

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
TEMBO	834.4	809.65	+3.06%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
MARINE	308.6	327.6	-5.8%
DCXINDIA	327.4	341.85	-4.23%
KRISHNADEF	752.4	784.15	-4.05%
MAZDOCK	5100.7	5311.25	-3.96%
PARAS	1056.55	1098.4	-3.81%

Defense Business and Industry

Parliament urges DRDO to boost R&D for hybrid warfare strategies



18-Dec-24

A parliamentary panel has urged the DRDO to enhance its R&D efforts to address hybrid warfare, emphasizing the importance of both kinetic and non-kinetic operations. The report highlighted that while 571 projects were successfully completed in the last decade, there are concerns over delays in 23 out of 55 ongoing projects. The committee recommends collaboration with academia and industry to focus on emerging technologies like AI and anti-drone capabilities. Additionally, it suggests exploring renewable energy sources to support personnel in remote border areas, ensuring energy security in challenging environments, thereby reinforcing India's combat readiness against unconventional threats.

Raksha Rajya Mantri launches INS Nirdeshak, boosting India's maritime capabilities.



18-Dec-24

INS Nirdeshak, the second Survey Vessel (Large) commissioned into the Indian Navy on 18 December 2024, enhances India's hydrographic and maritime capabilities. With over 80% indigenous content, it features advanced systems like Multi Beam Echo Sounders and Autonomous Underwater Vehicles, crucial for safe navigation and deep-sea operations. The vessel supports India's SAGAR initiative by promoting maritime data sharing and embodies India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing.

Furthermore, it serves as a tool for maritime diplomacy, strengthening bilateral ties and fostering trade opportunities with friendly nations, showcasing India's leadership in regional security and cooperation.

ADA Aims to Boost AMCA's Firepower with New Cannon Options



18-Dec-24

The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) is considering upgrading the cannon for its Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) to enhance its fifth-generation capabilities. Options include a 25mm Gatling-type cannon or a 30mm GSh-301 cannon, reflecting the aircraft's role as a 5.5-generation stealth fighter. The decision aligns with the need for increased firepower to engage diverse targets effectively. Meanwhile, Azerbaijan has expressed interest in Indian weapons despite previous criticisms, although India reportedly rejected the indirect request. This demonstrates India's growing defense capabilities and strategic partnerships, as it aims to solidify its position in the regional and global defense landscape.

INS Aridhaman to Introduce Advanced Nuclear Reactor Technology



18-Dec-24

India's nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) program is advancing with the upcoming induction of the INS Arighaat (S3) in August 2024, following the successful integration of the INS Arihant. The INS Arighaat retains similar specifications to its predecessor but features significant technological upgrades, enhancing its capabilities. Furthermore, the INS Aridhaman (S4), nearing completion, will utilize an upgraded 83 MW reactor, incorporating advancements for improved maintenance and crew safety. These developments underscore India's commitment to

strengthening its strategic deterrent capabilities, ensuring a credible sea-based nuclear deterrence system amidst evolving geopolitical dynamics.

DRDO Launches Dare to Dream 5.0 for Helicopter Ejection Safety



18-Dec-24

The DRDO has launched Dare to Dream 5.0, an innovation contest aimed at developing a Helicopter Pilot Ejection System to enhance pilot safety during emergencies, particularly in land-based operations. Traditional life-saving measures like the Helicopter Emergency Egress Device are inadequate in many scenarios, and the challenge lies in ensuring safe ejection at low altitudes where parachute deployment is compromised. This initiative honors Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's vision and could lead to significant advancements in both military and civilian helicopter safety, potentially reducing casualty rates in helicopter accidents, which are often severe in nature due to low-altitude operations.

Economic Explosives Ltd Launches India's Largest Private Drone Test Facility in Nagpur



18-Dec-24

Economic Explosives Ltd (EEL) has established India's largest private drone testing facility in Nagpur, featuring a 1.4 km runway dedicated to long-range UAVs. This facility is crucial for the development and testing of EEL's Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) UAV, intended for the Indian Armed Forces. EEL's investment highlights the expanding capabilities of India's defense sector and the increasing involvement of private enterprises in fulfilling national strategic requirements. This initiative not only accelerates indigenous drone development but also strengthens India's self-reliance in defense technology, enhancing operational readiness for the armed forces.

