

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
GOODLUCK	1098.7	998.7	+10.01%
CENTUM	2847.8	2674.5	+6.48%
AVANTEL	139.69	132.95	+5.07%
SWANDEF	372.2	354.5	+4.99%
TANEJAERO	416.35	396.55	+4.99%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
NIBE	1200.55	1237.25	-2.97%
BHARATFORG	1158.9	1188.5	-2.49%
BEL	371.85	380.05	-2.16%
SOLARINDS	14463.0	14699.0	-1.61%
ASTRAMICRO	993.75	1009.8	-1.59%

Defense Business and Industry

India Successfully Test-Fires Agni-5 Ballistic Missile



20-Aug-25

India successfully test-fired its nuclear-capable Agni-5 intermediate-range ballistic missile on August 20, 2025, from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha, under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command, validating all operational and technical parameters. Developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation, the three-stage, solid-fueled, canister-launched missile features a range exceeding 5,000 kilometers, capable of reaching the northernmost parts of China, and incorporates Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle technology, first demonstrated in a maiden flight test on March 11, 2024, under Mission Divyastra. This allows a single missile to deploy multiple warheads—potentially three to four or more—each targeting separate locations hundreds of kilometers apart, with advanced features including a ring laser gyroscope-based inertial navigation system, micro-inertial navigation system, and satellite navigation support from India's NavIC besides other constellations for pinpoint accuracy. Future variants could extend the range to around 7,000 kilometers or beyond, building on India's 2016 entry into the Missile Technology Control Regime, which has facilitated access to cutting-edge technologies. In Pakistan, experts have voiced concerns that these advancements could destabilize regional security and highlight India's broader strategic ambitions. As India enhances its nuclear and conventional arsenal, the Agni-5 test reinforces its credible minimum deterrence policy while emphasizing the role of diplomatic

dialogue in managing South Asian security dynamics and ensuring national defense readiness.

HAL shares surge after Cabinet approves ₹62,000 crore Tejas deal



20-Aug-25

The Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has seen a significant boost in its stock following the Indian government's approval of a Rs 62,000 crore deal for 97 Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mark 1A jets, marking one of its largest orders. The deal is pivotal for the Indian Air Force (IAF) as it aims to replace the aging MiG-21 fleet with a total of 180 Tejas fighters, bolstering India's self-reliance in defense manufacturing and creating opportunities for numerous small and medium enterprises in the supply chain. HAL's shares surged 3.5% to reach Rs 4,611.60, demonstrating strong investor confidence, reinforced by recent positive financial performance despite a slight dip in net profit. The approval aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's push for indigenous defense projects, a strategic move toward enhancing national security and technological independence. Overall, the Tejas program is emblematic of India's commitment to advancing its defense capabilities while fostering a robust domestic defense industry, thus enhancing national security and reducing dependence on foreign military hardware.

India Approves 97 More TEJAS MK-1A Jets, Totaling 180 Units



20-Aug-25

India's Ministry of Defence has approved the acquisition of an additional 97 indigenous TEJAS MK-1A fighter jets from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), bringing the total order to 180 units, valued at approximately ₹66,500 crore. This decision comes as

part of India's strategy to modernize its air combat capabilities and phase out the aging fleet of MiG-21 aircraft, addressing a critical reduction in the Indian Air Force's (IAF) combat squadrons, which are projected to drop to 29. The TEJAS MK-1A features several enhancements over its predecessor, including advanced avionics and increased indigenous content, aimed at bolstering India's self-reliance in defense manufacturing. However, production delays primarily due to engine supply issues from General Electric pose challenges; only two engines have been delivered thus far, with HAL working to ramp up production capacity to meet increasing demands. Additionally, the acquisition of six advanced Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) aircraft is set to further enhance India's surveillance capabilities, crucial for countering threats from China and Pakistan. While the strategic significance of these acquisitions is clear, the successful execution of these projects hinges on HAL's ability to resolve supply chain bottlenecks and deliver the required aircraft timely. Overall, this move not only strengthens India's defense posture amid regional challenges but also reinforces the government's commitment to the "Make in India" initiative, fostering a robust indigenous defense industry.

India-US Defense Ties Strengthen with Key Procurement Talks



20-Aug-25

In a significant move to enhance the India-US defense partnership, Dr. Andrew Byers, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia, met with Shri Dinesh Kumar, Joint Secretary (Maritime & Systems Acquisition) of the Indian Ministry of Defence. The discussions focused on crucial defense procurement matters, including potential acquisitions of additional Boeing P-8I Poseidon aircraft, Javelin anti-tank guided missiles, and Stryker Armored Personnel Carriers. These acquisitions, valued at approximately \$3.6 billion, are vital for India's military modernization, particularly in ensuring maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region amid rising geopolitical challenges. The meeting also highlighted ongoing cooperation under the US-India Major Defense Partnership and the Roadmap for Defence Industrial Cooperation, which includes co-production initiatives aimed at enhancing interoperability and technological collaboration. Despite recent concerns about procurement delays due to US tariffs on Indian exports, the Indian Ministry of Defence confirmed that all defense deals are progressing as planned. This meeting underscores the resilience of the bilateral relationship and reflects both nations' commitment to maintaining peace and stability in the

Indo-Pacific region through enhanced strategic collaboration and technological innovation.

AMCA's Success to Enable Development of Unmanned Stealth Drones



20-Aug-25

The success of India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program is seen as pivotal not only for manned aviation but also for the future development of unmanned stealth combat aircraft, as articulated by former IAF Chief R.K.S. Bhadauria. He highlights that technologies from the AMCA, such as low radar cross-section designs and AI capabilities, will facilitate the creation of advanced unmanned combat aerial vehicles (UCAVs) like the DRDO's Ghatak. Additionally, the integration of sixth-generation concepts into the AMCA aims to bolster India's air power, potentially leading to a fully indigenous sixth-generation fighter by 2040, thereby ensuring long-term dominance in air combat capabilities.

