

Defence Professionals News & Analysis

December 31,2024 | Day 366

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change	
APOLLO	115.48	107.7	+7.22%	
AZAD	1722.25	1659.15	+3.8%	
BEL	293.15	284.9	+2.9%	
SOLARINDS	9783.3	9527.35	+2.69%	
HAL	4178.35	4081.05	+2.38%	

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
SIKA	2534.65	2602.95	-2.62%
ADANIENT	2528.65	2592.35	-2.46%
COCHINSHIP	1538.75	1573.05	-2.18%
MARINE	257.95	263.45	-2.09%
LOKESHMACH	314.15	320.3	-1.92%

Defense Business and Industry

Indian Navy to Upgrade Submarines with Next-Gen Torpedoes Share

31-Dec-24

The Indian Navy is set to enhance its underwater warfare capabilities with the integration of the nextgeneration Electronic Heavy Weight Torpedo (EHWT) and Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) technology into Kalvari-class submarines. Contracts totaling approximately 2,867 crore have been signed for these advancements, aimed at boosting firepower and operational stealth. The EHWT features advanced safety mechanisms and complements the existing Varunastra torpedo, reinforcing India's strategic maritime capabilities. These developments not only position the Indian Navy competitively on a global scale but also underscore India's commitment to modernizing its defense forces through indigenous technology collaborations, primarily with Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited.

Cost of GE F414 Engines for TEJAS MK-2 Expected to Rise Share

31-Dec-24

The deal for the GE F414 engines, crucial for India's indigenous TEJAS MK-2 fighter jets, is projected to exceed the initial estimate of \$1 billion, potentially due to market dynamics, technological transfer considerations, and strategic goals aimed at enhancing self-reliance in defense. The increase highlights the global demand for advanced jet engines and the complexities involved in their production. Additionally, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has already committed to

acquiring 83 TEJAS MK-1A fighters while planning to procure 97 more, underscoring India's commitment to bolstering its defense capabilities and advancing its domestic defense industry.

MoD signs ₹1,990 crore deal for AIP Plug to boost submarine endurance S SHARE

31-Dec-24

The Ministry of Defence has signed two significant contracts totaling approximately Rs 2,867 crore to enhance the capabilities of Indian submarines. A Rs 1,990 crore contract with Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited will focus on constructing an Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) Plug, improving the endurance of conventional submarines, while a Rs 877 crore agreement with Naval Group, France, will integrate Electronic Heavy Weight Torpedoes (EHWT) into Kalvari-Class submarines. These initiatives align with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative and are expected to generate around three lakh man-days of employment, showcasing India's commitment to indigenization and strengthening its naval defense capabilities.

DMRL and HAL Boost AL-31FP Engine Life to 2,500 Hours Share

31-Dec-24

The Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL) and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) have successfully extended the AL-31FP engine's service life from 2,000 to 2,500 hours, with ambitions to further increase it to 3,000 hours. This achievement is crucial for the Indian Air Force's Sukhoi Su-30MKI fleet, enhancing operational capability and showcasing Indo-Russian collaboration in defense. The initiative emphasizes advancements in material science, focusing on high-temperature resistant materials, while also aiming to reduce dependence on foreign

components. This strategic move underscores India's commitment to self-reliance and innovation in defense, potentially setting new global benchmarks in aerospace technology.

India Faces Challenges as Rafale Production Backlog Grows SHARE

31-Dec-24

India's defense strategy faces challenges as Dassault Aviation's production backlog for Rafale fighter jets has surged to 228 aircraft, potentially delaying the Indian Navy's order of 26 Rafale M jets until 2030. Despite Dassault's commitment to ramping up production, logistical and supply chain issues raise concerns over timely deliveries. The Indian Air Force's earlier experience with Rafale deliveries highlights the complexities involved in international arms deals. While the international demand underscores the Rafale's capabilities, India's focus on strengthening its aerial capabilities remains steadfast, necessitating close monitoring of Dassault's production commitments to ensure strategic readiness.

