



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

February 19,2025 | Day 050

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
APOLLO	118.46	106.05	+11.7%
MAZDOCK	2180.1	1961.75	+11.13%
GRSE	1351.8	1222.3	+10.59%
ZENTEC	1069.2	972.0	+10.0%
DATAPATTNS	1544.85	1423.75	+8.51%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
TEMBO	639.2	679.1	-5.88%
NIBE	1041.0	1095.35	-4.96%
LOKESHMACH	177.05	183.2	-3.36%
ADANIENT	2180.8	2220.3	-1.78%
CFF	416.0	420.5	-1.07%

Defense Business and Industry

Bharat Forge and AM General partner for artillery supply deal



19-Feb-25

Bharat Forge's subsidiary, Kalyani Strategic Systems Ltd (KSSL), has signed a Letter of Intent with AM General, USA, to supply advanced artillery cannons, marking the first-ever supply of such equipment from an Indian defense manufacturer to the US. This agreement, announced at IDEX 2025 in Abu Dhabi, highlights the strengthening defense ties between India and the US. Bharat Forge's Chairman, Baba Kalyani, emphasized the importance of this collaboration as a reflection of India's growing capabilities in artillery solutions, while AM General's John Chadbourne noted the potential for technological innovation and strategic partnership. This development signifies India's increasing role in global defense markets and enhanced bilateral cooperation.

Rafale Marine Jets Set to Boost Indian Navy's Capabilities



19-Feb-25

India is poised to enhance its naval capabilities with a significant deal for 26 Rafale Marine jets from France, valued at over Rs 60,000 crore, to modernize the INS Vikramaditya. This acquisition includes 22 single-seat and four twin-seat variants, specifically designed for carrier operations, and introduces advanced technologies such as buddy-buddy refuelling, allowing the existing IAF Rafale fleet to extend its operational range significantly. The agreement also encompasses vital ground-based equipment and software upgrades, fostering local defence production under the "Make in

India" initiative and enhancing overall operational readiness. This strategic procurement solidifies India's maritime and air superiority, positioning the nation to effectively respond to regional challenges while ensuring logistical efficiency between the naval and air force variants of the Rafale.

India's DRDO Unveils Advanced Trinetra UAV for Enhanced Defense



19-Feb-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has advanced India's drone technology with the Trinetra UAV, designed for surveillance and reconnaissance, enhancing operational capacity in diverse terrains, particularly the Himalayas. The Indian Army's order of nearly 700 Trinetra drones signifies a strategic move towards indigenization and improved military capabilities. Additionally, DRDO is developing other UAV platforms like the Autonomous Flying Wing, Rustom series, and Archer-NG, while engaging with the private sector for rapid advancements. This focus on indigenous capabilities reflects India's commitment to enhancing its defense technology and reducing reliance on foreign imports, thereby strengthening national security and operational efficiency.

Indian Ambassador Spotlights MDL's Role at NAVDEX 2025



19-Feb-25

At NAVDEX 2025 in Abu Dhabi, Indian Ambassador Sunjay Sudhir underscored the contributions of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) to India's naval capabilities. MDL showcased advanced naval vessels and submarines, including stealth frigates and Scorpene-class submarines, which enhance India's underwater combat effectiveness. The ambassador emphasized MDL's commitment to indigenization and

its alignment with the Make in India initiative, highlighting the recent delivery of the final Scorpene submarine and the upcoming Project 75(I). This engagement reflects India's dedication to strengthening its maritime defense and fostering robust defense ties with the UAE, showcasing MDL's pivotal role in bolstering the Indian Navy's fleet and technological edge.

Sheikh Nahyan Visits BrahMos Pavilion, Boosting India-UAE Defense Ties

19-Feb-25

At NAVDEX 2025 in Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Nahyan bin Zayed Al Nahyan visited the BrahMos Aerospace pavilion, highlighting the strengthening defense collaboration between India and the UAE. The meeting emphasized the capabilities of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, known for its speed, precision, and versatility across multiple platforms, enhancing modern naval warfare and coastal defense strategies. This engagement indicates a mutual interest in expanding military cooperation and technology transfer, reflecting India's growing influence in the global defense landscape and its commitment to fostering strategic partnerships, particularly in missile technology, crucial for regional stability and security.

