

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
DCXINDIA	341.85	313.75	+8.96%
MARINE	327.6	302.75	+8.21%
MAZDOCK	5311.25	5030.65	+5.58%
TEMBO	809.65	771.1	+5.0%
ZENTEC	2400.65	2326.8	+3.17%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
NIBE	1826.8	1881.4	-2.9%
TANEJAERO	457.65	469.1	-2.44%
MTARTECH	1587.05	1624.95	-2.33%
CFF	708.3	723.6	-2.11%
LT	3807.2	3877.85	-1.82%

Defense Business and Industry

IAF to Establish In-House Team for Tejas MkII Upgrades



17-Dec-24

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is advancing towards greater self-reliance with the planned induction of Tejas MkII fighter jets from 2029-30, aiming to establish an in-house team dedicated to managing feedback and upgrades for the aircraft, thereby reducing dependence on Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for software updates. This strategic shift is designed to streamline the process of implementing necessary changes, minimizing developmental costs and potential delays currently encountered when routing requests through HAL. The Aircraft and Systems Testing Establishment (ASTE) will play a pivotal role in this initiative, focusing on writing and updating software code, managing the integration of new weapon systems throughout the aircraft's projected four-decade lifespan, and overseeing a dedicated testbed for real-time testing and validation of upgrades. The Tejas MkII, with enhanced avionics, increased payload capacity, and the ability to integrate next-generation weaponry, represents a significant upgrade over its predecessor, the Tejas MkI, and is crucial for modernizing the IAF's fleet. Meanwhile, in a separate development, the Indian Navy's construction of Next Generation Missile Vessels (NGMV) has commenced, with steel cutting ceremonies marking the initiative and the first vessels expected to be operational by 2027. These combined efforts underscore India's commitment to enhancing its defense capabilities while promoting indigenous technological expertise, ultimately aiming to maintain a tactical edge in the region amidst evolving security

challenges. The focus on self-reliance not only enhances operational efficiency but also supports the broader goal of reducing reliance on foreign defense technologies.

Steel Cutting Ceremony Marks Start of India's Next-Gen Missile Vessels



17-Dec-24

The Indian Navy's modernization efforts received a significant boost with the steel cutting ceremony for the first Next Generation Missile Vessel (NGMV) at Cochin Shipyard, marking the commencement of construction for six advanced warships, expected to be inducted by 2027. These NGMVs will enhance the Navy's combat capabilities with advanced features, including Surface-to-Surface Missile Systems and Anti-Missile Defence Systems, crucial for operations within the complex Indian Ocean Region. The project underscores India's commitment to self-reliance, aligning with the "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" initiative by utilizing indigenously developed technologies. This initiative not only represents a leap in naval capabilities but also reinforces India's strategic position in regional maritime security amidst evolving geopolitical challenges.

Keel Laid for Sixth ASW Shallow Water Craft at CSL, Kochi



17-Dec-24

The keel laying of the sixth Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC), named BY 528 Magdala, was conducted at Cochin Shipyard Limited on 17 Dec 24, signaling significant progress in the project initiated by the Indian Ministry of Defence. This milestone, part of a contract for eight Mahe class ships, emphasizes the government's commitment to Aatmanirbhar Bharat, with nearly all systems sourced locally. The vessels, equipped with advanced

underwater sensors, will enhance the Indian Navy's capabilities in anti-submarine warfare and maritime operations. This endeavor not only strengthens national defense but also fosters employment and boosts the indigenous manufacturing sector, reinforcing India's strategic self-reliance in defense.

Embraer Unveils C-390M: A Versatile Contender for India's MTA SHARE

17-Dec-24

Embraer is presenting a weaponized version of the C-390M Millennium for India's Medium Transport Aircraft (MTA) tender, showcasing its capabilities for anti-ship and land-attack operations by integrating hardpoints for advanced weaponry like the Rudram-II missile. This multi-role aircraft can also serve as a mothership for drone operations, enhancing the Indian Air Force's tactical flexibility. The proposal positions the C-390M as a cost-effective solution amidst tough competition from established platforms like the C-130J and A400M. This reflects a strategic trend towards versatile military assets that boost India's air power capabilities while addressing modern warfare requirements.

Indian Navy's NGMV Design Revamps BrahMos Missile Configuration SHARE

17-Dec-24

The Indian Navy's Next Generation Missile Vessel (NGMV) design has seen significant changes, particularly in its BrahMos missile configuration, shifting from quad-dual launchers capable of carrying 8 missiles to twin canister launchers with a capacity of 4. This modification, moving launchers to the front of the main mast, may enhance internal layout and operational efficiency, indicating a potential recalibration of the vessel's role or weight distribution needs. While the reduced missile capacity might raise concerns regarding offensive capabilities, it could reflect a strategic emphasis on improved sensor systems, survivability, or multi-mission versatility, aligning the NGMV with the evolving operational landscape of the Indian Navy.

Megha Engineering Launches Cutting-Edge VSHORAD System at MAPCON 2024 SHARE

17-Dec-24

At MAPCON 2024, Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Ltd (MEIL) showcased an advanced Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORAD), a fourth-generation missile with a 6-kilometer range,

designed for quick deployment against low-altitude threats, especially in mountainous terrains. Key features include a Miniaturized Reaction Control System for precision, advanced avionics for user-friendly operation, and superior tracking capabilities in all weather conditions. This development underscores MEIL's commitment to enhancing India's defense infrastructure and aligns with the Make in India initiative, significantly bolstering the country's air defense capabilities, especially in sensitive border areas. Such innovations are essential for maintaining strategic deterrence and operational readiness.