Indian Shipyards Embrace Advanced Techniques to Boost Efficiency Share

31-Dec-24

Indian shipyards are rapidly adopting advanced construction techniques to enhance efficiency and compete with European shipbuilding standards. Utilizing an integrated construction approach, Indian shipyards are pre-fabricating large blocks of ships, significantly reducing the construction timeline from 76 months for the Nilgiri-class warships to an anticipated 60 months for upcoming vessels. This method not only shortens build times but also improves quality control and cost efficiency, reflecting a strategic shift towards enhancing India's capabilities in the global shipbuilding market, traditionally dominated by nations like China, South Korea, and Japan. Overall, this initiative signifies India's commitment to bolstering its defense capabilities and industry competitiveness.

HAL's Dhruv-NG Helicopter Gains Traction in Civil Aviation Share

31-Dec-24

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's (HAL) Dhruv-NG helicopter has secured a significant contract with Pawan Hans Limited to provide four helicopters for offshore operations, valued at over ₹2,141 crore over ten years. This milestone marks HAL's successful entry into the civil aviation market, showcasing the helicopter's capabilities against global competitors. The

success reflects India's push for self-reliance in defense and aviation, underlining the potential for growth in the civil helicopter sector over the next 10-15 years. HAL aims to leverage this achievement to broaden its civil offerings, reinforcing the Make in India initiative and enhancing India's position in the global aviation landscape.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

India Aims for a Modern, Powerful Armed Forces by 2047 S SHARE

31-Dec-24

India's Defense Minister Rajnath Singh has outlined a vision for the Indian Armed Forces to become one of the most modern and strongest militaries globally by 2047, coinciding with the centenary of India's independence. He emphasized the need modernization through advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence and cyber capabilities, alongside a focus on self-reliance in defense production. Singh highlighted a significant increase in defense exports and the importance of joint operations among the Army, Navy, and Air Force to tackle contemporary threats, including unconventional warfare. This strategic commitment not only aims to enhance military capabilities but also aligns with India's broader goals of economic growth and security.

Committee May Recommend More Rafale Jets for IAF Boost Share

31-Dec-24

A high-level committee is considering recommending additional orders for 36 Dassault Rafale jets for the Indian Air Force (IAF) as an interim solution while awaiting the final approval of the Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) program. This proposal, supported by the current IAF Chief, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh, aims to enhance the IAF's combat strength and operational readiness amidst regional threats. The Rafale jets would be procured in the upgraded F4 configuration, marking a significant boost to the IAF's capabilities. While previous leadership was cautious, this renewed interest aligns with the urgent need for advanced fighter jets, reinforcing India's strategic defense posture.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Quad Reaffirms Commitment to a Free and Stable Indo-Pacific SHARE

31-Dec-24

The Quad members, celebrating 20 years of cooperation, reaffirmed their commitment to a free, open, and prosperous Indo-Pacific, particularly in response to China's military assertiveness. The foreign ministers emphasized the importance of regional institutions like ASEAN and highlighted ongoing initiatives in maritime security, disaster response, and infrastructure development, including the Quad Ports of the Future Partnership set for a conference in Mumbai in 2025. They also discussed the Quad's evolution from humanitarian assistance to addressing complex challenges such as climate change and cybersecurity. This strengthened partnership positions the Quad as a pivotal force in promoting stability and sustainable development in the Indo-Pacific, reflecting a shared vision for peace and mutual respect among nations.

Ex-Maldives President refutes claims of Indian interference in politics Share

31-Dec-24

Recent reports allege that opposition politicians in the Maldives sought Indian support to impeach President Mohammed Muizzu, proposing a \$6 million scheme to bribe parliament members. Former Maldives President Mohamed Nasheed dismissed these claims, asserting that India would never engage in such plots and has consistently supported Maldivian democracy without interference. He emphasized the importance of a sovereign Maldives, free from foreign meddling in domestic politics. The allegations stem from a Washington Post article citing internal documents, but the authenticity and seriousness of these claims remain questionable, with the focus now shifting to ongoing political tensions and national sovereignty in the Maldives. This situation highlights the delicate balance between regional politics and India's role in supporting democratic processes in neighboring countries.