BDL and Ultra Maritime Join Forces to Boost Sonobuoy Production in India

19-Feb-25

Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with US-based Ultra Maritime to locally manufacture sonobuoys in India, significantly enhancing the country's indigenous defense manufacturing capabilities in anti-submarine warfare (ASW) technologies. This partnership aligns with the Indian government's Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives, promoting self-reliance in defense production while facilitating technology transfer to ensure state-of-the-art systems for the Indian Navy. As naval competition intensifies in the Indo-Pacific, domestically produced sonobuoys will strengthen India's operational readiness and effectiveness in anti-submarine operations, thereby bolstering national security and reducing reliance on foreign suppliers.

IAF Enhances Mi-17 Capabilities with 6th Gen SPIKE NLOS Missile

19-Feb-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is integrating the state-of-the-art SPIKE NLOS missile system onto its Mi-17 transport helicopters, significantly enhancing their offensive capabilities. This 6th Generation missile features advanced targeting systems and the ability to engage targets up to 50 km away, offering rapid engagement and precision while minimizing collateral damage. The missile's real-time tactical intelligence and flexibility in operational roles underscore the IAF's commitment to modernizing its forces and improving mission effectiveness. By adopting such cutting-edge technology, the IAF not only boosts the lethality and survivability of its platforms but also gains a decisive edge in contemporary combat scenarios.

Kalyani Strategic Systems to Bid for Army's Towed Gun Tender with Upgraded Bharat 52

19-Feb-25

Kalyani Strategic Systems Limited (KSSL) is set to enter the Indian Army's Towed Gun System (TGS) tender with its enhanced Bharat 52, a 155mm/52 caliber gun system. This development follows speculation about a lighter towed gun; KSSL opted to upgrade the existing Bharat 52, originally unveiled in 2012. The gun boasts impressive firing rates, with a burst mode of 3 rounds in 30 seconds. Competing offerings from Tata Group's lighter ATAGS, Dhanush by the Ordnance Factory Board, and Adani Defence's Autonomous Towed Howitzer Ordnance System (ATHOS) showcase a dynamic landscape in artillery development, highlighting India's push for advanced indigenous capabilities in defense.

DATA Patterns Launches Hawk I 2700 GaN Radar for Su-30MKI Upgrade

19-Feb-25

At Aero India 2025, Indian defense electronics firm DATA Patterns unveiled the Hawk I 2700, a GaN-based AESA radar for upgrading the Sukhoi-30MKI, surpassing the existing Virupaksha radar with its 2700 TRMs. The Hawk I 2700 boasts impressive detection ranges, identifying targets with an RCS of 5 square meters up to 350 kilometers. This advanced radar system, featuring a versatile Swash Controller Unit, enhances scanning capabilities and is positioned not only for the Indian Air Force but also for international Su-30 operators. The competition between Hawk I 2700 and Virupaksha will significantly influence India's air combat enhancements,

showcasing indigenous innovation in defense technology.

Dynatomic Technologies Launches Airbus A220 Sub-Assembly Line in Bengaluru



19-Feb-25

Dynatomic Technologies Ltd has inaugurated a new Airbus A220 sub-assembly line in Bengaluru, marking a significant advancement in India's aerospace capabilities. This collaboration with Airbus, underscored by the presence of key executives, highlights India's strategic role in the global aerospace supply chain and aligns with the government's Make in India initiative. The facility will produce complex components for the A220, enhancing Dynatomic's status as a Tier-1 supplier and reflecting Airbus's commitment to increasing procurement from India to \$1.5 billion. This partnership not only strengthens India's manufacturing base but also emphasizes the shared vision of innovation and sustainability between the two companies.

India Boosts Anti-Drone Capabilities to Tackle Rising Threats



19-Feb-25

India's armed forces are ramping up efforts to counter the rising threat of hostile drones, which have proven effective in recent global conflicts. The Indian Army and Air Force are seeking advanced indigenous anti-drone systems, with the Army tendering for Integrated Drone Detection and Interdiction Systems and the IAF pursuing a range of counter-UAS solutions, including kamikaze drones and vehicle-mounted jammers. Despite current acquisitions, military officials emphasize the need for more sophisticated multi-sensor, multi-kill systems to effectively combat smaller, agile drones. Collaborations with private firms, such as Mahindra Group and Anduril Industries, aim to enhance India's autonomous defense capabilities, marking a crucial step in modernizing air defenses against evolving drone threats.

