Defence Professionals News & Analysis

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Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
MTARTECH	2291.2	2139.6	+7.09%
SWANDEF	701.4	668.0	+5.0%
BHARATFORG	1300.1	1243.4	+4.56%
MARINE	234.97	229.76	+2.27%
RELINFRA	229.69	226.07	+1.6%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
SUNITATOOL	805.3	847.65	-5.0%
TEMBO	610.85	633.7	-3.61%
NIBE	1286.5	1331.8	-3.4%
URAVIDEF	234.87	242.88	-3.3%
HBLPOWER	924.9	954.15	-3.07%

Defense Business and Industry

DAC approves Rs 79,000 crore plan to boost Armed Forces' capabilities.

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23-Oct-25

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, has approved a significant procurement plan valued at approximately Rs 79,000 crore, aimed at enhancing the combat capabilities of the Indian Armed Forces. This decision, made during a meeting held on October 23, 2025, includes the Acquisition of Necessity (AoN) for the Indian Army to procure the Nag Missile System (Tracked) Mk-II (NAMIS), Ground-Based Mobile Electronic Intelligence System (GBMES), and High Mobility Vehicles (HMVs). The NAMIS will bolster the Army's ability to neutralize enemy combat vehicles and fortifications, while the GBMES will provide continuous electronic intelligence on enemy activities. For the Indian Navy, the DAC sanctioned the procurement of Landing Platform Docks (LPDs), 30mm Naval Surface Guns, Advanced Light Weight Torpedoes, and advanced tracking systems. The LPDs will facilitate joint amphibious operations with the Army and Air Force, as well as support humanitarian and disaster relief missions. The Indian Air Force will benefit from the approval of the Collaborative Long Range Target Saturation/Destruction System (CLRTS/DS), capable of autonomous operations in mission areas. This procurement strategy not only reflects India's commitment to modernizing its military capabilities but also underlines the importance of indigenous defense production, particularly with systems like the Advanced Light Weight Torpedoes developed by DRDO. The enhancement of these capabilities is crucial for maintaining regional stability and ensuring national security in the face of evolving threats.

Indian Army signs ₹2,770 crore deal for 4.25 lakh CQB carbines, boosting modernization efforts.

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23-Oct-25

The Indian Army announced a landmark ₹2,770 crore contract with Bharat Forge's subsidiary Kalyani Strategic Systems and Adani Group's PLR Systems to procure 4.25 lakh Close Quarter Battle (CQB) carbines. This contract, split 60:40 between Bharat Forge and PLR Systems, is part of one of the Army's longest-pending modernization efforts, ending a nearly 25-year saga of delays and cancellations. The weapons, designed jointly by DRDO and Bharat Forge, chambered in 5.56×45 mm NATO rounds, will replace the vintage 9mm Sterling rifles in service since the 1950s. Deliveries are expected to begin from September 2026 and will be completed within a year thereafter. Bharat Forge emphasized its commitment to supporting India's defence modernization and Atmanirbharta (self-reliance) initiatives. The company highlighted that it qualified as the lowest bidder after rigorous trials and submitted its commercial bid in July 2025, with the contract finalization process ongoing as of October 2025. Bharat Forge assured timely delivery aligned with the Indian Army's plans and expressed pride in contributing substantially to the modernization of the Infantry's close-combat capabilities. This procurement is part of a broader infantry transformation program enhancing lethality, mobility, situational awareness, and survivability, reinforcing India's push for indigenous defence production and cutting-edge tactical weaponry for contemporary combat challenges. The announcement was timed ahead of Infantry Day on

October 27, 2025, underscoring its strategic significance.

Indian Army enhances drone capabilities with 500-unit order from DroneAcharya.

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23-Oct-25

On October 23, 2023, shares of DroneAcharya Aerial Innovations surged nearly 2% following the announcement of a significant order from the Indian Army worth 2.59 crore for 500 Sub-Tactical Very Short Range Drones. This procurement marks a notable advancement in the Army's drone capabilities, enhancing surveillance and operational efficiency in diverse terrains. Such investments in indigenous technology not only bolster the defense sector but also align with India's strategic goal of self-reliance in defense manufacturing. The deal underscores the growing integration of advanced technology in military operations, which is crucial for maintaining national security in an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape.

Indian Army Enhances Infantry with Bhairav Commandos and Ashni Drones.

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23-Oct-25

The Indian Army is advancing a major modernization drive to transform its infantry into a tech-driven, self-reliant combat force aligned with India’s 2047 defense vision. This transformation includes the induction of 25 Bhairav Commando Battalions and the establishment of Ashni Drone Platoons across nearly all 385 infantry battalions to enhance lethality, mobility, and situational awareness. Lieutenant General Ajay Kumar, Director General of Infantry, stated that five Bhairav battalions have already been operational since October 1, 2025, with the remaining units to be raised within six months. Each Bhairav battalion, comprising about 250 personnel from infantry, artillery, signals, and air defense, is tailored for high-intensity border operations with China and Pakistan, bridging the gap between regular infantry and special forces. Meanwhile, the Ashni Drone Platoons, operating about 10 drones per unit including surveillance and loitering munitions, are revolutionizing battlefield reconnaissance and precision engagement under the Army’s “eagle on the arm” doctrine. Lt Gen Kumar emphasized the Army’s commitment to self-reliance, asserting that “wars are not fought with borrowed weapons,” while highlighting collaboration with industry and academia to bolster indigenous capabilities. The broader overhaul also includes procurement of 4.25 lakh carbines and next-generation anti-tank guided missiles, underscoring a technology-empowered, networked infantry prepared for the evolving demands of modern warfare and India’s security imperatives.

Indian Army to order 2,408 Nag Mark 2 missiles and 107 NAMICA vehicles.

