



Defence Pro News & Analysis

October 17, 2024 | Day 291

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
LT	3570.3	3532.6	+1.07%
BEML	3909.4	3871.9	+0.97%
AVANTEL	176.85	175.86	+0.56%
MARINE	231.72	230.84	+0.38%
AZAD	1549.95	1547.9	+0.13%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
BDL	1152.4	1196.1	-3.65%
DATAPATTNS	2447.85	2531.05	-3.29%
SOLARINDS	11173.95	11522.4	-3.02%
HAL	4518.6	4656.25	-2.96%
MTARTECH	1730.8	1779.1	-2.71%

Defense Business and Industry

Indian Engineers to Assemble 21 MQ-9B Predators, Boosting Defense Tech

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17-Oct-24

India's agreement with the United States to acquire 31 MQ-9B Predator drones represents a significant advancement in its defense capabilities, with 21 of these drones to be partially assembled domestically. This strategic initiative will not only enhance India's military operations through advanced intelligence and surveillance capabilities but also promote technology transfer, create employment opportunities, and foster the growth of the domestic defense manufacturing sector. This move aligns with India's goal of achieving self-reliance in defense and positions the country as a crucial player in the global defense industry while addressing regional security concerns effectively.

India Spends \$15 Billion on US Arms, Boosting Defense Ties

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17-Oct-24

India has emerged as a major buyer of US military equipment, spending nearly \$15 billion on arms in the last seven years, marking a significant modernization of its military capabilities. This trend reflects a diversification of defense partnerships beyond traditional reliance on Russia, with notable deals including advanced helicopters, transport aircraft, and drones under both Biden and Trump administrations. India's growing defense exports also highlight its evolving role in the global arms market, underscoring a strategic alignment with the US aimed at enhancing regional stability and strategic autonomy. India's substantial arms purchases from the US signal a critical shift in its defense procurement strategy, aimed at modernizing military capabilities and enhancing strategic autonomy while moving away from a heavy reliance on Russian imports. This burgeoning defense partnership not only strengthens India's military readiness but also reflects a broader geopolitical alignment with

the US, showcasing India's growing significance as a defense exporter and a key player in regional stability.

HAL to Get 6 LM2500 Engines for Indian Navy's Missile Vessels

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17-Oct-24

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) will receive six LM2500 marine gas turbine engine kits from GE Aerospace to power the Indian Navy's Next Generation Missile Vessels (NGMV) currently being constructed at Cochin Shipyard Limited. This partnership reinforces HAL's role as a key player in assembling and testing these advanced engines, enhancing India's domestic defense capabilities, and aligning with the "Make in India" initiative. The collaboration between HAL and GE Aerospace reflects a significant advancement in India's naval propulsion technology, reinforcing the self-reliance of the Indian defense sector while ensuring that the Navy is equipped with reliable and proven systems like the LM2500, already a trusted choice for numerous global navies.

Former Air Marshal Calls for Phased Rafale Procurement Strategy

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17-Oct-24

Former Air Marshal Anil Khosla has advocated for a phased procurement of Rafale fighter jets instead of a bulk purchase under the Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) tender, arguing that it would keep the Indian Air Force (IAF) technologically advanced and financially prudent. He also criticized the F-35's supply chain complexities and long delivery timelines, suggesting that it would not meet India's immediate needs. Khosla proposed that focusing on Rafale procurement would better balance the IAF's modernization efforts while supporting indigenous programs like the LCA Tejas and AMCA. Air Marshal Khosla's recommendations emphasize a strategic shift in India's fighter jet acquisition, advocating for phased Rafale procurement to enhance modernization and technological relevance while avoiding financial strain. His skepticism towards the F-35 highlights logistical challenges and prioritization issues, suggesting that an immediate focus on already integrated platforms like Rafale is more practical, thereby ensuring that India's defense capabilities

remain robust and adaptable in a rapidly evolving security environment.

WhAP Partners Urge India to Prioritize Indigenous Defense Solutions



17-Oct-24

Amid escalating diplomatic tensions between India and Canada, industrial partners associated with India's Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP) program are urging the Ministry of Defence to reconsider procuring Stryker armored vehicles from Canada in favor of the indigenous WhAP, which has garnered international interest and is seen as a cost-effective and adaptable alternative. The WhAP, developed by DRDO and Tata Advanced Systems, offers strategic autonomy due to its modular design and local manufacturing, aligning with India's goal of enhancing self-reliance in defense. Experts advocate for prioritizing indigenous solutions to bolster domestic capabilities and mitigate geopolitical risks.

HAL to Receive Two GE-F404 Engines Monthly Starting November



17-Oct-24

HAL will begin receiving two GE-F404 engines per month from General Electric starting in November, following a commitment to address delays in the delivery of 99 engines critical for the Tejas Mark-1A jets. This steady supply is expected to mitigate production disruptions for the first batch of 83 jets, which are key to enhancing the IAF's air combat capabilities. The delays had been attributed to global supply chain issues; however, with the revised delivery schedule, HAL aims to ensure the timely introduction of these advanced aircraft into service, thereby strengthening India's defense readiness.

