



Defense Business and Industry

Sagar Defence and Boeing launch indigenous Wave Glider USVs production in Pune.

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On December 5, 2025, Sagar Defence Engineering Pvt. Ltd., founded by Capt. Nikunj Parashar, inaugurated its advanced manufacturing facility in Pune, India, in partnership with Boeing's Liquid Robotics to produce indigenous Wave Glider Uncrewed Surface Vehicles (USVs). This wave- and solar-powered platform, capable of months-long missions for real-time maritime data, enhances India's undersea domain awareness and unmanned capabilities, aligning with Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Key figures Salil Gupte of Boeing India and Liquid Robotics CEO Shane Goodenough hailed it as a milestone in US-India Major Defence Partnership, positioning India as an Indo-Pacific maritime innovation hub amid rising regional tensions. From an Indian strategic viewpoint, local production, testing, and sustainment bolster naval readiness against adversarial submarine threats, fostering tech transfer and supply chain resilience.

Indian Navy partners with Crimson Energy for AI maritime system

Deepdarshak.

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On Navy Day 2025, December 4, the Indian Navy signed a key procurement contract with Crimson Energy Experts Pvt Ltd, winner of the iDEX challenge, to develop Deepdarshak, an indigenous AI/ML-powered maritime analytics system. This partnership strengthens India's defense innovation ecosystem under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, enhancing real-time situational awareness, operational efficiency, and strategic decision-making for naval operations in critical maritime domains. Crimson Energy, a trusted collaborator with entities like the Indian Navy, BARC,

and DRDO, specializes in AI-driven surveillance solutions, marking a proud milestone in empowering homegrown startups for advanced underwater and maritime capabilities.

ACS Technologies secures Rs 6 crore contracts with Indian Navy.

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ACS Technologies has secured two significant contracts from the Indian Navy, amounting to Rs 6.04 crore. The major contract, valued at Rs 5.39 crore, involves the supply and installation of an integrated security surveillance system, expected to commence on December 11, 2025, and conclude within four months. Additionally, the company will be responsible for the procurement and installation of tire killers at the Naval Dockyard in Visakhapatnam, with work starting on December 4, 2025. This contract win reflects ACS Technologies' growing presence in the defense sector, highlighting the Indian Navy's commitment to enhancing security and operational capabilities. Furthermore, ACS Technologies reported a robust financial performance, with a 46% increase in net profit in Q2 FY26, indicating a thriving defense industry landscape.

Indian Army Launches SapperScout RP 2.0 Advanced Unmanned Ground Vehicle

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On December 5, 2025, the Indian Army unveiled SapperScout RP 2.0, a fully indigenous multi-utility unmanned ground vehicle developed by Major Rajprasad RS of the 7 Engineer Regiment, at the InnoYodha 2025 innovation competition in New Delhi's Manekshaw Centre. This 12th innovation by the officer –four of which have already been inducted–features a six-wheeled all-terrain design with articulated suspension, environmental sensing, and obstacle detection, enabling operations in deserts and high-altitude areas. Capable of mine detection, surveillance, logistics, casualty evacuation, payload carriage up to 900 kg, and modular integration of weapons or counter-

UAS systems, the UGV enhances manned-unmanned teaming and positions India as a leader in self-reliant defense technology under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat mission.

Aerolloy Technologies and Honeywell Aerospace sign long-term titanium casting supply deal in India.

06-Dec-25

On December 4, 2025, PTC Industries' wholly owned subsidiary Aerolloy Technologies signed a long-term agreement with Honeywell Aerospace Technologies to supply precision titanium and superalloy investment castings for critical aero-engine components and global aerospace programs. Production will occur at Aerolloy's vertically integrated facility in the Lucknow node of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor, encompassing material manufacture, alloy melting, processing, and casting for enhanced traceability, quality control, and supply chain resilience. This partnership bolsters India's advanced manufacturing under the "Make in India" initiative, validates Aerolloy's capabilities alongside prior ties with Safran and Dassault Aviation, and positions the nation as a reliable supplier of high-value components to global OEMs, ensuring multi-year revenue stability. PTC Chairman Sachin Agarwal hailed it as a milestone affirming India's growing aerospace prowess. The deal spurred PTC shares to rise over 4%.

DRDO transfers seven innovative technologies to enhance Indian Armed Forces' capabilities.