Centum Electronics' stock rises 8% after MoU with BEL for defense electronics.



20-Aug-25

Centum Electronics has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) to enhance the development of advanced defense electronics, focusing on Electronic Warfare and radar systems for the Indian Armed Forces. Following the announcement, Centum's stock surged by 8%, indicating strong market confidence in this collaboration. The partnership aims to leverage both companies' strengths in defense electronics, contributing to India's self-reliance in defense capabilities. With a revenue increase and a shift from loss to profit in the latest financial quarter, Centum's commitment to high-quality manufacturing solutions is set to bolster India's defense infrastructure and technological advancements.

US Navy's sea drone program faces major setbacks against China



20-Aug-25

The U.S. Navy's ambitious sea drone program is facing significant setbacks, including software failures and operational incidents during tests, raising concerns about its ability to develop a fleet of autonomous vessels to counter potential Chinese advances in the Taiwan Strait. Despite the urgent need for maritime drones highlighted by recent conflicts in Ukraine, the program's pace has been hampered by leadership

changes and skepticism regarding cost-effectiveness. As the Pentagon initiates a \$1 billion Replicator program to expedite drone acquisition, the Navy's challenges underline the complexities of integrating cutting-edge technology within traditional naval frameworks, emphasizing the need for rapid adaptation in maritime warfare strategies.

Indian Navy Considers Second Russian Akula Submarine Lease Amid Costs



20-Aug-25

The Indian Navy is considering Russia's offer to lease a second Akula-class nuclear-powered attack submarine, valued at \$3 billion for ten years, amid rising costs and delays in the delivery of the first leased vessel, INS Chakra III, expected in 2028. With India advancing its indigenous SSN program under Project-77, the Navy questions the necessity of the Russian lease, especially given the operational limitations and high costs involved. The indigenous submarines will offer greater control and capabilities, including advanced weaponry, thereby enhancing India's strategic posture in the Indian Ocean Region against rising threats. This situation underscores the importance of developing self-reliance in defense capabilities.

HAL Integrates Drones and Robots for Tejas MkII, AMCA Inspections



20-Aug-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is set to enhance the assembly line inspections for the Tejas MkII and Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) by integrating drones and robots. This modernization initiative aims to improve accuracy and efficiency in conducting precision measurements and Non-Destructive Testing (NDT), addressing the stringent inspection standards required for stealth aircraft. HAL's upgrade will leverage advanced technologies like 3D laser scanning and AI analytics to detect potential issues in real-time, crucial for meeting the exacting standards of stealth platforms. This proactive step not only positions India to produce cutting-edge aircraft but also signifies HAL's commitment to innovation in defense manufacturing.

DRDO Chief: Guided Pinaka Can Now Target Enemy Warships



20-Aug-25

The DRDO Chairman, Dr. Samir V. Kamat, announced that the Guided Pinaka multi-barrel rocket system can be repurposed to target enemy warships, enhancing

India's coastal defense capabilities. Originally designed for ground warfare, the Guided Pinaka has improved accuracy and a range of 75-90 kilometers, making it a cost-effective option for engaging naval assets. This innovation supports India's strategy of multi-domain warfare, allowing existing systems to be adapted for new roles, and complements established systems like the BrahMos missile. As concerns grow over China's maritime expansion, the ability to deploy the Guided Pinaka at sea strengthens India's defense posture in the Indian Ocean Region.

Tejas Mk2 Program Confirms GE F414 Engine Choice, Avoiding Delays



20-Aug-25

India's Tejas Mk2 program, crucial for modernizing the Indian Air Force (IAF), is firmly committed to the General Electric (GE) F414 engine, as switching to alternatives like the EJ200 would require extensive redesigns and significant delays. The F414 engine enhances performance with its higher thrust, supporting the production of 240 engines domestically under a \$1 billion deal. This strategic decision aligns with India's self-reliance goals and timely induction plans, amid increasing regional security challenges. Retaining the F414 ensures logistical ease, cost efficiency, and a streamlined development process, reinforcing India's aerospace capabilities while avoiding potential setbacks to the IAF's operational readiness.

Russia Proposes Local Production of AL-41 Engine for Su-30MKI



20-Aug-25

Russia has proposed local production of the advanced AL-41 engine for India's Sukhoi Su-30MKI fleet, enhancing performance and aligning with India's defense modernization goals under the Make in India initiative. The upgrade, which includes advanced avionics and weapons, is part of a ₹66,829 crore initiative aimed at improving the IAF's capabilities against regional threats, particularly from China. While the AL-41 engine offers significant performance benefits, India is considering cost, integration timelines, and geopolitical risks, especially concerning U.S. sanctions. Alternatives like the improved AL-31FP and the Product 177S engine are being weighed to ensure a balance between technological advancements and self-reliance objectives.

India Approves Six Netra MkII AEW&C Aircraft for Enhanced Surveillance



20-Aug-25

The Indian government has approved the procurement of six Netra MkII Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) aircraft for ₹19,000 crore, significantly enhancing the Indian Air Force's (IAF) surveillance and command capabilities. These next-generation systems, developed indigenously by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in collaboration with Indian firms and Airbus, will be modified from pre-owned Airbus A321 airframes acquired from Air India. Featuring advanced GaN-based Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar with dorsal and nose-mounted antennas for 300-degree coverage, the aircraft offer improved detection range, tracking of multiple threats, and real-time situational awareness. Equipped with electronic intelligence suites, secure communication links, and data networks, they function as airborne command centers, more than doubling the IAF's current fleet of three Phalcon AWACS and two Netra Mk1 systems. Deliveries are expected to begin in 2026-27, with full induction by 2033-34.