Tejas MK2 Model at Aero India 2025: A Leap in Indian Aerospace SHARE

17-Dec-24

The Tejas MK2 scale model showcased at Aero India 2025 highlights India's advancements in indigenous aerospace technology, featuring significant armament enhancements such as a twin Astra launcher, Rudram-2 anti-radiation missile, and High-Speed Low Drag Precision-Guided Munitions. With 11 hardpoints, the aircraft is designed for versatility and lethality in modern combat, enhancing the Indian Air Force's capabilities. This event not only emphasizes India's technological progress but also serves as a platform for HAL to attract international buyers, showcasing the potential for cost-effective yet advanced fighter jets in the global aerospace market. Overall, this development underlines India's strategic intent to bolster its defense capabilities and position in the international arena.

Moog Inc. Faces Bribery Allegations Linked to HAL Contract SHARE

17-Dec-24

Moog Inc. has been implicated in a bribery scandal involving Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), with the U.S. Department of Justice revealing that Moog's Indian subsidiary, Moog Motion Controls, engaged in corrupt practices to secure a \$1.3 million contract for aerospace actuators. Internal communications indicated intentions to pay a 2.5% commission to HAL officials, with fraudulent invoices used to facilitate over half a million dollars in bribes. This breach of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act highlights the urgent need for stronger compliance mechanisms within multinational firms. The case underscores the critical importance of ethical conduct in the defense industry and its implications for national security and international business integrity.

ADA Considers Enhanced Gun System for AMCA Stealth Fighter [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) is considering upgrading the gun system for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program, moving away from the existing 23mm Gryazev-Shipunov GSh-23 cannon to potentially adopt a 25mm Gatling-type cannon or a 30mm GSh-301 cannon. This shift reflects the AMCA's classification as a 5.5-generation stealth fighter, necessitating enhanced firepower and versatility for engaging diverse targets. While integration challenges are anticipated, the decision will align with final design optimizations, aiming for a rollout by late 2026 or early 2027 and operational induction by mid-2033 to 2034. This upgrade reinforces India's commitment to advancing its indigenous defense capabilities.

Indian Navy's Project-76: Indigenous Submarine Design in Progress [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

The Indian Navy is advancing Project-76, focusing on developing a new class of indigenous diesel submarines, with design work already in progress. Admiral Dinesh Tripathi confirmed that the project aims for self-reliance in submarine technology, utilizing experience from previous programs. The final design is expected by 2028 and seeks Cabinet approval by 2033-34 for the construction of 12 submarines, ensuring the phase-out of aging Kilo-class submarines. This initiative is crucial for enhancing India's naval capabilities amidst rising maritime challenges in the Indo-Pacific, bolstering strategic autonomy and operational readiness of the Navy.

Poland Boosts Defense Ties with Indian Arms Imports in 2023 [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

In 2023, Poland imported arms and ammunition from India, totaling approximately US\$456.23 thousand, indicating a growing defense relationship between the two countries. Key imports included traditional edged weapons, firearms, and military munitions, suggesting Poland's intent to diversify defense suppliers amid evolving security dynamics. The most significant segment was traditional weapons, reflecting cultural or ceremonial interests, while military munitions hint at potential cooperation. This trade not only enhances Poland's defense strategy but also strengthens India's position as an emerging player in the global arms market, showcasing the increasing importance of Indo-

European defense collaboration amidst shifting geopolitical landscapes.

Norway Receives New K9 Howitzers from South Korea's Hanwha [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

South Korea's Hanwha Aerospace has successfully delivered a new batch of four K9 Self-Propelled Howitzers and eight K10 Ammunition Resupply Vehicles to Norway, enhancing the country's defense capabilities under a follow-up contract from 2022. This shipment follows a previous contract in 2017, which supplied Norway with 24 K9 VIDAR howitzers and six K10 vehicles. The K9 Thunder is lauded for its precision, rapid firepower, and advanced survivability features, reinforcing its status as a leading artillery system globally. This collaboration exemplifies the growing international ties in defense technology and operational strategies, positioning Norway to strengthen its military posture alongside other K9 operating nations, including India.

Ukraine Unveils Laser Weapon to Combat Drones Amid Defense Needs [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

Ukraine claims to have developed a domestic laser weapon, the Tryzub, capable of targeting drones at altitudes over 2 kilometers, according to military official Vadym Sukharevskyi. This assertion comes amid ongoing requests for advanced air defense systems, including an appeal for 10-12 additional U.S. Patriot missile systems from President Zelenskyy to enhance Ukraine's defense against persistent Russian assaults. The urgency reflects Ukraine's struggle with a shortage of Surface-to-Air Missiles (SAMs) as it prepares for winter attacks on its infrastructure. This development highlights the ongoing arms race and the critical need for advanced technologies in modern warfare, as Ukraine seeks to bolster its defenses against Russia's aerial onslaught.

