



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

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Defense Business and Industry

India's defence production reaches record Rs 1.51 lakh crore in FY 2024-25. [SHARE](#)

09-Aug-25

India's defence production has reached an unprecedented high of Rs 1,50,590 crore in the Financial Year (FY) 2024-25, marking an impressive 18% growth from the previous year and a remarkable 90% increase since FY 2019-20. This achievement has been attributed to the collective efforts of the Department of Defence Production, Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), and private industry stakeholders, with the latter now contributing 23% to total production, up from 21% last fiscal. The commendable growth trajectory reflects the government's push for self-reliance under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, aiming to reduce import dependency and bolster the domestic defence industrial complex. Additionally, defence exports surged to a record Rs 23,622 crore in FY 2024-25, demonstrating India's growing capacity in the global defence market. DRDO Chairman Samir V Kamat expressed confidence in achieving a target of Rs 50,000 crore in defence exports by 2028-29, fueled by increased global interest in Indian systems like Pinaka and BrahMos. This collective momentum underscores a transformative phase in India's defence sector, driven by policy reforms, enhanced ease of doing business, and strategic indigenisation efforts, positioning India as a burgeoning hub for defence manufacturing and export capabilities that promise sustained growth in the coming years.

Indian Army and IAF Seek 200 Advanced Surveillance Helicopters [SHARE](#)

09-Aug-25

India's Ministry of Defence has initiated a significant procurement process for approximately 200 advanced reconnaissance and surveillance helicopters (RSH) to replace its aging Cheetah and Chetak fleet, which has

been operational since the 1960s. The Request for Information (RFI) issued seeks to identify vendors for 120 helicopters for the Indian Army and 80 for the Indian Air Force, emphasizing modern designs with advanced avionics and safety features suitable for diverse operational scenarios, particularly in high-altitude areas like Siachen. The initiative aligns with the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' policy, promoting indigenous manufacturing, and encourages partnerships between Indian firms and foreign manufacturers while ensuring technology transfer and local production. This procurement aims to address longstanding operational gaps due to the vintage nature of the existing fleet, which has faced serviceability issues and a concerning crash rate, similar to the MiG-21 fighter jets set for phasing out. Moreover, the process is expected to complement ongoing projects for 187 Light Utility Helicopters being developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), with the induction plan aimed at gradually retiring the outdated helicopters from 2027 onwards. The urgency of this initiative reflects a broader strategic commitment to modernize India's defense capabilities and reduce dependency on foreign suppliers while enhancing operational effectiveness in challenging terrains.

DRDO Chairman Highlights Success of Indigenous Tech in Operation Sindoor [SHARE](#)

09-Aug-25

DRDO Chairman Samir V Kamat, addressing the 14th convocation ceremony of the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology in Pune on August 9, 2025, highlighted the crucial role of indigenous technologies in Operation Sindoor. Launched on May 7 in response to the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam that killed 26 people, the operation involved precision strikes deep inside Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Kamat emphasized that BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles launched from Sukhoi Mk 1 platforms and the Akashteer automated air defence system were pivotal in the offensive, along with systems like the D4 anti-drone and AWNC airborne early warning. He described

the operation as a declaration of India's self-reliance and strategic foresight, showcasing the strength of homegrown defence technology. Kamat also expressed optimism about India's defence exports, which reached ₹23,622 crore in 2024-25, projecting they could double to ₹50,000 crore by 2029 due to growing global interest in indigenous systems. He underscored the importance of maintaining sovereign capabilities across multiple domains, positioning India as a rising force in global defence markets.

NIBE Limited Wins \$17.52 Million Order for Ship-Mounted Rocket System



09-Aug-25

NIBE Limited has secured a landmark export order valued at approximately \$17.52 million from Elbit Systems for the manufacturing and supply of the Ship-Mounted Universal Rocket Launching System (SURYA), a significant milestone in India's defense exports. This autonomous, long-range sea-to-shore weapon, capable of striking targets up to 300 km away, enhances naval firepower and operational flexibility, positioning India as a growing player in advanced military technology. The order facilitates strategic technology transfer, enabling NIBE to domestically produce this advanced system for both international and domestic markets, thus aligning with the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India initiatives. The SURYA system's design focuses on cost-effectiveness, ease of operation, and minimal maintenance, making it reliable in critical combat scenarios. It promises seamless integration with air and land forces, reinforcing its role as a force multiplier. This collaboration reflects the deepening bilateral ties between India and Israel, showcasing mutual trust and commitment to enhancing maritime defense capabilities while strengthening regional security. The order underscores NIBE Limited's transformation into a world-class defense technology provider, poised to contribute significantly to global defense manufacturing and strategic collaboration.