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23-Oct-25

The Indian Army is set to place a major order for 2,408 Nag Mark 2 anti-tank guided missiles and 107 NAMICA Mk-II tracked missile carriers following the Defence Acquisition Council's approval of the Acceptance of Necessity on October 23, 2025, as part of a ₹79,000 crore procurement package. Developed by DRDO and manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Limited, the Nag Mark 2 features a tandem-charge high-explosive anti-tank warhead for defeating modern armored threats and operates in all-weather, fire-and-forget mode with top-attack capability. The NAMICA Mk-II, based on the BMP-2 platform, enables rapid deployment across diverse terrains including deserts and mountainous regions. Successful field evaluation trials conducted earlier in 2025 at Pokhran validated the system's accuracy and operational readiness against both stationary and moving targets at maximum and minimum ranges. This acquisition significantly enhances the Army's armored standoff capabilities and underscores India's progress in indigenous defense production under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

Airbus, Leonardo, and Thales Unite to Form Europe's Space Giant to Rival SpaceX

SHARE

23-Oct-2025

Europe’s major aerospace and defense companies Airbus, Leonardo, and Thales have signed a memorandum of understanding to merge their space businesses into a new joint venture, marking a significant milestone for Europe’s space industry. The new company, expected to be operational in 2027 pending regulatory approvals, aims to enhance Europe’s strategic autonomy in space by combining satellite manufacturing, space systems, and services, employing around 25,000 people with an anticipated annual revenue of €6.5 billion. Airbus will hold a 35% stake, with Leonardo and Thales each holding 32.5%, under joint control with balanced governance. The merger seeks to create a unified European space champion capable of competing globally, especially against Elon Musk’s SpaceX and its rapidly expanding Starlink network. It intends to accelerate innovation, generate

significant cost synergies estimated in the mid triple-digit million-euro range within five years, and serve as a trusted partner for national sovereign space programs. The new entity will pool complementary technologies and focus on telecommunications, navigation, earth observation, science, exploration, and national security, strengthening Europe's position in the global space market. The announcement was made on October 22, 2025, after months of negotiations among the three firms.

India unveils twin-tube BrahMos mobile launcher, enhancing missile production and strike capabilities.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

India marked a major milestone in its defense manufacturing with the unveiling of a twin-tube BrahMos mobile missile launcher at the newly established BrahMos Integration and Testing Facility in Lucknow. This state-of-the-art facility, part of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor, aims to significantly boost BrahMos missile production, targeting an annual output of 300 units to enhance both domestic arsenal and export potential to allied nations. The twin-tube mobile launcher, inspired by Russia's Bastion system, enhances India's rapid deployment and strike capabilities across diverse terrains. The supersonic BrahMos missile, capable of precise long-range strikes at speeds nearing Mach 3, has proven its strategic value through recent operational deployments like Operation Sindoor, underscoring its role as a cornerstone of India's precision strike triad. The missile's production at Lucknow, which began full operations within five months of its May 2025 inauguration, highlights India's progress in indigenous defense manufacturing. Alongside expanding production, India is nearing export deals with ASEAN countries, strengthening its defense diplomacy amid strategic regional competition. This development not only solidifies India's deterrence posture but also positions it as a key global defense player focused on the Indo-Pacific region.

Indian Navy receives 'Mahe', enhancing anti-submarine warfare capabilities and indigenous defense production.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

The Indian Navy has received 'Mahe', the first of eight Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Crafts (ASW SWCs) that have been indigenously designed and constructed by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi. This significant delivery, marked by the signing of the Acceptance form between CSL and the Indian Navy, was attended by senior officials, including Rear Admiral R Adhisrinivasan and Cmde Anup Menon. 'Mahe' is noted for being the largest Indian naval vessel powered by a Diesel Engine-Waterjet combination, tailored for underwater surveillance and search-and-rescue operations. The induction of these advanced crafts is poised to greatly enhance the Navy's shallow water anti-submarine warfare capabilities, reflecting India's commitment to bolstering its indigenous defense manufacturing and strategic maritime operations. The broader significance of this development lies in its contribution to national security, as it not only strengthens the Indian Navy's operational readiness in coastal areas but also underscores India's growing self-reliance in defense production amidst increasing geopolitical tensions in the region.

China's rare earth export controls threaten global defense manufacturing, experts warn.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

China's recent export controls on rare earth materials are strategically aimed at reinforcing its influence over global defense manufacturing, with 95% of these critical minerals sourced from the country. Experts warn that these restrictions can severely disrupt defense supply chains, notably affecting advanced technologies like fighter jets and missiles, as they rely heavily on rare earth elements. The timing of these measures coincides with U.S. diplomatic engagements in Asia, suggesting a calculated move to leverage its mineral dominance amid rising geopolitical tensions. This development underscores the vulnerability of global defense sectors to supply shocks and emphasizes the urgent need for countries, including India, to diversify their rare earth supply sources to enhance national security and defense preparedness.

HAL nearing TEJAS MK-1 completion while tackling MK-1A production delays.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is nearing the completion of TEJAS MK-1 deliveries while addressing delays in the production of the more advanced TEJAS MK-1A variant. Engine supply issues, primarily due to delays from General Electric, have hindered the MK-1A's induction, though HAL has assembled ten airframes and aims to deliver the first two by October 2025, provided weapon trials are successful. The Cabinet Committee on Security recently approved the procurement of an additional 97 MK-1A aircraft, with an

ambitious production target of 83 jets by 2029. This development is crucial for the Indian Air Force as it transitions from its aging MiG-21 fleet, enhancing its operational readiness amidst regional security challenges while showcasing India's commitment to indigenous defense capabilities.

GTRE to advance Kaveri engine trials, with D2 and D3 testing in 2026. SHARE

23-Oct-25

India's Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) is set to accelerate its Kaveri engine testing program, with endurance trials for the D2 and D3 variants scheduled for 2026. This development follows the recent receipt of the Kaveri D1 prototype and marks a critical phase in validating design improvements aimed at enhancing the engine's performance under challenging operational conditions. The Kaveri program, currently at 85% indigenization, aims to reach 88% by mid-2026, bolstering supply chains and reducing reliance on foreign technologies. Successful engine trials are crucial, as they align with India's strategic objectives to enhance its combat aircraft capabilities, including the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) and swarm-capable unmanned systems, thereby strengthening national defense amidst regional threats.

