# Defence Professionals News & Analysis

November 29,2025 | Day 333

## Defense Business and Industry

### Indian Navy receives Taragiri, fourth Nilgiri-class stealth frigate, enhancing indigenous defense capabilities.

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29-Nov-25

The Indian Navy has received the Taragiri, the fourth Nilgiri-class stealth frigate under Project 17A, delivered by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilding Ltd on November 28, 2025. This advanced multi-mission platform marks a significant advancement in indigenous naval design and capabilities, embodying a 75% indigenisation effort and showcasing India's commitment to Aatmanirbharta in defense manufacturing. The frigate is equipped with a sophisticated suite of weapons and sensors, including BrahMos missiles and an Integrated Platform Management System, reflecting a generational leap in combat capability and survivability. The project has not only compressed the construction timeline to 81 months from the initial 93 but also generated substantial employment, involving over 200 MSMEs and directly providing jobs to approximately 4,000 individuals while supporting more than 10,000 indirectly. The successful delivery of Taragiri underscores India's growing prowess in warship construction and reinforces its strategic focus on self-reliance in defense capabilities.

### Defence Secretary stresses need for orders, not VC funds, for startups.

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29-Nov-25

Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh emphasized that India's defence startups require government orders rather than venture capital funding to thrive, stating that timely orders and efficient procurement processes are essential for attracting private investments in defence manufacturing. Speaking at ANI's National Security Summit, he acknowledged the potential role of a sovereign venture capital fund but deemed it unnecessary, citing a robust existing venture capital ecosystem. Singh reiterated the government's commitment to achieving Rs 3 lakh crore in defence manufacturing and Rs 50,000 crore in exports, stressing that effective budget utilization and domestic contracts are critical for supporting the defence sector's growth and innovation. This perspective reflects a strategic shift towards fostering self-reliance in India's defence industry.

### Defence Secretary imposes strict penalties for delays in emergency procurements.

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29-Nov-25

In a significant policy shift during the National Security Summit in New Delhi, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh announced stringent penalties for defence contractors failing to deliver on emergency procurement orders, mandating a one-year delivery timeline. This new approach aims to enhance accountability within India's defence supply chain, addressing persistent delays that have impeded military readiness, particularly highlighted in the context of projects like the TEJAS MK-1A fighter jets. Singh emphasized that non-compliance would lead to contract cancellations, reinforcing that this policy applies universally, regardless of the vendor's nationality. The remarks also underscored the urgency of operational integration of advanced military systems, as India navigates international supply chain challenges exemplified by delays in the S-400 systems due to geopolitical tensions. As part of broader reforms designated for 2025, the Ministry of Defence seeks to expedite procurement processes and foster domestic production capabilities, including a co-development agreement for a 120 kN fighter jet engine, contributing to India’s strategic objective of self-reliance in defense manufacturing.

### India unveils Indrajaal Ranger, its first AI-driven anti-drone vehicle.

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29-Nov-25

On November 26, 2025, Indrajaal Drone Defence introduced the Indrajaal Ranger, India's first AI-enabled

mobile Anti-Drone Patrol Vehicle, designed to detect, track, and neutralize hostile drones in real time. Utilizing advanced technologies and Indrajaal's proprietary SkyOS, the Ranger can detect threats from 10 km away and neutralize them within a 4 km radius using various countermeasures. This vehicle is crucial for enhancing India's border security and urban defense capabilities, addressing the growing challenges posed by drone-related threats, including smuggling and terrorism. The Indrajaal Ranger is operationally certified for deployment with border security forces, marking a significant advancement in India's autonomous defense capabilities amidst evolving aerial threats.

## BonV Aero's Air Orca UAV Enhances Military Logistics at High Altitudes SHARE

29-Nov-25

On November 29, 2025, Indian aerospace startup BonV Aero showcased its heavy-lift unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), the Air Orca, designed for high-altitude military logistics, notably outperforming existing helicopter capabilities by successfully lifting 30 kilograms at Umling La Pass, the world's highest motorable pass. This indigenous UAV technology is poised to transform logistics in challenging terrains, offering autonomy and enhanced payload capacity for supply missions and humanitarian aid in sensitive border areas. The Indian Army is currently evaluating 15-20 of BonV Aero's UAVs for critical logistical roles, reinforcing India's strategic mobility and self-reliance in defense technology. The successful completion of a Beyond Visual Line of Sight mission covering 60 kilometers further validates the operational maturity of this advanced aerial logistics solution.

## Turkey strengthens naval power with second Reis-class submarine TCG Hızırreis. SHARE

29-Nov-25

Turkey has officially received the TCG Hızırreis, its second Reis-class submarine, bolstering its naval capabilities under the New Type Submarine Project. This 68-meter long submarine, equipped with advanced air-independent propulsion systems and low acoustic signatures, enhances Turkey's strategic presence in the Black Sea and Eastern Mediterranean. The submarine's commissioning follows the delivery of the first vessel, TCG Piri Reis, and precedes the upcoming TCG Muratreis, reflecting Turkey's intent to modernize its aging naval fleet with technologically advanced platforms. The project highlights a significant shift towards domestic defense manufacturing and underscores Ankara's ambitions for strategic autonomy in maritime power.

