



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

August 24, 2025 | Day 236

Defense Business and Industry

Indian Defence Ministry Seeks RFI for 76 Naval Utility Helicopters



24-Aug-25

The Ministry of Defence of India has issued a Request for Information (RFI) for acquiring 76 Naval Utility Helicopters (NUH), with 51 for the Indian Navy and 25 for the Indian Coast Guard, under the Buy & Make (Indian) initiative. This procurement is designed to enhance operational capabilities in maritime search and rescue, humanitarian assistance, and low-intensity maritime operations, reflecting India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing. The helicopters must have a proven track record, be capable of operations in diverse weather conditions, and support a range of critical roles, from casualty evacuation to aerial firefighting. Furthermore, the emphasis on Transfer of Technology (ToT) aims to bolster indigenous production capabilities. The procurement process will include technical evaluations and field trials to ensure that the selected platforms meet operational demands, with a deadline for vendor responses set for October 17, 2025. This initiative is pivotal for strengthening India's maritime security and disaster management capabilities, aligning with the nation's strategic interests in the Indian Ocean Region, where challenges such as piracy and illegal fishing persist. Overall, the NUH program not only aims to modernize naval and coast guard aviation assets but also to stimulate the domestic aerospace manufacturing sector through industrial partnerships.

DRDO successfully tests Integrated Air Defence Weapon System



24-Aug-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted its maiden flight-tests of the Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS) off the coast of Odisha on August 23, 2025. This multi-layered air defence system comprises indigenous Quick

Reaction Surface to Air Missiles (QRSAM), Advanced Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missiles, and a high-power laser-based Directed Energy Weapon (DEW). The tests successfully engaged and destroyed three aerial targets, showcasing India's enhanced aerial threat response capabilities. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh commended the collaborative efforts of DRDO, the Armed Forces, and the industry, emphasizing that IADWS significantly strengthens national security against potential aerial threats.

India partners with Safran to develop 5th-gen fighter jet engines



24-Aug-25

India is making significant strides towards self-reliance in aerospace technology by partnering with France's Safran to co-develop a 120kN jet engine for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), a move that underscores India's commitment to enhancing its indigenous defense capabilities. Defense Minister Rajnath Singh announced this collaboration, emphasizing the retention of full Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) by India, which will enable the country to design, manufacture, and upgrade the engine independently. The new engine is touted as a 1.5-generation leap over the current M88 engine, incorporating advanced technologies such as a more efficient low-pressure compressor, innovative cooling systems capable of handling higher turbine entry temperatures, and stealthy thrust vectoring capabilities. While the initial design may forego some complex next-generation features to meet production timelines, it is structured for future upgrades, ensuring that India can later incorporate advanced technologies like adaptive cycle engines. This collaboration not only aims to fulfill India's immediate defense needs but also positions it as a potential global exporter of aerospace technology, with a robust domestic supply chain and manufacturing ecosystem. The ambitious target for defense exports, which has significantly grown over the past decade, aligns with the Make in India initiative, signaling a transformative period for India's defense sector that prioritizes innovation, strategic autonomy, and global

competitiveness, addressing both current security challenges and future aerospace aspirations.

India Approves Talks for Six Submarines with German Support SHARE

24-Aug-25

The Indian government has approved negotiations for Project 75 India, which involves constructing six advanced submarines in collaboration with Germany's ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems. This project aims to enhance India's naval capabilities and promote self-reliance in defense manufacturing through the development of indigenous submarine construction with Air Independent Propulsion systems. The Defense Ministry and Mazagon Dockyards Limited are set to begin negotiations soon, with completion expected in six months. This initiative not only strengthens maritime defense but also fosters local industries and job creation, marking a pivotal advancement in India's defense modernization efforts.

TAPAS BH-201 UAV to Make First Flight with Indigenous Engine SHARE

24-Aug-25

In a significant advancement for India's defense capabilities, the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) announced progress in both the TAPAS BH-201 and High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) UAV programs. The TAPAS BH-201, a Medium Altitude Long Endurance UAV, is set for its first flight with an indigenous engine by late September or October 2025, enhancing India's self-reliance and meeting the Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) needs of the armed forces. This UAV, now equipped with a 180-horsepower indigenous engine, aims to achieve its operational goals of 30,000 feet altitude and 24-hour endurance. Simultaneously, the HALE UAV program is progressing with two design configurations—one utilizing a turbofan engine and the other a turboprop engine—targeting operational altitudes above 40,000 feet and extended endurance for strategic missions. This dual-configuration approach demonstrates India's commitment to enhance its ISR capabilities and adapt to diverse operational needs. Both programs signify a robust shift towards indigenization in defense technology, positioning India as a self-sufficient player in advanced UAV capabilities capable of significantly enhancing military operations along its borders and in the Indian Ocean Region.

