



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

April 22, 2025 | Day 112

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
DATAPATNS	2130.1	1959.0	+8.73%
AZAD	1560.6	1470.7	+6.11%
SIKA	735.7	698.75	+5.29%
NIBE	1542.25	1468.85	+5.0%
LOKESHMACH	172.28	166.65	+3.38%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
DYNAMATECH	6475.5	6615.0	-2.11%
APOLLO	118.51	120.42	-1.59%
BDL	1409.9	1427.4	-1.23%
ROSSELLIND	74.89	75.77	-1.16%
DCXINDIA	270.92	273.84	-1.07%

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Pahalgam Terror Attack Claims 26 Lives; Leaders Unite Against Terrorism



22-Apr-25

On 22 April 2025, at approximately 1:00 PM IST, a group of heavily armed militants descended upon the Baisaran meadow- a remote alpine pasture five kilometers from Pahalgam in Anantnag district- and opened fire on tourists traveling on foot and horseback. Eyewitnesses described scenes of panic as visitors scattered amid the hail of bullets, leaving 26 people dead- including two foreign nationals- and injuring more than 40 others, who were airlifted and rushed to Srinagar's SMHS Hospital for emergency treatment. Security sources later revealed the assailants systematically checked identity documents before executing their victims, marking one of the rarest and deadliest attacks on civilians in Kashmir in recent years. Within hours, The Resistance Front (TRF), an offshoot of Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba formed in the aftermath of the 2019 abrogation of Article 370, claimed responsibility via encrypted social-media channels.

Intelligence reports indicate the militants infiltrated through the dense forests of the Kishtwar district- where Army patrols foiled multiple cross-border incursions in recent weeks- before slipping undetected into the Kokernag-Pahalgam corridor. Since its emergence in 2019, TRF has orchestrated numerous attacks across Kashmir- from the 2020 Handwara encounter that killed six security personnel to the 2021 Sopore IED blast that wounded a dozen civilians- underscoring its growing tactical sophistication and deep local roots. The Pahalgam massacre is the

deadliest civilian assault in the Valley since the Pulwama suicide bombing on 14 February 2019, which killed 40 CRPF troopers and triggered a major India-Pakistan military standoff. Although militancy had tapered off in recent years, tourists and pilgrims were struck in June 2024 when militants attacked an Amarnath Yatra bus in Reasi, killing nine Hindu pilgrims and injuring over 30 others. Pahalgam- renowned for its scenic beauty and as a gateway to the annual pilgrimage- had seen rising summer tourism, making this atrocity a stark reminder of enduring security gaps.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi- briefed mid-flight on his return from Saudi Arabia- condemned the atrocity as "barbaric" and vowed to bring the perpetrators to justice, while Home Minister Amit Shah arrived in Srinagar to chair a multi-agency security review and deploy additional CRPF rapid-reaction units. Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah lambasted the attackers as "inhuman" and urged tighter coordination between local police and army commands to seal infiltration routes. Opposition figures, joined international voices such as U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance in denouncing the carnage and calling for enhanced counterterrorism cooperation. An emergency helpline- 0194-2457543 and 0194-2483651- was established in Srinagar by the J&K Information & PR Department to assist affected tourists and families, while President Droupadi Murmu described the assault as "inhuman and unpardonable" and extended her condolences to the victims' loved ones. As security forces intensify patrols and operators suspend guided treks, the Pahalgam massacre underscores the urgent need to reinforce border intelligence, expand mountain-warfare training, and invest in advanced surveillance technologies to safeguard Kashmir's fragile peace and burgeoning tourism sector.

Pahalgam Terror Attack:Amit Shah Takes Charge in Srinagar



22-Apr-25

In the hours following the Pahalgam massacre, the central government and state authorities launched an expansive security and rescue campaign: Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a televised briefing with Home Minister Amit Shah, who immediately departed for Srinagar to convene a high-level security review with J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, the Union Home Secretary and intelligence chiefs. On landing, Shah was briefed by DG J&K Police Nalin Prabhat, after which he directed increased CRPF and local police patrols, while Anantnag Police established a 24/7 tourist helpline and road checks were intensified across Jammu, including an alert for Delhi Police to heighten monitoring of key sites. Militarily, Northern Army Commander Lt Gen MV Suchendra Kumar rushed in to coordinate operations, deploying Rashtriya Rifles units, army and air assets—including choppers for medical evacuation—to cordon forests and comb surrounding valleys in a manhunt for the attackers. Meanwhile, security was stepped up nationwide with Mumbai Police bolstering checks and J&K forces conducting joint cordon-and-search missions, sealing potential infiltration routes. Central agencies, including the IB and CRPF, were tasked with rapid intelligence sharing, and compensation and assistance were promised to victims' families by both the Centre and state governments.

Bangladeshi man caught infiltrating India at Indo-Nepal border



22-Apr-25

A 32-year-old Bangladeshi national, Pradeep Kumar Roy, was arrested at the Indo-Nepal border in Uttar Pradesh while attempting to illegally infiltrate India without the necessary visa and passport. The Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) apprehended him in the Nichloul area, and investigations are underway to determine any potential links to criminal activities. This incident highlights ongoing challenges in border security and the importance of vigilance by Indian forces. The legal proceedings against Roy reflect India's commitment to maintaining national security and addressing illegal immigration effectively.

FBI's Arrest of Terror Suspect Harpreet Singh Bolsters Indo-US Cooperation



22-Apr-25

FBI Director Kash Patel announced the arrest of Harpreet Singh, a gangster-turned-terrorist linked to the Pakistan-backed Khalistani group Babbar Khalsa International, in the US, marking a significant step in international counterterrorism efforts. Singh, wanted for orchestrating grenade attacks in Punjab and connected to ISI operations, was captured in Sacramento on April 17, 2025, after evading authorities with burner phones and encrypted apps. The successful operation resulted from close cooperation between the FBI and Indian law enforcement, underscoring improved Indo-US relations in combating terrorism. Punjab police hailed this arrest as a major win against ISI-backed networks, reinforcing a strong commitment to dismantle terrorism threatening both countries' security.