Udupi Cochin Shipyard Launches First Export Vessel for Norway [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

Udupi Cochin Shipyard Limited (UCSL) recently launched its first export vessel for Wilson ASA of Norway, marking a significant achievement in its shipbuilding endeavors. The event was attended by notable dignitaries, including the Deputy Head of Mission at the Norwegian Embassy and senior officials from UCSL. This shipyard, a subsidiary of Cochin Shipyard Limited, has successfully delivered several

tugs and is now focusing on environmentally friendly diesel-electric vessels designed for coastal cargo transport. UCSL's growing portfolio, including orders for multiple tugboats, underscores its potential in the international maritime market and enhances India's defense and maritime capabilities.

MSMEs Essential for Boosting India's Defense Production SHARE

17-Dec-24

The Eastern Naval Command Chief emphasized the crucial role of MSMEs in India's defense production, highlighting their contribution to reducing reliance on foreign imports and achieving self-sufficiency. Currently, about 8,000 MSMEs are involved in defense production, with plans to double this number, fostering innovation and collaboration with larger defense firms through initiatives like IDEX and TDF. While MSMEs contribute significantly to the economy, challenges such as market integration and operational hurdles persist, necessitating mentorship from larger companies. This commitment to bolstering the MSME sector not only enhances defense capabilities but also supports India's broader economic growth.

China Launches J-20S: A Game-Changing Dual-Seat Stealth Fighter SHARE

17-Dec-24

China has unveiled the J-20S, a dual-seat stealth fighter featuring a tandem cockpit that enhances mission effectiveness through improved situational awareness. This fifth-generation aircraft is equipped for diverse roles, including electronic warfare and UAV command, allowing for coordinated operations that reflect modern combat trends. The J-20S's advanced stealth technology positions China as a significant competitor, particularly against established air forces like that of the U.S., which rely on single-seat fighters. Additionally, the dual-seat design may improve pilot training, potentially reshaping operational tactics within the People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) and giving China a strategic edge in aerial combat scenarios.

Indonesia Seeks Defence Tech Collaboration with India SHARE

17-Dec-24

Indonesia is keen to collaborate with India in the defence technology sector, as highlighted by Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi's recent talks with Indonesian military officials. The discussions focused on strengthening bilateral cooperation through joint exercises and operational engagements, with Tripathi

emphasizing India's advancements in indigenous naval technologies. Indonesian Defence Minister Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin expressed enthusiasm for enhancing Indonesia's defence capabilities through collaboration with India. This visit reflects the growing strategic ties between India and Indonesia, particularly in the maritime domain, aligning with their shared vision for stability in the Indo-Pacific region and underscoring the potential for expanded defence cooperation.

Indian Defense Forces Boost Space Assets and Manpower for Future Warfare SHARE

17-Dec-24

The Indian defence forces are prioritizing the expansion of space assets and manpower to prepare for future warfare, as outlined in a recent presentation by the Department of Military Affairs. This initiative includes launching 52 satellites for surveillance and communication, enhancing the Defence Space Agency's capabilities, and fostering collaboration between government and private sectors. Key officials emphasize the importance of securing national interests in an increasingly competitive space environment, particularly concerning monitoring areas along the Line of Actual Control with China and borders with Pakistan. With space becoming more congested and contested, the focus on innovation and cutting-edge technology is essential for maintaining a strategic advantage.

Lockheed's New Subsidiary to Propel AI Adoption in Defense SHARE

17-Dec-24

Lockheed Martin has established a subsidiary aimed at assisting defense companies in integrating artificial intelligence into their operations. This initiative underscores the growing importance of AI in enhancing military capabilities and operational efficiency. By fostering innovation in defense technology, Lockheed aims to strengthen its position in the defense sector while enabling client firms to leverage AI for improved decision-making and mission success. This move reflects a broader trend within the defense industry towards modernization and the adoption of cutting-edge technologies, which is crucial for countries like India that are keen on enhancing their defense capabilities and self-reliance in the sector.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

Rajnath Singh Leads Meeting on New DPSUs' Roles and Functions SHARE

17-Dec-24

On December 17, 2024, Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh chaired a Consultative Committee meeting for the Ministry of Defence, focusing on the roles and functions of newly established Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) following the corporatisation of the Ordnance Factory Board. The meeting highlighted the improved productivity, quality, and profitability of these DPSUs, with significant advancements in indigenisation, modernisation, and promotion of MSMEs. Shri Rajnath Singh expressed confidence that the DPSUs would enhance India's self-reliance in defense production by adopting world-class technologies. He assured that HR-related concerns raised by committee members were being adequately addressed, reinforcing a collaborative approach to governance in defense production.

Parliamentary panel urges DRDO to enhance R&D for modern warfare SHARE

17-Dec-24

A parliamentary panel has urged the DRDO to expand its R&D efforts to address hybrid, kinetic, and non-kinetic warfare, reflecting the need for enhanced combat readiness against evolving security threats. The committee expressed satisfaction with existing collaborations between DRDO and academic institutions but emphasized the importance of focusing on emerging technologies like AI and anti-drone capabilities. It also highlighted the challenges faced by armed forces in remote areas, recommending exploration of renewable energy sources to enhance energy security. This proactive approach aligns with India's strategic need to adapt to modern warfare demands and ensure the effectiveness of its defense capabilities in diverse scenarios.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

India and China to Revive Special Representative Talks on Dec 18 SHARE

17-Dec-24

India and China are set to hold a crucial meeting of Special Representatives on December 18, 2024, in

Beijing, marking a significant revival of dialogue after a five-year hiatus. The talks will be led by Indian National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, focusing on maintaining peace along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and addressing the longstanding border dispute. While previous discussions have yielded limited progress, the current geopolitical context, including a recent disengagement of troops in Eastern Ladakh, creates an opportunity for constructive engagement. Analysts suggest that the talks should aim to define the LAC, establish no-entry zones for disputed areas, and enhance mechanisms for conflict resolution, with expectations high for concrete outcomes that could bolster bilateral relations. The backing of Prime Ministers Modi and Xi will be essential for translating strategic intent into actionable agreements.