KALAM 1200 solid motor successfully tested at Sriharikota



09-Aug-25

The successful static test of the KALAM 1200 solid motor marks a significant milestone for the Vikram 1 Launch Vehicle developed by Skyroot Aerospace. Conducted at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, the 11-meter-long motor is a testament to India's growing capabilities in the private space sector, aligning with the 2023 Space Policy aimed at fostering private investment and innovation. The motor's successful test

underscores India's commitment to enhancing its space infrastructure and supporting private players in contributing to the nation's space economy. This development not only strengthens India's position in the global space arena but also encourages technological advancements and economic growth within the sector.

Garuda Aerospace launches AI-driven SkyTrack S550 tracking drone.



09-Aug-25

Garuda Aerospace has unveiled the SkyTrack S550, an advanced AI-powered aerial tracking drone designed for diverse applications such as emergency response and logistics management. This drone features high-resolution imaging, autonomous AI-driven capabilities, and integrated tracking algorithms that enhance operational efficiency by monitoring moving targets and securing perimeters. With extended flight times and intelligent data fusion, the S550 significantly reduces operational risks and costs. The launch demonstrates Garuda's commitment to innovation and reinforces India's position as a leader in drone technology, highlighting its potential impact on defense, industrial safety, and technological advancement in the aerial robotics sector.

Philippines Seeks 6-9 More BrahMos Missile Batteries from India



09-Aug-25

The Philippines is reportedly negotiating to procure 6-9 additional BrahMos coastal missile batteries from India, following the successful deployment of three initial units that have garnered high operational satisfaction. This expansion aligns with the Philippines' modernization efforts aimed at bolstering maritime security amid rising Chinese assertiveness in the South China Sea. The BrahMos missile system, known for its supersonic speed and precision strike capability, symbolizes the deepening strategic partnership between India and the Philippines. By enhancing its BrahMos arsenal, the Philippines aims to strengthen its deterrence posture while showcasing India's advanced defense technology as a vital component of regional security architecture.

Amber Wings Secures DGCA Approval for ATVA-1 Cargo Drone



09-Aug-25

Amber Wings has achieved DGCA certification for its ATVA-1 hybrid cargo drone, marking it as the first in India cleared for commercial operations, including night deliveries. This innovation is set to enhance logistics

across sectors like e-commerce and healthcare by providing faster, cost-effective solutions, particularly in challenging terrains. The drone aligns with the Indian government's Make in India initiative, bolstering local manufacturing and technological advancement. With plans for immediate deployment and further developments like the ATVA-2 for larger payloads, Amber Wings positions India as a significant player in the global drone industry, promising to reshape logistics and delivery standards nationally and internationally.

Indian Army Issues RFI for Upgraded Assault Bridges SHARE

09-Aug-25

The Indian Army has issued a Request for Information (RFI) for upgraded Ponton Modular System (PMS) Assault Bridges, which are vital for enhancing the mobility of mechanised and infantry forces in overcoming obstacles during operations. These advanced bridges are expected to feature improvements in span length, speed of deployment, and ruggedness, thereby aligning with India's defense modernization and self-reliance initiatives. The procurement reflects a strategic emphasis on developing technologically advanced, mobile engineering solutions to support rapid mechanized operations, ultimately strengthening the Army's operational effectiveness and battlefield maneuverability. This move underscores India's commitment to indigenization and the enhancement of military infrastructure capabilities.

DRDO to Focus on 8 Key Tech Areas for Enhanced Defense Capability SHARE

09-Aug-25

The DRDO has received a budget of ₹23,855.61 crore for 2024-25, focusing on eight niche technology areas such as Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Technology to enhance India's defense capabilities and self-reliance. By integrating private sector involvement through initiatives like the Technology Development Fund and Development-Cum-Production Partner model, DRDO aims to harness industry expertise while retaining high-risk projects internally. The emphasis on collaboration with MSMEs and academia is expected to drive innovation in critical defense domains, preparing India to effectively counter emerging threats and maintain technological superiority in a rapidly evolving security landscape. This strategic approach aligns with the need for flexibility and proactive adaptation in defense research and development.

Lokesh Machines Wins ₹17.68 Crore Army Order for MMG Kits SHARE

09-Aug-25

Lokesh Machines Limited has secured a ₹17.68 crore contract from the Indian Army for modification kits of the 7.62mm Medium Machine Gun (MMG) MAG, announced on August 6, 2025. The kits include key components such as Receiver Assembly, Top Cover Assembly, Feed Tray Assembly, Cocking Handle Assembly, and Mounting Tripod Assembly. These upgrades aim to enhance reliability, functionality, and combat readiness, reinforcing the Indian Army's push for modernisation and domestic defence manufacturing under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. The contract is to be executed within 12 months, further establishing Lokesh Machines' role in India's strategic defence ecosystem.