India and Brazil Eye Joint Production of Fighter Jets



17-Oct-24

Brazil is considering a strategic shift in its fighter aircraft fleet and is exploring a partnership with India that could involve producing the Tejas Mk1A and establishing a C-390 assembly plant in India. This collaboration could provide Brazil with operational flexibility through a diverse fleet and offer India a new export market, strengthening its aerospace industry and global position. The partnership represents a significant opportunity for both nations to enhance their defense capabilities while promoting economic growth. The proposed strategic partnership between Brazil and India signifies a pivotal move towards enhancing defense collaboration that could leverage both countries' aerospace capabilities. By considering local assembly and mutual supply agreements, both nations stand to gain from increased operational flexibility and market access while fostering economic ties and elevating their respective positions in the global defense landscape.

India Mulls National Aerospace Testing Body for Defense Innovation



17-Oct-24

The Defence Ministry of India is considering the establishment of a National Aerospace Testing Establishment (NATE) to

streamline the testing and evaluation processes for military aircraft, helicopters, drones, and airborne weapons. This initiative aims to enhance operational efficiency, minimize delays, and actively involve the private sector in the complete product lifecycle from design to certification, with the Indian Air Force leading the effort. The proposed NATE underscores India's commitment to modernizing its defense capabilities by fostering innovation and collaboration with the private sector, which is vital for achieving self-reliance in defense manufacturing. By consolidating testing facilities, India can expedite the development of advanced military technologies, ensuring that its forces remain at the cutting edge of aerial warfare.

India Unveils Framework for Trustworthy AI in Defense Operations



17-Oct-24

On October 17, 2024, the Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan and DRDO Chairman Dr. Samir V Kamat unveiled the Evaluating Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (ETAI) Framework and Guidelines for the Indian Armed Forces in New Delhi. This framework aims to integrate trustworthy AI into critical defense operations, emphasizing the importance of reliability, robustness, safety, and transparency in AI systems to bolster military effectiveness and resilience against adversarial threats. The initiative highlights India's commitment to staying at the forefront of modern warfare technologies while ensuring that these advancements are safe and reliable for operational success.

DRDO's Hypersonic Missile Program to Outpace Global Standards



17-Oct-24

India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is advancing its missile capabilities through the Hypersonic Missile Development Program under Project Vishnu, aiming to develop a long-range Hypersonic Cruise Missile (HCM) with a range of 1,000 km by the late 2020s. This missile, designed to exceed speeds of Mach 9, will revolutionize India's strike capabilities and deterrent posture, while also advancing stealth technology through plasma absorption. The HCM's development underscores India's commitment to achieving operational hypersonic capabilities, enhancing its strategic edge amidst global competition in hypersonic weapons.

India's MQ-9B Drones to Feature Gatling Miniguns for Enhanced Firepower



17-Oct-24

India is on the verge of becoming the first nation to integrate Gatling-styled Miniguns into its MQ-9B Predator drones, with the acquisition of 31 UAVs armed with two DAP-6 gun pods each. This upgrade significantly boosts the drones' firepower, allowing for high-intensity operations such as close air support and counter-insurgency, with the capability to fire 6,000 rounds per minute. The addition of these advanced armaments sets a new benchmark in unmanned aerial warfare, enhancing India's strategic capabilities and operational readiness in diverse combat scenarios. The integration of M134D-H Miniguns into India's Predator drones represents a transformative step in enhancing the Indian Air Force's aerial combat capabilities, allowing for versatile and lethal engagement across various

operational theaters. This milestone not only underscores India's commitment to modernizing its defense arsenal but also positions the nation as a leader in UAV technology, potentially serving as a deterrent against regional threats while enhancing its counter-insurgency and close air support operations.

Tejas Aircraft Receives Precision Upgrade with JDAM Kits



17-Oct-24

The Indian Air Force has begun receiving Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) precision-guided bomb kits for its Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas fleet, representing a significant enhancement to the aircraft's capabilities. This upgrade allows the Tejas to conduct precise strikes on targets up to 80 kilometers away, thus improving operational effectiveness and enabling more accurate missions akin to the Balakot airstrikes. The integration of JDAM kits reflects India's commitment to modernizing its military and the increasing significance of precision-guided munitions in current warfare, thereby reinforcing the Tejas' position within India's defense strategy.