Doval in Beijing to Discuss Restoring India-China Relations SHARE

17-Dec-24

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval is set to engage in the 23rd meeting of the Special Representatives with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing, focusing on the management of peace and tranquility along the India-China border, amidst long-standing tensions that escalated in 2020 due to Chinese military actions in eastern Ladakh. The objective is to explore a fair, reasonable, and mutually acceptable resolution to the boundary question, building on discussions that originated from their meeting in Kazan on October 23. India's commitment to bilateral dialogue was reinforced by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, who emphasized the need for a comprehensive framework to settle boundary disputes, while acknowledging that relations have remained strained since 2020. This ongoing dialogue reflects India's strategic approach to countering aggression through diplomatic channels, thereby reinforcing its position as a responsible regional power committed to peace and stability despite external provocations, and highlighting the importance of sustained engagement to achieve long-term solutions in the region.

Morocco as a Strategic Gateway for Indian Defense Exports SHARE

17-Dec-24

India is keen to enhance its defense export strategy by utilizing Morocco as a gateway to African and European markets, as emphasized during a recent seminar in Rabat. Moroccan officials highlighted their commitment to fostering collaboration, proposing an attractive

investment climate for Indian defense firms. Concurrently, the Indian Air Force is deploying Tejas Mk1 fighters to strengthen its western border capabilities, marking a significant transition as MiG-21s are phased out. This alignment of India's strategic defense initiatives and Morocco's market access presents a dual opportunity for India to bolster its defense manufacturing footprint while addressing regional security dynamics.

Bangladesh Law Adviser Challenges Modi's Take on 1971 Victory [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

Bangladesh's Law Adviser Asif Nazrul criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi's post commemorating Vijay Diwas, asserting that India was merely an ally in the 1971 victory that led to Bangladesh's independence. He and others argue that Modi's narrative undermines Bangladesh's sovereignty and sacrifices in the Liberation War. While Modi honored the courage of Indian soldiers, Nazrul's comments reflect ongoing tensions regarding historical narratives between the two nations. The contrasting perspectives highlight the importance of acknowledging mutual contributions while respecting national identities, especially as both countries navigate their historical legacies amidst contemporary political dynamics.

India and Sri Lanka to Enhance Maritime Ties in SLINEX 2024 Exercise [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

India and Sri Lanka will conduct the joint naval exercise SLINEX 2024 from December 17 to 20 in Visakhapatnam, aimed at enhancing maritime cooperation between the two nations. The exercise will feature a Harbour Phase focused on professional exchanges, followed by a Sea Phase involving joint operations, including Special Forces training, gun firings, and navigation drills. Since its inception in 2005, SLINEX has evolved to strengthen interoperability and share naval best practices, reinforcing the strategic maritime ties between India and Sri Lanka. This exercise underscores India's commitment to promoting a secure and rules-based maritime environment in the region, highlighting its role as a stabilizing force in South Asia.

Sri Lanka vows not to use territory against India amid tensions. [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Disanayaka assured Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi that Sri

Lankan territory will not be used against India's interests amid growing Chinese influence in the region. During Disanayaka's visit to India, both leaders agreed to finalize a defense cooperation agreement and enhance energy ties, including electricity-grid connectivity and petroleum pipelines. Modi emphasized India's commitment to supporting Sri Lanka's economic recovery, referencing \$4 billion in aid and ongoing discussions on debt restructuring. The dialogue also touched on sensitive issues like the fishermen dispute and the need for constitutional implementation in Sri Lanka, reinforcing the interconnected security interests of both nations while addressing regional stability concerns.

NATO Warns of Russian Hybrid Warfare Threatening Baltic Stability [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

NATO has accused Russia of engaging in hybrid warfare in the Baltic Sea, disrupting mobile communications and ship-tracking data, which threatens vessels and energy supplies, according to Polish Vice Admiral Krzysztof Jaworski. He emphasized that Russia's systematic tactics aim to test Western responses and undermine political and energy stability. Recent incidents of possible sabotage to telecommunication cables and gas pipelines have raised alarms, with concerns that such actions could lead NATO to invoke its Article 5 mutual defense clause. The situation underscores the escalating tensions and aggressive maneuvers by Russia, challenging NATO's unity and response capabilities in the region.

Norway Invests \$242M to Strengthen Ukrainian Navy Against Russia [SHARE](#)

17-Dec-24

Norway has announced a significant investment of \$242 million to bolster the Ukrainian Navy as part of efforts to counter Russian naval threats in the Black Sea. This funding will enhance naval capabilities through innovation and autonomy, support mine clearance operations, and facilitate the training of Ukrainian forces. Additionally, Norway will enable local production of Norwegian-developed artillery ammunition in Ukraine, reflecting NATO's strategy to increase weapon supplies not only for Ukraine but also to replenish member nations' stocks. Norway's commitment underscores the importance of maritime security for Ukraine's economy and regional stability amidst ongoing conflicts.

