# Defence Professionals News & Analysis

November 16,2025 | Day 320

## Defense Business and Industry

### Indonesia shows interest in procuring BrahMos missile, confirms Defence Minister.

SHARE

16-Nov-25

Indonesia has expressed interest in acquiring the BrahMos missile, as confirmed by Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh during a recent event in Uttar Pradesh. The BrahMos, an indigenously developed supersonic cruise missile, is manufactured at a state-of-the-art facility in Lucknow, which became operational in May. Singh highlighted the strategic significance of the BrahMos, noting its successful deployment during Operation Sindoor, where it effectively bypassed advanced Pakistani air defense systems, showcasing India's growing defense capabilities. The facility, part of the ambitious Uttar Pradesh Defence Corridor project, underscores India's commitment to enhancing its defense production capabilities and fostering international defense partnerships, as countries like Indonesia seek to strengthen their military arsenals. This development not only exemplifies India's advancements in defense technology but also reflects the nation’s increasing influence in the global defense landscape, further cementing its stature as a key player in regional security dynamics.

### Indian Navy to commission indigenous anti-submarine warfare craft 'Mahe' on November 24.

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16-Nov-25

The Indian Navy is set to commission the first Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) named 'Mahe' on November 24, marking a significant milestone in India's indigenous shipbuilding capabilities. Built by Cochin Shipyard Limited, 'Mahe' is the first of eight such vessels and boasts over 80 percent indigenous content, showcasing India's growing expertise in warship design and integration. Equipped with advanced torpedoes, multi-functional anti-submarine rockets, and sophisticated radars and sonars, the vessel is designed for submarine hunting, coastal patrols, and securing vital maritime approaches, thereby enhancing the navy's operational capabilities in littoral waters. Named after the historic port town in Puducherry, 'Mahe' symbolizes India's rich maritime heritage and the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, emphasizing self-reliance in defense production. This commissioning not only strengthens India's maritime security posture but also reflects its commitment to advancing indigenous defense technologies and reducing dependence on foreign systems.

### IAF's Su-30MKI to Boost Cooperation with French Fighters in Drills

SHARE

16-Nov-25

The Indian Air Force's Su-30MKI jets are set to enhance interoperability with French multi-role fighters during the bilateral air exercise Garuda 25, scheduled to take place from November 16-27 in Mont-de-Marsan, France. This eighth edition of the exercise involves complex simulated air combat scenarios focused on air-to-air combat, air defense, and joint strike operations, thereby refining tactics and procedures in a realistic setting. The IAF contingent, supported by C-17 Globemaster III and IL-78 air-to-air refueling tankers, arrived in France on November 10. This exercise not only fosters mutual understanding and cooperation in air operations but also underscores India's commitment to engaging constructively with allied air forces through collaborative military exercises.

### India to demonstrate defense strength at Dubai Air Show 2025 with Tejas and Suryakiran.

SHARE

16-Nov-25

India is poised to prominently showcase its defense capabilities at the Dubai Air Show 2025, scheduled from November 17 to 21, led by Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth. The Indian delegation will include senior officials from the Ministry of Defence, Defence

Production, External Affairs, and the Armed Forces, with a key bilateral meeting planned with the UAE defense minister to strengthen strategic cooperation. The event will feature an impressive display by the Indian Air Force, including the Suryakiran Aerobatic Team and LCA Tejas fighter aircraft, which have already landed at Al Maktoum Airbase. Additionally, the India Pavilion will host prominent organizations such as HAL and DRDO, with participation from 19 Indian defense companies and 15 startups focused on innovative technologies. The Air Show, which attracts over 1,500 exhibitors and 148,000 industry professionals from around the world, serves as a critical platform for enhancing military collaboration and interoperability between nations, underscoring India's ambition to become a global hub for defense production and technology.