Defense Business and Industry

US VP Vance Calls for Enhanced Trade and Defense Ties with India



22-Apr-25

US Vice-President JD Vance urged India to enhance market access and increase purchases of American energy and defense hardware, emphasizing the potential for stronger bilateral ties. During his visit, PM Modi expressed anticipation for President Trump's upcoming trip, highlighting the alignment of the US's MAGA initiative with India's Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. Vance's discussions with Modi and National Security Adviser Doval focused on the urgency to negotiate a bilateral trade agreement amidst recent tariff changes, marking a critical moment for India's trade dynamics with the US. While Vance's visit is seen as a positive signal for advancing negotiations, significant hurdles remain around tariffs and market access, particularly concerning agriculture, requiring careful navigation to avoid domestic backlash and successfully deepen cooperation in defense and trade.

Indian Army to spend Rs 85K crore on arms procurement for 2024-25



22-Apr-25

The Indian Army is set to embark on a significant procurement spree, finalizing contracts worth Rs 85,000 crore for 2024-2025, with a focus on self-reliance and

indigenous production. Out of this budget, Rs 35,000 crore, marking a staggering 152% increase from the previous year, has been utilized, with an impressive 95% sourced from domestic vendors. This historic spending is expected to enhance operational preparedness while also driving economic growth, job creation, and industrial development in line with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative. The emphasis on indigenous defense manufacturing not only aims to reduce reliance on foreign imports but also fosters a robust domestic defense ecosystem, indicating a strategic shift towards self-sufficiency and capability enhancement for India's military forces.

CARACAL and ICOMM Launch Advanced Arms Manufacturing in Hyderabad



22-Apr-25

CARACAL, a UAE small arms manufacturer, has inaugurated a state-of-the-art small arms manufacturing facility in Hyderabad in collaboration with ICOMM, marking the first-ever technology transfer of defense articles from the UAE to India. This facility will produce advanced weapons, including assault rifles, sniper rifles, and submachine guns, catering to the Indian Armed Forces and global export markets. The initiative underscores India's commitment to self-reliance in defense production under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India initiatives, with both partners emphasizing their dedication to enhancing Indian military capabilities and boosting local manufacturing expertise. This partnership is poised to strengthen India's role as a significant global defense hub.

ROSOBORONEXPORT to Showcase Advanced Weapons at SITDEF PERU 2025



22-Apr-25

ROSOBORONEXPORT will showcase its latest military and civilian equipment at the SITDEF PERU 2025 exhibition in April 2025, highlighting a range of advanced Russian weaponry, including fighter jets, armored vehicles, and unmanned systems. The event aims to strengthen ties with Peru, a key partner in Latin America, and discuss joint projects, including the establishment of a maintenance center for Mi series helicopters. Additionally, ROSOBORONEXPORT will present solutions for disaster response, emphasizing their effectiveness in real-world operations. This initiative underscores Russia's commitment to enhancing military cooperation and technological partnerships in the region, which could influence the

regional defense landscape in favor of Russian capabilities.

KNDS, Rheinmetall, and Thales Launch MGCS Project Company



22-Apr-25

The establishment of the MGCS Project Company GmbH by KNDS, Rheinmetall, and Thales marks a significant milestone in the Franco-German armaments initiative aimed at developing a new multi-platform ground combat system to replace existing tanks by 2040. With the appointment of Colonel Stefan Gramolla as Managing Director, the company will spearhead the next phase of the MGCS project, consolidating key technological aspects and preparing for contract negotiations with the German Federal Office. This initiative reflects a strategic partnership between France and Germany in defense capabilities, which may influence regional security dynamics and NATO's collective strength, underscoring the importance of collaborative defense projects in Europe.

Indian Army's SATCOM RPAs Transform Border Surveillance Efforts



22-Apr-25

The Indian Army is enhancing its border surveillance capabilities with SATCOM-enabled Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPAs), which significantly improve real-time monitoring and situational awareness along India's borders. These advanced drones, equipped with high-resolution sensors and secure communication networks, provide persistent surveillance, crucial for countering infiltration and terrorism, particularly along the Line of Control and Line of Actual Control. The initiative aligns with India's push for technological self-reliance in defense, with many systems being developed domestically by the DRDO and private partners. Future plans include expanding the RPA fleet and integrating AI for improved threat detection, ensuring a robust response to evolving security challenges.

Indian Delegation Visits Rolls-Royce to Enhance AMCA Engine Collaboration



22-Apr-25

A high-level Indian delegation visited Rolls-Royce in the UK, signaling potential collaboration on India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program. The discussions highlighted Rolls-Royce's advanced capabilities in aero engines critical for the AMCA's fifth-generation requirements, particularly the need for a

high-performance engine to enhance the Indian Air Force's air superiority. This engagement aligns with India's Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, promoting indigenous defense capabilities while deepening strategic ties with the UK under the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. The collaboration could address India's current reliance on foreign engines, paving the way for innovative military and civilian aerospace advancements.

BEML Partners with DRDO to Develop Armoured Vehicle and ATGM

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22-Apr-25

Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) is set to develop a Wheeled Armoured Fighting Vehicle (WhAFV) and an Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) in collaboration with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) under the Buy (Indian-IDD) initiative. This endeavor aims to enhance the Indian Army's operational capabilities, particularly amid ongoing tensions along the LAC with China and the LoC with Pakistan. The WhAFV will feature advanced mobility, protection, firepower, and electronics, ensuring a versatile and lethal platform in various combat scenarios. By inviting technology partnerships, BEML reinforces India's commitment to indigenous defense production, aligning with its Atmanirbhar Bharat vision and bolstering self-reliance in defense capabilities.