## Indian Army embraces AI with new Handbook, EKAM, and PRAKSHEPAN initiatives. SHARE

29-Nov-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh unveiled several significant technological initiatives aimed at advancing the Indian Army's capabilities in artificial intelligence and digital warfare. The release of the AI Handbook for Military Leaders aims to guide commanders in navigating AI advancements, while Project EKAM, developed under iDEX ADITI 2.0, focuses on indigenous AI capabilities tailored for military applications. Additionally, Digitalisation 3.0 showcases various digitisation and AI-enabled solutions to enhance operational efficiency. The launch of PRAKSHEPAN, an advanced military climatology application, further highlights the Army's commitment to integrating high-tech solutions for better disaster preparedness and operational readiness. These initiatives underscore a strategic shift towards indigenisation and enhanced battlefield responsiveness, reinforcing India's pursuit of technological self-reliance in defense.

## Indian Army urges Punjab to enhance defense industry participation urgently. SHARE

29-Nov-25

The Indian Army has urgently called on Punjab to enhance its contribution to the defense manufacturing sector, highlighting the state's negligible share of just 0.01% in military production and research. Maj Gen CS Mann, Additional Director General of the Army Design Bureau, revealed at a recent seminar that out of 116 defense contracts signed by the Army worth Rs 1,08,000 crore in the past two years, only one was from Punjab, which has only one research project valued under Rs 1 crore out of Rs 2,10,000 crore ongoing projects. He stressed the need for Punjab to move beyond traditional industries and invest in emerging technologies like advanced materials, autonomous and AI-enabled systems. To address this, Punjab, under CM Bhagwant Mann, is engaging with HAL and BrahMos for aircraft and missile component manufacturing, planning a 1,200-acre defense industrial park at Rajpura. Drone testing and training infrastructure development are also underway, aiming to integrate Punjab into India's expanding defense industrial ecosystem. These efforts carry significant strategic implications, strengthening India's self-reliance and

northern defense capabilities amid evolving security challenges.

## DRDO seeks proposals for Digital Twin framework for aero engine monitoring.

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29-Nov-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation has issued an open tender dated 26 November 2025 for developing a Digital Twin framework for an aero gas turbine engine Health and Usage Monitoring System under its Technology Development Fund, with bids closing on 26 December 2025 and opening on 9 December 2025. The project, handled by DRDO HQ in New Delhi, seeks a model-based, data-driven HUMS backbone to enable real-time diagnostics, predictive maintenance and lifecycle management of indigenous aero engines across combat aircraft and UAV fleets. Such a digital twin architecture aligns India with emerging global practices in distributed engine health monitoring and reduces dependence on foreign OEM algorithms, strengthening Atmanirbhar Bharat in military aviation and improving fleet availability in a future high-intensity air campaign scenario.

# Defense Policy and Budgeting

## Rajnath Singh: Defense reforms essential for India's strategic resilience.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, addressing the Chanakya Defence Dialogue, emphasized that reforms within India's defense sector are no longer optional but a strategic necessity in light of evolving global and regional challenges. He identified various threats from India's neighbourhood including terrorism, cross-border extremism, and maritime pressures, underscoring the need for constant vigilance and a clear purpose in India's defense posture. Singh praised the armed forces as a formidable pillar of national resilience, asserting their crucial role in regional stability. He outlined ongoing reforms aimed at modernizing military capabilities through new technologies, improved procurement processes, and enhanced infrastructure. Additionally, he launched Project Ekam, an initiative focused on developing indigenous artificial intelligence solutions tailored for military applications, ensuring data security and operational efficiency. These developments reflect India's commitment to adapting its defense strategies to effectively navigate complex security challenges while reinforcing its position as a responsible global player.

## Defence Ministry plans 20% budget increase for 2026 to enhance security.

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29-Nov-25

India's Defence Ministry is poised to request a 20% increase in its budget for the fiscal year 2026-27 to address escalating security challenges, as stated by Defence Secretary RK Singh. This proposed hike would translate to an additional $15.2 billion, with a significant portion allocated for procurement from domestic manufacturers, reflecting a commitment to bolster indigenous defense capabilities. Currently, 75% of the modernization budget is designated for local sourcing, with actual expenditures on Indian companies reaching nearly 88%. Singh emphasized the need for timely deliveries from arms suppliers to avoid penalties, highlighting the urgency of enhancing India's military preparedness in a challenging geopolitical landscape.

## Rajnath Singh urges young civil servants to prioritize daily honesty in governance.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressed IAS trainees at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, emphasizing the necessity of integrity in public service and urging young civil servants to embrace honesty as a daily norm. He highlighted the role of ethical governance in India's progress, linking it to the nation's aspiration for self-reliance and development by 2047. Singh pointed to the significance of technology in enhancing transparency and public outreach, citing the SAMPURNA initiative as an example of AI-driven improvements in defence procurement processes. He reinforced the importance of coordination between governance and national security, commending the exemplary efforts of administrative officers during crises like Operation Sindoor, which showcased the vital synergy between effective administration and military operations.

