



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

February 24, 2025 | Day 055

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
DATAATTNS	1642.9	1553.6	+5.75%
HIGHENE	490.55	480.1	+2.18%
SIKA	2585.65	2546.45	+1.54%
MAZDOCK	2151.05	2119.45	+1.49%
GRSE	1337.85	1319.2	+1.41%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
TEMBO	601.7	679.1	-11.4%
CFF	455.0	477.8	-4.77%
MARINE	170.27	177.89	-4.28%
TANEJAERO	297.9	307.55	-3.14%
AZAD	1317.1	1358.05	-3.02%

Defense Business and Industry

High-Level Panel Formed to Boost Indigenous Fighter Jet Production



24-Feb-25

The Indian Defence Ministry has formed a high-level committee, led by Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, to enhance indigenous production of light combat aircraft (LCA), particularly the TEJAS MK-1A. The committee aims to assess production capacities, streamline the supply chain, and increase private sector involvement in manufacturing, addressing current delays primarily caused by jet engine supply issues from General Electric. With HAL currently facing a significant order backlog, the panel will explore the feasibility of establishing a new production line potentially managed by private players. The initiative also aligns with plans for the Advanced Multirole Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program, emphasizing the strategic importance of bolstering the Indian Air Force's capabilities amidst regional security challenges. This move reflects India's commitment to enhancing its indigenous defense manufacturing sector while ensuring timely deliveries and modernizing its fighter fleet.

DRDO's Submarine Project-76 Set for CCS Approval After Eight Years



24-Feb-25

India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is poised to secure Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) approval for its ambitious Project-76, aimed at developing six indigenous diesel-electric submarines with 90%-95% local content. This

initiative, building on past submarine-building experiences, includes advanced features such as a phosphoric acid-based Air-Independent Propulsion (AIP) system, lithium-ion batteries, and indigenous combat systems, with the first prototype expected by 2030. However, challenges such as foreign technology reluctance, limited research funding, and bureaucratic delays may impede progress. Despite these hurdles, Project-76 marks a significant stride towards self-reliance in naval capabilities, bolstering India's defense industry and positioning it as a potential exporter under the Make in India initiative, while concurrently advancing Project-75I, which emphasizes collaboration with foreign entities for strategic technology transfer.

Tejas MkII's RCS Four Times Lower Than MkIA, Boosting Stealth



24-Feb-25

India's Tejas MkII program is making significant strides in stealth technology, with its frontal Radar Cross Section (RCS) reduced to one-fourth of the MkI, enhancing its evasion capabilities against enemy radar systems. Air Marshal (Retd.) R.K.S. Rajkumar provided positive updates on the Tejas MkII and the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), highlighting advancements in production efficiency and indigenous content at HAL. The MkII's design incorporates radar-absorbent materials and advanced avionics, aiming for operational availability by 2028. Despite challenges like engine delivery delays, the Indian government's commitment of ₹10,000 crore reflects a strategic push for self-reliance in defense. Both programs underscore India's ambition to reduce dependence on foreign military platforms, positioning the country as a competitive player in the global aerospace sector.

Aerospace Giants Boost Sourcing from India Amid Supply Chain Crisis SHARE

24-Feb-25

Global aerospace giants like Airbus, Collins Aerospace, and Rolls-Royce are increasingly sourcing parts from India to counter supply chain challenges post-COVID-19, with Indian firms such as Hical Technologies and JJG Aero experiencing significant revenue growth. India's aerospace sector is projected to capture 10% of the global supply chain market by 2033, driven by rising domestic aviation demand and increased contracts for higher-value manufacturing work. This burgeoning sector positions India as a vital player, with major manufacturers planning to double sourcing from the country, acknowledging it as a key solution to global supply chain constraints, thus enhancing India's strategic importance in the aerospace industry.

India's DG Propulsion and BDL Collaborate on Advanced UAV Engines SHARE

24-Feb-25

India's defense capabilities are set to advance significantly through a new partnership between DG Propulsion and Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), which aims to develop advanced jet turbine engines for loitering munitions and UAVs. This collaboration marks a crucial step towards self-reliance in the defense sector, reducing dependence on foreign technology amid rising global tensions. The engines developed will ensure high performance and endurance for next-generation aerial systems, enhancing India's military effectiveness. Additionally, this initiative has the potential for civilian applications, showcasing the broader implications of fostering indigenous innovation in defense technologies. Overall, this partnership strengthens India's strategic position in contemporary warfare and technological advancement.