Pakistan's Hopes for Chinese Sixth-Gen Fighters Dashed by Export Ban

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22-Apr-25

Recent reports indicate that Pakistan's aspirations to acquire Chinese sixth-generation fighter jets have been dampened as Chinese sources confirm these advanced aircraft will not be exported, similar to the J-20 stealth fighter. Despite excitement in Pakistani media following high-level talks in Beijing, Chinese officials emphasized that these jets are strategic assets meant for the People's Liberation Army Air Force. Consequently, Pakistan will have to rely on the less advanced J-35A jets and its existing fleet, which may hinder its ability to effectively counter India's growing air superiority, particularly as India progresses with its Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program and strengthens its defense partnerships. The Sino-Pakistani defense relationship, while solid, faces constraints due to China's export policies.

CRPF to Retry Trials for 200 Sniper Rifles Post-Court Ruling

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22-Apr-25

The CRPF will conduct new trials for 200 sniper rifles and 20,000 rounds of .338 Lapua Magnum ammunition following a Delhi High Court ruling that favored Bengaluru-based SSS Defence, which challenged the procurement process due to alleged unfair practices by competitors. This retrial emphasizes fairness in defense procurement and aligns with India's push for indigenous manufacturing. The court's decision reinforces the need for compliance with tender specifications, ensuring all bidders are evaluated on equal footing. The outcome is crucial for enhancing the CRPF's counter-insurgency capabilities and showcases SSS Defence's significant role in India's growing defense sector, particularly in sniper rifle development.

India Chooses TEDBF Over Naval AMCA Due to Costs and Challenges

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22-Apr-25

India is prioritizing the development of the Twin Engine Deck-Based Fighter (TEDBF) over a naval version of the 5th-generation Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) due to technical challenges and cost considerations. The TEDBF, a "5-Minus Class" fighter, is tailored for aircraft carrier operations with improvements in structural durability and reduced stealth features, aiming for effective maritime capabilities. While it is expected to address India's immediate naval air power needs by 2034, concerns linger about its long-term competitiveness against developing global 5th-generation naval platforms. The decision reflects a balanced approach to enhance self-reliance while addressing practical operational requirements amidst evolving strategic dynamics.

DRDO Develops Airborne Laser Weapon to Counter Ballistic Threats

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22-Apr-25

India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is developing a megawatt airborne laser weapon system aimed at countering tactical ballistic missile threats, representing a significant leap in defence technology. This system, expected to engage targets over 500 kilometres away, will enhance India's multi-layered defence architecture alongside existing ground-based missile defence systems. The initiative reflects a global trend towards directed energy weapons, with operational benefits from its mobility and high-altitude engagement capabilities. Despite engineering challenges, including power generation and

cooling, this project is expected to commence after the completion of a 300kW DEW project, demonstrating India's commitment to advancing its defence capabilities against regional threats.

IAF Seeks 40 Rafale Jets from France, Boosts Tejas Program

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22-Apr-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is pursuing the direct acquisition of 40 Rafale fighter jets from France to enhance its operational capacity, addressing its current shortfall in fighter squadrons. This move, while expediting delivery through a government-to-government agreement, raises questions about the stalled Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) program aimed at local production and technology transfer. Concurrently, the IAF is advancing its indigenous Tejas fighter program, with plans for additional Mk1A units and the upcoming Mk2 model expected to bolster capabilities by 2028-29. This strategy reflects India's intention to diversify defense sources and reduce reliance on Russian equipment amid geopolitical shifts.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

Indian Navy's 200-ship Fleet Goal at Risk Due to MoD's Bias

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22-Apr-25

The Indian Navy aims to expand its fleet to 175-200 warships by 2035 to secure maritime interests amidst rising Chinese naval activities. However, the Ministry of Defence's preference for state-owned shipyards is hindering this goal, limiting opportunities for private shipbuilders who possess advanced capabilities. Reports indicate that private firms receive only a small fraction of naval contracts, despite their potential for innovation and efficiency. Experts advocate for a more balanced approach to shipbuilding contracts, emphasizing that fostering private sector involvement aligns with initiatives like "Make in India," essential for enhancing India's maritime defence and strategic position in the Indian Ocean.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Kremlin open to discussing Zelenskiy's ceasefire proposal amid ongoing attacks.

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22-Apr-25

Russia has expressed a willingness to discuss Ukrainian President Zelenskiy's proposal for a ceasefire concerning attacks on civilian infrastructure, highlighting the complexity of differentiating military and civilian targets. However, recent drone attacks on Odesa by Russia, which resulted in multiple injuries and civilian damage, indicate that hostilities continue unabated, undermining the prospect of peace talks scheduled in London. Despite a declared unilateral ceasefire by Moscow, Ukraine reported over 2,900 violations, complicating the diplomatic landscape. As both nations prepare for an upcoming military campaign, the path to a resolution appears increasingly tenuous, with geopolitical pressures mounting on both sides to demonstrate progress towards ending the conflict.

Completion of MNDF Huravee refit strengthens India-Maldives ties

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22-Apr-25

The Indian Navy has completed a significant refit of the Maldivian Coast Guard Ship MNDF Huravee at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai, enhancing India-Maldives defense cooperation as part of the MAHASAGAR vision aimed at regional maritime security. The ship, which plays a crucial role in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, underwent extensive maintenance, upgrades, and rigorous testing before its return to the Maldives. This accomplishment underscores India's commitment to being a reliable partner in regional security, reflecting the strong diplomatic and military ties between India and the Maldives, and reinforces the effectiveness of India's Neighbourhood First policy in fostering stability and collaboration in the Indian Ocean region.