ISRO to Launch GSAT-7R Satellite for Indian Navy's Enhanced Communication



20-Aug-25

ISRO is preparing to launch the GSAT-7R satellite by the end of 2025, a dedicated multi-band military communication platform for the Indian Navy designed to replace the aging GSAT-7, also known as Rukmini, which was deployed in 2013 with a launch mass of 2,650 kilograms and payloads operating in UHF, S, C, and Ku bands for secure real-time links among warships, submarines, aircraft, and shore systems across the Indian Ocean region. The GSAT-7R, weighing approximately 2,650 kilograms and positioned in geostationary orbit at 35,786 kilometers, will enhance these capabilities with advanced upgrades, enabling expanded blue-water operations and network-centric warfare while reducing reliance on foreign systems, at an estimated cost of ₹1,589 crore and utilizing the GSLV Mk-II launch vehicle. Complementing this, ISRO's Technology Demonstration Satellite, or TDS, is under development to validate innovative indigenous technologies, including a 300mN Stationary Plasma Thruster tested for 1,000 hours using Xenon propellant, which offers six times the specific impulse of conventional systems for efficient orbit raising and station keeping in future satellites. These projects highlight India's push toward self-reliance in space-based defense infrastructure, bolstering naval reach

and operational security through homegrown advancements.

India's LCH Prachand to Evolve as a Drone Hunter Against UAVs



20-Aug-25

India's domestically developed Light Combat Helicopter (LCH), the 'Prachand', is set to enhance its capabilities significantly, evolving from a ground-attack specialist to a versatile aerial platform aimed at countering unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). This upgrade, driven by lessons from recent conflicts and the increasing drone threats, particularly from adversaries like Pakistan, involves integrating advanced weapon systems and air-launched drones. The Prachand will now be capable of conducting intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance missions, and employing loitering munitions for precise strikes, solidifying its role as a multi-role aerial weapon system vital for India's national defense strategy against emerging aerial threats.

India and Russia Partner on Piston Engines for UAV Development



20-Aug-25

India and Russia have finalized a significant agreement to manufacture small aircraft piston engines domestically, bolstering India's military self-reliance and supporting its growing fleet of UAVs and loitering munitions. This collaboration, which includes a Transfer of Technology clause, marks a shift from a traditional buyer-seller dynamic to joint development, enhancing operational readiness and supply chain stability. The high-performance engines, expected to power systems like the Nagastra-1 and Astra 100 kamikaze UAV, will enable extended flight times and advanced capabilities for surveillance and precision strikes, reflecting India's commitment to modernizing its defense capabilities and fostering a self-sufficient defense ecosystem.

Indian Coast Guard's Fourth NGOPV Plate Cutting Ceremony Held



20-Aug-25

The Plate Cutting Ceremony for the Indian Coast Guard's fourth Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV) occurred at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd in Mumbai on August 20, 2025. These indigenous 117-meter vessels, capable of 23 knots with a range of 5,000 nautical miles, feature advanced technologies such as AI-based predictive maintenance and remote piloted drones. This initiative under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision demonstrates India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing, enhancing the ICG's

capabilities to protect national maritime interests effectively. The project not only strengthens India's defense industry but also empowers the ICG to secure its extensive maritime domain.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

Maj Gen Mallick's Key Critique: India's Cyber Doctrine A Good Start But Too General, Lacks Actionable Parts



20-Aug-2025

'Defence and Strategic Studies expert Maj Gen PK Mallick, VSM (Retd), in his August 25, 2025, issue brief India's Joint Doctrine for Cyberspace Operations: A Critical Review, praises the declassified Joint Doctrine released on August 7, 2025, as a comprehensive guide recognizing cyberspace as a vital warfare domain equal to land, sea, and air, emphasizing joint operations across services, offensive-defensive integration, resilience, and a "whole of nation" approach to threats like attribution and legal ambiguities. Spanning six chapters on overview, operations, organizations, ecosystem, human resources, and technology, it promotes transparency via declassification, marking a shift from service-centric models. However, Mallick critiques its overly general, declarative style, lacking prescriptive details on legal thresholds for cyber "armed attacks," attribution methods, escalation controls, ethical guidelines, and rules of engagement. He notes misalignments with Western doctrines (e.g., separate cyber deterrence), gaps in cognitive operations, civil-military integration, public-private partnerships, supply chain security, AI integration, and talent strategies, deeming it basic "Lesson 101." Urging tactical specificity, resource milestones, and updates to outdated doctrines, Mallick warns it risks being aspirational without operational blueprints and investments. For the full brief head to [India's Joint Doctrine for](#)

[Cyberspace Operations: A Critical Review](#)

Politics

Parliamentary Panel Calls for Revamping India's Export Strategy



20-Aug-25

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance has proposed a recalibration of India's export strategy to enhance manufacturing competitiveness and market diversification in response to external economic

challenges, including significant US tariffs on Indian goods. To achieve this, the committee advocates for expanding production-linked incentive schemes into high-tech and green sectors, while emphasizing the need for new trade agreements to reduce market reliance. Additionally, the Finance Ministry is working on identifying non-strategic public sector enterprises for potential closure or privatization. This approach aims to bolster domestic economic resilience and stimulate growth, targeting an investment rate increase to 35% of GDP to sustain robust economic expansion.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

India-China Relations Improve Amidst Border Stability Efforts



20-Aug-25

Recent discussions between Indian National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi reflect a significant thaw in India-China relations, with a focus on peace along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and the establishment of cooperative mechanisms to manage border disputes. Doval highlighted an "upward trend" in bilateral ties since the Modi-Xi meeting in Kazan last year, which has led to meaningful engagements to foster stability and address mutual concerns, including terrorism and the implications of China's dam projects. Wang emphasized the importance of maintaining dialogue and trust, indicating a shared commitment to prevent existing tensions from overshadowing broader cooperation. Both sides acknowledged the necessity of structured conversations to manage differences while pursuing economic and cultural exchanges. India and China have resumed initiatives like the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and the issuance of visas for Chinese tourists, signaling a desire to rebuild people-to-people connections and reduce mistrust. The upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Tianjin is expected to further solidify these engagements. This cautious optimism suggests that while challenges remain, both nations are recognizing the strategic and economic benefits of stable relations, marking a potential shift from crisis management toward a more sustainable partnership. However, the success of these efforts will hinge on translating political will into tangible outcomes on the ground along the LAC.

