



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

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Defense Business and Industry

BEL and Indian Army Secure ₹572 Crore Drone Defense Contract



17-May-25

On May 16, 2025, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and the Indian Army Air Defence entered into a significant contract valued at ₹572 crore for the Integrated Drone Detection and Interdiction System (IDDIS), a sophisticated counter-drone solution developed in collaboration with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The IDDIS is designed to detect, track, and neutralize hostile drones, addressing the rising threats posed by unmanned aerial systems in modern warfare, and demonstrated its effectiveness during Operation Sindoor on May 7, 2025, successfully neutralizing multiple Pakistani drones with zero casualties. This procurement aligns with India's broader defense modernization efforts and the Make in India initiative, showcasing indigenous technological capabilities. Additionally, BEL reported a surge in its share prices following this contract announcement, with analysts predicting further growth, reflecting the increasing focus on defense stocks amid ongoing tensions with Pakistan and rising order flows within India's defense sector. The contract not only enhances India's air defense capabilities but also strengthens BEL's position within the defense ecosystem, highlighting the importance of indigenous development in ensuring national security.

HAL to Supply 12 TEJAS MK-1A Jets to IAF by 2025, Enhancing Defense.



17-May-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is set to deliver 12 upgraded TEJAS MK-1A fighter jets to the Indian Air Force (IAF) in 2025, a significant boost to India's indigenous defense capabilities. The first aircraft is expected to be ready within the next few months, following the delivery of F404-IN20 engines from GE Aerospace. This advanced 4.5-generation multi-role

fighter jet features enhanced combat capabilities, improved survivability, and operational efficiency, positioning it as a formidable asset against adversaries, notably China and Pakistan. HAL's order book has seen remarkable growth, increasing from Rs 94,000 crore to approximately Rs 1.89 lakh crore in just one year, with ambitious plans that include additional orders for 97 TEJAS MK-1A jets and 143 Advanced Light Helicopters. The company is also investing Rs 14,000-15,000 crore over the next five years to expand production facilities in Bengaluru and Nashik. This strategic focus on self-reliance in defense manufacturing aligns with India's broader geopolitical strategy, particularly in light of recent tensions with neighboring countries, thereby reinforcing national security and boosting the defense industry while positively impacting HAL's financial outlook.

BrahMos-II to Feature DRDO's Indigenous Hypersonic Engine



17-May-25

Dr. Sudhir Kumar Mishra has announced that India's upcoming BrahMos-II hypersonic cruise missile will likely feature an indigenous scramjet engine developed by DRDO, following a successful test of a scramjet combustor. With speeds exceeding Mach 5 and a range of 1,500 km, the BrahMos-II is set to enhance India's defense capabilities significantly. This advancement positions India among global leaders in hypersonic technology, emphasizing self-reliance and reducing dependence on foreign technology. The BrahMos program, renowned for its precision and reliability, reinforces India's strategic military posture, particularly in deterring regional adversaries like Pakistan and China.

Tejas Mk1 Upgrades Boost Combat Intelligence and Precision Strike



17-May-25

India is set to enhance its indigenous Tejas Mk1 fighter aircraft by integrating advanced intelligence systems, stand-off weapons, and Software Defined Radios (SDRs) to bolster the Indian Air Force's (IAF) combat

capabilities amid evolving regional threats. The Tejas Mk1, developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA), currently consists of 32 aircraft in operation, with upgrades expected to improve sensor capabilities and allow engagement from safer distances using precision-guided munitions. Concurrently, HAL is preparing the first Tejas Mk1A variant at its Nashik division, marking the operational commencement of a new production line aimed at meeting the IAF's order for 180 units. This initial aircraft, equipped with a Category-B engine as an interim measure, is scheduled for its inaugural flight in June 2025, with further enhancements such as AESA radar and electronic warfare capabilities. The decentralization of production from Bengaluru to Nashik is crucial for speeding up the delivery of these advanced aircraft, addressing previous delays, and supporting the IAF's modernization by replacing aging MiG-21s. Collectively, these developments reflect India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing and the strategic enhancement of its air combat capabilities.

Defence Mutual Funds Surge Nearly 18% Amid Operation Sindoor

17-May-25

Indian defence sector-focused mutual funds have seen impressive gains, with returns ranging from 13.67% to 18.75%, attributed to heightened investor interest following Operation Sindoor and supportive government policies for domestic manufacturing. The Nifty India Defence Index also surged by 5.5%, outperforming the broader equity markets, indicating a robust investor confidence in defence stocks. Key players like Hindustan Aeronautics and Bharat Dynamics have shown significant price rallies, further showcasing the sector's growth potential amidst strategic geopolitical developments. This trend highlights the increasing attractiveness of India's defence industry as a viable investment avenue, promising substantial growth driven by government encouragement for local production.

India Set to Export Fighter Jets as LCA Tejas Achieves Self-Reliance

17-May-25

India's ambitious LCA Tejas program is nearing full self-reliance in fighter jet manufacturing, according to Kota Harinarayana, the former program director. He predicts that within a few years, India will not only satisfy its Air Force's needs but also start exporting fighter jets to allied nations. Highlighting recent advances, he noted

the successful trial of the indigenous counter-drone system 'Bhargavastra' and emphasized India's growing confidence in its defense capabilities, bolstered by operational successes such as the response to Pakistani aggression. Harinarayana's insights underscore India's commitment to becoming a significant player in the global defense market through indigenous innovation.

Operation Sindoor: India's Private Sector Revolutionizing Defense

17-May-25

Operation Sindoor highlights India's shift towards a robust defense strategy by integrating private sector innovation into military capabilities, moving away from reliance on public sector undertakings and imports. Companies like Tata Advanced Systems and Alpha Design Technologies are driving advancements in military technology, particularly in drones, contributing to a projected \$11 billion drone market by 2030. With defense exports aiming to double to Rs 50,000 crore by 2029, government policies such as the PLI scheme and initiatives like IDEX are fostering private sector participation. This collaboration is essential for evolving India's defense landscape, ensuring self-reliance and enhancing strategic military strength, particularly in space technology and autonomous systems.