Modi's Saudi Visit: Strengthening Defense Ties with F-15 Escort

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22-Apr-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Saudi Arabia highlighted the strengthening defense cooperation between the two nations, marked by Saudi F-15 jets escorting Modi's aircraft. The Prime Minister emphasized the mutual trust underpinning their

relationship, noting India's commitment to regional stability and shared security interests, including counterterrorism and cybersecurity. Modi expressed satisfaction that India has met some needs of the Saudi armed forces and encouraged private-sector collaboration in defense manufacturing. Additionally, he acknowledged the vital energy partnership and the role of the Indian diaspora in Saudi Arabia. This visit reflects India's strategic intent to deepen multifaceted ties with Saudi Arabia, reinforcing their position as valued partners in addressing regional challenges.

Israeli President urges India to enhance strategic ties through IMEC



22-Apr-25

Israeli President Isaac Herzog has called for India to strengthen bilateral ties, particularly through the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), which he views as transformative for global geopolitics. The IMEC, announced during India's G20 presidency, aims to enhance connectivity from India to Europe, fostering collaboration in areas such as agriculture, IT, and defense. Herzog and India's Ambassador to Israel, J P Singh, emphasized the strategic partnership that has thrived during crises, while also addressing concerns about Iran's nuclear ambitions. This cooperation reflects India's role as a pivotal player in regional stability and international connectivity.

India's Naval Expansion Sends Strong Signal to China and Pakistan



22-Apr-25

India is enhancing its naval capabilities in response to China's expanding presence in the Indian Ocean, highlighted by the construction of the new INS Varsha base and upgrades to the Karwar naval base. With investments in advanced nuclear submarines like the INS Aridhaman and a focus on self-reliance, India aims to secure vital trade routes and ensure regional stability against threats from China and Pakistan. This naval buildup, set to peak by 2026, not only strengthens India's deterrence but also showcases its commitment to becoming a dominant maritime power, reinforcing its geopolitical standing through collaborations like the Quad.

US Commander Urges Strong Alliances to Counter China's Threats



22-Apr-25

Admiral Samuel Paparo, the US Indo-Pacific Command chief, warned of China's escalating military modernization and aggressive behavior, particularly its

threats towards Taiwan and regional allies. He emphasized China's rapid advancements in military capabilities, such as hypersonic technology and a growing nuclear arsenal, which pose challenges to US interests and regional stability. The admiral highlighted the importance of a strong partnership with India for countering these threats and promoting security in the Indo-Pacific. Paparo's remarks underline the urgent need for enhanced military readiness and cooperation among allies to deter Chinese aggression and maintain strategic stability in the region.

India's Role as a Key Supply Chain Partner with the US Grows



22-Apr-25

Former Indian envoy Taranjit Sandhu emphasized India's growing role as a reliable partner in global supply chains, particularly in light of its strong economic performance and its proven track record during the COVID-19 pandemic, where it supplied essential medicines worldwide. The recent Supply Chain Resilience Agreement under the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, with India as Vice-chair alongside the US, aims to bolster resilience in key sectors. Sandhu noted that trade challenges should be viewed as opportunities for deeper engagement, reinforcing the strategic partnership between India and the US, driven by shared goals in economic growth and technological innovation. This positions India favorably in a competitive global landscape.

PM Modi: India-US Partnership Key to 21st Century Progress



22-Apr-25

PM Modi highlighted the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership as pivotal for the 21st century, emphasizing cooperation in defense, technology, trade, and energy. The recent discussions underscored mutual commitments to enhance economic ties through a Bilateral Trade Agreement and address regional and global issues via dialogue and diplomacy. The partnership is strengthened by cultural exchanges, reflecting deepening people-to-people connections. With the anticipation of President Trump's visit coinciding with India's hosting of the Quad Summit, this strategic alliance is set to shape a prosperous and stable future, marking significant progress in international relations for both nations.

Taiwan's DronesVision Reaffirms No Deal with Pakistan, Strengthening Ties with India



22-Apr-25

Taiwan's DronesVision denied any collaboration with a Pakistan military-backed firm, clarifying adherence to strict export regulations that prohibit dealings with certain nations, including Pakistan. This response underscores Taiwan's strategic alignment with India amid rising tensions with China. The speculation regarding a potential deal surfaced due to Pakistan's interest in DronesVision's combat UAVs, notably the Revolver 860, which India has already procured to enhance its border security capabilities against Pakistan. This clarification strengthens Indo-Taiwanese defense ties, reflecting a shared commitment to countering Chinese influence and enhancing regional security through advanced drone technology.

India's Nuclear Capability: Potential for 1,000+ Warheads



22-Apr-25

Recent assessments, including a 2023 report by the International Panel on Fissile Materials, indicate India could produce between 130 to 210 nuclear warheads from its estimated 680 kg of weapon-grade plutonium. However, Pakistani researchers project a potential capacity of up to 492 weapons, with theoretical estimates suggesting India could leverage its reactor-grade plutonium for up to 2,686 warheads. This highlights India's strategic nuclear capabilities amidst regional tensions, with the ongoing development of fast breeder reactors enhancing its fissile material stockpile. India's nuclear strategy revolves around deterrence, particularly against Pakistan and China, while maintaining a no-first-use policy, emphasizing its commitment to responsible nuclear governance in a complex geopolitical landscape.