06-Dec-25

On December 2, 2025, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) handed over seven indigenous technologies, developed under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme, to India's Tri-Services during a meeting of its Empowered Committee at DRDO Bhawan in New Delhi, chaired by DRDO Chairman Dr. Samir V. Kamat. These innovations, crafted by Indian MSMEs, startups, and industry in collaboration with DRDO and the armed forces, bolster self-reliance by curbing import dependence across critical domains. Key transfers include an indigenous high-voltage power supply for airborne self-protection jammers, tide-efficient gangway for naval jetties, advanced VLF-HF switching matrix systems, VLF loop aerials for underwater platforms, waterjet propulsion for fast interceptor craft, lithium precursor recovery from used batteries, and long-life seawater batteries for underwater surveillance. The event also approved 12

new TDF projects in strategic, aerospace, naval, and electronic warfare areas, accelerating Aatmanirbhar Bharat in defence

Russia proposes FGFA revival, joint fighter, and bomber development with India.

06-Dec-25

In a notable development in Indo-Russian defense cooperation, Russian officials have proposed a revival of the Fifth Generation Fighter Aircraft (FGFA) program, offering India a joint development of the Su-57E stealth fighter and potential collaboration on 6th-generation fighter and bomber projects. During President Vladimir Putin's recent visit to New Delhi, it was announced that Russia would supply two to three squadrons of Su-57E fighters while facilitating local production, with an aim for up to 100 aircraft to be manufactured in India by the early 2030s. This approach is paired with a comprehensive technology transfer, enabling Indian engineers to gain critical knowledge in stealth technology and advanced avionics that would enhance the indigenous Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program. Furthermore, the collaboration extends to the joint production of unmanned aerial systems, including strike drones, aligning with India's strategic goals of self-reliance in defense production. These initiatives not only symbolize a deepening bilateral defense relationship but also position India as a significant player in advanced military technology, capable of reducing reliance on foreign suppliers and bolstering its air combat capabilities amidst a shifting geopolitical landscape.

India's MiG-29 brake parachute unveiled at EDEX 2025, targeting Egypt order.

06-Dec-25

At EDEX 2025 in Cairo, ongoing from December 2-5, Kanpur-based Gliders India Limited (GIL), a Defence PSU under the Ministry of Defence, unveiled India's first indigenous brake parachute for MiG-29M/M2 and older variants on December 4-5. This lighter Unicross-canopy system, rigorously tested via DRDO sled trials and IAF MiG-29UPG flights in 2024-2025, decelerates landings from 180-310 km/h, cuts costs by 30-35% over Russian originals, and promises spares in 90 days versus 18-24 months. Egyptian Air Force officers, operating MiG-29s since 2017, showed strong interest, eyeing upgrades for short-runway ops. From India's strategic lens, this bolsters 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' exports, counters Russian supply disruptions amid Ukraine tensions, and fortifies

defence ties with Egypt, opening niches in global MiG fleets for sustained IAF interoperability and revenue.

India, Russia Initiate Joint Production Talks for Il-114 Aircraft

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India and Russia kicked off joint production talks for the Il-114-300 regional turboprop aircraft on December 4-5, 2025, during President Vladimir Putin's state visit for the 23rd Annual Summit in New Delhi. Rostec CEO Sergey Chemezov and First Deputy PM Denis Manturov confirmed discussions on assembly alongside the Sukhoi Superjet-100, building on a prior HAL-UAC memorandum, to align with India's Make in India and UDAN scheme for short-haul connectivity on unpaved runways. From an Indian strategic lens, this bolsters self-reliance in aerospace amid Western sanctions on Russia, enhances regional air links in diverse terrains, and counters China-Pakistan aviation ties, with potential orders exceeding 1,000 units to sustain bilateral defense ties.

Second HTT-40 Trainer Aircraft Successfully Completes Maiden Flight

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On December 6, 2025, the second Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40 (HTT-40) series production aircraft, designated TH-4002, successfully completed its maiden flight at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's (HAL) newly commissioned facility in Nashik, Maharashtra. This event marks the first HTT-40 produced at Nashik, following the initial series aircraft TH-4001 from Bengaluru, and validates HAL's transition to scalable serial production standards after extensive developmental testing. The tandem-seat turboprop trainer, powered by a 1100 hp Honeywell TPE331-12B engine, supports the Indian Air Force's ab-initio pilot training needs—including aerobatics, instrument flying, navigation, night operations, and close formations—replacing ageing HPT-32 Deepak fleets while advancing Atmanirbhar Bharat in aerospace manufacturing. Deliveries to the IAF are slated to commence by early 2026, strengthening India's indigenous defense aviation capabilities.