Taiwan reports surge in Chinese military activity near its shores. Share

31-Dec-24

Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense reported increased Chinese military activity, with multiple instances of PLA aircraft and naval vessels operating

near its shores. Recently, five PLA aircraft crossed the median line, and earlier, 23 aircraft were detected, with 16 entering Taiwan's airspace. This escalation is seen as a direct threat to Taiwan's sovereignty and regional stability, prompting responses from Taiwanese defense officials. NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte highlighted China's military buildup, including nuclear capabilities, emphasizing the need for vigilance against its aggressive stance toward Taiwan. The situation underscores ongoing tensions in the Taiwan Strait, raising concerns about China's intentions and regional security dynamics.

Pentagon and China Silent on New PLA Stealth Jets Amid Tensions Share

31-Dec-24

The Pentagon has maintained a cautious stance regarding China's newly unveiled stealth jets, reflecting uncertainties in assessing their capabilities amid China's ongoing military modernization that includes advanced naval assets like the Type 076 amphibious assault ship. This simultaneous development indicates China's intent to enhance its operational reach, particularly concerning Taiwan, while attempting to match U.S. military advancements. However, experts argue that despite progress in aircraft production, China still struggles to keep pace with U.S. innovations in unmanned systems and missile technology, which could significantly influence regional security dynamics and U.S. defense strategies. India's strategic response should focus on strengthening its own defense capabilities to mitigate emerging threats in the Indo-Pacific region.

Home Secretary Reviews Security Strategies to Combat Terrorism in Kashmir Share

31-Dec-24

The Union Home Secretary conducted a high-level security meeting in Srinagar, focusing on counterterrorism strategies in Jammu and Kashmir. Emphasizing a zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism, he praised the coordinated efforts of security agencies that have led to a significant decline in terrorist activities and recruitment. The discussions included the implementation of the Area Domination Plan and counter-infiltration with measures, preparations underway for a peaceful Republic Day. The ongoing commitment of the Indian government to establish dominance over terrorism reflects a robust and proactive security strategy aimed at restoring peace in the region.

India Pushes Russia for Swift Delivery of S-400 Systems Amid Tensions Share

31-Dec-24

India is urging Russia to expedite the delivery of the S-400 missile system, a key element of its defense strategy, particularly amid heightened military activity from China. With three of the five ordered squadrons operationalized along its borders, the Indian Air Force emphasizes the critical need for these advanced systems to bolster aerial defense capabilities. Russia has reassured India of its commitment to fulfilling the contract, highlighting the mutual significance of military-technical cooperation. This urgency reflects India's strategic priorities in maintaining regional security and countering potential threats effectively.

Foreign delegation urges India to protect minorities in Bangladesh. S SHARE

31-Dec-24

A foreign delegation representing Hindus and other religious minorities has urged India to intervene regarding the oppression faced by these groups in Bangladesh, particularly highlighting the plight of Hindu women subjected to horrific abuse. Members from the Global Bengali Hindu Coalition emphasize the urgency of India's involvement, citing rising Islamic terrorism in Bangladesh and suggesting that it be treated as a hostile nation. The call to action stresses not only the humanitarian need to protect these vulnerable communities but also frames India's regional security interests, reinforcing the imperative for a strong, proactive stance against threats emanating from Bangladesh.

US Think Tank Predicts Prolonged India-China Border Conflict SHARE

31-Dec-24

A simulation by a US think tank predicts a decade-long conflict between India and China over border disputes, particularly in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh. It suggests that if China initiates hostilities for quick territorial gains, India would reject any ceasefire that allows China to retain captured land, leading to a prolonged low-intensity conflict. The simulation highlights India's potential military advancements in response to aggression, emphasizing the importance of national resolve and modernization. Moreover, the challenges China may face in sustaining prolonged warfare due to demographic declines could reshape regional stability and geopolitical dynamics in Asia.