## Politics

### Nadda links Article 370 abrogation to Patel's vision of unity.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

Union Minister J.P. Nadda, addressing the Sardar @150 Unity March in Vadodara on November 29, 2025, linked the abrogation of Article 370 to the vision of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, calling Patel the architect of a unified India. Nadda commemorated Patel's role in integrating 562 princely states post-Independence and contrasted it with Jawaharlal Nehru's decision which led to Article 370, seen as an obstacle to national unity. He asserted that Patel had convinced Maharaja Hari Singh to join India, but Nehru's approach created the hurdle of Article 370. Nadda lauded the BJP government's move under Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah on August 5, 2020, to remove Article 370, fulfilling Patel's unfinished mission and truly integrating Jammu and Kashmir with India. This act aligns with the ongoing national movement to honor Patel's legacy and strengthen India's unity and development vision. The Sardar @150 March continues to inspire patriotic unity nationwide.

## Geopolitics and Security Alliances

### India's principled foreign policy establishes it as a reliable partner for the Global South.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasized India's role as a dependable partner for the Global South and the Indo-Pacific region during his address at the Chanakya Defence Dialogue. He highlighted India's economic growth, technological advancements, and principled foreign policy as key factors that have positioned the country as a voice of balance and responsibility in a rapidly changing global environment. Singh reaffirmed that India's sovereignty and security are non-negotiable, promoting reforms in defense procurement and modernization of the armed forces to enhance agility and resilience. He underscored the need for constant vigilance against geopolitical challenges such as terrorism and maritime pressures, asserting that the armed forces not only defend borders but also contribute to stability and international partnerships. Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan noted the emerging challenges of new warfare domains, including cyberspace, which redefine traditional concepts of sovereignty. This event reflects India's commitment to shaping global conversations and fostering a robust defense industrial ecosystem through the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, which aims to reduce external dependencies and promote innovation in the defense sector.

### Russia to ratify military pact with India before Putin's visit.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

Russia's lower house of Parliament is set to ratify the Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS) with India ahead of President Vladimir Putin's state visit on December 4-5, aimed at enhancing military cooperation. Signed in February 2025, RELOS seeks to streamline operations for joint military exercises and disaster relief, expanding the geographic capabilities for both nations. This agreement is particularly significant as it allows for logistical support between Indian naval forces, including the INS Vikramaditya, and Russian bases, enhancing their strategic presence against Chinese influence in the Indian Ocean Region. Analysts note that RELOS may also facilitate joint exercises in the Arctic, aligning with India's energy interests in the region.

### India sends 80 NDRF personnel and aid to flood-hit Sri Lanka.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

India has launched Operation Sagar Bandhu to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to Sri Lanka in the aftermath of Cyclone Ditwah, which has caused significant devastation, resulting in over 123 fatalities and displacing thousands. As part of the operation, an Indian Air Force IL-76 aircraft transported 80 personnel from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) along with essential rescue equipment and supplies, while a C-130J aircraft delivered additional humanitarian aid totaling 27 tonnes, including food, tents, and hygiene kits. The Indian Navy's INS Vikrant and INS Udaygiri also contributed by delivering 6.5 tonnes of rations. This coordinated effort underscores India's commitment to its Neighbourhood First policy, showcasing its role as a first responder in the Indian Ocean region during natural disasters. The Indian High Commission has established an emergency help desk to assist Indian citizens in Sri Lanka, reflecting India's proactive approach to regional cooperation and solidarity in times of crisis.

## Russia invites India to discuss S-500 missile defense after S-400 success. SHARE

29-Nov-25

Following the successful operational deployment of the S-400 Triumf air defence systems by the Indian Air Force, Russia has indicated a readiness to engage in discussions regarding the export of its next-generation S-500 Prometey missile defence system to India. This advanced system, capable of intercepting multiple ballistic threats at ranges up to 600 km, represents a significant upgrade over the S-400's capabilities. During the upcoming India-Russia summit on December 4, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his Russian counterpart Andrey Belousov are expected to review ongoing defence cooperation, which includes India's interest in acquiring additional S-400 squadrons. Although India has previously shown limited interest in the S-500, the potential for technology transfer and the system's proven hypersonic threat capabilities could influence India's strategic decisions amidst a diversified air-defence portfolio. The discussions underscore the importance of the Indo-Russian defence relationship against a backdrop of global security challenges and shifting geopolitical dynamics.

## India ranks third in 2025 Asia Power Index, behind US and China. SHARE

29-Nov-25

India has achieved a significant milestone by securing third place in the Lowy Institute's Asia Power Index 2025, just behind the United States and China. With an overall score of 40 out of 100, India is now classified as a "major power," a status it reached through a combination of robust economic growth and enhanced military capabilities, notably highlighted by Operation Sindoor, which provided critical combat experience and improved perceptions of India's defense readiness. The report indicates that India has surpassed China as the second-most attractive destination for foreign investment, driven by global supply-chain diversification. However, challenges remain, particularly in translating increased military capabilities and economic growth into geopolitical influence, as evidenced by declines in defense network scores and limited diplomatic engagement improvements. Overall, India's ascendance as a major power reflects a transformative shift in the regional balance, underscoring its potential to shape Asia's geopolitical landscape while navigating challenges posed by established superpowers.

## Putin to visit India for 23rd Annual Summit, strengthening ties. SHARE

29-Nov-25

Russian President Vladimir Putin is set to visit India from December 4-5, 2025, for the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit, a meeting anticipated to reinforce the long-standing strategic partnership between the two nations. The summit will feature discussions on critical areas such as defense cooperation, including the potential acquisition of additional S-400 air defense systems, as well as trade expansion and regional security concerns amidst heightened scrutiny from Western powers. Notably, several Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) are expected to be signed, covering sectors like defense, technology, and culture, and introducing a labor mobility pact to facilitate the legal migration of Indian workers to Russia. The visit signifies India's intent to balance its relations with Russia while navigating pressures from the US and EU, demonstrating its commitment to a diversified international approach without compromising its established ties with Moscow.