Japan to station electronic warfare unit near Taiwan for defense.

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Japan will deploy an electronic warfare air-defense unit on Yonaguni Island in 2026, enhancing its defense posture just 110 kilometers from Taiwan. This unit will

focus on land-based jamming against enemy aircraft, aiming to disrupt radar systems, and is part of Japan's broader strategy to fortify its southwestern islands' defenses. The initiative, emphasized by Japan's Ministry of Defense as a self-defense measure, aims to deter potential threats while assuring local residents of safety, as the electromagnetic waves used are comparable to mobile phone frequencies. This development underscores Japan's commitment to regional security amid growing tensions in the Indo-Pacific, particularly regarding Taiwan and surrounding areas.

Russia Offers India Advanced Lancet-3 Munitions for Defense Collaboration

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Russia has proposed full-cycle technology transfer and licensed production of its combat-proven Lancet-3 loitering munition to India, announced by Rostec CEO Sergey Chemezov during President Vladimir Putin's state visit on December 4-5, 2025. Key dates include the offer following the India-Russia summit in New Delhi, where bilateral talks emphasized defense indigenization amid 'Make in India'. The Lancet-3, with over 80% hit probability against moving targets demonstrated in Ukraine, bolsters India's precision strike needs along the LAC with China. Actors involved: Rostec, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) Nashik for potential production hub, and Indian armed forces seeking self-reliance. Geopolitically, this counters Chinese drone superiority, fortifies India-Russia ties against Western sanctions, and positions India as a munitions exporter, enhancing strategic autonomy in contested borders.

US approves \$52.8 million sonobuoy sale to enhance India's anti-submarine capabilities.

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On December 4, 2025, the Pentagon's Defence Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a proposed \$52.8 million Foreign Military Sale to India for advanced anti-submarine sonobuoys, including technical support and manuals, fully funded by New Delhi. This tranche equips India's MH-60R Seahawk helicopters—inducted since 2022—with air-launched, expendable sensors to detect underwater threats from contractors like Sparton Corporation and Undersea Sensor Systems Inc. Key actors include the US DSCA and Indian Navy, bolstering bilateral ties amid Indo-Pacific tensions. From an Indian strategic lens, it fortifies maritime security against

submarine incursions in the Indian Ocean, enhancing ASW interoperability without altering regional balances or requiring US personnel in India. No offsets apply, signaling deepened Quad-era defence synergy.

IAF seeks CCS approval for 90 Rafale F4s, 24 F5s amid France's premature announcement.

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The Indian Air Force has formally requested Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) approval for the procurement of 90 Rafale F4 fighter jets, with an option for 24 advanced Rafale F5 variants, in a move set to significantly bolster India's air combat capabilities. This decision, finalized in December 2025, is part of the ongoing Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) program, aimed at addressing critical squadron shortages and enhancing deterrence amid regional security challenges. The Rafale F4s are expected to be delivered from 2029, featuring advanced networking, sensor fusion, and integration with indigenous weapons such as the Astra Mk-2 missile. The deal also emphasizes local manufacturing at the Dassault-Reliance Aerospace facility in Nagpur, targeting over 70% indigenization to support India's self-reliance in defense technology. The Rafale F5, scheduled for delivery from 2030, will bring next-generation capabilities, including a new mission computer and the T-REX engine. This acquisition marks India as the largest operator of Rafale jets outside France, reinforcing its strategic autonomy and technological edge in the region.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

India and Russia enhance defense ties through joint manufacturing and technology cooperation.

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During the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit held in New Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Vladimir Putin reaffirmed their commitment to bolster bilateral defense cooperation by promoting joint manufacturing of military hardware and spare parts in India under the Make-in-India initiative. This strategic partnership aims to address long-standing challenges related to the timely supply of critical components for Russian-origin defense systems while enhancing India's self-reliance in defense production. The discussions also encompassed the co-development and co-production of advanced defense technologies, with an

emphasis on setting up joint ventures to cater to the needs of the Indian Armed Forces and facilitate subsequent exports to friendly nations. In addition to defense collaboration, both leaders underscored the importance of countering terrorism through enhanced cooperation and coordination between their respective countries, reflecting a shared commitment to address global security challenges. This collaboration signifies a deepening of the historical ties between India and Russia, positioning both nations to leverage their partnership for mutual security and technological advancement.