Military Operations

Army Chief Gen Dwivedi Enhances Troop Readiness in Dehradun S SHARE

31-Dec-24

Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi recently visited Dehradun to review operational preparedness and interact with troops, emphasizing the importance of equipment and enhancing training modernizina standards to tackle future challenges. He received detailed briefings from senior officers regarding the operational capabilities, ongoing security initiatives, and infrastructure development in the region, highlighting the Indian Army's proactive stance in maintaining high operational readiness amidst a complex security Dwivedi environment. Gen commended the professionalism and dedication of the soldiers while reaffirming the leadership's commitment to their welfare and sacrifices. This visit illustrates the Indian Army's continuous efforts to boost morale and ensure mission readiness, showcasing a well-coordinated approach to national security and troop welfare.

India Strengthens Military Power Along LAC, Prioritizes Self-Reliance Share

31-Dec-24

India is enhancing its military capabilities along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with a defense procurement worth Rs 4.22 trillion, focusing on indigenous production, which accounted for 94.19% acquisitions. The Indian Navy has responded proactively to maritime threats while achieving significant milestones like the induction of the nuclearpowered submarine INS Arighaat and the acquisition of Predator drones. Additionally, India successfully tested advanced missile systems, including hypersonic capabilities. The government's strategic emphasis on self-reliance in defense manufacturing is evident, with defense production rising to Rs 1.26 trillion and exports growing by 32.5%, reinforcing India's position in regional security dynamics.

R&AW's GB8002 SIGINT Enhances Security Near Bangladesh Share

31-Dec-24

The Indian Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) has deployed its advanced Signals Intelligence system, GB8002, to monitor activities in Bhutan and Bangladesh, highlighting India's commitment to national security amid rising regional challenges,

particularly from China. This sophisticated system enhances India's intelligence capabilities, focusing on both Electronic and Communications Intelligence to assess potential geopolitical shifts and threats. Given the recent violence against minorities in Bangladesh, the GB8002's real-time surveillance ensures proactive measures against radical entities, demonstrating India's strategic foresight in maintaining regional stability. Such advancements in intelligence technology underscore India's dedication to safeguarding its interests in a complex geopolitical landscape.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Bangladeshi Radicalizer Sentenced to 7 Years for Terrorism Links Share

31-Dec-24

A Bangladeshi man, Jahidul Islam alias Kausar, was sentenced to seven years in prison by an NIA court for radicalizing Muslim youths and facilitating funds for terrorism, connected to the Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB). His activities included involvement in the 2014 Burdwan blast and recruiting individuals in India for anti-national activities. The NIA highlighted his role in orchestrating dacoities to finance these operations, showcasing the persistent threat posed by cross-border terrorism. This conviction underscores India's proactive stance in combating radicalization and ensuring national security, reinforcing the need for stringent measures against such elements infiltrating the country.

Siddaramaiah urges Naxalites to surrender for peace and support Share

31-Dec-24

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has urged Naxalites involved in violent activities to surrender and reintegrate into the democratic mainstream, emphasizing a newly simplified surrender policy that includes financial assistance, skill training, and legal support. He reassured that those who surrender their weapons will be prioritized for rehabilitation, while simultaneously warning of strict action against ongoing violence. The recent killing of a top Naxalite highlights the persistent threat of Naxal activities in the state. Siddaramaiah's initiative aims to promote peace and security in Karnataka, reflecting a proactive approach to counteract extremism and foster community integration.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

Chinese Cyberattack Breaches US Treasury, Documents Compromised S SHARE

31-Dec-24

A recent cyberattack targeted the US Treasury, with hackers allegedly accessing documents after breaching security measures using a stolen key. Despite the Treasury's swift action to take affected services offline and the ongoing investigation with the FBI and CISA, concerns remain over state-sponsored cyber threats, particularly from China. Chinese officials have denied involvement, accusing the US of making unfounded claims. This incident underscores the critical need for enhanced cybersecurity measures in the face of persistent threats to national infrastructure, importance international emphasizing the of cooperation in cybersecurity to counter such statesponsored challenges and protect vital information systems effectively.