India's Project Kusha: Next-Gen Long-Range Interceptor Missile SHARE

09-Aug-25

India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is advancing its air defence with Project Kusha, an indigenous long-range surface-to-air missile system designed to complement existing capabilities like the S-400. The project comprises four interceptor variants, with Phase-I aimed for completion by 2028-2030, and a Phase-II set to develop missiles exceeding 600 km in range, enhancing defences against emerging threats, particularly from China. The initiative emphasizes India's commitment to strategic autonomy, integrating advanced technologies for effective multi-layered defence, and enhancing maritime security against regional adversaries, thereby solidifying India's position as a leader in air defence technology.

ARDE Plans Lightweight Future for India's Mounted Gun System SHARE

09-Aug-25

The Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE) has unveiled plans to base India's future Mounted Gun System (MGS) on the Advanced Light Towed Gun System (ALTGS), enhancing mobility and deployability for rapid-response operations. The ALTGS, a lighter variant of the Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS), features advanced materials and an all-electric drive system, significantly improving setup time and airlift capability. The initiative aligns with the Indian Army's Field Artillery Rationalization Plan to induct 3,000 modern artillery systems by 2030, prioritizing mobility

in challenging terrains. This development reflects India's commitment to modernizing its defense infrastructure while maintaining tactical effectiveness.

India's Project 18 Destroyers to Include Sea-Based BMD and Hypersonics



09-Aug-25

India's upcoming Project 18-class destroyers, currently in design, will enhance the Indian Navy's capabilities with sea-based ballistic missile defense (BMD) systems and advanced weaponry, including hypersonic missiles. Designed to support maritime operations, these destroyers will integrate interceptors derived from India's land-based BMD program, significantly improving defense against long-range threats. With a displacement of over 10,000 tons, the destroyers will feature advanced radar systems, larger Vertical Launch Systems, and next-gen propulsion, making them pivotal in safeguarding Carrier Battle Groups and economic zones. Overall, the Project 18-class represents a major leap in India's maritime strategy, positioning the country as a formidable naval power in the region.

India Advances Development of Lightweight Air-Launched Missile



09-Aug-25

India is accelerating the development of a lightweight, air-launched sub-sonic cruise missile designed for deployment from various Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft. Powered by the indigenous Manik turbofan engine, this missile features a shorter airframe with improved aerodynamics, confirmed through wind tunnel testing, enabling a reduced weight of about 1.2 tons and a range of approximately 600 kilometers. It offers a cost-effective and stealthy complement to the faster, supersonic BrahMos-NG missile, providing greater fuel efficiency, low-altitude terrain-hugging flight, and advanced guidance systems including inertial navigation and satellite GPS. Compatibility across the IAF's diverse fleet—including Su-30MKI, Rafale, MiG-29, and Tejas—ensures tactical flexibility and enhanced stand-off precision strike capability against high-value targets such as command centers and airfields. This development significantly bolsters India's long-range aerial strike arsenal, enabling safer engagements outside hostile air defenses and reinforcing strategic deterrence in the region amid evolving geopolitical challenges.

CEMILAC and DGCA Join Forces for Unified UAV Certification in India



09-Aug-25

India's Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification (CEMILAC) and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have formally joined forces to create a unified certification framework for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), announced in late July 2025. This collaborative effort, leveraging CEMILAC's IMTAR V2.0 guiding document, aims to harmonize certification standards for both civilian and military drones, facilitating a common airworthiness criterion for UAVs across sectors. The unified process streamlines regulatory oversight, enabling faster certification and production transitions while supporting India's strategic goal of becoming a global drone hub by 2030. This synergy enhances domestic industry participation, backed by cooperation with international certification agencies and OEMs, and aligns with the national push for Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence technology. The integration ensures safety, operational reliability, and conformity, addressing airspace complexities near sensitive installations, and fortifies civil-military coordination, positioning India at the forefront of UAV innovation and regulation in the Indo-Pacific security landscape. The initiative reflects a pivotal step in strengthening India's UAV ecosystem for strategic, commercial, and defense applications.

India Launches Advanced Hypersonic Testing Facilities in Hyderabad



09-Aug-25

India marked a major advancement in hypersonic technology with the inauguration of state-of-the-art testing facilities by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in Hyderabad on August 6, 2025. The new complex includes a world-class hypersonic wind tunnel with a 1-meter diameter nozzle exit, capable of simulating speeds from Mach 5 to Mach 12. This enclosed free-jet, pressure-vacuum-driven facility supports the development of India's hypersonic cruise missiles and aerospace defense systems. Alongside, a cutting-edge scramjet connected pipe mode test facility was established, where DRDO recently conducted a long-duration ground test of an active cooled scramjet combustor lasting over 1,000 seconds, advancing flight-worthy scramjet engine technology. Hypersonic weapons in development include two distinct missile designs inspired by a hypersonic glide vehicle and Russia's 3M22 Zircon missile, aimed at boosting India's deterrence against regional threats. These facilities and tests underscore

India's commitment to self-reliance and strategic edge in the Indo-Pacific region through advanced hypersonic capabilities and air-breathing supersonic propulsion technology.

