



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

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Defense Business and Industry

India Boosts Air Defense with More S-400s and 'Project Kusha' **SHARE**

15-Jun-25

India is strategically enhancing its air defense capabilities along its borders with China and Pakistan by considering the acquisition of one to two additional squadrons of the S-400 'Triumf' air defense system, while also advancing its indigenous 'Project Kusha'. The IAF's proactive measures come in response to Pakistan's unsuccessful attempt to neutralize the S-400 using the CM-400AKG missile, underscoring the effectiveness of India's comprehensive air defense grid, which includes the advanced capabilities of the S-400, known as Sudarshan Chakra in India. As India prepares to receive the remaining two S-400 squadrons by 2026, it is also planning to bolster the S-400's defenses by integrating quick-reaction systems like VL-SRSAM and QRSAM to counter evolving threats, including potential hypersonic missiles that Pakistan may pursue from China. The dual approach of fortifying existing systems while promoting self-reliance through indigenous projects like 'Project Kusha' reflects India's commitment to a robust defense posture. While challenges remain, including geopolitical pressures and the technological hurdles of domestic systems, the overall strategy aims to enhance India's deterrence capabilities and maintain air superiority in a volatile region. India's investments in advanced air defense systems not only deter potential aggressors but also align with its larger goal of military self-sufficiency under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, ensuring a resilient defense architecture that can adeptly respond to emerging threats.

Private Firms Boost India's AMCA Jet Program, Ushering New Era **SHARE**

15-Jun-25

India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program is advancing significantly, with eleven major firms including Tata, Infosys, and L&T expressing

interest in its development, signaling a transformative public-private partnership aimed at enhancing self-reliance in defense manufacturing. The project has received clearance for full-scale development from the Cabinet Committee on Security, and the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) plans to collaborate with both private industry and academia to integrate cutting-edge artificial intelligence (AI) and autonomous systems. This strategic approach aims to create a highly autonomous fighter jet capable of operating with minimal pilot intervention, featuring an AI-driven Electronic Pilot for navigation and critical flight control. The AMCA is designed as a multi-role stealth fighter with a combat range exceeding 2,800 km and supercruise capabilities, intending to position India competitively alongside global counterparts like the U.S. F-35 and Russia's Su-57. The emphasis on collaboration reflects a broader vision to leverage India's industrial and technological capabilities, ultimately enhancing operational efficiency while managing development costs within the estimated budget of approximately ₹15,000 crore (US\$1.8 billion). This initiative not only marks a leap in India's defense capabilities but also builds a robust industrial base for future aerospace endeavors.

Solar Group Launches Bhargavastra: Mobile Counter-Drone System for Indian Army **SHARE**

15-Jun-25

The Solar Group has unveiled the Bhargavastra counter-drone system, a vehicle-mounted solution that enhances the Indian Army's capacity to counter drone threats in challenging terrains. This system, tested successfully at the Gopalpur Seaward Firing Ranges, features a dual capability to launch unguided rockets and precision-guided micro-missiles, with advanced radar technology for detecting drones from significant distances. Its mobility on a 4x4 truck platform allows rapid deployment in high-altitude regions, aligning with India's "Make in India" initiative. As drone technology evolves, the Bhargavastra represents a crucial asset for

India's air defense strategy and has promising potential for international export.

Laser-Powered Weapons Could Transform Battlefield Logistics Forever SHARE

15-Jun-25

DARPA has achieved a significant breakthrough in military technology by successfully transmitting over 800 watts of power via laser beams across a distance of 5.3 miles, marking a potential revolution in battlefield logistics and unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) operations. This innovation allows for continuous, wireless power supply, eliminating the need for fuel convoys and enhancing operational stealth and efficiency. While current efficiency stands at 20%, DARPA aims to double or triple this rate, paving the way for broader applications beyond military use, such as sustainable energy solutions for remote areas. The implications of this technology could dramatically transform both military operations and civilian energy distribution, aligning with global sustainability efforts.