Miscellaneous

ISRO's SpaDeX mission showcases first industry-built satellites. Share

31-Dec-24

ISRO successfully launched the SpaDeX mission, marking a significant milestone as the first instance where two satellites, SDX01 (Chaser) and SDX02 (Target), were built and tested entirely by the Indian industry, specifically by Ananth Technologies Limited, under ISRO's auidance. This achievement. accomplished via the PSLV-C60 mission, demonstrates India's growing capabilities in space technology, particularly in autonomous rendezvous and docking, which is crucial for future missions including the planned Indian Space Station by 2035. With this launch, India joins an elite group of nations—alongside the US, Russia, and China-that have mastered in-space docking technology, enhancing ISRO's operational flexibility and expanding its ambitions for lunar exploration and satellite servicing. The successful integration of the spacecraft further underscores the commitment of Indian industry to contribute significantly to the nation's advanced space aspirations.

China Launches CR450, the World's Fastest Train at 450 km/h S SHARE

31-Dec-24

China has unveiled the CR450 prototype, the world's fastest train, achieving test speeds of 450 km/h and designed for operational speeds of up to 400 km/h. This advancement will significantly reduce travel times and establish new international benchmarks in speed, efficiency, and safety, featuring over 4,000 sensors for stability. The train's design emphasizes passenger comfort with improved cabin space and noise reduction. This initiative highlights China's strategy to dominate high-speed rail technology, enhancing domestic transport and positioning itself competitively in the global rail market. In contrast, India must continue to innovate and upgrade its rail infrastructure to maintain its competitive edge in the region.

Indian Navy Lays Keel for Third Cadet Training Ship, Yard 18005 S SHARE

31-Dec-24

The Indian Navy recently celebrated the keel-laying ceremony of its third Cadet Training Ship, Yard 18005, at L&T Shipyard in Kattupalli. This event, presided over by RAdm Ravi Kumar Dhingra, underscores the Navy's commitment to indigenous shipbuilding, aligning with the Government of India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India initiatives. The contract for these training ships, aimed at enhancing the capabilities of officer cadets and extending training to cadets from friendly nations, reflects the Long Term Integrated Perspective Plan (LTIPP) 2012-27's goal of expanding the Indian Navy's training infrastructure. This milestone further strengthens India's maritime capacity and regional cooperation.

CM Biren Singh Apologizes for Manipur's Ethnic Conflict Share

31-Dec-24

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh expressed his remorse over the ongoing ethnic conflict in the state, which has led to significant loss of life and displacement. He highlighted a decline in firing incidents, reporting 408 incidents from May to October 2023, 345 from November 2023 to April 2024, and 112 since May 2024. This reduction indicates a gradual stabilization of the situation, suggesting that government efforts toward peace and reconciliation may be yielding positive results. The CM's apology reflects a commitment to address the grievances of affected communities, emphasizing the importance of fostering harmony in a region plagued by ethnic tensions.