Military Operations

Historic Victory: Security Forces Eliminate 8 Naxals in Jharkhand



22-Apr-25

In a significant encounter in Jharkhand's Bokaro district, security forces neutralized eight Naxals, including three high-profile leaders such as Prayag Manjhi alias Vivek, who had a bounty of Rs 1 crore. This operation, involving the CRPF's elite CoBRA unit and state police, marks a historic achievement as it is the

first time a Naxal leader of Central Committee Member rank has been eliminated in Jharkhand. The forces recovered a substantial cache of weapons, and no casualties were reported among security personnel. Union Home Minister Amit Shah praised the operation, highlighting the ongoing commitment to eradicating Naxalism in India, which has seen a total of 93 Naxals neutralized in 2025 alone, part of a broader strategy that has led to the elimination of 178 Naxals from 2020 to 2024. This development underscores the effectiveness of coordinated security operations in combating insurgent threats.

Israeli Strikes in Gaza Kill 14, Hinder Rescue Efforts



22-Apr-25

Israeli airstrikes in Gaza have resulted in the deaths of at least 14 Palestinians, predominantly women and children, while also destroying crucial equipment needed for rescue and recovery efforts. The ongoing offensive has raised concerns over the humanitarian situation, with Israel maintaining its military actions in response to Hamas's previous attacks that claimed numerous Israeli lives. Additionally, strikes in Lebanon have targeted militants, reflecting Israel's broader regional security objectives. The conflict emphasizes the complex interplay of military strategy and humanitarian consequences, underscoring the need for a sustainable resolution that addresses both security and humanitarian concerns in the region.

Indian Navy Wraps Up Successful AIKEYME Exercise in Tanzania



22-Apr-25

The Indian Navy's successful AIKEYME exercise, co-hosted with the Tanzania Peoples Defence Force, marks a significant advancement in India's maritime cooperation with African nations. Held from April 13 to 18, 2025, this multilateral event involved 11 countries and focused on enhancing operational coordination through various training drills. The exercise aligns with India's strategic frameworks like SAGAR and MAHASAGAR, fostering regional stability and addressing maritime security challenges. By showcasing Indian defense products and facilitating joint training among special forces, AIKEYME reinforces India's commitment to building robust partnerships in the Indian Ocean Region, ultimately promoting peace and security in the maritime domain.

CAF Soldier Killed in IED Blast by Maoists in Chhattisgarh

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22-Apr-25

In a tragic incident in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district, CAF soldier Manoj Pujari, aged 26, was martyred due to an IED explosion planted by Maoists while he was part of a patrol team safeguarding road construction meant to benefit local villagers. This cowardly act reflects the ongoing threat posed by Maoist insurgents, who frequently use such tactics to target security forces. The incident underscores the challenges faced by Indian security personnel, who risk their lives to maintain peace in affected areas. Authorities have condemned this attack and emphasized ongoing efforts to combat Maoist activities, reaffirming their commitment to ensuring safety and stability in the region.

BSF Thwarts Attempted Border Crossing in Kutch, Gujarat

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22-Apr-25

The Border Security Force (BSF) successfully thwarted an individual's attempt to cross the India-Pakistan border in Gujarat's Kutch district. The suspect, Mohammad Sameer from Bihar, was apprehended near a border outpost after reaching the zero point close to the international boundary. Following his arrest, he was transferred to local police for further interrogation, which involved the special operations group and intelligence bureau officials. This incident underscores the vigilance of the BSF in safeguarding India's borders against unauthorized crossings and highlights the ongoing challenges posed by cross-border migration and security threats in the region.

India Enhances Border Security with Advanced Surveillance Tech

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22-Apr-25

India is enhancing its border security with Pakistan through advanced surveillance technologies, including human-detection radars and seismic sensors as part of the Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS). This initiative addresses infiltration and smuggling threats, utilizing tools like thermal imaging and ground-penetrating radars, while also focusing on real-time monitoring and rapid response. The Border Security Force is deploying anti-drone systems and improving surveillance in sensitive areas, contributing to a broader strategy that includes recent advancements in missile technology. This technological escalation reflects India's commitment to securing its

borders amidst ongoing regional tensions and Pakistan's alleged sponsorship of terrorism.

Four militants arrested in Manipur; arms seized and vehicles recovered.

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22-Apr-25

Four militants were arrested in Manipur in two operations over 48 hours, with police recovering significant arms, including a .32 pistol, a 7.62 SLR rifle, and various IED-making materials. Additionally, two kidnap victims were rescued, highlighting the proactive measures by security forces. The state police also conducted a special drive that led to the recovery of 16 stolen vehicles and the removal of tinted glasses from 36 others. This operation underscores the ongoing commitment of Indian security forces to combating militancy and restoring law and order in the region, enhancing public safety and security amidst rising threats.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Indian Army Officers Enhance Logistics Skills at Gati Shakti

Vishwavidyalaya

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22-Apr-25

Twenty senior and mid-level Indian Army officers are participating in a five-day executive training program at Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, focusing on the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan and National Logistics Policy. This initiative, part of a MoU signed in September 2022, aims to enhance logistics efficiency and integrate modern infrastructure planning tools within the Army. Major General Mohit Trivedi emphasized the importance of aligning defense logistics with national growth and preparedness. This program supports India's vision of Viksit Bharat by equipping the armed forces with advanced operational capabilities, indicating a proactive approach to modernizing military logistics and infrastructure management.

USMA Cadets Visit IMA, Strengthening India-US Defense Ties

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22-Apr-25

A delegation from the United States Military Academy (USMA) visited the Indian Military Academy (IMA) in Dehradun as part of a cadet exchange programme, emphasizing the strengthening defense ties between India and the US. The visit included joint training

exercises, cultural exchanges, and insights into both academies' training methodologies, fostering cross-cultural learning and collaboration on global security challenges. Such initiatives not only enhance military cooperation but also exemplify India's commitment to engaging with international partners. The interactions between cadets reflect a mutual understanding essential for addressing contemporary security issues, paving the way for future collaborations and deeper bonds between the two nations' armed forces.

environments while also emphasizing the importance of upholding law and order.