Putin assures India of steady fuel supplies amid US pressure.

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Russian President Vladimir Putin, during his two-day state visit to New Delhi on December 4-5, 2025, assured Prime Minister Narendra Modi of uninterrupted fuel shipments—including oil, gas, and coal—to India, defying U.S. pressure under President Trump, who imposed 50% tariffs on Indian exports over discounted Russian crude purchases. At the 23rd India-Russia summit, Putin hailed Moscow as a "reliable energy partner" for India's booming economy, which sourced 36% of its 2024 crude from Russia amid the Ukraine conflict, while leaders inked a 2030 economic roadmap targeting \$100 billion trade, national currency settlements, and nuclear projects like small modular reactors. From New Delhi's strategic lens, this fortifies energy security against Western sanctions, diversifies defense imports (down from 76% Russian reliance), and advances multipolar goals via BRICS-SCO, balancing U.S. ties without capitulation.

Modi-Putin Summit Enhances India-Russia Strategic Partnership and Cooperation.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Vladimir Putin convened for the 23rd India-Russia Summit in New Delhi, highlighting their Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership through the launch of an ambitious Economic Cooperation Program set to enhance bilateral trade and collaboration until 2030. Key agreements were signed across various sectors, including energy, defense, and food security, with Russia reaffirming its commitment to supply discounted oil and support for nuclear projects like the Kudankulam power plant. The summit also emphasized the importance of people-to-people connections, with India introducing 30-day e-tourist visas for Russian

citizens, fostering tourism and cultural exchange. Modi's statement on India's position regarding the Ukraine conflict showcased India's proactive diplomatic role, positioning it as a mediator for peace, while both leaders underscored their commitment to navigating geopolitical pressures, particularly from the United States. The strategic engagement signals not only a deepening of India-Russia ties but also a collective effort to establish an alternative economic framework resilient to sanctions and political coercion, reflecting a shift towards a multipolar global order where India asserts its national interests independently.

Russia launches drone and missile strike on Ukraine amid peace talks.

06-Dec-25

Russia has launched a significant missile and drone assault on Ukraine, deploying 653 drones and 51 missiles in an attack that coincided with Ukraine's Armed Forces Day, causing injuries and targeting energy infrastructure across the nation. Despite this military escalation, U.S. and Ukrainian officials are engaged in ongoing peace talks with Russia, seeking a resolution to the nearly four-year conflict. The Kremlin has expressed optimism about these negotiations, indicating a willingness to continue discussions and acknowledging some acceptance of a U.S.-drafted peace plan, although it remains firm on its territorial claims in the Donbas region. Ukrainian leaders, however, have voiced concerns that Russia may be maneuvering to impose unfavorable terms while maintaining its aggressive military stance, calling instead for a genuine ceasefire rather than mere appeasement. The situation underscores a complex interplay of military action and diplomatic efforts, highlighting the challenges of achieving lasting peace in the region amidst ongoing hostilities.

Putin appreciates Modi's efforts towards resolving the Ukraine conflict at India-Russia summit.

06-Dec-25

During the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit held in New Delhi on December 5, 2025, Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed deep appreciation for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proactive diplomatic efforts toward resolving the Ukraine conflict, marking a key moment in their longstanding partnership that coincides with the 25th anniversary of strategic ties. Modi reaffirmed India's firm stance on the side of peace, not neutrality, while underscoring the need for global stability amid ongoing crises, as both leaders

reviewed deep-rooted military-technical cooperation, advancements in high technology, artificial intelligence, and ambitious goals like \$100 billion bilateral trade by 2030. Putin highlighted the profound substance of Indo-Russian relations and shared updates on peace negotiations involving partners like the US, reinforcing India's pivotal role in fostering international dialogue and bilateral growth in defense, energy, and connectivity.