India Considers Local Su-57 Production Amid Russia's Offer



19-Feb-25

India is evaluating a significant proposal from Russia to locally produce the Sukhoi Su-57 fifth-generation fighter jet, which could enhance the longstanding defense partnership between the two nations. This initiative aligns with India's Atmanirbhar Bharat vision, aimed at boosting indigenous defense manufacturing and

reducing reliance on imports amidst regional security challenges. The local production of the Su-57 at facilities like Hindustan Aeronautics Limited would not only create jobs but also allow for customization to meet India's operational needs. Moreover, Russia's willingness to facilitate technology transfer and joint development could foster a new era of strategic collaboration that addresses previous concerns surrounding past programs.

HAL Aims for 30 Tejas Mk1A Jets Annually by 2027 with Private Sector Collaboration



19-Feb-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) aims to boost Tejas Mk1A fighter jet production to 30 units annually by 2027, leveraging private sector partnerships for pre-assembled fuselage supply to streamline assembly processes. This strategy aligns with India's self-reliance goals under the Make in India initiative, mitigating delays caused by engine supply issues and enhancing production efficiency. Although challenges remain, like ensuring private partners can meet production demands, this approach is poised to strengthen India's defense ecosystem, create jobs, and reduce foreign dependence, signaling a significant step in India's defense manufacturing capabilities. HAL's confidence in stabilizing the supply chain is crucial for achieving its ambitious targets.

HAL Confirms Astra BVR Missile Test from Tejas Mk1A Soon



19-Feb-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) Chairman DK Sunil announced that the Astra Mk1 Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile will be test-fired from the Tejas Mk1A fighter jet within 15 days, a crucial step for the aircraft's operational certification. The integration of the advanced ELTA ELM-2052 AESA radar significantly enhances target detection and engagement capabilities, aligning with the Indian Air Force's (IAF) demands to counter modern aerial threats from adversaries like China and Pakistan. This test is vital for ensuring the missile's reliability and accuracy, particularly for deployment at forward airbases where quick response and robust performance are essential for maintaining air dominance.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

India-Malaysia Strengthen Defense Ties at Kuala Lumpur Meeting SHARE

19-Feb-25

The 13th Malaysia-India Defence Cooperation Committee (MIDCOM) meeting in Kuala Lumpur, co-chaired by Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, highlighted the strengthening of bilateral defense ties, focusing on maritime security, cyber security, and AI. Both nations agreed to enhance collaboration in defense industries and established a Su-30 forum for air force cooperation. India reaffirmed its support for Malaysia as ASEAN chair, emphasizing ASEAN's centrality in the Indo-Pacific. This partnership aligns with India's strategic goals, notably the Act East Policy and SAGAR initiative, reinforcing Malaysia's role as a pivotal player in regional security dynamics.

U.S. and Russia Set to Negotiate Ukraine Conflict Resolution SHARE

19-Feb-25

Recent developments indicate that the U.S. and Russia have agreed to negotiate an end to the Ukraine conflict, appointing high-level teams for discussions. Russian President Putin and U.S. President Trump may meet soon, with Kremlin officials emphasizing the importance of restoring diplomatic relations and addressing the conflict's root causes. However, Ukraine's President Zelenskyy has made it clear that any agreements must involve Ukraine, rejecting any decisions made without its participation. While both nations are optimistic about potential geopolitical and economic collaborations following a resolution, the absence of Ukrainian and European officials in these talks raises concerns about the legitimacy and inclusiveness of any potential settlement. The situation highlights the delicate balance of power and diplomacy in a conflict that has significant implications for regional security and international relations.

Pakistan's parliament calls for a Kashmir plebiscite amid tensions. SHARE

19-Feb-25

Pakistan's parliament has passed a resolution urging India to hold a plebiscite in Jammu and Kashmir, reiterating its support for the region's right to self-determination. This move comes after India's revocation of Article 370 in August 2019, which stripped Jammu and Kashmir of its special status.

India has firmly rejected any notion of a plebiscite, asserting that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the country. The resolution also condemned alleged human rights violations and accused Indian leadership of provocative statements regarding Pakistan-occupied territories. This development reflects the ongoing tension between India and Pakistan, with Pakistan seeking international intervention through the UN.