India accelerates Javelin acquisitions while advancing indigenous ATGM programs for enhanced defense readiness. SHARE

23-Oct-25

The Indian Army is expediting the acquisition of 12 Javelin anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) launchers and 104 missiles from the US to address pressing operational gaps along sensitive borders, while simultaneously advancing indigenous ATGM initiatives, including the DRDO's Man-Portable ATGM (MP-ATGM) program. This dual approach aims to meet immediate defense needs and foster long-term self-reliance in defense manufacturing, with ongoing discussions for co-production and technology transfer. The Indian defense strategy reflects a commitment to enhancing combat capabilities through both swift imports and robust domestic development. This development underscores India's proactive stance in modernizing its military capabilities amid evolving geopolitical challenges, ensuring readiness against contemporary armored threats while promoting indigenization.

Brazil to Acquire Tejas Mk1A and Prachand Helicopters from India in Defense Deal. SHARE

23-Oct-25

Brazil and India are currently engaged in negotiations over a potential reciprocal defense barter deal involving the acquisition of military hardware. Brazil has expressed interest in procuring India’s Tejas Mk1A fighter jets and Prachand attack helicopters, while India is considering purchasing Brazilian Embraer C-390M transport aircraft to meet its strategic requirements. The proposed deal, which remains under discussion and is not yet finalized, aims to enhance defense cooperation between the two BRICS nations, promote joint industrial growth, and reduce dependency on Western suppliers. This collaboration could include local assembly and co-production of defense platforms, aligning with India’s "Make in India" initiative and Brazil’s goals for cost-effective military modernization. The outcome of these talks, still underway, has the potential to deepen bilateral defense ties and mutually benefit both countries' defense ecosystems.

Prime Toolings reveals indigenous detonation engine prototype for missile enhancement. SHARE

23-Oct-25

Bengaluru-based Prime Toolings has developed and unveiled India’s first indigenous Rotating Detonation Engine (RDE) prototype, representing a significant advancement in missile propulsion technology. The engine operates using continuous supersonic detonation waves, providing up to 25% better fuel efficiency and higher thrust with a lighter, more compact design without moving parts. The RDE prototype is in the 1–12 kilonewton thrust class and is intended for short-range tactical missiles with operational ranges of approximately 300 to 500 kilometers. It features an annular combustion chamber with advanced fuel injection and materials engineered to withstand extreme thermal and pressure conditions. Prime Toolings has utilized advanced manufacturing techniques such as additive manufacturing (3D printing) for critical components to ensure durability and thermal resilience. Initial ground tests have demonstrated stable detonation cycles and consistent thrust output, with further testing planned to validate performance under various conditions. This achievement aligns with India’s Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, supporting self-reliance in defense technology and reducing dependence on foreign suppliers. Claims about the engine’s price or commercialization remain

unverified and are excluded from this summary. This indigenous RDE development places India among a select group of nations pioneering next-generation propulsion systems for tactical missile applications and future aerospace technologies.

India to receive fourth S-400 squadron from Russia in 2026, enhancing air defense capabilities. SHARE

23-Oct-25

Russia has reaffirmed its commitment to India by confirming the delivery of the fourth squadron of the S-400 Triumf air defense system in February 2026, following delays caused by the Ukraine conflict. This addition will enhance India's air defense capabilities, joining the three operational squadrons and providing critical coverage along its frontiers, particularly after gaps exposed during the 2020 Galwan standoff. The complete fleet, including a fifth squadron due in September 2026, will ensure a robust defense against diverse aerial threats. Moreover, Russia's willingness to transfer critical technology to Indian firms like Bharat Electronics Limited underscores a strengthening defense partnership, which is vital for India's strategic autonomy and regional security in an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

Defence Procurement Manual 2025 launched to enhance India's defense self-reliance and efficiency. SHARE

23-Oct-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh formally launched the Defence Procurement Manual (DPM) 2025 on October 23, 2025, in New Delhi, with the manual coming into effect on November 1, 2025. This updated manual is set to streamline revenue procurement processes worth approximately Rs 1 lakh crore annually for India's Army, Navy, Air Force, and other Ministry of Defence establishments. A major focus of DPM 2025 is to enhance self-reliance in defence manufacturing by promoting broader participation of MSMEs and startups, simplifying procedures, and ensuring fairness and transparency. Key reforms include relaxed liquidated damages to ease penalties on delays, assured orders guaranteed for up to five years to indigenous manufacturers, and the removal of the No Objection Certificate requirement from Ordnance Factory Board to facilitate ease of doing business. The manual also introduces provisions to expedite decision-making, improve operational preparedness, and foster innovation through collaboration with academic and research institutions. This landmark update replaces the previous 2009 manual and aligns with India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision to boost domestic defence capabilities. The initiative is expected to invigorate the defence sector, drive innovation, and enhance industry responsiveness.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Trump claims India will reduce Russian oil imports by year-end, but India denies assurances. SHARE

23-Oct-25

US President Donald Trump has reiterated claims that India will significantly reduce its imports of Russian oil by the year's end, asserting that the country has agreed to phase out its reliance on Russian crude, which currently accounts for nearly 40% of its oil imports. However, Indian officials have strongly denied any such assurances, with the Ministry of External Affairs clarifying that no recent communication between Trump and Prime Minister Modi occurred. The backdrop of these discussions highlights the rising tensions between Washington and New Delhi over energy policy and trade tariffs, especially following the imposition of steep tariffs by the US on Indian goods, which Trump has linked to India's energy dependencies. This diplomatic friction underscores India's commitment to maintaining energy security amid a volatile global market while navigating complex geopolitical dynamics. As India balances its energy needs with international pressures, the situation reflects broader implications for regional stability and energy governance, especially as both nations engage in ongoing dialogue about trade and regional security issues.