Indian Army Enhances Air Defence with Advanced Indigenous Systems SHARE

24-Feb-25

The Indian Army is advancing its air defence modernisation with the introduction of advanced indigenous systems, including successor guns, VSHORADS, and QRSAM, aimed at replacing outdated platforms. These systems enhance capabilities against fast-moving aerial threats like drones through features such as integrated fire control, automatic target tracking, and fragmentation ammunition. The QRSAM will complement existing systems by providing a rapid response layer, while the VSHORADS addresses low-altitude threats. This initiative aligns with India's

Aatmanirbhar Bharat policy, emphasizing self-reliance in defense manufacturing to ensure operational readiness against evolving security challenges in modern warfare.

India Promotes IJT-36 Yashas Armed Variant for Global Sales SHARE

24-Feb-25

India is set to promote the IJT-36 Yashas armed variant to international buyers, showcasing significant upgrades including a modernised cockpit, advanced avionics, and a 1,000 kg weapons payload capacity. Its capabilities extend to Stage-II pilot training, counter-insurgency operations, and aerobatics, powered by a reliable FADEC-controlled AL55I engine. HAL aims to position the Yashas as an affordable dual-role trainer adaptable for light combat, competing against established models like the T-50 and M-346. Emphasizing cost-effectiveness, customisation, and strong after-sales support, HAL seeks to capture a share of the global market for combat trainers in less contested airspaces.

Mazagon Docks to Build Six German U-214NG Subs and More Scorpenes SHARE

24-Feb-25

Mazagon Docks Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) is set to manufacture six advanced German TKMS U-214NG submarines, alongside additional enhanced Scorpene class submarines, following approval from India's Ministry of Defence. This ambitious project highlights MDL's confidence in its existing infrastructure, enabling simultaneous construction of up to 11 submarines. The initiative not only bolsters India's naval capabilities but also aligns with the Make in India initiative, enhancing local manufacturing and technology transfer. MDL's involvement in Project-76 further cements its status as a key player in global shipbuilding while deepening Indo-German naval cooperation, showcasing strategic foresight and operational efficiency in strengthening India's maritime defense.

DRDO Develops Air-to-Surface Pinaka for IAF's Precision Strikes SHARE

24-Feb-25

The DRDO is advancing the Pinaka rocket program by exploring air-to-surface variants for the Indian Air Force (IAF), aiming to develop a cost-effective, long-range missile system that can leverage the existing capabilities of aircraft like the Su-30 MKI and Tejas. The Guided Pinaka, with its enhanced range of 250-300 km,

is positioned as a versatile alternative to imported systems, allowing for precision strikes on strategic targets. This initiative highlights India's focus on indigenous defense production, enhancing operational flexibility and addressing modern warfare demands, particularly against UAVs and other aerial threats, while ensuring streamlined manufacturing processes for cost efficiency.

Indian Army Welcomes MKU's Advanced Kavro Doma 360 Helmet SHARE

24-Feb-25

MKU Limited has successfully inducted its advanced Kavro Doma 360 ballistic helmet into the Indian Army, showcasing significant improvements in head protection against threats such as AK-47 rounds. The helmet, weighing between 1.45 kg and 1.8 kg, features a boltless design, enhancing coverage and minimizing blunt trauma risk. Its compatibility with Modular Accessory Connector System allows for integration with various mission-specific devices, making it versatile for diverse operational scenarios. This development reflects India's growing capabilities in defense manufacturing and addresses critical safety needs for soldiers, particularly in counterinsurgency operations in regions like Jammu and Kashmir.

Kaveri Derivative Engine for Ghatak UCAV Shares 75% Design with Kaveri SHARE

24-Feb-25

India's development of the Kaveri Derivative Engine (KDE) for the Ghatak stealth UCAV marks a significant advancement in indigenous aerospace technology, featuring 75% commonality with the Kaveri Afterburner engine. This design choice promises reduced development costs and enhanced operational efficiency for the Indian Air Force (IAF). With a thrust output of approximately 49-51 kN, the KDE is tailored for deep-strike missions, complementing India's fifth-generation Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft. The initiative aligns with the broader Make in India strategy, although challenges like engine weight and upcoming flight trials in Russia remain. Successful testing could pave the way for future developments like Kaveri 2.0 for manned fighters, strengthening India's defense capabilities.

DRDO Accelerates Development of Indigenous Laser Pods for Tejas SHARE

24-Feb-25

The DRDO is advancing its plans to develop indigenous Laser Designation Pods (LDPs) for the Tejas Mk1A and MkII fighter jets, aiming to enhance India's defense

capabilities and reduce reliance on foreign technology, particularly Israeli LITENING pods. This initiative aligns with the Indian Air Force's demand for next-gen features suitable for both 4.5 and 5th generation fighters. LDPs are vital for modern warfare, providing enhanced detection, precision strikes, and real-time communication, which are essential for effective operations in varied environments. This development reflects India's commitment to self-reliance in defense technology and strengthens its strategic military capabilities.

