



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

July 23,2025 | Day 204

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
MACPOWER	1050.1	939.65	+11.75%
SWANDEF	306.25	291.67	+5.0%
AXISCADES	1443.1	1374.4	+5.0%
GOODLUCK	1102.5	1077.3	+2.34%
COCHINSHIP	1870.7	1840.1	+1.66%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
IDEAFORGE	500.9	544.95	-8.08%
TEMBO	499.8	542.8	-7.92%
JYOTICNC	1031.6	1057.4	-2.44%
URAVIDEF	507.6	519.4	-2.27%
AVANTEL	144.74	147.74	-2.03%

Defense Business and Industry

Panel urges quicker induction of fighter jets and refuellers for IAF



23-Jul-25

India is accelerating efforts to modernize the Indian Air Force as its fighter strength declines to 31 squadrons—well below the sanctioned 42.5—amid the upcoming retirement of the MiG-21 fleet by September 2025. A high-level panel has pushed for urgent induction of new fighters, mid-air refuellers, and AEW&C systems. In response, the government is set to approve a ₹67,000 crore deal for 97 Tejas Mk-1A jets, with the first squadron arriving at Nal Airbase by September 2025 and production scaling up to 16 jets annually. The Defence Acquisition Council has cleared key procurements, including foreign mid-air tankers, while also fast-tracking indigenous projects like the AWACS system and the AMCA fifth-generation stealth fighter, expected to fly by 2029. These steps are part of broader defense reforms aimed at cutting procurement delays and enhancing private sector participation in military modernization.

Indian Navy Hosts Seminar on Shipbuilding for National Growth



23-Jul-25

The Indian Navy is hosting a one-day Shipbuilding Seminar in New Delhi focused on "Nation Building through Shipbuilding," aimed at fostering discussions among key stakeholders, including the Government, shipyards, industry representatives, and academia. The seminar will address various policy issues and challenges that the Indian shipbuilding industry faces in

delivering ships that meet global standards. Notably, this event commemorates the historic milestone of the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau delivering its 100th indigenously designed warship, Udaygiri, solidifying the significance of self-reliance in defense capabilities. The discussion will also center on exploring futuristic technologies being adopted worldwide, emphasizing the crucial role of shipbuilding in national defense and security. By enhancing the shipbuilding sector, India aims to stimulate technological innovation, bolster national industries, and generate employment, thereby contributing to long-term economic growth and stability. The initiative aligns with India's vision of achieving self-reliance in defense, reinforcing the country's strategic military capabilities while also supporting micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and the broader industrial ecosystem. The seminar embodies a pivotal step toward strengthening India's maritime capabilities and advancing its defense industry.

Uttam AESA Radar Flight Trials for Tejas Mk1A Delayed by Engine Shortage



23-Jul-25

The upgraded Uttam AESA Fire Control Radar (FCR) awaits flight trials on the Tejas Mk1A, hindered by a shortage of General Electric F404 engines, which has delayed testing and recertification due to enhancements in avionics and an increased T/R module count. HAL has produced nine Tejas Mk1A aircraft currently dedicated to testing the interim Israeli ELM-2052 radar, with expectations for Uttam trials to commence by mid-2026. This situation underscores India's push for self-reliance in defense technology while facing challenges in balancing indigenous development with foreign dependencies, particularly as geopolitical tensions impact global supply chains.

Cochin Shipyard Invests ₹50 Crore in Maritime Innovation Initiatives



23-Jul-25

Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) is advancing maritime innovation through its USHUS program, investing ₹50 crore to support start-ups in areas such as unmanned aerial vehicles, underwater navigation, and port automation. The recent Ushus Sangamam exhibition showcased these innovations, which are being evaluated for integration into DRDO projects, aligning with India's Maritime India Vision 2030. CSL's initiative emphasizes collaboration between government, academia, and industry, fostering a sustainable start-up ecosystem in Kochi. By extending its focus beyond traditional shipbuilding, CSL is enhancing India's maritime capabilities and contributing to national defense and technological transformation in maritime sectors.

Prime Toolings Launches Agnira: India's Next-Gen Artillery System



23-Jul-25

Prime Toolings has launched the Agnira Solid Fuel Ramjet Artillery, revolutionizing India's artillery capabilities with its unprecedented range of up to 45 km and supersonic speed of Mach 23. This advanced munition significantly enhances the Indian Army's firepower while ensuring compatibility with existing 155mm artillery systems, thus modernizing capabilities without extensive modifications. The Agnira's solid fuel propulsion system enhances logistic efficiency and safety, allowing for rapid, precise strikes on high-value targets while minimizing vulnerability to counter-battery fire. Overall, the Agnira positions India among the leaders in advanced munitions technology, reinforcing its strategic defense posture.

Türkiye Unveils Tayfun Block 4, Spurs India to Accelerate BrahMos-II



23-Jul-25

Türkiye has introduced its first hypersonic ballistic missile, the Tayfun Block 4, at IDEF 2025, marking a significant development in its defense capabilities. Weighing 2,300 kilograms with a range of 800 kilometers, this advancement positions Türkiye among the few nations possessing hypersonic missile technology. In response, India is actively developing the BrahMos-II in collaboration with Russia, targeting speeds of Mach 7-8. This competition in hypersonic technology underscores the necessity for India to enhance its own capabilities to maintain a strategic

edge in the region, reinforcing its commitment to addressing evolving defense challenges effectively.