HAL Expects Over 200 Tejas Mk2 Orders from IAF, Aiming for 30 Annually by 2028 SHARE

24-Aug-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is gearing up for a major boost in Tejas Mk2 fighter jet production, expecting orders surpassing 200 units from the Indian Air Force (IAF) to modernize its fleet by replacing aging aircraft like the Mirage 2000, SEPECAT Jaguar, and MiG-29. The 4.5-generation multirole jet, with an indigenous content starting at 82% and projected to reach 90%, is slated for prototype rollout by late 2025, first flight in early 2026, and mass production from 2029, targeting an annual output of 30 units by 2028 to meet demands potentially forming up to six squadrons by 2036. A key enabler is the June 2023 agreement with General Electric for licensed F414 engine manufacturing in India, featuring 80% technology transfer, with commercial negotiations set to begin soon and conclude within three months as of August 2025. This initiative supports the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat push for self-reliant defense capabilities, enhancing India's aerospace sector and reducing foreign dependencies.

IAF Faces Deepening Basic Trainer Aircraft Shortage SHARE

24-Aug-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) faces a significant shortage of basic training aircraft as it relies on just 70 Swiss-made Pilatus PC-7 Mark 2 planes while awaiting the delayed indigenous HTT-40 trainer, which is grappling with engine and ejection seat issues. Although the HTT-40 was expected to be delivered by late 2025, supply chain disruptions and technical challenges have stalled progress. The IAF's current reliance on Pilatus highlights the urgent need for timely solutions to bolster training capabilities, reinforcing India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing amidst ongoing procurement challenges.

MKU Limited Wins Contract to Supply Ballistic Vests to Estonia SHARE

24-Aug-25

MKU Limited, an Indian defense company, has secured a contract to supply NIJ Level IIIA ballistic vests to Estonia's healthcare institutions, enhancing the safety of frontline medical workers amid escalating urban conflicts in Eastern Europe. This initiative reflects Estonia's commitment to protecting essential non-combatant personnel in high-risk environments, allowing them to perform life-saving duties without fear.

The Kavro vests offer lightweight comfort, ergonomic fit, and proven protection against handgun rounds and fragmentation, highlighting the evolving role of body armor beyond military applications. MKU's initiative empowers healthcare workers, illustrating a proactive approach towards safeguarding those who play critical roles in crisis situations.

Philippine Forces Seek India's Pralay Missile to Enhance Defense SHARE

24-Aug-25

The Philippine Armed Forces are interested in India's Pralay tactical ballistic missile to enhance their defense capabilities, complementing their recent acquisition of the BrahMos missile. The Pralay missile, developed by DRDO, boasts a range of 150-500 kilometers and advanced precision capabilities, making it suitable for countering land threats. As India seeks to finalize exports to Armenia and potentially the Philippines, this reflects India's growing influence in the Indo-Pacific and strengthens defense ties in response to regional security challenges, including China's assertiveness. The Pralay's strategic benefits highlight India's commitment to bolstering regional allies' defense postures while advancing its own defense industry on the global stage.

Bharat Forge to Join AMCA Consortium for Stealth Fighter Program SHARE

24-Aug-25

Bharat Forge, a leading Indian engineering firm, aims to join a consortium for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program, a significant fifth-generation stealth fighter initiative led by the Aeronautical Development Agency. This move highlights the increasing role of private industry in India's defense sector and supports the government's push for self-reliance in defense manufacturing. By leveraging its expertise in precision engineering, Bharat Forge could enhance the project's capabilities, contributing to a stronger defense industrial base and meeting production timelines. Their participation would mark a notable shift, fostering confidence among private firms in competing for high-tech aerospace projects traditionally dominated by public entities.