India-Russia Friendship Remains Strong Amid Global Challenges, Says Modi

 

06-Dec-25

During a recent summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Vladimir Putin reaffirmed the enduring India-Russia friendship, likening it to a steadfast guiding star. This relationship, built on mutual respect and trust over the past eight decades, has evolved into a special and privileged strategic partnership, with discussions focused on expanding economic collaboration beyond traditional sectors such as oil and defense. Both leaders emphasized the importance of diversifying trade, with plans to conclude a free trade agreement with the Eurasian Economic Union by 2030, alongside initiatives in clean energy, critical minerals, and maritime cooperation. Modi also expressed India's readiness to contribute to peace efforts in Ukraine, signaling a commitment to a balanced foreign policy amid Western pressures to reduce ties with Moscow. The summit, marked by strong personal rapport and ceremonial honors, underscores the continued relevance of India-Russia relations in a shifting global landscape, reaffirming their joint aim to deepen strategic, economic, and cultural ties while navigating complex geopolitical challenges.

Putin concludes Delhi visit, praises India's warm hospitality and partnership.

06-Dec-25

Russian President Vladimir Putin concluded a significant two-day state visit to India, during which he engaged in high-level discussions with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, focusing on enhancing the longstanding India-Russia partnership amid evolving geopolitical dynamics. The talks highlighted key areas such as defense cooperation, energy ties, and regional security, with both leaders reaffirming their commitment to combating terrorism and the need for reform in global governance structures, including the United Nations Security Council. Notably, Russia expressed strong support for India's Make in India

initiative in the defense sector, emphasizing joint production and technology transfer to bolster India's indigenous manufacturing capabilities. Additionally, both nations announced plans to open new Indian consulates in Kazan and Yekaterinburg to promote trade, cultural exchanges, and people-to-people ties. The visit underscored the enduring strategic partnership between India and Russia, reflecting a mutual understanding of contemporary global challenges and a commitment to fostering peace and development on a broader scale.

Over 100 Chinese vessels increase tensions in South China Sea.

06-Dec-25

The South China Sea has recently seen a notable escalation in Chinese naval presence, with reports indicating over 100 Chinese navy and coast guard vessels operating in the region. This substantial deployment raises concerns among neighboring countries and reinforces fears of increased assertiveness by China in these contested waters. The situation underscores the importance of maintaining maritime security and the need for collaborative regional efforts to counterbalance China's growing influence. Such developments could impact strategic dynamics and heighten tensions in the Indo-Pacific region, underscoring the necessity for vigilant defense postures among regional powers, including India, to safeguard their national interests and ensure freedom of navigation.

US Senate resolution condemns China's WWII claims, reinforcing Indo-Pacific alliances.

06-Dec-25

The US Senate has introduced Resolution 523, condemning China's attempts to distort World War II history and emphasizing the significant contributions of the Republic of China and Allied forces, including the United States. This resolution not only highlights the historical inaccuracies propagated by Beijing but also reinforces Japan's pivotal role in the Quad, a strategic alliance involving India, Japan, Australia, and the US, aimed at countering China's expanding influence in the Indo-Pacific. As tensions rise between the US and China, the resolution underscores the need for historical accuracy in education and international discourse, further solidifying India's position in regional security discussions and multilateral cooperation.

Military Operations

Indian Army's team triumphs by scaling Arunachal's Mount Kangto, showcasing operational excellence.

06-Dec-25

An 18-member team from the Indian Army's Eastern Command has successfully scaled Mount Kangto, the highest peak in Arunachal Pradesh at 7,042 meters, marking a historic achievement in Indian mountaineering. The ascent, accomplished via a challenging southern route, was flagged off on November 3 from a forward base by the General Officer Commanding of Gajraj Corps. This expedition, characterized by extreme conditions including sub-zero temperatures and treacherous terrain, exemplifies the Army's values of grit, discipline, teamwork, and determination. The achievement not only highlights the Indian Army's commitment to operational excellence but also reinforces the strategic importance of the Eastern Himalayas, showcasing India's prowess in challenging environments.

India to conduct Air Force exercise near Karachi in December.

06-Dec-25

India has announced an upcoming Air Force exercise in the Arabian Sea on December 10 and 11, 2025, strategically located about 200 nautical miles from Karachi, near Pakistan-controlled airspace. This exercise will involve advanced aerial maneuvers and operational drills, emphasizing India's commitment to enhancing its operational readiness in the western and maritime sectors. Additionally, the announcement coincides with a scheduled sea-launched missile test off the Visakhapatnam coast on December 4, underscoring India's focus on strengthening its defense capabilities amidst the region's sensitive geopolitical dynamics. These developments reflect India's proactive stance in maintaining security and asserting its presence in crucial maritime trade routes.

