



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

April 15, 2025 | Day 105

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
DATAPATTNS	1878.7	1681.95	+11.7%
AZAD	1463.2	1337.25	+9.42%
MAZDOCK	2661.3	2432.55	+9.4%
KRISHNADEF	793.3	730.3	+8.63%
MARINE	186.5	172.84	+7.9%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
LOKESHMACH	159.18	166.65	-4.48%
TANEJAERO	276.0	278.7	-0.97%

Defense Business and Industry

DRDO: AMCA to Leap Directly to 6th-Gen Engine for Future Readiness



15-Apr-25

India's Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has announced that the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) will skip the fifth-generation engine and directly adopt a sixth-generation powerplant, a strategic move aimed at future-proofing India's air combat capabilities. As global powers like the U.S. and China advance their sixth-generation fighter programs, the call for India to initiate similar efforts has intensified. Analysts argue that starting conceptual work on a sixth-generation fighter now will enable India to avoid technological obsolescence and enhance its defense posture against regional threats, especially given China's military modernization. By focusing on cutting-edge technologies such as AI and directed-energy weapons, India can build a robust aerospace ecosystem and foster collaboration with allied nations, further strengthening its defense capabilities in a rapidly evolving global landscape.

India to Directly Negotiate for 110 More Rafale Jets to Boost Air Power



15-Apr-25

India is poised to negotiate for an additional 110 Rafale fighter jets directly from France, moving away from the stalled MRFA procurement process to efficiently address the Indian Air Force's (IAF) fighter squadron shortages. This government-to-government deal aims to bolster India's air capabilities amid regional threats, while also enhancing local defense manufacturing

through Dassault Reliance Aerospace Limited, despite concerns over technology transfer and indigenous content. While Dassault aims for full control of the Nagpur facility to ensure quality, challenges remain regarding local sourcing and the assembly process. If finalized, the deal would bring India's total Rafale fleet to 172, significantly strengthening its air defense posture.

Andhra Pradesh aims to be India's Drone Capital, promoting local tech development.



15-Apr-25

Andhra Pradesh is rapidly emerging as India's premier drone hub through a bold initiative aimed at cultivating indigenous technology and fostering a vibrant ecosystem for drone innovation. The AP Drone Corporation, key to this transformation, has identified over 100 versatile drone applications spanning sectors such as agriculture, disaster management, logistics, and surveillance, catalyzing both rural and urban advancements. Central to the state's strategy is the development of a 300-acre Drone City in Kurnool—a state-of-the-art facility featuring dedicated zones for manufacturing, testing, research, and startup incubation—which is poised to become the epicenter of drone innovation and commercialization. Complementing these efforts is the launch of the AP Drone Mart portal, designed to streamline investments and forge connections between businesses, service providers, and the public, thereby accelerating industry growth. By leveraging public-private partnerships and robust government support, the initiative not only propels economic development and job creation but also cements Andhra Pradesh's role in reinforcing India's ambition to emerge as a global leader in the drone industry. This comprehensive approach

integrates technology, policy, and market strategies to create a dynamic environment that is expected to yield significant benefits across multiple sectors, fostering a future of advanced digital connectivity and innovation.

India Achieves Milestone with Advanced High-Powered Laser Weapons SHARE

15-Apr-25

India has marked a significant milestone in defense technology by successfully demonstrating its first high-powered laser weapon, a 30-kilowatt system capable of neutralizing drones and other aerial threats. This achievement, a decade in the making under the DRDO's Sahastra Shakti program, showcases India's commitment to developing indigenous capabilities in directed-energy weapons, addressing critical gaps in aerial defense, particularly against growing UAV threats. The successful trials conducted at the National Open Air Range in Kurnool highlight not only the operational effectiveness of the system but also India's strategic autonomy in military technology, placing it among a select group of nations with advanced laser weapon systems. With plans for even more powerful systems like the proposed 300-kilowatt "Surya," India is poised to enhance its defense posture and innovate further in this promising field.

Adani's Kanpur Facility Secures Global Ammo Export Orders SHARE

15-Apr-25

Adani Defence and Aerospace has successfully entered the global ammunition market with significant multi-year export orders from its advanced facility in Kanpur, set to double its small arms ammunition production capacity to 300 million rounds by 2025. This facility, which also produces 155mm artillery shells, has reserved one-third of its output for the Indian armed forces, reinforcing domestic supply capabilities. The initiative supports India's self-reliance goal in defense and contributes economically to Uttar Pradesh, aligning with the 'Make in India' initiative. Amidst rising global demand for ammunition due to international conflicts, Adani's efficient production is poised to enhance India's position in the global defense supply chain.