Kalyani Group Presents Made in India Artillery Systems in Indonesia SHARE

15-Jun-25

Kalyani Group is showcasing its Made in India mobile artillery systems, including the Garuda 105mm/37 calibre Mounted Gun System and the MARG 45 series, at the Indo Defence Expo & Forum 2025 in Indonesia. This initiative emphasizes India's growing defense manufacturing capabilities and aims to strengthen defense ties with Indonesia through advanced, flexible artillery solutions that suit the region's challenging terrain. The Garuda's lightweight design and rapid deployment features enhance operational flexibility for the Indonesian Army. This participation not only highlights the success of the Make in India initiative but also represents a strategic effort to foster deeper industrial collaboration in Southeast Asia, reinforcing the India-Indonesia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

Indonesian Officials Explore India's Defence Innovations at Indo Defence 2024 SHARE

15-Jun-25

Indonesian defence officials recently visited India's pavilion and the DRDO stall at the Indo Defence 2024 Expo in Jakarta, showcasing India's advanced defence technologies, including the ASTRA MK-I missile and Airborne Early Warning systems. This engagement highlights the strengthening defence ties between India

and Indonesia, reflecting mutual interest in technological cooperation. The event, Southeast Asia's largest tri-service defence exhibition, serves as a platform for international collaboration and innovation in the defence sector. India's participation aligns with its strategy to establish a robust defence ecosystem, fostering partnerships that enhance regional security and economic growth.

Nagpur to Launch ₹8,000 Crore Helicopter Plant, Boosting Defense Manufacturing SHARE

15-Jun-25

Nagpur is set to host an 8,000 crore helicopter manufacturing plant following a Memorandum of Understanding signed by Max Aerospace, aiming to bolster Maharashtra's aerospace ambitions. The facility, expected to break ground in 2026, will generate over 2,000 jobs and focus on customizing, integrating, and testing rotary-wing platforms, thereby enhancing India's defense manufacturing capabilities. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis emphasized the project's alignment with national initiatives like Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat, highlighting its potential to support self-reliance in defense and stimulate industrial growth in the Vidarbha region. This development marks a significant step forward for India's strategic capabilities in the aerospace sector.

Transformative Defense Achievements Under Modi Government SHARE

15-Jun-25

India's defense sector has experienced a remarkable transformation under the Modi government, with a 174% surge in defense production since 2014, reaching ₹1.27 lakh crore in 2023-24. Defense exports have increased 34-fold, now reaching ₹23,622 crore, with exports to over 85 countries. Indigenous projects such as the Akash missile and Light Combat Helicopter, alongside two defense industrial corridors and structural reforms like the establishment of the Chief of Defence Staff, have bolstered self-reliance. Furthermore, initiatives to empower women in the forces reflect inclusivity, while strategic operations like Operation Sindoor have enhanced deterrence capabilities, positioning India as a significant player in global defense.

India's HTT-40 Trainer Aircraft to Join IAF by September 2025



15-Jun-25

India's indigenous HTT-40 Basic Trainer Aircraft, developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, is set for delivery to the Indian Air Force by September 2025, marking a significant step towards self-reliance in defense manufacturing. Designed to replace the aging HPT-32 fleet, the HTT-40 boasts advanced features and over 56% indigenous content, which is expected to rise with further component indigenization. The project, spurred by the Make in India initiative, is anticipated to create substantial local jobs and has potential for international exports. HAL's commitment to the program, despite initial reluctance from the IAF, showcases India's strategic shift towards bolstering its aerospace capabilities and defense readiness.

DRDO Prepares for September 2025 Test of Kusha M1 Missile



15-Jun-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is set to test the Project Kusha M1 missile in September 2025, marking a significant advancement in India's indigenous air defence capabilities. This system, comprising three variants (M1, M2, M3), aims to create a robust multi-layered air defence network against diverse aerial threats. The successful trials will enhance India's strategic autonomy and position it as a leader in air defence technology, reducing reliance on foreign systems. The phased approach to testing, with subsequent M2 and M3 trials planned for 2026 and 2027, reflects DRDO's commitment to efficiency and reliability in bolstering national security.

IAF Eyes Innovative Abhimanyu Drone for Enhanced Combat Ops



15-Jun-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is keenly observing the Abhimanyu Collaborative Combat Aircraft (CCA), a pioneering jet-powered drone developed by NewSpace Research and Technologies with the Indian Navy. This modular, AI-powered system is designed for Manned-Unmanned Teaming (MUM-T), enhancing combat capabilities and operational flexibility in high-risk scenarios. With a range of 1,000 kilometers and advanced stealth features, Abhimanyu offers significant tactical advantages for naval and air operations, especially in the Indian Ocean Region amidst rising tensions with China. The IAF's interest highlights India's strategic commitment to integrating cutting-edge

technology in defense, distinguishing it from regional adversaries with less advanced systems.