India and China to Form Working Group for Border Trade and Management



20-Aug-25

India and China have agreed to establish a working group for enhanced border management and to reopen trade at the Lipulekh, Shipki La, and Nathu La passes, following the 24th round of Special Representatives' talks on August 19, 2025, co-chaired by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in New Delhi. The discussions, held during Wang's two-day visit, also led to commitments to resume direct flights, update the Air Services Agreement, ease visa processes for tourists, businesses, and media, and promote investment flows. Both sides further decided to form an expert group under the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs to explore early progress in boundary delimitation, establish general-level mechanisms in the eastern and middle sectors, and advance de-escalation talks to maintain peace along the Line of Actual Control, while bolstering cultural exchanges including religious pilgrimages.

PM Modi to Attend SCO Summit in China, Emphasizing Cooperation



20-Aug-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has accepted an invitation from President Xi Jinping to attend the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin, highlighting India's commitment to regional dialogue and multilateral cooperation. During discussions with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Modi emphasized the importance of maintaining peace along the India-China border and expressed optimism about resolving long-standing boundary issues through constructive engagement. Wang Yi acknowledged India's role in the summit's success and stressed the need for mutual trust and cooperation, reflecting a positive trend in bilateral relations that aims to overcome past tensions highlighted by the Galwan clashes. Both leaders aim to view each other as partners rather than rivals, underscoring a shared interest in stability and development in the region. This engagement is timely, as it provides an opportunity for both nations to discuss broader geopolitical issues amid global uncertainties, signaling India's readiness to play a proactive role in shaping the SCO's agenda and fostering a peaceful, multipolar Asia where cooperative security is essential for economic development.

India Must Diversify Trade and Boost Domestic Reforms Amid US

Tariffs



20-Aug-25

India is grappling with the United States' imposition of a 25% tariff on its exports effective August 7, 2025, with an additional 25% set to apply from August 27, potentially impacting \$48.2 billion in merchandise exports, as stated by Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada. This escalation stems from tensions over India's purchase of Russian oil amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict, affecting sectors like textiles, engineering goods, and dairy products, while sparing pharmaceuticals and electronics. To counter this, India is urged to diversify trade partnerships, capitalizing on the July 24, 2025, free trade agreement with the UK that grants 99% duty-free access for Indian exports and aims to boost bilateral trade to \$120 billion by 2030, alongside pursuing a potential EU deal. Domestically, accelerating reforms under initiatives like Make in India will enhance strategic autonomy in semiconductors, AI, and defense, drawing from UPI's success in reducing foreign reliance. The government vows to safeguard farmers, workers, and MSMEs through export promotion and mitigation strategies, transforming challenges into opportunities for self-sufficiency.

US Treasury Secretary Accuses India of 'Profiteering' from Russian Oil



20-Aug-25

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent accused India of profiteering from Russian oil imports on August 19, 2025, amid the Ukraine conflict that began in February 2022, noting that India's purchases surged from less than 1% to 42% of its total oil imports, yielding an estimated \$16 billion in excess profits through resale of refined products. Bessent contrasted this with China's diversification, where Russian oil imports rose modestly from 13% to 16%, while US President Donald Trump imposed a 25% tariff on Indian exports effective August 7, 2025, with an additional 25% set for August 27 if no trade deal is reached, escalating tensions. Democrats in Congress argued that penalizing India undermines sanctions against Russia and risks alienating a key Indo-Pacific ally.

Russian Envoy: Western Criticism Validates India's Strong Ties



20-Aug-25

The recent statements from Roman Babushkin, the Deputy Ambassador of Russia to India, emphasize the steadfastness of the Indo-Russian partnership amid

growing Western sanctions and trade pressures. Babushkin firmly stated that India's energy cooperation with Russia will continue and expand, asserting that Moscow has developed mechanisms to ensure uninterrupted crude oil supplies, which are competitively priced and crucial for bilateral trade. He highlighted that trade between India and Russia has surged seven-fold in recent years, showcasing the resilience of their economic ties. Additionally, Babushkin reassured Indian exporters facing challenges in the US market that Russia remains open to Indian goods, reflecting a strategic partnership that can withstand external pressures. The Deputy Ambassador also reiterated the importance of ongoing diplomatic exchanges between the two nations, as evidenced by recent communications between their leaders. This unwavering commitment underscores Russia's role as a reliable partner for India, capable of bolstering its economic interests and providing stability in the face of geopolitical challenges. Overall, the statements reflect a deepening of ties between India and Russia, positioning India to effectively navigate international pressures while enhancing its strategic autonomy.

Trump's Sanctions on India Aim to Pressure Russia Amid Ukraine War



20-Aug-25

The White House has confirmed that US President Donald Trump's imposition of sanctions on India, including tariffs totaling 50 percent with an additional 25 percent levy on New Delhi's purchases of Russian oil effective August 27, 2025, is intended to exert secondary pressure on Russia to end its ongoing war in Ukraine, which began in February 2022. Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt stated on August 19, 2025, that these measures, doubling the previous 25 percent tariff, form part of Trump's strategy to apply tremendous public pressure and facilitate a swift resolution, including through diplomatic efforts like his recent meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and openness to a trilateral discussion with Russian President Vladimir Putin. India has rejected the tariffs as unjustified and unreasonable, vowing to safeguard its economic interests amid accusations from US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent that New Delhi is profiteering from reselling Russian oil. Meanwhile, Russia has offered India a 5 percent discount on oil supplies in response to the escalating tensions, while China, the largest importer of Russian energy, has faced no similar penalties.