IAF to Acquire 110 BrahMos-A Missiles for Enhanced Strike Power



09-Aug-25

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to enhance its standoff strike capability by acquiring 110 BrahMos-A supersonic cruise missiles, following their successful debut during "Operation Sindoor," where they effectively targeted Pakistan Air Force infrastructure. This acquisition, valued at \$7.64 billion, also includes 87 advanced drones, marking a significant step in modernizing India's military. The BrahMos-A, with a range exceeding 450 km and a top speed of Mach 3, provides IAF pilots with the ability to engage high-value targets from a safe distance. This procurement demonstrates India's commitment to strengthening its defense posture amidst evolving regional security dynamics.

India and Russia to Finalize BrahMos-II Hypersonic Missile Program During Putin's Visit



09-Aug-25

India and Russia are set to potentially finalize the BrahMos-II hypersonic missile program during President Putin's upcoming visit, marking a significant advancement in their strategic partnership. This missile, designed to reach speeds between Mach 7 and Mach 8, aims to enhance India's deterrence capabilities and conduct precision strikes over 1,500 kilometers. Despite previous delays due to technology sharing and cost concerns, recent geopolitical changes have reignited momentum. The program will blend Russian technology with India's growing expertise, notably through indigenous innovations like a scramjet engine. Upon completion, the BrahMos-II will enhance the offensive capabilities of the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force, reinforcing India's defense posture in a complex regional landscape.

Ghatak Stealth Drone's Future Depends on Kaveri Engine and Funding



09-Aug-25

India's Ghatak Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (UCAV) program is poised for a critical phase, pending government approval for funding between 3,000 to 5,000 crore to develop operational prototypes. Spearheaded by the DRDO's Aeronautical Development

Agency, the Ghatak's success hinges on the Kaveri engine and synergies with the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA). This 12 to 13-tonne stealth drone aims to enhance India's military capabilities with its ability to execute high-risk missions without pilot involvement, reinforcing the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative. The project positions India alongside leading nations in advanced combat drone technology, significantly bolstering national security and operational effectiveness in modern warfare.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

MoD rejects claims of halted US defense purchase talks as false.



09-Aug-25

Recent reports suggesting that India has paused talks on new defense purchases with the U.S. have been categorically rejected by sources within the Ministry of Defence (MoD), which described such claims as "false and fabricated." The Ministry clarified that procurement cases are progressing as per existing procedures, and defense supplies from the U.S. continue to arrive under existing contracts. The background to these claims includes the recent imposition of high tariffs by the U.S., which has strained trade relations, particularly concerning India's imports of Russian oil. Additionally, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh has postponed his visit to the U.S., originally scheduled for late August, due to the ongoing tariff issues, although this visit is expected to occur within the coming months. Notably, during a recent conversation, Singh and U.S. Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth discussed the urgency of advancing bilateral defense cooperation, including signing a new 10-year defense framework. The Indian defense establishment remains steadfast in its commitment to enhancing defense ties with the U.S., indicating that current geopolitical tensions will not derail ongoing procurement processes or partnerships.

Politics

1962 War: Failure of China Policy, Not Non-Alignment, Says Menon



09-Aug-25

Former diplomat Shivshankar Menon asserted that the 1962 war with China was not a failure of India's non-alignment policy, but rather a failure of its China policy, as demonstrated by the global support India received

regardless of ideological differences. Menon emphasized that the true measure of a policy's success lies in its outcomes rather than external perceptions. Former ambassador Shyam Saran highlighted the importance of India's role in international solidarity, reflecting on the significant diplomatic principles established by Jawaharlal Nehru. This discourse reinforces the notion that India's strategic partnerships during crises can enhance its international standing and underscore its diplomatic influence.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Trump's tariffs threaten US-India ties, pushing India towards BRICS. SHARE

09-Aug-25

Recent developments in U.S.-India relations are marked by President Trump's announcement of steep tariffs, which threaten to undermine over two decades of bipartisan progress between the two nations. India is recalibrating its strategic posture, engaging with Russia and China, particularly as Prime Minister Modi plans to visit China after six years and NSA Ajit Doval discusses key defense deals with Russia. The U.S.'s aggressive tariff policies, including 50% duties on various goods, aim to penalize India for its oil imports from Russia and its growing role in BRICS, yet these measures have inadvertently united BRICS nations against U.S. trade pressures. India's response emphasizes multilateralism, fostering cooperation with BRICS partners like Brazil and China, while maintaining essential ties with the U.S. Amidst these tensions, India's exports have shown resilience, bolstered by U.S. companies rushing to import ahead of further tariffs. The evolving dynamics signal India's strategic balancing act, strengthening its position within BRICS to enhance economic and geopolitical resilience while cautiously navigating its complex relationship with the U.S., underscoring a potential shift towards a more coordinated and assertive bloc in global trade.