Rafale B with Conformal Fuel Tanks: Boosting Deep-Strike Capability at Paris Air Show



15-Jun-25

The upcoming Paris Air Show will showcase the Rafale B fitted with conformal fuel tanks (CFTs), enhancing its range and payload capacity for long-range deep-strike missions. This reintroduction signifies Dassault Aviation's strategic pivot towards meeting evolving market demands, especially from countries like India, amid rising global tensions. The CFTs improve the Rafale's operational capabilities without adding drag, enabling it to carry more munitions while reducing reliance on refueling assets. This development could potentially open new export markets for the Rafale, positioning it competitively against rivals like the Eurofighter Typhoon and F-35, depending on global air forces' responses.

Zen Technologies Champions AI-Driven Hard-Kill Systems for Drones



15-Jun-25

Zen Technologies is advocating for the adoption of advanced hard-kill anti-drone systems to counter evolving drone threats, particularly in light of recent escalations along the India-Pakistan border. Following a significant drone incursion where Pakistan deployed over 500 drones, the necessity for robust countermeasures became evident. Zen Technologies has introduced the AI-powered Vyomkavach and the Zen Anti-Drone System with Hard-Kill (Zen ADS HK), both designed to enhance India's air defense capabilities and align with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative. The developments underscore India's commitment to indigenous defense innovation and the need for effective responses to increasingly sophisticated drone warfare.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Dassault CEO Refutes Pakistan's False Claims on Rafale Losses



15-Jun-25

In a series of interviews, Dassault Aviation CEO Eric Trappier firmly dismissed Pakistan's claims of having shot down three Indian Air Force Rafale jets during Operation Sindoor, labeling them as "factually

incorrect." He emphasized that the Indian government had not reported any losses, and stressed that the true measure of success in a military operation lies in achieving mission objectives rather than avoiding losses. Trappier highlighted the Rafale's unmatched versatility for multi-role operations, asserting its superiority over the F-35 and Chinese alternatives. He indicated that the outcome of the recent conflict should be evaluated based on strategic goals met, rather than the absence of equipment losses, hinting that the reality may defy Pakistan's narratives. Additionally, Dassault is also advancing its partnership with Tata Advanced Systems to manufacture Rafale fuselages in India, marking a significant step for India's aerospace sector and enhancing local manufacturing capabilities. While Pakistan's assertions have gained traction domestically, defense analysts and international observers remain skeptical, pointing to Pakistan's historical pattern of exaggerated claims. Overall, Trappier's affirmations of the Rafale's capabilities and operational success reflect India's strategic posture in asserting its defense readiness and technological advancements amidst ongoing tensions with Pakistan.

Modi's Three-Nation Tour: Strengthening Anti-Terror Ties with Europe



15-Jun-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is embarking on a pivotal three-nation tour, visiting Cyprus, Canada, and Croatia from June 15 to 19, 2023. This marks his first foreign visit following Operation Sindoor and signifies India's commitment to strengthening ties with European partners while combating cross-border terrorism. In Cyprus, Modi will engage with President Nikos Christodoulides, enhancing bilateral cooperation in trade, investment, and security, particularly as Cyprus prepares to assume the EU Council Presidency in 2026. His participation in the G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada, will allow him to discuss critical global issues, including the Global South's priorities and energy security, while also addressing India's ongoing concerns regarding terrorism. The tour culminates with a visit to Croatia, marking a historic milestone as the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister, aimed at fostering closer cultural and economic ties. This strategic outreach reinforces India's diplomatic efforts to galvanize international support against terrorism, showcasing Modi's proactive approach in enhancing India's global stature and fostering security partnerships in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape.

India Clarifies Stance, Distancing from SCO's Israel-Iran Statement



15-Jun-25

India has distanced itself from a Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) statement condemning Israeli military actions against Iran, reiterating its earlier position advocating for dialogue and diplomacy to de-escalate tensions. The Ministry of External Affairs emphasized that India did not participate in discussions regarding the SCO statement and communicated its stance to other members. Recognizing the importance of regional stability, India continues to monitor the situation closely while urging restraint from both Iran and Israel. This approach reflects India's commitment to a balanced foreign policy and emphasizes the necessity of dialogue in addressing complex geopolitical issues.