IAF to Equip MiG-29UPG Jets with DRDO's HSLD Mk-II Bomb



23-Jul-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is enhancing its strike capabilities by integrating the indigenously developed High Speed Low Drag (HSLD) Mk-II precision-guided bomb into its MiG-29UPG fighter jets, marking an important step towards self-reliance in defense manufacturing. This integration involves modifications such as custom bomb racks and upgraded avionics, ensuring enhanced accuracy and effectiveness in precision strikes against strategic targets. With increasing regional threats, particularly from Pakistan and China, the addition of the HSLD Mk-II complements existing munitions and underscores the IAF's commitment to modernizing its capabilities while reducing reliance on foreign suppliers.

Indian Navy Plans to Acquire LCA-Navy Trainers for Pilot Training



23-Jul-25

The Indian Navy is considering the procurement of eight indigenous LCA-Navy Trainer aircraft to enhance pilot training for carrier operations, filling a vital gap in domestic training capabilities. Despite progress being hindered by delays in finalizing configurations and completing naval-specific tests, the Navy remains committed to fielding these trainers to prepare aviators for carrier-based operations. The LCA-Navy Trainer, positioned as a successor to the BAE Hawk AJT, will enable pilots to gain essential hands-on experience with STOBAR operations, crucial for transitioning to frontline jets like the MiG-29K and Rafale-M. This initiative reflects India's focus on self-reliance in defense and the development of indigenous capabilities.

Indian Navy pursues Land-Based Ghatak UCAV for Maritime Use



23-Jul-25

The Indian Navy is pursuing a land-based variant of the Ghatak Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (UCAV) for enhanced maritime operations, focusing on anti-ship capabilities and ISR missions from coastal airbases. Developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), the Ghatak is a stealth platform optimized for low radar cross-section and powered by an indigenous engine. While awaiting Cabinet approval for full-scale development, the Navy aims to adapt the

UCAV for maritime roles to monitor threats in the Indian Ocean Region. The initiative reflects India's strategic push to bolster its naval defenses, particularly in response to regional challenges posed by China and Pakistan.

India's 6th Gen Unmanned Fighter Jet Design Ready, Says Tejas Chief SHARE

23-Jul-25

Dr. Kota Harinarayana, chief designer of the Tejas fighter jet, announced that India is technologically ready to develop a sixth-generation unmanned fighter jet with a flying wing design, highlighting progress with scale models and advancements in aerodynamic control. This development appears linked to the Ghatak UCAV program, which aims for a stealthy, autonomous strike platform. While uncertainties remain regarding the direct evolution of this design into a sixth-gen fighter, the acknowledgment signifies India's ambition to be at the forefront of advanced aerial combat systems. With the AMCA program set for production by the mid-2030s, India is positioning itself among global leaders in modern defense technologies.

US Adopting Russian Military Innovations, Claims Defense Executive SHARE

23-Jul-25

US tank modernization efforts are attracting attention after Oleg Yevtushenko, executive director of Russian defense conglomerate Rostec, accused the US of adopting innovations pioneered by Russia. Central to this claim are the "cope cages"—metal mesh and protective structures first deployed by Russian armored vehicles in 2021, designed to guard against drone strikes and top-attack munitions. After initial skepticism, similar defensive measures have now been reported on US Abrams tanks, reflecting a broader trend of global militaries integrating passive and thermal signature-reducing technologies. This week, US defense sources confirmed that upcoming upgrades for Abrams tanks will include such coatings and further protective enhancements, in line with lessons drawn from recent conflicts. Additionally, US Army modernization programs have accelerated, with contracts awarded for development of advanced armor and active protection systems, aiming to field the next-generation M1E3 Abrams by 2027. The rising threat of drone warfare has also led the Pentagon to fast-track adoption of microwave weapons and expanded drone defense initiatives, underscoring the increasingly fluid exchange of military technology on the world stage.

Amber Wings Becomes First Indian Firm to Certify ATVA-1 Drone SHARE

23-Jul-25

Amber Wings, a Chennai-based aerospace startup, has achieved a significant milestone by securing DGCA Type Certification for its ATVA-1 cargo drone, marking it as the first Indian company to receive such certification for a hybrid drone designed for commercial operations. This advancement is poised to revolutionize last-mile logistics in India, enabling efficient, autonomous deliveries across sectors like e-commerce and healthcare. The certification highlights the potential of India's drone industry, projected to exceed ₹5,000 crore by 2030, while aligning with the government's Make in India strategy. Amber Wings is on track to enhance its product lineup, exemplifying India's growing capabilities in the global drone technology ecosystem.

GTRE Secures Funding for Kaveri Engine to Power Ghatak UCAV SHARE

23-Jul-25

The Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) has secured fresh funding to advance its Kaveri Derivative Engine (KDE), aimed at powering India's Ghatak Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (UCAV). With a dry thrust of 49 kN, the KDE is positioned for deep-strike missions and aims to reduce India's reliance on foreign technology. The program's success hinges on integrating the KDE into a Limited Series Production Tejas aircraft for rigorous flight testing, essential for certification by 2026. While challenges remain, such as high-stress maneuver performance and timely certification, this development marks a significant step toward enhancing India's defense capabilities and strategic autonomy in aerial technology.