Safran Boosts India Operations to Secure AMCA Engine Contract



17-Oct-24

French aerospace giant Safran is expanding its presence in India with a new office in Chennai to secure the contract for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) engine and utilize India's engineering talent. This strategic move includes ongoing discussions with India's DRDO regarding engine specifications and builds on previous collaborations with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in manufacturing and engine development. Safran's existing strong footprint in India's defense sector is exemplified by its supply of over 1,400 helicopter engines to the Indian armed forces and successful joint projects like the Shakti engine. Safran's strategic expansion in India, particularly its new Chennai office, signals a deepening partnership aimed at enhancing indigenous defense capabilities, particularly for the AMCA program. This initiative not only seeks to secure significant defense contracts but also leverages India's engineering talent, thereby contributing to self-reliance in defense manufacturing and strengthening the Indo-French defense collaboration outlined in the Horizon 2047 initiative.

India and Russia Hold 10th Meeting on Modernization Cooperation



17-Oct-24

India and Russia co-chaired the 10th Working Group on Modernisation and Industrial Cooperation under the India-Russia inter-governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC). This meeting underscored the longstanding strategic partnership between the two nations, focusing on enhancing economic collaboration, particularly in modernization and industrial sectors. The recent session reflects India's commitment to strengthening its multifaceted ties with Russia, a crucial ally in defense and technology. As both nations seek to modernize their industrial capabilities, this cooperation not only reinforces their strategic partnership but also enhances India's defense readiness and technological self-reliance.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

New IAF Chief: Renewed Tejas Focus and MRFA Deal Ahead?



17-Oct-24

Air Marshal A.P. Singh has been appointed as the new Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force, raising expectations for a renewed focus on the indigenous Tejas fighter jet and signaling potential shifts in the long-stalled Medium Range Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) procurement. Singh's previous experience with the Tejas program may expedite its integration, while speculation surrounding a compromise on the MRFA suggests a possible Government-to-Government deal for Rafale F4 jets to enhance IAF capabilities alongside ongoing indigenous programs. This leadership change could foster enhanced collaboration between the IAF and Navy, particularly regarding the Twin Engine Deck Based Fighter project.

Should India Focus on Boosting Rafale and Sukhoi MKI Acquisitions?



17-Oct-24

The Indian Air Force (IAF) faces a critical shortfall in fighter squadrons, currently operating only 29 out of a sanctioned 42, amid increasing threats from China and Pakistan. With aging MiG-21 aircraft nearing retirement, there is a pressing need for the IAF to expedite the acquisition of Rafale and Sukhoi MKI fighters, which offer advanced capabilities and integration benefits. Additionally, investing in indigenous programs like the Tejas LCA and AMCA will enhance long-term self-sufficiency in aircraft production, thereby addressing immediate and future defense needs effectively.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Jaishankar Concludes Historic Pakistan Visit, Thanks SCO Hosts



17-Oct-24

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar concluded his visit to Pakistan for the SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting, expressing gratitude to Pakistani officials for their hospitality. His visit marked the first by an Indian EAM since 2015 and resulted in eight signed outcome documents on various topics, including sustainable development and cooperation against terrorism. Jaishankar emphasized the need to address terrorism, extremism, and separatism as barriers to regional trade and connectivity. Jaishankar's visit underscores India's commitment to regional cooperation within the SCO framework while reaffirming the importance of addressing security concerns. His constructive engagement and emphasis on sustainable development reflect India's strategic approach to fostering stability and economic collaboration in the region, despite the challenges posed by terrorism and extremism.

Trudeau Confirms No Evidence Linking India to Nijjar's Killing

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17-Oct-24

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has admitted that his government lacked hard evidence to support allegations against India regarding the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, revealing that the claims were based primarily on intelligence inputs. This admission has led to growing dissatisfaction among Liberal Party MPs, with calls for Trudeau's resignation intensifying amid a backdrop of political turmoil as he faces scrutiny over his leadership. The Indian Ministry of External Affairs has emphasized that Trudeau's actions reflect a strategy of smearing India for domestic political gain, particularly in light of his government's handling of foreign interference issues. Trudeau's recent acknowledgment of insufficient proof concerning India's alleged involvement in Nijjar's killing underscores the precariousness of his leadership, as dissent within the Liberal Party grows. The situation highlights a broader narrative of political maneuvering, with Trudeau possibly using India as a scapegoat to deflect criticism about foreign interference. This ongoing discord may not only affect his standing domestically but also strain Canada's diplomatic relations with India, which has consistently called for a fair examination of the allegations made against it.

Indian Army Chief honors JSDF martyrs, strengthens ties with Japan.

 SHARE

17-Oct-24

General Upendra Dwivedi, the Chief of Army Staff of the Indian Army, visited Japan to pay tribute to the martyrs of the Japan Self-Defence Force and engaged in high-level discussions to bolster defense ties between India and Japan. The discussions emphasized enhancing bilateral defense cooperation, particularly in maritime security within the Indo-Pacific region, as both nations are key members of the QUAD alliance. The meetings highlighted the importance of mutual commitment to global peace and security, showcasing a shared vision for a stable maritime environment. The visit underscores India's strategic pivot towards enhancing defense partnerships in the Indo-Pacific, fostering closer military ties with Japan, and reinforcing collective security in the region. Through high-level dialogues and joint exercises like Malabar, India and Japan are solidifying their defense cooperation, which is essential for addressing emerging regional challenges and ensuring maritime security amidst increasing geopolitical tensions.