India's Defense Forces Enhance Space Capabilities for Future Warfare



18-Dec-24

The Indian defense forces are set to enhance their space capabilities by expanding assets and manpower, as highlighted in a presentation by the Department of Military Affairs. This initiative follows government approval for a space-based surveillance project involving 52 satellites, aimed at boosting monitoring capabilities along the Line of Actual Control with China and the Pakistan border. The Defense Space Agency will oversee these advancements, with a focus on both

defensive and offensive capabilities. Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan emphasized the need for innovation and collaboration to navigate the increasingly competitive space domain, underscoring India's commitment to securing its national interests in this vital area.

IAF to Boost Meteor Missile Orders with New Navy Rafale Deal



18-Dec-24

India is set to finalize a significant defense deal with France for 26 Rafale Marine aircraft for the Indian Navy, which will enhance naval aviation capabilities and include additional orders for long-range Meteor missiles. These advanced missiles, known for their superior speed and range, bolster the aerial combat potential of both the Navy and the Indian Air Force's existing Rafale fleet. The integration of Rafale Marine on aircraft carriers like INS Vikrant will improve operational reach, while the Meteor's capabilities will provide a strategic advantage in air defense. This procurement is a decisive step in strengthening India's defense posture amid regional challenges.

Indian Army Tests Kalyani's Garuda 105 Gun, Procurement Imminent



18-Dec-24

The Indian Army has successfully tested the Garuda 105 Go Anywhere Gun, a lightweight and advanced artillery system developed by Kalyani Strategic Systems Limited, during an airdrop exercise from an IAF C-17 Globemaster. This innovative howitzer features a hybrid recoil system, significantly reducing its weight to 900 kg and enhancing its mobility and deployability, particularly in high-altitude regions. The Army is reportedly keen to procure up to 200 units, recognizing the gun's rapid fire capabilities and versatility as crucial for modern combat scenarios. Overall, the Garuda 105 represents a strategic advancement in India's artillery capabilities, enhancing operational readiness and effectiveness on the battlefield.

DRDO's A319 Anusadhan to Boost India's AMCA Fighter Jet Program



18-Dec-24

The DRDO's A319 Anusadhan is set to significantly contribute to India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program by serving as a flying test bed. This initiative enhances India's self-reliance in military aviation, allowing for the testing and validation of advanced technologies such as avionics, radar systems, and electronic warfare capabilities essential

for a fifth-generation fighter. By simulating AMCA's flight conditions, the Anusadhan accelerates testing timelines and reduces costs, while providing critical insights into performance and design parameters. This development underscores India's commitment to becoming a leader in aerospace engineering and its pursuit of technological independence on the global stage.

Nepali Army to Expand Dhruv ALH Fleet for Enhanced Operations



18-Dec-24

The Nepali Army is looking to expand its fleet of Dhruv Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) from India's Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to enhance its operational capabilities, building upon its existing three Dhruv Mk III units. The Dhruv helicopters, known for their robust performance in challenging Himalayan terrains, are equipped with advanced avionics and Shakti engines, making them ideal for various military and humanitarian missions. This acquisition reflects Nepal's strategic aim to modernize its military, improve aerial operational flexibility, and maintain regional security, while also showcasing the growing defense partnership between India and Nepal. Such developments highlight the Dhruv's significance in South Asia's defense landscape.

Gridbots VIPER: Transforming Gun Barrel Maintenance for the Army



18-Dec-24

The Gridbots VIPER robot is being tested by the Indian Army to revolutionize the cleaning and inspection of artillery and tank gun barrels. This advanced system utilizes the zSCAN laser 3D profilometer for precise inspection and automated cleaning with soft nylon brushes, which eliminates manual labor and reduces wear on barrels. Key features include post-cleaning lubrication and an integrated drying mechanism, enhancing operational readiness in various conditions. By replacing traditional methods, the VIPER not only increases efficiency but also mitigates risks associated with unclean barrels in high-intensity environments, thereby significantly improving artillery maintenance and performance for the Indian Army.