## Indian envoy meets Sri Lanka Army Chief to enhance regional security ties. SHARE

29-Nov-25

Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, Santosh Jha, met with Chief of Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi to discuss enhancing the strategic partnership and regional security dynamics between India and Sri Lanka. The discussions aimed to strengthen diplomatic and defense cooperation through enhanced civil-military engagement, alongside India's ongoing role in humanitarian support during natural disasters. Notably, the Indian Navy's participation in the Sri Lanka Navy International Fleet Review 2025, featuring the indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant and stealth frigate INS Udaygiri, underscores India's commitment to regional maritime cooperation and its growing self-reliance in defense manufacturing. This engagement highlights the strengthening of ties and operational capabilities within the Indian Ocean Region.

## India's Defence Secretary reaffirms ongoing cooperation with Russia amid focus on indigenous production. SHARE

29-Nov-25

India's Defence Secretary Rajesh Singh affirmed the country's commitment to ongoing cooperation with Russia, highlighting that 60-70% of its defence equipment is of Russian origin. With a focus on indigenous production, India has allocated 1.33 lakh

crore for defence procurement this year, predominantly sourced from domestic suppliers. The Defence Ministry aims for a 20% budget increase for modernisation, enforcing strict procurement timelines to prevent delays. Notable contracts signed last year, along with ambitions to boost defence exports to over 50,000 crore by 2030, reflect India's strategic intent to maintain strong ties with Russia while simultaneously broadening partnerships with the US and other Western nations, thus ensuring its strategic autonomy in defence.

## Pakistan criticizes Rajnath Singh's remarks on Sindh's status. SHARE

29-Nov-25

Pakistan's Foreign Office has criticized Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's remarks suggesting that Sindh province could revert to India, calling them "deeply troubling." Singh's comments were made during an event organized by the Sindhi community in New Delhi, where he implied that borders are not immutable. In response, spokesperson Tahir Andrabi urged India to refrain from such provocative statements and expressed concerns over India's handling of the Indus Water Treaty. He also commented on the tenuous nature of the ceasefire with Afghanistan, citing ongoing terrorist attacks as evidence that security challenges remain formidable for Pakistan. This exchange underscores ongoing tensions between the two nations and highlights the complexity of regional stability.

## IAF Delivers Essential Relief Supplies to Flood-Affected Sri Lanka SHARE

29-Nov-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully delivered emergency relief supplies to Sri Lanka following severe flooding in the region. A C130 aircraft transported essential food items and sanitary supplies, landing at Colombo's Bandaranaike International Airport at approximately 1:30 AM. The supplies were received by officials from the Indian High Commission alongside Sri Lankan Air Force officers. This timely assistance underscores India's commitment to regional solidarity and humanitarian support, reinforcing its role as a responsible neighbor in times of crisis. Such actions not only strengthen bilateral relations but also highlight India's readiness to respond effectively to natural disasters affecting its immediate neighbors.

# Military Operations

## Operation Sindoor exemplifies successful civil-military collaboration, enhancing public confidence, says Defence Minister. SHARE

29-Nov-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh highlighted the successful execution of Operation Sindoor as a prime example of civil-military coordination during the valedictory ceremony of the 100th Common Foundation Course at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) on November 29, 2025. He praised the seamless collaboration between administrative officials and armed forces, noting that the operation effectively neutralized terrorist camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir while maintaining a balanced and non-escalatory stance. Singh emphasized the importance of mock drills conducted nationwide as they demonstrated India's readiness and commitment to public service, while also encouraging civil servants to leverage technology and social media for positive change rather than self-promotion. He called upon young civil servants to embody integrity, empathy, and responsibility as they play pivotal roles in shaping a self-reliant India by 2047. The Defence Minister underscored the significant socio-economic transformations under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, which has led to increased job opportunities and educational enrolment, asserting the necessity for inclusive development where all segments of society participate in India's progress.

## Northern Army Commander launches Sena Sarthi project in Leh to boost logistics in Siachen. SHARE

29-Nov-25

The Northern Army Commander, Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma, inaugurated Project Sena Sarthi in Leh, a pioneering initiative that establishes underground fuel, oil, and lubricant storage facilities in the Kargil sector, developed in collaboration with Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited. This project aims to double the fuel-holding capacity, significantly enhancing the logistics infrastructure to support troops operating in the challenging high-altitude conditions of Ladakh. The strategic importance of such advancements is underscored by the extreme temperatures and hostile terrain that complicate logistics and fuel storage for the Indian Army. The facility addresses the critical need for

adequate fuel supplies, particularly during winter months when access to these remote areas can be severely limited. The project reflects a broader trend of enhancing military preparedness in high-altitude areas, emphasizing the Indian Army's commitment to ensuring operational readiness amidst the logistical challenges posed by extreme environmental conditions.