EndureAir Demonstrates Sabal-20 Logistics Drone in Bhutan SHARE

24-Aug-25

EndureAir Systems, based in Noida, successfully demonstrated its Sabal-20 logistics drone in Bhutan, showcasing its capacity to deliver supplies quickly in

remote areas. The drone, capable of carrying 20 kg and designed for high-altitude operations, completed a 10-minute flight to Phajoding Monastery, which typically takes three hours on foot. This achievement highlights India's advancements in UAV technology and reinforces its commitment to self-reliance in defense through initiatives like Make in India. The collaboration with Bhutan's DHI reflects a strategic partnership in exploring drone applications for various logistical challenges in rugged terrains, marking a significant step in enhancing regional cooperation and technological integration.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi Leaves for Algeria to Strengthen Defense Ties SHARE

24-Aug-25

Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi departed for Algeria on August 24, 2025, embarking on a four-day official visit from August 25 to 28 to enhance defence and security ties between the two nations. This engagement follows recent visits by President Droupadi Murmu and Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, as well as a defence cooperation pact signed in early November 2024. During the trip, General Dwivedi is scheduled to meet senior Algerian officials, including General Saïd Chanegriha, Chief of Staff of the People's National Army, and Lieutenant General Mostefa Smaali, Commander of Land Forces, along with Indian Ambassador Swati Kulkarni. Discussions will focus on bolstering Army-to-Army cooperation, addressing regional and global security challenges, and exploring defence industrial partnerships. He will also visit key military institutions such as the School of Command and Major Staff in Tamentfoust and Cherchell Military Academy, and pay homage at the Martyrs Memorial. The visit builds on a defence seminar held in Algiers from July 30 to August 1, 2025, where Indian firms showcased capabilities for potential collaboration.

India Prioritizes Farmers in US Trade Talks, Asserts Jaishankar SHARE

24-Aug-25

India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar recently emphasized the country's unwavering commitment to its strategic autonomy and national interests during trade negotiations with the US, particularly in the context of protecting farmers and small producers. His

remarks come amid heightened scrutiny regarding India's ongoing purchase of Russian oil, which he defended as a legitimate business decision aligned with global market practices. Jaishankar criticized Western nations for their selective criticism, highlighting that countries like China continue to buy Russian oil without facing similar backlash. He reiterated that India has red lines in trade negotiations that cannot be compromised, and any objection to India's energy policies should be transparently communicated. Moreover, he underscored the necessity of safeguarding India's economic independence and the livelihoods of millions of farmers, asserting that India's approach to trade emphasizes pragmatic cooperation while ensuring that external pressures do not dictate domestic priorities. This stance reflects India's growing resilience as a responsible player in global markets, enhancing its role not only in energy security but also in maintaining regional stability, particularly with respect to China. Jaishankar's comments underscore India's commitment to balancing its international relations with its domestic economic needs, maintaining a clear stance on sovereignty and strategic interests amidst evolving geopolitical dynamics.

Jaishankar defends India's Russian oil ties amid US tariff threats.



24-Aug-25

India's External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar, reaffirmed the nation's strategic energy ties with Russia amidst impending US tariffs, highlighting that India's oil purchases are rooted in both national and global interests aimed at stabilizing oil prices. He emphasized India's right to independently decide on energy procurement, countering US criticism that India is profiting from discounted Russian crude oil. Jaishankar pointed out the hypocrisy in focusing on India's actions while ignoring that China is the largest importer of Russian oil and the European Union also conducts significant trade with Russia, effectively funding the conflict in Ukraine. He stated that India's Russian oil imports surged from 1.7% of total imports in 2019-20 to 35.1% in 2024-25, reflecting a pragmatic shift following Western sanctions. Jaishankar noted previous discussions with the US administration that acknowledged India's oil purchases were acceptable to stabilize the global market. He asserted that India's procurement decisions are driven by strategic autonomy, underscoring the importance of energy security in a complex geopolitical landscape.

Pentagon limits Ukraine's use of U.S. missiles against Russia



24-Aug-25

The Pentagon has restricted Ukraine's use of U.S.-made Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) to strike deep into Russia, limiting its defense capabilities amid ongoing frustrations over the protracted war. This decision is reportedly linked to U.S. efforts to persuade Russia towards peace talks, with President Trump considering further sanctions or potential disengagement from the negotiations. The approval process for weapon use is controlled by Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, reflecting broader strategic caution as the U.S. navigates complex geopolitical dynamics. This highlights a careful balance between supporting Ukraine and managing relationships with Russia, crucial for regional stability.