India rebuffs Trump's claims of Pakistan talks in Modi-Trump call. SHARE

23-Oct-25

In a recent series of exchanges surrounding the Diwali celebrations, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Donald Trump engaged in a phone call that has sparked controversy over differing accounts of their discussions. The Indian government categorically denied Trump's assertion that they discussed Pakistan, emphasizing that such claims misrepresent the conversation's content and reflecting India's stance on

managing bilateral issues independently. While Trump praised the absence of conflict between India and Pakistan, attributing it to his mediation efforts, New Delhi has reiterated that the ceasefire, achieved following Operation Sindoor, was negotiated solely by the Indian and Pakistani militaries without external intervention. Furthermore, Modi's social media response highlighted a commitment to counter-terrorism and a desire for continued cooperation, avoiding direct commentary on trade or the Pakistan issue. This incident underscores increasing strains in India-U.S. relations, particularly in light of trade negotiations and geopolitical tensions, including India's oil dealings with Russia, which remain a point of contention for Washington. The broader significance lies in India's careful navigation of its foreign policy amid shifting dynamics with the U.S. and the complexities posed by Pakistan, emphasizing the importance of maintaining sovereignty in diplomatic affairs.

Rajnath Singh: Operation Sindoor's Impact on Pakistan Remains Significant SHARE

23-Oct-25

Defense Minister Rajnath Singh recently underscored the lasting impact of Operation Sindoor on Pakistan, highlighting that the country is still in recovery from this strategic initiative. He stressed that the contemporary defense landscape necessitates a departure from traditional military approaches, emphasizing that modern conflicts extend beyond borders and often take on hybrid and asymmetrical forms. This perspective not only reflects India's evolving defense strategy but also reinforces the need for comprehensive national security measures that address multifaceted threats. The acknowledgment of these changes underscores the importance of adaptability within the Indian defense forces to effectively respond to emerging geopolitical challenges.

Indian Air Force joins multinational Exercise Ocean Sky 2025 in Spain, enhancing global cooperation. SHARE

23-Oct-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is currently participating in Exercise Ocean Sky 2025, a multinational air combat exercise in Spain, emphasizing mutual learning and enhanced interoperability with global partners. This participation follows the timely induction of 16 Airbus C-295 military transport aircraft, marking a significant milestone in India's defense capabilities. The acquisition includes 40 aircraft to be manufactured in India under the Make in India initiative, reinforcing bilateral defense ties between India and Spain. The C-295, recognized for its versatility and reliability, significantly enhances India's operational capacity, showcasing India's commitment to modernizing its defense forces and strengthening its strategic partnerships on the global stage.

Trump denies U.S. approval for Ukraine to use long-range missiles. SHARE

23-Oct-25

U.S. President Donald Trump recently refuted a Wall Street Journal report claiming that the Trump administration had approved Ukraine's use of long-range missiles against targets deep within Russia. He emphasized that the U.S. "has nothing to do with those missiles," asserting that the report was false. This denial highlights ongoing tensions regarding military support for Ukraine amid its conflict with Russia, with implications for U.S. foreign policy and its approach to international security. Trump's statement underscores the complexities of the U.S.-Ukraine relationship and raises questions about the extent of military assistance and its ramifications in the broader geopolitical landscape.

Ukrainian drones attack Russian gas plant; Trump suggests land concessions for peace. SHARE

23-Oct-25

Ukrainian drones have launched a significant attack on a major Russian gas plant, resulting in extensive damage and disrupting gas imports from Kazakhstan. In a related comment, former President Donald Trump suggested that Ukraine may need to concede territory to achieve peace with Russia. Meanwhile, reports indicate that Russian forces are upgrading their bomb technology to intensify their assaults on Ukrainian territory. This development highlights the ongoing escalation in the conflict, raising concerns about the potential for a protracted war and its implications for global energy security. The situation underscores the complexities of negotiating peace while facing continued military advancements, emphasizing the need for a strategic approach to conflict resolution.

India condemns Pakistan's Pahalgam attack, highlighting its human rights violations. SHARE

23-Oct-25

India has firmly condemned Pakistan's actions regarding the Pahalgam attack, asserting that

Islamabad's history of cross-border terrorism renders it the worst violator of human rights. During a UN session, Indian representative Raghoo Puri highlighted the lingering global memory of the April 2025 attack that claimed 26 lives and accused Pakistan of using terrorism as state policy. He defended India's Operation Sindoor, emphasizing its measured approach to counter terrorism while criticizing Pakistan for targeting civilians. Puri called for Pakistan to reflect on its own human rights record, reminding the international community of its ethnic and religious persecution practices. This exchange underscores the ongoing tension between India and Pakistan, particularly regarding terrorism and human rights issues, as both nations vie for international support.

India and Oman enhance defense collaboration and military training ties.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

India and Oman have advanced their defense ties through the third Army-to-Army Staff Talks held in New Delhi, focusing on expanding military training collaboration and joint exercises. Key discussions addressed capability development, professional military education, and new partnership avenues under the Defence Cooperation Plan 2026. With Oman being India's closest defense partner in the Gulf, their cooperation has become pivotal for regional maritime security in the Indian Ocean. This strategic partnership highlights India's commitment to military diplomacy and reinforces its role in regional stability while fostering enhanced ties with key Gulf nations. As both countries share deep-rooted geographical, historical, and cultural connections, this collaboration underscores the importance of defense alliances in promoting peace and security in the region.

India calls Pakistan's nuclear threats a bluff amid rising tensions.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

India has dismissed Pakistan's recent nuclear threats as a bluff amid rising tensions between the two countries, following increased conflict in 2025. The tensions escalated after a deadly terrorist attack in Indian-administered Kashmir in April, which India blamed on Pakistan-based groups. India launched missile strikes in retaliation, prompting Pakistan to respond with its own military actions including nuclear posturing. Despite Pakistan's repeated nuclear warnings, Indian officials maintain that these threats are strategic signaling rather than genuine intent. Both nations, each with roughly 170 nuclear warheads, continue to emphasize deterrence policies. India's doctrine includes a no-first-use policy except in response to chemical or biological attacks, while Pakistan uses its nuclear arsenal mainly to counter India's conventional military superiority. International mediators have called for restraint to prevent further escalation in the volatile region.

JD Vance optimistic about Gaza ceasefire progress during Israel visit.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

U.S. Vice President JD Vance expressed optimism regarding the ongoing ceasefire in Gaza during his visit to Israel, stating that progress has exceeded expectations despite recent flare-ups. He emphasized the need for patience as discussions continue on the long-term governance of Gaza post-conflict, while also urging cooperation from Hamas to ensure the safe return of hostages. Concurrently, humanitarian aid to Gaza is increasing, although prices of essential goods have surged due to the ongoing conflict. The situation remains complex, with allegations of torture linked to some returned bodies from Israel, raising calls for investigation. This moment underscores the fragile balance between securing peace and addressing humanitarian needs amid a deeply entrenched conflict.