Ramban cloudburst: Chenab river floods, Army aids recovery efforts



22-Apr-25

A recent cloudburst in Ramban district, Jammu and Kashmir, triggered severe flash floods and landslides, significantly impacting local infrastructure and causing at least three fatalities. The overflowing Chenab river, which expanded dramatically from 46 to 109 meters, led to extensive damage in 10-12 villages, including Seri and Bagna. In response, the Indian Army swiftly mobilized to provide essential supplies, medical care, and shelter to stranded residents along National Highway 44, collaborating with civil authorities to restore access. The Divisional Commissioner confirmed ongoing assessments of the damage and emphasized the commitment of various agencies, including the SDRF and NDRF, to mitigate the disaster's effects and support affected communities, highlighting the effectiveness of emergency response protocols in place.

PM Modi Mourns Pope Francis, Honors His Legacy of Service



22-Apr-25

Pope Francis, the 266th leader of the Catholic Church, passed away on April 21, 2025, after suffering a cerebral stroke, which led to a coma and cardiocirculatory collapse, exacerbated by a history of health issues. His death has prompted a period of official mourning, with a conclave planned for the College of Cardinals to elect his successor. Prime Minister Modi expressed condolences, highlighting the Pope's transformative impact and commitment to inclusivity, particularly resonant in India, where he aimed to visit post-2025. Modi's sentiments echo the global acknowledgment of Pope Francis's legacy of humility and service, marking the end of a significant era in the Catholic Church as it transitions to new leadership while reflecting on the Pope's advocacy for the poor and marginalized.

Modi and US VP Finalize Terms for Bilateral Trade Agreement



22-Apr-25

Prime Minister Modi and US Vice President announced the finalization of the Terms of Reference for a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) aimed at enhancing trade and supply-chain integration between India and the US, fostering economic growth and job creation. This move

Miscellaneous

IAF's Surya Kiran Team to dazzle Patna with air show on April 22-23



22-Apr-25

The Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team (SKAT) of the Indian Air Force will perform an exhilarating air show in Patna on April 22-23 to commemorate Shaurya Diwas, celebrating the valor of freedom fighter Babu Veer Kunwar Singh. This event marks the SKAT's debut performance in Patna, attracting thousands of spectators along the banks of the Ganga. High-profile attendees will include Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. To manage the expected crowds and traffic, authorities have implemented special parking zones and traffic regulations, ensuring a smooth experience for all attending the grand display of aerial prowess that underscores India's rich military heritage and community engagement.

Bengaluru road rage: IAF officer Shiladitya Bose faces murder charge



22-Apr-25

A road rage incident in Bengaluru involving Indian Air Force officer Wing Commander Shiladitya Bose has escalated into serious allegations, with Bose accused of attempt to murder following a public fistfight with call center employee Vikas Kumar. The altercation occurred as Bose was on his way to a medical emergency, and both parties have made counter-accusations, with CCTV footage corroborating the claims of assault against Bose. Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah condemned the allegations made by Bose against Kannadigas as unfounded, defending the dignity of the local culture while ensuring that legal action will be taken against any offenders. The IAF has stated that it is cooperating with local authorities in the investigation. This incident highlights the need for respectful discourse in multicultural

follows a positive dialogue between Modi and President Trump, reinforcing the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership. The BTA seeks to address the trade deficit while promoting military cooperation and strategic technologies. Both leaders emphasized the importance of diplomacy amidst global trade tensions, setting the stage for a meaningful and mutually beneficial trade deal that aligns with India's vision of "Amrit Kaal" and America's "Golden Age."

Kailash Mansarovar Yatra Restarts June 30 After 5-Year Hiatus [SHARE](#)

22-Apr-25

The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra is set to resume on June 30 after a five-year hiatus caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Organized by the Uttarakhand government and the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, the pilgrimage will see 250 devotees divided into five groups entering China via the Lipulekh Pass. Each group will undergo health checks before their journey, which includes several stops in Uttarakhand. This yatra holds immense religious significance for Hindus, who believe that visiting Mount Kailash and Lake Manasarovar leads to spiritual salvation, highlighting India's commitment to facilitating this sacred pilgrimage despite geopolitical challenges.

Air India Seizes Opportunity to Acquire Rejected Boeing Jets [SHARE](#)

22-Apr-25

Air India is looking to acquire Boeing 737 Max planes rejected by Chinese airlines due to ongoing U.S.-China trade tensions, as it urgently needs aircraft for its revival and to compete against IndiGo. This opportunity could allow Air India to secure up to 50 planes, potentially enhancing its low-cost subsidiary Air India Express. However, delays in deliveries and retrofitting challenges may impede its growth. The situation underscores how geopolitical factors are reshaping the aviation market, providing Air India with strategic advantages amidst global supply chain disruptions, while simultaneously posing challenges for Boeing in reconfiguring aircraft for new customers.

IMF Warns Trump's Tariffs Could Stifle U.S. Economic Growth [SHARE](#)

22-Apr-25

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) warns that President Trump's tariff policies will significantly harm global economic growth, particularly impacting the U.S., which is forecasted to grow only 1.8% in 2025. The IMF attributes the downgrade in the U.S. growth forecast to

heightened trade tensions and policy uncertainty, predicting inflation could rise to 3% this year. They emphasize that sustained tariffs will have long-term negative effects on all regions, underscoring the importance of free trade for economic stability. The IMF's outlook highlights the need for clarity in trade policies to mitigate risks and foster growth, aligning with sentiments expressed by European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde.