## Goa Shipyard invests ₹1,500 crore in Andhra Pradesh's new shipbuilding facility. SHARE

16-Nov-25

Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Andhra Pradesh government to invest ₹1,500 crore in a greenfield shipbuilding facility, marking the company's first major expansion beyond Goa in over fifty years. This decision is driven by increasing demand from the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, and export opportunities in Southeast Asia. The new facility, planned for Machilipatnam, aims to circumvent seasonal disruptions caused by monsoons in Goa, allowing for year-round production. Commodore Adikesh Vasudevan, GSL's General Manager (Projects), noted that Andhra Pradesh's proactive maritime cluster policy was a significant factor in their decision, as it provides a clear framework for maritime development not found in other eastern coastal states. The proposed facility will enhance India's indigenous shipbuilding ecosystem, enabling the construction of a broader range of naval and commercial vessels and supporting India's ambitions in the "Make in India" initiative and the creation of a global shipbuilding hub.

## India boosts IAF capabilities with 800 kamikaze drones after Pakistan skirmish. SHARE

16-Nov-25

The Indian Ministry of Defence has initiated a significant procurement process aimed at enhancing the Indian Air Force's capabilities by seeking around 800 kamikaze drones, classified as swarm unmanned munition systems. This decision follows the recent skirmish with Pakistan, which highlighted the urgent need for advanced aerial warfare solutions. The Request for Information (RFI) specifies that these fixed-wing drones must operate at altitudes up to 25,000 feet, have a standoff range of 350 km, and carry a minimum payload of 30 kg. The IAF envisions deploying swarms of 20 drones per mission, capable of autonomous operations including target identification and engagement. The emphasis on rapid deployment methods, such as catapult launches from both land and naval platforms, reflects a strategic shift towards offensive swarm tactics in response to evolving threats from adversarial drone technologies. This procurement plan not only aligns with the Agnipath initiative aimed at modernizing India's defense forces but also presents opportunities for indigenous defense manufacturers, promoting Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) in the burgeoning drone corridor. With the RFP expected by mid-2026 and deliveries anticipated within four years, this initiative could significantly bolster India's aerial dominance and operational readiness.

## Safran's 100% local supply chain for AMCA engine boosts India's defense self-reliance. SHARE

16-Nov-25

In a pivotal advancement for India's defense self-reliance, French aerospace firm Safran has committed to co-developing a next-generation jet engine for India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program, ensuring a 100% local supply chain that ends foreign dependency. The proposed 120-140kN engine is designed to mirror the dimensions of the existing GE F414 engine, facilitating seamless upgrades across India's fighter platforms, including the AMCA, Tejas MkII, and the Twin Engine Deck Based Fighter (TEDBF). This strategic alignment not only aims to enhance operational capabilities with features like supercruise and improved thrust but also promises significant cost savings through logistics commonality. With an estimated need of over 1,100 engines by 2035, the full transfer of technology to domestic manufacturers is expected to generate thousands of jobs and foster a robust aerospace ecosystem, aligning with India's broader "Make in India" initiative and bolstering its defense capabilities against regional threats. The ongoing collaboration between Safran and India's Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) signals a transformative shift towards indigenous manufacturing in critical defense sectors.

## US successfully tests B61-12 nuclear bomb for F-35A fighter. SHARE

16-Nov-25

The United States has successfully completed a series of stockpile flight tests for the B61-12 nuclear gravity bomb, carried by the F-35A stealth fighter, marking a significant milestone in evaluating the weapon's operational readiness. Conducted at the Tonopah Test Range in Nevada, these tests confirm the bomb's compatibility with the advanced F-35 platform and validate improvements made during a recent life extension program. This program enhances the bomb's safety features and ensures its reliability for at least 20 more years, reflecting the U.S. commitment to modernizing its nuclear arsenal. The successful completion of these tests is pivotal, reinforcing the strategic deterrence capabilities of the U.S. and its NATO allies in an evolving geopolitical landscape.