Parliament Urges MoD to Fast-Track TEJAS Production Amid Delays



18-Dec-24

The Parliamentary Panel has urged the Ministry of Defence to expedite the production of the TEJAS MK-1A jets amid significant delays, with no jets delivered since

the order was placed. HAL's production has been hampered by supply chain issues, particularly concerning F404 engines, which have shifted delivery dates to April 2025. With a commitment of approximately 48,000 crore for 83 jets, the IAF's demand for an additional 97 jets highlights the urgency for increasing production capacity. Calls for diversifying production lines and fostering public-private partnerships emphasize the need for a more resilient manufacturing ecosystem to meet national security demands effectively.

Cochin Shipyard Launches Next-Gen Missile Vessels for Navy



18-Dec-24

Cochin Shipyard has commenced the construction of next-generation missile vessels for the Indian Navy, marking a significant advancement in India's naval capabilities. These vessels are expected to enhance the operational efficiency and combat readiness of the Navy, reflecting India's commitment to strengthening its maritime defense. This initiative aligns with the broader strategy of indigenization in defense production, promoting self-reliance and technological advancements in the Indian defense industry. The move not only bolsters India's naval strength but also fosters economic growth through job creation and expertise development in shipbuilding and defense technologies, reinforcing India's position as a regional maritime power.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

Indian Navy's Vision 2047: Aiming for Maritime Supremacy



18-Dec-24

The Indian Navy has launched a comprehensive roadmap towards enhancing its maritime capabilities by 2047, aiming to commission about 94 warships over the next decade, with 63 currently under construction, predominantly under the Make in India initiative. This ambitious Vision 2047 emphasizes self-reliance, with a focus on key projects such as stealth frigates, aircraft carriers, and advanced submarines. The Navy plans to secure Acceptance of Necessity for an additional 31 warships to counter emerging threats and strengthen its presence in vital sea lanes. As India strives for maritime dominance, this initiative solidifies the country's defense manufacturing ecosystem and its status as a rising global power.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Admiral Tripathi and Indonesia's Defence Minister Discuss Defense Ties SHARE

18-Dec-24

Admiral Dinesh Tripathi's recent visit to Indonesia highlighted significant discussions on enhancing defense ties between India and Indonesia, focusing on maritime security and defense technology collaboration. Engaging with top Indonesian military officials, including Defence Minister Lt Gen Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin, Admiral Tripathi emphasized India's progress in developing indigenous naval technologies and explored avenues for joint training and operational engagements. The ongoing 43rd India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol demonstrates the commitment to deepening maritime relations. Both nations recognize the growing potential for collaboration in defense, aligning with their shared vision for stability in the Indo-Pacific region, particularly as Indonesia plays a pivotal role in the ASEAN framework. This visit reflects the strengthening strategic partnership and mutual interest in bolstering defense capabilities.

India and China Renew Talks to Ease Border Tensions and Trade SHARE

18-Dec-24

India and China have resumed dialogue regarding the management of peace and tranquility along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), with National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi meeting for the 23rd round of Special Representatives talks after a five-year hiatus. This engagement follows the October 21 agreement on disengagement and patrolling in Eastern Ladakh, marking a significant step towards normalizing relations that had been strained since the military standoff in 2020. The discussions aim to address ongoing border tensions and explore a fair resolution to the boundary question, in line with commitments made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping during their recent meeting in Kazan. China has expressed optimism about rebuilding ties, emphasizing its willingness to work with India to respect each other's core interests and resolve differences with sincerity. The SR mechanism, though previously unsuccessful in resolving the boundary dispute, is viewed as a valuable framework for managing tensions and fostering communication between the two nations. This renewed engagement is crucial as both countries seek to restore stable and

healthy bilateral relations, moving past years of strained interactions while acknowledging the historical complexities of the border issue.

Modi and Xi Seek Improved Relations Amid Ongoing Challenges SHARE

18-Dec-24

Recent discussions between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping underscore a significant diplomatic effort to improve relations between the two nations, with both leaders emphasizing the importance of viewing each other as opportunities for development. Xi highlighted the necessity for enhanced communication to manage differences and maintain peace along their disputed border, which Modi echoed, stressing that mutual trust and respect should form the foundation of their relationship. Additionally, the Chinese Foreign Ministry reaffirmed Beijing's commitment to resolving differences through dialogue, emphasizing respect for each other's core interests. As both nations gear up for high-level talks, including an upcoming meeting between National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Wang Yi, the emphasis remains on strategic dialogue and collaboration to address boundary issues and contribute to regional stability. This proactive engagement reflects India's commitment to a stable and constructive relationship with China in the face of historical complexities.