Russia: Security talks without us lead to nowhere



20-Aug-25

Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov stated that discussions regarding security issues in Ukraine without Russian participation are futile, labeling such attempts as a "road to nowhere." His remarks followed a meeting hosted by U.S. President Donald Trump with Ukraine's president and European leaders aimed at establishing security guarantees for Ukraine amid ongoing conflict. Lavrov emphasized that meaningful dialogue on collective security cannot occur without involving the Russian Federation, asserting that the West, particularly the U.S., recognizes the impracticality of addressing security concerns in isolation from Moscow. This highlights the complexities of geopolitical negotiations and the necessity for inclusive discussions in resolving conflicts.

China to showcase troops and advanced weapons at WWII parade



20-Aug-25

China is set to stage a grand military parade in Beijing on September 3, 2025, commemorating the 80th anniversary of Japan's surrender in World War II, with President Xi Jinping inspecting troops and foreign leaders like Russian President Vladimir Putin in attendance. The event will feature tens of thousands of participants, including marching formations, armored columns, and aerial displays with hundreds of aircraft such as fighter jets and bombers, showcasing new domestically produced hardware like strategic heavy weapons, hypersonic precision systems, unmanned platforms, and counter-drone equipment. This display underscores China's rapid military modernization, highlighted by a 7.2 percent increase in its 2025 defense budget to approximately \$245 billion, aimed at enhancing combat readiness and strategic competition amid regional tensions. The 70-minute parade reflects evolving warfare dynamics and China's push for regional dominance, prompting close monitoring by neighbors like India to maintain balance of power.

NATO Chiefs to Discuss Security Support for Ukraine Amid Conflict



20-Aug-25

NATO military chiefs are convening to discuss security guarantees for Ukraine amidst ongoing Russian military advances, including recent strikes that have resulted in civilian casualties. While U.S. President Trump has indicated the potential for European nations to deploy troops, he has ruled out sending U.S. forces directly,

proposing instead air support. The situation remains fluid, with Ukraine's leadership urging for increased pressure on Moscow through sanctions. This highlights the complex dynamics of international diplomacy and military strategy in response to the ongoing conflict, reflecting the need for coordinated efforts to address regional security concerns.

EAM Jaishankar to visit Russia to enhance strategic partnership.



20-Aug-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is set to visit Russia from August 19-21 to strengthen the India-Russia Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership. He will co-chair the 26th Session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation and address the India-Russia Business Forum in Moscow. Additionally, Jaishankar will engage with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov to review bilateral agendas and discuss regional and global issues. This visit underscores India's commitment to maintaining robust ties with Russia, especially in light of recent diplomatic activities with China, reflecting India's strategic balancing in a complex geopolitical landscape.

India and Japan: Strengthening Strategic Ties Beyond Limits



20-Aug-25

The Indian Ambassador to Japan, Sibi George, highlighted the growing partnership between India and Japan, emphasizing their shared civilizational ties and strategic cooperation across various sectors, including defense. He noted that Prime Minister Modi's diplomatic efforts have significantly elevated India's global stature, especially showcased during the successful G20 Summit. Japan's increasing investment in India, with 1,500 Japanese companies operating there, reflects the strong economic bond and mutual benefits in navigating geopolitical challenges. George asserts that India, as a rising economic power, is positioned to contribute solutions to global issues, reinforcing its role as a pivotal player on the world stage.

PM Modi to Discuss India-China Ties with Wang Yi Amid Optimism



20-Aug-25

PM Modi's upcoming meeting with China's top diplomat Wang Yi reflects cautious optimism in the India-China relationship following years of tension post the 2020

Ladakh clashes. The talks aim to address border disengagement, troop reductions, and trade resumption amidst broader geopolitical shifts, particularly India's recalibration due to frictions with the U.S. While there are positive signs, such as cultural exchanges and troop withdrawals, fundamental issues like territorial disputes and China's support for Pakistan remain unresolved. Modi's dialogue with President Xi at the upcoming SCO meeting will be crucial in determining whether this rapprochement can lead to sustainable normalization or if it is merely a temporary pause in ongoing tensions.

Jaishankar Voices Concerns to Wang Yi on China's Brahmaputra Dam



20-Aug-25

During Wang Yi's visit to India, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar raised concerns over China's mega dam project on the Brahmaputra River, emphasizing the need for transparency and dialogue with downstream nations like India. The dam poses risks to water flow and could disrupt livelihoods in northeastern India, particularly Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. Jaishankar reiterated India's rights as a lower riparian state and its monitoring of the situation, highlighting the importance of consultations before such projects proceed. While discussing terrorism and regional issues, the dam issue emerged as a significant point of contention, underscoring the complexities in India-China relations.

ICG and Vietnam Coast Guard Enhance Cooperation at 6th Meeting



20-Aug-25

The 6th High-Level Meeting between the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the Vietnam Coast Guard (VCG) took place on August 20, 2025, in Hanoi, focusing on enhancing cooperation in areas such as Maritime Search and Rescue, Law Enforcement, Marine Pollution Response, and Capacity Building. Both sides emphasized tackling transnational maritime crimes and underscored the importance of joint pollution response mechanisms. The meeting, co-chaired by ICG's Additional Director General Anand Prakash Badola and VCG's Major General Vu Trung Kien, highlighted mutual trust and operational synergy, reinforcing their commitment to regional maritime security and safety. This collaboration reflects India's proactive approach in fostering maritime partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region.