## Prime Toolings Innovates Micro Solid Motor for Enhanced Missile Propulsion SHARE

16-Nov-25

Prime Toolings has made significant strides in the development of a micro solid motor propulsion system, emblematic of India's growing defense capabilities through its MSMEs. This engine, featuring a durable stainless-steel casing and a proprietary red iron oxide-aluminum-based propellant, enhances the performance of micro-missiles, RPG launchers, and RATO applications by improving thrust, accuracy, and operational flexibility. By fostering indigenous innovation, this advancement aligns with the Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives, promoting strategic autonomy in missile propulsion and reducing reliance on foreign suppliers. The success of this compact and efficient motor underscores the importance of nurturing the MSME ecosystem in bolstering India's defense sector and ensuring long-term competitiveness amid evolving threats.

## IAF advances indigenous electronic warfare with open-architecture framework for enhanced capabilities and integration. SHARE

16-Nov-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is advancing its electronic warfare (EW) capabilities through an open-architecture framework, as highlighted by Air Marshal Vijay Kumar Garg at a recent conference. This initiative aims to enhance systemic reform in EW design, promoting standardisation across hardware and software to facilitate rapid upgrades and seamless integration of subsystems. By emphasizing indigenous solutions, the IAF seeks to bolster strategic sovereignty and the manufacturing base in critical areas such as signal processing and electronic intelligence. The shift towards modular, scalable designs not only simplifies maintenance and promotes interoperability but also aligns India with global trends in next-generation EW development, ultimately reinforcing its electronic superiority in complex battlefield environments.

## ADA seeks private firms' support to integrate key sensors into Tejas Mk2. SHARE

16-Nov-25

The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) of India is seeking collaboration from private firms to integrate critical sensor systems—Infra-Red Search & Track (IRST), Software Defined Radio (SDR), and Combined Interrogator & Transponder (CIT)—into the Tejas Mk2 aircraft. This initiative aims to expedite the aircraft's development, ensuring rigorous testing and certification processes are met ahead of its first flight scheduled for early 2026. The sensors will enhance the Tejas Mk2's capabilities, contributing to the Indian Air Force's modernization efforts and reducing reliance on foreign technology, aligning with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative. By engaging a diverse range of firms, from large state-owned enterprises to MSMEs, the ADA aims to bolster the domestic aerospace ecosystem and uphold high standards of reliability and performance.

# Geopolitics and Security Alliances

## India and US enhance maritime cooperation for undersea cable security. SHARE

16-Nov-25

India and the United States are intensifying their maritime cooperation to safeguard undersea cables and key shipping routes, as emphasized during Indian Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi's recent six-day visit to the US. The discussions with senior US military officials, including Admiral Samuel J. Paparo and Admiral Stephen T. Koehler, focused on enhancing interoperability and operational synergy between the two navies, aimed at promoting a free and rules-based Indo-Pacific. The talks encompassed critical areas such as maritime security, information-sharing, and

humanitarian assistance, alongside plans for increased bilateral and multilateral exercises like MALABAR and MILAN, highlighting a shared commitment to counter non-traditional security challenges. Admiral Tripathi's inspection of the USS Daniel Inouye further underscored the importance of advanced maritime capabilities, positioning the India-US maritime partnership as a cornerstone of their broader defense collaboration and regional stability. This engagement not only reaffirms mutual trust and shared values but also fortifies strategic ties essential for navigating emerging security dynamics in the Indo-Pacific region.

## Zelensky urges enhanced air defense after deadly missile strike on Kyiv. SHARE

16-Nov-25

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has reiterated his urgent request for enhanced air-defense systems following a deadly Russian missile strike on Kyiv that resulted in the deaths of seven individuals, including an elderly woman linked to the 1986 Chernobyl disaster. As the conflict enters its fourth year, Ukraine is escalating its military responses, with recent strikes reported on a Russian oil refinery near Moscow aimed at crippling the Kremlin's offensive capabilities. Zelensky emphasized the necessity of increased protective support from international partners to safeguard lives amid ongoing attacks. This situation underscores the critical need for robust defensive measures in the face of sustained aggression, significantly impacting Ukraine's energy security and civilian safety as winter approaches.