Priyanka Gandhi Criticizes Removal of Iconic Pakistan Surrender Photo



17-Dec-24

Priyanka Gandhi raised concerns over the removal of a historic photograph depicting Pakistan's surrender during the 1971 war, arguing it undermines India's military heritage and should be restored. The image, showing Lt. General A.A.K. Niazi signing the Instrument of Surrender, is central to the annual Vijay Diwas commemoration. The Indian Army clarified that the photo was relocated to the Manekshaw Centre, dedicated to Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw. This controversy has ignited a debate over historical narratives, with Congress accusing the BJP of altering historical memory, emphasizing the importance of preserving such symbols of national pride and military achievement in India's history.

Russia's Kalinka Threatens Starlink: A New Challenge for Ukraine



17-Dec-24

Russia has developed the Kalinka system, an advanced electronic warfare tool designed to detect and neutralize signals from SpaceX's Starlink satellites, which have been pivotal in enhancing Ukraine's military communication and operational capabilities. The system reportedly has a detection range of up to 15 kilometers and is being integrated into various platforms for versatility. By targeting Starlink's communication advantages, Russia aims to disrupt Ukraine's military operations, which increasingly rely on satellite technology. The development of Kalinka underscores an evolving battlefield dynamic, highlighting vulnerabilities in satellite networks that could impact global military strategies, further intensifying the geopolitical competition among major powers.

Trump Calls Biden's Ukraine Arms Decision 'Stupid' Amid Tensions



17-Dec-24

President-elect Donald Trump criticized President Biden's decision to allow Ukrainian forces to use U.S. long-range weapons against Russian targets, labeling it "stupid" and suggesting he might reverse the decision once in office. This move has implications for U.S. support for Ukraine as Trump emphasized the need for negotiations to end the conflict. Trump's relationship with Russia has previously raised questions, and he acknowledged the challenges ahead in resolving the Russia-Ukraine situation. Meanwhile, the Pentagon warned of imminent Russian missile threats, stressing

the complex dynamics as Western support for Ukraine continues to evolve amidst ongoing military hostilities.

Israel Nears Hostage Deal with Hamas Amid Ongoing Conflict



17-Dec-24

Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz stated that Israel is "closer than ever" to finalizing a hostage deal with Hamas, following discussions with U.S. President-elect Donald Trump, who threatened severe consequences if hostages are not released. Katz emphasized that the deal would not entail a long-term cessation of hostilities, which Hamas seeks but is opposed by Netanyahu's coalition. Despite prior negotiations stalling, an unnamed Hamas leader suggested that both sides are nearing an agreement contingent on Netanyahu's cooperation. The ongoing conflict has resulted in significant casualties, with over 1200 Israelis killed and 45,000 Palestinians reported dead amid Israel's military response.

Military Operations

Indian Army Seizes Major Cache of Weapons in Manipur, Including Starlink Antenna



17-Dec-24

In recent coordinated operations in Manipur, the Indian Army and Assam Rifles, along with local police and other security agencies, successfully recovered a substantial cache of weapons, ammunition, and a notable high-tech item, a Starlink antenna. Over several days, operations conducted across the districts of Churachandpur, Chandel, Kangpokpi, and Imphal East resulted in the seizure of 29 firearms, including sophisticated weapons like sniper rifles and automatic guns, alongside locally manufactured arms such as mortars and assorted ammunition. The discovery of the Starlink antenna, part of SpaceX's satellite internet technology, raises significant security concerns, as it indicates that militant groups may be utilizing advanced communication methods to evade monitoring by Indian intelligence. The presence of this technology highlights the evolving nature of threats facing Indian security forces and underscores the importance of adapting countermeasures to address potential vulnerabilities posed by insurgents' access to secure communication. The seamless collaboration among the Indian Army, Assam Rifles, and local law enforcement showcases their commitment to ensuring stability in the region, while the investigation into the Starlink antenna's

origins is expected to be a priority for authorities seeking to mitigate risks to national security.

Meghalaya Police Spot TB2 UAVs, BSF Plans MANPADS Deployment



17-Dec-24

Meghalaya Police have confirmed sightings of Bayraktar TB2 UAVs near the India-Bangladesh border, raising security concerns amid political instability in Bangladesh. These drones, capable of surveillance and precision strikes, were reportedly launched from Tejgaon Airbase. In response, the BSF is likely to deploy MANPADS to counter potential threats, reflecting a proactive stance in safeguarding India's border. The situation underscores the increasing use of UAV technology in regional military dynamics and highlights the need for enhanced surveillance and intelligence sharing among Indian security forces, ensuring readiness against unauthorized aerial incursions. This development emphasizes India's commitment to maintaining a robust defense posture in a challenging geopolitical landscape.

Ukraine Drones Strike Russian Ammo Depot in Donetsk Region



17-Dec-24

A Ukrainian drone attack reportedly destroyed a Russian ammunition depot in the Donetsk region, along with a nearby fuel storage facility. This incident highlights Ukraine's strategic reliance on long-range drones to target Russian military assets, intensifying engagements near the frontlines as the conflict approaches 34 months. Russia has responded by developing protective measures for its infrastructure, such as armored plating and nets to safeguard against drone strikes. While Ukraine views these drone operations as legitimate military actions, Russia categorizes them as terrorist acts, showcasing the escalating tensions and differing narratives in this ongoing conflict.

electric scooter, along with his assistant. Ukrainian intelligence agency SBU claimed responsibility for the attack, framing it as a retaliatory measure against Kirillov's alleged involvement in chemical weapons crimes during the ongoing conflict. This incident represents a significant escalation, as Kirillov is the highest-ranking Russian officer assassinated on Russian soil. The assassination is likely to provoke a strong response from Russian authorities, who may enhance security protocols for their military leadership and seek revenge against Ukrainian targets. This event underscores the complexities of the conflict, where targeted killings are viewed as legitimate tactics by both sides in a high-stakes geopolitical landscape.