IAF to Seek RFI for Advanced 1000km BVLOS Loitering Munitions SHARE

15-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to issue a Request for Information (RFI) for the development of advanced ground-launched, Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) loitering munitions, aiming to enhance India's tactical

strike capabilities. These munitions are envisioned to have a range of 500 to 1,000 kilometers and carry a 50 kg warhead, enabling precision strikes and extended loitering times, which are crucial for modern warfare scenarios. This initiative aligns with the Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) campaign, emphasizing indigenous innovation and development. The munitions are expected to feature autonomous navigation and real-time control capabilities, allowing for flexible operations in contested environments such as the Line of Actual Control (LAC). This move follows the IAF's recent induction of the ALS-50 loitering munition, developed by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL), which boasts a vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) capability and has demonstrated precision strike capabilities during trials in diverse terrains, including high-altitude areas like Ladakh and hot conditions in Rajasthan. The ALS-50's successful deployment underscores India's growing proficiency in developing sophisticated unmanned systems, and the forthcoming RFI indicates a strategic push towards enhancing long-range, autonomous strike capabilities through indigenous means.

CAG Critiques HAL's RUAV-200 Failures, Urges Market Reforms SHARE

15-Apr-25

The CAG has criticized HAL for the failures of the RUAV-200 program, highlighting significant lapses in planning that led to a product unsuitable for defense needs and financial losses of ₹9.54 crore. The report emphasizes HAL's failure to conduct a market survey or align with military requirements, resulting in an operationally inadequate UAV. Recommendations include establishing a Market Research Division, aligning projects with defense roadmaps, securing Letters of Intent, and conducting post-project evaluations to prevent future missteps. This critique reflects the importance of integrating market insights into defense development, essential for enhancing India's self-reliance in the UAV sector and improving HAL's credibility.

CAG Criticizes DRDL for ₹4.83 Crore Waste on C-103 Material SHARE

15-Apr-25

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has criticized the Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL) for wasteful procurement of 1,329 kg of C-103 material, valued at ₹4.83 crore, intended for India's Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV) project. Despite feasibility studies indicating

C-103's inadequacy at extreme temperatures, DRDL proceeded with the purchase, leading to its failure during testing and leaving most of the material unused. The CAG deemed this procurement a significant misstep that squandered public funds and hindered the strategic progress of a vital defense project, emphasizing the need for enhanced oversight and adherence to technical evaluations in defense procurement processes.

Navy Invests in EMLS Development for Future Aircraft Carriers

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15-Apr-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has achieved a significant milestone in developing an indigenous Electro-Magnetic Launch System (EMLS) for the Indian Navy, showcased at Aero India 2025. This system aims to equip the proposed 65,000-tonne Indigenous Aircraft Carrier-III (IAC-III) with a CATOBAR (Catapult Assisted Take-Off But Arrested Recovery) configuration, enabling the launch of heavier aircraft such as the Rafale-M and the upcoming Twin Engine Deck-Based Fighter (TEDBF). DRDO's Research & Development Establishment (Engineers) [R&DE(E)] has successfully tested a technology demonstrator, launching 400 kg payloads over 16–18 meters, validating core technologies like linear electric machines and pulse power systems. The development is a collaborative effort involving Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), private sector companies, and academia. The Indian Navy's decision to pursue an indigenous EMLS stems from the high costs associated with foreign systems, such as the \$1 billion price tag for U.S.-offered EMALS and AAG systems. An indigenous EMLS will enhance operational flexibility, allowing the launch of various aircraft, including UAVs and UCAVs, and reduce maintenance compared to traditional steam catapults. This initiative not only strengthens India's self-reliance in critical defense technologies but also positions it among the few nations capable of deploying advanced aircraft launch systems, bolstering its strategic presence in the Indo-Pacific region.

Hindustan Shipyard's Nistar: A Leap in India's Naval Prowess

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15-Apr-25

Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) has achieved a significant milestone with the successful trials of its advanced Diving Support Vessel (DSV), Nistar, enhancing India's maritime capabilities and positioning the country as a leader in exporting sophisticated naval vessels. As the first of two indigenously built DSVs for

the Indian Navy, Nistar is equipped with advanced technology, including a Dynamic Positioning System and specialized diving equipment, ensuring reliability in complex underwater operations. This project marks HSL's return to high-technology naval construction after decades, reflecting a transformation driven by strategic leadership and infrastructure upgrades, thereby elevating India's status in the global defense sector.

Boosting Fighter Aircraft Production: The Case for Privatization

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15-Apr-25

India's defense strategy emphasizes enhancing fighter aircraft production amidst rising regional tensions, with calls for privatization gaining momentum. Air Commodore SP Singh's recent brief highlights the limitations of HAL's state-led monopoly, citing delays and inefficiencies in the LCA Tejas program. He advocates for increased private sector involvement to foster competition, innovation, and a robust supply chain, particularly through the Strategic Partnership Model. While privatization could expedite production and boost local aerospace capabilities, concerns about the balance between profit motives and national security remain. The government's ongoing shift towards greater private sector participation signals a proactive approach to modernizing India's defense industry and enhancing geopolitical clout.

China's J-50 Stealth Fighter: Promising Specs, Dubious Reality

[!\[\]\(2bae76de5ebbd5c4d7d47162f1673734_img.jpg\) SHARE](#)

15-Apr-25

China's J-50 stealth fighter, developed by Shenyang Aircraft Corporation, features advanced capabilities such as a tailless design for improved stealth and maneuverability, twin engines with thrust-vectoring nozzles, and a combat radius of 2,200 kilometers. Despite its promising specs, analysts question the J-50's operational effectiveness, suggesting it may be a strategic bluff with uncertain capabilities. China's pursuit of sixth-generation aviation aims to challenge Western air dominance, particularly in contested regions like the South China Sea. As global military dynamics shift, India's defense strategy must closely monitor these developments to ensure its own air superiority and strategic deterrence in the region.