Indian Envoy to UN Defends J&K's Status, Critiques Pakistan's Misinformation SHARE

19-Feb-25

India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish, reaffirmed Jammu and Kashmir's status as an integral part of India while condemning Pakistan's misinformation campaigns during a UNSC debate. He highlighted the democratic elections in the region, contrasting them with Pakistan's governance, and criticized Pakistan's self-proclaimed role in combating terrorism despite its history as a terrorism hub. Harish emphasized that terrorism cannot be justified and called for a unified stance against it. This strong diplomatic stance reinforces India's commitment to its territorial integrity and counters Pakistan's narrative on Kashmir, showcasing India's robust democratic process in contrast to Pakistan's governance challenges.

Israel Retains Five Positions in Southern Lebanon Amid Tensions SHARE

19-Feb-25

Israeli troops have withdrawn from all but five positions in southern Lebanon, allowing displaced residents to return to their war-damaged villages. Lebanon views any remaining Israeli presence as an occupation and is prepared to approach the UN Security Council for action, with its armed forces ready to secure the border. Concurrently, Israel is initiating negotiations for a second phase of the ceasefire with Hamas, focusing on the dismantling of the group and the release of hostages. This situation underscores the complex regional dynamics and the delicate balance of security and diplomacy required to stabilize the area.

Chinese Expert Advocates India-China Peacekeeping After Ukraine War SHARE

19-Feb-25

Chinese military expert Zhou Bo has proposed that India and China could play pivotal roles in peacekeeping efforts following the Ukraine war, emphasizing their neutral stance and non-NATO status. He suggests they

could provide a collective security guarantee to Ukraine while ensuring compliance with any peace agreements, thereby reducing tensions with Russia. Zhou dismisses European troop deployments as counterproductive and advocates for a neutral presence from India and China, which he believes could foster dialogue and stability. This proposal is indicative of China's desire to assert its role in global security while promoting a multipolar world order, positioning India as a crucial partner in such initiatives.

Military Operations

India and Egypt Launch Joint Special Forces Exercise Cyclone-III in Bikaner



19-Feb-25

The 14-day joint special forces exercise Cyclone-III between India and Egypt is currently taking place in Bikaner, Rajasthan, aimed at enhancing joint operational capabilities and strengthening military ties. Troops are engaged in high-intensity drills focusing on close quarter battle, survival techniques, and combat medical skills, culminating in a 48-hour validation phase simulating counter-terrorism operations. This collaboration showcases India's indigenous defense capabilities while providing the Egyptian contingent with exposure to advanced military technology. Exercise Cyclone-III underscores the deepening strategic partnership between India and Egypt, reinforcing their shared commitment to regional security and counter-terrorism.

Security Forces Down Drone Near Ram Temple, Launch Probe



19-Feb-25

Security forces successfully intercepted a drone camera near the Ram temple in Ayodhya, leading to a high-level security probe due to concerns of a potential conspiracy aimed at creating chaos among devotees. The drone was shot down during a trial of an advanced anti-drone system capable of detecting threats within a 2.5-kilometer radius. Authorities confirmed the absence of immediate security threats after a thorough examination, but investigations are ongoing to identify the operator from Gurugram. This incident underscores the effective deployment of sophisticated security measures at significant religious sites, emphasizing the proactive approach of Indian law enforcement in safeguarding public gatherings.

Army Chief Signals Stronger Stance on LoC with Pakistan



19-Feb-25

Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi emphasized a more assertive and aggressive stance towards Pakistan regarding the Line of Control (LoC), reflecting a significant shift since 2014. He highlighted the positive effects of the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, noting a decrease in terrorism and local recruitment in Jammu and Kashmir. The initiative of "terrorism to tourism" has seen substantial success, with increased pilgrimage participation, showcasing the region's stability. General Dwivedi criticized Pakistan's fixation on Kashmir, indicating that they are trapped in outdated narratives, while India continues to strengthen its security and development efforts in the region.

Security Forces Neutralize Two IEDs in South Kashmir



19-Feb-25

In South Kashmir, security forces successfully destroyed two IEDs located in the Shopian and Pulwama districts, with one IED being a pressure cooker planted by terrorists on a link road at Chitragam in Zainapora, Shopian. This operation highlights the ongoing threat posed by insurgent groups in the region and the proactive measures taken by Indian security forces to neutralize such threats. The swift action not only prevents potential harm to civilians but also demonstrates the effectiveness of intelligence and counter-terrorism efforts in maintaining stability in the area, reinforcing the commitment of Indian defense forces to ensure the safety and security of its citizens.