## CDS General Anil Chauhan: Navy′s role is crucial for India′s future. SHARE

29-Nov-25

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan emphasized the Indian Navy's pivotal role in shaping India's destiny during the Passing Out Parade at the Indian Naval Academy in Ezhimala. He stated that India's future will largely unfold in maritime domains, underscoring the necessity for the Navy's involvement in securing national interests. General Chauhan urged the newly commissioned officers to pursue professional excellence, highlighting the importance of technology and joint operations among the armed forces in modern warfare. The event also showcased India's commitment to international collaboration, with cadets from several friendly nations participating, reinforcing India's robust maritime partnerships and regional security framework.

## INS Vikrant and Udaygiri debut overseas at Sri Lanka′s Fleet Review. SHARE

29-Nov-25

India's first indigenous aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant, alongside the stealth frigate INS Udaygiri, is participating in the International Fleet Review (IFR) 2025 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from November 27-29. This marks the maiden overseas deployment for both vessels, symbolizing India's commitment to enhancing regional maritime cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region. The event coincides with the Sri Lankan Navy's 75th anniversary, emphasizing India's focus on promoting peace and stability through international collaboration. Additionally, this deployment follows recent joint military exercises and staff talks between India and Sri Lanka, underscoring the strengthening of bilateral defense ties and interoperability aimed at ensuring regional security.

## INS Sahyadri Strengthens Ties with Philippine Navy in Manila Drill SHARE

29-Nov-25

Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sahyadri, a stealth frigate of the Indian Navy, conducted a successful drill with the Philippine Navy before its port call at Manila, enhancing maritime cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. The exercise included tactical communication drills and navigation manoeuvres, reflecting India's commitment to strengthening ties with the Philippines under the Act East Policy. This visit underscores India's strategic intent to foster peace and security in the region. Meanwhile, Andhra Pradesh Skill Development Corporation (APSSDC) advanced its global recruitment efforts, signing MoUs to enhance overseas job placements for skilled youth, addressing international hiring needs and demonstrating the state's proactive approach to skill development and employment opportunities.

## Russian drones and missiles strike Kyiv, injuring six and damaging properties. SHARE

29-Nov-25

Early on Saturday, Russian drones and missiles launched an attack on Kyiv, resulting in injuries to six individuals, including a child, with one person reported to be in serious condition. Explosions were reported across six locations, causing significant damage to residential areas, including high-rise apartment buildings. Fires erupted in multiple districts, prompting swift responses from emergency services and air defense units. This incident highlights the ongoing volatility in the region, underscoring the need for robust defense strategies and increased vigilance against aerial threats, thereby influencing regional stability and security dynamics.

## IAF Increases Sorties to 6 Daily Amid Squadron Strength Challenges SHARE

29-Nov-25

At the National Security Summit on November 27, 2025, Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, Chief of Integrated Defence Staff, highlighted the Indian Air Force's (IAF) challenge of operating with a reduced squadron strength of about 30, significantly below the authorized strength of 42. Despite this shortfall, the IAF has increased its operational tempo, raising daily sorties to six to maintain readiness amid evolving security challenges on multiple fronts. This increase is seen as necessary to sustain pressure on the air fleet, given the phased retirement of legacy aircraft like the MiG-21 and delays in new inductions including the Tejas and AMCA programs. The IAF's intensified sortie rate also supports ongoing strategic exercises such as 'Exercise Gajraj' across the northeast and integration efforts under operations like Sindoor, aiming to enhance joint operational synergy with the Army and Navy under

future theatre commands. These developments underscore India's focus on maintaining robust aerial deterrence despite current force limitations and complex regional geopolitical dynamics.

## Terrorism and Counterterrorism

### BSF reports Pakistan relocating terror launchpads, remains ready for action.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

The Border Security Force (BSF) has revealed that Pakistan has relocated 72 terror launchpads to deeper areas following Operation Sindoor, which targeted these facilities after the April 22 Pahalgam massacre. Despite the shift, BSF officers, including DIG Vikram Kunwar and IG Shashank Anand, emphasized their readiness to resume operations if the government opts to take action, asserting their capabilities in both conventional and hybrid warfare. They noted that while the current movement of terrorists along the border is minimal, the BSF remains vigilant and prepared to inflict greater damage than in previous operations. This assertion highlights the ongoing tensions along the India-Pakistan border and the BSF's commitment to national security.

### India and Germany enhance cooperation to combat terrorism and online radicalization.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

ndia and Germany held the 10th meeting of their Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism in New Delhi on November 27, 2025, co-chaired by India's Dr. Vinod Bahade and Germany's Konrad Arz von Straussenburg. In the meeting, both nations unequivocally condemned terrorism in all its forms, including cross-border terrorism, specifically referencing the Pahalgam attack in Jammu and Kashmir on April 22, 2025, and the Red Fort terror incident in New Delhi on November 10, 2025. Discussions covered threat assessments, counter-terrorism policies, and emerging challenges such as online radicalization, misuse of new technologies, terrorist financing, judicial cooperation, and designation of terrorists. Both sides reaffirmed commitment to cooperation in multilateral forums like the UN and Global Counter Terrorism Forum and planned to further strengthen collaboration with the next meeting scheduled in Germany. This meeting underscores India's strategic emphasis on global partnerships to tackle terrorism and enhance security cooperation ahead of German Chancellor Friedrich Merz's slated visit to India in early 2026.