Italy Urges UK to Improve Tech Sharing in Fighter Jet Project

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15-Apr-25

Italy's Defence Minister Guido Crosetto criticized Britain for not fully sharing technologies in the Global Combat

Air Programme (GCAP), a joint effort with Japan to develop a new fighter jet by 2035. He emphasized that cooperation is vital for serious international relationships, urging the UK to overcome "selfishness" in defense collaboration. Crosetto suggested that extending this collaboration to countries like Saudi Arabia could enhance technological growth. The GCAP involves BAE Systems, Leonardo, and Japan's JAIEC, each holding equal shares. This situation highlights the necessity of transparent technology sharing in multinational defense projects to foster stronger alliances.

BEL Shares Surge on Anticipated ₹2,200 Crore IAF Radar Order

15-Apr-25

Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) is poised to secure a substantial order worth approximately Rs 2,000-2,200 crore from the Indian Air Force for the MK-2 low-level lightweight radars, following the issuance of a request for information (RFI). This upgrade is beneficial as these radars are easy to transport and enhance the IAF's capabilities. Analysts express optimism regarding the defense sector's long-term growth potential, indicating that it is set to become a significant contributor to India's GDP. Investment sentiment remains high, with BEL and other defense firms being highlighted for their robust order books and promising outlook in the evolving defense landscape.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Xi's Military Purge: PLA Chief Dismissed Amidst Trust Issues

15-Apr-25

Recent reports indicate that President Xi Jinping has accelerated an unprecedented anti-corruption purge within the People's Liberation Army, culminating in the dismissal of General He Weidong—a move emblematic of deeper trust issues within the military. Since Xi's rise to power, more than 78 senior PLA officers have been removed, reflecting not only widespread graft but also a calculated effort to consolidate political loyalty and discipline in an institution critical to China's global posture. Analysts warn that while Xi's ruthless campaign aims to eliminate corruption and ensure allegiance, the resulting shake-up may undermine military cohesion and delay modernization plans crucial for responding to regional challenges such as tensions over Taiwan and strategic rivalries with India. The purge, by targeting high-profile figures deeply

intertwined with the party's traditional networks, raises concerns about the operational readiness of key units, including those involved in nuclear and missile capabilities. Although officials assert that these actions are necessary to root out "serious violations of discipline," critics caution that an overly politicized approach could disrupt the PLA's strategic planning and procurement processes, potentially impeding its transformation into a first-rate fighting force amid escalating global uncertainties.

Russian Warships Arrive in Chittagong After Army Chief's Moscow Visit

15-Apr-25

Three Russian warships have docked in Chittagong, marking a significant development in Bangladesh's military diplomacy following Army Chief Gen Waker-Uz-Zaman's recent visit to Moscow. This historic visit, the first in 50 years, highlights Bangladesh's strategy to diversify its military partnerships and reduce reliance on Chinese defense equipment amid increasing geopolitical pressures. By strengthening ties with Russia, Bangladesh aims to balance relationships with major powers and counterbalance Western influence, especially with the US pressing for democratic reforms. This move underscores the evolving foreign policy of Bangladesh, seeking to navigate complex regional dynamics while enhancing its defense capabilities.

India and Tanzania Strengthen Defense Cooperation Initiatives

15-Apr-25

India is actively enhancing its defense ties with Tanzania, as evidenced by Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth's recent meetings with Tanzanian officials, where they discussed cooperation in counter-insurgency, counter-terrorism, and cyber security. The inauguration of the Africa India Key Maritime Engagement (AIKEYME) naval exercise and a Defense Expo showcases India's commitment to regional security and maritime stability, promoting collaboration among several African nations. Seth's interactions with the Indian diaspora in Tanzania highlighted India's progress and the significant contributions of the Indian community to both nations. This initiative marks a pivotal step in strengthening India's strategic partnerships in Africa, reinforcing its role as a key player in regional geopolitics.

Defence Secretary's Rome Visit Boosts India-Italy Defence Ties SHARE

15-Apr-25

Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh's visit to Rome from April 14-15, 2025, focused on enhancing India-Italy defence cooperation, including discussions on maritime security and industrial collaboration. Key topics included technology transfer and armament production, reflecting India's commitment to building a robust domestic defence ecosystem. A significant MoU was signed between the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers and the Federation of Italian Companies for Aerospace, Defence and Security, aiming to strengthen B2B ties. This visit underscores India's proactive approach to fostering international partnerships and innovation in its defence sector, enhancing its strategic foothold in global maritime security dynamics.

