



Defence Professionals News & Analysis

December 22,2025 | Day 356

Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
IDEAFORGE	495.4	424.5	+16.7%
DCXINDIA	203.8	186.4	+9.33%
COCHINSHIP	1666.3	1548.3	+7.62%
PREMEXPLN	524.65	491.75	+6.69%
MARINE	216.23	202.89	+6.57%

Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
ROSSELLIND	50.25	50.59	-0.67%
LOKESHMACH	166.01	167.04	-0.62%
TECHERA	215.0	215.85	-0.39%
LMW	14943.0	14965.0	-0.15%
LT	4072.4	4073.5	-0.03%

Defense Business and Industry

GRSE delivers 'Anjadip', enhancing Indian Navy's anti-submarine capabilities. [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd delivered the Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) 'Anjadip' to the Indian Navy on December 22, 2025, at Chennai Port Trust, marking the fifth warship handed over by the Kolkata-based firm this year. The third in a series of eight 77-meter-long vessels built under a Public-Private Partnership with L&T Shipyard at Kattupalli per Indian Register of Shipping rules, 'Anjadip' features over 80% indigenous content, including a GRSE-developed 30 mm Naval Surface Gun proven in sea trials with pinpoint accuracy via electro-optical fire control, integrated Combat Management Systems, advanced lightweight torpedoes in triple 324 mm tubes, indigenously designed anti-submarine rockets from an RBU-6000-like system, shallow water sonar for sub-surface detection, and mine-laying capability. This agile craft with a 2.7-meter draught, three water-jet propulsion from diesel engines enabling 25-knot speeds and 1,800 nm endurance at 14 knots, supports a crew of 57 including seven officers for search-and-attack missions, coordinated operations with aircraft, coastal surveillance, and low-intensity maritime tasks. Accepted by Rear Admiral Gautam Marwaha, VSM, Chief Staff Officer (Technical), Eastern Naval Command, the delivery—less than four months after INS Androth—marks GRSE's 115th warship built and 77th delivered, following INS Himgiri, INS Arnala,

INS Androth, and INS Ikshak, bolstering maritime security under Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Apollo Micro Systems' unit receives 15-year license for TNT manufacturing, boosting India's defense self-reliance. [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

Hyderabad-based Apollo Micro Systems Ltd marked a significant stride in India's defence self-reliance on December 21, 2025, securing DRDO approvals for two key Transfers of Technology (ToT) for Directed Energy Weapon (DEW) systems, including a Multi-Channel 10 kW Laser DEW from CHESS Hyderabad and an Electro-Optical Tracking System from IRDE Dehradun. These laser-based technologies, which use high-powered energy for precision strikes against UAVs, missiles, and small vehicles, bolster indigenous capabilities amid evolving aerial threats and align with Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives. Concurrently, the company's step-down subsidiary IDL Explosives Ltd obtained a 15-year industrial license on December 18, 2025, under the IDR Act 1951, to manufacture TNT at 500 MTPA and HMX at 50 MTPA in Odisha, enabling self-sufficiency in critical explosives for defence and industrial needs while opening domestic and export opportunities. Managing Director Karunakar Reddy hailed these as milestones enhancing India's strategic defence posture.

Macron announces new aircraft carrier to enhance France's maritime strength. [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

French President Emmanuel Macron announced plans to construct a new, larger aircraft carrier to replace the aging Charles de Gaulle, reinforcing France's maritime capabilities. Speaking to troops stationed in Abu Dhabi,

Macron emphasized that this initiative, which aims to support the industrial sector, particularly small and medium enterprises, will see the new vessel operational by 2038. Despite some lawmakers suggesting postponement due to financial constraints, France remains committed to maintaining its status as a leading military power and one of the five nuclear-armed nations. This development underscores France's strategic intentions in safeguarding key maritime routes, particularly in the vital Strait of Hormuz.

Indian Army partners with NSUT for indigenous AI defense solutions. SHARE

22-Dec-25

The Indian Army has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Netaji Subhas University of Technology (NSUT) to collaboratively develop indigenous artificial intelligence and software solutions for defense applications, aligning with the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiative. This partnership will facilitate live problem-solving projects for students and faculty, enhancing their practical exposure to military needs while also supporting capacity building through tailored training programs for Army personnel. The initiative aims to bridge operational military experience with academic research, addressing vital areas such as robotics, cyber security, and data analytics. This collaboration underscores India's commitment to advancing its defense capabilities through indigenous innovation, vital for modern warfare and national security.