India and Sri Lanka enhance naval cooperation with SLINEX-25. SHARE

20-Aug-25

India and Sri Lanka recently concluded the 12th edition of the naval exercise SLINEX-25, enhancing operational readiness and cooperation between their navies. The exercise, which took place off the coast of Colombo, featured various vessels and aircraft from both nations, highlighting their commitment to maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region. This bilateral engagement has been pivotal since its inception in 2005, fostering interoperability and best practice exchanges. The event underscores India's strategic focus on regional stability and mutual growth, affirming its role as a key player in the Indo-Pacific maritime landscape.

India and China unveil measures to enhance bilateral ties and development. SHARE

20-Aug-25

India and China have taken significant steps to improve their bilateral relationship, including measures to maintain peace along their border, resume trade, and enhance investment flows. These initiatives emerged from talks between Indian officials and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, aimed at rebuilding ties strained by past conflicts, notably the 2020 Galwan Valley clashes. Key outcomes include establishing expert groups for boundary delimitation and effective border management while emphasizing a political perspective on their relationship. This thaw in relations is crucial as both nations seek to realize their development potential amidst changing geopolitical dynamics, particularly concerning their ties with the United States.

Tharoor: Pakistan must act first for India-Pakistan normalization. SHARE

20-Aug-25

India's senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor emphasized that the responsibility to normalize relations with Pakistan rests on Islamabad, given its history of betrayal and failure to dismantle terror networks. He cited past outreach efforts by India that were met with hostility and highlighted the lack of accountability for the masterminds behind the 2008 Mumbai attacks. Tharoor noted that while India has shown restraint, provocations could lead to a shift in strategy, recalling successful reconciliations between historical adversaries like France and Germany. He argued that genuine efforts from Pakistan to curb terrorism could pave the way for improved ties, but India will not take the first step without such actions.

Military Operations

Indian Army Conducts Exercise to Boost Civil Cooperation in Assam SHARE

20-Aug-25

The Indian Army conducted 'Exercise Samanvay Shakti 2025' in Assam to enhance cooperation between military and civil authorities, including various state departments and institutions. This exercise, which emphasizes synergy in tackling regional challenges, aims to improve disaster management, healthcare, and infrastructure development, fostering trust between the population and its institutions. A concurrent exercise in Manipur will address similar community needs, reinforcing national integration and security preparedness. This initiative highlights the Indian Army's commitment to holistic security and development, showcasing its role in nation-building and strengthening bonds with local communities in sensitive regions.

Navy Chief Reviews Operational Readiness at Western Naval Command SHARE

20-Aug-25

Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi recently visited the Western Naval Command (WNC) in Mumbai to assess operational readiness and preparedness of its units. During his discussions with Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, he emphasized the Indian Navy's commitment to safeguarding India's maritime interests and commended the WNC for maintaining high operational standards. This visit highlights the Navy's ongoing efforts to enhance surveillance and operational capabilities in the Indian Ocean Region, ensuring a robust presence amidst evolving geopolitical dynamics. Such proactive measures are critical for India's maritime security and deterrence strategy in a strategically vital area.

Russia claims territorial gains in Ukraine's Dnipropetrovsk region. SHARE

20-Aug-25

Russian forces have reportedly advanced in Ukraine's Dnipropetrovsk region, capturing the village of Novoheorhiivka, as stated by Russia's defense ministry. They claim to control nearly 19% of Ukraine's territory, including Crimea, although U.S. estimates suggest limited control of Dnipropetrovsk. Additionally, Russian strikes targeted Ukrainian port infrastructure and a gas distribution station in Odesa. This situation highlights

the ongoing conflict dynamics and the complexities of territorial control, with Russia continuing its military operations despite international scrutiny and a lack of independent verification of its claims. The developments underline the strategic importance of regional control and the implications for Ukraine's military and economic capabilities.

Israel mobilizes reservists for new offensive in Gaza City.



20-Aug-25

Israel has called up tens of thousands of reservists in preparation for a new offensive targeting Gaza City, aiming to take control of the area despite international criticism. As the Israeli government weighs a ceasefire proposal, the military plans to conduct a precise operation against Hamas, which it claims has been significantly weakened. However, concerns about civilian casualties and displacement remain high, with many Gazans expressing despair over the ongoing conflict. Israeli public sentiment largely favors ending the war if it leads to the release of hostages, presenting a complex backdrop to the military's next moves and the potential for negotiations.

underscores India's commitment to safeguarding its military installations and sensitive information against foreign espionage efforts.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

Google warns of AI-driven prompt injections stealing passwords.



20-Aug-25

Google has issued a warning about a new cybersecurity threat involving AI-powered prompt injections, where hackers manipulate AI systems to steal user information, particularly targeting its AI assistant, Gemini. This technique, termed "indirect prompt injection," allows attackers to embed harmful prompts in benign content, deceiving AI into acting against its own protocols. As more users rely on AI for personal tasks, the risks of such sophisticated scams are increasing. Google is enhancing protective measures and advising users to remain vigilant against these evolving cyber threats that blend AI capabilities with malicious intent.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

30-year-old Pakistani spy suspect detained in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan



20-Aug-25

In recent developments in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan, a 30-year-old man named Jivan Khan was detained by military intelligence on suspicion of espionage for Pakistan. Khan, who had previously worked at a restaurant in a military area, attempted to regain entry into an Army station when he was apprehended. Following an examination of his mobile phone, several contacts linked to Pakistani nationals were discovered, leading to his handover to the Joint Interrogation Committee (JIC) for further questioning. This incident marks the fourth case of suspected espionage in Jaisalmer within a month, highlighting ongoing security concerns in the region. Earlier in August, a contractual manager at a DRDO guest house was arrested for allegedly passing sensitive information about military movements to the Pakistani intelligence agency, ISI. These arrests underscore the potential threats posed by espionage activities, particularly in border areas, and reflect India's proactive measures in countering such risks. The situation emphasizes the need for heightened vigilance among security agencies and