India and Malaysia Begin Harimau Shakti 2025 Military Exercise in Rajasthan.

06-Dec-25

The joint military exercise Harimau Shakti 2025 between India and Malaysia commenced on December 5 at the Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan, aimed

at enhancing defense cooperation and interoperability between the two armies. Involving troops from the Indian DOGRA Regiment and the 25th Battalion of the Royal Malaysian Army, the exercise focuses on sub-conventional operations and coordinated counter-terrorism responses as per UN mandates. Key activities include cordon-and-search operations and joint casualty evacuation procedures, alongside physical conditioning training. This initiative not only promotes mutual learning and tactical synergy but also strengthens the bilateral defense relationship, underscoring the commitment of both nations to collective security and counter-terrorism efforts.

General Dwivedi calls for enhanced integration and innovation in Army leadership to adapt to modern warfare.

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Chief of Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi emphasized the necessity for Army commanders to enhance jointness, integration, and innovation during the Biennial Mechanised Infantry Commanders Conference 2025 in New Delhi. He highlighted the importance of adapting to contemporary tactics and techniques in multi-domain warfare, stressing the role of Mechanised Infantry as a Lead Integrator in Combined Arms Operations. The two-day conference focused on emerging operational paradigms, including unmanned aerial systems, underscoring the Army's commitment to evolve its strategies in response to modern battlefield demands. This approach is pivotal for maintaining operational effectiveness and readiness in an ever-changing defense landscape.

details on unit deployments, officer movements, and exercises, while sending Trojan malware for device access and routing payments through Airtel Payments Bank. Pal created fake profiles to befriend Army personnel using number lists from handlers, facilitating cross-border fund transfers linked to Multan, Sargodha, and Lahore IPs. Coordinated with SOG units in Mehsana, Kheda, Surat, Dahod, UP Police, Daman, Goa forces, and central agencies, the probe under FIR Sections 61 and 148 of BNS highlights India's robust vigilance against foreign threats to national security

India and Russia unite against terrorism, urging action on UN-listed groups.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin reaffirmed their commitment to counter-terrorism during the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit, emphasizing the necessity for joint actions against UN-listed terrorist groups such as Al Qaeda and ISIS. They condemned recent terrorist attacks in India and Russia, advocating for a zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism and the swift adoption of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism within the UN framework. The leaders also highlighted the importance of enhancing bilateral cooperation on counter-terrorism, especially concerning Afghanistan, while addressing broader regional and global issues. This collaboration underscores the strategic partnership between India and Russia, pivotal for addressing common security challenges.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

Government Unveils Strategy Against Rising AI-Driven Cyberattacks

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The Indian government informed the Rajya Sabha about the alarming rise in cybersecurity incidents, recording nearly 1.2 million in 2022 alone, and highlighted the growing threat of AI-driven cyberattacks. Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Jitin Prasada outlined measures to bolster cyber defenses across critical sectors, including a comprehensive Safe & Trusted AI framework and enhanced cybersecurity audits. Key initiatives involve the establishment of the National Cyber Coordination Centre for real-time threat monitoring, regular mock drills to assess preparedness, and the provision of malware cleaning tools through Cyber Swachhta Kendra. This multi-layered strategy underscores India's commitment to combatting

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Gujarat ATS dismantles Pakistan intelligence-driven espionage network targeting Indians.

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The Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) dismantled a Pakistan intelligence-operated espionage network on December 4, 2025, arresting retired Army Subedar Ajaykumar Surendrasingh Singh (47) from Goa and Rashmani Ravindra Pal (35) from Daman for targeting Indian defense personnel via social media honey traps. Posing as "Ankita Sharma" and "Priya Thakur," Pakistani handlers like "Abdul Sattar" and "Khalid" contacted Singh during his 2022 Dimapur posting, extracting

evolving cyber threats amid increasing digitalization and internet adoption.

India is poised to lead globally in cybersecurity, says CERT-In DG Dr. Sanjay Bahl.

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India aims to establish itself as a global leader in cybersecurity, as articulated by Dr. Sanjay Bahl, Director General of CERT-In. With a focus on enhancing national cyber resilience through government-industry collaboration, CERT-In has implemented significant initiatives, including the Cyber Swachhta Kendra and extensive training programs for cybersecurity professionals. Addressing vulnerabilities in sectors like BFSI and fintech, the organization emphasizes real-time threat intelligence and incident response frameworks to mitigate risks. As India engages in international cybersecurity collaborations, it seeks to foster innovation, particularly among startups and SMEs, positioning itself as a formidable player in the global cybersecurity landscape.