Leveraging LHDs as UAV Carriers to Strengthen Indian Navy SHARE

24-Feb-25

The Indian Navy is urged to prioritize the development of Landing Helicopter Docks (LHDs) designed for unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) operations, enhancing its versatility in both traditional and emerging maritime threats. LHDs would serve as mobile bases for UAVs, enabling extended reconnaissance, surveillance, and combat missions, while also being cost-effective. Additionally, these platforms could play crucial roles in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, utilizing advanced UAV technologies. By embracing LHDs, India can bolster its naval capabilities and assert its presence in the strategically vital Indian Ocean Region, aligning with global trends towards integrating unmanned systems in modern naval warfare.

IAF Plans to Revive Iconic Hawker Hunter and Vintage Fleet SHARE

24-Feb-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is considering the restoration of vintage aircraft, including the iconic Hawker Hunter, known for its role in the 1971 Indo-Pakistani War. The IAF's existing vintage fleet includes the de Havilland Tiger Moth and Harvard trainer, with plans to restore historical models like the Dakota DC-3, Hurricane, and Spitfire for public displays. While the potential revival of the Hunter is promising, challenges such as sourcing parts, compliance with safety standards, and specialized restoration expertise remain significant hurdles. This initiative reflects the IAF's commitment to preserving its aviation heritage while showcasing India's rich military history and technological evolution.

HAL Set to Develop Advanced CATS Warrior 2 if Initial Tests Succeed SHARE

24-Feb-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is poised to develop an advanced unmanned combat aerial vehicle,

the "CATS Warrior 2," contingent upon the successful testing of its smaller predecessor, the CATS Warrior. This upgraded UCAV will feature a length of 13 meters and a weight of 5 tons, allowing for an increased payload capacity exceeding 1,000 kg, which will enable the integration of heavy weaponry and sophisticated sensors. HAL emphasizes a phased development approach, focusing initially on the operational efficacy of the CATS Warrior before committing resources to the larger platform. This initiative reflects India's commitment to indigenous defense technology and enhancing the capabilities of the Indian Air Force.

Russia's Ilyushin Il-114-300: A Key Player in India's UDAN Initiative

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24-Feb-25

Russia is promoting its modernized Ilyushin Il-114-300 turboprop as a viable option for India's UDAN regional connectivity initiative, designed to enhance air travel to underserved regions. The aircraft accommodates up to 68 passengers and features improved avionics and fuel-efficient engines, making it suitable for short flights and capable of operating on unpaved runways. The Il-114-300 aims to replace the aging Antonov An-24 and An-26 models in service. This collaboration supports India's economic development goals by stimulating connectivity and enhancing regional air travel, aligning with India's efforts to modernize its aviation capabilities and improve regional access.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Meloni Slams Left's Bias Against Conservative Leaders Like Trump and Modi

[!\[\]\(ec9132f1d27c8919987d92907322654d_img.jpg\) SHARE](#)

24-Feb-25

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni criticized the perceived double standards of the Left regarding global conservative leaders, such as herself, Donald Trump, and Narendra Modi, labeling them a "threat to democracy" while praising leftist leaders. Speaking at the Conservative Political Action Conference, she emphasized the growing collaboration among conservatives, asserting that citizens are rejecting Leftist narratives in favor of leaders who prioritize national security, traditional values, and economic stability. Meloni expressed confidence in Trump's leadership and his commitment to maintaining strong ties between the U.S. and Europe, despite existing tensions, suggesting that adversaries underestimate

the resilience and determination of conservative governance.

Zelensky proposes all-for-all POW swap as a peace initiative

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24-Feb-25

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky proposed a comprehensive exchange of all prisoners of war with Russia as a foundational step towards ending the ongoing conflict. He emphasized the need for Russia to release Ukrainians and termed the all-for-all exchange as a fair starting point for negotiations. This proposal, made during a summit in Kyiv marking the third anniversary of Russia's invasion, reflects Ukraine's commitment to seeking peaceful resolutions while underscoring the importance of addressing humanitarian concerns. Zelensky's initiative highlights the complexities of war and the critical role of dialogue in conflict resolution, showcasing Ukraine's strategic approach to diplomacy amidst ongoing hostilities.