White House Confirms No Invitation for Pakistan Army Chief at US Parade



15-Jun-25

The recent White House clarification denying any invitation extended to Pakistan's army chief Asim Munir for the US Military Parade effectively dismantled a narrative that sought to depict a diplomatic rift between India and the United States. This parade, commemorating the 250th anniversary of the US Army, showcased significant military might with thousands of troops and various military hardware, marking a rare occurrence in US history. Initial claims of Munir's invitation were leveraged by opposition parties in India, including Congress and Shiv Sena-UBT, who framed it as a setback for Indian diplomacy, despite the absence of any official confirmation from US authorities. The swift denial by the White House not only exposed the misinformation but also highlighted the potential for domestic political actors to manipulate international events for advantage. This incident underscores the importance of factual reporting in international relations and reflects positively on India's growing strategic ties with the US, reinforcing the narrative that India continues to strengthen its defense collaborations while countering attempts by adversaries to undermine its diplomatic standing. Overall, this situation illustrates the resilience of India's diplomatic apparatus amidst misinformation campaigns and the strategic importance of its partnership with the US.

Rajnath Singh Set to Visit China for SCO Defence Meeting



15-Jun-25

Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is set to visit Qingdao, China, later this month for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers meeting, marking his first ministerial-level engagement in China since the 2020 Galwan clash. This visit follows a significant thaw in India-China relations, stemming from an October 2024 agreement to resume coordinated patrolling and disengage troops along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh. During his visit, Singh is expected to hold discussions with Chinese Defence Minister Admiral Dong Jun, focusing on regional security cooperation, counter-terrorism, and connectivity. Beyond military discussions, the two nations are also working on broader confidence-building measures, such as resuming the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra, restoring air connectivity, and enhancing cultural exchanges. India's reiteration of support for China's SCO presidency during recent diplomatic talks further underscores a commitment to normalizing bilateral relations. This engagement reflects a positive trajectory for India-China ties, emphasizing dialogue and cooperation as essential tools for managing complex geopolitical challenges in the region while promoting stability and mutual understanding.

Escalating Middle East Tensions: India Faces Geopolitical Challenges



15-Jun-25

The recent escalation in Middle Eastern geopolitics, marked by Israel's attack on Iranian nuclear facilities, poses significant challenges for India, which relies heavily on the Strait of Hormuz for crude oil supplies. With 60% of its oil passing through this region and 8 million citizens in the Gulf, India must navigate a complex diplomatic landscape while balancing its energy security, ties with Iran, and defense partnership with Israel. As tensions rise, India's strategic autonomy and economic interests could be strained, yet the situation may also provide an opportunity for India to assert a more prominent role on the global stage amidst the shifting dynamics of major powers.

UK's Finance Minister Advocates Support for Israel Amid Iran Tensions



15-Jun-25

Britain's finance minister, Rachel Reeves, indicated possible support for Israel amidst its renewed conflict with Iran, primarily emphasizing the need to protect

British bases and personnel. The decision to deploy additional military jets to the Middle East is characterized as precautionary, reflecting Britain's commitment to its allies while calling for de-escalation. Reeves highlighted that Britain has historically supported Israel against Iranian missile threats, mentioning past interventions, including intercepting Iranian drones and missiles. This stance showcases Britain's strategic alignment with Israel in the face of regional instability, reinforcing the importance of allied support in addressing threats from Iran.

Iran Claims Evidence of U.S. Support for Israeli Attacks



15-Jun-25

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi claimed that Tehran possesses "solid proof" demonstrating U.S. forces' support for Israel during a recent bombardment campaign against Iran. He asserted that American military bases in the region facilitated these attacks, labeling the Israeli military actions as those of the "Zionist regime." This allegation underscores the growing tensions in the Middle East, particularly between Iran and U.S.-backed Israel. Such claims could escalate hostilities, prompting concerns for regional security and the dynamics of international alliances. India's defense strategy may need to consider these developments, as they could influence its own geopolitical positioning in the region amid rising tensions.