Bangladesh's Claims on Northeast India: Politically Misguided, Says Analyst SHARE

15-Apr-25

Bangladeshi politicians, particularly under the interim government led by Muhammad Yunus, have made provocative claims regarding annexing India's northeastern states, a tactic viewed as political posturing amid domestic instability. Defence analyst Ranesh Rajan dismisses these statements as desperate attempts to consolidate power, arguing that Bangladesh lacks the military capability to pose a credible threat to India. He emphasizes that India should focus on its military modernization and strategic priorities in the Indo-Pacific rather than engaging with the interim government's rhetoric. The situation reflects broader tensions in India-Bangladesh relations, exacerbated by Dhaka's tilt towards China and rising anti-India sentiment domestically.

PoJK Nationalists Challenge Pakistan Army Amid Rising Tensions SHARE

15-Apr-25

Tensions are escalating in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), as local nationalists assert their demands for independence from Pakistan. They have issued stark warnings to the Pakistan Army, emphasizing that their struggle is distinct from Balochistan's insurgency, highlighting the region's strategic importance and the oppressive military presence. The unrest, fueled by grievances over exploitation and suppression, may challenge Pakistan's control and draw international attention, especially

given India's claims over PoJK and its emphasis on human rights violations. This situation underscores the complexities of regional geopolitics and the potential for increased instability along the Line of Control with India.

Xi Jinping Calls for China-Vietnam Unity Against U.S. Bullying SHARE

15-Apr-25

Chinese President Xi Jinping recently urged China and Vietnam to unite against "unilateral bullying," alluding to U.S. tariffs that have affected both nations economically. His visit resulted in 45 bilateral agreements, emphasizing cooperation in trade, investment, and emerging sectors, amidst ongoing U.S.-China tensions and South China Sea disputes. Xi's call for peaceful management of differences highlights a strategic pivot towards strengthening ties with Vietnam, which has been crucial for China's economic interests in the region. This move signals Beijing's intent to counterbalance U.S. influence while promoting multilateralism and regional stability in a rapidly changing geopolitical landscape.

US-Philippines Drills Highlight Commitment to South China Sea Security SHARE

15-Apr-25

Around 14,000 American and Filipino forces will participate in the Balikatan joint combat exercises from April 21 to May 9, showcasing ongoing US commitment to regional security amid tensions in the South China Sea. This year's drills will involve live-fire scenarios, aerial surveillance, and the use of advanced missile systems, despite China's concerns about potential escalation and arms racing. The US aims to strengthen alliances and enhance deterrence against Chinese aggression, emphasizing that peace is achieved through strength. Such collaborative military training reflects India's strategic interest in countering regional threats, reinforcing its own defense partnerships in the Indo-Pacific.

Russia and US remain at an impasse over Ukraine crisis talks. SHARE

15-Apr-25

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov stated that Russia and the US have failed to reach an agreement on key issues regarding the Ukraine crisis after multiple rounds of negotiations. He highlighted a perceived difference in approach between the Trump and Biden administrations, asserting that the Trump

administration seeks to understand the root causes of the conflict. Lavrov accused the US and EU of instigating the 2014 coup in Kiev and criticized the Biden administration for "weaponizing" the financial system through sanctions on Russia. This ongoing stalemate emphasizes the complexities of international diplomacy and the divergent strategies of major powers in resolving regional conflicts.

Khamenei: Cautious on U.S. nuclear talks, wary of outcomes



15-Apr-25

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei expressed a cautious outlook on U.S. nuclear talks, stating he is neither "overly optimistic nor pessimistic" about potential agreements, emphasizing the need for careful negotiations and defining red lines. Despite a rise in Iranian hopes for economic relief following positive discussions in Oman, Khamenei warned against linking the nation's fate to these talks, highlighting the historical enmity towards the U.S. since the 1979 revolution. While Iran faces severe economic challenges due to sanctions, the Supreme Leader's willingness to engage in talks reflects a strategic pivot aimed at alleviating internal pressures while maintaining a wary stance towards U.S. intentions.

US Deploys Second Aircraft Carrier in Middle East Amid Iran Talks



15-Apr-25

The U.S. has deployed a second aircraft carrier, the USS Carl Vinson, to the Middle East amid ongoing nuclear negotiations with Iran, signaling a robust military presence as tensions rise. This deployment follows U.S. airstrikes against Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen, emphasizing America's strategy to pressure Iran into a favorable deal. Amid talks, Iranian Supreme Leader Khamenei acknowledged progress but maintained a cautious stance, stressing that negotiations should not dictate Iran's domestic affairs. The U.S. aims to limit Iran's uranium enrichment to 3.67%, reminiscent of the 2015 nuclear deal, while addressing Iran's missile capabilities, which complicate the negotiations further.

Military Operations

South Western Command Achieves Peak Operational Readiness



15-Apr-25

The Indian Army's South Western Command, under Lieutenant General Manjinder Singh, has achieved the highest levels of operational preparedness, emerging as a technology-driven and agile force. This accomplishment stems from strategic planning, adoption of new technologies, and joint and integrated operations. Notably, the Command has initiated research and development projects in collaboration with IIT Kanpur and Roorkee and prioritized veterans' welfare through initiatives such as constructing an old age home in Jaipur. These efforts reflect a commitment to modernizing the force while ensuring the well-being of its personnel and veterans, positioning the South Western Command as a formidable player in the evolving defense landscape.