Trump's Ukraine Policy Shift Sparks Taiwan Support Concerns

[!\[\]\(899d8b7697d64725bf017d3296cfcf1b_img.jpg\) SHARE](#)

24-Feb-25

U.S. President Trump's reversal on Ukraine policy raises concerns about potential Chinese aggression towards Taiwan, as experts suggest Beijing may adopt a cautious approach. Trump's recent criticism of Taiwan and calls for it to pay for U.S. military defense have led to fears of unreliable American support for Taipei. While some analysts believe the shift in policy may be intended to focus on the Asia-Pacific, it creates a precedent that could embolden China. However, the complexities of U.S.-China relations and historical American positions on Taiwan suggest that an outright abandonment of Taiwan is unlikely, despite the precarious geopolitical landscape.

Chinese Warships in Tasman Sea Raise Security Concerns for Australia and New Zealand

[!\[\]\(40770d9ed6ed4f1222ebf89a1396e8b2_img.jpg\) SHARE](#)

24-Feb-25

Chinese warships recently conducted live-fire exercises in the Tasman Sea, alarming Australia and New Zealand due to their proximity to commercial flight routes. While both nations acknowledged that China did not breach international law, concerns were raised about insufficient notification prior to the drills. Analysts suggest that these maneuvers reflect China's growing military assertiveness in the region, possibly in response to Australia's deepening military ties with Japan, the Philippines, and Vietnam. This situation

underscores the need for vigilance in the South Pacific as China seeks to expand its influence, raising anxieties regarding regional security and geopolitical dynamics.

UN Chief Calls for Urgent Global Action to End Ukraine Conflict



24-Feb-25

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres emphasized the urgent need for global efforts to end the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, advocating for a peace that aligns with the U.N. Charter and international law. His remarks came as the U.S. pushed for a resolution demanding Russian troop withdrawal, amid indications of waning support for Ukraine from its allies. Guterres highlighted the significant human rights violations occurring globally, including in Gaza and the Democratic Republic of Congo, which reflect the broader challenges to the post-World War II international order. The situation underscores the complexity of achieving peace in Ukraine while addressing human rights and geopolitical dynamics.

Friedrich Merz Questions NATO's Future, Advocates EU Defense Independence



24-Feb-25

Germany's likely next Chancellor Friedrich Merz has questioned the future of NATO in its current form, emphasizing the need for Europe to establish an independent defense capability, especially in light of U.S. President Trump's remarks about European security. He expressed concerns over reliance on the U.S. nuclear umbrella and suggested discussions with France and Britain regarding their nuclear protections. Merz's hawkish stance towards Russia may lead to increased military support for Ukraine, contrasting with outgoing Chancellor Olaf Scholz's position. This shift signals a potential transformation in European defense dynamics, urging EU nations to reassess their security strategies amid changing U.S. commitments.

Jaishankar: India and China Unite to Safeguard G20 Integrity



24-Feb-25

India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar highlighted the collaborative efforts of India and China to safeguard the G20 as an institution amidst global polarization. During the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, he emphasized the importance of dialogue between the two nations, even amid challenging times in their bilateral relations. Recent diplomatic exchanges, including visits by India's National Security Adviser and

Foreign Secretary to China, signal a thaw in ties, addressing critical issues like border peace, the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, and cross-border cooperation. Jaishankar's remarks underscore a commitment to building mutual trust and fostering cooperation, reinforcing both countries' roles in pivotal international forums.

Shahbaz Sharif's Bold Challenge: Surpass India or Change My Name



24-Feb-25

Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif recently challenged that if Pakistan does not surpass India in progress, he should change his name, emphasizing a vision for national greatness and self-reliance. His remarks come amid Pakistan's ongoing economic struggles and reliance on international aid, with inflation recently claimed to be reduced from 40% to 2%. While Shahbaz Sharif's comments have drawn both ridicule and debate on social media, they also reflect his administration's desire for peaceful dialogue with India over contentious issues like the Kashmir dispute. His statements highlight the contrasting trajectories of India and Pakistan, with India continuing to strengthen its regional influence and economic stability.

Military Operations

Residents clash with Bangladesh air force, 1 dead in turmoil



24-Feb-25

A violent altercation in southern Bangladesh led to residents attacking an air force base, resulting in one death and several injuries when soldiers opened fire. The confrontation reportedly began after air force personnel confronted a motorbike rider for not wearing a helmet, prompting his relatives to retaliate. This incident reflects the deteriorating law and order situation in Bangladesh under the interim government led by Muhammad Yunus, which has faced significant unrest since the ouster of Sheikh Hasina. The government's crackdown, Operation Devil Hunt, underscores the rising tensions and challenges in maintaining stability amidst widespread accusations of mob justice and political repression.