Indian Navy's First Training Squadron Wraps Up Successful Visit to Cambodia



19-Feb-25

The Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS), comprising INS Sujata and ICGS Veera, successfully concluded a visit to Sihanoukville, Cambodia, on 17 February 2025. This visit strengthened bilateral ties with the Royal Cambodian Navy through discussions on interoperability, joint exercises, and regional security. Notably, a Small Arms Simulator was presented to the Royal Cambodian Army, enhancing defense engagement. The event included sports activities to foster camaraderie and a reception attended by diplomats and military leaders, reinforcing India's commitment to maritime cooperation in line with its SAGAR vision, highlighting the importance of regional partnerships for security and growth.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

India and Qatar Unite Against Terrorism, Boost Economic Ties SHARE

19-Feb-25

India and Qatar have strengthened their strategic partnership, condemning terrorism and agreeing to enhance cooperation in law enforcement, anti-money laundering, and cybersecurity during a visit by the Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani. The leaders aim to double bilateral trade to USD 28 billion in five years and have signed agreements to facilitate economic cooperation, including a potential Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement. Qatar expressed its intent to invest USD 10 billion in India across various sectors. This collaboration not only underscores the importance of mutual security and economic growth but also emphasizes ongoing efforts for regional stability and cultural ties between the nations.

Hamas offers to release all hostages in one exchange during truce SHARE

19-Feb-25

A senior Hamas official announced that the group is prepared to release all remaining hostages in a single exchange during the second phase of the Gaza truce, rather than in stages as previously done. This move indicates a potential shift in negotiations and may signal Hamas's willingness to expedite the resolution of the hostage crisis. The announcement could also reflect increased pressure on the group from international mediators seeking a more comprehensive agreement. Overall, this development may enhance prospects for peace and stability in the region, albeit amid ongoing tensions and complex dynamics surrounding the conflict.

Pakistan's Army Kills 30 Militants in Border Operation SHARE

19-Feb-25

Pakistan's military has reported the killing of 30 Islamist militants near the Afghan border in an intelligence-based operation targeting a Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) haven. The TTP, which has intensified attacks on Pakistani security forces since late 2022, is labeled a terrorist group by the UN. Pakistan claims the TTP receives support from Afghanistan, with allegations of training camps across the border, a claim denied by the Taliban government. The situation is complicated by

the lack of independent verification due to media restrictions in the region, highlighting ongoing instability and the challenges of counter-terrorism efforts in the vicinity.

Rebels Ambush Bus in Balochistan, Killing Seven Passengers SHARE

19-Feb-25

In a tragic incident in southwestern Pakistan's Balochistan, seven ethnic Punjabi bus passengers were killed by rebels during an ambush while traveling from Quetta to Punjab. This attack, attributed to the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), underscores the ongoing ethnic tensions in the region fueled by separatist movements, which often result in violence against perceived outsiders. Local authorities are expected to enhance security measures, yet the incident raises significant concerns about the safety of travelers and the potential for escalating ethnic violence. The ramifications of such acts not only affect those directly involved but also complicate the broader socio-political landscape in Pakistan.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

NIA Busts Espionage Ring, Arrests Two for Leaking Navy Secrets SHARE

19-Feb-25

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has made significant strides in combating espionage activities linked to Pakistani intelligence operatives, arresting a total of eight individuals in two separate cases involving sensitive Indian Navy information. The arrests included two contract workers in Karwar for leaking classified details about INS Kadamba, allegedly following a honey-trap scheme via social media, and three others in Karnataka and Kerala who shared critical naval data in exchange for money. These incidents highlight the persistent threat of insider espionage, particularly through social media platforms, and the NIA's proactive measures to safeguard national security by investigating and dismantling these espionage networks. Overall, these developments reflect India's commitment to counterintelligence and the ongoing challenges posed by foreign intelligence operations targeting its defense infrastructure.

Telangana Teams Up with Google to Boost Cybersecurity Efforts



19-Feb-25

The Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB) is collaborating with Google to enhance the state's cyber defense capabilities, utilizing AI-powered tools for threat detection and mitigation. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy emphasized the significant threat posed by cybercrime to the Indian economy and reinforced the government's commitment to making Telangana a leader in cyber safety, including launching a Cyber Fusion Centre for proactive prevention. The state is also focusing on the vulnerabilities of MSMEs, which are often prime targets for cyber attacks. Furthermore, discussions highlighted the escalating risks associated with AI-enabled fraud, urging law enforcement to adapt to new crime methodologies. With initiatives like the TG Cyber Defence Centre and partnerships with educational institutions, Telangana aims to strengthen its cybersecurity framework effectively.