Indian Loitering Munitions Eye Global Market After Success

17-May-25

Indian loitering munitions, notably Solar Defence's lightweight Nagastra-1, are set to enter the global market after the Ministry of Defence directed private firms to capture 10 percent of export opportunities amid policy support for defence-drone innovation. Since December 2024, 480 Nagastra-1 units - each featuring a 1 kg high-explosive warhead, a 15 km man-in-the-loop range extendable to 30 km and 30 minutes of loiter time - have been delivered at INR 1.5 lakh apiece with zero Chinese components. Building on this success, Solar is fielding the two-man portable, 20 kg Nagastra-2 with a 4 kg anti-tank/anti-personnel payload and is prototyping the extended-range Nagastra-3. Adani Defence's Alpha Design Technologies, in partnership with Elbit, deployed SkyStriker kamikaze drones armed with 5-10 kg warheads in Operation Sindoor, showcasing electric propulsion and a low acoustic signature. Tata Advanced Systems' ALS-50, inducted in 2024, offers a 50 km range, one-hour endurance and a 50 kg payload with GNSS-denied anti-jamming capability. Bengaluru-based NewSpace

Research & Technologies will unveil a stealthy delta-wing loitering munition with up to 500 km range at Aero India 2025. Buoyed by growing geopolitical demand for non-Chinese platforms and backed by India's burgeoning defence exports, these indigenous systems aim to secure a foothold in the competitive global loitering munitions arena.

India and Philippines Set to Finalize Akash 1S Air Defense Deal SHARE

17-May-25

India and the Philippines are nearing the finalization of a significant defense deal for the Akash 1S surface-to-air missile system, enhancing the Philippines' air defense amid regional tensions in the South China Sea. This follows the successful BrahMos missile sale in 2022, underscoring India's growing role as a defense exporter. The Akash 1S, developed by DRDO and produced by BDL, features advanced capabilities to intercept multiple aerial threats and is ideal for the Philippine Marine Corps to protect coastal assets. This deal illustrates the strengthening defense ties between India and the Philippines, reflecting Manila's trust in Indian defense technology and strategy.

Lohia Aerospace Systems to Highlight Composite Innovations at Paris Air Show 2025 SHARE

17-May-25

Lohia Aerospace Systems (LAS), a leading Indian manufacturer of advanced composite structures, will showcase its capabilities at the Paris Air Show 2025, marking a significant step in expanding its global aerospace footprint. As the only Indian composites manufacturer at the event, LAS aims to deepen relationships with OEMs and innovation hubs while promoting its advanced composite assemblies, particularly for UAV platforms. With a focus on innovation and full assembly capabilities, LAS is positioning itself as a preferred supplier in the global defense supply chain. This initiative highlights India's growing role in the global aerospace sector and strengthens its strategic partnerships internationally.

Moroccan Army Upgrades to India's Advanced Kavro Combat Helmet SHARE

17-May-25

The Royal Moroccan Army is enhancing its capabilities by adopting India's MKU Kavro MKH/ACH-7 combat helmet, a testament to the growing India-Morocco defense cooperation. This lightweight, advanced helmet offers superior ballistic protection, weighing only

1.2-1.4 kg, and features a bolt-free design that minimizes weak points, ensuring Level IIIA protection. Its compatibility with various tactical accessories, including night vision goggles, greatly enhances soldier situational awareness. Furthermore, the helmet's advanced materials and design cater to Morocco's diverse operational terrains, showcasing the effectiveness of India's Make in India initiative and highlighting India's expanding influence in global defense markets.

India Seeks Japanese XF9 Engine for AMCA Jets to Boost Defense SHARE

17-May-25

India is pursuing a strategic partnership with Japan for the development of the IHI XF9 engine to enhance its Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program, aiming to secure advanced propulsion technology critical for air dominance in the Indo-Pacific. This collaboration reflects India's resolve to innovate its indigenous capabilities while deepening defense ties with Japan, both of which share common security interests. The XF9's adaptable design aligns well with AMCA's operational needs, though challenges remain regarding technology transfer due to Japan's stringent defense export policies. Successful negotiations could bolster India's aerospace sector and address long-standing engine development hurdles, positioning the AMCA competitively against advanced aircraft like China's J-20.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

India Grants Rs 40,000 Crore for Emergency Defense Procurements SHARE

17-May-25

India has approved emergency procurement powers amounting to Rs 40,000 crore for its defense forces amid Operation Sindoor against Pakistan. This initiative, endorsed by the Defence Acquisition Council, enables the purchase of critical equipment such as surveillance and kamikaze drones, artillery ammunition, and advanced missiles like BrahMos. The emergency powers have previously facilitated swift acquisitions, enhancing operational readiness and enabling the forces to significantly damage Pakistan's military infrastructure. As the operation continues, the Indian government is poised to allocate additional funds to further bolster defense capabilities, underscoring India's commitment to maintaining robust security against regional threats.

India Targets 4.4% Fiscal Deficit in FY26 Amid Global Challenges SHARE

17-May-25

India aims to maintain a fiscal deficit of 4.4% of GDP in FY26, focusing on higher non-tax revenue despite global trade tensions and increased defense spending due to recent military conflicts with Pakistan. Projections indicate robust economic growth between 6.2% and 6.8% for 2025-26, supported by substantial surplus transfers from the Reserve Bank of India and strong dividends from state-run enterprises. Experts believe that while defense-related expenditures may rise, they can be managed through reallocating resources and leveraging non-tax revenue, highlighting a balanced approach between fiscal discipline and growth amidst geopolitical challenges.