Indian Army Launches River Yoga Campaign to Clean Gomti River [SHARE](#)

22-Apr-25

The Indian Army's Territorial Division has initiated the River Yoga Campaign along the Gomti River in Lucknow, running from April 21 to June 21, 2025, culminating on International Yoga Day. Organized by the 137 Composite Ecological Task Force Battalion in collaboration with local institutions, the campaign promotes environmental awareness through yoga sessions and cleanliness drives, engaging participants from diverse backgrounds. Major Kanwardeep Singh Nagi emphasizes the initiative's broader goal of fostering ecological mindfulness and collective action. This campaign exemplifies the Army's commitment to community well-being while reinforcing the interconnectedness of spirituality, social responsibility, and environmental conservation.

RBI mandates banks to shift to .bank.in domain for security by 2025 [SHARE](#)

22-Apr-25

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has mandated that all banks transition their net banking websites to the exclusive '.bank.in' domain by October 31, 2025, to enhance cybersecurity and mitigate online fraud. This initiative aims to strengthen public confidence in digital banking by reducing phishing attacks and providing a secure, identifiable online banking environment. The Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT) will assist banks in this migration process. This strategic move underscores the RBI's commitment to fortifying the financial sector's cybersecurity framework amidst rising digital fraud incidents, thereby ensuring safer digital banking for consumers.

US VP Vance Lauds Akshardham Temple's Hospitality and Heritage [SHARE](#)

22-Apr-25

US Vice President JD Vance, during his official visit to India, began by touring the Akshardham Temple in New

Delhi, where he praised its intricate architecture and the hospitality of the Indian people. Accompanied by his family, Vance engaged deeply with the temple's spiritual ambiance, highlighting its significance as a symbol of India's heritage. His visit, which also includes meetings with Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discuss strengthening economic and defense ties, marks a crucial step in enhancing the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership. This cultural exchange underscores the importance of mutual respect and collaboration between the two nations, reinforcing India's role as a key partner in global affairs.

PM Modi Hosts US VP JD Vance, Strengthening Bilateral Ties



22-Apr-25

US Vice President JD Vance's recent visit to India, welcomed by PM Modi, emphasized strengthening bilateral ties, particularly in energy, defense, and strategic technologies. The discussions included advancements towards a potential India-US Bilateral Trade Agreement, aiming to enhance economic engagement and mutual welfare. Vance's family enjoyed cultural experiences, reflecting the warm hospitality between the two nations. This visit signifies the ongoing commitment to deepening the strategic partnership amidst global trade and security challenges, reinforcing India's position as a crucial ally for the US. Enhanced cooperation in defense indicates a shared vision for stability in the region, showcasing India's growing influence on the international stage.

India and Saudi Arabia Boost Investments Ahead of PM Modi's Visit



22-Apr-25

India and Saudi Arabia convened a meeting of the High-Level Task Force on Investments, co-chaired by key officials from both nations, to bolster bilateral economic ties ahead of Prime Minister Modi's visit. The discussions focused on facilitating investments across various sectors, with commitments from India to support \$100 billion in Saudi investments. Areas of collaboration include energy, telecommunications, and advanced manufacturing, aligning with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. The establishment of an office for Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund in India and ongoing technical discussions signal a deepening strategic partnership, reflecting both nations' commitment to sustained high-level engagement and economic cooperation.

Google Warns U.S.: Breaking Up Could Harm National Security



22-Apr-25

Google is currently defending its business practices in a pivotal antitrust trial, asserting that breaking up the company could jeopardize U.S. national security and technological leadership against China in the AI race. The Justice Department is advocating for severe penalties, including the divestiture of Google's Chrome browser, claiming it stifles competition. Google argues that these measures would undermine innovation, raise cybersecurity risks, and lead to higher consumer costs. The trial's outcome, set to conclude on May 9, could significantly impact the tech industry and America's stance in the global technological competition, highlighting the delicate balance between regulation and innovation.

Survey Shows Preference for Foreign Ties Over Atmanirbharta in Defense



22-Apr-25

A recent Takshashila Institution survey reveals a preference among Indians for international collaborations over the government's Atmanirbharta initiative, particularly in defense technologies. While 45.4% favor partnerships with the US and 20.5% with Israel, the private sector's inclination towards "screwdriver giri"—assembling imported kits—risks hindering indigenous R&D efforts. Despite high-profile contracts, reliance on foreign technology stifles innovation and undermines the goal of self-reliance, as underlined by the slow development of key projects like the AMCA. The survey calls for a balanced approach, advocating co-development with proven partners while emphasizing the need to foster local innovation to enhance India's defense capabilities.

Trainee Pilot Dies in Gujarat Aircraft Crash Post-Takeoff



22-Apr-25

A trainee pilot tragically lost his life when a trainer aircraft from a private aviation academy crashed in a residential area of Amreli district, Gujarat. The incident occurred shortly after takeoff from Amreli airport, with the aircraft reportedly hitting a tree before crashing onto an open plot, which fortunately prevented additional casualties. Local authorities, including Amreli Superintendent of Police Sanjay Kharat, have initiated investigations to determine the cause of the crash, while fire teams effectively managed the subsequent blaze. This incident underscores the risks associated

with flight training and highlights the need for stringent safety protocols within aviation academies in India.

Bangladesh Denies India's Claims of Minority Persecution After Hindu Leader's Death



22-Apr-25

Bangladesh has dismissed India's allegations that the killing of Hindu leader Bhabesh Chandra Roy reflects systematic persecution of minorities, with officials asserting the government protects all citizens regardless of religion. Roy was reportedly abducted and beaten to death over a financial dispute, according to his family, who have filed a police complaint against identified suspects. Bangladesh's authorities are conducting an investigation, insisting the autopsy revealed no clear signs of injury. India's External Affairs Ministry condemned the incident, calling on Bangladesh to uphold minority rights, highlighting ongoing concerns about the safety of Hindu minorities in the country amidst broader geopolitical sensitivities.