Israeli Airstrike on Gazan School-Shelter Claims 15 Lives

 SHARE

17-Oct-24

Israeli forces conducted an airstrike on the Abu Hussein school in Jabaliya, northern Gaza, which was being used as a shelter, resulting in the deaths of at least 15 individuals, including five children. The strike was aimed at Hamas and Islamic Jihad militants reportedly present at the location. Gaza's Health Ministry indicated that the attack has led to many critical injuries, putting significant strain on local healthcare facilities. The airstrike demonstrates Israel's ongoing strategy of targeting militant groups while navigating the complex humanitarian landscape within Gaza. While the death toll is tragic, it highlights

the challenges Israel faces in combating terrorism while minimizing civilian casualties amidst ongoing hostilities.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards Warn Israel Against Retaliation

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17-Oct-24

Iran's Revolutionary Guards commander has issued a warning to Israel against retaliation following a missile attack, as the ongoing conflict escalates with Israeli offensives against Hezbollah in Lebanon and in Gaza, where a recent strike resulted in the deaths of 19 individuals at a school. Despite attempts to negotiate peace, talks have stalled, contributing to a rising toll of over 2,350 casualties in Israeli operations in Lebanon over the past year. This situation highlights the increasing regional tensions and the complexities surrounding military engagements, with Iran positioning itself as a defender of its allies while underlining the challenges of achieving lasting peace.

NATO to Consider Zelensky's Victory Plan Amid US Election Concerns

 SHARE

17-Oct-24

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky is set to present his "victory plan" to NATO defense ministers in Brussels as Ukraine continues to face intense attacks from Russian forces. Despite urgent appeals from Ukraine for enhanced air defense systems, NATO is not expected to make new commitments during this meeting, particularly amid concerns related to the upcoming US elections. Zelensky's presentation at NATO reflects Ukraine's ongoing efforts to secure international support against Russian aggression, though the anticipated lack of new air defense commitments suggests a challenging landscape for Ukraine, compounded by the strategic calculations of NATO members influenced by domestic political considerations in the US.

India Expands Nuclear Submarine Fleet to Counter China

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17-Oct-24

India is enhancing its naval capabilities with the addition of its second nuclear-capable ballistic missile submarine, INS Arighat, and plans to deploy a third submarine, INS Aridhaman, next year. While India's submarine fleet is expanding, experts note that it still lags behind China's technological advancements, particularly in missile range. However, India is working towards a more robust deterrent strategy by increasing its undersea capabilities and engaging in partnerships with countries like the US and Japan, which could bolster its regional security posture against Chinese influence. India's commitment to enhancing its naval power through a growing fleet of nuclear-capable submarines signifies a strategic focus on maintaining deterrence in the Indian Ocean, crucial for countering Chinese ambitions. Although there are concerns regarding the technological gap, India's ongoing initiatives, including the development of longer-range missile systems and partnerships within the Quad, position it to strengthen its defense capabilities and regional influence, thereby reinforcing its role as a security provider in a complex geopolitical landscape.

Indian Navy: Key to Peace in the Indian Ocean, Says Singh SHARE

17-Oct-24

The Indian Defense Minister, Rajnath Singh, laid the foundation stone for a new Very Low Frequency (VLF) station for the Indian Navy in Telangana, aimed at enhancing naval communication and operational readiness across the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). He emphasized the Indian Navy's role as a guarantor of peace and security in the region and highlighted the need for cooperation among maritime nations to address collective security challenges. Singh also assured adherence to environmental standards during construction and paid homage to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam for his contributions to India's defense technology. The establishment of the VLF station underscores India's commitment to strengthening its naval capabilities and enhancing maritime security in the Indo-Pacific region, reflecting a strategic shift towards a more proactive role in regional stability. By prioritizing collective security and communication infrastructure, India is positioning itself as a leading net security provider in the IOR, thereby fostering cooperative engagement with neighboring nations and reinforcing its operational readiness against emerging maritime threats.

UK Backs India's Cooperation in Nijjar Killing Investigation SHARE

17-Oct-24

The UK has expressed support for India's cooperation with Canada concerning the investigation into the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. Following Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's allegations implicating Indian government involvement in Nijjar's death, tensions have escalated, leading to diplomatic expulsions between the two nations. India has categorically denied these claims, attributing the allegations to Canada's allowance of extremist anti-India elements. The UK's endorsement of India's cooperation signifies a recognition of India's diplomatic engagement in response to serious allegations from Canada. This situation underscores the delicate balance in international relations, where accusations can strain ties, yet cooperation on legal matters remains essential for both nations to address security concerns effectively.