IAF Successfully Completes Myanmar Relief Missions Despite GPS Spoofing



15-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) confirmed that its transport aircraft successfully completed relief missions to earthquake-hit Myanmar, despite facing GPS spoofing challenges. The IAF stated that its crew is well-trained to handle such situations, ensuring mission success while prioritizing flight safety. India launched Operation Brahma to deliver aid, deploying six military aircraft, including C-130J and C-17, to transport relief materials and rescue teams. While GPS spoofing, a form of cyber attack, posed a risk, the IAF effectively managed the situation, highlighting its operational readiness and capability in complex environments, thereby reinforcing India's commitment to regional humanitarian assistance.

IAF's Kargil Courier airlifts 41 passengers, aiding 3,192 this winter



15-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force successfully airlifted 41 passengers in an AN-32 aircraft as part of the Kargil Courier service, which has facilitated the transport of 3,192 passengers this winter between Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh due to the closure of the Srinagar-Leh National Highway. Initiated on February 8, this service addressed the difficulties faced by stranded travelers amid heavy snowfall. The IAF's swift response

highlights its vital role in ensuring connectivity in challenging conditions, showcasing India's commitment to maintaining accessibility and support for its citizens, particularly in remote regions. This operation not only strengthens logistical capabilities but also underscores the strategic importance of the IAF in the region.

Indian Army Faces 100,000 Personnel Shortage Amid Border Tensions



15-Apr-25

The Indian Army currently faces a personnel shortage of over 100,000 amid ongoing border tensions, with more than 50,000 soldiers deployed at the LAC with China and additional forces in Jammu due to heightened terrorist activity. The Defense Ministry indicated that recruitment efforts, particularly through the Agneepath scheme, aim to address this shortfall, with reforms in the officer selection process and expedited documentation. Despite advancements in technology within the army, the significant reduction in troop numbers raises concerns about security, especially in sensitive regions. The ongoing recruitment challenges underscore the need for a balanced approach to personnel management while maintaining operational readiness.

IAF Concludes Successful INIOCHOS-25 Exercise in Greece



15-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully concluded its participation in Exercise INIOCHOS-25, hosted by the Hellenic Air Force in Greece. The exercise, which ran from March 31 to April 11, 2025, involved operations with air and surface assets from fifteen countries and aimed to enhance operational excellence and multinational cooperation. The IAF deployed Su-30 MKI fighter jets, IL-78 mid-air refuelling aircraft, and C-17 strategic airlifters, showcasing its combat reach and rapid mobility. This participation underscores India's commitment to global defense cooperation, strengthens strategic partnerships, and enhances capabilities for joint operations with allied nations, reflecting a proactive approach to modern air warfare and regional security.

Indian, U.S. Forces Boost Ties with Amphibious Drills at Tiger Triumph



14-Apr-25

Indian and U.S. forces recently concluded the Tiger Triumph 2025 amphibious exercise in Kakinada,

enhancing their operational integration and interoperability. The large-scale drills involved various military branches and focused on humanitarian assistance and disaster response scenarios. U.S. and Indian participants demonstrated their capabilities through beach landings and simulated supply drops, with discussions on integrating autonomous systems and satellite data into future exercises. This iteration marks a significant step in deepening defense cooperation between Washington and New Delhi, particularly in the context of increasing Chinese influence in the Indian Ocean Region, showcasing a commitment to regional stability and preparedness.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Security Forces Engage Terrorists in Poonch, Jammu and Kashmir



15-Apr-25

In Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, a significant anti-terrorism operation involving the Army's White Knight Corps and Jammu and Kashmir Police led to an exchange of fire with terrorists at Lasana, Surankote. The operation was initiated based on intelligence about militant presence, with additional troops deployed to prevent their escape. One Army personnel sustained injuries during the encounter and was taken to a hospital for treatment. The ongoing search operations reflect the security forces' commitment to maintaining stability in the region, especially ahead of upcoming elections, and underscore their proactive measures against persistent militant threats. Overall, the recent escalation in anti-terror operations in Jammu and Kashmir demonstrates the Indian defense forces' resolve to counter terrorism effectively and ensure the safety of the local population.

Tahawwur Rana Dodges NIA on Finances and ISI Ties in 26/11 Case



15-Apr-25

Investigations into the 26/11 Mumbai attacks have intensified with Tahawwur Rana being interrogated by the NIA regarding his financial ties and connections with the ISI. A court has confirmed that Rana had also plotted similar attacks in New Delhi, underscoring a broader conspiracy that threatens national security. The judge emphasized the need for extended custodial interrogation to piece together evidence from 17 years ago and noted the necessity of Rana's medical care during this period. As Rana, a close associate of David Headley, is confronted with recorded conversations and

other material, the investigation aims to unravel the deep-rooted terror network that facilitated the deadly assaults, which resulted in 166 casualties. This ongoing probe reinforces India's commitment to addressing cross-border terrorism and enhancing national security measures against such threats.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

Airtel Enhances Anti-Spam for Robust Digital Security Across Devices

15-Apr-25

Bharti Airtel is enhancing its anti-spam solution to secure all online interactions, moving beyond basic voice and SMS protection to comprehensive digital security, as highlighted by CTO Randeep Sekhon. The initiative leverages AI to identify spam and aims for seamless user authentication, particularly in banking, while recognizing the vulnerabilities of traditional OTP methods. The focus is shifting towards enterprise solutions utilizing 5G technology, with Ericsson's Nitin Bansal emphasizing India's potential for innovation in sectors like healthcare and industrial automation. This strategic evolution underlines India's capacity to lead in scalable, secure digital connectivity, setting a global benchmark in the telecommunications landscape.