Economists Say India Can Boost Defense Spending Without Fiscal Strain SHARE

17-May-25

India's Central Government can accommodate a proposed ₹50,000 crore increase in defense spending without breaching its fiscal deficit target of 4.4%, according to economists. The Ministry of Defence's request aligns with historical trends where defense expenditures remain manageable during heightened tensions with Pakistan. Factors such as anticipated higher revenue and dividend transfers from the Reserve Bank of India support this fiscal flexibility. Additionally, the Defence Acquisition Council has taken steps to expedite military hardware procurement, ensuring that India's defense capabilities continue to strengthen even amidst economic adjustments. Overall, the government is well-positioned to enhance its defense budget while maintaining fiscal health.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Rajnath Singh: India's Military Actions Signal Strong Resolve Against Terrorism SHARE

17-May-25

India's recent military operations, particularly Operation Sindoor, have showcased the Indian Armed Forces' decisive capability to counter cross-border terrorism, with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasizing that these actions are just a glimpse of India's resolve. Singh reported that the Indian Air Force effectively dismantled nine terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir, achieving this in a mere 23 minutes, and

underscored that Pakistan has been put "on probation" concerning ceasefire conditions. Home Minister Amit Shah echoed this sentiment, stating that the operation has left Pakistan fearful and demonstrated India's powerful response to terrorist threats, effectively neutralizing major training sites for groups like Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Taiba. Singh also raised concerns regarding international financial aid to Pakistan, urging institutions like the IMF to reconsider their support, as such funds could be diverted to sustain terrorism. The overarching narrative of these communications highlights India's shift towards a more proactive and punitive defense strategy, with significant operational readiness to address any future provocations from Pakistan. The ministers' remarks collectively serve to reinforce India's commitment to national security and the importance of ensuring that international support does not bolster terror activities, thus advocating for a vigilant global stance against terrorism while maintaining India's robust military posture.

Indian Army Can Reach Anywhere: J&K LG's Strong Warning to Pakistan SHARE

17-May-25

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha delivered a strong message to Pakistan, asserting that nothing is beyond the reach of the Indian Army. He praised the valor of Indian soldiers during Operation Sindoor, emphasizing that Pakistan's aggression has backfired and that the country relies on borrowed resources to fund its terror activities. Sinha reaffirmed the nation's confidence in its Armed Forces, stating they are prepared to handle provocations from Pakistan effectively. He condemned the recent attack in Pahalgam as an "act of war" and highlighted India's commitment to peace, while declaring that the Indian military is ready to teach a lesson to those who threaten its sovereignty.

Turkey's Celebi Aviation challenges India's security clearance revocation amid tensions over Pakistan. SHARE

17-May-25

Turkey's Celebi Aviation has challenged the Indian government's decision to revoke its security clearance, citing vague national security concerns amid heightened tensions over Turkey's support for Pakistan. The Indian government acted following widespread public and political pressure, with protests demanding the termination of Celebi's operations, which employ nearly 3,800 people in India. Celebi argues that it has

met all previous security checks and contends that the lack of specific justification for the revocation undermines legal standards. The Delhi Airport has since ceased its association with Celebi, reflecting India's commitment to safeguarding national interests while navigating complex geopolitical dynamics.

CAIT Calls for Nationwide Trade Boycott of Turkiye, Azerbaijan SHARE

17-May-25

The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) has initiated a nationwide boycott of trade with Turkiye and Azerbaijan due to their support for Pakistan amid India's Operation Sindoor. This includes halting imports and discouraging any business engagements with entities from these countries. CAIT emphasized that this decision reflects a sense of betrayal, especially given India's previous humanitarian and diplomatic support to Turkiye and Azerbaijan. The traders' lobby also plans to file a memorandum with the Indian government urging a review of commercial ties, highlighting the importance of national security considerations in trade relations. This move showcases the unity of the Indian trading community in response to perceived geopolitical threats.

BJP's Tiranga Yatra in Kolkata Critiques TMC on Security Issues SHARE

17-May-25

The West Bengal BJP organized a 'Tiranga Yatra' in Kolkata to express solidarity with the Indian armed forces following Operation Sindoor, which addressed the Pahalgam terror attack. Union Minister Sukanta Majumdar criticized the state government for its lack of seriousness regarding security, emphasizing the central government's alertness and the importance of the Border Security Force in preventing infiltration. The rally aimed to galvanize support ahead of upcoming Assembly polls, showcasing BJP's commitment to women's empowerment in the armed forces while condemning opposition parties for their perceived failures. This event highlights the BJP's strategy to strengthen its foothold in West Bengal amidst ongoing security concerns.

MP Delegations Tour Global Capitals to Rally Against Terror SHARE

17-May-25

In the wake of Operation Sindoor - a targeted Indian military offensive against terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir launched after the April 22 Pahalgam attack - Prime Minister Modi's administration

has mobilized an ambitious diplomatic outreach to underscore India's zero-tolerance policy toward terrorism. Beginning May 21, seven all-party delegations comprising senior MPs from across the political spectrum will embark on ten-day missions to major capitals including Washington, London, Tokyo, Brussels, Moscow, and key Gulf and African nations. Spearheaded by Congress leader Shashi Tharoor and DMK's Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, alongside figures such as Ravi Shankar Prasad, Supriya Sule, Sanjay Kumar Jha, Baijayant Panda, and Shrikant Shinde, these delegations aim to present a unified national front, briefing foreign governments and multilateral bodies on Pakistan's alleged sponsorship of cross-border terrorism. Coordinated by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju, the effort seeks to dispel misinformation, reinforce India's sovereign right to self-defense, and galvanize international consensus against terror networks operating along the Line of Control. Participants will leverage high-level briefings, media engagements, and parliamentary dialogues to build a durable global coalition committed to combating terrorism in all its forms.