Ukrainian drone attack causes fire at Russia's Kursk nuclear plant



24-Aug-25

A Ukrainian drone attack caused a fire and reduced the operational capacity of a unit at Russia's Kursk Nuclear Power Plant. The incident involved a combat UAV that was shot down by Russian air defense, resulting in damage to an auxiliary transformer and a temporary fire that has since been extinguished. Fortunately, radiation levels remain normal, and there were no reported injuries. This attack exemplifies Ukraine's strategy of targeting critical Russian infrastructure in response to ongoing military actions, indicating an escalation in their conflict dynamics while raising concerns about the safety and security of nuclear facilities amidst warfare.

Russia and Ukraine exchange 146 prisoners of war each.



24-Aug-25

Russia and Ukraine successfully exchanged 146 prisoners of war from each side, facilitated by mediation from the United Arab Emirates, according to the Russian defense ministry. The freed Russian prisoners are currently in Belarus for psychological and medical support, while Ukraine returned eight Russian citizens from the Kursk region. This exchange highlights ongoing diplomatic efforts to ease tensions and foster dialogue between the two nations amidst the ongoing conflict. Such steps, while small, indicate a willingness from both sides to engage in humanitarian measures, which could be vital for future negotiations and stability in the region.

Nikki Haley Urges India to Address U.S. Concerns on Russian Oil Imports



24-Aug-25

Nikki Haley has urged India to address U.S. concerns over its continued oil imports from Russia, warning that trade disputes could jeopardize the strong democratic partnership essential for countering China's influence. Haley highlighted the potential breaking point in Indo-U.S. ties due to U.S. tariffs affecting key Indian exports, with Prime Minister Modi emphasizing India's commitment to its sovereign economic choices. The situation illustrates the delicate balance both nations must maintain, as India prioritizes energy security while the U.S. seeks to enforce sanctions against Russia. This reflects a broader strategic imperative for both countries to navigate tensions while preserving collaboration on crucial geopolitical issues.

Katz warns leaks misrepresent IDF operations in Gaza.



24-Aug-25

Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz has expressed serious concerns over leaks that he believes distort the activities of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) in Gaza, arguing that such information undermines military operations and provides false hope to adversaries. Katz made these remarks during a tour in the Gaza Strip, emphasizing the potential negative impact of these leaks on the morale and effectiveness of Israeli soldiers. This highlights the critical balance between transparency and operational security in military engagements, underscoring Israel's commitment to safeguarding its defense strategies against misinformation that could embolden opponents.

Hegseth dismisses DIA chief and senior officials amid purge.



24-Aug-25

US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth has dismissed Lieutenant General Jeffrey Kruse, head of the Defense Intelligence Agency, along with two other senior military commanders, in a move interpreted as part of the Trump administration's ongoing purge of Pentagon officials. The reasons behind these firings remain unclear, raising concerns about the politicization of intelligence roles. Senator Mark Warner criticized this trend, suggesting that it jeopardizes national security by prioritizing loyalty over expertise. This situation reflects broader tensions within the US defense establishment, highlighting the potential risks associated with leadership changes that may affect strategic continuity and operational effectiveness.

India Rejects Navarro's False Claims on Russian Oil Imports



24-Aug-25

India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar firmly rebuffed U.S. ex-official Navarro's claims that India's Russian oil purchases serve as a "laundromat" for the Kremlin, framing them instead as essential for energy security amid global price volatility. Jaishankar highlighted the contradiction in U.S. policy, where private encouragement for India to stabilize energy markets contrasts with public criticism. He emphasized India's independent foreign policy and its role in mitigating global energy shortages through refining Russian crude. This episode reveals persistent Western discomfort with India's balancing act in geopolitics and underscores the need for India to challenge U.S. inconsistencies in trade and energy policy for a more balanced partnership.

Jaishankar rejects Trump's mediation claims in India-Pak ties.