Eight militants arrested in Manipur for murder of two laborers



17-Dec-24

Eight militants from the banned Kangleipak Communist Party (Peoples War Group) were arrested in Manipur's Kakching district in connection with the murder of two migrant labourers from Bihar. Following extensive search operations initiated on December 14, police apprehended an active member first, leading to the arrest of seven more militants, along with the recovery of arms, ammunition, and mobile phones. Manipur's Chief Minister condemned the brutal killings, emphasizing that such acts of terrorism threaten societal values, and announced compensation for the victims' families. He indicated that the case might be transferred to the National Investigation Agency if necessary, reflecting the state's commitment to combating militant violence.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Bangladesh and Indian veterans honor 1971 war heroes together



17-Dec-24

A special reunion between a Bangladesh delegation and Indian war veterans marked Vijay Diwas 2024, commemorating India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war. This event highlighted the strong bond between India and Bangladesh and honored the sacrifices of soldiers who fought for liberation. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah emphasized the courage and dedication of the Indian armed forces, celebrating their role in protecting human values and reshaping the world map. The ceremony included a joint wreath-laying at Vijay Smarak, attended by officers from both nations, further

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Ukrainian SBU Claims Responsibility for Assassination of Russian General Kirillov



17-Dec-24

Lieutenant General Igor Kirillov, chief of Russia's Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Protection Troops, was assassinated in Moscow by a bomb hidden in an

solidifying the enduring ties and shared history between India and Bangladesh.

Putin: Surge in Volunteer Enlistment Boosts Russian Military Efforts



17-Dec-24

President Vladimir Putin announced a significant increase in voluntary enlistment in the Russian military, claiming it has begun to shift the tide of the Ukraine war in Russia's favor. He noted that approximately 430,000 Russians signed army contracts this year, with troops liberating nearly 200 settlements and advancing rapidly on the frontlines. The Russian Defense Minister emphasized the necessity for military readiness against potential NATO conflict, while Putin criticized Western leaders for inciting fear through the portrayal of a "Russian threat." This rhetoric underscores Russia's strategic positioning amid heightened tensions with the West, reflecting its commitment to robust defense measures.

CAG Report Highlights Delays in Army Court of Inquiry Processes



17-Dec-24

A recent CAG report highlighted significant delays in the Indian Army's Court of Inquiry (Col) processes, with only 46 out of 95 cases being finalized within the stipulated timeframe. The report indicated a lack of proper documentation and accountability, with financial losses amounting to Rs 50.76 crore. Additionally, the performance of the Remount and Veterinary Services regarding training and modernization was found lacking, and concerns over the efficient deployment of porters in the Eastern Command were raised. These findings suggest a pressing need for the Army to enhance its procedural efficiency and accountability mechanisms, ensuring better management of resources and timely resolution of inquiries.

Miscellaneous

Priyanka Gandhi and Congress MPs rally for Bangladesh's minorities.



17-Dec-24

Congress MPs, led by Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, expressed solidarity with Bangladesh's Hindu and Christian minorities facing alleged atrocities, staging protests in Parliament with bags labeled "Stand with minorities of Bangladesh." They demanded that the Indian government address these concerns with

Bangladesh and support the affected individuals. Priyanka emphasized the need for governmental action to alleviate the suffering of these communities. This protest follows her earlier show of support for Palestine, indicating a pattern of advocacy for vulnerable groups. The Congress party's actions highlight the importance of regional minority rights and India's role in advocating for humanitarian issues in neighboring countries.

Puri criticizes Congress for failing to act on Article 370.



17-Dec-24

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri criticized Congress for its handling of Article 370 in the Rajya Sabha, asserting that the party's failure to act led to its de facto permanence contrary to the Constitution's intent. He emphasized that the abrogation by Prime Minister Modi corrected a historical wrong, isolating Kashmir from mainstream India and depriving its residents of fundamental rights. Puri condemned Congress's appeasement politics and accused it of failing to protect minorities, contrasting it with the Modi government's inclusive development approach. His remarks highlighted the historical injustices faced by Kashmiri Pandits and Sikhs, calling into question Congress's claims of safeguarding minority rights.

Protests in Kolkata Demand Respect for India's Flag Amid Bangladesh Tensions



17-Dec-24

Protests erupted in Kolkata over perceived disrespect towards India's national flag in Bangladesh, with demonstrators from the Salute Tiranga group demanding an end to the treatment of Bangladeshi patients in local hospitals. They argued that ongoing incidents of flag disrespect and the persecution of minority Hindus in Bangladesh should prompt Indian health facilities to reconsider their services to Bangladeshi nationals. Protesters expressed that enough is enough, indicating a growing sentiment among citizens about prioritizing national dignity and addressing perceived injustices faced by Indian minorities abroad. This reflects a rising nationalism and a call for solidarity within the Indian populace regarding treatment of national symbols and cultural sensitivities.