Media Sensationalism on Karachi Strikes Highlights Misinformation SHARE

17-May-25

Tensions between India and Pakistan escalated following India's military operation targeting terror bases, with sensationalized media reports claiming significant strikes on Karachi port by the Indian Navy. However, investigations revealed that visuals and claims about the port's destruction were fabricated or misattributed, leading to public confusion and panic. Despite these false narratives, Indian officials maintained that military actions were measured, focused, and non-escalatory. The incident highlights the critical need for responsible reporting during conflicts to prevent misinformation and unnecessary alarm among citizens. This serves as a reminder of the importance of accuracy in media, particularly in sensitive geopolitical situations.

Russia demands Ukraine troop withdrawal before ceasefire talks SHARE

17-May-25

Russian negotiators in Istanbul demanded Ukraine withdraw its troops from all regions claimed by Moscow before agreeing to a ceasefire, according to a senior Ukrainian official. The talks, which lasted just over an hour, resulted in an agreement for mutual prisoner exchanges but failed to progress towards a

ceasefire, with Ukraine rallying support from allies for stronger sanctions against Russia. Ukrainian President Zelenskiy criticized the lack of serious intent from Moscow, while Western leaders echoed calls for tougher actions. This deadlock illustrates the ongoing complexities in achieving a diplomatic resolution to the conflict, underscoring the need for unified international pressure on Russia.

Pakistan Considers Moving Army HQ After Indian Missile Strikes



17-May-25

Following significant Indian missile strikes on Pakistan's Nur Khan Airbase, Islamabad is reportedly contemplating relocating its Army Headquarters from Chaklala to bolster defenses. The strikes inflicted extensive damage, exposing vulnerabilities in Pakistan's air defense systems and prompting urgent military discussions. Indian officials interpret this potential relocation as a sign of desperation, given the financial and logistical challenges involved. This incident marks a pivotal shift in the India-Pakistan confrontation, fundamentally altering Pakistan's military calculus and emphasizing the need for reassessment of its defense infrastructure amidst growing Indian capabilities and strategic initiatives.

Operation Sindoor Raises Questions About Pakistan's Nuclear Arsenal



17-May-25

Following India's Operation Sindoor, which involved precision strikes on Pakistani military targets, international attention has turned to Pakistan's nuclear arsenal, particularly the Kirana Hills facility. This marked a significant military engagement between nuclear powers, with India demonstrating a willingness to act against cross-border terrorism despite the risk of nuclear escalation. The operation has led to a shift in India's stance on nuclear blackmail, as Prime Minister Modi emphasized that India's response to terrorism would no longer be constrained by Pakistan's nuclear capabilities. Overall, this evolving strategic landscape necessitates vigilant oversight to prevent miscalculations in the region's nuclear dynamics.

Five Eyes, France, and Japan Seek Data on Chinese Missile Wreckage



17-May-25

In a recent escalation of hostilities between India and Pakistan, the Five Eyes intelligence alliance, along with France and Japan, is keenly interested in analyzing the wreckage of a Chinese PL-15 missile recovered in

Punjab, India. Fired by Pakistan during aerial engagements, this missile showcases advanced technology that rivals Western systems. The incident not only underscores China's growing influence as a military supplier to Pakistan but also offers India an opportunity to strengthen its intelligence-sharing agreements with allies. Analyzing the wreckage could provide insights into countermeasure development against Chinese military technology, highlighting the strategic importance of the Indo-Pacific security landscape.

Military Operations

IAF and USAF Team Up to Fix C-17 Aircraft in Jaipur



17-May-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully resolved a technical issue on a US Air Force (USAF) C-17 Globemaster aircraft that had been grounded at Jaipur Airport for two weeks due to a malfunction in its landing gear. After the aircraft arrived following the visit of US Vice President J.D. Vance, attempts by USAF personnel to fix the problem were unsuccessful until an IAF maintenance team was dispatched to assist. This collaboration exemplified the strong partnership between the IAF and the USAF, highlighting their commitment to enhancing interoperability and logistics cooperation frameworks, especially in a region marked by geopolitical tensions. The swift mobilization of critical equipment and teamwork led to the successful restoration of the aircraft's operational status, with plans for its departure to the US shortly thereafter. This incident underscores the importance of joint efforts in maintaining defense readiness and showcases India's growing role in international military cooperation, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region, further solidifying strategic ties with the United States amidst ongoing regional security dynamics.

Shehbaz Sharif Confirms Indian Strikes on Pakistan Airbases



17-May-25

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has publicly acknowledged the Indian missile strikes on the Nur Khan airbase in Rawalpindi during his speech at the Youm-e-Tashakur ceremony, marking a notable departure from Pakistan's conventional denial of Indian military actions. Sharif recounted a phone call from Army Chief General Asim Munir at 2:30 AM on May 10, confirming that Indian missiles had struck this strategic

airbase, alongside others, during Operation Sindoor—a substantial military retaliation following a terrorist attack that killed 26 Indian civilians. The Indian operation involved coordinated strikes on at least 11 locations, damaging 11 of Pakistan's 13 major airbases and significantly impairing its air defense capabilities. This rare acknowledgment from Pakistan highlights the scale and precision of India's military capabilities, with Indian sources indicating that the operation aimed to dismantle terrorist infrastructure. Furthermore, the situation led Pakistan to seek U.S. intervention to de-escalate rising tensions, resulting in a temporary ceasefire after communications between military leaders. The Indian perspective underscores that such admissions from Pakistani leadership reflect the effectiveness and impact of Indian defense strategies, showcasing the Indian armed forces' readiness and capability to protect national interests in the face of provocation. This episode not only illustrates the ongoing conflict dynamics in South Asia but also emphasizes India's proactive defense posture against terrorism emanating from across the border.