GSL Launches Indigenous Pollution Control Vessel Samudra Prachet SHARE

23-Jul-25

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) launched the indigenous Pollution Control Vessel Samudra Prachet, the second of two vessels built by Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL), on July 23, 2025. With 72% indigenous content, this vessel enhances India's maritime environmental preparedness and showcases significant contributions to local employment and skill development. Equipped with advanced oil spill recovery technologies, it can efficiently respond to environmental crises in the Exclusive Economic Zone. The event highlighted the commitment to Aatmanirbharta in defense production, emphasizing India's growing self-reliance in critical

maritime capabilities, further strengthening national security and environmental stewardship.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

India, UK to Discuss Cross-Border Terrorism During Modi's Visit

 SHARE

23-Jul-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to the UK will focus on sharing views regarding cross-border terrorism, particularly following the US designation of The Resistance Front (TRF) as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation, highlighting its ties to the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). This designation, welcomed by India, reflects the growing cooperation between India and the US in counter-terrorism efforts. The TRF's involvement in the deadly Pahalgam attack that claimed 26 civilian lives underscores the urgent need for global collaboration against terrorism. India remains committed to zero tolerance towards terrorism and aims to strengthen partnerships to hold terrorist organizations accountable for their actions.

India Extends Ban on Pakistani Aircraft Until August 23, 2025

 SHARE

23-Jul-25

India has extended its ban on Pakistani aircraft entering its airspace until August 23, 2025, reflecting ongoing security concerns and strategic considerations following Pakistan's similar restriction on Indian flights. The decision is linked to a large-scale Indian Air Force exercise scheduled in Rajasthan, aimed at countering recent drone and missile intrusions from Pakistan. This preemptive measure, encapsulated in a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM), is designed to safeguard civilian air traffic during military operations and prevent potential civilian casualties, underscoring India's proactive stance in maintaining airspace security amidst regional tensions.

India and Maldives Discuss Free Trade Agreement Amid Strong Ties

 SHARE

23-Jul-25

India and the Maldives are advancing discussions for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) amidst deepening bilateral ties, with annual trade nearing USD 500 million and significant Indian investments across various Maldivian sectors. This renewed momentum in negotiations comes in the wake of the Maldives' FTA with China, which raised concerns in New Delhi regarding its

strategic and economic influence in the region. India continues to play a vital role in stabilizing the Maldives' economy through comprehensive financial assistance, including a nearly fully utilized USD 400 million currency swap line and ongoing support through treasury bill subscriptions. The partnership is marked by significant development cooperation, encompassing key projects such as the Greater Male Connectivity Project and a focus on capacity building, particularly in defense and maritime security. High-level engagements, including Prime Minister Modi's upcoming visit as Guest of Honour for the Maldives' 60th Independence Anniversary, reinforce the resilience of their relationship, which has weathered recent diplomatic tensions. This multifaceted approach underscores India's commitment not only to the Maldives' stability but also to fostering regional security and prosperity in the Indian Ocean, positioning both nations as pivotal partners in navigating future challenges.

Israel's UN envoy blames Hamas for Gaza crisis, criticizes UN

 SHARE

23-Jul-25

Israel's UN Ambassador, Danny Danon, criticized the UN for perceived bias against Israel, arguing that Hamas is responsible for the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. He claimed international pressure on Israel stems from a propaganda campaign by Hamas, which disrupts aid distribution and blames Israel for the suffering. Danon emphasized the need for the UN to demand the release of hostages held by Hamas, asserting that military operations will continue until they are freed. He denounced the UN and Red Cross for what he termed a failure to uphold moral standards, arguing that a ceasefire requires Hamas to release the hostages.

Pakistani Expert Warns of India's 7,500-kg Bunker Buster Missile

 SHARE

23-Jul-25

India's rapid progress in developing a 7,500-kg Agni-V bunker buster missile has intensified concerns across Pakistan, especially following the heightened military tensions after Operation Sindoor in early July 2025 and renewed cross-border hostilities. The missile, under development by India's Defence Research and Development Organisation, is set to carry a conventional warhead capable of penetrating 80 to 100 meters underground, aiming to destroy fortified command centers, missile silos, and nuclear storage sites. This advanced weapon, modeled to parallel the United States' recent use of bunker-buster bombs in Iran, is viewed as a transformative upgrade in India's

conventional arsenal, offering hypersonic speeds of up to Mach 20 and a range of approximately 2,500km. Pakistani defense analysts have publicly voiced alarm, warning that such a powerful, fast, and ambiguous missile system heightens the risk of nuclear miscalculation in any crisis, given its use of ballistic platforms traditionally associated with nuclear payloads. With both nations on alert, the region faces renewed strategic instability, and experts predict a likely acceleration in Pakistan's own missile and nuclear programs to counter the perceived shift in deterrence.

Houthi Attack on Vessel Disrupts Red Sea Shipping Routes



23-Jul-25

A deadly escalation in the Red Sea unfolded after Houthi rebels attacked the Greek-operated Liberian-flagged vessel Eternity C near Hodeidah on July 7, 2025, leading to the ship's sinking and several crew casualties and abductions. This incident, coupled with the sinking of the Magic Seas just days prior, has ended a short period of tranquility in the region and re-intensified fears over the safety of global shipping lanes. Major shipping firms have diverted vessels away from the Suez Canal, a critical artery for world trade, instead routing around Africa's Cape of Good Hope. These detours have extended transit times by 10-15 days, escalated freight rates, and raised war-risk insurance premiums to near 1% of vessel value. The disruption has amplified logistical pressures on industries such as automotive and agriculture, fueling heightened congestion at major ports and equipment shortages. The United States and EU repeatedly condemned the attacks, urging for the release of detained crew. With Red Sea security still precarious and no viable return to the Suez route in sight for 2025, global shippers—especially those from India—are reassessing maritime strategies to maintain supply chain resilience.

India-UK Free Trade Agreement Finalization Ahead of Modi's Visit



23-Jul-25

The ongoing legal vetting of the India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is nearing completion ahead of Prime Minister Modi's visit to the UK, as highlighted by High Commissioner Vikram Doraiswami. This crucial phase, essential for finalising the agreement, reflects the strengthening partnership between India and the UK, particularly in sectors like business and technology. Modi's visit aims to explore deeper cooperation and review bilateral ties with UK Prime Minister Keir

Starmer. The anticipated FTA signifies a promising step towards enhanced economic and strategic relations, underscoring the importance of collaboration between the two nations in the evolving global landscape.