Army and IAF Enhance Joint Readiness in Jammu Exercise [SHARE](#)

24-Feb-25

The Indian Army and the Indian Air Force (IAF) recently conducted a two-day integrated training exercise in the Jammu sector, focused on enhancing joint operational readiness. This exercise aimed to improve coordination between ground troops and aerial assets, which is crucial for modern warfare. Key activities included the airlift of troops by IAF helicopters and a simulated combat scenario, highlighting the importance of air mobility and tactical proficiency. Such integrated training reinforces operational capabilities and fosters a deeper understanding of each service's dynamics, ultimately ensuring preparedness for real-time challenges and enhancing India's defense strategy in the region.

BSF Boosts Troops and Tactical HQs Along India-Pak Border [SHARE](#)

24-Feb-25

The Border Security Force (BSF) has mobilized additional troops along the India-Pakistan border in Punjab and Jammu to enhance its anti-infiltration measures amidst increasing drone activity and cross-border threats. Nine tactical headquarters have been established to improve operational efficiency and intelligence monitoring at vulnerable posts, reflecting a proactive stance against infiltration and smuggling. In 2023, the BSF recorded significant drone seizures and apprehensions of smugglers, indicating persistent challenges from cross-border activities. This strategic reinforcement underscores India's commitment to securing its borders and effectively countering emerging threats, particularly from Pakistan, enhancing overall national security.

Ending Reliance on Russian Jets: India's Leap to Self-Reliance [SHARE](#)

24-Feb-25

The Indian Air Force's reliance on Russian fighter jets, which began with the MiG-21, is nearing its end as India aims for self-reliance in defense manufacturing. The Su-30MKI, a product of India-Russia cooperation, has been central to the IAF's capabilities but will likely be replaced by indigenous projects like the Tejas Mk1A and the ambitious AMCA, introducing advanced combat technologies. While transitioning away from Russian aircraft is underway, India seeks to maintain strategic ties with Russia, emphasizing co-development and local production to enhance its defense sector. This shift underscores India's commitment to achieving

technological sovereignty and reducing foreign dependence.

Security forces conduct extensive searches in Poonch to thwart infiltration. [SHARE](#)

24-Feb-25

Security forces in J&K's Poonch district have initiated searches near the Line of Control following intelligence on suspicious activities. The operations, led by the Special Operations Group of the J&K Police and the CRPF, aim to prevent infiltration due to open routes created by scant snowfall. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has directed a strategy of zero infiltration and a comprehensive dismantling of the terror ecosystem, targeting not just terrorists but their networks as well. Intelligence suggests frustration among terrorist handlers in Pakistan-occupied areas due to successful local elections, prompting them to intensify efforts to revive terrorism in the region.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Russia Labels Marseille Consulate Blasts as Possible Terrorism [SHARE](#)

24-Feb-25

Russia has demanded a comprehensive investigation from France into explosions at its consulate in Marseille, labeling the incidents as potential acts of terrorism. The Foreign Ministry's spokesperson indicated that the blasts displayed characteristics typical of terrorist activity, urging France to enhance security measures for Russian diplomatic missions. Occurring on the third anniversary of the Russia-Ukraine war, this incident underscores the heightened tensions surrounding Russian foreign operations and raises concerns about the safety of its diplomatic staff abroad. The call for an exhaustive inquiry reflects Russia's sensitivity to perceived threats amidst ongoing geopolitical conflicts.

Two Militants Arrested in Manipur for Threatening Security Forces [SHARE](#)

24-Feb-25

Two militants from the Kangleipak Communist Party were arrested in Manipur for threatening security forces in a viral video, highlighting ongoing tensions in the region. Additionally, a joint operation by Manipur Police and Assam Rifles led to the capture of two members of the United National Liberation Front, both accused of extorting money from local businesses. These arrests

underscore the Indian defense forces' commitment to maintaining law and order in Manipur, combating insurgency, and safeguarding citizens against criminal elements. The proactive measures taken by security forces reflect their resolve in addressing threats to stability in the region.

Miscellaneous

Gen Upendra Dwivedi's Official Visit to France to Boost Defense Ties



24-Feb-25

Chief of Army Staff Gen Upendra Dwivedi has commenced an official visit to France from February 24 to 27 to enhance India-France defense cooperation. His itinerary includes meetings with French military leadership, a visit to the Ecole Militaire, and briefings on India-France training cooperation and the French Army's modernization program. The visit also encompasses a demonstration of the Scorpion Division's capabilities and a wreath-laying ceremony at the Neuve Chapelle Indian War Memorial. This endeavor reflects India's commitment to strengthening military ties and exploring new avenues for collaboration, crucial for bolstering strategic partnerships amid evolving global security dynamics.