Israel Launches Operation Gideon Chariots to Combat Hamas, Hezbollah



17-May-25

Israel has initiated significant military operations in the Gaza Strip and southern Lebanon, focusing on intensifying pressure on Hamas and targeting Hezbollah's infrastructure. Defense Minister Israel Katz confirmed that Operation Gideon Chariots aims to secure the release of hostages held by Hamas, while Israeli strikes have resulted in substantial casualties in Gaza, with reports of over 53,000 Palestinians killed since the conflict escalated on October 7, 2023. Concurrently, Israel's military has conducted several strikes in Lebanon, killing a local Hezbollah commander and violating a truce arrangement that sought to stabilize the region. The ongoing conflict is exacerbated by a humanitarian crisis in Gaza due to a blockade that has led to food shortages, with humanitarian organizations expressing concerns over the delivery of aid. The situation reflects not only the challenges of military engagements but also the complexities of regional security dynamics, where Israel's actions are framed as necessary for national defense against militant threats. Israel's operations underscore its resolve to dismantle terrorist networks while grappling with accusations of humanitarian violations, presenting a multifaceted challenge in the pursuit of security and stability in both Gaza and Lebanon.

Indian Army Destroys 600+ Pakistani Drones in Major Operation



17-May-25

In a decisive operation dubbed "Operation Sindoor," the Indian Army's air defence units successfully intercepted and destroyed over 600 Pakistani drones launched in retaliation for recent Indian missile strikes on terror camps. Mobilizing more than 1,000 air defence gun systems and 750 surface-to-air missile systems, India transitioned its multi-layered air defence network to full operational readiness, showcasing the effectiveness of indigenous technology like the Akash missile system and the integrated Akashteer control system. This robust response not only protected vital military and civilian infrastructure but also shattered the myth of drone supremacy, countering Pakistan's strategy to overwhelm India's air defence with drone swarms meant to gather intelligence and deplete ammunition. Senior officers highlighted the importance of tactical restraint, noting that high-end systems like the S-400 were preserved for more significant threats, demonstrating India's preparedness and capability to manage aerial threats efficiently. The operation marked a significant turning point in the Indo-Pakistani military rivalry, underlining India's resolve against cross-border terrorism and its enhanced deterrence posture amidst evolving military technologies.

Indian Army Strikes 100 km into Pakistan, Defying Nuclear Threats



17-May-25

The Indian Army has reportedly conducted strikes up to 100 kilometers inside Pakistan, marking a historic first since independence and demonstrating India's resolve against nuclear threats, according to Union Home Minister Amit Shah. He emphasized that this decisive military action reflects a significant shift from previous inaction against terrorism, underscoring a tougher stance by the armed forces under Prime Minister Modi's leadership. Shah pointed out that India has consistently retaliated to terrorist attacks, leading to a situation where Pakistan now "lives in fear." This development not only reaffirms India's commitment to national security but also signals a new phase in its defense strategy against cross-border terrorism.

Pakistan Moves to Repair Airbases After Significant Indian Strikes



17-May-25

Pakistan is reportedly working to repair airbases damaged by recent Indian strikes, issuing tenders for critical military sites, including Kallar Kahar and

Risalpur airbases. International media has confirmed India's successful targeting of Pakistani military infrastructure, marking a shift from symbolic strikes to significant damage infliction. High-resolution satellite imagery has validated these claims, revealing visible destruction, while analyses highlight the attacks as the most extensive in decades, comparable only to the 1971 war. This development underscores India's strategic edge in military capabilities and reaffirms its position in the ongoing geopolitical tensions with Pakistan.

Northern Army Commander Reviews Security in J-K's Poonch, Naushera



17-May-25

Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma visited the Poonch and Naushera districts in Jammu and Kashmir to assess the security situation and operational readiness of the Indian Army. He praised the Chinar Corps for their recent success in Operation Nader, where three terrorists were neutralized, highlighting the Army's commitment to maintaining a terror-free environment in the region. Concurrently, Jammu and Kashmir's Director General of Police, Nalin Prabhat, acknowledged the police's pivotal role during recent Indo-Pak tensions and commended their efforts in ensuring community safety. This proactive approach underscores India's determination to uphold stability and security in sensitive border areas.

Kim Jong Un Boosts Military Readiness Amid Rising Tensions



17-May-25

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has intensified military preparations, overseeing air force drills that included missile launches from a MiG-29 jet, amid escalating tensions with the U.S. He urged all military units to enhance their war readiness while reaffirming alliances with Russia through recent diplomatic visits. North Korea criticized the U.S. for placing it on a counterterrorism non-cooperation list, warning that such actions would further strain relations. This situation highlights the growing military assertiveness of North Korea, which poses challenges for regional stability and requires vigilant monitoring and strategic responses from nations like India, which may need to strengthen its defense alliances in response to such provocations.

Pakistani Officials Confirm Heavy Losses from Indian Strikes



17-May-25

Recent admissions from Pakistani officials confirm significant damage from Indian precision strikes on military targets, countering previous claims of civilian casualties. The strikes during Operation Sindoor targeted strategic locations, notably the Bholari airbase, leading to the destruction of critical assets like AWACS aircraft, which severely impacts Pakistan's air defense capabilities. High-resolution satellite imagery and corroboration from international media reinforce India's position that these operations were aimed at degrading military infrastructure, not civilians. This development not only validates India's military strategy but also marks a substantial setback for Pakistan's defense posture in the region, illustrating India's growing capability to conduct effective military operations.