Military Operations

British F-35 Makes Safe Emergency Landing in Kerala Due to Fuel Issues



15-Jun-25

A British F-35 fighter jet made an emergency landing at Thiruvananthapuram International Airport in Kerala due to low fuel and challenging weather conditions affecting its return to the HMS Prince of Wales aircraft carrier, located about 100 nautical miles offshore. The incident occurred around 9:30 PM, and the Indian Air Force (IAF) coordinated with airport authorities to ensure a safe landing, declaring an emergency to facilitate the operation. The F-35B is a fifth-generation multirole combat aircraft renowned for its advanced stealth technology and is part of the operational fleet of the Royal Air Force, currently deployed in the Indo-Pacific region. Following the landing, the jet was accommodated at the airport while refueling was

completed and awaited clearance from Indian authorities for departure. The incident highlights the complexities of military aviation and the importance of international collaboration in addressing operational challenges, particularly during multinational exercises like those recently conducted with the Indian Navy. Such incidents, while rare, demonstrate the unpredictability of carrier operations and the critical nature of logistical support for advanced military assets in diverse environments. This event underscores the strategic partnerships between India and the UK, and the operational readiness of the IAF to assist allied forces during emergencies, reflecting India's commitment to maintaining regional stability and cooperation.

Indian Army Thwarts Infiltration Attempts Along LoC in Rajouri



15-Jun-25

Alert Indian Army troops have successfully foiled multiple infiltration attempts by heavily armed terrorists along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Keri sector of Rajouri district, Jammu and Kashmir. During the operations, suspicious movements were detected, leading to exchanges of fire that forced the intruders back into Pakistani territory. The Army is conducting extensive searches in the area to sanitize it and is focused on dismantling the terror ecosystem, which includes drug smuggling and hawala operations that fund terrorism. J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha has emphasized the need to target not just the terrorists, but also the networks supporting them to achieve a lasting peace. The security forces are also maintaining extraordinary vigilance in light of the upcoming Amarnath Yatra, following a recent terror attack that claimed the lives of 26 civilians. This proactive stance by the Indian Army underscores its commitment to national security and counter-terrorism efforts in the region, revealing a comprehensive strategy that combines immediate tactical responses with long-term objectives to eradicate terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir.

Joint Forces Seize 328 Firearms and 9,300 Rounds in Manipur



15-Jun-25

In a significant operation, joint security forces in Manipur recovered 328 firearms and approximately 9,300 rounds of various ammunition, marking a major achievement in restoring order after the ethnic violence that erupted on May 3, 2023. The operation involved the Manipur Police, Army, and other security agencies, and

highlights their commitment to ensuring public safety and normalcy in the region. This recovery comes in the wake of extensive looting during the unrest, where over 6,020 sophisticated arms and a large quantity of munitions were taken from police facilities. Such proactive measures underscore the determination of Indian security forces to combat illicit arms proliferation and maintain peace in Manipur.

Army Colonel Attacked Over LoC Fencing; Soldiers Stand Firm



15-Jun-25

An altercation occurred between Colonel Ankush Chaudhary, overseeing a Line of Control (LoC) fencing project, and Assistant Defence Estate Officer Triyam Singh, who allegedly assaulted the Colonel when he refused to sign necessary documents. This incident, highlighted by army veteran Sushil Singh Sheoran, has drawn significant attention on social media, with strong support for the soldiers' retaliation. Many veterans emphasized the sacred bond between commanding officers and their troops, arguing that disrespecting a CO has serious consequences. The incident sheds light on potential corruption within the Defence Estate Office, underlining the importance of integrity in defense-related projects critical for national security.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Anti-terror operations in Poonch to combat hate and ensure peace.



15-Jun-25

Anti-terror raids are currently taking place in Poonch, Jammu and Kashmir, targeting individuals inciting hatred against specific communities. These operations reflect the Indian government's ongoing commitment to maintaining peace and security in the region, particularly amid rising tensions and the threat posed by terrorist groups. The Indian defense forces are actively working to dismantle networks that promote violence and division, thereby reinforcing their resolve to uphold national integrity. Such measures are crucial in countering extremism and fostering a harmonious society, demonstrating the proactive stance of Indian authorities in addressing security challenges.