Europe Considers Peacekeeping Force for Post-War Ukraine SHARE

18-Dec-24

European leaders are deliberating the potential deployment of peacekeeping troops in Ukraine as discussions intensify about security guarantees following a possible ceasefire with Russia. This initiative, driven by French President Emmanuel Macron and supported by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, has met with mixed reactions from nations like Poland and Germany, with concerns over the implications of a European military presence. Zelenskyy seeks to bolster Ukraine's defense capabilities and solidify NATO membership, emphasizing the need for comprehensive support against potential Russian aggression. Despite U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's reluctance to involve American troops, European nations may need to collaboratively establish a force, with estimates suggesting up to 100,000 troops could be necessary, complicating military logistics and resources across Europe.

Bangladesh Adviser Sparks Controversy Over India Expansion Claims



18-Dec-24

Mahfuj Alam, a key advisor in Bangladesh's interim government, controversially advocated for territorial expansion into parts of India in a now-deleted social media post. He framed this expansion as essential for Bangladesh's true independence, drawing parallels to historical political upheavals. The rapid removal of the post indicates a cautious approach to avoid escalating diplomatic tensions, particularly given the sensitive nature of India-Bangladesh relations, which are historically marked by issues like water sharing and border disputes. Alam's comments, although retracted, highlight regional stability concerns and the potential for inflammatory rhetoric to affect diplomatic ties.

Bangladesh law adviser claims India was just an ally in 1971 war



18-Dec-24

Bangladesh's law adviser Asif Nazrul criticized Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's tribute to Indian soldiers on Victory Day, asserting that India was merely an ally in Bangladesh's liberation from Pakistan in 1971. Nazrul's comments, which echoed sentiments from other Bangladeshi figures, suggest a growing sensitivity regarding the narrative of independence, emphasizing the need for Bangladesh to assert its sovereignty against perceived Indian overreach in historical representations. Modi's remarks honored the sacrifices of Indian soldiers, yet they sparked backlash for seemingly overshadowing Bangladesh's agency in its own liberation. This discourse underscores the importance of recognizing both nations' contributions while fostering respectful bilateral relations.

NATO Assumes Control of Military Aid Coordination for Ukraine



18-Dec-24

NATO has officially taken over the coordination of Western military aid to Ukraine from the United States, a move intended to ensure a stable support mechanism amidst potential changes in U.S. foreign policy under President-elect Donald Trump. The newly established NATO Security Assistance and Training for Ukraine (NSATU) is now operational, with its headquarters in Wiesbaden, Germany. Concerns remain about the potential for U.S. aid to Ukraine to be reduced significantly, as Trump has criticized the scale of support. This shift emphasizes NATO's increasing role in the conflict, amid fears of a wider war due to heightened military aid, which Russia has condemned.

India Reopens Embassy in North Korea, Signaling Policy Shift



18-Dec-24

India's recent move to reopen its embassy in North Korea marks a significant shift in its foreign policy after a three-year hiatus, demonstrating a commitment to re-establish diplomatic relations amid a complex geopolitical landscape. This decision aligns with India's Act East policy, aiming to mitigate security threats from North Korea's military advancements and its growing ties with Russia and China, which could impact regional stability, particularly concerning Pakistan. As the U.S. transitions to a new leadership under Donald Trump, whose past engagements with North Korea may influence future dialogues, India's strategy reflects its intent to pursue an independent foreign policy, potentially opening new trade opportunities in Southeast Asia.

Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Highlights Strong Ties with China



18-Dec-24

Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath emphasized the importance of maintaining strong relations with China, indicating the strategic partnerships that Sri Lanka is fostering amid its geopolitical landscape. Herath, who has been a prominent figure in Sri Lankan politics since 2000, boasts a wealth of experience in governance. This reiteration of ties with China highlights the balancing act that Sri Lanka is engaging in, as it seeks to navigate its relations with larger powers like India and China, which is crucial for its economic and security interests. Overall, Sri Lanka's diplomatic stance underscores its intent to leverage its position while fostering multifaceted relationships in the region.