Israel bans Android phones for military due to rising cyber threats.

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Israel has instituted a nationwide ban on Google Android smartphones for military personnel due to rising cyber threats, particularly a sophisticated espionage campaign targeting high-profile individuals, suspected to be linked to Iranian actors. This decision underscores serious vulnerabilities associated with Android's open-source platform, leading military agencies to recommend a shift to Apple's more secure iPhones. The National Digital Agency played a vital role in exposing these cyberattacks, highlighting the importance of robust cybersecurity measures in national defense strategies amid escalating digital warfare. As cyber threats proliferate globally, Israel's actions may prompt other nations to reevaluate their reliance on Android devices for sensitive communications, reinforcing the need for enhanced mobile security solutions.

CrowdStrike warns of China-linked WARP PANDA cyber espionage group targeting critical sectors.

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CrowdStrike has identified a new China-linked cyber espionage group known as WARP PANDA, which has been infiltrating critical sectors since late 2023. The group exploits unpatched vulnerabilities, particularly

targeting virtualization platforms to maintain a long-term foothold and exfiltrate sensitive data. This revelation coincides with a surge in cyber threats from China, raising alarms about the potential for AI-driven intrusions and the use of advanced persistent threats against global infrastructure. The increasing sophistication of these cyber operations poses significant risks to national security and emphasizes the need for robust defensive measures and international cooperation to mitigate state-sponsored cyber activities.

US, Canada Alert on Chinese BrickStorm Malware Threatening Infrastructure

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U.S. and Canadian cybersecurity agencies have issued a warning about BrickStorm, a sophisticated malware attributed to Chinese state-sponsored hackers, capable of infiltrating critical infrastructure by maintaining long-term access for potential sabotage. This custom backdoor exploits vulnerabilities in software like VMware vCenter, enabling cybercriminals to execute commands and exfiltrate sensitive data undetected. Notably, the malware has been linked to extended breaches, including a year-long presence in networks such as F5, underscoring the growing threat to national security. The use of such advanced tactics reflects a broader pattern of Chinese cyber espionage, heightening concerns over the safety and integrity of crucial systems globally.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Indian Navy inspires PSG College students for Armed Forces careers.

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The Indian Navy conducted a career motivation program at PSG College of Technology and PSG Polytechnic College on December 5, 2025, as part of Navy Day celebrations. Led by Cdr. Ravishh Chugh, Cdr. Parthiban, and Lt. Anand, the initiative aimed to inspire students to pursue careers in the Armed Forces, emphasizing leadership, physical fitness, and commitment. The program highlighted various defense entry opportunities, including NDA and Agnipath, and engaged 200 cadets from the National Cadet Corps, fostering a strong interest in military careers. This impactful session not only aimed to enhance national security but also to cultivate disciplined and patriotic

citizens, underscoring the Navy's commitment to youth empowerment and community engagement.

Seventy-one cadets graduate from Army Cadet College, ready for Indian Army service.

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Seventy-one cadets from the Indian Military Academy's Army Cadet College Wing graduated in a ceremony presided over by Lt Gen Nagendra Singh in Dehradun, marking the completion of their extensive three-year academic and military training. The event highlighted key values critical for military leadership, including character, discipline, and professional competence. Degrees were awarded by Jawaharlal Nehru University, with notable achievements recognized through various medals, including the COAS Gold Medal awarded to Wing Cadet Captain Hari Keshar Wagle. This graduation signifies an important step towards their commissioned service in the Indian Army, reinforcing the nation's commitment to developing capable military leaders.

Miscellaneous

Sri Lanka Navy seizes drugs in successful operation off Kalpitiya.

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The Sri Lanka Navy recently conducted a successful operation off the Battalangunduwa coast in Kalpitiya, where they seized a significant drug haul consisting of 63 kilograms of ice and 14 kilograms of heroin, packaged in three sacks. The operation highlights ongoing challenges in combating drug trafficking in the region. Despite the successful seizure, the owner of the boat and his son managed to flee the area, raising concerns about the effectiveness of law enforcement in apprehending traffickers. This incident underscores the importance of regional cooperation in addressing maritime security threats, particularly given the potential implications for neighboring countries, including India, as they confront similar issues in their waters.