Army Chief Unveils 1971 Surrender Painting at Manekshaw Centre



17-Dec-24

Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, alongside Sunita Dwivedi, installed the iconic 1971 surrender painting at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi on Vijay Diwas, commemorating India's decisive victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war, which led to the liberation of Bangladesh. This painting symbolizes the commitment of the Indian Armed Forces to justice and humanity, and its placement in a high-traffic venue aims to educate diverse audiences about India's military achievements. Meanwhile, Congress MP Manickam Tagore raised concerns over the removal of a similar photograph from Army Headquarters, emphasizing the importance of preserving historical memories tied to this significant event. Overall, the installation reinforces India's status as a major regional power and honors the sacrifices made by its soldiers.

JNU warns against unauthorized screening of banned Modi documentary



17-Dec-24

Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has issued a warning against the unauthorized screening of a banned BBC documentary on Narendra Modi, citing concerns over potential disturbances to communal harmony. The advisory follows an invitation from the Left-backed All India Students Federation for a screening at Ganga Dhaba, marking the anniversary of police actions against students at Jamia Millia Islamia in 2019. JNU emphasized that no permission was granted for the event and urged students to refrain from participating, threatening strict action for violations. This situation highlights ongoing tensions in academic settings regarding political narratives and freedom of expression amidst concerns for campus stability.

Indian Army Repatriates Teen from PoK Who Crossed LoC Accidentally



17-Dec-24

An 18-year-old boy from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, Mohd Sadiq, was repatriated by the Indian Army after inadvertently crossing the Line of Control into Jammu and Kashmir. Apprehended in Noorkote village, he was confirmed to have entered India unintentionally during questioning. The Indian Army facilitated his return on humanitarian grounds, coordinating with Pakistani officials at the Chakan-Da-Bagh border crossing. This incident underscores India's commitment to humanitarian principles, even amidst ongoing geopolitical tensions, highlighting a willingness to

engage in peaceful resolutions and promote goodwill across the border. Such actions reflect India's strategic approach to managing sensitive cross-border issues while maintaining security and humanitarian standards.

Switzerland Revokes India's MFN Status, Impacting Trade Relations



17-Dec-24

Switzerland has suspended India's Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status, citing a Supreme Court ruling that emphasizes the need for explicit notification under Indian tax law for automatic adjustments in tax treaties. This suspension raises the withholding tax on dividends from 5% to 10%, which could disadvantage Indian companies operating in Switzerland, affecting their competitiveness and potentially prompting a strategic reassessment of their investments. The situation may also lead to broader implications for India's trade relations, as other countries could re-evaluate their MFN clauses in treaties with India, creating uncertainty in international operations for Indian firms.

ISRO's SpaDEX Mission: 10-Day Journey to Autonomous Docking



17-Dec-24

ISRO's upcoming Space Docking Experiment (SpaDEX) aims to showcase India's prowess in autonomous satellite docking through the co-launch of two 400 kg satellites, Chaser and Target, aboard a Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle on December 30, 2024. The mission will validate autonomous rendezvous and docking techniques, formation flying, and remote robotic arm operations, essential for future satellite servicing and space station assembly. The docking procedures will occur over 10 days, with the Chaser gradually approaching the Target. Successful completion of this mission will significantly enhance India's capabilities in space exploration and technology, reinforcing its position in the global space community.

Vietnam Coast Guard Ship CSB 8005 Arrives in Kochi for Joint Drills



17-Dec-24

The Vietnam Coast Guard Ship CSB 8005 has arrived in Kochi for a four-day visit, engaging in professional interactions aimed at enhancing maritime cooperation between India and Vietnam. The crew will participate in exercises focused on Marine Pollution Response, Maritime Search and Rescue, and Maritime Law Enforcement, which includes cross-deck training and practical drills like major firefighting and oil pollution response demonstrations. This collaboration reflects

India's commitment to strengthening ties with Southeast Asian nations in maritime security, promoting regional stability and operational readiness against common maritime challenges. Such engagements are pivotal for fostering partnerships and showcasing India's role as a key player in maritime security in the Indo-Pacific region.

Sri Lankan President Dissanayake and President Murmu Forge Stronger Ties



17-Dec-24

Sri Lankan President Dissanayake and Indian President Murmu held a significant meeting to strengthen bilateral ties, emphasizing the historical connections between the two nations. Dissanayake reaffirmed Sri Lanka's commitment to not allowing its territory to be used against India's interests and discussed initiatives in economic collaboration, such as double taxation agreements, renewable energy, and infrastructure investments. The leaders also focused on cultural exchanges, security cooperation in counter-terrorism, and maritime security, while expressing optimism for future collaborations in digital identity projects and railway connectivity. This meeting reflects a shared vision for a mutually beneficial relationship that enhances both nations' economic and social landscapes.

Sri Lankan President Dissanayake Honors Gandhi, Strengthens Ties with India



17-Dec-24

Sri Lankan President Dissanayake's state visit to India marks an important diplomatic engagement, being his first bilateral visit since assuming office. The visit included a significant homage to Mahatma Gandhi at Raj Ghat, where he laid a wreath and received a miniature bust of Gandhi along with a book detailing his life, symbolizing the deep respect and historical ties between India and Sri Lanka. This gesture reinforces the shared values and cultural connections of both

nations, emphasizing the potential for strengthening bilateral relations in various sectors, including defense, trade, and regional stability. Such diplomatic initiatives are crucial for fostering collaboration in a geopolitically significant region.