Finnish Ambassador Urges India to Champion Peace in Ukraine Conflict



18-Dec-24

Finnish Foreign Minister Elina Valtonen emphasized India's pivotal role in promoting peace regarding the Russia-Ukraine conflict, urging the country to leverage its diplomatic channels to influence Russia's position. While Finland and EU nations have imposed sanctions on Russia, India maintains economic ties, particularly in energy, which complicates the global response. India's commitment to peace was echoed by Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, who stated that India stands "on the side of peace," and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's belief that conflicts should not be resolved through warfare.

This highlights India's proactive approach in seeking dialogue and a sustainable resolution amidst a complex geopolitical landscape.

Biden Administration Urges Pakistan to Uphold Rule of Law



18-Dec-24

The US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, emphasized the need for Pakistan to uphold constitutional values and the rule of law, amidst growing concerns over violence against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supporters during recent elections. The bipartisan support from the US Congress for democratic practices in Pakistan reflects a broader international call, including from UK diplomats, to ensure peaceful assembly and human rights. This situation underscores the critical need for Pakistan to navigate its internal political tensions while adhering to democratic norms, highlighting the potential for increased international scrutiny and pressure on the Pakistani government to respect human rights and political participation.

Military Operations

Parliament Greenlights IAF's Plan to Strengthen Fighter Squadrons



18-Dec-24

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is taking significant steps to enhance its fighter squadron strength, with a parliamentary panel approving plans to address the reduction in squadrons due to the retirement of older MiG variants. The IAF has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for an additional 97 Tejas Mark-1A jets from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), which will feature over 65% indigenous content and upgraded capabilities, including advanced air-to-air missiles. The Tejas Mk-1A is part of India's broader push for self-reliance in defense manufacturing, aimed at modernizing its fleet to counter evolving regional security threats. Despite some delays in the delivery schedule due to software enhancements, the program is progressing well, with plans for further acquisitions of the Tejas Mk-2 to replace older aircraft like the Mirage-2000 and MiG-29.

Ukraine's SBU Assassinate Russian Chemical Weapons Chief Kirillov



18-Dec-24

Lieutenant General Igor Kirillov, the chief of Russia's Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Protection Troops,

was assassinated in Moscow by Ukraine's SBU intelligence service using a bomb hidden in an electric scooter. This high-profile killing, occurring just a day after Kirillov was sentenced in absentia for using banned chemical weapons during the ongoing conflict, has raised significant security concerns within Russia. Both the Russian Investigative Committee and various officials, including former President Dmitry Medvedev, have labeled the incident a terrorist act and called for retaliation against Ukraine. Kirillov's death marks a notable escalation in targeted assassinations within Russia, reflecting Ukraine's strategy to undermine Russian military leadership amidst the war. The incident underscores the intense and lethal dynamics of the conflict, highlighting the ongoing threat of chemical warfare and the implications for both nations' military strategies.

Indian Army Trains to Tackle FPV Drones Amid Evolving Warfare



18-Dec-24

The Indian Army has commenced training programs to counter First-Person View (FPV) drones, a tactic seen in the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, highlighting its commitment to modern military preparedness. This initiative includes theoretical and practical exercises focusing on drone identification, countermeasures like electronic jamming, and engagement tactics. By employing FPV drones in training, soldiers can better understand both offensive and defensive strategies, ensuring readiness against current and future threats in drone warfare. This strategic adaptation not only enhances operational effectiveness but also positions the Indian Army at the forefront of evolving battlefield technologies, reflecting a proactive approach to contemporary defense challenges.

Israel Intercepts Houthi Missile Amid Regional Tensions



18-Dec-24

The Israeli military intercepted a missile fired by Yemen's Houthi militants, who claimed it was aimed at a military target in Jaffa. This attack is part of the Houthis' escalating missile and drone campaign against Israel, framed as solidarity with Palestinians amid the ongoing Gaza conflict. Concurrently, the U.S. has conducted airstrikes on Houthi command facilities in Yemen to disrupt their operations, including attacks on commercial shipping in the Red Sea. The situation underscores the complex geopolitical dynamics in the region, highlighting threats posed by Iran-backed

groups and the need for vigilance in protecting both regional stability and maritime security.