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Army Chief General Dwivedi and wife commit to organ donation



20-Aug-25

Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi and his wife, Sunita Dwivedi, have pledged to donate their organs after death, exemplifying a commitment to service and compassion that extends beyond their military duties. This pledge was made during an event in New Delhi, where Gen. Dwivedi emphasized that such an act of organ donation underscores the army's dedication to the welfare of society. He noted that India ranks second globally for organ transplants, with around 20,000 procedures conducted annually, and he urged youth and army officers to join this noble cause. The initiative aims to raise awareness about organ donation, which can save numerous lives, as organs from a single brain-dead donor can benefit up to eight individuals. Furthermore, updates in the National Organ Donation and Allocation Program will prioritize female patients and family members of donors, fostering a culture of organ donation in India. The event coincided with World Organ Donation Day, highlighting the critical need for donors in a country where many suffer due to a shortage of available organs. This campaign not only

seeks to provide lifesaving solutions but also reinforces the ethos of sacrifice and service that is central to the Indian Armed Forces.

Gahmar: Asia's largest village with every household in the Army.



20-Aug-25

Gahmar village in Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh, holds the distinction of being Asia's largest village, with a remarkable military tradition where every household has at least one member serving in the Indian Armed Forces. With a population estimated between 1.20 lakh to 2 lakh, the village boasts around 12,000 active military personnel and 15,000 ex-servicemen, reflecting a strong commitment to national service. This vibrant community not only honors its military heritage but also actively engages the youth in preparation for recruitment, showcasing a deep-rooted connection to the Indian Army. Gahmar exemplifies the spirit of patriotism and the importance of military service in rural India.

Eighth suspect arrested in brutal assault on Army jawan in UP



20-Aug-25

The Uttar Pradesh Police arrested the eighth accused in the brutal assault of Army jawan Kapil and his companions at a toll plaza in Meerut. The incident, which sparked widespread outrage and protests after a video went viral, involved toll employees attacking the jawan when he requested faster service. The Indian Army's Central Command condemned the attack and is pursuing justice, while the National Highways Authority of India penalized the toll agency and initiated contract termination proceedings. This incident underscores the need for greater protection and respect for armed forces personnel, especially in civilian contexts.

Miscellaneous

Maharashtra Floods Claim 21 Lives; Army and NDRF Responding



20-Aug-25

Heavy rainfall has wreaked havoc across Maharashtra, leading to significant flooding and the tragic loss of lives, with the death toll reaching at least 21 as of August 19, 2025. The worst-affected areas include Nanded and Marathwada, where thousands of villages have been inundated, and over 14 lakh acres of crops have been damaged. In response, the Indian Army's

Sudarshan Chakra Corps has been deployed for rescue operations, relocating affected families and providing humanitarian aid, including medical camps and food distribution points. Meanwhile, Mumbai faced severe disruptions, with local train services and flight operations affected by the relentless downpour, prompting officials to declare a red alert for further rains and mobilize the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) for continuous monitoring and support. The government's proactive measures, including the establishment of pumping stations and close coordination with military and civil agencies, reflect a comprehensive approach to managing the crisis and ensuring public safety amid challenging weather conditions.

NCERT launches modules on Operation Sindoor's valor and strategy.



20-Aug-25

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has introduced two educational modules titled "Operation Sindoor: A Saga of Valour" and "Operation Sindoor: A Mission of Honour and Bravery" to educate schoolchildren about India's strategic counter-terrorism capabilities following the tragic Pahalgam attack in April 2025, which claimed 26 lives. The modules emphasize the operation as a significant military success and a technological breakthrough, showcasing India's coordinated military response involving the Army, Air Force, and strategic command. The content highlights that the operation was a direct response to a conspiracy orchestrated by Pakistan's military leadership and aimed at instilling fear in India. It also underscores India's commitment to minimizing civilian casualties during the airstrikes, asserting that no civilian lives were lost. Furthermore, the modules illustrate India's self-reliance in defense technology and its evolving global stature. The narratives reinforce the message that India will take decisive action against terrorism while maintaining a principled stance in geopolitics. Overall, the initiative aims to instill national pride, awareness of defense preparedness, and an understanding of India's moral high ground in counter-terrorism efforts.

Rajnath Singh, CDS Gen Chauhan to lead tri-services seminar on tech in warfare.



20-Aug-25

The upcoming tri-services seminar 'Ransamwad 2025', scheduled for August 26-27 at the Army War College in Mhow, marks a significant step in India's defense

strategy, focusing on the impact of technology on warfare and the necessity for institutional reforms in military training. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan, and other top military officials will discuss lessons from recent operations, including the successful Operation Sindoor, which showcased India's capacity for rapid military action. This unique forum will exclusively feature serving officers, moving away from traditional panels often filled with veterans or diplomats, ensuring that current practitioners shape the discourse around future warfare. The seminar aims to foster jointness among the armed forces and will see the release of three unclassified joint military doctrines and the updated Technology Perspective and Capability Roadmap, signaling clear avenues for domestic defense industry investment. The event underscores India's commitment to evolving its military capabilities in response to emerging technologies and the dynamic nature of contemporary warfare, reinforcing its position as a leader in the regional security landscape.