Zelenskyy Declares Ukraine Will Not Cede Territory in Talks SHARE

09-Aug-25

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has firmly rejected the notion of conceding any territory in light of impending talks between U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin, emphasizing that Ukraine's territorial integrity is non-negotiable and must be maintained to achieve lasting peace. He warned that any agreement that sidelines Ukraine would be

ineffective and merely "dead solutions." The upcoming summit, scheduled in Alaska, is seen as significant, but Zelenskyy reiterated that Ukraine would not cede land to an aggressor, stating, "Ukrainians will not give their land to the occupier." While Trump suggested potential territory swaps could be on the table to resolve the conflict, both Ukraine and its European allies have expressed strong opposition to any proposals that would appease Russia. Amid ongoing hostilities, with Russian forces gradually advancing and attacks resulting in casualties, Zelenskyy called for maximum coordination with allies to ensure a robust stance against any unfavorable concessions. The rhetoric from both sides highlights an impasse, with Ukraine steadfastly asserting its rights while facing a persistent threat from Russian military aggression, reflecting a broader struggle over territorial sovereignty and national integrity.

Pakistan Seeks U.S. Support for Kashmir Resolution Despite India's Rejection of Mediation SHARE

09-Aug-25

Pakistan has reiterated its openness to international mediation, notably from the United States, to resolve the Kashmir issue, a stance articulated by Foreign Office spokesperson Shafqat Ali Khan ahead of Army Chief Asim Munir's visit to the U.S. This diplomatic position arises in the context of heightened tensions with India following a military confrontation in May 2025, where India launched Operation Sindoor targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, leading to significant escalation. India, however, maintains a firm rejection of any third-party involvement, anchored in the 1972 Simla Agreement, which mandates bilateral negotiations for resolving disputes, including Kashmir. India's External Affairs Ministry emphasizes that dialogue will focus solely on Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and terrorism, reflecting a consistent strategy of prioritizing direct engagement over external mediation. The divergence in diplomatic approaches underscores the ongoing challenges in achieving long-term peace and stability in South Asia, as Pakistan seeks to leverage international support while India remains steadfast in its commitment to bilateralism. This situation illustrates the complexities of regional diplomacy, where differing perspectives on conflict resolution hinder progress and exacerbate tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbors.

China Welcomes PM Modi's Upcoming SCO Summit Visit [SHARE](#)

09-Aug-25

China has welcomed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's planned visit to the SCO Summit in Tianjin later this month, the first since 2018, with hopes for solidarity and fruitful outcomes. The summit will be significant, featuring leaders from over 20 countries, including Russia and Pakistan. Notably, relations between India and China have seen a revival following military disengagement in eastern Ladakh and resumed dialogues on boundary issues. This visit could further strengthen ties, especially after recent engagements by Indian officials in China, indicating a collaborative approach to regional stability within the influential SCO framework.

Modi and Putin reaffirm ties amid U.S. tariff tensions and Ukraine conflict. [SHARE](#)

09-Aug-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin held a phone conversation reaffirming their commitment to the India-Russia Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership amid rising tensions due to U.S. tariffs on India's Russian oil purchases. Modi emphasized India's call for a peaceful resolution to the Russia-Ukraine conflict and expressed gratitude for updates from Putin. As India navigates external pressures, this dialogue underscores the strategic importance of deepening bilateral ties in defense, energy, and technology, while also highlighting India's independent foreign policy stance. Modi's upcoming hosting of Putin for the 23rd Annual Summit signifies ongoing collaboration against a backdrop of geopolitical challenges.

India-Philippines Strategic Partnership Enhances South China Sea Cooperation [SHARE](#)

09-Aug-25

India and the Philippines have established a Strategic Partnership, highlighted by President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s recent visit to India, which included joint naval exercises in the South China Sea (SCS). This partnership aims to enhance cooperation in defense, trade, and maritime security amidst rising tensions with China. The Philippines expressed interest in acquiring Indian defense equipment, showcasing India as a reliable strategic partner. India, while not a claimant in the SCS, views the region as vital for its trade, with 55%

of its commerce passing through these waters, and seeks to bolster maritime security in the Indo-Pacific through collaborative efforts with the Philippines.

NSA Doval and Russia's Deputy PM discuss military ties and projects. [SHARE](#)

09-Aug-25

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval met with Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov to discuss military-technical cooperation and strategic projects, including civil aircraft manufacturing and metallurgy, in preparation for President Putin's visit to India later this year. Doval emphasized India's commitment to bolster ties with Russia despite external pressures, particularly following the U.S. imposing tariffs on Indian goods linked to Russian oil purchases. This visit underscores India's strategic partnership with Russia, reinforcing defense and energy collaboration amidst a complex geopolitical landscape, thus ensuring that India retains its sovereignty in defense procurement and international relations.