IAF's Sarang team to showcase Dhruv helicopters in aerial acrobatics.

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The Indian Air Force's Sarang Helicopter Display Team is set to showcase an impressive aerial acrobatics display using its indigenously developed Advanced

Light Helicopters (ALH) Dhruv in Ankleshwar, Gujarat, on December 6 and 7. This performance will feature intricate formations such as the Wine Glass, Diamond, and a tribute formation named "India," exemplifying the team's precision flying skills. The Sarang team, based in Tamil Nadu, is expected to captivate audiences with their signature maneuver known as the "Sarang Split," which involves helicopters soaring together before dramatically peeling away. This event not only highlights the technical prowess of the IAF but also reinforces India's commitment to showcasing its indigenous defense capabilities and fostering national pride.

IAF's Surya Kiran team to showcase aerial skills in Rajkot.

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The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to host a spectacular Surya Kiran Air Show in Rajkot on Sunday, showcasing thrilling aerial performances by nine BAe Hawk Mk132 aircraft for an extended duration of one hour. The event, aimed at inspiring the youth to consider a career in the IAF, will also feature live music from the Air Force Band and highlight weapons used by the elite Garud Commandos. Additionally, the Aakash Ganga SkyDiving Team will perform to further elevate the excitement. This initiative underscores the IAF's commitment to engaging with the community and promoting its capabilities, while enhancing recruitment efforts amidst a growing interest in the defense sector.

UK universities suspend Pakistani admissions amid rising visa fraud concerns.

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UK universities are increasingly suspending recruitment from Pakistani and Bangladeshi applicants due to a rise in visa fraud and asylum claims linked to international students. Authorities, responding to stricter compliance standards set by the UK Home Office, have reported concerning visa refusal rates of 18% for Pakistan and 22% for Bangladesh, both exceeding new thresholds. Notable institutions, including the University of Chester and the University of Wolverhampton, have halted admissions until at least 2026 to preserve the integrity of their visa systems. This crackdown significantly impacts legitimate students, raising concerns about access to education and potential long-term consequences for their career opportunities, amid a backdrop of systemic issues in the recruitment process.

Aviation Ministry closely monitors IndiGo's flight disruptions and passenger impact.

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The Indian Ministry of Civil Aviation is closely monitoring IndiGo's widespread operational disruptions, which escalated in early December 2025 with over 1,000 flights cancelled on December 5 alone, followed by nearly 850 more on December 6, stranding thousands of passengers amid delays, long queues, and baggage issues at major airports like Delhi, Mumbai, and Bengaluru. Triggered by the second phase of revised Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL) norms implemented in November 2025—extending weekly pilot rest to 48 hours from 36, capping night landings at two from six, and redefining night duty hours—IndiGo faced acute crew shortages due to inadequate rostering and preparation, unlike other carriers. Minister Ram Mohan Naidu expressed strong dissatisfaction over the airline's mismanagement, announcing a high-level inquiry committee to probe lapses, with those responsible facing strict action, while directing IndiGo to process full refunds by December 7 evening without charges, provide meals, hotels, and transport to affected passengers, and cap domestic fares at Rs 18,000. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) suspended the new FDTL rules until February 10, 2026, granting IndiGo limited exemptions on night duties to aid recovery. CEO Pieter Elbers apologised, projecting near-normal operations between December 10 and 15

through enhanced crew planning and coordination. Naidu prioritised swift restoration, expecting stability by December 7-8.

Vice-President Radhakrishnan highlights unity and progress at Sardar @150 March in Gujarat.

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Vice-President Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan attended the closing ceremony of the Sardar @150 Unity March - National Padyatra at the Statue of Unity in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat. He expressed profound gratitude for Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's leadership, emphasizing the importance of unity and national purpose, particularly among the youth, who were encouraged to reject drugs and responsibly engage with social media. Highlighting India's rapid progress under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision, he noted significant advancements in defense capabilities, referencing Operation Sindoora as a key moment for national sovereignty. The Vice-President also celebrated the transformative impact of women's empowerment initiatives and the new Labour Codes aimed at building a more transparent and worker-centric system. Concluding, he underscored the necessity of Sardar Patel's ideals in guiding India towards becoming a global leader by 2047, reflecting a commitment to unity and development in the spirit of a New India.

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