## Zelenskyy announces efforts to resume prisoner exchanges with Russia. SHARE

16-Nov-25

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy announced efforts to resume prisoner exchanges with Russia, aiming to bring home 1,200 Ukrainian detainees. This initiative follows recent consultations involving Turkey and the UAE, focusing on activating previously established protocols for large-scale swaps. Meanwhile, Ukraine faces ongoing challenges from intensified Russian drone and missile strikes targeting critical infrastructure, particularly in the Odesa region, leading to significant damage and increased blackouts as winter approaches. The situation underscores the broader conflict dynamics as Ukraine strives to maintain its defense against Russian advances amid humanitarian concerns regarding the fate of its imprisoned citizens.

## China conducts bomber patrol in response to US-Philippines-Japan drills. SHARE

16-Nov-25

China's military recently conducted its first "bomber formation patrol" over the South China Sea as a response to joint maritime drills by the Philippines, the US, and Japan, which Beijing views as provocative actions undermining regional stability. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) emphasized its commitment to safeguard national sovereignty, warning the Philippines against further collaboration with external forces. This development coincides with escalating tensions between China and Japan, particularly regarding Taiwan, with Japanese officials expressing intentions to increase defense spending and enhance collective self-defense capabilities. The situation highlights growing geopolitical frictions in the region, as nations navigate complex maritime disputes and evolving security dynamics.

## India reassesses nuclear strategy amid rising threats from China and Pakistan. SHARE

16-Nov-25

India's nuclear deterrence strategy faces significant challenges due to China's rapid nuclear expansion and Pakistan's tactical nuclear developments. With China reportedly doubling its warhead count to 600, and Pakistan enhancing its tactical capabilities, India's current doctrine of minimum deterrence may prove inadequate. Experts suggest that India must reassess its nuclear posture, potentially increasing its arsenal to 200-250 warheads by 2030 and contemplating more flexible retaliation options to counter Pakistan's tactical nuclear threats. This evolving landscape compels India to prioritize modernization and diversification of its nuclear capabilities to maintain credible deterrence and ensure strategic autonomy amidst increasing regional tensions.

## Satellite images reveal Pakistan's careful reconstruction of damaged Jacobabad Airbase post-Operation Sindoor. SHARE

16-Nov-25

In May 2025, during Operation Sindoor, India conducted precision airstrikes on Pakistan's strategically vital Jacobabad Airbase in Sindh province, causing significant damage, especially to the hangars housing F-16 fighter jets critical to Pakistan's air capabilities. Subsequent satellite imagery from November 2025 reveals that Pakistan is carefully dismantling parts of

the damaged hangar for internal damage assessment and phased repairs, indicating ongoing but slow reconstruction efforts. Despite these efforts, the airbase remains non-operational six months after the strikes, underscoring the lasting impact of India's surgical strikes on Pakistan's military infrastructure. The base, a key maintenance and deployment hub for advanced aircraft including F-16s and JF-17s, is critical to Pakistan's defense. Analyst imagery suggests that Pakistan is prioritizing restoration but faces significant challenges due to the complexity of repair and the extent of damage sustained. This exemplifies India's tactical dominance in undermining Pakistan's operational readiness following the retaliatory strikes.

## Military Operations

### Gen. Anil Chauhan stresses accountability and timely delivery in defense production. SHARE

16-Nov-25

Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Anil Chauhan has addressed critical issues within India's defense production ecosystem, emphasizing the unacceptable nature of delays and overpromising by private manufacturers. He urged companies to present honest assessments of their indigenous capabilities, especially concerning national security implications, and highlighted instances where firms claimed high levels of indigenization that were later found to be misleading. Speaking at various forums, Gen. Chauhan called for a culture of accountability within the defense industry, stressing that timely delivery is essential for operational readiness and that the armed forces expect a degree of patriotism from manufacturers. He criticized the existing procurement processes for being overly complex and called for better coordination between defense research and development agencies and manufacturers. This push for improved efficiency is timely, given the rapidly evolving security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region and the need for India to bolster its defense capabilities through indigenous production. The Chief of Defence Staff underscored that the success of initiatives like Aatmanirbhar Bharat hinges on trust, transparency, and performance, urging the industry to align with the strategic objectives of national security and combat readiness while also ensuring economic competitiveness in the global market.