Military Operations

Indian Coast Guard Launches 'Sagar Kavach' Drill in Maharashtra, Goa SHARE

17-Oct-24

The Indian Coast Guard, in collaboration with various agencies, has initiated the 'Sagar Kavach' exercise along the Maharashtra and Goa coastline to bolster maritime security. This two-day drill involves simulating realistic scenarios, including terrorist threats and natural disasters, to enhance inter-agency coordination and response capabilities against maritime threats like infiltration and smuggling. The exercise aims to improve awareness, information sharing, and establish a unified communication plan for effective coastal patrolling. The 'Sagar Kavach' exercise reflects India's proactive approach to maritime security,

showcasing the effectiveness of multi-agency collaboration in addressing potential threats. By simulating diverse scenarios, the Indian Coast Guard demonstrates its commitment to safeguarding national interests, enhancing preparedness, and ensuring a robust defense posture along the coastline.

Security Forces Launch CASO in Poonch to Track Terrorists SHARE

17-Oct-24

Security forces in Jammu and Kashmir initiated a cordon and search operation (CASO) in Poonch district following intelligence reports of terrorists' presence in the Gursai area. This operation was launched after a brief exchange of gunfire, where the hiding terrorists fired upon the forces, prompting a retaliatory response. Currently, the operation is ongoing, utilizing drones and sniffer dogs to locate the suspects, although no new contacts have been established yet. The proactive response by security forces in Poonch underscores India's commitment to counter-terrorism, leveraging advanced technology and intelligence to neutralize threats. The use of drones and sniffer dogs reflects an integrated approach, enhancing operational efficiency in challenging terrains. This operation not only aims to ensure regional security but also reinforces the Indian defense forces' resolve to combat terrorism effectively, safeguarding civilian lives and maintaining stability in Jammu and Kashmir.

Israeli forces probe if Hamas leader Sinwar was killed in Gaza SHARE

17-Oct-24

Israeli military forces are currently investigating whether Yahya Sinwar, a prominent Hamas leader, was killed during a recent operation in Gaza, which resulted in the confirmed deaths of three militants. This inquiry follows Sinwar's involvement in orchestrating significant attacks against Israel, raising concerns over the ongoing security situation in the region. The potential elimination of Yahya Sinwar could significantly impact Hamas's operational capabilities and leadership structure, potentially leading to a shift in tactics against Israel. If confirmed dead, this could embolden Israeli defense strategies while simultaneously heightening tensions in the region as Hamas may retaliate or restructure its command.

US B-2 Stealth Bombers Strike Houthi Rebel Bunkers in Yemen SHARE

17-Oct-24

U.S. B-2 stealth bombers executed airstrikes on underground bunkers utilized by Yemen's Houthi rebels, targeting five hardened weapons storage sites in Sanaa and Saada. This operation, which is uncommon, was prompted by the Houthis' attacks on Red Sea vessels amid rising tensions linked to the Israel-Hamas conflict. While the extent of damage and casualties remains unclear, the strikes signify a strategic move by the U.S. to mitigate threats in the region and protect maritime security. The U.S. airstrikes reflect a broader strategy to counter asymmetric warfare posed by non-state actors like the Houthis, showcasing advanced military capabilities while reinforcing regional stability. This development serves as a reminder for India to bolster its own defense readiness, particularly against similar threats in its vicinity, ensuring a robust deterrent posture.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Drone-delivered IED recovered near India-Pakistan border in Punjab SHARE

17-Oct-24

An Improvised Explosive Device (IED), reportedly delivered via drone, was recovered near the India-Pakistan border in Punjab's Fazilka district. The device, containing RDX, batteries, and timers, was handed over to the State Special Cell for investigation. Authorities have confirmed the registration of a case regarding the incident. The recovery of the IED reflects the persistent threat posed by cross-border terrorism and the use of advanced delivery methods, such as drones, by hostile elements. India's security forces, notably the Border Security Force (BSF), remain vigilant and proactive in thwarting such threats, showcasing their commitment to maintaining border security and national integrity.

EAM Jaishankar: Nations Engaging in Terrorism Are Untrustworthy SHARE

17-Oct-24

EAM S. Jaishankar's recent speech emphasized that cross-border terrorism, extremism, and separatism are significant barriers to trade and diplomatic relations, suggesting that countries engaging in terrorism cannot be trusted. Ex-diplomat Fabian praised the speech for its comprehensive and subtle messaging, noting Jaishankar's attendance at the SCO Summit in Pakistan was not an endorsement of the host country's actions. He conveyed that the issues raised in the speech reflect India's broader strategic position against terrorism in the region, highlighting the need for mutual trust and respect for territorial sovereignty as prerequisites for meaningful international cooperation.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

CRPF Jawans Injured in Vehicle Accident in Jammu and Kashmir SHARE

17-Oct-24

Several CRPF personnel were injured when their vehicle toppled into a canal in Budgam, Jammu and Kashmir. The incident, which occurred near a police post, raised concerns among locals who have witnessed similar accidents before. The community is now advocating for the installation of barricades and enhanced road safety measures as the injured were transported to hospitals for treatment. The incident underscores the ongoing challenges faced by security forces in Jammu and Kashmir, where road safety remains a critical concern amid operational duties. The repeated occurrence of such accidents highlights the need for improved infrastructure and safety protocols to protect personnel engaged in vital security operations in the region.