Kaspersky's Research Sandbox 3.0: Enhanced Analysis, Reduced Hardware Needs

15-Apr-25

Kaspersky has launched Research Sandbox 3.0, enhancing capabilities for deeper file analysis and interactive threat investigation while halving hardware requirements, making it more accessible for security teams. Key advancements include real-time interaction during malware execution, integration with Microsoft AMSI for better detection of obfuscated scripts, and extended static analysis for improved threat intelligence. The redesigned user interface further streamlines the research process, allowing analysts to focus on relevant malicious processes more efficiently. This update empowers security teams with advanced tools to combat sophisticated cyber threats effectively, reflecting Kaspersky's commitment to evolving cybersecurity solutions.

Rising Cyberattacks Threaten India's National Stability, Warns Kant

15-Apr-25

G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant highlighted the rising threat of cyberattacks in India, particularly as the nation transitions to smart meters and a digital power grid. Between 2021 and 2024, state-sponsored cyberattacks surged by 300%, with businesses facing over 3,000 attacks weekly. Hackers, notably from China and Russia, deploy various malware to target financial systems, emphasizing the need for coordinated efforts across defense, industry, and civil society to secure India's digital infrastructure. Kant underscored the importance of developing robust cybersecurity frameworks to protect the growing financial sector, which lags behind developed nations in cybersecurity preparedness.

Italy's Defence Minister: Starlink Deal Should Be Technical, Not Political

15-Apr-25

Italian Defence Minister Guido Crosetto emphasized that the evaluation of a potential deal with Elon Musk's Starlink for encrypted satellite communications should remain purely technical, distancing it from political influences. He noted the politicization of negotiations has drawn criticism from opposition parties concerned about national security implications of engaging a foreign businessman. Despite these concerns, Italy's co-ruling League party advocates for Starlink, citing its advanced technology compared to competitors like Franco-British Eutelsat. This debate highlights the delicate balance between technological advancement and national security as Italy navigates modern defense requirements in a geopolitical context.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

821 Indian Army Personnel Honored for UN Peacekeeping in Lebanon

15-Apr-25

The Indian Battalion deployed under the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) recently celebrated its Medal Day Parade, honoring 821 Indian Army personnel for their exemplary peacekeeping service. This prestigious event highlighted India's commitment to international peace and regional stability, showcasing military precision and discipline under Lt. Col. Vikas Sheoran's leadership. Attended by dignitaries, including the Indian Ambassador to Lebanon, the

ceremony underscored the strong ties between the Indian forces and Lebanese communities, reflecting India's role as a leading contributor to UN peacekeeping missions. Overall, this event reinforces India's dedication to collective global security and humanitarian values through effective civil-military cooperation.

Honoring Marshal Arjan Singh: A Legacy of Leadership and Valor

🔒 SHARE

15-Apr-25

On the 106th birth anniversary of Marshal Arjan Singh, the Indian Air Force and other branches of the Indian Armed Forces paid tribute to his monumental legacy. Singh, the only officer in IAF history to hold the five-star rank of Marshal, is celebrated for his leadership during the 1965 India-Pakistan war and his efforts in modernizing the IAF. Recognized for his bravery with awards like the Distinguished Flying Cross and Padma Vibhushan, his contributions continue to inspire future generations of military leaders. This homage reflects the enduring respect and admiration for Singh's strategic brilliance and unwavering dedication to the nation's defense.

Miscellaneous

INSV Tarini Sets Sail from Cape Town, Advancing Women in Sailing

🔒 SHARE

15-Apr-25

INSV Tarini was ceremonially flagged off from Cape Town for the final leg of the Navika Sagar Parikrama II expedition, showcasing India's commitment to promoting ocean sailing and women's empowerment. The voyage, crewed by Lieutenant Commander Dilna K and Lieutenant Commander Roopa A, included outreach efforts highlighting India's indigenous shipbuilding capabilities and strengthening maritime ties with South Africa. Engaging with local dignitaries and students, the crew inspired future naval officers and aspiring sailors. This expedition not only celebrates India's maritime history but also reinforces its soft power through cultural exchange and diplomatic engagement, further enhancing India's stature in global maritime cooperation.

CENJOWS Hosts Defence Literature Festival on Securing India's Future

🔒 SHARE

15-Apr-25

The Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS) hosted the Defence Literature Festival Kalam & Kavach 2.0 in New Delhi, focusing on "Securing India's Rise through Defence Reforms." The event emphasized the importance of defence technology and future warfare, aligning with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative. Distinguished experts discussed critical issues such as AI, cyber technologies, and maritime security, aiming to enhance India's multi-domain operational capabilities. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh declared 2025 as the Year of Reforms, highlighting a commitment to transforming the Armed Forces into a technologically advanced, combat-ready force through strategic reforms and public-private partnerships, underscoring India's dedication to national security and innovation.