### Ten Maoists, including leader Chaitu, surrender in Chhattisgarh, indicating weakening insurgent influence.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

In a significant development against Left Wing Extremism in Chhattisgarh, ten Maoists, including senior cadre Chaitu alias Shyam Dada, surrendered to security forces in Sukma district. Chaitu, a mastermind behind the 2013 Jhiram Valley attack, carried a reward of Rs 25 lakh, while the total reward for the surrendered group amounts to Rs 65 lakh. This surrender underscores the increasing pressure from ongoing anti-Naxal operations conducted by the District Reserve Guard, Bastar Fighters, and CRPF, as well as the growing disillusionment among Maoist ranks. The Chhattisgarh government's rehabilitation policy aims to integrate these former insurgents into society, marking a substantial blow to Maoist influence in the region, once considered a stronghold of their activities.

## Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

### Cyclone Ditwah devastates Sri Lanka; India responds with humanitarian aid.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

Cyclone Ditwah has wreaked havoc across Sri Lanka, leading to the declaration of a state of emergency as the death toll has risen to at least 132, with 176 individuals still missing amid widespread destruction of homes and displacement of approximately 78,000 people. The cyclone's impact is compounded by the aftermath of another severe weather system, Senyar, which has affected neighboring Thailand and Malaysia, resulting in over 300 fatalities across the region. The Sri Lankan government has sought international aid, prompting a swift response from India, which has dispatched relief supplies, including two aircraft loaded with humanitarian assistance and the INS Vikrant, an aircraft carrier currently in Colombo, to aid in rescue operations. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed condolences and emphasized India's commitment to support its maritime neighbor during this crisis. The catastrophic outcome of Cyclone Ditwah highlights the escalating challenges posed by climate change, underscoring the urgent need for regional and global preparedness in the face of such extreme weather events.

## Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw visits ASCCE to enhance India-Singapore cyber cooperation.

29-Nov-25

India's Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting, and Electronics & Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw, visited the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE) to strengthen bilateral cyber cooperation amid growing regional cyber threats. The meeting involved discussions on Singapore's comprehensive cybersecurity frameworks, highlighting the significance of a multi-layered approach to safeguard critical infrastructure. Both nations exchanged insights on cyber policy development and operational collaboration, reaffirming their commitment to enhance digital resilience and stability in the region. This visit underscores the importance of shared security priorities between India and Singapore, fostering a stronger alliance in addressing emerging cyber challenges.

## Quantum advancements threaten encryption; firms must adopt post-quantum cryptography urgently.

29-Nov-25

Palo Alto Networks CEO Nikesh Arora has warned that quantum computing advancements may soon render current encryption methods obsolete, with significant implications for data security across various sectors. While nations like the US, China, and India are actively pursuing quantum technologies, security experts stress the urgency for businesses to transition to post-quantum cryptography (PQC) to safeguard sensitive data. Arora predicts this shift could occur by 2029, yet some analysts caution that immediate threats from AI may warrant prioritization over speculative quantum risks. As the quantum landscape evolves, the need for agile cryptographic solutions and comprehensive security planning becomes paramount to mitigate potential breaches arising from this revolutionary technology.

## Kovind Highlights Need to Protect India's Cybersecurity Infrastructure

29-Nov-25

Former President Ram Nath Kovind launched Lisianthus Technologies' "Critical Infrastructure Cyber Threat Review 2025" at the Cyber Shikshit Bharat workshop, emphasizing the growing importance of cybersecurity as a national security pillar amidst rising cyberattacks. The report indicates that India faced approximately 2.27 million cybercrime cases in 2024, with projections exceeding 2.5 million in 2025, leading to significant financial losses, particularly from investment scams. Kovind highlighted the necessity for heightened cyber awareness among citizens and institutions, citing that human error accounts for the majority of breaches. The workshop underscored urgent calls for proactive cybersecurity measures to safeguard crucial infrastructure, as India accelerates its digital transformation.

## PM Modi to visit Jordan and Oman in December for economic ties.

29-Nov-25

Prime Minister Modi is expected to visit Jordan and Oman in December to strengthen economic and strategic ties, including the anticipated signing of a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with Oman. This visit will address India's role in the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) and emphasize cooperation in defense, trade, and regional stability, particularly in light of ongoing discussions regarding the Gaza situation. Both countries have expressed support for India's stance against terrorism, with Oman being a pivotal defense partner, facilitating joint military exercises and logistical access at Duqm port. This engagement reflects India's commitment to enhancing its presence in the Gulf while promoting peace and stability in a complex geopolitical landscape.

## India poised to become a superpower by 2047, says ex-ISRO chief.

29-Nov-25

Former ISRO Chairman S. Somnath expressed strong confidence that India will achieve superpower status by 2047, driven by advancements in space technology and manufacturing. Speaking at the 71st convention of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) on November 29, 2025, Somnath highlighted the synergy of science and spirituality, India's youthful demographic (25% of the population), and democratic stability as key enablers of progress. He commended Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent historic reform announced on November 27, 2025, which opens the nuclear energy sector to private companies, aiming to boost innovation and energy security with new opportunities in small modular reactors and green technology. India's recent space milestones, including the Chandrayaan-3 lunar mission and the Aditya-L1 solar mission, underscore its growing global stature in high-technology domains, positioning India as a pivotal global player by the

centenary of independence. This trajectory reinforces India's strategic autonomy and technological leadership on the world stage.