Russia Steps Up Attacks on Ukrainian Forces in Kursk Region SHARE

18-Dec-24

Russia has escalated its military assaults on Ukrainian forces in the Kursk region, with combat clashes reportedly rising to 68 daily as Ukrainian troops face fatigue and an extended frontline. Concurrently, Russian advancements are noted in eastern Donetsk, particularly around key cities like Pokrovsk and Kurahove. President Putin claims that voluntary enlistments are shifting the war's momentum in Russia's favor, while the U.S. political landscape may influence the conflict's trajectory, with President-elect Trump suggesting Ukraine should negotiate with Russia. This situation underscores the ongoing volatility in Eastern Europe and the challenges facing Ukraine as it struggles to maintain its territorial integrity.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Pannu accuses Russia of aiding Nijjar's murder in desperate claim. SHARE

18-Dec-24

Gurpatwant Singh Pannu, leader of the pro-Khalistan group Sikhs for Justice, has accused Russia of aiding in the murder of Canada-based terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, alleging that the Russian Embassy provided signal intelligence to Indian officials. Pannu has offered a \$25,000 reward for information about Indian and Russian ambassadors, claiming they are part of a surveillance network against pro-Khalistan individuals. Indian intelligence refutes Pannu's claims, labeling him a global terrorist attempting to manipulate youth against India. This incident underscores the geopolitical complexities involving Canada, India, and Russia, reflecting Pannu's desperation amidst increasing scrutiny of his activities.

NIA charges two key associates of Khalistani terrorist Lakhbir Landa. SHARE

18-Dec-24

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has chargesheeted two associates of Khalistani terrorist Lakhbir Landa in a Punjab terror conspiracy, indicating a significant step in combating terrorism linked to the Babbar Khalsa International. Jaspreet Singh, an

operative involved in Landa's drug smuggling and extortion networks, and Baljeet Singh, implicated in arms supply to Landa's gang, were identified as key figures in this plot. The investigation revealed their roles in a broader terror network supported by foreign elements, emphasizing the ongoing efforts by Indian authorities to disrupt such operations and enhance national security. This move showcases India's commitment to tackling domestic and international terrorism effectively.

Five IEDs Discovered in Manipur Amid Security Operations SHARE

18-Dec-24

Five improvised explosive devices (IEDs) weighing a total of 21.5 kg were recovered in a joint operation by the Spear Corps and state police in Manipur's Imphal East district. The operation, aided by a canine, successfully identified two 5.5 kg IEDs, one 4 kg IED, and two 3.5 kg IEDs alongside a 25 m Cordtex wire. Additionally, security forces seized a submachine gun and an improvised mortar in Kangpokpi district. This proactive approach by the Indian defense forces underscores their commitment to countering insurgency and ensuring regional stability, reflecting the importance of coordinated efforts between military and law enforcement agencies in maintaining security in sensitive areas.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

Government Bans 14 Messaging Apps to Bolster National Security SHARE

18-Dec-24

The Indian government has banned 14 mobile messaging applications, including Zangi, due to their use by criminal and terrorist organizations for encrypted communication, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir. These apps, known for their strong privacy and untraceable features, have facilitated coordination among gangs and terrorist groups like Hizbul Mujahideen and the Lawrence Bishnoi gang. The ban, enacted under Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, reflects the government's commitment to enhancing national security amidst challenges posed by unmonitored digital communication. This decisive action underscores the need for robust cybersecurity measures to counter threats from organized crime and terrorism.

Miscellaneous

700+ Leaders Unite in Moscow to Strengthen India-Russia Ties SHARE

18-Dec-24

The XV India-Russia Business Dialogue in Moscow attracted over 700 business leaders, focusing on enhancing the strategic partnership between India and Russia across trade, high-tech sectors, and cultural exchanges. Noteworthy discussions included boosting trade turnover—which reached \$46.5 billion in 2024 and aims for \$100 billion by 2030—advancing cooperation in science and technology, and promoting tourism, evidenced by an 86% rise in Indian tourists to Russia. Indian Ambassador Vinay Kumar emphasized India's robust economic growth, while officials highlighted the significance of banking channels for transactions in national currencies. This dialogue underscores the growing bilateral economic and cultural ties, crucial for both nations amidst a dynamic global landscape.