Tejas MkII Timeline Confirmed: Rollout in Late 2025, First Flight in 2026

🔒 SHARE

15-Apr-25

Recent clarifications by authoritative sources have dispelled confusion about the Tejas MkII's timeline, confirming that the prototype rollout is set for late October or early November 2025, with its first flight expected in February or March 2026. Initial misinterpretations of statements made by DRDO Chief Dr. Samir V. Kamat led to speculation about an earlier flight, but the timeline aligns with prior projections. The Tejas MkII, crucial for India's defense capabilities, features advanced technologies and aims to replace aging aircraft in the IAF fleet. The program's steady progress underscores India's commitment to indigenizing defense aviation and enhancing aerial combat capabilities.

ISRO Launches Cutting-Edge Facility for Advanced Landing Gear Testing

🔒 SHARE

15-Apr-25

ISRO has inaugurated a state-of-the-art Advanced Landing Gear Drop Test Facility at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre in Thiruvananthapuram, aimed at testing the deployable landing gear system for the Pushpak Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV). This facility can simulate various landing conditions and velocities, enhancing India's capabilities in advanced aerospace technology. It will play a crucial role in the RLV-Orbital Re-entry Experiment, facilitating the Pushpak's re-entry and landing on runways. With comprehensive safety features and a sophisticated sensor suite, this development underscores India's commitment to

advancing its indigenous aerospace capabilities, positioning itself as a significant player in the global space technology landscape.

India and China in Talks to Resume Direct Flights Amid Thawing Ties



15-Apr-25

India and China are discussing the resumption of direct passenger air services, with no dates fixed yet. This dialogue follows a thaw in relations after a deadly border clash in 2020, which impacted bilateral ties significantly. The two nations agreed in January to address trade and economic differences, anticipated to bolster both aviation sectors, particularly China's post-COVID recovery. Despite improved relations since a military agreement in October, issues remain unresolved, reflecting ongoing complexities in bilateral ties. This initiative marks a positive step towards normalizing interactions, indicating both countries' willingness to engage constructively amidst historical tensions.

China Halts Boeing Jet Deliveries Amid US Trade Tensions



15-Apr-25

China has reportedly instructed its airlines to halt deliveries of Boeing jets amid an escalating trade conflict with the United States, which has seen tariffs rise significantly on both sides. This move comes as China reacts to US tariffs, imposing its own hefty duties on American imports. The situation highlights the broader implications of the trade war, potentially increasing the costs for Chinese carriers that lease Boeing aircraft. The geopolitical landscape is being significantly affected, with China leveraging its market power in response to perceived American bullying, which could further strain international relations and impact global markets.

AIKEYME 2025: Indian Navy Chief and Tanzania Boost Maritime Ties



15-Apr-25

Indian Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh Tripathi and Tanzanian Defence Force Chief General John Jacob Mkunda celebrated the start of AIKEYME 2025 in Dar-es-Salaam, emphasizing the strengthening of maritime cooperation between India and Africa. The six-day multilateral exercise aims to address maritime threats such as piracy and trafficking, fostering collaboration among like-minded nations. Indian Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth highlighted the importance of mutual growth through partnerships, invoking India's maritime

vision MAHASAGAR. The event featured Indian naval ships INS Chennai and INS Kesari, showcasing India's commitment to enhancing regional security and cooperation in maritime domains alongside Tanzania's dedication to future AIKEYME editions.

Omar Abdullah urges MEA to advocate for lifting J&K travel bans



15-Apr-25

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah urged India's Ministry of External Affairs to advocate for the lifting of stringent travel advisories on Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) from Western nations, arguing that such actions would signify a positive change in the region's situation. He emphasized the need to reposition J&K towards value tourism and suggested a review of the current tourism policy. Abdullah pointed out that while foreign visitors have historically been required to register, it is the travel advisories that significantly deter tourism by affecting insurance coverage. He highlighted the potential for increasing South Indian tourism and indicated that careful consideration is needed for any private investment initiatives in the region.

SARAS MK-2: India's Bold Leap in Indigenous Aircraft Development



15-Apr-25

The SARAS MK-2 project symbolizes India's significant strides toward indigenous aircraft development, showcasing resilience after past setbacks, including a tragic crash in 2009. This 19-seater aircraft is designed for diverse civilian and military applications, with enhancements in performance and operational capabilities tailored for Indian conditions, offering lower fuel consumption and better suitability for high-altitude operations. Supported by the Indian Air Force's initial order and a commitment to self-reliance under initiatives like "Make in India," the program aims to bolster regional connectivity and advanced aerospace manufacturing. While facing challenges in design and certification, the SARAS MK-2 represents a pivotal move in establishing India as a serious player in global aviation.