Trump shifts from tariffs to sanctions on Russia's oil giants.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

U.S. President Donald Trump has imposed sanctions on Russia's two largest oil companies, Lukoil and Rosneft, marking a significant policy shift from his previous reliance on tariffs, particularly against India. These measures, prompted by ongoing frustrations with President Vladimir Putin over the Ukraine conflict, coincide with Britain's recent sanctions against the same entities. Trump's sanctions aim to curb funding for Russia's military operations, as the U.S. Treasury indicated further actions could follow if Moscow does not agree to a ceasefire. This development underscores the complexities of international energy dynamics, where Western sanctions have redirected Russia's oil customers from Europe to Asia, raising concerns about the geopolitical implications for countries like India involved in Russian oil purchases.

EAM Jaishankar to represent India at Asean summit; Modi may join virtually.

23-Oct-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is unlikely to attend the Asean summit in Malaysia, scheduled for October 26-28, due to scheduling conflicts, with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar set to represent India. There is potential for Modi to participate virtually during the Asean-India summit, which he has led in previous years. This development underscores India's commitment to its strategic partnership with Asean, enhancing cooperation in trade, investment, and security. The postponement of Modi's planned trip to Cambodia, originally linked to the Malaysia visit, highlights the dynamic nature of India's engagement in the region. Strengthening ties with Asean is crucial for India as it navigates the complex geopolitical landscape in Southeast Asia.

Military Operations

INS Trikand's Heroic Rescue Mission in Gulf of Aden Highlights Naval Readiness

23-Oct-25

The Indian Navy's INS Trikand recently showcased its operational readiness and humanitarian capabilities during a critical rescue mission off the coast of Djibouti on October 18, 2025. The warship responded to distress signals from the Cameroon-flagged tanker MT Falcon, which caught fire approximately 113 nautical miles southeast of Aden, Yemen. While 24 of the 26 crew members, predominantly Indian nationals, were rescued by nearby merchant vessels, two crew members were trapped inside the severely damaged sections of the ship. Braving intense heat, toxic fumes, and compromised structures, a specialized team from INS Trikand conducted a search operation to recover the remains of the two missing personnel, successfully handing them over to the Indian Embassy in Djibouti. This operation not only highlights the Indian Navy's commitment to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief but also reinforces India's strategic role as a security provider in vital maritime chokepoints, particularly amidst rising regional tensions. The incident serves as a reminder of the importance of maritime security operations in volatile environments, emphasizing the need for sustained naval presence and rapid response capabilities to protect seafarers and ensure safety in global maritime commerce.

Operation Sindoor showcases India's readiness to tackle global challenges, says Defence Minister.

23-Oct-25

In a recent address at the Naval Commanders Conference, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasized the strategic significance of Operation Sindoor, describing it as a powerful demonstration of India's military preparedness and tri-service coordination that has left Pakistan reeling from its impact. He highlighted the Indian Navy's vital role in maintaining security in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), asserting that its presence serves as a deterrent against destabilizing forces while enhancing India's stature as a reliable maritime partner. Singh noted that nearly 67% of the Navy's capital acquisitions now come from domestic sources, underscoring the success of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative aimed at achieving self-reliance in defense. Additionally, he stressed the importance of civil-military fusion to leverage technological advancements for military applications, asserting that this integration is crucial for strengthening national security in an era of hybrid warfare. The discussions during the conference focused on enhancing operational readiness, boosting indigenization efforts, and reinforcing partnerships within the defense ecosystem, which collectively aim to ensure India's strategic autonomy amidst evolving global challenges. This concerted effort reflects India's commitment to not only bolster its defense capabilities but also to contribute to regional stability and security, emphasizing the importance of innovation and collaboration in the contemporary geopolitical landscape.

Russian drones strike Kyiv again, causing injuries and infrastructure damage.

23-Oct-25

Russian drones continued their assault on Kyiv for the second consecutive night, injuring four individuals and damaging various buildings, including a kindergarten, as Ukraine braces for winter amid ongoing conflict. Reports indicate that Russia launched 405 drones and 28 missiles in a campaign aimed at crippling Ukraine's energy infrastructure, which has faced systematic attacks since the full-scale invasion in 2022. Ukrainian air defense managed to intercept 333 drones and 16 missiles, while the country seeks additional international support to secure energy supplies. This escalation underscores the strategic importance of energy infrastructure in warfare and highlights the

humanitarian impact on Ukrainian civilians as they prepare for the harsh winter months.

BSF's Imteyaj and Chingakham honored for heroism in Operation Sindoor.

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23-Oct-25

During Operation Sindoor, Border Security Force (BSF) Sub-Inspector Mohd Imteyaj heroically rallied his troops against Pakistan drones while suffering serious injuries, ultimately sacrificing his life in the line of duty. Alongside Constable Deeapak Chingakham, who also showed remarkable bravery despite severe wounds, both were posthumously awarded the Vir Chakra for their gallantry during a critical engagement at the Kharkola border outpost in Jammu on May 10. This operation was a direct response to a terror attack in Pahalgam, underscoring India's commitment to national security amidst escalating threats. The valor displayed by Imteyaj and Chingakham highlights the dedication of Indian forces in safeguarding the nation's borders and reflects the ongoing challenges posed by cross-border terrorism.