USAID Invests \$750 Million in Seven Indian Projects for FY24



24-Feb-25

The Finance Ministry's annual report highlights that USAID has funded seven projects in India worth \$750 million for FY24, focusing on sectors like agriculture, renewable energy, and health, while no funds were allocated for voter turnout initiatives. This development comes amidst political controversy regarding a rumored \$21 million grant for voter turnout, which has been dismissed by the BJP as misinformation. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar emphasized the importance of USAID's role in India, countering allegations of bad faith from the US. The Congress party criticized the BJP for allegedly spreading false narratives, revealing the ongoing political tensions surrounding foreign aid and domestic governance.

Manipur Official: 7-Day Deadline to Surrender Illegal Arms



24-Feb-25

Manipur Chief Secretary PK Singh emphasized that the seven-day window for voluntarily surrendering illegally

held weapons is sufficient, urging those in possession to act promptly before authorities intervene to recover arms. This directive follows a period of severe ethnic violence, resulting in over 250 fatalities and widespread dislocation since May 2023. The Central Government's imposition of President's rule aims to restore order amid the ongoing unrest between the Meitei and Kuki tribes, with a focus on establishing peace and normalcy. The administration believes that disarming unauthorized individuals is critical for societal safety, reflecting a commitment to maintaining law and order in the region.

American Airlines Flight Diverted to Rome Over Bomb Threat



24-Feb-25

An American Airlines flight from New York to New Delhi was diverted to Rome due to a reported bomb threat, landing safely at Leonardo da Vinci Rome Fiumicino Airport with escort from the Italian Air Force. The incident highlights persistent security challenges in international air travel, underscoring the importance of robust security protocols and swift responses to threats. Such incidents can cause significant disruptions; however, the effective handling by airline and Italian authorities demonstrates the commitment to passenger safety. This event serves as a reminder of the ongoing need for vigilance in aviation security, particularly in the context of increasing geopolitical tensions.

Six Bangladeshi Nationals Caught Crossing into Meghalaya for Work



24-Feb-25

Six Bangladeshi nationals, including a woman seeking medical treatment for her husband, were apprehended by the BSF in Meghalaya after crossing the border illegally, aiming to return to Mumbai for work. This incident highlights ongoing challenges at the India-Bangladesh border, where 20% remains unfenced due to difficult terrain. Additionally, unidentified individuals, suspected to be Bangladeshi nationals, vandalized homes in Umkiang village, stealing possessions. These events underscore the need for strengthened border security and effective management of cross-border migration issues, as illegal crossings can lead to security risks and socio-economic challenges for local communities.

American Airlines Flight Diverted to Rome Amid Bomb Scare

 SHARE

24-Feb-25

An American Airlines flight bound for Delhi made an emergency landing in Rome due to a bomb scare while flying over the Caspian Sea, prompting an escort by Italian Air Force Eurofighter Typhoon jets. The aircraft, carrying 199 passengers and 15 crew members, was grounded for nearly 15 hours for thorough security checks after the email threat was deemed unfounded. The incident underscores the effectiveness of international aviation security protocols in swiftly managing potential threats, ensuring passenger safety, and allowing operations to continue smoothly post-investigation. Ultimately, this event demonstrates the commitment of relevant authorities to uphold high safety standards in air travel.

Rakesh Sharma Celebrates Gaganyaan's Potential for New Insights

 SHARE

24-Feb-25

Rakesh Sharma, India's first astronaut, has expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming Gaganyaan mission, scheduled for next year, highlighting its indigenous nature and historical importance. He emphasizes that the mission will feature an Indian astronaut aboard an India-made launcher, marking a significant milestone for the country's space capabilities. Sharma's involvement in the astronaut selection and training process underlines the mission's comprehensive Indian effort, reinforcing India's growing prowess in space exploration. This mission is expected to yield more information than initially anticipated, further contributing to India's scientific and technological advancements on the global stage.

IIT-Madras Enhances ISRO's Space Station with Innovative Metal Foam

 SHARE

24-Feb-25

IIT-Madras's ExTeM team is developing innovative metal foam to enhance the protection of ISRO's upcoming Bhartiya Space Station from environmental threats such as micro-meteoroids. This lightweight material, tested using the institute's Microgravity Drop Tower, aims to improve impact resistance and support sustainable long-term space missions while reducing reliance on Earth-based supply chains. The research also explores advanced welding, 3D printing, and bioprinting methods for space infrastructure, contributing to lunar and Martian exploration efforts. Such advancements not only bolster India's capabilities in space exploration but also have the potential to

benefit various Earth-based industries, highlighting the dual-use nature of these technologies.