Adani Group enhances aviation with engine repairs and cargo conversions. SHARE

22-Dec-25

Adani Group is accelerating its aviation dominance by entering engine maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) alongside passenger-to-freighter (P2F) conversions, targeting civilian and defense sectors amid India's booming air traffic. On December 21, 2025, reports confirmed plans for engine MRO expansion and new facilities in Ahmedabad, Guwahati, and Bhubaneswar, building on key 2025 acquisitions: 100% stake in Indamer Technics (August via Horizon Aero with Prime Aero's Prajay Patel) and 72.8% in Flight Simulation Technique Centre (November, ₹820 crore) for pilot training. With carriers set to induct 1,700 aircraft—needing 30,000 pilots per Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu—this bolsters self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat), cuts foreign MRO dependency (saving \$3-4B annually), fortifies defense

logistics amid China border tensions, and fuels 10-15% market growth over the decade.

China's J-20S stealth fighter enhances air combat capabilities and strategy. SHARE

22-Dec-25

China's People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) has operationalized the J-20S, a tandem-seat variant of the advanced J-20 stealth fighter, marking a significant doctrinal shift. Unlike traditional single-seat designs, the J-20S incorporates a mission systems operator for enhanced electronic warfare and unmanned aerial vehicle coordination. This evolution underscores China's commitment to high-tempo, networked air combat operations, as reflected in its growing fleet of J-20s and concurrent advancements in drone technology. The integration of the J-20S highlights China's pursuit of strategic superiority in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly concerning its assertive posture over Taiwan and maritime disputes in the East and South China Seas.

Indian Army Tests Indigenous Long-Range Drone for Electronic Warfare Resilience SHARE

22-Dec-25

The Indian Army's Western Command achieved a major breakthrough on December 19, 2025, with the successful trial of the indigenous Kharga Chakra fixed-wing drone at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan. Tested by the Kharga Corps' artillery division under Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar's observation, the 100-km range UAV demonstrated resilience against electronic warfare through AI-driven mission control, inertial navigation, frequency-hopping communications, and anti-jamming features. Developed via collaboration between Chennai-based startups and Army engineers, this milestone bolsters India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, enhancing surveillance, reconnaissance, and logistics amid lessons from Operation Sindoor and global conflicts.

Russia upgrades Shahed drones to enhance resilience against Ukrainian electronic warfare. SHARE

22-Dec-25

Russian forces are upgrading Shahed-type strike drones, known domestically as Geran-2, to counter Ukrainian electronic warfare more effectively amid intensified attacks since late 2024. Recent modifications, reported as of December 20, 2025, include Chinese-made 16-element antennas that resist

up to 16 jamming sources, replacing earlier 4-element versions, and high-power Mesh modems enabling swarm communication over 200 km via daisy-chain networks. These enhancements, combined with warheads increased to 100 kg—including tandem high-explosive fragmentation types—boost lethality, as seen in strikes where more drones evade defenses. Ukrainian experts note the shift from mobile LTE reliance, now vulnerable to tracking, to resilient foreign-sourced tech despite sanctions. Over 27,000 such drones have been produced in Russia, altering tactics in the ongoing conflict.

DRDO and RRU sign MoU to boost defense research and training collaboration.

 [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) has partnered with Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) by signing a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at enhancing collaboration in research, education, training, and technology support for national defence and internal security. This initiative, supported by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, aligns with India's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, promoting self-reliance in defence technologies. The collaboration will involve joint research projects, specialized training programs, and studies on emerging operational challenges, thereby strengthening India's strategic autonomy and preparedness in internal security. This partnership underscores a commitment to integrating knowledge and technology to bolster the capabilities of India's security forces.

Indian Army to acquire 1 lakh 9 mm pistols for modernization.

 [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

The Indian Army is set to induct one lakh 9 mm pistols, aligning with the 'Make in India' and Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiatives to enhance self-reliance in defense manufacturing. This procurement aims to modernize infantry weaponry, replacing outdated models with advanced, modular firearms designed for diverse operational environments, including extreme weather conditions. The initiative includes provisions for future upgrades and local production, fostering a robust domestic defense ecosystem. As the Army consolidates its firepower through this and other modernisation programs, it reinforces India's strategic posture amid escalating border tensions and internal security challenges, while also paving the way for potential defense exports.