24-Aug-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar firmly rejected US President Trump's claims of American mediation in the recent India-Pakistan conflict, reiterating India's long-standing policy against third-party involvement in bilateral matters. He emphasized the government's commitment to safeguarding national interests, including those of Indian farmers and strategic autonomy, during his address at the Economic Times World Leaders Forum 2025. Jaishankar's remarks come amid renewed US-Pakistan relations, marked by high-level meetings focusing on trade and security, highlighting India's distinct stance on maintaining sovereignty and rejecting any external influence in its relations with Pakistan.

Kim Jong Un oversees testing of new anti-air missiles amid tensions.



24-Aug-25

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un recently supervised tests of new anti-air missiles, showcasing military advancements amidst ongoing U.S. and South Korean military drills. The tests emphasize North Korea's efforts to enhance its defenses against aerial threats, particularly as Kim continues to strengthen ties with Russia, supplying troops and weapons to aid in the Ukraine conflict. South Korean intelligence indicates that North Korea has deployed around 15,000 troops to assist Russia, raising concerns about potential military technology exchanges that could bolster North Korea's capabilities. This situation underscores the growing

geopolitical tension in the region and the need for vigilant defense strategies from India and its allies.

India and Thailand to hold 14th joint military exercise in Umroi from Sept 1-14. SHARE

24-Aug-25

India and Thailand are set to conduct the 14th edition of the Joint Bilateral Military Exercise, MAITREE, from September 1-14 at Umroi, focusing on enhancing operational capabilities in joint counter-terrorism operations in semi-urban terrains under a UN mandate. This exercise, held in India after a five-year hiatus, underscores the strong defense ties between the two nations, complementing India's 'Act East' policy with Thailand's 'Act West' approach. The collaboration also involves joint maritime patrols and extensive training programs, reflecting a shared commitment to regional stability and security. The multifaceted relationship between India and Thailand continues to strengthen in various sectors, including defense and security.

Military Operations

IAF Deploys Mi-17 Helicopter for Flood Relief in Rajasthan SHARE

24-Aug-25

Recent torrential rains in Rajasthan have caused severe flooding, particularly affecting the districts of Kota, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, and Tonk, with hundreds of residents displaced and two fatalities reported. The Indian Air Force (IAF) has positioned a Mi-17 helicopter for potential humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) operations, while the Army, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) are actively engaged in rescue efforts across the inundated regions. The situation is dire, with critical transport links submerged and additional rainfall expected, prompting authorities to expedite evacuation and relief measures. Local officials, including the Chief Minister and Member of Parliament Om Birla, are overseeing rehabilitation efforts and urging caution from residents in vulnerable areas. This situation underscores the importance of coordinated emergency responses and the capability of the Indian defense forces in humanitarian crises, showcasing their commitment to safeguarding civilian lives during natural disasters. The integrated approach involving the IAF and ground forces highlights India's resilience and preparedness in managing such calamities effectively.

Pentagon Plans Military Deployment in Chicago Amid Crime Crackdown SHARE

24-Aug-25

The Pentagon is reportedly planning to deploy the U.S. military in Chicago amid President Trump's crackdown on crime and immigration, with National Guard mobilization options under consideration. Governor JB Pritzker and Mayor Brandon Johnson have expressed concerns about the necessity and coordination of such a deployment, emphasizing recent declines in crime rates in the city. Critics argue that Trump is politicizing the situation, while supporters claim it is a necessary response to ongoing challenges. The discourse raises questions about federal-state relations and the appropriateness of military involvement in domestic issues, highlighting the divide in political perspectives within the U.S.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Pakistan Claims to Uncover Indian RAW Spy Network Behind Killings SHARE

24-Aug-25

Pakistan's Counter Terrorism Department has dismantled a spy network allegedly linked to India's RAW, arresting six suspects in connection with targeted killings and sabotage in Sindh. The operation revealed claims of Indian involvement in local violence aimed at destabilizing the region, with Pakistan seeking international scrutiny of these allegations. Indian officials have rejected these claims as propaganda, emphasizing that such accusations often exploit domestic grievances for geopolitical leverage. This incident highlights the persistent espionage tensions between the two nations and the increasing significance of cyber warfare in their bilateral relations, prompting both countries to bolster their intelligence and defense capabilities.