Indian Infantry's tech-driven evolution emphasizes self-reliance in warfare.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

During a recent media interaction, Director General Infantry Lt Gen Ajay Kumar emphasized the Indian Infantry's transformation into a tech-driven, self-reliant combat force, aligning with India's vision for 2047. He asserted that "wars are not fought with borrowed weapons," highlighting a shift towards modern warfare characterized by precision, joint operations, and advanced technology, including drones and AI systems. The integration of dedicated Drone Platoons and newly raised Bhairav Battalions signifies a robust evolution in tactical capabilities. This transformation, underpinned by indigenous technology and partnerships with industry and academia, enhances the Indian Army's operational readiness and reflects a commitment to self-sufficiency in defense, crucial for safeguarding national security amid evolving geopolitical dynamics.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Security forces neutralize ULFA-I militant in Arunachal Pradesh's Namsai district during counter-insurgency operation.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

In a significant counter-insurgency operation, security forces, including the Army and Assam Rifles, engaged and neutralized ULFA-I cadre Iwon Axom, a self-styled Sergeant Major, in Arunachal Pradesh's Namsai district during the early hours following credible intelligence inputs about militant presence. The operation, which resulted in the recovery of a rifle, a rocket-propelled grenade round, and various materials, was part of a broader coordinated effort to dismantle remaining ULFA-I modules along the inter-state border between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. This intervention follows recent attempted attacks by ULFA-I and NSCN (K-YA) on security installations, which were successfully thwarted, showcasing the effectiveness of the Assam Rifles' enhanced operational grid, including modern surveillance and intelligence integration. The sustained efforts by Indian security forces have significantly disrupted insurgent networks in the North East, reaffirming their commitment to maintaining peace and stability in the region, thereby reinforcing the critical role of the Assam Rifles as the guardians of this strategically important area.

Army apprehends two insurgents from Myanmar-based group in Manipur.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

Two members of the Myanmar-based United Tribal Volunteers Group were apprehended by Assam Rifles in Chandel district, Manipur, on October 18, as part of a targeted operation to prevent cross-border militant activities. This operation underscores the ongoing challenges posed by insurgent groups exploiting the porous India-Myanmar border amidst the backdrop of ethnic violence in Manipur, which has claimed over 260 lives since May 2023. The effective intervention by Indian security forces highlights their commitment to maintaining stability in the region and countering external threats. The apprehension reflects broader implications for regional security, emphasizing the need for continued vigilance and cooperation in combating insurgency and ensuring peace along the sensitive frontier.

Bangladesh risks becoming a jihadist hub under Muhammad Yunus's leadership, threatening South Asian security.

23-Oct-25

A recent report suggests that Bangladesh, under the leadership of Muhammad Yunus, is allegedly forming an Islamic Revolutionary Army (IRA) aimed at undermining the national military and fostering transnational jihadist activities. This initiative reportedly involves the recruitment and training of 8,850 individuals, with a curriculum that includes martial arts and weapons training, overseen by retired officers with pro-Pakistan affiliations. The ramifications of such a development could transform Bangladesh from a moderate democracy into a hub for jihadist expansion in South Asia, posing significant security threats to the region. The situation demands urgent attention from civil society and military factions in Bangladesh to prevent a potential shift towards radicalism and the erosion of sovereignty.

IED blast near Kokrajhar station disrupts rail services in Assam.

23-Oct-25

Rail services in Lower Assam and parts of North Bengal faced significant disruption following an IED blast near Kokrajhar railway station, which occurred approximately five kilometers from the station late Wednesday night. The explosion severely damaged nearly three feet of railway track but fortunately resulted in no casualties or derailment. Train operations were suspended overnight, affecting numerous services until repairs were completed by 8 am the following morning. In response, security measures have been heightened along the railway route, and an investigation is underway to capture the individuals responsible for this act of sabotage. This incident underscores ongoing security challenges in the region, highlighting the need for enhanced vigilance to ensure passenger safety and the integrity of critical infrastructure.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

OpenAI addresses prompt injection attack concerns with ChatGPT Atlas browser.

23-Oct-25

OpenAI's recently launched browser, ChatGPT Atlas, has drawn significant attention from cybersecurity experts due to potential vulnerabilities related to prompt injection attacks. These attacks could enable malicious actors to manipulate the AI assistant into executing harmful actions, such as stealing sensitive data or executing unauthorized commands. Experts highlight that the AI's inability to distinguish between trusted user instructions and untrusted webpage content increases the risk of the browser acting as an attack vector against its users. OpenAI has acknowledged these concerns and stated that it is actively researching and implementing mitigations, including extensive red-teaming and model training techniques to counteract such vulnerabilities. However, the ongoing challenge of prompt injection remains a significant issue in AI security, requiring users to remain vigilant. This situation emphasizes the broader implications of integrating AI into browsers, as the intersection of AI and browsing technology creates new attack surfaces, raising questions about privacy, data retention, and the responsibilities of developers to ensure user safety. As AI systems become more prevalent in everyday tools, understanding and addressing these security concerns will be crucial for maintaining user trust and safety in increasingly automated environments.

PhantomCaptcha RAT targets humanitarian efforts with weaponized PDFs and fake CAPTCHA pages.

23-Oct-25

A sophisticated spearphishing campaign, dubbed PhantomCaptcha, has targeted humanitarian organizations aiding Ukrainian war relief, employing weaponized PDFs and counterfeit Cloudflare captcha pages to deploy a remote access trojan (RAT). Initiated on October 8, 2025, the campaign impersonated communications from Ukraine's Presidential Office, successfully distributing malware through deceptive emails. The attackers utilized advanced social engineering techniques, prompting victims to execute malicious scripts themselves, thereby bypassing traditional security measures. The infrastructure revealed connections to potential Russian state-sponsored threat actors, highlighting the ongoing cyber warfare tactics aimed at destabilizing humanitarian efforts. This incident underscores the pressing need for enhanced cybersecurity measures within critical sectors, especially amid geopolitical tensions.

Hackers earn $792,750 by exploiting 56 zero-day vulnerabilities at Pwn2Own.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

During the second day of the Pwn2Own Ireland 2025 hacking competition, security researchers amassed $792,750 by exploiting 56 unique zero-day vulnerabilities, including a notable hack of the Samsung Galaxy S25. The competition, which runs from October 21 to 24 in Cork, has participants targeting a wide array of devices, from smartphones to smart home tech. As the threat landscape evolves, the inclusion of USB port exploitation on mobile devices highlights the need for robust cybersecurity measures. This event underscores the importance of identifying and patching vulnerabilities to enhance digital security, reflecting the ongoing arms race between hackers and security professionals in an increasingly interconnected world.