Lockheed Martin plans phased C-130J manufacturing in India if selected for IAF needs.

 [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

Lockheed Martin has proposed a phased manufacturing transition for its C-130J Super Hercules aircraft in India, contingent on its selection for the Indian Air Force's (IAF) Medium Transport Aircraft programme. The initial batch would be assembled in the U.S. to meet immediate requirements, with future production shifting to a dedicated facility in India, aligning with the government's "Make in India" initiative. This proposal also includes the establishment of a Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) center in Bengaluru, aimed at reducing reliance on foreign support and enhancing local industrial capabilities. Ultimately, this collaboration marks a significant step towards self-reliance in India's defense sector, providing long-term strategic benefits for the IAF and the domestic defense industry.

Sarla Aviation begins eVTOL testing, advancing India's aerospace independence.

 [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

Sarla Aviation, a Bengaluru-based aerospace startup, commenced ground testing of its half-scale eVTOL demonstrator SYLLA SYL-X1 on December 22, 2025, at its Bengaluru facility, marking a pivotal advancement in India's push for self-reliant advanced air mobility. Featuring a 7.5-meter wingspan, the SYL-X1—India's largest and most advanced private eVTOL prototype—validates structural integrity, propulsion systems, and safety architecture, designed with certification intent from the outset to bridge toward a full-scale 15-meter aircraft targeting urban air taxi services by 2028. Developed in just nine months at a fraction of global costs by a 70-engineer team backed by USD 13 million in funding, this milestone underscores India's burgeoning private aerospace prowess, positioning the nation competitively in next-generation vertical flight amid plans for a massive manufacturing hub in Andhra Pradesh.

GIGABYTE launches motherboard production in India to boost local manufacturing.

 [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

GIGABYTE has commenced local production of motherboards in India, reflecting its commitment to the country's rapidly growing electronics market and the

broader ambition to establish India as a global manufacturing hub. This initiative allows GIGABYTE to tailor products to local needs while reducing reliance on imports and enhancing supply chain resilience. The company plans to expand its manufacturing capabilities to include monitors and laptops, which will further support India's digital transformation across various sectors. By investing in local production, GIGABYTE aims to leverage India's talent pool and policy framework, reinforcing its strategic importance in the region and contributing to the country's goals of self-reliance and indigenisation in electronics manufacturing.

Pakistan Navy commissions second MILGEM-class ship, enhancing regional naval capabilities. **SHARE**

22-Dec-25

The Pakistan Navy has officially commissioned its second MILGEM-class ship, PNS Khaibar, at the Istanbul Naval Shipyard, a culmination of a transfer of technology agreement with Türkiye. The ship is part of a contract signed in 2018 for four vessels, with two constructed in Türkiye and two in Pakistan. These technologically advanced ships are equipped with modern Command and Control Systems, advanced sensors, and weaponry, enhancing the Pakistan Navy's operational capabilities. This development underscores the growing defense ties between Pakistan and Türkiye, which may impact regional naval dynamics, particularly in relation to India's maritime security strategy.

highlight the challenges of achieving a lasting peace amidst entrenched positions from both sides.

Pakistan's military claims divine support amid mockery over conflict losses. **SHARE**

22-Dec-25

In a recent speech at the National Ulema Conference in Islamabad, Pakistan's Chief of Defence Forces, Field Marshal Asim Munir, claimed that divine intervention aided the Pakistani military during its conflict with India in May 2025, following India's Operation Sindoor. Munir characterized the military engagements, which included significant Indian strikes on Pakistani airbases and alleged terror infrastructure, as spiritually ordained victories for Pakistan, invoking religious rhetoric and historical Islamic battles. His remarks have sparked widespread mockery online, particularly among Indian netizens, who pointed to substantial damage inflicted on Pakistan's military assets during the conflict, including the crippling of roughly 20% of its air force capabilities. The backlash highlights a growing skepticism regarding Pakistan's military narrative amid the ongoing tensions with India and its internal challenges, raising questions about the efficacy of militarized religious discourse in shaping national security and public perception. This episode underscores the complex interplay of faith, military strategy, and public morale in Pakistan as the region remains poised for further volatility.