PM Modi: Terrorists Will Face Justice on Indian Soil SHARE

24-Aug-25

Prime Minister Modi emphasized national security and anti-corruption initiatives during his visit to Bihar, asserting that no terrorist would evade justice for attacks on Indian soil, referencing Operation Sindoor as a testament to this commitment. He inaugurated significant infrastructure projects to enhance connectivity and criticized opposition parties for their resistance to reforms such as the Constitution (130th

Amendment) Bill, aimed at curbing political corruption. Modi denounced the opposition's alleged protection of illegal infiltrators for electoral gain, positioning his government as a defender of national interests and regional pride ahead of upcoming elections. This strategic blend of development and security rhetoric is crucial in shaping the NDA's electoral narrative.

J-K LG dismisses 2 employees for alleged ties to terrorism. SHARE

24-Aug-25

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has dismissed two government employees over their alleged connections to terror activities, exercising his authority under Article 311 (2)(c) of the Constitution. The dismissed individuals are Siyad Ahmad Khan, an Assistant Stockman in the Sheep Husbandry Department, and Khurshid Ahmad Rather, a school teacher, both from Kupwara district. This decisive action underscores the administration's commitment to maintaining security and integrity within government ranks, reflecting a broader strategy to curb the influence of terrorism in the region and ensure that public servants uphold the values of the state. Such measures bolster the efforts of the Indian government in promoting peace and stability in Jammu and Kashmir.

IS and Al-Qaeda Use Translation to Enhance Propaganda in India SHARE

24-Aug-25

Islamic State and Al-Qaeda have intensified their propaganda efforts in India by leveraging translations into regional languages, with IS's Al-Isabah Foundation and Al-Qaeda's Al-Kifah media establishing dedicated translation centers since early 2024. This strategy targets diverse populations, particularly in South India, using materials in Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Kannada, and others to exploit local tensions and recruit sympathizers. The surge in vernacular content, noted after Bangladesh's political upheaval in August 2024, has heightened challenges for Indian counter-terrorism agencies, prompting enhanced monitoring of online platforms and calls for stronger community-based counter-narratives as of August 2025.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

GMR Aero Academy Launches Cybersecurity Training Program SHARE

24-Aug-25

GMR Aero Academy, the training arm of GMR Group specializing in aviation and security, has officially launched the National Cyber Security Scholar Program on August 21 to bolster India's cybersecurity defenses amid escalating threats to critical infrastructure and defense sectors. This 18-week, 160-hour instructor-led initiative, developed under the National Security Database platform in partnership with CERT-In and the Information Sharing and Analysis Centre, focuses on equipping emerging leaders with skills in threat detection, incident response, vulnerability assessment, ethical hacking, cyber forensics, malware analysis, and AI-driven defenses through hands-on simulations and real-world scenarios like war games. Graduates are recognized as national assets, contributing to resilience in key areas. ISAC Advisor Group Captain Aanand Naidu emphasized shaping professionals to safeguard critical sectors, while Telangana State Council of Higher Education Chairman V. Balakista Reddy encouraged extending expertise for national capacity-building, aligning with India's push for self-reliance in cybersecurity.

US Navy Sailor Convicted for Leaking Classified Info to China SHARE

24-Aug-25

A US Navy sailor has been convicted of espionage for leaking classified information to Chinese intelligence, including details on naval exercises and missile systems. Stationed in Japan, the sailor received \$15,000 for the information, compromising US operations in the Indo-Pacific. This incident highlights the escalating threat of Chinese espionage amid tensions in the South China Sea, prompting the Department of Defense to enhance counterintelligence measures. With multiple similar cases in recent years, experts warn that such breaches could diminish US technological superiority in military capabilities, underscoring the need for vigilant defense strategies to safeguard national interests.

Pakistan's Mobile System Changes Fuel Cyberattack Concerns

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24-Aug-25

Users in Pakistan reported unexpected changes to mobile systems, sparking fears of a coordinated cyberattack, potentially linked to state actors amid regional tensions. Anomalies included unauthorized app installations and unusual data usage patterns, prompting the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority to advise users on cybersecurity measures. This incident underscores vulnerabilities in Pakistan's digital infrastructure, raising alarms about potential threats to critical systems, including defense communications. The situation highlights the need for bolstered cybersecurity frameworks and international collaboration to address cross-border cyber threats, reflecting the importance of robust defense strategies in an increasingly digital world.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Honors Gaganyatris in New Delhi