INS Sandhayak Visits Changi Naval Base, Strengthening Ties with Singapore [SHARE](#)

09-Aug-25

Indian Naval Ship Sandhayak, the first indigenous Survey Vessel Large (SVL), arrived at Changi Naval Base, Singapore, on August 9, 2025, coinciding with Singapore's National Day. This three-day visit underscores India's commitment to regional maritime cooperation and enhances bilateral hydrographic ties with Singapore. The ship, commissioned in February 2024, showcases advanced hydrographic capabilities, including coastal and deepwater surveying as well as humanitarian assistance operations. The visit includes meetings with Singaporean naval officials and activities aimed at fostering professional exchanges, demonstrating India's growing leadership in maritime diplomacy and regional capacity building through its Hydrographic Department.

India Acknowledges Reports on Bangladesh's Lalmonirhat Airbase [SHARE](#)

09-Aug-25

India has acknowledged recent reports regarding the Lalmonirhat airbase in Bangladesh, clarifying that there are currently no military plans for the facility, as confirmed by the Bangladeshi military. The Government of India, through Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh, noted a May 26 statement from the Director of Military Operations of the Bangladesh Army

affirming the airbase's non-military use at present. The Lalmonirhat airbase, a World War II-era facility located near the Indian border close to the strategic Siliguri Corridor, is undergoing revitalization with reported Chinese involvement. This has raised strategic concerns in India due to its proximity to critical logistics and military choke points, prompting New Delhi to accelerate the revival of its own Kailashahar airbase in Tripura. While Chinese officials have reportedly inspected the site and Chinese assistance is believed to be part of the development effort, Bangladeshi authorities emphasize that no foreign military entity has permission to operate in ways detrimental to their national security. The base is being modernized under Bangladesh's broader defense goals, including upgrades to infrastructure and dual-use potentials for civil and military aviation. India continues to monitor these developments closely, prepared to safeguard its national security interests.

Military Operations

IAF Chief: Operation Sindoor downed 6 Pak aircraft, hit 9 terror camps. SHARE

09-Aug-25

In a significant display of military prowess, Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh confirmed during a recent lecture that Operation Sindoor resulted in the downing of six Pakistani aircraft—including a Saab 2000 AEW&C and five fighter jets—alongside successful strikes on nine terror camps, including targets in Bahawalpur and Sargodha, with minimal collateral damage. He highlighted the pivotal role of the recently acquired S-400 air defense system, which enabled the IAF to conduct the longest recorded surface-to-air engagement at approximately 314 kilometers, thus neutralizing high-value targets deep within Pakistani airspace and significantly degrading the Pakistan Air Force's operational capabilities. Singh emphasized that the operation was meticulously planned, reflecting India's integrated defense strategy, and underscored the importance of political will and the absence of operational constraints, which allowed the IAF to achieve unprecedented success in less than four days. The operation not only fulfilled a long-held aspiration within the IAF to strike Sargodha, a historically significant air base, but also showcased India's technological superiority and strategic restraint, as evidenced by real-time intelligence and satellite imagery that provided clear evidence of the strikes' effectiveness. Singh's comments further suggested

that the swift execution of the operation compelled Pakistan to seek a ceasefire, indicating India's capacity to deliver a decisive response to cross-border terrorism while maintaining operational maturity. The detailed accounts of the military successes during Operation Sindoor underline a transformative moment in India's defense posture, reflecting a robust deterrent strategy designed to protect national interests and stability in the region amid escalating tensions and an evolving geopolitical landscape.

Pakistan's Defense Minister disputes Indian claims of downed aircraft. SHARE

09-Aug-25

Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has dismissed claims by Indian Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh that the Indian Air Force shot down five Pakistani aircraft during Operation Sindoor, arguing that no Pakistani aircraft were destroyed. Asif suggested that claims made by India are belated and implausible, challenging transparency by proposing an independent verification of both nations' aircraft inventories. India launched Operation Sindoor in response to a terror attack, and both countries agreed to halt hostilities shortly after. This exchange highlights the ongoing tensions and differing narratives surrounding military engagements, emphasizing the need for objective assessment and verification to address claims of sovereignty violations.

Did Pakistan's J-10CE Jet Crash at Sargodha Airbase? SHARE

09-Aug-25

Recent speculation about a Pakistan Air Force J-10CE jet crash at Sargodha Airbase gained attention due to a Snapchat video showing what appears to be an explosion near a J-10CE aircraft. However, official confirmations and detailed evidence remain scarce. This incident coincides with Indian Air Force Chief Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh's recent announcements about Operation Sindoor, the Indian retaliatory campaign launched in early May 2025 against Pakistan following the Pahalgam terror attack. During Operation Sindoor, the IAF confirmed shooting down five Pakistani fighter jets and one large surveillance aircraft, targeting multiple Pakistani airbases including Sargodha, Shahbaz Jacobabad, Murid, and Chaklala. The operation inflicted significant damage on Pakistan's air capabilities, notably disabling aircraft hangars and radar installations. Singh notably expressed that striking Sargodha, a vital PAF base housing J-10, JF-17, and F-16 jets, was a long-cherished

ambition realized during this campaign. While the rumored J-10CE crash video adds intrigue, the IAF chief's public statements underscore India's enhanced air superiority and the strategic impact of Operation Sindoor in this intense recent Indo-Pak conflict phase. Tensions remain high as both sides assess the consequences of this aerial engagement.