Apple Disables UK Data Protection Feature Amid Government Pressure

 SHARE

24-Feb-25

Apple has decided to disable its Advanced Data Protection feature for UK users, responding to government demands for access to user data, effectively weakening cloud data encryption. This move raises concerns among privacy advocates, as it allows authorities access to sensitive information that was previously secure. Critics argue that such actions undermine cybersecurity efforts and could set a precedent for other nations, potentially impacting tech innovation. The debate highlights the ongoing tension between governmental oversight for security and the preservation of individual privacy rights, emphasizing that strong encryption is vital for protecting user data in an increasingly digital world.

12 Indians Deported from US to Panama Return Home to India

 SHARE

24-Feb-25

Twelve Indian nationals deported from the US to Panama have returned to India, marking the first batch of such deportees. These individuals are part of a larger group of undocumented migrants sent back by the US, highlighting the ongoing mass deportation program under the Trump administration. India has committed to accepting its nationals who overstayed or lack documentation, provided their nationality is verified, as emphasized by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar. This stance reflects India's adherence to international norms regarding the repatriation of nationals residing illegally abroad, reinforcing its commitment to global diplomatic principles while ensuring the welfare of its citizens.

Mittal Ready to Launch Satellite Telecom Services, Awaits Approval

 SHARE

24-Feb-25

Sunil Bharti Mittal, chairman of Bharti Enterprises, announced that the company's satellite telecom services are prepared for launch pending government approval, emphasizing its potential to enhance connectivity in remote areas of India. He responded to Elon Musk's criticisms regarding India's spectrum allocation, advocating for shared spectrum in rural zones while supporting auction-based allocation for satellite companies, paralleling traditional telecom operators. Mittal's stance reflects the ongoing debate

over spectrum allocation methods, as companies like OneWeb and Reliance Jio similarly argue for equitable licensing fees. This initiative could significantly boost India's ability to provide essential communication services in underserved regions, thus advancing the nation's telecommunications infrastructure.

INS Guldar Decommissioned for India's First Underwater Museum SHARE

24-Feb-25

The Indian Navy has transferred the decommissioned INS Guldar to the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation to create India's first underwater museum and artificial reef off the Sindhudurg coast. This innovative initiative not only preserves naval heritage but also enhances marine biodiversity and coastal tourism, with plans for careful ecological preparations before the ship is scuttled. The project aims to attract divers and tourists, transforming Sindhudurg into a notable diving destination, while contributing to important environmental goals and showcasing India's maritime legacy. This dual-purpose endeavor is a significant step towards sustainable tourism and marine conservation, positioning India favorably on the global tourism map.

EAM Jaishankar Takes 45 Ambassadors on Elephant Safari in Kaziranga SHARE

24-Feb-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar led a delegation of ambassadors from 45 countries on an Elephant Safari in Kaziranga National Park, highlighting Assam's potential as an investment destination during the Advantage Assam summit. Jaishankar emphasized the growth in tourist inflow, which has exceeded three lakh visitors, showcasing the region's natural beauty and biodiversity. The visit aimed to elevate Assam's profile internationally and attract more tourists and investors, particularly in sectors like tourism, agriculture, and IT. The delegates appreciated the wildlife experience, reflecting on the peaceful coexistence of species as a metaphor for international relations, thereby reinforcing Assam's geostrategic significance in connecting Northeast India with Southeast Asia.

NTPC and EDF India partner to advance hydro energy projects SHARE

24-Feb-25

NTPC and EDF India have formed a partnership to develop hydro projects and pumped hydro storage,

emphasizing renewable energy initiatives. This collaboration, which includes establishing a 50:50 joint venture pending government approval, highlights India's growing power sector and commitment to energy efficiency. NTPC's Chairman underscored the significance of the ELECRAMA 2025 summit in showcasing India's manufacturing capabilities and the potential for becoming a leading exporter of power equipment. The move aligns with India's strategy to enhance renewable capacity while integrating advanced technologies, reinforcing its position in the global energy landscape and supporting broader energy transition goals.

India's tech sector set to soar to \$300-350 billion, says Defense Minister SHARE

24-Feb-25

India's technological sector is poised for significant growth, projected to reach \$300-350 billion in five years, as highlighted by Defense Minister Rajnath Singh at IIT Mandi's Foundation Day. He emphasized the need for innovation in defense-related technologies, urging students to contribute to advancements in AI, cybersecurity, and quantum tech, reinforcing India's 88% self-sufficiency in ammunition production. With defense exports aiming for Rs 50,000 crore by 2029, the focus on self-reliance is essential for national security and economic growth. Singh encouraged aspiring innovators to become disruptors in technology, fostering a culture of entrepreneurship that will position India as a global leader in the digital and defense sectors.