🔗 SHARE

24-Aug-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh recently celebrated the achievements of Group Captains Shubhanshu Shukla, PB Nair, Ajit Krishnan, and Angad Pratap, who are integral to India's upcoming Gaganyaan mission, during a ceremony in New Delhi. He emphasized that the Gaganyaan mission represents a "new chapter" in the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, showcasing India's advancements in space exploration. Singh praised Shukla, who recently participated in the Axiom 4 mission, making him the first Indian to reach the International Space Station, and acknowledged his journey as an inspiration for the nation. Shukla shared his humble beginnings as a shy individual and his unexpected rise to becoming an astronaut, reflecting a narrative of perseverance and national pride. The Raksha Mantri highlighted India's expanding role in space, asserting that the nation is prepared for future missions and that the technologies derived will benefit various sectors across the country. This initiative, he argued, is not merely technological but a testament to India's commitment to global cooperation and human progress, encapsulated in the philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world is one family). In essence, the Gaganyaan mission underscores India's significant strides in space, blending military, civilian, and scientific efforts, positioning the country as a formidable player

on the global stage and further cementing its identity as a leader in space exploration and innovation.

Miscellaneous

ISRO Completes First Successful Air Drop Test for Gaganyaan Mission

🔗 SHARE

24-Aug-25

ISRO has successfully completed the Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT) for its Gaganyaan mission, demonstrating the parachute-based deceleration system crucial for ensuring astronauts' safe return from space. This collaborative effort involved the Indian Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard, and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), which showcased India's multi-agency synergy and technological prowess. During the test, an IAF Chinook helicopter dropped a simulated crew module from approximately 4,000 meters over the Bay of Bengal, where a series of ten parachutes were sequentially deployed to slow the module's descent for a safe splashdown. The Indian Navy played a critical role by swiftly recovering the capsule post-landing, highlighting the operational readiness and effectiveness of national assets in supporting space missions. The Gaganyaan program, with a budget exceeding ₹10,000 crores, aims to conduct its first uncrewed mission by 2025 and eventually achieve human spaceflight, alongside plans for India's own modular space station by 2035 and a lunar landing by 2040. The achievements reflect a significant leap in India's aerospace capabilities, positioning the nation among elite spacefaring countries and enhancing its standing in global science and technology. This progress is not only a testament to indigenous development and engineering excellence but also emphasizes the importance of national collaboration in achieving complex and ambitious goals, reinforcing India's commitment to becoming a dominant player in the field of space exploration and technology.

Rajnath Singh visits Chishoti cloudburst victims in Jammu hospital.

🔗 SHARE

24-Aug-25

Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh visited victims of a devastating cloudburst in Chishoti village, Jammu and Kashmir, which resulted in a death toll of 65 and left many injured. Heavy rainfall caused further damage across the Jammu region, leading to road blockages and landslides. Efforts for relief and rehabilitation have commenced, with ₹4.13 crore disbursed to affected

families. The India Meteorological Department forecasts continued severe weather, urging citizens to remain cautious. The proactive response from authorities, including the State Disaster Response Fund and National Disaster Response Force, highlights India's commitment to disaster management and humanitarian assistance in the region.

PM calls for 5 unicorns, 50 rocket launches in 5 years



24-Aug-25

India is poised for a transformative leap in its space sector, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for the private sector to establish five unicorns and scale rocket launches from five to 50 annually within the next five years. On National Space Day, he outlined an ambitious roadmap that includes deep space exploration, emphasizing India's successful missions to the Moon and Mars and the need to delve into uncharted territories. Modi highlighted technological advancements in propulsion systems critical for long-duration missions and reaffirmed the commitment to the Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission and the development of India's own space station. The Prime Minister underscored the pivotal role of private enterprises in accelerating the space economy, bolstered by over 350 new startups, and noted the collaborative advancements in launching the first private communication satellite. This strategic vision not only aims to elevate India as a global space power but also integrates space technology into governance, enhancing services like disaster management and agricultural assessments. Modi's focus on innovation and collaboration illustrates India's resolve to harness space for societal benefits while positioning the nation as a hub for space exploration and research, ultimately contributing to a deeper understanding of the universe.