Australia's intelligence chief warns of foreign espionage threats to AUKUS.



19-Feb-25

Australia's intelligence chief has warned that foreign espionage is targeting its AUKUS nuclear submarine partnership with the U.S. and Britain, highlighting a deteriorating national security outlook. The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) reported that foreign services, potentially including friendly nations, are attempting to gather sensitive information and disrupt military capabilities. Notably, cyber sabotage threats are increasingly prominent, with malicious actors mapping critical infrastructure for future attacks. Additionally, ASIO emphasized the rising terrorism threat, particularly from self-radicalized extremists exploiting diverse ideologies, and has raised its national terrorism threat level to probable. This underscores the urgent need for enhanced security measures, particularly in the context of geopolitical tensions.

incursions. He clarified that the Army's presence along the Indo-China border is assertive but does not imply a shift into disputed territory. The Defence Minister refuted claims of Chinese forces invading India, asserting that both nations have merely adjusted their patrolling practices. Recent diplomatic discussions have aimed to stabilize relations with China, underscoring India's commitment to maintaining sovereignty while engaging in constructive dialogue. This highlights India's strategic approach to border management and diplomatic resolution amidst ongoing tensions.

Gen Anil Chauhan's Inspiring Visit to Rashtriya Indian Military College



19-Feb-25

Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan visited the Rashtriya Indian Military College on 19 February 2025, highlighting its crucial role in developing future military leaders. He praised the institution for its legacy of producing distinguished officers and emphasized the importance of discipline, modern education, and technological adaptability in warfare. Gen Chauhan's interaction with cadets reaffirmed their commitment to military traditions and service to the nation. His visit, marked by planting a tree at the campus, underscored RIMC's dedication to fostering a spirit of patriotism and resilience among future leaders of the Indian Armed Forces, ensuring they are well-prepared for upcoming challenges.

Miscellaneous

US Cancels \$21M Voter Aid for India, Sparking Sovereignty Concerns



19-Feb-25

The US Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) has cancelled a \$21 million fund intended for voter turnout initiatives in India, with President Trump questioning the necessity of such support given India's robust economy and high taxation. This decision has raised concerns about potential external interference in India's electoral process, as highlighted by BJP's Amit Malviya. Along with the withdrawal for India, DOGE also cancelled various other international funding initiatives. Trump's remarks suggest a shift in US foreign aid priorities, emphasizing India's financial self-sufficiency while indirectly affirming respect for its democratic processes. This move could impact perceptions of US-India relations in the context of electoral autonomy and sovereignty.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Army Chief Stresses Military's Apolitical Stance Amid Tensions



19-Feb-25

Indian Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi emphasized that the military should remain apolitical in response to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's remarks about Chinese

Jailed MP Amritpal Singh petitions HC to attend Parliament sessions



19-Feb-25

Jailed Punjab MP Amritpal Singh has petitioned the Punjab and Haryana High Court seeking permission to attend parliamentary proceedings, arguing that even under preventive detention, MPs retain the right to participate in sessions according to the Constitution. He claims his absence from the Lok Sabha, due to detention under the National Security Act, jeopardizes his position and representation of his constituency, affecting nearly 19 lakh people. Singh emphasizes that parliamentary privileges should take precedence over his detention and cites a recent precedent where another MP was granted parole to attend sessions. This case underscores the complex interplay between legal rights and political representation in India.

Unrelated Case Holds Ex-Naval Officer in Qatar Despite Releases



19-Feb-25

A sub-judice case in Qatar is delaying the return of former Indian Navy officer Purnendu Tiwary, who has been unable to join seven compatriots released from death row last year. The charges against Tiwary, linked to a defense supplier in Qatar, remain undisclosed, with the current case unrelated to the original allegations. Despite a state visit by Qatari Amir Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, discussions did not address Tiwary's situation, highlighting the complexities of consular diplomacy in sensitive legal matters. With around 600 Indians imprisoned in Qatar, this case underscores the broader challenges facing India in protecting its nationals abroad while addressing geopolitical ties.

S&P Global: US Tariffs to Have Minimal Impact on India's Growth



19-Feb-25

S&P Global Ratings predicts that the impact of US tariffs on the Indian economy will be limited due to its domestic orientation and reduced reliance on exports, with GDP growth expected at 6.7-6.8% over the next two years. The agency highlights positive fiscal metrics and confidence in the government's ability to meet fiscal deficit targets despite potential revenue losses. Key sectors like textiles may face tariff exposure, but the overall effect on India is expected to be minimal, as services, which dominate exports to the US, are less susceptible to tariffs. This outlook reinforces India's resilient economic fundamentals amid external challenges.