## Mil Personnel & Veterans

### Support HAL: TEJAS Crash Highlights Need for Enduring Commitment

SHARE

29-Nov-25

Following the recent crash of a TEJAS fighter jet during a low-altitude aerobatic manoeuvre at the Dubai Air Show, both the Indian Air Force (IAF) and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) have reaffirmed their commitment to the indigenous aircraft program. HAL Chief DK Sunil emphasized that despite the crash being the second in the 24-year history of the TEJAS project, the aircraft boasts one of the best safety records globally, with no mechanical faults confirmed at this stage. The IAF has initiated a court of inquiry to thoroughly investigate the incident while maintaining confidence in the TEJAS, which is integral to India's ambitious plans to enhance its fighter squadron strength by 2047. With targeted production ramp-ups and an export-focused strategy, the HAL is set to significantly contribute to India's defense capabilities while navigating challenges related to supply chains and component sanctions. This incident underscores the broader significance of sustaining technological self-reliance and fostering a robust defense manufacturing ecosystem in India, essential for meeting strategic goals amid growing geopolitical complexities.

## Miscellaneous

### Traffic arrangements in Thiruvananthapuram for Navy Day celebrations on December 3.

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29-Nov-25

As part of the Navy Day celebrations, the Indian Navy will conduct a Naval Operational Demonstration at Shankhumukham Beach in Thiruvananthapuram on December 3 at 4:30 PM. Anticipating a large turnout, the city police have implemented extensive traffic and parking arrangements to ensure the event runs smoothly. Traffic regulations will commence at noon, with only authorized vehicles allowed near the event site. Public transportation options, including KSRTC shuttle buses, will be available from various designated parking locations throughout the city, starting from 1 PM. The police have advised attendees, especially those traveling from educational institutions, to coordinate with traffic authorities for parking arrangements. Additionally, stern warnings have been issued regarding illegal parking, with vehicles subject to towing and legal action. This event not only showcases the operational capabilities of the Indian Navy but also underscores the importance of public safety and organization in managing large-scale demonstrations.

### Indian Naval Academy's Passing Out Parade celebrates 232 trainees and international cooperation.

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29-Nov-25

A grand Passing Out Parade (POP) was held at the Indian Naval Academy (INA) in Ezhimala on November 29, 2025, where 232 trainees, including Midshipmen from the 109th course and cadets from various Naval Orientation Courses, successfully completed their training. The event, reviewed by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, highlighted the international presence with 18 cadets from seven friendly nations, reflecting the academy's growing global ties. During the ceremony, exceptional performers received awards, including the President's Gold Medal to Midshipman Vishesh Kumar for outstanding achievement in the B.Tech course. Additionally, the INA celebrated its 26th convocation, where 87 midshipmen were awarded B.Tech degrees in engineering disciplines, preparing them for advanced naval technology and modern warfare. This dual event underscores the Indian Navy's commitment to maintaining high training standards and fostering international military cooperation as it equips future leaders to navigate the complexities of maritime security challenges.

### Rajnath Singh launches solar-hydrogen microgrid in Ladakh to enhance energy security.

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29-Nov-25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated a pioneering solar-hydrogen-based microgrid at Chushul, Ladakh, developed jointly by NTPC and the Indian Army. This 3.7 MW solar plant is part of an innovative energy storage system designed to provide continuous clean energy to high-altitude defence posts, significantly reducing reliance on diesel generators. The project, completed in just eight months despite the challenging terrain, features a hydrogen generation system, storage capabilities, and a battery energy storage system, ensuring reliable power supply year-round. By

facilitating local production of green energy, the microgrid is set to enhance energy security, reduce carbon emissions, and mitigate logistical challenges associated with fuel transportation in remote regions, marking a substantial advance towards decarbonising the defence sector in high-altitude environments. This initiative not only underscores India's commitment to sustainable energy solutions but also reinforces the operational capabilities of its armed forces in challenging climates.

## Indian Army launches Hornbill motor rally in Nagaland to promote unity and local culture.

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29-Nov-25

The Indian Army has launched several initiatives in Nagaland to promote civil-military relations and celebrate local culture ahead of the 26th Hornbill Festival. The Hornbill Motor Rally-2025, organized from the Zakhama Military Station, is a seven-day expedition featuring 35 soldiers from the Army and Assam Rifles, covering over 1,150 kilometers through key Naga villages. This initiative aims to foster peace, unity, and national integration while blending adventure with cultural outreach. Concurrently, the Spear Corps conducted a two-day trek to the Dzukou Valley, engaging students and teachers in teamwork and environmental responsibility through a Cleanliness Drive under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan initiative. These events not only highlight the Army's commitment to community engagement and eco-tourism but also set a positive tone for the upcoming Hornbill Festival, which is expected to further enhance local ties and promote the spirit of camaraderie among diverse stakeholders in the region.

## DGCA: Software upgrades for over half of India's A320 planes completed.

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29-Nov-25

Indian airlines, including IndiGo and Air India, are currently undertaking critical software upgrades for more than half of the 338 A320 family aircraft in response to safety concerns raised by Airbus and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). The upgrades, necessitated by the potential for intense solar radiation to corrupt flight control data, aim to enhance aircraft safety and have led to operational delays of 60-90 minutes for some flights, although no cancellations have been reported. As of November 29, software modifications have been completed on 189 planes, with all updates expected to conclude by November 30. This extensive software recall is among Airbus's most significant in its 55-year history, coinciding with a peak travel period and presenting logistical challenges for airlines globally, including American Airlines and Lufthansa. The situation underscores the importance of rigorous safety measures within the aviation sector, as the swift implementation of these upgrades is critical to maintaining public confidence and operational integrity in air travel.