Israel's Operation "Rising Lion" Escalates Tensions with Iran



15-Jun-25

Between June 14 and 15, 2025, the Israel-Iran conflict rapidly escalated. Israel intensified "Operation Rising Lion," launching precision strikes across Iran targeting nuclear facilities (Natanz, Isfahan, Fordow), military bases, missile infrastructure, radar installations, oil depots, and gas refineries. Satellite imagery confirmed extensive damage, and Iran reported at least 78 dead—including senior IRGC commanders and nuclear scientists—and hundreds injured, with destruction also hitting residential buildings in Tehran. In response, Iran retaliated with two major missile barrages on June 15: the first struck the Arab city of Tamra, killing four women and injuring around 20; the second hit Bat Yam, Rehovot, Tel Aviv, and Jerusalem, killing at least seven more civilians (including an elderly woman and two children), injuring roughly 200, and leaving about 35 unaccounted for. Iran also fired missiles on June 14, causing additional civilian casualties and damage. Israel's air defenses (Iron Dome, Arrow) intercepted most threats, but some penetrated, collapsing buildings. The conflict disrupted daily life—Israel closed airspace for a third day, and also warned civilians near weapons facilities to evacuate, shifted to remote schooling, canceled public events, and saw financial markets dip then recover. Oil prices surged globally after Iranian energy sites were struck. Israeli leaders vowed continued strikes to impose a "very heavy price," while Iran threatened more decisive retaliation but hinted at restraint if attacks ceased. The U.S. distanced itself but warned Iran against attacking American interests, and diplomacy, including planned nuclear talks, was suspended. With no ceasefire or diplomatic resolution in sight, both nations remain locked in a high-stakes confrontation that risks drawing in regional and international actors.

NIA Charges 17 in January 2024 CRPF Camp Attack by PLGA



15-Jun-25

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has charged 17 individuals linked to the January 2024 attack on CRPF camps in Chhattisgarh, orchestrated by the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA). This group, under the leadership of Madvi Hidma, created a dummy training camp to incite rebellion against security forces. The NIA's charges, which include high-ranking members of the organization, reflect the ongoing threat posed by Maoist insurgents in India. In a related operation, police in Madhya Pradesh eliminated four Naxalites, marking a

significant achievement in the fight against Maoist violence in the region. These developments underscore the Indian government's resolve to combat internal security challenges effectively.

Security forces kill four Naxals, including three women, in MP



15-Jun-25

In Madhya Pradesh's Balaghat district, security forces killed four Naxalites, including three women, during a joint operation involving the Hawk Force, district police, and CRPF. This successful encounter, occurring while Union Home Minister Amit Shah was inaugurating a training camp nearby, highlights the ongoing efforts to eradicate Naxalism by 2026 under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Security forces acted on intelligence about Naxal movements, and when engaged, the Maoists opened fire, leading to their neutralization. The operation continues as authorities work to identify the deceased, marking a significant step in curtailing Maoist influence in the region, which spans Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Chhattisgarh.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Conflict Proves True Leadership, Says Sri Lankan Army Chief



15-Jun-25

The recent visit of Sri Lanka Army Commander Lieutenant General BKG M Lasantha Rodrigo to India underscores the strong defense ties between the two nations. During his visit, he attended the Indian Military Academy's (IMA) passing out parade, addressing 451 cadets, including 32 from foreign countries, and emphasizing that true military leadership is proven in conflict rather than during peacetime. Lt Gen Rodrigo, an alumnus of the IMA, urged the new officers to prioritize the safety of their men and to constantly evolve as leaders. Additionally, discussions between Lt Gen Rodrigo and Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi focused on enhancing bilateral defense cooperation and reaffirming their commitment to regional stability. This engagement, marked by the commissioning of Sri Lankan officers at the IMA, reflects the enduring defense partnership and shared values between India and Sri Lanka. The event not only celebrates the camaraderie between the two armies but also highlights India's role in fostering defense relations with neighboring countries, showcasing a commitment to mutual security and regional peace. The

commissioning of 296 Sri Lankan officers from the IMA signifies the ongoing collaboration and trust built over the years, further solidifying the military ties that contribute to broader geopolitical stability in the region.