Musk Denies Starlink Use in Manipur Amid Security Concerns SHARE

18-Dec-24

Recent seizures of Starlink satellite devices in India's Manipur region have raised significant security concerns, especially as militant groups may be utilizing this technology to bypass internet restrictions. SpaceX founder Elon Musk clarified that Starlink satellite beams are not operational over India due to regulatory issues, yet the discovery of devices inscribed with links to local militant groups suggests a smuggling route from Myanmar, where Starlink is reportedly in use. The incidents highlight the evolving tactics of insurgents leveraging advanced communication technologies, possibly facilitating coordinated operations and evading detection. This situation underscores the necessity for India to enhance border security and adapt its strategies to counter the misuse of cutting-edge technologies by hostile elements, reinforcing the need for international cooperation in addressing these emerging threats.

India and Japan Join Forces to Develop Laser Satellites for Space Cleanup SHARE

18-Dec-24

Japanese and Indian startups, Orbital Lasers and InspeCity, have embarked on a collaboration to explore the use of laser-equipped satellites for space debris removal, addressing the critical issue of orbital

congestion. This initiative reflects ongoing cooperation between the two nations, extending beyond space debris to joint missions like the Lunar Polar Exploration (LUPEX) and potential lunar orbiter projects. With over 100 companies in the space servicing market, the partnership aims to align with India's "Make in India" initiative to enhance local production capabilities. This collaboration not only strengthens bilateral ties but also positions both countries as proactive players in managing space sustainability.

Trump Warns India of Tariffs in Trade Reciprocity Standoff SHARE

18-Dec-24

US President-elect Donald Trump has threatened India with reciprocal tariffs in response to the high tariffs New Delhi imposes on certain American products. He emphasized that the principle of reciprocity will guide the Trump administration's trade policies, indicating that if India charges high tariffs, the US will impose equivalent tariffs in return. Trump's comments reflect a broader strategy aimed at addressing perceived trade imbalances and ensuring fair treatment for American businesses. This stance may intensify trade tensions between the US and India, impacting future economic relations, but it also presents an opportunity for India to reassess its tariff policies to foster better bilateral ties.

Government Backs Agnikul Cosmos in Launching Agnibaan Rocket SHARE

18-Dec-24

The Indian government is supporting Agnikul Cosmos in the development of the Agnibaan rocket, which features the world's first fully 3D printed semi-cryogenic engine. This initiative aims to enhance India's private space industry and reduce satellite deployment times. The Agnibaan can carry payloads between 30 kg to 300 kg into low Earth orbit and is positioned to fulfill various communication and monitoring needs. Following a successful test flight on May 30, 2024, Agnikul plans to conduct 35 to 40 commercial launches annually starting in 2025, highlighting India's commitment to advancing indigenous space technology and catering to the growing demand for small satellite services.

Pakistan Grants 84 Visas for Indian Pilgrims to Katas Raj Temples SHARE

18-Dec-24

The Pakistan High Commission has issued 84 visas to Indian pilgrims for visiting the Shree Katas Raj Temples, a significant religious site for the Hindu community in Pakistan. This initiative aligns with the 1974 Pakistan-

India Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines, facilitating annual pilgrimages for thousands of Sikh and Hindu devotees to partake in festivals and religious occasions. While such gestures can foster goodwill and cultural exchange, they also highlight the ongoing complexities in India-Pakistan relations, demonstrating an effort by Pakistan to promote a more welcoming image to its minority communities and strengthen ties through shared religious heritage.

India-Russia Dialogue in Moscow: 700 Leaders Forge New Alliances

18-Dec-24

Over 700 business leaders participated in the India-Russia Dialogue in Moscow, focusing on enhancing collaboration in technology, infrastructure, and energy sectors. This significant gathering highlighted both nations' commitment to strengthening economic ties and fostering mutual growth through increased business interactions. The discussions reflect a strategic move to bolster bilateral relations, which could also benefit India's defense sector by facilitating technology transfers and joint ventures. Strengthening these partnerships aligns with India's broader

geopolitical strategy of diversifying its defense industry and reducing dependency on singular international sources, thereby enhancing national security and economic resilience.