Assam CM Highlights Hospitality's Role in India-Bhutan Bond



17-Dec-24

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma emphasized the importance of hospitality in reinforcing the special bond between India and Bhutan during his recent visit aimed at enhancing bilateral relations. His remarks highlight India's commitment to strengthening partnerships in the region, showcasing Bhutan's cultural richness and the enduring friendship between the two nations. This diplomatic initiative reflects India's strategic priorities in maintaining strong ties with neighboring countries, which is crucial for regional stability and cooperation. Overall, the visit underscores the importance of cultural diplomacy and collaboration in fostering mutual respect and support between India and Bhutan.

Pakistan's Debt Soars by PKR 4.3 Trillion Amid Economic Turmoil



17-Dec-24

Pakistan's total debt has surged to PKR 69.114 trillion amid an economic crisis marked by high inflation, political instability, and structural inefficiencies. The country secured a \$7 billion IMF bailout in September 2024, its 25th engagement with the fund since 1947, highlighting its dependency on international assistance. Despite a forecasted economic growth recovery to 2.5% for FY24, concerns over long-term debt sustainability and necessary reforms loom large. This situation underscores the challenges Pakistan faces in achieving economic stability and the implications for its geopolitical posture, particularly in relation to India, which continues to strengthen its economic and defense capabilities.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
DCXINDIA	313.8	345.0	313.75	341.85	2102262	8.96	58.25	327.21	333.21
MARINE	307.5	333.0	302.85	327.6	2483075	8.21	78.46	270.13	186.91
MAZDOCK	5055.0	5349.0	5010.0	5311.25	5471679	5.58	76.9	4638.66	3744.66
TEMBO	809.65	809.65	771.2	809.65	158308	5.0	72.53	732.64	362.83
ZENTEC	2334.0	2505.0	2315.0	2400.65	2567518	3.17	82.09	1958.07	1415.77
KRISHNADEF	790.0	790.0	752.6	784.15	45250	1.83	71.39	679.47	634.91
AVANTEL	172.17	175.9	168.03	171.89	973520	0.61	59.72	160.84	-
COCHINSHIP	1614.0	1630.0	1580.0	1617.05	272495	0.58	55.79	1562.35	1689.53
LOKESHMACH	355.0	367.4	352.3	356.1	102568	0.54	47.45	359.28	390.0
GRSE	1738.9	1791.2	1722.0	1755.2	1086085	0.54	59.31	1656.56	1551.56
ROSSELLIND	79.53	81.48	79.5	79.84	38455	0.4	32.84	83.27	375.8
IDEAFORGE	639.15	645.0	634.5	640.7	106030	0.27	62.33	601.57	698.26
SOLARINDS	10563.8	10635.8	10408.75	10557.7	58531	0.25	50.45	10507.92	9975.83
HIGHENE	686.5	709.0	670.35	679.4	13366	0.22	60.24	636.39	714.31
PARAS	1099.95	1110.95	1087.0	1098.4	80779	-0.0	55.11	1074.51	1022.9
LMW	17455.05	17835.0	17333.55	17439.25	8756	-0.25	66.71	16436.57	16057.29
SIKA	2654.0	2708.0	2646.0	2673.2	3679	-0.31	55.44	2594.52	2467.21
HBLPOWER	709.8	720.35	695.05	701.6	3481123	-0.47	72.7	632.63	557.63
BDL	1290.35	1297.8	1266.6	1280.35	611604	-0.5	70.66	1147.25	1197.86
BEML	4461.0	4523.15	4404.4	4433.6	222973	-0.54	65.12	4214.8	3923.87
ASTRAMICRO	866.0	867.25	841.05	846.25	323701	-0.81	65.27	793.89	795.42
ADANIENT	2512.0	2525.0	2480.75	2487.6	1061891	-0.99	43.42	2444.3	3024.83
APOLLO	97.62	97.95	96.45	96.61	582088	-1.02	44.76	97.56	105.99
HAL	4676.0	4716.0	4605.4	4622.6	936875	-1.15	62.21	4471.19	4399.81
DATAPATTNS	2640.0	2667.45	2600.0	2606.85	123310	-1.36	57.74	2510.44	2726.47
PTC	161.6	164.2	159.8	160.33	2407159	-1.38	32.23	171.36	202.38
AZAD	1780.0	1785.4	1736.1	1747.0	96301	-1.41	56.06	1730.31	1528.58
PREMEXPLN	599.7	604.9	550.0	559.55	1152519	-1.42	69.22	469.99	515.02
MIDHANI	377.7	383.4	370.55	371.75	292128	-1.58	56.97	356.82	411.07
BHARATFORG	1364.1	1370.7	1333.0	1340.6	1074430	-1.72	43.64	1343.99	1447.27
BEL	315.55	318.65	310.0	310.6	18053073	-1.77	58.37	305.28	275.68
LT	3863.05	3875.4	3797.0	3807.2	1690180	-1.82	55.05	3766.82	3614.15
CFF	712.6	728.95	700.1	708.3	12200	-2.11	57.77	682.34	611.99
MTARTECH	1624.95	1640.0	1579.0	1587.05	148972	-2.33	30.98	1740.52	1800.34
TANEJAERO	465.7	474.95	452.4	457.65	24512	-2.44	52.13	448.56	491.84
NIBE	1900.0	1900.0	1816.0	1826.8	29374	-2.9	53.78	1758.15	1734.25