Miscellaneous

US Praises India's Cooperation in Pannun Assassination Probe SHARE

17-Oct-24

The United States expressed satisfaction with India's cooperation in the investigation of a foiled assassination plot against Khalistani terrorist Gurbhag Singh Pannun, highlighting that the individual named in the indictment is no longer employed by the Indian government. US State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller described the meeting with the Indian Inquiry Committee as productive, emphasizing ongoing collaboration. The investigation follows allegations involving an Indian national extradited to the US, with India taking the situation seriously as it impacts national security. The US-India cooperation in investigating the Pannun assassination plot reflects a constructive approach to addressing international security concerns, reinforcing India's commitment to counter-terrorism efforts. By proactively forming an inquiry committee, India demonstrates its dedication to transparency and accountability, essential in maintaining strong bilateral relations and safeguarding its national interests against external threats.

India Chooses Administrative Spectrum Allocation, Defying Auction Calls SHARE

17-Oct-24

India's government has decided to allocate satellite spectrum administratively rather than through an auction, a move that follows criticism from Elon Musk regarding auction demands from rival Mukesh Ambani. This decision aligns with global practices and reflects India's commitment to rational and efficient resource management. The burgeoning satellite broadband market is projected to grow significantly, and this decision could position India favorably in the international satellite landscape, despite contention from local telecom giants who argue for auctioning to ensure competitive balance. The Indian government's choice of administrative allocation for satellite spectrum, rather than auctioning, underscores a strategic move to optimize resource management while aligning with global practices advocated by industry leaders like Musk. This decision could foster a conducive environment for growth in India's satellite broadband sector, which is projected to expand rapidly, ensuring equitable access and support for both domestic and international players in this emerging market.

India's Crude Imports Surge: Russian Oil Hits 40% Share SHARE

17-Oct-24

India's crude oil imports from Russia surged to approximately 1.9 million barrels per day in September, making up nearly 40% of the country's total crude imports, as refiners adapt their capabilities to capitalize on discounted Russian oil following the West's sanctions. Overall, India's crude intake saw a modest rise, while imports from the Commonwealth of Independent States contributed significantly to its supply chain. The increasing reliance on Russian oil underscores India's strategic pivot to

secure energy resources, bolstering its position as a key player in the global energy market amidst shifting geopolitical dynamics.

Reviving Tradition: Indian Navy's Stitched Ship to Oman in 2025

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17-Oct-24

The Indian Navy's stitched ship, inspired by a 5th-century design from the Ajanta Caves, is set to make its maiden voyage from Mandvi, Gujarat to Muscat, Oman in December 2025. Sanjeev Sanyal, a member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, announced that construction began in September 2023 at the Hodi Innovations shipyard in Goa, with completion expected by March 2025. The ship is being crafted using traditional techniques involving choir ropes, fish oil, coconut fibers, and red pigments. The initiative to build a stitched ship combines India's rich maritime heritage with modern naval aspirations, showcasing a commitment to preserving traditional shipbuilding techniques while enhancing strategic maritime capabilities. This project not only revives ancient craftsmanship but also strengthens India's naval presence in the Indian Ocean region, fostering international maritime cooperation, particularly with Oman.

India and Mauritania Forge Stronger Ties During Presidential Visit

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17-Oct-24

President Droupadi Murmu's recent visit to Mauritania marked a significant milestone as it was the first by an Indian President to the African nation. During this visit, several Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were signed to enhance diplomatic relations, including agreements on foreign ministry consultations, cultural exchanges, and exemptions from visa requirements for diplomatic passport holders. These initiatives are expected to cultivate closer ties between India and Mauritania, paving the way for increased collaboration in various fields, thereby reinforcing India's strategic outreach in Africa and promoting regional stability and cooperation.

PATPL Partners with MLRIT to Create 10-Seater Aircraft

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17-Oct-24

Pullinam Aerospace Technologies Private Limited (PATPL) has announced a collaboration with the MLRIT Aeronautical Department to develop a 10-seater aircraft, likely featuring a turboprop configuration. This partnership combines industry expertise with academic knowledge, aiming to enhance India's standing in the global aviation market. The project could stimulate regional aviation growth and bolster the domestic aerospace sector, with further details on specifications and timelines expected as development progresses. The collaboration between PATPL and MLRIT underscores India's commitment to nurturing homegrown aerospace capabilities, potentially transforming regional aviation dynamics and contributing to the nation's strategic autonomy in aerospace technology. This initiative not only reflects an ambitious vision to expand India's aviation industry but also highlights the importance of public-private partnerships in advancing indigenous engineering and innovation.

