	1299.71	1589.0
HAL	3435.0	3485.6	3390.85	3396.15	1229721	-0.56	44.92	3379.28	4416.45
KRISHNADEF	544.4	554.7	540.0	541.5	21500	-0.64	40.0	582.36	716.7
PREMEXPLN	328.45	343.0	315.6	321.0	382215	-0.8	33.29	352.62	528.76
ADANIENT	2249.0	2273.0	2215.6	2221.1	750310	-0.92	48.68	2186.8	2780.0
MTARTECH	1296.85	1298.75	1252.0	1257.6	113632	-1.11	37.84	1328.86	1697.79
HBLPOWER	426.0	431.45	411.75	414.8	1453061	-1.98	32.9	457.43	571.67
CFF	431.9	431.9	431.9	431.9	13400	-2.0	39.45	443.23	652.29
IDEAForge	345.0	351.95	332.65	333.6	230742	-2.18	28.37	369.12	629.38
LMW	15414.9	15414.9	14960.35	15035.55	2047	-2.39	49.11	14726.89	16001.6
AVANTEL	112.65	113.29	109.1	109.45	639616	-2.42	38.42	114.13	-
TANEJAERO	301.5	318.0	290.1	297.5	16537	-2.46	44.44	297.94	470.36
LOKESHMACH	147.25	147.85	141.0	141.76	39102	-3.09	20.26	171.52	349.56
MARINE	169.15	171.89	158.58	161.43	211938	-3.29	42.71	161.52	221.72
ROSSELLIND	60.98	60.98	57.3	57.58	24378	-3.91	38.83	59.88	268.58
BHARATFORG	1095.0	1095.0	1032.0	1039.25	1894793	-4.67	39.21	1060.96	1422.78
NIBE	903.9	918.8	843.4	843.4	46846	-5.0	26.33	1017.2	1700.58
TEMBO	0.0	491.6	491.6	491.6	8645	-27.61	31.96	653.25	466.12