ISRO's January GSLV Mission to Mark 100th Launch from Sriharikota Share

31-Dec-24

ISRO is on track to achieve a significant milestone with its upcoming Geosynchronous Launch Vehicle (GSLV) mission in January, marking the 100th launch from Sriharikota. Following the successful PSLV-C60 mission, which deployed two spacecraft for the Space Docking Experiment, ISRO Chairman S. Somanath highlighted plans for future missions, including launching the NVS-02 navigation satellite in early 2025. emphasized the importance of continued advancements in India's space sector, particularly with upcoming complex missions and docking systems, showcasing India's commitment to enhancing its capabilities in space technology and navigation services, thereby strengthening its strategic positioning in the global space arena.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Ct. 1		TT* 1	T	CI	x7 1	CI.	DCI	CNTA	CMA
Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
APOLLO	108.0	117.5	106.83	115.48	20564917	7.22	75.95	99.15	104.71
AZAD	1654.1	1734.95	1650.1	1722.25	148654	3.8	52.9	1733.68	1546.85
BEL	284.5	294.0	284.25	293.15	15725947	2.9	44.76	304.87	279.53
SOLARINDS	9529.35	9841.05	9505.0	9783.3	83029	2.69	41.41	10374.08	10106.13
HAL	4081.05	4198.9	4081.0	4178.35	901281	2.38	38.4	4445.83	4448.06
DATAPATTNS	2390.0	2484.2	2380.0	2470.7	90974	2.19	48.11	2558.64	2719.24
PTC	142.0	145.78	141.2	144.98	1491581	1.97	31.15	161.5	200.15
ASTRAMICRO	749.0	769.5	747.3	767.5	92185	1.93	44.07	801.79	802.89
IDEAFORGE	580.0	611.0	570.7	590.15	75177	1.63	45.48	608.38	689.34
HBLPOWER	618.0	628.85	611.5	621.85	788558	1.37	46.17	656.68	562.86
BDL	1108.05	1145.4	1108.05	1122.85	479637	1.34	41.82	1214.39	1210.73
NIBE	1661.0	1748.0	1650.0	1709.6	20939	1.33	45.34	1777.0	1738.73
LMW	17588.9	17742.15	17225.1	17673.85	3641	1.28	63.78	17174.06	16180.45
MIDHANI	332.4	339.0	331.45	337.4	169029	1.03	39.84	364.42	407.68
PARAS	1004.0	1013.35	991.95	1008.2	79627	0.98	42.43	1067.22	1035.87
AVANTEL	150.98	154.0	150.15	153.21	366978	0.93	40.3	163.66	_
LT	3562.55	3620.6	3550.0	3607.65	1267628	0.8	40.41	3765.16	3616.6
BEML	4007.95	4083.4	3968.25	4068.75	106765	0.76	44.02	4258.82	3963.98
DCXINDIA	343.75	350.1	337.0	347.95	596892	0.68	58.42	332.02	333.95
ZENTEC	2424.0	2458.0	2345.0	2445.65	343607	0.66	68.25	2239.44	1485.95
KRISHNADEF	776.0	782.0	760.0	780.65	22500	0.54	64.29	732.29	652.13
MTARTECH	1665.2	1673.85	1641.75	1658.25	64842	0.09	46.82	1689.49	1789.61
TANEJAERO	418.9	430.0	415.0	419.0	14577	-0.05	38.4	454.69	490.6
PREMEXPLN	521.9	528.0	515.05	522.15	62535	-0.16	53.6	513.75	525.34
BHARATFORG	1301.0	1312.65	1278.85	1299.5	558405	-0.22	40.25	1335.49	1453.05
HIGHENE	612.1	617.95	601.0	612.0	4727	-0.41	40.15	652.61	716.94
ROSSELLIND	75.99	77.0	74.8	75.59	24456	-0.41	29.13	81.69	360.14
TEMBO	821.85	840.0	778.0	808.65	60416	-1.23	58.32	776.4	386.43
GRSE	1627.85	1656.4	1577.0	1616.4	372359	-1.33	47.51	1690.21	1587.69
CFF	668.55	689.95	660.0	672.0	12200	-1.41	46.98	702.9	622.1
MAZDOCK	2320.0	2369.95	2201.8	2227.8	4785547	-1.82	42.4	2417.1	1931.57
LOKESHMACH	317.45	322.0	310.25	314.15	80851	-1.92	31.4	350.28	390.35
MARINE	260.0	261.0	252.0	257.95	160159	-2.09	41.54	288.54	194.96
COCHINSHIP	1565.0	1587.4	1513.1	1538.75	438789	-2.18	49.03	1592.32	1718.83
ADANIENT	2575.0	2577.75	2507.45	2528.65	2745674	-2.46	51.68	2467.71	2986.42
SIKA	2602.95	2602.95	2491.0	2534.65	2213	-2.62	45.41	2629.96	2511.37