Experienced Army Pilot Dies in Uttarakhand Helicopter Crash



15-Jun-25

Pilot Rajveer Singh Chauhan, a former Indian Army member with over 15 years of experience, tragically lost his life in a helicopter crash in Uttarakhand on June 15, 2025, which also claimed the lives of six others. At 37, Chauhan had been piloting a Bell 407 for Aryan Aviation since October 2024, demonstrating significant expertise in aerial operations across diverse terrains. His bereaved family includes a wife, a Lieutenant Colonel in the Indian Army, and their newborn twins. The incident has drawn condolences from prominent political figures, underscoring the profound loss felt by the community and highlighting the risks faced by aviation professionals in challenging conditions.

Indian Army Celebrates Kargil Hero's Family with Samman Honor



15-Jun-25

The Indian Army honored the family of Kargil war hero Lance Naik Krishna Kumar under the 'Ghar-Ghar Shaurya Samman' initiative, presenting them with a certificate and memento at their home in Haryana. This gesture, part of the army's commitment to honor the sacrifices of martyrs, aims to strengthen communication with the families of the fallen soldiers, addressing their needs and challenges. Kumar, who died at age 20 during the Kargil conflict, is remembered for his bravery, and the initiative aligns with the upcoming Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrations, reinforcing the Army's dedication to support and recognize the sacrifices made by its soldiers and their families.

Arunachal Governor urges veterans to inspire youth for defense careers



15-Jun-25

Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lt Gen KT Parnaik has urged ex-servicemen to inspire youth to join the defense forces, emphasizing their vital role in nation-building. Speaking at an ex-servicemen rally, he highlighted the legacy of discipline and patriotism passed through veteran families and expressed gratitude for their sacrifices in safeguarding national integrity. Parnaik also reiterated the government's commitment to veteran welfare, encouraging them to utilize various support schemes initiated by the Ministry of Defence,

including pension and educational assistance for martyrs' children. This initiative not only honors the contributions of ex-servicemen but also strengthens the recruitment pipeline for the armed forces.

Miscellaneous

Trump's Military Parade: A Celebration Amidst Controversy



15-Jun-25

The recent military parade in Washington, DC, celebrated both the 250th anniversary of the United States Army and President Trump's 79th birthday, featuring tanks, armored vehicles, and aircraft reminiscent of past military spectacles. While Trump framed the event as an overdue celebration of American military achievements, critics characterized it as an extravagant display echoing authoritarianism, raising concerns about the militarization of domestic governance, particularly in light of Trump's controversial deployment of federal troops to handle protests. The event attracted a mix of supporters and detractors, with some attendees viewing it as a chance to honor military personnel, while others decried it as a costly spectacle serving the president's ego. Notably, Trump's desire for a military parade traces back to his admiration for foreign displays, yet it has also sparked debate about the implications of using military might for domestic law enforcement and the potential erosion of democratic values. Overall, the parade highlights the ongoing tension between national pride and the political narrative surrounding military power in America. The juxtaposition of celebration and protest underscores the complex dynamics at play within the current political landscape.

Pahalgam Reopens Tourist Destinations in Phased Approach



15-Jun-25

The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, announced the phased reopening of tourist destinations that were closed due to security concerns following the Pahalgam attack. The first phase will see the reopening of eight locations, including parks in Pahalgam and other areas in Jammu. He emphasized the importance of the Amarnath Yatra, scheduled for July 3, and highlighted the robust security preparations in place, urging locals to support the pilgrimage for economic revival. With increasing tourist enthusiasm and improved facilities, the government aims to bolster

confidence and restore tourism in the region, essential for local livelihoods and stability.

India-UK FTA: Transforming Agrochemical Supply Chains and Access SHARE

15-Jun-25

The India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) enhances agrochemical trade, allowing Indian firms to access the UK's \$2.8 billion market and potentially re-route supply lines to Europe. This agreement could lead to regulatory harmonization, benefiting both nations amid concerns over safety benchmarks. With 60% of India's agrochemical ingredients imported from China, the FTA fosters supply chain resilience by promoting diversification and reducing dependency on a single source. Ultimately, the FTA stands as a strategic inflection point, opening avenues for product innovation, tri-lateral partnerships, and positioning India as a key player in the Indo-Pacific agrochemical market amidst global uncertainties.