prevailing security situation, operational readiness, and ongoing operations, commending the troops for their resilience and dedication to maintaining peace and security. These events coincide with a prolonged operation in South Kashmir's Kulgam district, where security forces continue a fierce gunfight with terrorists in difficult forest terrain, marking one of the longest-running counter-terror operations in the area. The operations highlight the military's sustained commitment to combating terrorism and ensuring regional stability.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Two soldiers martyred, two injured in ongoing J&K anti-terror operation



09-Aug-25

Two Indian Army soldiers were martyred, and two others injured during an ongoing anti-terror operation in the Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir, which has now entered its ninth day. This operation, named Operation Akhal, was initiated following intelligence inputs about the presence of terrorists in the Akhal forest area. While initial exchanges of fire led to the death of two terrorists, the identities of these militants remain unconfirmed. The operation has witnessed extensive use of technology, including drones and helicopters, alongside ground forces, to ensure the remaining terrorists are neutralized. Senior officials, including the J&K Police chief, have been closely monitoring the situation, reaffirming the Army's commitment to dismantling the terrorist ecosystem in the region. The Indian Army emphasizes the importance of coordinated, intelligence-backed operations that target not only armed terrorists but also their logistics, including drug networks, believed to fund terrorism. This sustained effort underscores the Indian defense forces' resolve to maintain security and stability in Jammu and Kashmir, reinforcing their operational capabilities in combating terrorism effectively.

Security Forces Dismantle Terrorist Hideout in J&K Forest



09-Aug-25

Security forces recently dismantled a terrorist hideout in the Gogaldara-Danwas forest area of Baramulla in Jammu and Kashmir, recovering a pistol, ammunition, a grenade, and medical supplies. This operation was part of intensified counter-terrorism efforts across the region amid ongoing security challenges. Concurrently, Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Indian Army's Northern Command, reviewed the counter-terrorism grid in South Kashmir on August 7, 2025. He was briefed on the

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

India Strengthens Cybersecurity to Combat Online Threats



09-Aug-25

The Indian government continues to bolster its cybersecurity framework to counter AI-powered deepfakes and evolving cyber threats, underscoring its commitment to digital safety. On August 8, 2025, Union Minister Jitin Prasada reaffirmed that laws including the Information Technology Act, 2000, the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 form a comprehensive legal foundation against identity theft, privacy violations, and misinformation. The government has also issued advisories mandating digital platforms to remove synthetic and misleading content and to ensure platform accountability. Cybersecurity institutions like CERT-In, Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, and the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal strengthen enforcement and awareness, with campaigns such as Cyber Jagrookta Diwas. Additionally, India's innovative cybersecurity training programs, like the National Cyber Security Scholar Programme launching August 21 in Hyderabad, seek to build resilient cyber defenders, illustrating India's proactive stance in securing its digital space.

Cert-In shifts cybersecurity audits to focus on threat preparedness



09-Aug-25

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (Cert-In) has introduced new cybersecurity audit guidelines that shift focus from compliance to continuous threat preparedness. This framework mandates comprehensive coverage of an organization's ICT structure, requiring top management to take ownership of cybersecurity programs. With a growing reliance on digital infrastructure, sectors like banking, telecom, and

healthcare will face immediate impacts, emphasizing the need for robust security measures. The guidelines aim to enhance national cybersecurity readiness, aligning with the increasing frequency of cyber threats and regulatory scrutiny, ultimately fostering a more mature and standardized audit system in India.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Indian Army's Western Command Promotes Organ Donation Awareness

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09-Aug-25

The Indian Army's Western Command recently conducted an organ donation awareness drive in Chandigarh, led by Lt Gen Manoj Katiyar. The initiative saw participation from over 400 individuals, including military personnel, families, and local school children, underlining the Army's commitment to public health. The event featured various outreach activities aimed at educating the community about organ donation, dispelling myths, and encouraging pledges. Lt Gen Katiyar stressed that serving the nation involves contributions beyond military duties, highlighting the significance of organ donation as an act of selfless service. This initiative positions the Indian Army as a proactive leader in not only defense but also in social responsibility and health advocacy.

IAF pilot's widow receives overdue benefits 26 years later

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09-Aug-25

A recent ruling by the Armed Forces Tribunal has granted liberalised family pension benefits to Rakhi Pandey, widow of IAF pilot Flight Lieutenant SK Pandey, who died in a rescue mission in 1999. Despite initial refusals and bureaucratic hurdles, including the lack of a battle casualty certificate, the Tribunal upheld her entitlement, emphasizing that the government's 2001 circular retroactively applied to her case. This decision reflects the importance of recognizing and addressing the needs of families of armed forces personnel who sacrifice their lives during non-combat missions, aligning with the government's commitment to their welfare and the need for efficient administrative processes to support such beneficiaries.