PM Modi's UK Visit to Strengthen India-UK Bilateral Ties



23-Jul-25

Prime Minister Modi's upcoming visit to the UK is set to significantly enhance bilateral ties, focusing on the formal signing of the India-UK Free Trade Agreement, which aims to eliminate tariffs on 99% of Indian exports. This visit highlights deepening defense cooperation through joint exercises and technology agreements, alongside robust economic relations with bilateral trade reaching \$55 billion. The agenda also includes discussions on security, extradition of fugitives, climate change, and healthcare collaboration. Modi's engagement with King Charles III will further reinforce high-level diplomatic ties, marking a transition towards a multifaceted partnership that positions both nations to navigate global challenges effectively.

US Withdraws From UNESCO Citing Anti-Israel Bias and Interests



23-Jul-25

The U.S. has announced its withdrawal from UNESCO, citing a misalignment with national interests, particularly focusing on alleged anti-Israel bias and the promotion of divisive agendas. This marks the third withdrawal since its founding membership in 1945, reflecting long-standing frustrations over the organization's direction. UNESCO's Director-General expressed regret, emphasizing the organization's efforts against antisemitism and its potential for fostering international cooperation. The withdrawal could significantly impact U.S. participation in global educational and cultural initiatives, highlighting the ongoing debate over the role of multilateral engagement and the ideological divides influencing American foreign policy.

Military Operations

Pakistan's Ababeel Missile Fails Again, Undermining Deterrence



23-Jul-25

Pakistan's nuclear deterrence strategy faced a fresh setback after its Ababeel medium-range ballistic missile suffered another failed test on July 20, 2025.

The test, closely monitored by international intelligence, ended with the missile crashing near Dera Bugti in Balochistan, raising safety and security concerns among local communities. The Ababeel, touted as Pakistan's first missile capable of carrying Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicles (MIRVs), is intended to counter India's expanding missile defense shield. However, recurring technical issues—ranging from propulsion and guidance failures to unresolved MIRV deployment capability—underscore Pakistan's struggle to demonstrate credible second-strike capacity. These failures come on the heels of India's successful Agni-V MIRV test in March 2024, which reinforced India's strategic position in the region. Sources indicate that, despite significant Chinese technological support and official claims of development progress, Pakistan continues to face hurdles in warhead miniaturization and missile reliability. With mounting resource constraints and increasing international scrutiny, analysts suggest Pakistan may need to reassess its nuclear posture as repeated Ababeel failures risk undermining its deterrence against India.

IAF to Form First Tejas Mk1A Squadron at Nal Airbase in Sept 2025



23-Jul-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is advancing its modernization plans by set to establish its first Tejas Mk1A squadron at Nal Airbase in September 2025, following the delivery of two jets from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). This initiative aims to enhance India's air defense capabilities along its western borders, addressing the critical need for increased operational fighter squadrons, as current strength stands at around 30 against an authorized 42.5. The government is in the final stages of awarding a significant ₹67,000 crore contract for 97 Tejas Mk1A aircraft, building on a previous order for 83 jets worth ₹48,000 crore. The upgraded Mk1A variant features advanced technologies such as AESA radar and enhanced electronic warfare systems, essential for operational readiness. Despite facing challenges, including delays in the supply of critical F404 engines and the certification of new systems, the initiative aligns with the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative to boost domestic defense manufacturing involvement from over 500 MSMEs. This procurement strategy, alongside plans for mid-air refuelers and AEW&C systems, reflects India's commitment to bolster its aerial capabilities and defense self-sufficiency in response to evolving regional threats, ultimately strengthening the IAF's operational readiness.

BSF forms drone squadron for enhanced border security post-Operation Sindoor.



23-Jul-25

The Border Security Force (BSF) is establishing a new drone squadron for deployment along the India-Pakistan border, following insights gained from Operation Sindoor, which targeted terrorist bases in Pakistan. This initiative, prompted by recent drone attacks from Pakistan, will enhance surveillance and operational capabilities with various reconnaissance and attack drones. The BSF is also fortifying its defenses against potential UAV threats by strengthening bunker structures and collaborating with defense research agencies for counter-drone measures. Union Home Minister Amit Shah highlighted the operation's success in dismantling over 118 Pakistani posts, underscoring India's proactive stance in addressing border security challenges.

USAF Cobra Ball Monitors Pakistan's Failed Missile Test in Arabian Sea



23-Jul-25

On July 22, 2025, a U.S. Air Force RC-135S Cobra Ball reconnaissance aircraft carried out a surveillance mission over the Arabian Sea to monitor Pakistan's latest missile activity. The mission coincided with the test of the Ababeel missile, a medium-range ballistic missile touted for its MIRV capability, which once again failed during flight, with debris reportedly crashing near Dera Bugti in Balochistan. The RC-135S, based at Offutt Air Force Base, is equipped with sophisticated sensors designed to track ballistic missile activity, gathering vital real-time data on trajectory and performance. This deployment underscores continuing U.S. vigilance regarding Pakistan's missile development, especially amid persistent reliability issues plaguing the Ababeel program and rising India-Pakistan tensions. While Pakistani authorities initially claimed success, independent reporting and eyewitness accounts confirmed significant technical failure, intensifying concerns over the operational readiness of Pakistan's deterrent forces. The event has reaffirmed the strategic importance of intelligence monitoring in South Asia and heightened alertness in India, as regional security dynamics are increasingly shaped by evolving missile capabilities and surveillance efforts.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