Assam heightened alert due to unrest in Bangladesh, concerns rise. **SHARE**

22-Dec-25

Assam has been placed on high alert since December 22, 2025, following fresh unrest in neighboring Bangladesh triggered by the December 18 killing of student leader Sharif Osman Hadi, sparking protests, violence, and attacks on Hindus. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma warned of infiltration risks and dismissed provocative Bangladeshi claims of merging Northeast India into their territory as baseless fantasies, underscoring India's nuclear strength and territorial sovereignty. Prohibitory orders, imposed in Cachar district along the India-Bangladesh border since December 16, restrict night movements and gatherings to curb illegal crossings by extremists or infiltrators. From India's strategic lens, this demands robust border security to counter radical spillover, protect minorities, and preserve Northeast integrity against Islamist unrest under Yunus's interim rule ahead of elections.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

Russia and Ukraine express optimism in advancing US peace talks. **SHARE**

22-Dec-25

Peace talks regarding a U.S.-proposed plan to resolve the ongoing war in Ukraine are reportedly advancing in Florida, with both Russian and Ukrainian officials expressing optimism about the discussions. While Kremlin envoy Kirill Dmitriev indicated that the talks are constructive, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy noted progress in diplomatic efforts. However, contradictions surface as Russia dismisses any trilateral discussions with the U.S. and Ukraine, with President Putin maintaining firm demands. Meanwhile, the European Union has pledged significant financial support to Ukraine, underlining the urgent need for stability in the region amidst continued military activity and civilian displacement. The complex dynamics

NATO suspects Russia is creating anti-satellite weapon against Starlink. SHARE

22-Dec-25

NATO intelligence from two unnamed member nations, reported on December 21-22, 2025, suspects Russia is developing a "zone-effect" anti-satellite weapon to target SpaceX's Starlink constellation, deploying clouds of high-density pellets from small satellites to disable multiple low-Earth orbit assets simultaneously. This counters Starlink's pivotal role in enabling Ukrainian battlefield communications, drone strikes, and targeting since Russia's 2022 invasion, amid Moscow's recent S-500 deployments claimed capable of orbital intercepts. Experts like Secure World Foundation's Victoria Samson doubt feasibility due to uncontrollable debris risks endangering Russian, Chinese, and Indian satellites, including ISRO's constellations vital for navigation and reconnaissance. From India's strategic lens, this escalates space militarization, threatening regional assets and underscoring urgency for New Delhi to bolster ASAT defenses and multilateral norms against orbital debris proliferation.

India and Germany strengthen defense ties despite Russia conflict. SHARE

22-Dec-25

India and Germany are set to enhance their defense partnership significantly by 2026, propelled by Chancellor Merz's upcoming visit and the recent High Defence Committee meeting. Despite differing views on the Russia-Ukraine conflict, both nations are committed to deepening cooperation through joint exercises and industrial collaboration, particularly in advanced technologies like submarines and aerospace. Germany's participation in Indian military exercises and plans for co-production underlines its commitment to the Indo-Pacific region. This evolving relationship signifies India's role as a key player in regional stability and reflects a pragmatic approach to balancing geopolitical differences while fostering shared security and technological advancements.

Two more suspects arrested in Bangladesh Hindu man's lynching case. SHARE

22-Dec-25

In Bangladesh's Mymensingh district, two more suspects—Ashik (25) and Kaium (25)—were arrested on December 21, 2025, raising the total to 12 in the brutal lynching of 25-year-old Hindu garment worker Dipu Chandra Das on December 18 over unsubstantiated blasphemy claims, with his body beaten, hanged, and burned. The Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) nabbed seven

earlier, including Md. Limon Sarkar and Md. Miraj Hossain Akon, while police detained three others like Md. Azmol Hasan Sagir; all were handed to Bhaluka Police Station. Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus's interim government condemned the mob violence amid post-August 2024 upheaval, but from India's strategic lens, it signals Islamist radicalization—linked to unrest over anti-India leader Sharif Osman Hadi's death—threatening Hindu minorities (8% population), border stability, and Delhi's leverage over Dhaka's fragile regime.

Indian Coast Guard promotes wellness and maritime ties during Saudi visit. SHARE

22-Dec-25

Indian Coast Guard Ship Sarthak recently concluded a goodwill visit to Saudi Arabia's King Abdulaziz Port, where personnel observed a meditation session to mark World Meditation Day. This visit, part of a broader mission to enhance maritime security cooperation, follows its first-ever port call at Chabahar in Iran and a successful engagement in Kuwait. The Indian Coast Guard's interactions with regional naval forces reflect India's commitment to strengthening maritime partnerships and securing supply lines to Afghanistan and Central Asia, aligning with its SAGAR and MAHASAGAR initiatives. These developments underscore India's proactive role in fostering regional stability and enhancing interoperability among maritime agencies.