Ukrainian F-16 crashes due to technical failure; pilot ejects safely



17-May-25

A Ukrainian F-16 fighter jet crashed due to a technical issue during a mission against a Russian aerial attack on May 16, prompting the pilot to safely eject. Preliminary reports indicate that the pilot had successfully engaged three Russian aerial targets before losing contact with the aircraft. The Ukrainian Air Force has launched an investigation to determine the exact circumstances surrounding the incident, emphasizing that it does not appear to be the result of enemy fire. This incident underscores the ongoing challenges faced by Ukraine in its defense operations amid the conflict with Russia, particularly as it integrates advanced aircraft like the F-16 into its arsenal.

India Prepares for Missile Test with NOTAM in Andaman & Nicobar



17-May-25

India has issued a NOTAM designating a no-fly zone around the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in preparation for a likely missile test scheduled between May 23-24, 2025. This corridor, extending 510 km, hints at potential launches from naval or aerial platforms, possibly involving advanced systems like the BrahMos cruise missile. The test reflects India's commitment to enhancing its deterrence capabilities in the strategically significant Indo-Pacific region amid rising geopolitical tensions. The involvement of the Tri-Service Theatre Command underscores a cohesive defense strategy

integrating naval, air, and land forces to address regional security challenges effectively.

Chinese J-10CE's Kill Claims Mocked by Indian Netizens



17-May-25

An image of a Chinese J-10CE fighter jet featuring kill marks of three Rafales, an Indian Su-30MKI, a Mig-29, and a Heron-TP sparked ridicule among Indian netizens, who dismissed the claims as propaganda. The J-10CE, primarily sold to Pakistan, struggles in the global market, and experts deem the kill tally implausible given its lack of battle history. Analysts highlight that China's air force has not engaged in aerial combat with India since 1962, raising skepticism over such claims. This incident underscores ongoing tensions and the competitive nature of air superiority in the region, showcasing India's advanced capabilities against exaggerated narratives from China.

French Expert Debunks Pakistan's Rafale Shootdown Claims After Operation Sindoor



17-May-25

Following India's "Operation Sindoor" against terrorist camps, Pakistan claimed to have downed multiple Indian Air Force aircraft, including Rafale jets. However, a French aerospace expert refuted these claims, identifying alleged debris as a Mirage 2000 drop tank, not evidence of a shootdown, underscoring that jettisoning fuel tanks is standard procedure. India's Press Information Bureau also debunked images and videos presented by Pakistan as propaganda. Crucially, the lack of verifiable evidence from Pakistan and the advanced capabilities of the Rafale cast significant doubt on their assertions, suggesting a coordinated disinformation effort to undermine India's military operations and capability.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Op Sindoor: India's Bold Shift to Counter Pakistan-Linked Terrorism



17-May-25

Operation Sindoor marks a pivotal shift in India's counter-terrorism strategy, emphasizing assertive military action over diplomatic efforts against terrorism linked to Pakistan, as highlighted by security expert Walter Ladwig. He notes that India is now prepared to respond to credible threats without needing exhaustive

evidence, showcasing its military capabilities, notably through successful strikes by the Indian Air Force on terror infrastructure. This operation, launched in response to a deadly terror attack, underscores India's determination to ensure regional security and counteract terrorist activities effectively. The call for a ceasefire following these actions reflects a strategic approach to managing tensions while maintaining readiness to respond decisively.

Two ISIS Operatives Arrested in Mumbai for Pune Terror Plot



17-May-25

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested two ISIS operatives, Abdullah Faiyaz Shaikh and Talha Khan, in Mumbai, linked to a 2023 terror conspiracy involving IED fabrication and training. The duo had been hiding in Jakarta for over two years and were intercepted at the airport, having been wanted under a non-bailable warrant. The NIA's ongoing investigations reveal a broader plot by a sleeper cell to conduct terrorist activities aimed at destabilizing India's peace and communal harmony as part of an ISIS agenda. This action underscores India's commitment to counter-terrorism and national security, showcasing the effectiveness of its investigative agencies in dismantling terrorist networks.

Rajnath Singh warns against Pakistan's funding for terrorist Azhar



17-May-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh warned against Pakistan's alleged plans to allocate Rs 14 crore to UN-designated terrorist Masood Azhar, head of Jaish-e-Mohammed, using taxpayer funds and potential IMF aid. He highlighted concerns that financial assistance to Pakistan could enable the rebuilding of terrorist infrastructure, particularly following India's Operation Sindoor aimed at dismantling such networks. Singh asserted that any aid to Pakistan indirectly funds terrorism, stressing the need for the IMF to reconsider its bailout decision. He emphasized that India's armed forces remain vigilant and ready to respond to any future provocations from Pakistan, reinforcing India's commitment to national security.

India's leaders vow strong retaliation against terrorism



17-May-25

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu emphasized India's resolve to retaliate against terrorist attacks, particularly following the Pahalgam incident,

highlighting the commendable actions of the armed forces in safeguarding the nation. He praised the recent Operation Sindoor, which showcased India's military prowess, and called for national unity against terrorism. Deputy Chief Minister K. Pawan Kalyan noted Pakistan's ongoing attempts to disrupt peace in India, while BJP State President Daggubati Purandeswari condemned past governments' inaction and warned Pakistan against further aggression, asserting that the consequences would be severe. Overall, the Indian leadership is committed to a proactive defense strategy in the face of terrorism.