India Condemns Pakistan for Terrorism at UNSC Meeting SHARE

23-Jul-25

At a recent UN Security Council session, India launched a scathing rebuke of Pakistan for its continued sponsorship of terrorism, citing the April 2025 Pahalgam attack that claimed 26 civilian lives. Indian Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish asserted that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and denounced Pakistan as a nation gripped by religious extremism, economic turmoil, and chronic dependency on international bailouts. Defending India's suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, Harish described it as a proportionate and non-escalatory response to Pakistan's persistent cross-border aggression. He framed India as a stable democracy and rising economic power with a zero-tolerance approach to terrorism, while dismissing Pakistan's attempts to internationalize the Kashmir issue as baseless and diversionary. Meanwhile, Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar accused India of treaty violations and pressed for a resolution of Kashmir under UN resolutions. The charged exchange exposed deep divisions, with India firmly rejecting Pakistan's narrative and asserting its sovereignty, seeking to rally global support against terrorism while countering Islamabad's diplomatic maneuvering.

Search Operation Intensifies in Kishtwar to Locate Terrorists SHARE

23-Jul-25

Security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district have escalated a joint operation between the police, Army, CRPF, and Special Operations Group to locate a terror cell believed to include two high-value Hizbul Mujahideen militants with rewards of ₹30 lakh each. After a brief firefight in the Khankoo/Cherji forest zone—between Dachhan and Nagseni—the cordon was reinforced with helicopters, drones, sniffer dogs, and night-vision-capable commandos conducting continuous 24-hour operations to prevent extremist escape through rugged forest canopies. Reinforcements have sealed off all likely egress routes, and intelligence indicates 40–50 terrorists, mainly Pakistani nationals, remain active south of the Pir Panjal range. This aggressive posture—occupying high ground, expanding search perimeters, and using advanced surveillance—is designed to deny militants

sanctuary. In recent months, the region has seen multiple successful security encounters, including the elimination of a Jaish-e-Mohammed commander and several operatives during coordinated anti-terror sweeps in April and June, underscoring the effectiveness of India's layered counterterrorism strategy. Official sources emphasize that this sustained approach, combining intelligence, manpower, and technology, reflects a resolute commitment to rooting out cross-border terrorism, securing the region, and maintaining strategic advantage over insurgent networks in Kishtwar's challenging terrain.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

US Nuclear Agency Hacked via Microsoft SharePoint: Report SHARE

23-Jul-25

The U.S. National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) was reportedly breached in a hack involving Microsoft's SharePoint document management software, according to a Bloomberg News report. While the breach did not compromise any sensitive or classified information, it raises significant concerns about cybersecurity, especially for agencies responsible for national security. The incident highlights vulnerabilities in critical infrastructure and the need for enhanced cybersecurity measures, particularly in the defense sector. As India invests in strengthening its own cybersecurity frameworks and defense capabilities, this breach serves as a reminder of the importance of safeguarding sensitive information in an increasingly interconnected global landscape.

Microsoft failed to patch critical SharePoint flaw, sparking cyber attacks. SHARE

23-Jul-25

A sweeping wave of cyberattacks has intensified against organizations worldwide after Microsoft's failure to fully patch a critical vulnerability in its SharePoint server software, initially uncovered at a Berlin hacking competition in May. The flaw, tracked as CVE-2025-53770, remained exploitable even after Microsoft issued a partial fix earlier this month, prompting attackers to rapidly target on-premises SharePoint servers across government, industrial, healthcare, and financial sectors. Over the past weekend, security researchers warned that the tally of affected organizations surged from around 100 to nearly 400, with experts emphasizing that actual numbers may be even higher. At least three China-

linked hacking groups—Linen Typhoon, Violet Typhoon, and Storm-2603—have been implicated in leveraging this so-called “ToolShell” exploit chain to gain unauthorized access, steal sensitive data, and maintain persistence even after patching. Microsoft released emergency updates between July 19 and July 22 to close newly discovered bypasses, but analysts warn that multiple actors are still actively exploiting the flaw, heightening concerns over the effectiveness of traditional patching in the face of persistent, state-sponsored threats.

Gmail users warned: AI scam risks password theft silently



23-Jul-25

A recent warning from Google alerts 1.8 billion Gmail users about a sophisticated scam that exploits its AI assistant, Gemini, to steal passwords. Cybercriminals are embedding invisible prompts in emails that trick Gemini into generating fake security alerts, leading users to disclose sensitive information. Experts recommend that users remain vigilant, avoid trusting Gemini's summaries, and consider using passkeys for better security. Mozilla's security team discovered this exploit, and while Google has acknowledged the issue, it has not yet fully resolved the vulnerability, underscoring the ongoing risks of cyberattacks targeting personal accounts.

Chinese State Hackers Target Microsoft SharePoint Vulnerabilities



23-Jul-25

Chinese state-sponsored hackers are exploiting critical vulnerabilities in Microsoft SharePoint servers to steal sensitive data, as revealed by Microsoft. The attacks, involving groups like Linen Typhoon and Violet Typhoon, highlight a concerted effort to target organizations in North America and Western Europe, focusing on intellectual property and espionage. Microsoft has released security updates and stressed the urgency for users to apply them, indicating ongoing risks as the vulnerabilities allow attackers to execute remote code. This incident underscores the persistent cybersecurity threats emanating from state actors and the necessity for robust defense mechanisms to safeguard sensitive information in the digital landscape.