India Hosts Global Conference on Women Peacekeepers in Delhi SHARE

24-Feb-25

The Indian Army, through the Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping, is hosting a two-day conference in New Delhi on Women Peacekeepers from the Global South, bringing together participants from 35 nations to enhance women's roles in peacekeeping. The event, organized in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Defence, includes discussions on strategies to improve participation and the challenges faced by peacekeepers. Key leaders, including Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani and Lt Gen Rakesh Kapoor, emphasized India's commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women in global security. This initiative reinforces India's leadership in promoting inclusive peacekeeping operations and fostering collaboration among developing nations.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
DATAPATNS	1540.0	1689.0	1501.0	1642.9	4145046	5.75	37.47	1819.22	2589.69
HIGHENE	480.1	493.0	465.0	490.55	7162	2.18	39.52	504.55	681.63
SIKA	2520.0	2660.0	2520.0	2585.65	3217	1.54	59.22	2365.52	2641.27
MAZDOCK	2079.0	2186.2	2056.45	2151.05	4314616	1.49	46.73	2212.53	2164.87
GRSE	1290.0	1374.45	1272.45	1337.85	2333905	1.41	40.86	1442.58	1711.05
NIBE	1035.6	1056.95	1000.0	1048.2	8921	1.22	29.5	1298.73	1733.12
ZENTEC	1069.05	1133.95	1029.0	1093.8	1006754	0.55	26.36	1447.31	1658.1
KRISHNADEF	587.9	615.0	570.3	608.55	23250	0.51	43.53	639.32	710.25
ASTRAMICRO	606.0	620.0	595.0	609.05	166049	0.37	33.37	672.21	818.91
PARAS	890.05	917.95	872.05	896.5	203900	0.28	39.34	975.65	1099.25
BEML	2610.0	2672.8	2536.2	2639.95	324629	0.22	27.24	3083.93	3989.71
BDL	1000.6	1034.0	974.65	1011.55	1051806	0.19	34.7	1148.98	1265.09
SOLARINDS	8800.0	8904.9	8709.6	8865.95	48361	0.17	42.58	9215.01	10249.64
BEL	251.0	258.45	250.5	256.35	15409569	0.1	43.05	267.68	290.23
IDEAFORGE	393.3	406.0	383.85	396.35	219837	0.06	31.52	426.26	649.74
APOLLO	114.3	118.0	111.46	115.57	7873721	-0.16	45.2	122.31	108.88
HAL	3350.0	3357.95	3294.05	3350.4	1026035	-0.54	35.02	3618.68	4496.09
PREMEXPLN	367.85	375.2	355.8	363.85	115190	-0.64	37.04	405.06	537.79
ADANIENT	2128.95	2138.5	2096.7	2115.15	1032294	-0.84	35.02	2254.18	2837.03
DCXINDIA	258.0	263.95	250.2	259.05	380406	-1.24	32.81	293.98	338.18
LOKESHMACH	180.0	183.4	177.5	178.1	33551	-1.3	19.89	243.75	365.76
MIDHANI	269.75	271.4	260.5	267.55	281518	-1.33	36.98	289.69	388.04
LMW	14420.45	14420.45	14145.95	14223.4	1684	-1.4	30.53	15014.28	16108.13
PTC	151.9	151.9	146.47	149.15	1990720	-1.45	57.64	141.95	187.84
COCHINSHIP	1300.0	1335.0	1286.05	1302.65	809959	-1.61	42.14	1356.09	1787.07
BHARATFORG	1048.15	1050.35	1037.15	1041.55	486862	-1.64	25.51	1122.46	1449.33
HBLPOWER	474.0	479.85	462.75	470.2	946726	-1.69	37.35	525.76	576.71
LT	3289.7	3325.5	3250.0	3257.7	1512844	-1.73	40.8	3330.62	3582.28
AVANTEL	120.01	122.4	115.69	119.22	805668	-1.76	44.11	123.14	-
ROSSELLIND	63.6	63.6	58.5	59.52	13135	-2.39	28.75	65.58	293.43
MTARTECH	1398.9	1407.0	1363.3	1379.15	90951	-2.59	42.09	1466.53	1739.29
AZAD	1335.0	1352.75	1297.0	1317.1	116631	-3.02	40.72	1412.08	1595.24
TANEJAERO	300.3	303.95	294.95	297.9	22316	-3.14	33.52	331.46	479.64
MARINE	171.99	177.45	169.05	170.27	141266	-4.28	36.48	189.22	218.31
CFF	470.0	470.0	453.95	455.0	7800	-4.77	33.74	528.95	655.27
TEMBO	0.0	601.7	601.7	601.7	6392	-11.4	40.17	658.76	466.67