J-K Police Detain 23 Terror Associates Under NSA in Srinagar



17-May-25

The Jammu and Kashmir Police recently detained 23 terror associates and miscreants under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Srinagar, emphasizing a strong stance against subversive activities threatening national security. These individuals were reportedly involved in ongoing public disturbances and had multiple prior criminal cases against them. The police highlighted their commitment to dismantling anti-national infrastructure and maintaining public order, asserting that those engaged in unlawful activities will face justice swiftly. This decisive action underscores the proactive measures being implemented to enhance security and reinforce the rule of law in the region, vital for lasting peace and stability.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

India and Russia to Boost Cybersecurity Cooperation for Digital Safety



17-May-25

India and Russia are poised to enhance cooperation in cybersecurity, crucial for India's rapid digital transformation amid rising cyberattacks. Yury Maksimov from Cyberus emphasizes India's role as a key player in shaping global cybersecurity architecture, advocating for collaborative efforts to address vulnerabilities and develop a decentralized digital framework. The need for continuous cybersecurity assessment and a shift from merely meeting compliance to proactive risk management is highlighted. This partnership aims to create a modular and trusted digital environment, fostering long-term benefits and enhancing security through shared standards and global cooperation, thus paving the way for a secure, multipolar digital landscape.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Ongole Rally Celebrates Support for Indian Armed Forces



17-May-25

A Tiranga rally was held in Ongole to express solidarity with the Indian armed forces and support Operation Sindoor. Organized by political parties, educational institutes, and voluntary organizations, the rally featured a 200m long Tricolour and involved participants chanting slogans honoring military personnel and martyrs, while also remembering civilians lost in terrorist attacks. This event underscores the strong patriotic sentiment among the public, reflecting their unwavering support for the sacrifices made by the Indian military to protect the nation. Such initiatives reinforce national unity and highlight the importance of collective remembrance in strengthening the resolve to combat terrorism and uphold national security.

Manipur government renews service for 10,500 Village Defence Force personnel.



17-May-25

The Manipur government has extended the services of 10,500 Village Defence Force (VDF) personnel for another year, emphasizing their vital role in supporting the state police and maintaining security. This decision, approved by the Governor-in-Council, acknowledges the contributions of the VDF in counter-insurgency operations and civilian protection. The extension is part of ongoing government efforts to enhance law and order and improve public service delivery. However, the All Manipur VDF Employees Welfare Association has threatened agitation for better service terms and increased honorarium, highlighting the need for addressing personnel welfare alongside operational effectiveness.

Miscellaneous

Soldier Alleges Land Grab by VRO's Family in Siddipet



17-May-25

An Indian Army soldier, B Rama Swamy, stationed at the India-Pakistan border, has accused a village revenue officer's family of encroaching on his ancestral land in

Siddipet, claiming harassment of his family and removal from land records. Despite seeking help from various authorities, including the Mandal Revenue Officer, no action has been taken, allegedly due to the VRO's influence. The soldier's viral video has garnered widespread support, prompting former minister T Harish Rao to urge the Siddipet collector to investigate. This incident highlights the need for prompt action to protect the rights of serving soldiers, ensuring they are treated justly in their own communities while safeguarding the nation.

India Plans Ranbir Canal Extension Amid IWT Suspension

 SHARE

17-May-25

India is planning to extend the Ranbir canal on the Chenab river as part of a strategy to maximize water use following the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) after a terrorist attack in Pahalgam. This move aims to enhance India's hydropower capacity and meet energy demands while allowing for a significant increase in water diversion from the Chenab, vital for Pakistan's agriculture. Discussions around expanding the canal's length to 120 km are underway, despite Pakistan's claims that such actions constitute an act of war. The Indian government seeks to expedite water infrastructure projects in the region, including the potential construction of dams that could further reduce water flow into Pakistan. The geopolitical implications are considerable, as India's actions may be perceived as an effort to apply pressure on Islamabad amidst longstanding tensions, especially concerning Kashmir. While India emphasizes the need for its water security and energy requirements, experts warn that weaponizing water could set a concerning precedent for regional dynamics, potentially inviting reciprocal actions from neighboring countries, particularly China. The situation underscores the fragile balance of water resources in a geopolitically tense environment, highlighting the intricate interplay of national security and resource management.

Indian Army's Operation Sindoor: Retaliation and Humanitarian Aid in Poonch

 SHARE

17-May-25

On May 8, 2025, Poonch town experienced unprecedented devastation due to heavy artillery shelling from across the Line of Control, resulting in the deaths of at least 13 individuals, including children, and extensive damage to civilian infrastructure. In response to this tragedy, the Indian Army conducted Operation

Sindoor, targeting terrorist training camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, which was a direct retaliation to a recent terror attack that killed 26 civilians in Pahalgam. Following the shelling, the Indian Army initiated a compassionate outreach program, distributing essential aid such as medicines and rations to affected residents, demonstrating a strong commitment to support and rebuild the community. Furthermore, the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee has pledged compensation to the victims' families and urged local authorities to provide jobs to those impacted. This situation underscores the ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan and highlights the resilience of the local community as they confront the aftermath of cross-border aggression while showcasing the Indian Army's role not only as a defensive force but also as a humanitarian entity committed to the welfare of civilians in crisis.

Delhi Capitals' Nigam Praises Indian Army for Safe Evacuation

 SHARE

17-May-25

Delhi Capitals' all-rounder Vipraj Nigam expressed gratitude towards the Indian Army and government for their role in safely evacuating players from Dharamsala amidst rising tensions with Pakistan, which led to the suspension of the IPL 2025 match against Punjab Kings. The evacuation was executed under heavy security, with players transported to Jalandhar and then to New Delhi. Despite the disruption, the BCCI announced the resumption of the IPL season, demonstrating resilience in upholding national security while continuing to support the sporting event. This incident underscores the Indian Army's crucial role in ensuring safety during crises, reflecting India's commitment to both security and sporting spirit.

Pat Cummins Thanks Indian Armed Forces Amid IPL Resumption

 SHARE

17-May-25

Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) captain Pat Cummins expressed gratitude toward the Indian Armed Forces through an Instagram post, acknowledging their bravery during a recent military conflict between India and Pakistan that temporarily suspended the IPL 2025. With the ceasefire established, the tournament resumes on May 17, featuring a match between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Kolkata Knight Riders. Although SRH is out of playoff contention, Cummins aims to lead his team positively in their final matches before he returns to Australia for the World Test Championship final

against South Africa. This gesture reflects the strong connection between sports and national pride in India.