## IAF showcases Garud Special Forces and skydiving at Pune event.

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29-Nov-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) showcased its elite Garud Special Forces and precision skydiving during an Air Awareness Campaign held at Air Force Station Lohegaon in Pune as part of the 'Know Your Forces' initiative. The event, attended by over 10,000 school and college students, aimed to demonstrate the IAF's warfighting capabilities and inspire youth to consider careers in the military. By engaging with the younger generation, the IAF seeks to enhance awareness of its operational readiness and the opportunities available within the defense sector. Such initiatives are crucial for fostering a sense of national pride and encouraging future enlistments, thereby strengthening the defense forces of India.

## Indian Navy to host International Fleet Review in Visakhapatnam, February 2026.

SHARE

29-Nov-25

The Indian Navy will host the International Fleet Review (IFR) in February 2026 in Visakhapatnam, marking the 75th anniversary of India's Republic. This event underscores India's commitment to a rules-based international order and highlights its role as a key architect in multilateral maritime engagement, addressing challenges like piracy and climate change. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has emphasized that naval diplomacy is crucial for India's strategic outreach, particularly in the context of the India-China dynamic in the Indian Ocean Region. As India aspires to be a global maritime leader by 2047, initiatives like the IFR, along with various regional exercises and cooperative frameworks, signify its evolving identity from a Net Security Provider to a Preferred Security Partner.

## Indian Navy chief honors boxer Hitesh Gulia for World Cup gold achievements. SHARE

29-Nov-25

Indian Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi recently honored welterweight boxer Hitesh Gulia and his coach Suranjoy Singh for their remarkable achievements, including securing gold at the World Boxing Cup Finals in Greater Noida. Hitesh's commendable performance saw him clinch the men's 70kg gold at the finals, further establishing his prowess as he became the first Indian to win a World Boxing Cup gold earlier this year. The Navy expressed pride in Hitesh's accomplishments, highlighting the organization's commitment to nurturing sporting excellence and motivating future naval athletes. This recognition not only underscores the achievements of Indian sports personnel but also reinforces the Indian Navy's role in promoting athleticism and discipline within its ranks.

## India's Q2 GDP growth at 8.2% showcases manufacturing and services success. SHARE

29-Nov-25

India's economy showcased a remarkable 8.2% GDP growth in Q2 of 2025-26, reinforcing its status as the fastest-growing major economy amid global challenges, including US tariffs. This growth was primarily driven by a robust manufacturing sector, which expanded by 9.1%, alongside a significant boost in private consumption and services. Despite some concerns over export growth due to tariff impacts and rising imports reflecting strong domestic demand, economists have revised their annual growth forecasts upwards. Prime Minister Modi credited this performance to the government's pro-growth reforms and the resilience of the Indian populace, while the upcoming Reserve Bank of India meeting will be crucial for navigating the balance between sustaining growth and managing inflation.

## Modi Launches Vikram-I, Ushering in India's Private Space Era. SHARE

29-Nov-25

PM Modi has launched India's private space era with the virtual unveiling of Skyroot Aerospace's Vikram-I rocket and its new Infinity Campus in Hyderabad. The Vikram-I, capable of placing up to 300 kg into low Earth orbit, reflects advanced technologies and rapid launch capabilities, with assembly and launch possible within 24 to 72 hours. This initiative aims to elevate India's position in the global satellite launch market, traditionally dominated by public organizations, by fostering innovation and entrepreneurship among the youth. With plans for its first full-scale commercial mission by January 2026, Skyroot is set to revolutionize private-sector space operations in India, marking a significant shift in the country's space ambitions.

## PIB Refutes Pakistani Claims of IAF Chief's Resignation Over Jets SHARE

29-Nov-25

The Press Information Bureau (PIB) of India has debunked recent Pakistani propaganda that falsely claimed Indian Air Force Chief A.P. Singh resigned after allegedly losing seven Rafale jets and one Tejas fighter. PIB's fact-checking unit confirmed the letter was fabricated and part of a broader disinformation campaign aimed at undermining the credibility of the Indian armed forces. Additionally, a digitally altered video purporting to depict Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi making remarks on a controversial incident was also identified as fake. These incidents highlight the ongoing attempts by Pakistani accounts to disseminate misinformation, emphasizing the need for vigilance and reliance on verified sources among the Indian populace.

## J&K High Court classifies cross-LoC trade with PoK as intra-state under GST. SHARE

29-Nov-25

On November 27, 2025, the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court clarified that cross-Line of Control (LoC) trade with Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK) falls under the category of intra-state trade for the purposes of the GST Act. This landmark decision directly impacts trade settlements, tax applicability, and regulatory oversight, marking a significant development in India's approach to border commerce. The ruling comes amid heightened strategic concerns along the LoC and reflects India's policy to treat PoK as an integral part of its territory. By categorizing the trade as intra-state rather than inter-state or international, the court reinforces India's sovereign claims and seeks to streamline GST compliance for traders, potentially reducing bureaucratic hurdles and addressing longstanding ambiguity. This move also carries geopolitical weight, signaling Delhi's firmness on territorial sovereignty as regional tensions persist.

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