Sibal Calls for Restoring Statehood to Jammu and Kashmir

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17-Oct-24

Rajya Sabha MP Kapil Sibal criticized the reduction of Jammu and Kashmir to a Union Territory, calling it a constitutional misdemeanour, and urged the restoration of statehood for the region. His comments followed the inauguration of Omar Abdullah as the chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir, marking the first elected government in the UT since the revocation of its special status in 2019. Sibal emphasized that this restoration is the constitutional right of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Sibal's remarks reflect a significant political discourse regarding the status of Jammu and Kashmir, highlighting the ongoing debate over governance and autonomy in the region post-Article 370's abrogation. The return of an elected government under Abdullah can be seen as a positive step towards political stabilization and integration, potentially fostering development and security in an area historically marked by unrest. Addressing statehood aspirations may also aid in consolidating public support and trust in governance, key to lasting peace and socio-economic progress in Jammu and Kashmir.

Defence Production Department Holds 1,444 Cleanliness Drives

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17-Oct-24

The Department of Defence Production (DDP) has successfully conducted 1,444 cleanliness drives as part of the Special Swachhta Campaign 4.0, emphasizing cleanliness in Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) and associated offices. The initiative aims to enhance public awareness through various communication channels and is closely monitored to achieve its objectives effectively. This rigorous cleanliness campaign demonstrates the Indian government's commitment to improving operational efficiency and standards within the defense sector. By fostering a culture of cleanliness, the DDP not only addresses delays but also enhances the working environment, ultimately contributing to better productivity and morale among personnel in DPSUs.

Liberal MPs urge Trudeau's resignation amid India smear allegations.

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17-Oct-24

The article reports on growing dissatisfaction among Canadian Liberal MPs regarding Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's leadership, with calls for his resignation amid allegations of him smearing India for political gain. As Trudeau faces criticism over foreign interference in Canada, the Indian Ministry of External Affairs has highlighted his government's attempts to use India as a scapegoat to divert attention from domestic issues. This situation underscores the geopolitical complexities as India continues to assert its position against such tactics. The increasing dissent within the Canadian Liberal party reflects a significant shift in political dynamics, as Trudeau's strategy of targeting India appears driven by domestic pressure amid declining support. The Indian government's assertion of deliberate smear tactics by the Trudeau administration not only points to a potential misalignment in diplomatic relations but also highlights the broader implications of domestic politics influencing foreign policy narratives. This scenario calls for a

reassessment of Canada's approach to India, particularly in light of its own internal challenges.

Canadian Air Force Rescues Stranded Air India Passengers



17-Oct-24

A Canadian Air Force aircraft successfully transported 191 stranded passengers from an Air India flight, which was diverted to Iqaluit due to a bomb threat, to Chicago. The flight had 211 individuals on board, with the remaining passengers being taken to their destination while their checked baggage was sent separately on the Air India aircraft. Air India expressed gratitude to Canadian authorities for their assistance during this unexpected situation. This incident highlights the effective international coordination and support in crisis situations, reflecting positively on both Canadian and Indian authorities. The swift response not only ensured passenger safety but also underscores the importance of robust emergency preparedness in aviation.

Taiwan Opens New Office in Mumbai to Strengthen Ties with India



17-Oct-24

Taiwan has inaugurated a new office in Mumbai, aimed at enhancing diplomatic and economic ties with four major western Indian states, including Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Goa. This office, Taiwan's third in India, signifies the growing relationship between India and Taiwan, driven by shared democratic values and collaborative initiatives under India's "Act East Policy" and Taiwan's "New Southbound Policy." The establishment of this office is a strategic move that not only boosts bilateral cooperation in various sectors but also enhances Taiwan's presence in a critical region of India, reflecting both countries' commitment to strengthening their partnership.

Saudi Minister Praises 20.6 Million Indians' Contributions



17-Oct-24

Saudi Arabia's Deputy Minister of Media, Al-Ghamdi, highlighted the significant contribution of the 20.6 million Indians residing in the Kingdom during the launch of the 'global harmony' initiative, which aims to enhance cultural cooperation as part of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. He emphasized the strengthening relationship between India and Saudi Arabia, citing previous visits by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the alignment of both nations' long-term goals. The Riyadh season, showcasing cultural activities from 11 countries, further reflects this collaborative spirit and commitment to mutual growth. The acknowledgment of the Indian community's contributions by Saudi officials underscores the deepening ties between India and Saudi Arabia, which is pivotal for regional stability and economic growth. This strategic relationship not only facilitates cultural exchange but also promotes collaboration in various sectors, aligning with both nations' broader visions for the future.