India's 15-Year Space Plan: 103 Satellites and Lunar Aspirations



24-Aug-25

India's ambitious 15-year space plan, unveiled by ISRO, aims to launch 103 satellites by 2040, with multiple Chandrayaan missions, including a lunar sample return, and a goal of landing an Indian astronaut on the Moon. The roadmap emphasizes a mix of Earth observation, strategic surveillance, and a satellite-based internet constellation, supported by the development of the Lunar Module Launch Vehicle (LMLV). The private sector's involvement is encouraged through a Public-Private Partnership model, reflecting India's evolving space policy. With aspirations to elevate its global

space market share from 1.7% to 10%, India is on a transformative path to becoming a leading space power.

India to include women, diverse candidates in Gaganyaan astronaut pool



24-Aug-25

India is advancing its Gaganyaan mission by creating a diverse astronaut pool that will include women and individuals from various fields, not just the Indian Air Force. Prime Minister Modi emphasized this initiative during National Space Day, aiming for a ready pool of 40-50 astronauts by 2027 to facilitate future human spaceflights and explore deeper cosmic mysteries. The government has already approved eight flights under the mission, including two crewed and six uncrewed. Modi also called for increased private sector participation to boost launch frequency, targeting 50 annual rocket launches in five years, showcasing India's commitment to becoming a significant player in global space exploration.

Educating Youth on India's Space Achievements is Crucial



24-Aug-25

On National Space Day, IAF Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla emphasized the importance of educating children about India's significant achievements in space exploration, highlighting the country's rich historical contributions to astronomy dating back to 500 B.C. He expressed optimism for future missions such as Gaganyaan and the Indian Space Station (BAS), which is set to launch its first module by 2028 and become operational by 2035. Union Minister Jitendra Singh noted that India's success with Chandrayaan 3 has elevated global expectations and instilled national self-confidence. This underscores India's growing prominence in space technology and its commitment to inspiring future generations through its advancements.

Chandrayaan-3's success affirms India's status as a space superpower



24-Aug-25

The Chandrayaan-3 mission's unprecedented success, marking India's soft landing on the moon's south pole, was celebrated by Union Minister Hardeep Puri as a testament to India's emergence as a space superpower in the 21st century. This achievement positions India as the fourth nation to accomplish a soft lunar landing, reinforcing the nation's commitment to advancing its space capabilities. Former ISRO chief Dr. S. Somanath emphasized the mission as a game-changer, while P.K.

Mishra highlighted the collaborative efforts across various sectors fueling India's space ambitions. Looking ahead, ISRO aims to align with global leaders in space technology by 2040, supporting India's vision for a self-reliant and prosperous future.

IIT-Bombay students use Chandrayaan-2 data to map Moon's chemistry



24-Aug-25

Students from IIT-Bombay have successfully mapped the Moon's surface chemistry using data from ISRO's Chandrayaan-2 mission, showcasing their advanced astrophysics and data analysis skills during the Inter-IIT Tech Meet. The Large Area Soft X-ray Spectrometer onboard Chandrayaan-2 has provided extensive data, allowing the students to extract significant information on lunar composition. This achievement not only highlights the potential of India's youth in driving scientific innovation but also reflects the growing capabilities of India's space exploration endeavors. The success of these students reinforces the importance of academic collaboration in expanding India's contributions to space science.

NHAI warns toll operators, penalizes agency after assault on jawan



24-Aug-25

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has issued a stern warning to toll operators following incidents of unruly behavior, including an assault on an

army jawan in Meerut. In response, NHAI imposed a ₹20 lakh penalty on the agency responsible for Bhuni Toll Plaza, terminated its contract, and highlighted the need for disciplined conduct among staff. NHAI reiterated the importance of maintaining courtesy towards the public and has mandated further training for toll employees. This decisive action aims to restore the agency's reputation and ensure that similar incidents are not repeated, reflecting a commitment to protecting the dignity of defense personnel and the public.

Anish Dayal Singh appointed as Deputy NSA to PM Modi.



24-Aug-25

The Indian government has appointed Anish Dayal Singh, a retired IPS officer and former Director General of the CRPF, as the new Deputy National Security Advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Singh, who has a strong background in counterinsurgency and border security, played a crucial role in enhancing the operational efficiency of the CRPF, particularly in anti-Naxal operations and securing elections. His leadership saw the establishment of forward operating bases in conflict areas and a significant restructuring of CRPF battalions. This appointment reflects India's commitment to bolstering its national security apparatus and effective governance in challenging environments, ensuring a proactive stance against internal and external threats.

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