### CDS Gen Chauhan advocates for jointness in Indian Armed Forces operations while preserving individual identities. SHARE

16-Nov-25

Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan emphasized the importance of jointness and integration among the Indian Armed Forces while maintaining each service's individual identity. During a recent event, he highlighted successful operations like Operation Sindoor, which showcased collaborative efforts between the Army, Navy, and Air Force. Gen Chauhan noted that the military's integration is facilitated by shared equipment and seamless coordination, which played a crucial role in the recent precision strikes against terror infrastructure. He also underscored the need for a "joint culture" and the understanding of both physical and human geography in modern warfare, indicating a paradigm shift towards technology-intensive strategies in new domains such as space. The CDS's insights reflect India's commitment to a more cohesive and innovative military strategy.

### India enhances eastern security with three new garrisons near Siliguri Corridor. SHARE

16-Nov-25

India has bolstered its eastern defenses by establishing three new garrisons near the strategically vital Siliguri Corridor, which connects the northeastern states with the rest of the country. The Lachit Borphukan Military Station in Assam, along with forward bases in Bihar and West Bengal, aims to enhance surveillance and operational readiness amid increasing Chinese influence and concerns over illegal immigration from Bangladesh. These developments come as the Indian Army conducts exercises in the region and strengthens its ties with the Border Security Force. The establishment of these garrisons reflects India's proactive stance in addressing regional security challenges and maintaining military preparedness in the face of evolving geopolitical dynamics.

### Ajeya Warrior: Indian and British Armies start counter-terror exercise in Rajasthan. SHARE

16-Nov-25

The 8th edition of Exercise Ajeya Warrior, the biennial joint counter-terrorism drill between the Indian and British Armies, is scheduled to commence on November 17, 2025, at the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan. Running for 14 days until November 30,

this exercise reinforces operational coordination in counter-terrorism operations within semi-urban environments under the UN Chapter VII mandate. The drill highlights the strengthening India-UK defence partnership, which has gained momentum following a $468 million defence deal signed in October 2025 and UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer's recent visit to India involving the largest-ever British trade delegation. The exercise emphasizes interoperability, mutual trust, and the use of advanced battlefield technologies such as night-enabled FPVs, swarm drones, attack helicopters, and composite missile batteries. It symbolizes the shared commitment of both nations to global peace and security while deepening defence cooperation and strategic alignment amid evolving global security challenges. The previous 7th edition was held in the UK in 2023, underlining the alternating host pattern of this significant bilateral engagement.

## UP Man Detained by Indian Army During Poonch Border Searches

SHARE

16-Nov-25

A resident from Uttar Pradesh was detained by the Indian Army in a border village of Poonch, Jammu and Kashmir, during joint search operations. Officials reported that the individual, identified as Singh, exhibited signs of being mentally challenged and was subsequently handed over to local police for further action. This incident underscores the ongoing vigilance of Indian security forces in border areas, reflecting their commitment to maintaining peace and security in sensitive regions. The proactive measures taken by the Army are crucial in preventing potential security threats and demonstrate the effective coordination between military and law enforcement agencies in Jammu and Kashmir.

## IAF's Sukhoi-30 MKI jets join French Air Force for Garuda wargame.

SHARE

16-Nov-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has deployed Sukhoi-30 MKI jets for a 12-day joint wargame termed 'Garuda' with the French Air Force, having arrived in France on November 10. This exercise highlights the strengthening of military cooperation between India and France, emphasizing interoperability and operational readiness in complex combat scenarios. The participation of the Sukhoi-30 MKI, a formidable asset in the IAF's arsenal, underscores India's commitment to enhancing its tactical capabilities. Such collaborative exercises not only bolster bilateral ties but also serve to enhance regional security dynamics amid evolving geopolitical challenges.