Mahindra XUV300 with 'Ex-Balakot Air Strike Team' Tag Goes Viral, Sparking Pride and Security Concerns



22-Apr-25

A Mahindra XUV300 featuring the tag 'Ex-Balakot Air Strike Team' has gone viral, igniting admiration and

concern on social media. While many users applauded the homage to the 2019 Balakot air strike, which was a significant retaliatory action by the Indian Air Force against terrorism, there are apprehensions regarding the potential security risks of publicly displaying such affiliations. Experts emphasize the importance of operational security for veterans, arguing that pride must be balanced with discretion. The incident underscores the complexity of honoring military service while remaining vigilant about safety in a landscape where threats persist.

5,000 Join Inaugural Soldierathon to Honor Brave Soldiers



22-Apr-25

Over 5,000 participants gathered at the Army Hospital (R&R) in New Delhi for the inaugural Soldierathon, a tribute to Indian Armed Forces heroes aimed at fostering community spirit and national pride. The event featured various race categories, promoting inclusivity while raising funds for the Paraplegic Rehabilitation Centre in Pune, which aids injured soldiers. Flagged off by notable military leaders, the event underscored a collective commitment to support those who serve the nation selflessly. This initiative not only celebrates military valor but also strengthens the bond between civilians and the armed forces, reinforcing the importance of solidarity in honoring their sacrifices.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
ROSSELLIND	75.64	77.0	74.0	74.89	36084	-1.16	58.46	67.64	220.66
NIBE	1540.0	1542.25	1490.0	1542.25	35160	5.0	76.82	1160.09	1618.2
ASTRAMICRO	814.0	834.0	808.85	831.35	353068	3.11	76.61	711.56	787.03
DATAPATNS	1965.0	2148.7	1962.0	2130.1	4297678	8.73	76.53	1757.56	2372.73
PREMEXPLN	393.45	401.0	390.2	396.65	123143	1.3	60.1	366.73	494.14
HIGHENE	500.0	504.9	492.2	495.75	4469	-0.32	53.08	490.4	623.95
LT	3280.0	3285.0	3248.0	3257.8	2060322	-0.69	48.59	3318.24	3533.06
MAZDOCK	2780.0	2820.0	2750.0	2755.4	2232292	-0.33	62.18	2602.1	2304.83
MARINE	209.0	217.0	207.02	209.69	502208	0.49	67.13	178.24	226.74
PARAS	1055.0	1089.0	1040.15	1061.25	453412	0.88	62.51	994.66	1089.03
MIDHANI	296.9	299.9	292.05	294.25	331516	-0.57	58.17	280.41	357.04
DCXINDIA	278.49	281.99	268.0	270.92	1115346	-1.07	63.29	238.86	322.34
BEML	3147.0	3222.0	3125.3	3171.8	409528	1.31	60.32	3001.02	3736.04
AVANTEL	132.58	135.76	129.08	133.85	868175	1.89	67.48	117.96	-
MTARTECH	1429.0	1443.9	1404.0	1428.5	55899	0.63	59.56	1341.53	1642.37
GRSE	1748.0	1757.9	1730.0	1734.1	794520	-0.35	62.93	1679.44	1721.54
BHARATFORG	1094.2	1112.2	1085.4	1103.6	698419	0.86	52.94	1100.37	1361.15
TANEJAERO	298.65	298.65	298.65	298.65	819	2.0	47.94	308.05	445.06
SOLARINDS	12601.0	12898.0	12529.0	12834.0	86725	2.88	80.55	11293.37	10432.31
ADANIENT	2458.9	2483.4	2441.0	2445.5	766567	0.11	60.8	2351.49	2678.5
APOLLO	121.0	122.64	117.79	118.51	4966788	-1.59	50.59	119.15	110.66
BDL	1429.5	1439.2	1405.0	1409.9	909037	-1.23	64.76	1325.69	1229.98
SIKA	705.0	754.45	705.0	735.7	68885	5.29	75.85	624.88	531.39
CFF	503.45	503.45	503.45	503.45	1400	2.0	65.29	455.11	631.89
BEL	301.0	304.75	299.75	303.35	11962358	1.13	63.31	292.14	289.81
HBLPOWER	525.0	543.8	524.15	531.25	1877412	1.5	60.95	494.79	571.18
PTC	181.0	182.1	179.05	179.77	1247863	0.03	69.32	167.46	178.58
LOKESHMACH	0.0	172.28	170.53	172.28	11499	3.38	49.04	153.15	339.34
COCHINSHIP	1494.9	1508.9	1472.6	1488.9	1174127	0.11	61.34	1428.34	1695.86
KRISHNADEF	811.6	827.65	792.0	821.05	44500	1.16	67.9	716.18	702.22
ZENTEC	1484.8	1489.7	1451.0	1460.0	214679	-1.02	54.5	1451.06	1710.01
IDEAFORGE	372.0	375.95	365.85	370.1	154682	0.37	52.24	360.09	586.21
HAL	4328.0	4338.9	4272.0	4286.0	1224641	-0.54	65.26	4137.72	4301.68
AZAD	1474.9	1573.0	1462.8	1560.6	507607	6.11	65.19	1390.17	1550.16
LMW	16027.0	16335.0	15885.0	16162.0	2864	1.11	60.44	15620.38	15928.3
WALCHANNAG	202.99	203.0	196.01	197.76	484493	-0.75	61.56	172.15	269.84
DYNAMATECH	6640.0	6719.5	6457.5	6475.5	13460	-2.11	53.63	6309.48	7246.19