Air Force jawan Swarajya Sahu laid to rest in Puri district.

09-Aug-25

Indian Air Force jawan Swarajya Sahu, who sustained critical injuries in a cylinder explosion, was laid to rest with full military honors on August 9, 2025, in his native village Sundar under Astaranga police limits in Puri district. The last rites were held at the local cremation ground in Konark, and he was honored with a gun salute by fellow Air Force personnel. Swarajya Sahu had been serving in Agra and had joined the Indian Air Force in 2011. His passing has deeply grieved the entire village. The solemn ceremony underscored the respect and gratitude for his service to the nation.

Miscellaneous

Dharali flash flood: Rock-ice avalanche worsened by rain

09-Aug-25

The flash flood in Dharali, Uttarakhand on August 5 resulted from a possible rock and ice avalanche at a cirque glacier, exacerbated by continuous rainfall and high snow mass from previous months. Experts dispute claims of a cloudburst, indicating inadequate rainfall data for such an event. The Kheer Gad stream has a history of flooding, and the area is inherently unstable due to past sediment deposits, raising concerns about continued construction in hazardous zones. This disaster underscores the need for better urban planning and disaster preparedness in vulnerable regions like Uttarakhand to mitigate future risks.

Uttarkashi floods: 287 rescued as four choppers deployed for evacuations.

09-Aug-25

Four helicopters were deployed in Uttarkashi on August 9, 2025, to airlift 287 more people stranded due to recent flash floods and landslides, bringing the total number of evacuees to over 1,000. The floods, triggered by a cloudburst and possibly a glacier-related event on August 5, caused widespread destruction in the Dharali area, submerging homes, shops, and hotels, and damaging power and road connectivity. The district administration confirmed four deaths and 49 missing persons amid ongoing rescue operations by the Indian Army, NDRF, and state forces using drones, dog squads, and advanced equipment. A Bailey bridge is being constructed to restore access. Weather forecasts warn

of continued heavy rain, which may affect relief efforts further. Authorities remain vigilant and committed to rescue and restoring normalcy in the region.

Training aircraft makes emergency landing near Baramati, pilot safe

09-Aug-25

A training aircraft crash-landed near Baramati airport in Pune, India, during a routine training flight, but fortunately, the pilot was unharmed. The incident occurred when the aircraft, operated by Redbird Flight Training Centre, experienced a tire issue leading to an emergency landing at around 8 AM. Post-touchdown, one of the aircraft's front wheels detached, causing it to veer off the taxiway, but no injuries were reported. This incident underscores the importance of stringent safety protocols in pilot training and the resilience of training aircraft, reflecting positively on India's aviation safety standards.

16th Air Chief Marshal LM Katre Lecture Highlights National Security

09-Aug-25

The 16th edition of the Air Chief Marshal LM Katre Memorial Lecture took place in Bengaluru on 09 Aug 25, celebrating the legacy of Air Chief Marshal Katre in Indian aviation. Keynote speaker Air Chief Marshal AP Singh emphasized the success of Operation Sindoor, highlighting the vital role of air power in national security, and underlined the importance of military-political synchronization and indigenization for future capabilities. The event featured contributions from the Air Force Association and HAL, reflecting on their evolving partnership and the necessity of research and development in strengthening India's defense. Overall, the gathering reaffirmed India's commitment to enhancing its aerospace capabilities through collaboration and innovation.

Army Hospital Research & Referral Opens Vaccination Centre and Bronchoscopy Suite

09-Aug-25

The Army Hospital Research & Referral in New Delhi inaugurated an Adult Vaccination Centre and a state-of-the-art Bronchoscopy Suite on August 09, 2025. The Centre will offer comprehensive immunization services, including vaccines for Influenza, Pneumococcus, and Hepatitis, enhancing preventive healthcare for eligible adults. The new Bronchoscopy Suite features advanced technology for various diagnostic and therapeutic airway procedures, significantly improving patient care capabilities. This initiative underscores the Indian Army's commitment to advancing healthcare standards for its personnel, reflecting a proactive approach to health management and disease prevention within the military framework.

Meghalaya Government Negotiates Army Land for Harijan Colony Relocation

09-Aug-25

The Meghalaya government is in advanced discussions with Army authorities for land allocation to relocate 342 families currently residing in Harijan Colony, following violent clashes in 2018 that heightened calls for resettlement. Chief Secretary Donald P. Wahlang expressed optimism about acquiring a suitable patch of land near Anjalee Parking Lot to accommodate these families. This initiative reflects the government's commitment to addressing longstanding issues in the region and ensuring community safety and stability. The relocation effort underscores the importance of collaborative dialogue between state authorities and the military in resolving local tensions effectively.

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