Fake Video Claims India Lost S-400 System Amid Tensions



23-Jul-25

A manipulated video claiming that Lieutenant General Rahul R Singh, Deputy Chief of Army Staff, admitted to

India losing its S-400 air defense system amidst tensions with Pakistan has gone viral on social media. This misinformation aims to undermine India's defense credibility. The S-400 system, known for its advanced capabilities, is a crucial asset in India's strategic defense. The spread of such false narratives reflects ongoing attempts to weaken India's image, particularly during sensitive geopolitical situations. It is vital to address such disinformation campaigns to maintain public confidence in the nation's defense forces and their operational readiness.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Indian Army's outreach in Guwahati inspires youth for military careers.



23-Jul-25

The Indian Army's outreach program in Guwahati aimed to inspire youth towards military careers, engaging 435 NCC cadets at the Combined Annual Training Camp. Senior military officials highlighted various recruitment opportunities, including the innovative Agniveer model, while providing guidance on the application process and addressing concerns about fraudulent practices. Special emphasis was placed on encouraging female participation and clarifying misconceptions about army recruitment. This initiative not only motivated the cadets to pursue a disciplined life of service but also reinforced the importance of official recruitment channels, fostering a sense of national pride and commitment among the youth.

Shemrock School Hosts Retired Army Officers to Inspire Patriotism



23-Jul-25

Shemrock Senior Secondary School in Mohali recently hosted a special session with retired Indian Army officers, who shared their inspiring experiences to motivate students towards patriotism and responsible citizenship. Major General BS Grewal provided insights on the 1965 Indo-Pak War, while Brigadier DS Grewal recounted military operations in Bhuj and Jammu & Kashmir, and Major General ADS Grewal highlighted the valor displayed during the Battle of Asal Uttar. The narratives emphasized the importance of honesty, personal responsibility, and service, urging students to embody patriotism in their daily lives. This initiative not only honors military heritage but fosters a sense of nationalism among the youth.

Miscellaneous

IAF to Retire MiG-21s After 62 Years of Service in September



23-Jul-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to retire its iconic MiG-21 fighter jets after more than 62 years of service, with the final flights scheduled for September 19. Originally inducted in 1963, the MiG-21s played a pivotal role in various conflicts, achieving a remarkable combat record that includes shooting down aircraft from the 1st to the 4th generation, notably an F-16 during the 2019 Balakot airstrikes. Despite its historical significance and adaptability, the aging fleet faced issues like a high crash rate and lacked modern safety systems. Currently, only two squadrons remain operational, and delays in the production of the indigenous Tejas light combat aircraft have left the IAF with 29 squadrons, below the authorized strength of 42.5 to effectively counter threats from both China and Pakistan. The MiG-21s' departure symbolizes the end of an era, yet it highlights the need for a robust modernization of the IAF's fleet, underlining the importance of timely upgrades and indigenous production capabilities to maintain operational readiness against contemporary geopolitical challenges. As the IAF transitions to newer platforms, the legacy of the MiG-21 will be remembered for its resilience and the skill of the pilots who flew them, marking a significant chapter in India's defense aviation history.

PM Modi to address Operation Sindoor in Rajya Sabha after Pahalgam attack.



23-Jul-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to address the Rajya Sabha on July 29 regarding Operation Sindoor, a military response to the recent Pahalgam terror attack that resulted in the death of 26 civilians in Jammu and Kashmir. This discussion follows the opposition's demand for a debate on the attack and India's military countermeasures, leading to a scheduled 16-hour debate in both Houses of Parliament. The opposition has been vocal in critiquing the government's handling of the situation, pressing for Modi's participation and questioning U.S. President Donald Trump's claims of mediating a ceasefire between India and Pakistan. Amidst ongoing protests and disruptions in Parliament, the government has committed to providing a platform for this crucial discussion, which is anticipated to draw

national and global attention given the implications for India's security and foreign relations. This debate not only underscores the seriousness of the terror threat but also highlights the Indian government's robust stance against terrorism, reinforcing its commitment to national security and the effectiveness of the armed forces in countering such threats.

India Sends Medical Team to Assist Dhaka Jet Crash Victims



23-Jul-25

India is sending a specialized team of burn-surgeon doctors and nurses to Dhaka to assist victims of a tragic military jet crash that resulted in at least 31 fatalities, including 25 children, at the Milestone School and College. The incident, involving a Bangladesh Air Force F-7 fighter jet during a training mission, has prompted Prime Minister Narendra Modi to express condolences and offer support to Bangladesh. The Indian Ministry of External Affairs confirmed that the medical team is set to assess the conditions of the injured and recommend further treatment in India if necessary. In addition, the Indian High Commission in Dhaka has reached out to the Bangladesh government to ensure critical medical support and potential transfer arrangements for advanced care. This response highlights the strong bilateral ties between India and Bangladesh, showcasing their commitment to humanitarian assistance during crises. India's prompt action not only aims to provide immediate medical care but also reinforces solidarity and cooperation between the two nations in times of need, demonstrating a shared commitment to humanitarian relief and the importance of international collaboration in addressing such tragedies.

Global Space Leaders to Convene at SPEXA 2025 in Tokyo



23-Jul-25

The SPEXA 2025 exhibition in Tokyo, scheduled for July 30 to August 1, 2025, will unite over 130 global exhibitors to showcase innovations in satellite systems, AI-powered analytics, and space commercialization. This event serves as a significant platform for collaboration among space agencies, private firms, and research institutions, fostering partnerships to advance the space economy. Notable exhibitors include NEC, Mitsubishi Electric, and Airbus Defence and Space, reflecting a diverse array of cutting-edge technologies. With numerous conferences and expert consultations, SPEXA 2025 promises to be a pivotal event for aerospace professionals and enthusiasts, underscoring

the critical role of international cooperation in shaping the future of space exploration.