Gwadar Protests: Locals Demand Trade Rights and Better Amenities

18-Dec-24

Protests in Gwadar have intensified as locals demand an end to trade restrictions and improved basic amenities. The All-Parties Alliance is rallying against economic marginalization, inadequate healthcare, education services, and restrictions on fishing rights, reflecting deep-rooted discontent among the Baloch people towards the central government's neglect. The Gwadar Ko Haq Do movement emphasizes the need for local governance and resource management that prioritizes indigenous populations. Authorities have faced criticism for their heavy-handed tactics in dealing with protests, resulting in clashes that further fuel tensions. This situation underscores the ongoing struggle for rights and development in the region, highlighting the complexities of governance in Pakistan.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
TEMBO	801.0	849.0	769.2	834.4	177358	3.06	75.2	739.98	365.63
TANEJAERO	454.2	458.9	450.0	457.0	7301	-0.14	51.86	451.35	491.83
LMW	17474.0	17655.0	17282.2	17341.8	7018	-0.56	64.18	16534.6	16070.4
APOLLO	96.99	97.97	95.41	95.92	819441	-0.71	42.94	97.71	105.76
ZENTEC	2400.0	2439.85	2300.55	2380.95	1152163	-0.82	79.72	1988.67	1423.5
BDL	1280.35	1289.8	1213.1	1268.1	951658	-0.96	67.79	1162.34	1199.48
ADANIENT	2489.0	2496.6	2452.0	2457.4	990217	-1.21	41.43	2426.1	3020.6
LOKESHMACH	356.0	361.0	349.95	351.7	50342	-1.24	45.66	358.29	390.01
LT	3807.2	3819.0	3745.0	3758.15	1318341	-1.29	50.48	3779.43	3615.41
HIGHENE	687.95	688.95	661.05	669.95	4334	-1.39	56.79	640.0	714.73
BEML	4433.5	4433.5	4341.5	4362.7	176466	-1.6	59.35	4247.97	3928.82
NIBE	1816.0	1850.0	1790.0	1797.2	52582	-1.62	50.76	1764.59	1735.57
ROSSELLIND	79.85	81.65	77.01	78.47	67357	-1.72	31.52	83.24	373.94
SIKA	2673.2	2689.55	2601.1	2626.65	1119	-1.74	51.14	2604.33	2472.17
MTARTECH	1587.9	1595.9	1550.0	1556.2	137263	-1.94	28.12	1731.16	1798.36
ASTRAMICRO	846.0	849.9	815.6	829.45	279668	-1.99	58.61	797.5	796.38
AVANTEL	172.0	174.5	168.0	168.28	572084	-2.1	54.73	161.88	-
PTC	159.61	160.77	156.4	156.97	2014056	-2.1	29.59	170.76	202.18
BEL	310.2	310.6	301.65	303.8	16598070	-2.19	49.87	306.52	276.17
SOLARINDS	10550.0	10550.0	10269.55	10322.65	37144	-2.23	45.38	10524.88	9993.19
MIDHANI	370.0	371.85	361.25	363.4	245943	-2.25	51.51	359.06	410.77
BHARATFORG	1340.6	1349.95	1303.35	1306.45	637487	-2.55	37.22	1343.14	1447.91
CFE	695.0	703.0	688.0	690.0	18400	-2.58	52.61	687.83	612.97
COCHINSHIP	1615.0	1624.7	1560.9	1575.15	318298	-2.59	50.32	1573.08	1693.14
AZAD	1753.0	1753.0	1680.0	1697.1	105920	-2.86	49.25	1736.35	1531.16
PREMEXPLN	568.0	581.85	537.5	543.4	409861	-2.89	64.09	475.53	516.19
HAL	4624.4	4628.0	4472.35	4482.85	1240240	-3.02	49.73	4492.47	4406.75
DATAPATNS	2602.95	2603.0	2517.0	2525.0	79880	-3.14	51.43	2522.12	2726.35
HBLPOWER	704.0	705.65	675.65	679.3	2318205	-3.18	63.4	639.21	558.46
GRSE	1749.5	1752.0	1687.75	1696.25	547477	-3.36	52.63	1670.91	1556.04
IDEAFORGE	640.65	640.95	613.3	616.4	84751	-3.79	51.08	603.04	697.28
PARAS	1100.0	1100.0	1050.0	1056.55	105227	-3.81	46.73	1078.46	1024.49
MAZDOCK	5288.0	5311.0	5080.1	5100.7	2944814	-3.96	65.91	4689.92	3759.7
KRISHNADEF	784.15	796.0	746.0	752.4	39000	-4.05	61.93	683.09	636.68
DCXINDIA	340.6	344.0	326.0	327.4	566188	-4.23	50.26	327.82	333.22
MARINE	330.9	331.0	306.0	308.6	1138956	-5.8	66.24	274.17	187.9