Sajad Lone urges creation of fund for rebuilding homes post-shelling SHARE

17-May-25

Sajad Lone, president of the Peoples Conference, has called for the establishment of a separate temporary institution to compensate families in Jammu & Kashmir affected by recent shelling. He emphasizes that the onus of rebuilding these homes should not fall on the impoverished residents, highlighting the immense suffering caused by the conflict. Lone advocates for tapping into corporate social responsibility resources and suggests that media figures who promote war should contribute to this fund. He expresses concern over the devastating impact on families, particularly children, and argues that the costs of war should be borne by the nation rather than the vulnerable border communities.

Rakul Preet Singh Celebrates Armed Forces Day Honoring Her Army Dad SHARE

17-May-25

On Armed Forces Day, actress Rakul Preet Singh honored her father, Kulwinder Singh, a former Indian Army officer, expressing gratitude for the sacrifices made by soldiers. Through a heartfelt social media tribute, she acknowledged the bravery of the Indian Army and emphasized the importance of service and resilience. Rakul's reflection on her upbringing with an Army parent highlights the values instilled by military service, resonating with a broader appreciation for the armed forces in India. This tribute underlines the significant role that the Indian Army plays in ensuring peace and security, reinforcing national pride and the public's respect for military personnel.

India's Bold Shift in Counter-Terrorism Post-Pahalgam Attack SHARE

17-May-25

Following the Pahalgam attack on April 22, 2025, India launched Operation Sindoor, targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan, signaling a shift in its counter-terrorism strategy. Prime Minister Modi emphasized India's right to respond militarily without being deterred by nuclear threats, indicating a tougher stance against terrorism. This response, including a significant military retaliation, has redefined India's approach, expanding the scope of conventional operations. The international context, particularly the U.S.'s cautious involvement, highlights India's strategic

need to enhance its conventional capabilities while managing the escalation narrative with Pakistan, reinforcing the importance of proactive intelligence and security measures to prevent future attacks.

Pakistani Influencer Exposes PM Sharif's Misleading Claims on India SHARE

17-May-25

Pakistani influencer Waqar Malik has criticized Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for allegedly misrepresenting the India-Pakistan conflict, claiming that Sharif's hasty decision to agree to a ceasefire was made without proper consultation and led to unnecessary losses for Pakistan. Malik pointed out inconsistencies in Sharif's narrative, questioning why India would attack after a ceasefire was proposed, and suggested that external pressure, particularly from the U.S., influenced the ceasefire offer. This incident underscores ongoing political challenges within Pakistan, as leaders grapple with domestic perceptions and the complex realities of their geopolitical situation with India.

Jaishankar Optimistic About U.S. Trade Deal Amid Regional Developments SHARE

17-May-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar expressed optimism regarding the ongoing trade negotiations with the U.S., emphasizing the need for a mutually beneficial agreement as the discussions unfold amid recent regional developments, including a ceasefire with Pakistan. U.S. President Trump highlighted this ceasefire as a pivot towards prioritizing trade, suggesting enhanced collaboration over conflict. With India being the largest trading partner for the U.S., both nations aim to navigate tariff disputes and secure an interim agreement before a broader deal, reflecting their commitment to deepen economic ties while ensuring that the complexities of the talks yield a balanced outcome beneficial to both sides.

FBI Alerts iPhone and Android Users to AI Text Scam Risks SHARE

17-May-25

The FBI has issued a warning to iPhone and Android users about AI-driven scam messages and voice calls that impersonate trusted sources to steal personal and financial information. Scammers are using advanced AI tools to create convincing cloned voices, making it difficult to distinguish between real and fake communications. The FBI advises users to look for signs of AI manipulation, such as distorted images or strange language, and recommends using encrypted

messaging apps for safer communication. Staying vigilant and verifying contacts are crucial in combating this evolving cybercrime threat, as AI technology poses significant risks to personal security.

SC Rejects Rohingya Deportation Claims as Baseless and Unproven



SHARE

17-May-25

The Supreme Court of India criticized petitioners alleging that 43 Rohingya refugees were deported by being dropped in the Andaman Sea, deeming their claims as unfounded and lacking credible evidence. The court emphasized the need for substantiated allegations rather than social media-derived assertions, highlighting India's sovereignty and legal responsibilities regarding foreign nationals. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta reiterated that India, not a signatory to the refugee convention, must adhere to its Foreigners Act. The hearing has been postponed for further consideration, underscoring the court's insistence on a lawful and evidence-based approach to the complex issue of Rohingya deportations amidst ongoing national challenges.

Air India urges government to end IndiGo-Turkish lease over security.



SHARE

17-May-25

Air India has urged the Indian government to end IndiGo's leasing agreement with Turkish Airlines, citing

national security concerns due to Turkey's support for Pakistan amid rising tensions. This leasing arrangement reportedly benefits Turkey's tourism and aviation sector while disadvantaging Indian airlines. The Indian government has already revoked the security clearance of Turkish ground handling firm Celebi, acknowledging public calls for action. IndiGo defends its partnership, asserting it provides significant benefits to Indian travelers and economic growth. This ongoing conflict highlights the intersection of geopolitics and commercial interests in India's aviation industry.

J&K LG seeks Centre's aid for residents hit by Pak shelling



SHARE

17-May-25

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha announced plans to seek assistance from the Central government for rehabilitating residents affected by shelling from Pakistan, which has damaged numerous homes and commercial properties. Following a firsthand assessment of the situation in Kupwara district, Sinha acknowledged the insufficiency of immediate aid provided and emphasized the need for a comprehensive plan to address the damage. The local administration is set to prepare this plan to request further support from the Centre, highlighting the ongoing challenges in the region due to cross-border aggression. This proactive approach underscores India's commitment to protecting its citizens and responding effectively to external threats.

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