Asim Munir awarded Saudi honor, claims divine support amid India conflict. SHARE

22-Dec-25

Pakistan's Chief of Defence Forces, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, has been awarded Saudi Arabia's highest civilian honour, the King Abdulaziz Medal of Excellence, during his official visit to the Kingdom, which highlights the strengthening ties between the two nations amid regional security discussions. Munir, in a recent address, emphasized Pakistan's divine support during the May conflict with India, referencing Operation Sindoor that targeted terror infrastructure. He also urged the Afghan Taliban to choose between supporting Pakistan or the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), stressing the need for clarity regarding jihad in an Islamic state. This visit and Munir's remarks underscore Pakistan's strategic positioning in a complex geopolitical landscape, reflecting its commitment to regional stability and security.

Hasina: Yunus lacks mandate to shift Bangladesh's foreign policy direction.



22-Dec-25

Sheikh Hasina has criticized the interim administration of Yunus, asserting it lacks a mandate to realign Bangladesh's foreign policy, emphasizing that true governance will return post-elections. Highlighting the deep-rooted ties with India, Hasina condemned recent anti-India sentiments fostered by Yunus's government and expressed concerns over rising Islamist influences. She characterized the current political climate as a "terrible missed opportunity" for national reconciliation and underscored the need for democratic integrity and judicial independence. As Bangladesh approaches elections, Hasina's remarks signify her unwavering commitment to democratic norms and partnerships, positioning her party, the Awami League, as a stabilizing force amid escalating political tensions.

Jaishankar to Visit Sri Lanka Post Cyclone Aid Mission by India



22-Dec-25

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is set to visit Sri Lanka following India's rapid humanitarian response to Cyclone Ditwah, which caused extensive damage and loss of life. India launched Operation Sagar Bandhu, deploying naval and air assets, including the aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, to deliver emergency supplies and medical aid. The operation showcased India's strategic maritime presence and commitment to its "Neighbourhood First" policy, reinforcing bilateral ties through technical and financial support for infrastructure reconstruction. Discussions during Jaishankar's visit are expected to focus on enhancing cooperation in coastal resilience and disaster preparedness, reflecting India's broader strategy of fostering strategic partnerships in the region amidst evolving geopolitical dynamics.

Military Operations

Indian Army Battalion Deployed in Tripura Amid Bangladesh Tensions



22-Dec-25

In response to escalating tensions in Bangladesh, particularly following Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's resignation amid protests, an Indian Army battalion has been deployed in Tripura. Chief Minister Saha emphasized the unit's historical significance, recalling

its pivotal role in the 1971 liberation of Bangladesh, while expressing concerns over potential lawlessness spilling into India due to mass jailbreaks in Bangladesh amidst instability. He accused Pakistan of exacerbating unrest and highlighted the need for reinforced military presence along the 856-kilometer border to counteract hybrid threats from terrorism and insurgency. This strategic deployment reinforces India's commitment to regional security and its proactive stance against destabilizing forces, while closely monitoring the situation for any adverse developments.

Ukraine faces intense fighting as Russia attempts border breakthrough.



22-Dec-25

The Ukrainian army is engaged in intense fighting against a Russian attempt to advance in the Sumy region, specifically in the village of Grabovske, which has seen renewed conflict following Ukraine's successful counter-offensive in 2022. Reports indicate that Russian forces forcibly relocated around 50 civilians from Grabovske to Russia, a claim that remains unverified amid ongoing combat. Meanwhile, Ukraine's military administration has evacuated residents from border communities as tensions escalate. The situation highlights a broader trend of Russia gradually regaining territory in eastern Ukraine, coinciding with renewed negotiations to resolve the ongoing conflict, underscoring the volatility and humanitarian impact of this protracted war.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

BSF reports revival of nine Jaish terror launch pads near border.