Ex-Maldivian FM Dunya Maumoon Praises India's Timely Support



23-Jul-25

The former Maldivian Foreign Minister Dunya Maumoon highlighted India's essential role in supporting the Maldives during critical crises, from the 1988 coup attempt to recent humanitarian aid during the COVID-19 pandemic. She emphasized India's swift military intervention during Operation Cactus, as well as its consistent assistance in natural disasters and its impact on the Maldivian economy through tourism and medical travel. Maumoon condemned recent disrespectful remarks from Maldivian officials towards India, reinforcing that such comments threaten the historically strong ties between the nations. Prime Minister Modi's upcoming visit coincides with significant anniversaries, underscoring India's commitment to a stable and cooperative Indian Ocean region.

Jailed J&K MP Engineer Rashid Granted Parole to Attend Parliament



23-Jul-25

A Delhi court has granted custody parole to jailed Lok Sabha MP Engineer Rashid from July 24 to August 4, allowing him to attend the monsoon session of Parliament. Rashid has been incarcerated since 2019 on charges related to terror funding under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. His defense argued for interim bail or custody parole, while the NIA opposed the plea, emphasizing the necessity of travel expense payment for the parole. Rashid's case highlights ongoing challenges in addressing separatism and terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, underscoring the government's commitment to ensuring parliamentary duties are upheld while tackling serious national security concerns.

No Drone Zone Established Around ISRO Campuses in Kerala



23-Jul-25

A No Drone Zone has been established around all ISRO campuses in Thiruvananthapuram and the Ammonium Perchlorate Experimental Plant in Aluva, prohibiting drones and other unmanned aerial vehicles within a two-kilometre radius. This measure aims to enhance the safety and security of ISRO's personnel and sensitive operations, with strict enforcement against violations. This initiative underscores the government's

commitment to safeguarding critical national infrastructure, reflecting the increasing focus on protecting India's space capabilities amidst growing geopolitical tensions. The public is urged to comply with these regulations to prevent any security breaches at vital research and operational sites.

India to Reissue Tourist Visas for Chinese Citizens After Five Years



23-Jul-25

India has announced the resumption of tourist visas for Chinese citizens starting July 24, marking the first such issuance in five years as both nations aim to mend their strained relations post-2020 military clashes along their disputed Himalayan border. This development follows several high-level meetings between Indian and Chinese officials, indicating a thaw in diplomatic tensions. India's Foreign Minister emphasized the need to resolve border disputes and avoid trade restrictions to foster normalization. While both countries acknowledge the significance of personal exchanges, the long-standing border issues remain a critical challenge to lasting peace. The situation reflects a cautious but hopeful step towards improving bilateral ties.

Pratt & Whitney marks 100 years of innovation in aviation.



23-Jul-25

Pratt & Whitney, a pioneer in aircraft propulsion, celebrates its centenary, highlighting its legacy of innovation since the R-1340 Wasp radial engine. With a focus on dependable engines, it has powered a wide array of military and commercial aircraft, including the Indian Air Force's C-17 and C-295 besides Indigo and erstwhile Go Air in their A320Neo aircraft. Notably, it plays a crucial role in India's aviation growth, providing advanced technologies like hybrid-electric and hydrogen propulsion. The company's commitment to collaboration and growth in India is emphasized, showcasing its importance in shaping the future of aviation. Overall, Pratt & Whitney's contributions underscore its integral role in both global and Indian aerospace advancements.

Akasa Air to Receive 200+ Boeing 737 MAX Deliveries by 2032



23-Jul-25

Akasa Air anticipates significant growth, projecting over 200 Boeing 737 MAX aircraft deliveries by 2032, expanding its fleet from 30 to 226. Despite previous delays due to regulatory scrutiny and a workers' strike impacting Boeing, Akasa aims to enhance its

passenger capacity by over 30% this fiscal year, following last year's 50% growth. The airline, backed by notable investors, has already ventured into international flights and is addressing operational challenges, including pilot employment concerns. With a current domestic market share of 5.3%, Akasa is working to establish itself in a competitive landscape dominated by IndiGo and Air India.

Boeing Projects Need for 2.4 Million Aviation Workers by 2044 SHARE

23-Jul-25

Boeing's 2025 Pilot and Technician Outlook forecasts a global need for 2.4 million aviation professionals by 2044, driven by rising air travel demand, particularly in emerging markets like South Asia and Southeast Asia. The demand includes 660,000 new pilots, 710,000 maintenance technicians, and 1 million cabin crew members, with a significant portion due to replacement needs. Boeing emphasizes the importance of workforce development, investing in advanced training technologies like mixed reality to enhance aviation

education. This commitment underscores Boeing's role not only as a manufacturing giant but also as a key player in shaping the future aviation workforce, crucial for sustaining fleet operations amid growing industry pressures.