# Terrorism and Counterterrorism

## IED Neutralized in Rajouri, House Damaged, No Casualties Reported

SHARE

16-Nov-25

In Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, security forces successfully neutralized an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) during a controlled explosion in Upper Bangai village. This operation, which involved a security patrol discovering the IED, resulted in partial damage to a nearby house owned by Mohammad Akbar; however, the family had been safely evacuated prior to the explosion, ensuring no casualties occurred. The incident underscores the ongoing challenges posed by terrorism and militant activities in the region, highlighting the vigilance and preparedness of Indian security forces to protect civilians and maintain stability. Such proactive measures are crucial for enhancing local security and deterring future threats in sensitive areas like Jammu and Kashmir.

## Three Naxalites killed in Sukma; 2023 Maoist deaths reach 262.

SHARE

16-Nov-25

In a significant counterinsurgency operation in Sukma, Chhattisgarh, police forces have killed three Naxalites, bringing the total number of Maoist casualties in the state this year to 262. The encounter, initiated by the District Reserve Guard based on intelligence reports, reflects the intensified efforts of security forces to dismantle Maoist strongholds in the volatile Bastar region. Notably, 233 of these fatalities occurred in seven districts within Bastar, underscoring the area's role as a stronghold for extremist activities. Increased coordination between central and state forces, alongside intelligence-driven operations, has led to record-high Maoist casualties, contributing to the broader objective of restoring peace and normalcy in regions previously affected by insurgent violence.

## J&K DGP confirms Nowgam blast was accidental, dismisses terror links.

SHARE

16-Nov-25

An accidental explosion occurred at the Nowgam police station in Jammu and Kashmir, resulting in the tragic loss of nine lives and injuries to 32 others. Jammu and Kashmir DGP Nalin Prabhat confirmed that the

explosion was linked to the unstable handling of a substantial quantity of ammonium nitrate explosives, recently confiscated during an operation against a terror module in Faridabad. Despite the claims of responsibility by the terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad's splinter group, the Peoples Anti-Fascist Front, DGP Prabhat categorically dismissed any links to terrorism, emphasizing that the incident was purely accidental. In response to the tragedy, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressed deep anguish and ordered an investigation to ascertain the cause of the explosion, affirming that the government would provide all necessary support to the affected families. This incident highlights ongoing security challenges in the region and the vital importance of stringent safety protocols when handling explosive materials, especially in sensitive areas.

## Driver of Delhi car blast linked to Jaish-e-Mohammed, received Rs 20 lakh. SHARE

16-Nov-25

The investigation into the recent car blast near the Red Fort has revealed that the driver received Rs 20 lakh from Jaish-e-Mohammed handlers, raising concerns about potential terrorist links. Forensic teams discovered three 9 mm cartridges at the scene, a caliber prohibited for civilian use, but no corresponding firearm was found, leading to speculation about the incident's nature. The Delhi Police Crime Branch is intensifying its probe, focusing on potential irregularities at Al Falah University and examining CCTV footage to trace the movements of Dr. Umar Muhammad, who died in the blast and had rented a room nearby. This incident highlights the ongoing threat of terror activities in urban settings and the need for heightened vigilance and investigative coordination among law enforcement agencies.

## Northern Commander Urges Proactive Measures Against Terror Threats in Jammu SHARE

16-Nov-25

Army Northern Commander Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma emphasized the need for proactive measures against emerging terror threats in Jammu and Kashmir during his recent review of the counter-terrorism grid in Udhampur district. He visited areas that have experienced multiple terror incidents, underscoring the importance of vigilance and operational readiness among troops. Commending their professionalism, he acknowledged the high morale and sustained operational efficiency of the forces stationed along the Line of Control. The General highlighted advancements in surveillance systems and precision engagement capabilities, which are critical for maintaining a robust defensive posture in the region, particularly in light of evolving security challenges.