Amnesty International Flags Human Rights Violations in Pakistan



17-Oct-24

Amnesty International has raised serious concerns about human rights violations in Pakistan, highlighting issues such as extrajudicial killings, crackdowns on protests, and the recent ban on the Pashtun Tahaffuz Movement (PTM). While the Pakistani government initially imposed a ban citing threats to public order, it later agreed to lift it under certain conditions. Additionally, Baloch rights activist Mahrang Baloch faces terrorism charges, which she deems fabricated, amid concerns over her peaceful advocacy. The situation in Pakistan underscores significant challenges to civil liberties, with the government's actions reflecting an increasingly repressive approach towards dissent. The international community's scrutiny, particularly through reviews like the ICCPR, may compel Pakistan to reassess its human rights practices and address systemic abuses, thereby promoting accountability amidst rising domestic unrest.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
LT	3549.9	3583.0	3521.8	3570.3	2968537	1.07	47.87	3613.99	3577.04
BEML	3885.0	3941.0	3830.0	3909.4	422434	0.97	57.39	3715.3	3737.88
AVANTEL	176.0	181.45	171.6	176.85	1226214	0.56	48.61	176.73	-
MARINE	233.85	233.85	230.0	231.72	114368	0.38	47.57	229.82	158.24
AZAD	1557.0	1567.65	1548.05	1549.95	101414	0.13	57.44	1476.7	1369.24
PTC	188.51	190.4	186.2	187.52	1030815	-0.26	32.86	201.54	209.35
BHARATFORG	1472.5	1478.8	1442.75	1471.1	1026919	-0.26	38.02	1514.41	1414.37
TANEJAERO	488.9	491.95	480.0	485.0	9895	-0.31	41.98	493.41	484.73
HIGHENE	677.95	677.95	652.2	666.9	4029	-0.39	43.89	677.71	706.46
BEL	286.05	287.9	281.7	284.55	11695551	-0.4	48.29	283.72	253.56
MIDHANI	375.4	376.75	370.8	371.95	210502	-0.65	38.5	384.52	431.13
IDEAFORGE	669.5	669.6	660.45	661.3	85550	-0.74	36.77	688.27	730.51
CFE	590.0	592.0	576.4	588.95	19600	-0.76	32.59	628.05	579.17
ROSSELLIND	100.69	100.69	97.0	98.85	35647	-0.77	17.85	146.17	450.87
HBLPOWER	605.75	607.75	595.1	598.1	631749	-0.83	44.43	609.23	538.14
APOLLO	100.17	100.7	98.7	99.06	681252	-0.95	40.03	102.67	111.29
ZENTEC	1925.0	1932.0	1855.0	1897.65	294504	-1.37	62.39	1760.64	1192.53
KRISHNADEF	685.75	703.0	683.15	690.05	18000	-1.39	44.44	708.41	571.83
DCXINDIA	318.25	324.0	310.0	312.6	208058	-1.56	38.21	327.99	337.65
ASTRAMICRO	834.0	835.0	815.5	818.25	130587	-1.71	40.05	855.7	760.36
COCHINSHIP	1561.0	1567.9	1551.05	1559.95	1496837	-1.8	34.95	1685.37	1549.78
GRSE	1787.65	1790.0	1735.0	1744.7	595787	-1.91	49.76	1715.47	1400.16
LOKESHMACH	391.0	393.65	383.4	387.1	42882	-1.91	49.88	382.9	390.57
MAZDOCK	4338.95	4378.0	4220.0	4237.8	994856	-2.03	48.33	4219.11	3302.73
SIKA	2715.0	2715.0	2597.45	2608.9	2103	-2.14	48.14	2624.62	2263.29
PARAS	1080.1	1080.45	1054.0	1056.1	70012	-2.25	40.43	1084.75	965.58
ADANIENT	3089.95	3100.0	2993.0	3013.75	2655289	-2.34	42.58	3097.27	3110.98
PREMEXPLN	516.65	520.0	493.6	504.0	86599	-2.34	38.25	523.5	481.08
NIBE	1770.0	1795.0	1679.75	1725.8	34333	-2.4	37.87	1870.21	1573.09
MTARTECH	1779.95	1783.4	1724.0	1730.8	114016	-2.71	45.49	1744.96	1882.11
HAL	4671.0	4671.0	4505.25	4518.6	1346544	-2.96	51.25	4405.8	4112.49
SOLARINDS	11420.0	11570.0	11025.05	11173.95	36451	-3.02	49.72	11310.02	9227.61
DATAPATNS	2548.0	2548.0	2430.4	2447.85	159085	-3.29	44.93	2429.54	2634.22
BDL	1196.05	1197.55	1150.0	1152.4	386714	-3.65	42.91	1153.42	1149.43