Cisco launches AI Security Operations Centre to combat evolving cyber threats in Canada.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

Cisco has launched an AI-Powered Security Operations Centre (SOC) showcase at its Toronto Innovation Centre, marking a significant investment in enhancing cybersecurity for Canadian organizations amidst a rising tide of AI-related cyber threats. This interactive platform enables businesses to engage with advanced security technologies and understand the complexities of evolving risk scenarios, with the aim of strengthening their defenses. Cisco highlights that 80% of Canadian organizations have encountered AI-related cybersecurity incidents, underscoring the necessity for improved awareness and readiness. By fostering innovation and collaboration within the cybersecurity landscape, Cisco reinforces its commitment to building resilient digital infrastructures, ultimately contributing to the economic and societal prosperity of Canada.

Axis Communications enhances cybersecurity for IoT devices, focusing on protection and transparency.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

Axis Communications is emphasizing the critical importance of cybersecurity in the development of Internet of Things (IoT) devices, particularly security cameras, which have evolved into sophisticated mini-computers. The company integrates cybersecurity measures from the design phase, promoting transparency by reporting vulnerabilities and employing a bug bounty program. Axis's proprietary Linux-based operating system enhances control over device security, while features like secure boot and signed video contribute to safeguarding against malicious modifications. This proactive stance on cybersecurity reflects a recognition of the increasing sophistication of cyber threats and underscores the shared responsibility of manufacturers and users to secure IoT devices, reinforcing trust in an era marked by advanced cyber risks.

DoT enacts rules to strengthen telecom cybersecurity and combat fraud.

SHARE

23-Oct-25

The Ministry of Communications has enacted the Telecommunications (Telecom Cyber Security) Amendment Rules, 2025, implementing a framework to enhance India's telecom infrastructure against cyber threats and fraud. Central to these amendments is the establishment of a Mobile Number Validation (MNV) Platform, requiring Telecommunication Identifier User Entities (TIUEs) to verify user mobile numbers against official records, which could significantly impact compliance costs for digital businesses. While the government aims to bolster cybersecurity and mitigate identity fraud, concerns have been raised about privacy implications and operational burdens on smaller companies. This regulatory shift underscores the balance between security and compliance, highlighting the need for robust cybersecurity measures in India's rapidly digitalizing economy.

TransparentTribe Targets Indian Military Linux Systems with DeskRAT Attacks

SHARE

23-Oct-25

In July 2025, cybersecurity firm CYFIRMA revealed an ongoing phishing campaign by the Pakistani-linked group TransparentTribe, targeting Linux systems within Indian military and government organizations. This campaign utilizes sophisticated delivery mechanisms to deploy DeskRAT, a remote access trojan specifically designed for Linux environments like the Bharat Operating System Solutions (BOSS). By exploiting real-world events and political unrest, such as protests in Ladakh, the attackers aim to compromise sensitive data while adapting their techniques for stealth and effectiveness. The evolving nature of these cyber threats underscores the need for enhanced security measures within Indian defense establishments, highlighting the geopolitical significance of

safeguarding national security interests against adaptive adversarial tactics.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Indian Army denies Agniveer retention rate increase, clarifies strategy ahead of conference. SHARE

23-Oct-25

The Indian Army has clarified reports regarding a proposal to raise the Agniveer retention rate from 25% to 75%, stating that these claims are speculative and incorrect. This clarification comes ahead of the Army Commanders Conference in Jaisalmer, where the top military leadership will assess the security environment and discuss operational priorities, including the overall strategy for the Agnipath scheme, which currently allows for a retention rate of 25% for Agniveers after their four-year service. Additionally, the Uttarakhand government has announced initiatives to support aspiring Agniveers, including providing free pre-recruitment training and job reservations in state government positions for those who complete their service. This follows a growing recognition of the Agnipath scheme's potential to enhance the youth profile of the Indian Armed Forces by offering a disciplined and skilled workforce to serve the nation. The discussions at the Army Commanders Conference will not only cover personnel retention strategies but also focus on enhancing jointness among the three services, addressing personnel welfare, and operational preparedness, thereby paving the way for more effective defense capabilities in response to emerging challenges. This comprehensive approach underscores the Indian Army's commitment to continuously evolve and strengthen its operational framework, which is crucial for maintaining national security in a dynamic geopolitical landscape.

Miscellaneous

Google's Willow chip achieves groundbreaking quantum advantage with Quantum Echoes algorithm. SHARE

23-Oct-25

Google's Willow chip has achieved a historic milestone in quantum computing by demonstrating the first-ever verifiable quantum advantage with its Quantum Echoes algorithm, as reported in the journal Nature. This algorithm enables unprecedented precision in measuring atomic interactions, acting as a molecular ruler for applications in drug discovery, materials science, and beyond. The Willow chip, featuring 105 superconducting qubits and high gate fidelities, executed millions of quantum measurements rapidly, marking a significant advancement toward practical quantum applications. This breakthrough not only distinguishes itself from earlier claims of quantum supremacy but also positions quantum computing closer to becoming a vital tool in scientific exploration, indicating a promising evolution in the field.

ISRO to launch US BlueBird-6 satellite by year-end, enhancing space collaboration. SHARE

23-Oct-25

The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is set to launch the US BlueBird-6 satellite, a significant collaboration with AST SpaceMobile, by year-end. Weighing 6.5 tonnes, this communication satellite will be launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre using India's powerful LVM3 rocket. ISRO Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan also reported that the Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission is progressing, nearing 90% completion of subsystem activities, with three uncrewed missions planned before the crewed flight. The Upcoming Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC 2025), scheduled from November 3-5, will showcase Indian scientific advancements and foster collaborations across various sectors, highlighting the nation's commitment to becoming a global leader in space exploration and technology innovation. This underlines India's strategic focus on enhancing its space capabilities and international partnerships.