## Delhi Police detain 3, including 2 doctors, in terror module probe. SHARE

16-Nov-25

Delhi Police have detained three individuals, including two doctors from Al Falah University, linked to a terror module involved in the recent blast near the Red Fort that resulted in 13 fatalities. The detentions are part of a broader investigation that includes two FIRs against the university for regulatory violations. The suspects allegedly participated in funding the terror activities, with reports indicating they pooled approximately Rs 26 lakh to procure explosive materials. Enhanced security measures are being implemented across Delhi, with extensive checks on vehicles and individuals associated with the investigation. This incident highlights significant concerns regarding campus security and the potential infiltration of extremist elements within educational institutions in India.

## Delhi blast driver linked to JeM, received Rs 20 lakh funding. SHARE

16-Nov-25

The driver of the Hyundai i20 that exploded near Delhi's Red Fort metro station on November 10, resulting in at least 12 fatalities and numerous injuries, reportedly received Rs 20 lakh from Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) handlers via illegal financial channels. Investigators have linked the driver, Dr. Umar Mohammad, and two other medical professionals, Dr. Muzammil and Dr. Shaheen, to a broader terror network. Following the blast, security agencies discovered 2,900 kg of explosives in Faridabad, signaling a serious threat posed by this "white-collar terror module." The ongoing investigation underscores the rising concern over the involvement of educated professionals in terrorism and the need for enhanced vigilance against such evolving threats.

## Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

### CERT-In Issues Urgent Alert for Microsoft Users on Critical Vulnerability SHARE

16-Nov-25

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has issued a high-severity alert regarding a critical vulnerability, CVE-2025-60724, affecting various Microsoft products, including Windows OS, Microsoft Office, Azure, and SQL Server. This flaw allows cybercriminals to exploit a buffer overflow in the Microsoft Graphics Component, potentially enabling unauthorized access to sensitive user data and facilitating ransomware attacks. Users of multiple Windows versions, including Windows 10 and 11, are urged to update their systems immediately as Microsoft has released a patch to address this issue. The alert underscores the growing threat of cyber vulnerabilities and the necessity for robust cybersecurity measures in both personal and organizational contexts.

## Mil Personnel & Veterans

### Indian Army plans to induct women into Territorial Army battalions for empowerment and operational roles. SHARE

16-Nov-25

The Indian Army is set to induct women soldiers into its Territorial Army (TA) battalions as a pilot project, marking a significant step towards enhancing opportunities for women in the military. Initially, recruitment will be limited to a section strength in select Home & Hearth battalions, which were established for counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations in regions like Jammu and Kashmir and the Northeast. This initiative aligns with the government's emphasis on 'Nari Shakti' or women's empowerment in the armed forces, as the Army currently commissions women in various roles but restricts them from core combat arms like Infantry and Armoured Corps. The move signifies a gradual breaking of barriers, allowing women to contribute to national defense in a volunteer capacity while also expanding their roles within the military structure. This development is not just a milestone for gender inclusion but also reflects the evolving philosophy of the Indian Army as it adapts to modern societal changes, potentially impacting recruitment dynamics and operational effectiveness in future engagements.

### Rear Admiral Gautam Marwaha appointed Chief Staff Officer (Technical) at Eastern Naval Command. SHARE

16-Nov-25

Rear Admiral Gautam Marwaha has taken charge as the Chief Staff Officer (Technical) at the Eastern Naval Command Headquarters in Visakhapatnam. An Electrical Engineer commissioned in December 1992, he brings a wealth of experience from various appointments, including service aboard multiple naval ships and significant roles in naval dockyards. His overseas experience includes serving as the Defence Adviser in Nigeria, while his leadership at INS Valsura earned the establishment the President's Colour for excellence. Awarded the Vishisht Seva Medal in 2021, Rear Admiral Marwaha's appointment underscores the Indian Navy's commitment to technical excellence and operational readiness in a strategically vital region.