India and China to Resume Direct Flights for Trade and Cooperation



20-Aug-25

India and China have agreed to resume direct flights and bolster trade and investment ties following a meeting on August 19, 2025, between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in New Delhi. This step seeks to mend relations strained by the 2020 Galwan Valley border clash and the COVID-19 pandemic, which halted air connectivity since early that year. Both nations plan to finalize an updated Air Services Agreement, ease visa processes for tourists, businesses, and media, and reopen border trade through Lipulekh, Shipki La, and Nathu La passes. Direct flights could restart within a month, coinciding with Modi's attendance at the SCO Summit in Tianjin starting August 31, 2025, amid bilateral trade exceeding \$131 billion in 2024.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
GOODLUCK	1005.0	1128.0	995.1	1098.7	1102455	10.01	56.67	1046.81	901.16
CENTUM	2670.0	2889.9	2660.0	2847.8	95951	6.48	78.16	2361.97	1914.28
AVANTEL	133.49	140.5	132.61	139.69	1859091	5.07	53.09	132.63	139.16
SWANDEF	372.0	372.2	372.0	372.2	950	4.99	99.99	243.58	37.15
TANEJAERO	409.95	416.35	391.1	416.35	12859	4.99	46.95	424.77	380.91
RELINFRA	279.95	288.6	277.6	288.6	907465	4.98	41.39	301.5	292.24
MACPOWER	800.0	844.9	800.0	824.2	12224	3.04	36.01	932.96	1058.1
TEMBO	575.0	607.0	562.0	599.9	71063	2.48	76.58	518.65	584.75
LMW	15240.0	15549.0	15172.0	15431.0	3865	2.23	49.63	15238.5	16037.35
APOLLO	199.5	208.0	199.45	202.83	9711414	2.11	68.04	181.77	137.96
KRISHNADEF	787.0	803.85	783.0	802.05	21250	2.1	44.67	805.18	752.28
PREMEXPLN	502.05	518.8	502.0	508.7	594125	1.73	55.06	467.25	466.7
CFF	633.0	643.9	627.85	641.4	26600	1.48	55.1	624.82	586.61
HIGHENE	598.0	629.85	598.0	624.4	6453	1.24	41.64	630.09	602.76
WALCHANNAG	184.7	187.8	182.5	185.77	55838	1.1	38.62	191.33	219.89
IDEAFORGE	458.95	469.8	458.85	464.1	169860	1.06	44.88	453.35	500.19
MAZDOCK	2748.0	2796.0	2722.0	2772.9	1220000	0.93	43.45	2772.38	2641.09
DATAPATTNS	2552.1	2578.5	2505.6	2560.3	222892	0.76	44.21	2595.01	2344.26
COCHINSHIP	1715.9	1732.4	1693.0	1713.8	566398	0.37	39.73	1734.45	1621.57
DYNAMATECH	6579.5	6689.0	6575.5	6604.5	6564	0.35	44.01	6684.8	7023.44
HAL	4600.0	4605.0	4460.0	4468.4	3108635	0.35	40.72	4524.32	4323.08
HBLPOWER	810.0	811.75	778.5	791.95	2960402	0.27	84.15	646.58	564.79
RTNINDIA	53.85	54.5	53.17	54.01	2341377	0.26	46.61	54.05	54.54
JYOTICNC	935.9	953.1	935.0	946.0	85781	0.22	40.46	982.46	1119.94
TECHERA	199.4	200.0	195.0	199.0	15200	0.08	47.85	202.69	178.94
PARAS	682.85	690.0	675.0	681.1	335115	0.05	44.0	682.17	608.89
MARINE	175.0	175.54	172.26	174.55	74123	0.0	39.33	178.52	209.84
ADANIENT	2380.0	2406.0	2372.1	2387.1	780025	-0.05	47.79	2391.0	2437.99
ROSSELLIND	68.55	68.55	66.93	67.28	17866	-0.07	47.42	67.21	71.66
ZENTEC	1428.3	1444.0	1415.6	1420.1	215503	-0.11	30.02	1526.84	1752.64
MIDHANI	397.95	402.2	394.0	396.55	208633	-0.11	46.79	397.52	347.54
SUNITATOOL	769.95	769.95	732.05	755.0	2000	-0.24	53.32	730.21	763.12
LT	3613.5	3619.9	3580.0	3592.3	1325096	-0.57	48.69	3596.95	3513.45
AZAD	1613.5	1628.9	1595.0	1603.5	112962	-0.63	56.17	1534.95	1575.0
BEML	4120.9	4170.0	4081.0	4090.2	169904	-0.74	48.57	4030.28	3715.48
DCXINDIA	248.55	253.2	246.2	246.7	296691	-0.74	37.6	258.31	295.55
AXISCADES	1179.7	1198.0	1146.9	1178.2	91150	-0.77	36.92	1288.47	893.17
SIKA	1172.2	1294.55	1172.2	1256.8	31565	-0.97	52.66	1206.0	766.03
PTC	192.01	192.01	189.5	189.94	682375	-1.08	55.25	186.21	167.08
MTARTECH	1522.0	1538.0	1492.0	1498.4	79050	-1.1	47.2	1496.98	1546.54
DRONACHRYA	79.99	79.99	77.0	77.0	26000	-1.22	48.66	75.35	90.45
BDL	1560.1	1570.0	1526.1	1529.5	1482051	-1.27	37.04	1588.96	1416.43
LOKESHMACH	205.1	208.0	202.1	203.45	18314	-1.36	49.16	205.27	234.29
GRSE	2618.0	2635.9	2553.0	2563.8	551570	-1.48	44.96	2581.64	2006.53
URAVIDEF	495.0	495.0	480.0	484.5	395	-1.52	42.94	497.48	452.48
ASTRAMICRO	1017.0	1020.4	990.0	993.75	189737	-1.59	49.75	978.4	847.79
SOLARINDS	14684.0	14719.0	14401.0	14463.0	83864	-1.61	41.87	14645.8	12228.72
BEL	383.9	384.3	371.1	371.85	20289349	-2.16	34.39	386.43	325.16
BHARATFORG	1194.4	1194.4	1157.0	1158.9	598367	-2.49	43.0	1177.19	1216.19
NIBE	1216.8	1227.9	1195.0	1200.55	12767	-2.97	24.62	1493.63	1496.99