Indian Navy Truck Accident on Mumbai Coastal Road Causes Brief Traffic Disruption SHARE

23-Jul-25

A minor accident occurred in the southbound tunnel of the Mumbai Coastal Road when an Indian Navy truck was involved, causing temporary traffic congestion. Fortunately, there were no injuries reported, although the vehicle sustained partial damage. Traffic movement was briefly disrupted, but authorities quickly responded to clear the vehicle and restore normal flow. An inquiry has been initiated to ascertain the cause of the accident. This incident highlights the need for ongoing vigilance around military vehicle operations in urban areas, ensuring both public safety and efficient traffic management.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
MACPOWER	0.0	1071.5	1050.1	1050.1	1081	11.75	73.39	869.65	1184.3
SWANDEF	306.25	306.25	306.25	306.25	537	5.0	99.98	200.42	30.28
AXISCADES	1375.0	1443.1	1340.0	1443.1	147092	5.0	61.99	1411.1	820.24
GOODLUCK	1077.3	1107.4	1071.4	1102.5	204396	2.34	50.34	1134.93	899.25
COCHINSHIP	1849.3	1876.4	1823.6	1870.7	939802	1.66	37.96	1980.61	1603.91
BHARATFORG	1207.2	1226.3	1205.2	1223.7	514972	1.58	42.9	1258.99	1242.28
LMW	15809.0	15990.0	15651.0	15942.0	3522	1.48	41.24	16419.3	16178.72
CFF	646.0	658.0	639.8	655.0	89600	1.37	54.32	648.24	582.85
NIBE	1614.05	1652.3	1609.25	1648.0	2238	1.13	49.1	1648.72	1519.19
ADANIENT	2600.7	2625.9	2593.5	2614.5	316424	1.03	56.51	2601.34	2495.96
RELINFRA	374.0	385.95	363.1	378.75	1761722	0.72	49.94	387.9	290.83
GRSE	2644.1	2660.6	2610.0	2646.7	566848	0.62	40.56	2820.17	1919.12
TECHERA	220.0	224.95	212.6	221.85	32800	0.61	59.54	205.78	-
LT	3476.2	3490.0	3458.6	3484.9	1192261	0.59	40.05	3560.86	3502.0
ZENTEC	1904.1	1907.9	1870.3	1900.1	167042	0.09	49.97	1906.66	1780.93
ASTRAMICRO	989.5	993.8	977.0	988.4	261872	-0.01	40.3	1022.27	830.76
SUNITATOOL	765.1	771.0	763.0	771.0	3500	-0.05	44.7	805.79	743.26
MAZDOCK	2941.0	2945.0	2871.0	2919.4	1384757	-0.08	29.18	3158.49	2578.8
PTC	192.5	192.5	189.29	190.32	953763	-0.18	63.96	184.33	167.08
MIDHANI	419.0	421.05	414.0	416.0	299278	-0.51	46.91	424.93	343.91
MTARTECH	1533.0	1542.5	1521.3	1525.0	30358	-0.52	36.22	1561.23	1563.59
CENTUM	2329.1	2350.0	2291.1	2317.0	8029	-0.52	50.25	2344.04	1858.51
DRONACHRYA	82.99	83.0	80.62	81.99	27000	-0.62	43.08	85.89	96.5
DYNAMATECH	7245.0	7258.0	7150.0	7187.5	3992	-0.62	52.26	7201.15	7107.3
KRISHNADEF	830.0	840.0	819.0	823.25	25250	-0.71	36.72	876.89	740.35
BEL	403.5	404.9	396.6	400.2	10413255	-0.72	46.17	413.16	315.12
SOLARINDS	14966.0	14993.0	14779.0	14826.0	112225	-0.75	28.21	16086.35	11881.5
BDL	1720.0	1725.1	1687.1	1703.9	779005	-0.79	34.87	1860.32	1372.71
MARINE	199.9	199.9	193.5	195.82	85311	-0.81	39.96	202.92	213.96
SIKA	1212.25	1229.75	1182.0	1200.0	20848	-0.83	42.33	1313.87	699.91
HAL	4771.0	4779.5	4666.0	4715.8	866289	-0.89	39.73	4872.23	4309.03
AZAD	1612.9	1613.0	1582.0	1585.2	70563	-0.98	43.63	1611.63	1568.8
DATAPAT'TNS	2818.5	2830.0	2746.5	2777.8	131953	-1.08	43.46	2889.32	2322.96
HBLPOWER	592.9	597.0	583.15	585.25	614288	-1.31	42.43	610.0	558.78
WALCHANNAG	209.99	212.9	205.0	207.18	89518	-1.34	40.45	217.9	230.24
BEML	4357.0	4361.5	4274.0	4285.7	204206	-1.36	43.68	4484.73	3694.27
RTNINDIA	60.58	60.6	58.71	59.48	3896876	-1.39	47.5	62.48	56.03
ROSSELLIND	68.6	69.58	67.11	67.62	62612	-1.43	39.52	70.52	74.26
APOLLO	184.59	184.68	179.0	180.73	1701013	-1.68	46.66	185.94	130.12
PARAS	812.0	815.4	795.2	797.8	328455	-1.69	46.94	825.38	593.64
DCXINDIA	276.55	277.0	270.1	271.65	355757	-1.74	40.52	278.39	300.79
PREMEXPLN	518.9	518.9	502.0	506.45	215988	-1.89	32.92	550.5	468.79
TANEJAERO	456.0	456.0	455.0	455.05	7145	-1.92	52.43	470.08	384.49
HIGHENE	692.35	692.5	692.35	692.35	37618	-2.0	36.48	767.26	603.84
LOKESHMACH	214.0	216.99	208.69	210.66	33421	-2.01	53.95	209.14	250.7
AVANTEL	149.1	149.1	143.56	144.74	726607	-2.03	39.02	155.64	143.21
URAVIDEF	519.4	520.0	494.0	507.6	860	-2.27	51.51	501.06	445.04
JYOTICNC	1050.0	1059.7	1026.1	1031.6	290381	-2.44	41.77	1045.98	1129.71
TEMBO	0.0	499.8	482.05	499.8	18098	-7.92	51.9	492.07	578.81
IDEAFORGE	520.0	520.0	500.0	500.9	1112628	-8.08	31.5	568.35	518.82