### CISF Strengthens Security by Inducting 11,700 Personnel in One Day SHARE

16-Nov-25

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has inducted over 11,700 new personnel in a single day, significantly enhancing security at critical national installations including Jewar and Navi Mumbai airports, Bhakra Dam, and other vital infrastructure. This recruitment, which aligns with the Ministry of Home Affairs' ongoing expansion plan, strengthens the CISF's total strength to approximately 1.70 lakh personnel, addressing nearly 90% of its manpower needs at sensitive sites. The new recruits, selected for their graduate-level qualifications and technical skills, are set to manage advanced security technologies essential for modern security frameworks. This milestone reinforces the CISF's role as a cornerstone of India's internal security architecture, preparing it for evolving challenges and threats to national assets.

## Miscellaneous

### Eastern Naval Command hosts NES Conference 2025 on education reforms.

SHARE

16-Nov-25

The Eastern Naval Command in Visakhapatnam hosted the annual Navy Education Society (NES) Conference 2025 from November 10 to 13, focusing on policy frameworks and operational aspects of Naval Schools in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. Vice Admiral CR Praveen Nair stressed the importance of uniformity and inclusivity in education for the wards of Naval personnel, while highlighting ongoing reforms and investments aimed at enhancing academic excellence. The conference emphasized the commitment to high-quality, inclusive education, with the introduction of Sankalp Schools for children with special needs marking a significant step towards collaborative growth. The event culminated in the presentation of NES Academic Awards, reflecting the achievements of Naval Schools across India.

### Indian Army retains Animal Transport Units for essential logistical support until 2032.

SHARE

16-Nov-25

The Indian Army has decided to defer the disbanding of its Animal Transport Units (ATUs) until at least 2032 due to the ongoing necessity for logistical support in high-altitude and challenging terrains. Despite earlier proposals to phase out these units based on advancements in technology and infrastructure, the required developments did not materialize, underscoring the critical role of mules, horses, donkeys, and dogs in maintaining operational readiness in forward areas. This decision follows recommendations from a 2016 Committee of Experts aimed at enhancing combat capability and optimizing defense spending. The continuation of ATUs highlights the importance of traditional logistical methods in complementing modern military operations.

### IAF recovers black box from crashed Pilatus PC-7 MK-II near Tiruporur.

SHARE

16-Nov-25

A black box from the crashed Pilatus PC-7 MK-II trainer aircraft was successfully recovered near Tiruporur after extensive search efforts by the Indian Air Force (IAF). The aircraft, which experienced a technical malfunction during a training sortie, was piloted by a trainee who executed an emergency ejection, landing safely. The recovery operation faced challenges due to difficult terrain and waterlogged conditions, but the timely response by IAF personnel was commendable. The retrieved black box will undergo a thorough examination to ascertain the sequence of events leading to the incident, which raises questions about the operational reliability of legacy training platforms crucial for India's aircrew training syllabus.

### Teen girl missing from Madhya Pradesh rescued near Pakistan border in Jaisalmer.

SHARE

16-Nov-25

In a notable success under Operation Muskaan, a 17-year-old girl missing from Madhya Pradesh's Guna district since early September was rescued near the Pakistan border in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan on Nov 15,2025. The Raghogarh police launched an intensive investigation following the complaint filed by the girl's mother on September 9. Utilizing local informers, technical analysis, CCTV footage, and digital tracking, police tracked her to the sensitive border area over 1,000 kilometers away. The operation involved coordination between Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan police and concluded with the girl being safely reunited with her family after completion of legal formalities under the supervision of the Child Welfare Committee. This rescue highlights the effectiveness of Operation Muskaan, a national initiative by the Ministry of Home Affairs aimed at locating and rehabilitating missing children, reinforcing inter-state police collaboration and border vigilance amid security sensitivities with Pakistan.

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