22-Dec-25

The Border Security Force (BSF) has reported a resurgence of nine Jaish-e-Mohammed terror launch pads near the India-Pakistan border, following a period of inactivity post-Operation Sindoor. Intelligence indicates these sites, strategically repositioned within 5 km of their original locations, are being used by militants to regroup for infiltration attempts, although Indian forces have successfully thwarted these efforts through heightened vigilance and area domination exercises. The BSF, along with local police, is conducting surprise checks and training village defense volunteers to enhance local resilience. This revival underscores the persistent threat posed by cross-border terrorism and highlights the importance of

robust counter-infiltration strategies amid ongoing geopolitical tensions.

Karnataka: Third suspect arrested for leaking sensitive Navy info to Pakistan



22-Dec-25

Karnataka Police in Udupi district arrested 34-year-old Hitendra from Gujarat's Kailashnagari on December 21, 2025, as the third suspect in a serious espionage case involving the leak of sensitive Indian Navy information to Pakistan. The duo previously nabbed on November 21—20-year-old Rohit and 37-year-old Santri, both from Uttar Pradesh and employed at Cochin Shipyard's Malpe unit—allegedly shared classified details on naval ships, identification numbers, port operations, and shipyard activities via WhatsApp and Facebook for over 18 months, receiving substantial payments. Hitendra reportedly supplied SIM cards to facilitate the transmissions, underscoring vulnerabilities in India's strategic maritime infrastructure; authorities suspect additional accomplices and are intensifying the probe to safeguard national security.

Moscow car blast kills Russian general; linked to Ukraine forces.



22-Dec-25

A senior Russian general, Lieutenant General Fanil Sarvarov, was killed in a car explosion in southern Moscow, with investigators probing potential links to Ukrainian special forces. This incident follows a series of targeted attacks on Russian military officials since the onset of the Ukraine conflict in February 2022, including the deaths of General Yaroslav Moskalik and Igor Kirillov in similar circumstances. Ukraine has been accused of orchestrating these high-profile assaults, which signify an escalating tension between the two nations and highlight the vulnerabilities of Russian military leadership within its borders. These developments may impact Russia's operational security and strategic posture as it continues its military engagements in Ukraine.

Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

CERT-In warns of "GhostPairing" attack hijacking WhatsApp accounts without OTPs or SIM swaps.



22-Dec-25

India's cyber security agency, CERT-In, has issued a warning regarding a new cyber threat known as "GhostPairing," which enables hackers to take over WhatsApp accounts without needing passwords or SIM swaps. This attack exploits the device-linking feature of WhatsApp, allowing cybercriminals to connect their devices to users' accounts through misleading messages that appear trustworthy. Victims are tricked into providing their phone numbers under the guise of identity verification, granting attackers full access to their messages, photos, and contacts. This significant vulnerability raises concerns about user privacy and the security of digital communications in India, highlighting the ongoing challenges faced in safeguarding the nation's digital landscape against evolving cyber threats.

North Korea-linked hackers employ sophisticated tactics in cyber attack on South Korea.



22-Dec-25

A North Korea-linked hacking group, identified as APT37, has initiated a cyber attack campaign named Artemis, embedding malicious code in Hangul Word Processor (HWP) documents to infiltrate South Korean government and industrial networks. This sophisticated operation indicates a refinement of their cyber capabilities, as evidenced by their previous attacks utilizing Android malware to remotely control devices and erase critical data. The findings underscore the persistent threat posed by North Korean cyber operations, which continue to evolve in their methods of reconnaissance and data extraction, posing significant risks to national security and digital infrastructure in South Korea and beyond.

Europe engages in covert cyber operations against Russia's civilian infrastructure, raising international security concerns.



22-Dec-25

European states are reportedly conducting a covert cyberwar against Russia, targeting civilian

infrastructure through offensive operations, as detailed by Die Welt. The shift from a defensive to an offensive cyber strategy includes deploying malware against critical systems, such as hospitals and water supply networks. Companies like CybExer are playing a vital role in these operations, marking vulnerable targets and emphasizing that significant damage can be inflicted on less protected facilities. The article raises concerns about potential retaliatory justifications linked to alleged Russian cyberattacks, highlighting the broader implications for cybersecurity norms and international relations, particularly regarding the responses of nuclear powers.

while maintaining ethical standards in their public service careers. His message resonated with the broader goal of fostering inclusive growth and effective governance, emphasizing the significance of character alongside knowledge in civil service roles, as India navigates its ambitious developmental trajectory.