Gaganyaan mission nearing 90% completion, confirms ISRO Chairman Narayanan. SHARE

23-Oct-25

The Gaganyaan mission, India's inaugural human spaceflight initiative, is reported to be nearing 90% completion, according to ISRO Chairman V Narayanan. The mission requires significant technological advancements, including human-rated rockets and crew safety systems, with three uncrewed missions scheduled prior to the crewed launch aimed for early 2027. A recent successful air drop test validated the critical parachute system necessary for safe re-entry. This mission not only enhances India's capabilities in space exploration but also exemplifies its growing

prowess in advanced technology, reflecting a strategic commitment to strengthening its position in the global aerospace arena. The successful completion of Gaganyaan will underscore India's advancements in space technology and its potential role in international space collaboration.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
MTARTECH	2150.0	2300.0	2149.5	2291.2	916908	7.09	71.46	2017.71	1564.99
SWANDEF	701.4	701.4	701.4	701.4	5099	5.0	100.0	459.06	71.58
BHARATFORG	1268.9	1311.0	1265.0	1300.1	3449100	4.56	66.19	1225.75	1185.14
MARINE	229.8	238.75	226.01	234.97	1128549	2.27	66.47	217.75	197.1
RELINFRA	225.38	236.9	225.38	229.69	787669	1.6	40.02	237.45	285.8
KRISHNADEF	786.05	815.0	786.05	804.2	20000	1.45	49.33	812.56	771.82
LMW	15511.0	15870.0	15408.0	15699.0	7469	1.36	64.65	14907.0	15659.73
CFF	642.6	652.0	630.0	651.0	53200	1.35	58.92	631.48	579.37
HIGHENE	640.95	652.8	640.95	645.4	16785	1.19	59.03	607.44	600.97
RTNINDIA	50.97	51.84	50.97	51.41	1110116	0.86	41.5	51.85	51.91
LT	3890.0	3966.2	3890.0	3918.7	2815778	0.78	72.54	3763.58	3510.05
TANEJAERO	361.75	371.0	358.0	363.0	10697	0.78	44.12	368.55	369.95
BEL	421.5	422.5	418.0	418.65	21980966	0.23	62.37	408.25	346.17
ROSSELLIND	62.5	64.2	62.0	62.38	25020	0.06	42.58	63.36	67.69
BEML	4420.0	4444.4	4359.0	4397.0	156230	0.03	55.42	4334.65	3734.54
PTC	166.47	166.5	164.2	165.52	937983	-0.08	40.26	166.17	168.14
ADANIENT	2559.9	2577.8	2540.9	2545.8	852445	-0.16	55.51	2549.95	2410.89
DCXINDIA	235.0	235.0	229.05	229.67	424318	-0.49	33.24	241.7	278.9
MIDHANI	385.95	386.0	378.1	379.95	230370	-0.58	45.97	384.67	356.43
SOLARINDS	14202.0	14203.0	13924.0	14022.0	77806	-0.6	47.79	13950.35	13063.53
MAZDOCK	2839.7	2853.8	2801.8	2810.0	511555	-0.77	46.39	2843.89	2762.97
AVANTEL	183.0	188.89	177.5	180.4	6329041	-0.78	47.54	190.41	142.69
COCHINSHIP	1821.0	1834.9	1783.2	1792.4	906858	-0.91	48.61	1817.64	1676.24
ZENTEC	1408.0	1419.9	1378.0	1386.4	253899	-0.99	41.3	1426.34	1627.24
HAL	4880.8	4885.0	4802.9	4810.2	678729	-0.99	52.95	4807.61	4394.48
WALCHANNAG	173.37	175.69	170.1	170.29	140552	-1.01	35.46	185.51	202.94
AZAD	1675.9	1694.5	1644.1	1649.8	163059	-1.1	51.9	1642.24	1559.8
SIKA	1220.0	1233.1	1195.15	1202.25	20993	-1.13	47.44	1227.73	913.0
IDEAFORGE	480.0	480.05	470.7	472.05	104141	-1.14	41.21	490.29	479.0
GRSE	2655.0	2660.4	2603.5	2610.2	483335	-1.21	49.62	2642.06	2211.58
PARAS	718.95	720.0	703.9	705.75	247998	-1.31	50.17	705.62	646.16
TECHERA	292.0	295.8	276.05	283.9	52000	-1.46	66.06	261.43	184.61
DATAPATTNS	2843.0	2861.3	2785.0	2797.9	162496	-1.55	54.24	2745.6	2393.3
GOODLUCK	1272.9	1278.0	1239.1	1246.4	99594	-1.61	52.5	1259.55	951.01
DYNAMATECH	8220.0	8249.0	7970.5	8047.0	13943	-1.63	69.29	7406.92	6848.8
BDL	1551.0	1552.9	1510.3	1514.8	738282	-1.74	46.92	1524.57	1500.96
JYOTICNC	933.9	942.2	912.15	917.55	169595	-1.75	49.15	910.72	1048.1
LOKESHMACH	199.0	199.0	191.49	192.1	27821	-1.89	49.89	190.98	200.74
AXISCADES	1517.2	1530.0	1450.0	1478.0	37082	-1.96	39.99	1614.55	1108.05
CENTUM	2561.2	2600.0	2486.1	2505.6	13848	-1.98	43.08	2607.06	2097.5
MACPOWER	851.95	865.3	830.0	833.25	8944	-2.19	46.32	834.43	938.53
PREMEXPLN	636.0	638.55	615.0	618.4	355612	-2.24	52.85	619.68	487.78
ASTRAMICRO	1108.0	1110.6	1075.2	1080.0	320357	-2.25	50.19	1082.09	907.68
DRONACHRYA	64.95	65.4	61.0	61.0	199000	-2.52	49.99	58.82	78.53
APOLLO	302.2	303.0	286.15	289.5	4048516	-2.95	41.35	317.94	182.11
HBLPOWER	954.7	957.95	921.3	924.9	982982	-3.07	61.39	878.99	617.8
URAVIDEF	250.0	250.0	231.1	234.87	6707	-3.3	31.4	240.96	425.21
NIBE	1340.15	1358.35	1286.5	1286.5	4833	-3.4	43.07	1365.11	1397.13
TEMBO	625.0	627.4	605.0	610.85	45463	-3.61	56.98	578.52	556.24
SUNITATOOL	848.0	855.0	805.3	805.3	23750	-5.0	50.35	833.47	793.57