Hamas to release 6 Israeli hostages and 4 bodies amid ceasefire



19-Feb-25

Hamas has announced plans to release six living Israeli hostages on Saturday and the bodies of four others, including the Bibas family, who represent significant suffering in Israel due to the ongoing conflict. This release marks the final stage of the current ceasefire in Gaza, which has temporarily halted intense fighting and facilitated humanitarian aid. Negotiations for a more challenging phase, involving the release of additional hostages in exchange for a lasting ceasefire and Israeli withdrawal, remain pending. The situation reflects the complexities of hostage exchanges amidst ongoing tensions and humanitarian crises in the region, highlighting the desperate need for a sustainable resolution.

ISRO Chairman Celebrates Record-Breaking Propulsion Achievements



19-Feb-25

ISRO Chairman Narayanan highlighted significant achievements at the 101st Amrut Vyakhyaan, noting that the organization set three world records during the development of the cryogenic upper stage for the LVM Mark-III vehicle, completing a successful flight in just 28 months. He emphasized advancements in human-rated propulsion systems under the Gaganyaan Program and the development of air-breathing propulsion technology, which utilizes atmospheric air to enhance cost-effectiveness and payload efficiency. Additionally, ISRO is planning to create high-thrust engines to support future crewed Moon missions, showcasing India's growing capabilities in aerospace technology and its commitment to advancing space exploration.

Qatar Invests \$10B in India, Aiming to Double Trade by 2030



19-Feb-25

Qatar has pledged a \$10 billion investment in India, aiming to double bilateral trade to \$28 billion by 2030, focusing on infrastructure, technology, and manufacturing. The Qatar Investment Authority will establish an office in India to explore various sectors, including food security and logistics. This strategic partnership enhances energy cooperation, with Qatar supplying over 48% of India's LNG imports. The investment is expected to significantly impact India's tech industry, fostering innovation in fields like AI and quantum computing, while promoting collaboration

between Indian and Qatari businesses. Overall, this initiative strengthens India's position as a key partner in technological advancement and economic diversification.

Sebi proposes tech solutions to secure trading and prevent fraud. SHARE

19-Feb-25

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has proposed technology-based measures to enhance the security of trading and demat accounts, focusing on preventing unauthorized transactions. Key recommendations include a SIM binding mechanism, biometric authentication, and temporary account lock-in features to combat issues like SIM spoofing and hacking. The proposal aims to establish a secure trading environment, addressing the increasing incidents of identity theft and fraud associated with web and mobile trading platforms. By implementing these measures, Sebi seeks to bolster investor confidence and safeguard the integrity of financial transactions in the digital age.

Axis Bank Partners with Privy for DPDP Act Compliance and Trust SHARE

19-Feb-25

Axis Bank has partnered with Privy by IDfy to become the first Indian bank to comply with the Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDP Act) 2023, emphasizing customer privacy and transparency. The partnership will enhance compliance through advanced solutions, enabling better consent management and regulatory reporting. Key requirements of the DPDP Act include privacy notices in multiple languages and obtaining verifiable parental consent for minors. This initiative not only strengthens Axis Bank's commitment to data protection but also fosters trust in customer

relationships, reflecting a growing emphasis on ethical data management in the banking sector.

Supreme Court Grants Bail to AgustaWestland Case Middleman SHARE

19-Feb-25

The Supreme Court of India granted bail to Christian Michel James, an alleged middleman in the AgustaWestland helicopter deal, after he spent six years in custody while the investigation continues. The court noted the prolonged detention without a conclusion to the inquiry, allowing his release under conditions set by the trial court. This case, involving a significant Rs 3,600-crore alleged scam concerning the procurement of 12 VVIP helicopters, highlights ongoing scrutiny over defense procurement processes in India. The situation underscores the balancing act between legal proceedings and national security interests, reflecting the complexities of high-profile defense corruption cases.