Miscellaneous

India to Host International Fleet Review in Vizag, February 2026 [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

The Indian Navy is set to host the International Fleet Review (IFR) 2026 in Visakhapatnam from February 15 to 25, marking a significant milestone in India's maritime diplomacy and strategy. This prestigious event will witness participation from over 100 nations, showcasing naval capabilities and fostering partnerships to enhance collective maritime security against evolving threats such as piracy, hybrid warfare, and climate-induced disruptions. It aims to facilitate interoperability through advanced joint exercises and enhance dialogue among naval chiefs during the concurrent Indian Ocean Naval Symposium. Notably, the IFR 2026 will also focus on technological advancements in maritime security, including unmanned systems and AI-driven solutions, while integrating non-state actors like port authorities and humanitarian organizations to underscore a comprehensive approach to maritime safety. This convergence not only highlights India's growing stature as a preferred security partner in the Indian Ocean Region but also reinforces its commitment to global maritime cooperation and stability, essential for safeguarding international trade and security in an increasingly interconnected world.

SHANTI Bill: Transforming India's Nuclear Energy for National Strength [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

President Droupadi Murmu granted assent to the Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India (SHANTI) Bill on December 20, 2025, following its passage by Parliament during the Winter Session. The legislation repeals the Atomic Energy Act of 1962 and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act of 2010, establishing a unified framework that permits private companies and joint ventures to build, own, operate, and decommission nuclear power plants under government licenses, ending the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd's

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Governor urges cadets at Itanagar camp to prioritize 'Nation First' ethos. [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

During a visit to an NCC annual training camp at the Himalayan University Campus in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lieutenant General K.T. Parnaik (Retd.) emphasized the importance of the "Nation First" ethos among cadets, urging them to embody character, commitment, and responsibility. He encouraged the cadets to take pride in their cultural heritage and strive for self-motivation and excellence. The camp, which features physical training, leadership-building, and various activities, aims to foster discipline, camaraderie, and nationalism among participants. The Governor commended the cadets for their high standards of drill, reflecting their dedication and rigorous training while highlighting the role of the NCC in shaping responsible citizens for the nation.

Vice-President urges IDAS trainees to uphold integrity and innovate for India's defense. [SHARE](#)

22-Dec-25

The Vice-President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, addressed the Officer Trainees of the Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS) for the 2023 and 2024 batches, underscoring the importance of their role in managing the financial resources of the Indian Armed Forces. He highlighted the IDAS's rich legacy of over 275 years and stressed the need for innovative thinking, integrity, and accountability among officers to ensure operational readiness as India aims for a Viksit Bharat by 2047. The Vice-President encouraged the trainees to embrace lifelong learning through platforms like iGOT Karmayogi and to be adaptive to modern technologies

monopoly in operations. It grants statutory status to the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board for enhanced safety oversight, radiation protection, and enforcement, while capping operator liability based on reactor capacity—up to ₹3,000 crore for plants over 3,600 MW thermal power—and creating a Nuclear Liability Fund for excess claims up to 300 million Special Drawing Rights. Government retains control over fissile materials, uranium/thorium mining, spent fuel reprocessing, and heavy water production. The move supports India's goal of 100 gigawatts nuclear capacity by 2047 from the current 8.78 gigawatts, aiding clean energy needs for growth in AI, quantum computing, and industry amid opposition concerns on privatization risks and compensation limits.

MoD emphasizes zero-corruption stance after Lt Col's bribery arrest.



22-Dec-25

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has arrested Army officer Lt Col Deepak Kumar Sharma, who was on deputation to the Department of Defence Production, for allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 3 lakh from a Dubai-based logistics company as part of a larger criminal conspiracy. During searches at his residence, authorities recovered over Rs 2.23 crore in cash. The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has cited this incident as a demonstration of the government's zero tolerance policy towards corruption, emphasizing its proactive measures to combat illegal practices through established legal and institutional frameworks. This case highlights significant concerns regarding integrity within the defense establishment, which the government aims to address to maintain trust and transparency in its operations.

Chinese telescope seized in Jammu; suspect detained in Samba for questioning.



22-Dec-25

In Jammu's Sidhra area near NIA headquarters, Jammu Rural Police on December 21, 2025, seized a Chinese-made weapon-mountable telescope discovered by a six-year-old boy in a garbage dump in Asrarabad, prompting heightened security and SOG searches amid concerns over foreign-sourced arms infiltration. Concurrently, in Samba district's Diani village, 24-year-old Tanvir Ahmad from Anantnag was detained the same day after a Pakistani (+92) phone number surfaced on his mobile, fueling probes into cross-border links. From an Indian strategic lens, these incidents on December 20-22 highlight Pakistan-China nexus threats

in J&K border zones, underscoring vigilant enforcement to counter hybrid warfare tactics post-Pahalgam attack chargesheet, with no panic urged as inquiries deepen

IAF MI-17 helicopter successfully relocates Pench tigress to Rajasthan for conservation efforts.