NASA and ISRO Set to Finalize Launch Dates for NISAR Mission



15-Apr-25

NASA and ISRO are reviewing launch dates for the Indo-US NISAR satellite mission, which aims to deliver advanced radar imaging to monitor Earth's ecosystems and climate change. Delays have occurred due to technical issues with the satellite's 12-meter reflector

antenna, which required thermal coating and additional testing in Bengaluru before its planned launch in May or June 2025 using ISRO's GSLV MK-II. With a budget of \$1.5 billion, NISAR is set to be one of the most sophisticated Earth observation satellites, enhancing resource management and disaster mitigation efforts globally while promising open access to its critical data. This collaboration underscores the strong partnership between India and the US in addressing global environmental challenges.

Indian Army's 'Azmat-e-Hind' Fuels Border Tourism in J&K



15-Apr-25

The Indian Army's 'Azmat-e-Hind' initiative is significantly enhancing border tourism in Jammu and

Kashmir's Kupwara district, transforming it into a symbol of hope rather than conflict. The initiative features a 104-foot national flag symbolizing unity and honors the sacrifices of soldiers. Through training programs for locals in hospitality and the establishment of home stays, the Army fosters community engagement and security, bolstering the local economy. This endeavor not only promotes tourism but also strengthens the connection between the armed forces and civilians, showcasing India's rich history and diversity while encouraging a narrative of peace and resilience in border regions.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
DATAPATNS	1694.6	1914.0	1694.6	1878.7	6862116	11.7	64.91	1696.85	2393.55
AZAD	1369.0	1480.8	1362.9	1463.2	405144	9.42	58.85	1352.97	1558.08
MAZDOCK	2490.0	2697.7	2473.0	2661.3	7673596	9.4	59.46	2535.96	2292.94
KRISHNADEF	748.0	827.75	748.0	793.3	112750	8.63	65.43	665.41	707.04
MARINE	179.0	188.0	176.53	186.5	475545	7.9	58.33	169.95	225.78
IDEAFORGE	347.9	366.0	343.0	364.35	265140	7.56	50.43	355.62	594.64
AVANTEL	117.99	125.85	116.51	124.34	2165059	7.46	59.53	114.34	-
BHARATFORG	1041.0	1076.0	1040.1	1073.1	2570787	7.08	48.58	1101.89	1373.03
ROSSELLIND	82.88	85.0	80.85	84.39	187353	6.49	74.37	63.5	230.43
PARAS	1000.0	1074.0	982.0	1034.1	630003	6.25	59.82	967.06	1096.46
BDL	1335.0	1415.0	1335.0	1404.9	2842889	6.02	66.45	1271.21	1233.85
SOLARINDS	11517.0	11985.0	11469.0	11945.0	104614	5.55	73.56	10838.99	10383.27
GRSE	1638.3	1744.0	1631.3	1698.6	2473482	5.17	61.18	1616.37	1730.07
NIBE	1275.95	1275.95	1275.95	1275.95	377	5.0	64.95	1033.56	1628.48
MIDHANI	271.0	280.95	270.15	279.45	267160	4.9	52.47	275.88	360.49
APOLLO	115.0	119.22	114.5	117.86	4984414	4.61	50.25	118.43	110.4
LT	3180.0	3272.0	3176.1	3257.6	2161492	4.55	48.32	3315.12	3539.21
DCXINDIA	234.0	242.3	232.35	239.21	447867	4.29	49.88	232.65	324.5
ADANIENT	2375.0	2440.0	2359.0	2418.2	1145125	4.17	58.94	2320.44	2693.42
MTARTECH	1357.0	1380.0	1347.8	1371.0	109216	3.65	54.51	1309.84	1651.06
ASTRAMICRO	730.0	759.85	730.0	749.15	674809	3.62	66.51	680.63	790.53
HBLPOWER	513.0	523.15	510.95	518.9	1584282	3.58	58.42	476.54	570.77
SIKA	658.0	664.45	636.05	656.25	33076	3.44	66.79	589.98	530.54
PREMEXPLN	368.0	379.5	366.9	374.95	144204	3.33	54.43	355.04	501.89
BEL	289.9	294.15	287.55	293.7	19512440	3.05	57.33	289.3	289.98
COCHINSHIP	1420.0	1484.0	1416.3	1442.6	1914695	2.97	56.61	1403.96	1711.13
HAL	4250.0	4250.0	4170.8	4206.1	1572706	2.41	63.12	3994.32	4322.68
ZENTEC	1480.1	1522.8	1471.0	1495.8	439906	2.31	59.82	1402.43	1704.36
PTC	174.05	177.4	174.05	176.18	1304872	2.05	67.04	163.13	179.17
LMW	15284.0	15642.0	15081.0	15595.0	11910	2.04	53.36	15508.18	15952.08
CFF	465.2	465.2	465.2	465.2	17200	2.0	54.16	442.21	638.59
BEML	3062.5	3147.9	3055.0	3085.4	325012	1.67	57.19	2893.78	3763.4
HIGHENE	474.9	482.85	466.25	468.25	16575	0.43	44.19	484.66	630.86
TANEJAERO	278.7	278.7	276.0	276.0	9256	-0.97	35.13	308.45	451.47
LOKESHMACH	0.0	159.18	156.1	159.18	5585	-4.48	42.06	152.5	339.27