Amit Shah Urges Full Adoption of New Criminal Laws in J&K by April SHARE

19-Feb-25

Union Home Minister Amit Shah emphasized the need for the full implementation of three new criminal laws in Jammu and Kashmir by April 2025 during a review meeting with key officials. He highlighted the importance of technology in ensuring speedy justice and urged the police to enhance citizen rights protection in a context of declining terrorism. Shah called for comprehensive training for investigating officers and strict monitoring to prevent misuse of the laws. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah acknowledged areas needing immediate attention, underscoring the role of the elected government in raising awareness about these laws, despite limited direct implementation responsibilities in the Union Territory.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
APOLLO	106.1	120.0	105.0	118.46	11372274	11.7	47.36	123.49	108.67
MAZDOCK	1940.0	2196.8	1918.05	2180.1	8336084	11.13	47.87	2233.82	2149.42
GRSE	1222.3	1405.55	1201.1	1351.8	4593601	10.59	41.1	1467.24	1704.74
ZENTEC	964.95	1069.2	945.35	1069.2	2073198	10.0	23.42	1541.72	1655.4
DATAPATNS	1422.0	1632.55	1405.4	1544.85	3170630	8.51	29.05	1888.21	2608.12
DCXINDIA	244.8	273.5	240.15	264.0	1044065	7.84	32.91	302.71	338.84
PREMEXPLN	352.0	404.0	348.0	380.1	316233	7.57	40.02	413.24	539.07
HBLPOWER	455.0	494.9	449.1	488.95	2449664	6.92	40.51	531.01	577.17
KRISHNADEF	530.0	599.0	511.0	584.8	64000	6.85	39.28	647.87	707.33
HIGHENE	459.5	489.8	459.5	489.0	5388	6.25	36.47	514.14	686.1
IDEAFORGE	368.55	393.5	366.0	391.65	156117	6.04	27.24	442.92	653.9
MIDHANI	250.0	267.0	248.0	265.65	477258	5.75	35.01	295.76	390.17
TANEJAERO	294.75	303.0	286.0	303.0	39440	5.61	33.82	341.6	481.6
AZAD	1188.0	1297.7	1170.05	1263.35	358420	5.6	35.07	1423.83	1594.31
PARAS	845.2	908.0	830.0	892.3	191291	5.57	38.32	995.52	1096.3
AVANTEL	100.41	108.0	100.4	106.97	1079625	5.45	29.54	124.57	-
SIKA	2242.95	2350.0	2210.25	2326.55	4754	5.33	48.33	2303.17	2633.15
COCHINSHIP	1224.05	1349.9	1203.45	1299.15	1463068	5.19	40.98	1373.35	1786.24
MARINE	154.0	161.36	149.84	161.36	167697	5.0	27.79	193.91	217.1
ASTRAMICRO	605.9	640.8	599.55	633.2	162339	4.64	36.52	687.56	819.73
MTARTECH	1222.7	1314.95	1215.0	1288.8	155626	4.45	29.72	1484.45	1744.95
BDL	1006.5	1103.3	993.55	1048.3	1916297	3.81	37.45	1179.14	1263.86
BEL	240.7	254.0	240.25	253.4	21516255	3.6	40.48	268.61	289.79
ROSSELLIND	60.24	61.0	58.0	60.78	12464	3.16	29.42	66.86	299.39
PTC	143.0	148.1	142.23	147.24	1829514	2.56	56.83	140.21	188.79
BEML	2560.5	2690.0	2536.55	2651.9	484418	2.49	26.85	3211.14	3999.13
SOLARINDS	8580.05	8829.95	8513.1	8783.7	86726	2.03	40.22	9284.37	10247.68
LT	3220.15	3302.85	3211.6	3275.9	1677978	1.73	41.16	3354.68	3583.21
LMW	14105.0	14500.0	14099.15	14436.1	2525	1.62	32.49	15146.46	16139.68
HAL	3303.0	3431.9	3275.15	3363.75	2689414	0.57	34.46	3668.28	4503.33
BHARATFORG	1058.0	1082.85	1047.6	1076.05	346156	-0.08	29.37	1144.62	1454.5
CFF	420.5	430.0	393.0	416.0	81600	-1.07	19.97	548.9	654.63
ADANIENT	2166.0	2219.4	2127.0	2180.8	1203163	-1.78	39.33	2275.86	2847.02
LOKESHMACH	176.25	187.2	173.9	177.05	137401	-3.36	17.38	258.79	369.4
NIBE	1040.6	1130.0	1040.6	1041.0	33317	-4.96	28.12	1342.79	1738.94
TEMBO	0.0	665.0	639.2	639.2	49619	-5.88	44.02	660.63	466.86