Trump's military parade overshadowed by controversial toilet statue SHARE

15-Jun-25

The recent military parade in Washington, DC, organized by Donald Trump, drew significant attention not only for its display of military might but also for a provocative eight-foot statue of Trump on a toilet, which became the focal point amid protests. The "No Kings Day" demonstrations, held in nearly 2,000 locations, criticized the extravagant display and raised concerns over potential damage to civilian areas. The event inadvertently coincided with King Charles' birthday celebrations in the UK, leading to comparisons with traditional royal events, though the inspiration was reportedly drawn from French President Macron's Bastille Day celebrations. This spectacle highlights ongoing tensions in American politics regarding militarization and public sentiment.

Sri Lanka Army Chief Meets Gen Dwivedi to Boost Defense Ties SHARE

15-Jun-25

The Commander of the Sri Lanka Army, Lt Gen BKGM Lasantha Rodrigo, met Indian Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi to discuss enhancing bilateral defense cooperation and military ties during his official visit to India. This meeting underscores the commitment of both nations to regional stability and peace, reflecting a strengthening relationship. Lt Gen Rodrigo also participated in the Passing Out Parade at the Indian Military Academy, where he celebrated the

commissioning of new officers, highlighting the long-standing bonds between India and Sri Lanka. The ongoing collaboration demonstrates India's strategic role in fostering defense partnerships in the region, which is crucial for ensuring collective security.

ISRO Launches First Rocket from Kushinagar, Boosting Space Tech SHARE

15-Jun-25

ISRO successfully launched a rocket from Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, marking a significant milestone as it directly deployed a small satellite, enhancing regional space capabilities. This launch, occurring at 5:14:33 p.m., included advanced safety measures like a parachute system that ensured safe landing within a 400-meter radius. The initiative aims to inspire youth interest in space technology, with a larger event planned for October-November to test approximately 900 youth-built satellites. This achievement underscores ISRO's commitment to expanding its operations and fostering a new generation of innovators in India's rapidly advancing space sector. Overall, it reflects India's growing prowess in space technology and its strategic emphasis on education and engagement.

Air India Conducts Safety Checks on Boeing 787 Fleet After Crash SHARE

15-Jun-25

Air India is currently completing mandated one-time safety checks on its Boeing 787 Dreamliner fleet, following a tragic crash of an Air India flight. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) ordered these enhanced inspections to ensure the aircraft's safety, including various maintenance measures. Nine out of 33 aircraft have undergone checks, with the rest expected to be completed on schedule, albeit causing potential delays for passengers. The airline is offering refunds and rescheduling options for affected customers, while Tata Sons has committed Rs 1 crore in compensation to the victims' families and will cover medical expenses for those injured. This proactive approach reflects Air India's commitment to safety and customer care.

Tragic Helicopter Crash at Gaurikund, Helicopter Services Halted SHARE

15-Jun-25

A tragic helicopter crash near Gaurikund in Uttarakhand on June 15, 2025, claimed the lives of all seven people on board—six pilgrims, including an infant, and the pilot—prompting the immediate suspension of helicopter

services for the Chardham Yatra. The Bell-407 aircraft, operated by Aryan Aviation and en route from Kedarnath to Guptkashi, went down in a densely forested area, reportedly due to poor visibility and unpredictable weather conditions common in the Himalayan region. One person on the ground also died after being hit by debris. This marks the fifth such incident along the pilgrimage route since late April, raising serious concerns over flight safety. In response, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami called for a comprehensive overhaul of aviation protocols, mandating the use of twin-engine helicopters, deployment of experienced pilots, installation of real-time weather monitoring systems, and establishment of a centralized command-and-control center in Dehradun. The Ministry of Civil Aviation suspended Aryan Aviation's operations on the route, while the DGCA initiated a full safety audit and grounded other pilots under investigation. Authorities also emphasized alternate travel methods to protect pilgrims in

treacherous mountain terrain, reaffirming that safety will not be compromised in future operations.

Garuda Aerospace Launches Advanced Agri-Drone Facility in Chennai



15-Jun-25

Garuda Aerospace has inaugurated an Agri-Drone Indigenisation facility in Thalambur, near Chennai, marking a significant advancement in India's drone manufacturing capabilities. This state-of-the-art facility will produce 33 parts and 7 subsystems for Unmanned Aerial Systems, supporting the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. Additionally, the company launched 300 Centres of Excellence in collaboration with educational institutions to foster innovation and skills in drone technology. This initiative underscores India's commitment to self-reliance and positions Garuda Aerospace as a leading player in the global drone market, further enhancing India's growing defense and technology landscape.

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