22-Dec-25

The Indian Air Force's MI-17 helicopter airlifted three-year-old tigress PN-224 from Madhya Pradesh's Pench Tiger Reserve to Rajasthan's Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve on December 21, 2025, marking India's first interstate tiger translocation by chopper. After eluding teams for 24 days, the tigress was surrounded by elephants, tranquilized on Sunday afternoon, and flown from Sukatra airstrip around 4:55-6:00 PM, landing in Jaipur before road transfer and release into the Bajalia enclosure by Monday morning. Coordinated by Pench field director Devprasad J, deputy director Rajneesh Singh, veterinarians Dr Akhilesh Mishra and Dr Prashant Deshmukh, plus Rajasthan's Sujanaram Jat and Dr Tejinder—who camped in Pench for eight days—the month-long operation used 50 AI camera traps for monitoring, boosting genetic diversity and tiger numbers. From an Indian security lens, IAF's logistical prowess in precision wildlife ops underscores dual-use capabilities for border conservation amid ecological pressures.

Indian H-1B visa holders stranded in India due to renewal delays.



22-Dec-25

Indian H-1B visa holders returning to India for work permit renewals are facing significant disruptions due to the U.S. State Department's intensified social media vetting procedures, leading to widespread appointment cancellations from December 15-26. This policy, which now affects H-1B applicants and their H-4 dependents, has left many professionals stranded, with immigration lawyers reporting at least 100 clients affected. The U.S. government's new measures, seen as part of the Trump administration's immigration curbs, threaten job stability for skilled workers as companies experience talent shortages. This episode highlights the tension between immigration enforcement and the U.S. economy's reliance on India's skilled labor, raising concerns about the long-term implications for America's innovation landscape.

China launches online visa application system in India, enhancing ties. SHARE

22-Dec-25

The Chinese Embassy in India has launched an online visa application system, allowing applicants to complete forms and upload documents digitally, marking a significant development in bilateral relations following a five-year suspension of certain visas post-2020 clashes. With the visa regime for Chinese nationals now fully operational, this initiative aims to enhance efficiency and reduce processing errors,

facilitating greater people-to-people contact and economic ties, particularly in tourism and trade, which exceeds \$100 billion annually. While the move reflects a pragmatic approach to diplomacy and economic cooperation, analysts warn that sustained normalisation is contingent on ongoing border peace. The introduction of this system aligns with global trends in visa processing and could serve as a foundation for future mutual agreements in visa facilitation.

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Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
IDEAFORGE	429.0	509.0	426.75	495.4	12128109	16.7	65.76	443.16	473.98
DCXINDIA	190.0	209.61	182.29	203.8	15507861	9.33	64.5	172.63	253.24
COCHINSHIP	1557.4	1684.4	1550.9	1666.3	3641800	7.62	54.66	1616.78	1734.83
PREMEXPLN	494.1	531.65	492.35	524.65	480158	6.69	49.56	514.24	513.66
MARINE	203.0	218.7	203.0	216.23	590436	6.57	51.0	212.65	201.36
CENTUM	2188.4	2506.8	2150.0	2316.1	138297	6.36	49.46	2290.47	2237.04
KRISHNADEF	729.05	782.0	729.05	773.0	40500	6.29	54.57	744.5	791.12
SOLARINDS	11975.0	12672.0	11850.0	12620.0	189388	5.95	47.02	12648.8	13869.93
MAZDOCK	2423.0	2553.1	2401.1	2544.8	1921319	5.67	48.54	2537.81	2850.19
GRSE	2315.0	2442.0	2315.0	2427.0	1959258	5.65	45.66	2487.09	2443.98
MTARTECH	2359.4	2474.6	2351.2	2459.2	294988	5.12	54.93	2416.08	1753.35
URAVIDEF	188.0	188.82	188.0	188.82	3250	5.0	53.11	174.93	381.61
SUNITATOOL	743.1	765.9	743.0	765.9	5625	5.0	44.19	807.22	776.27
SWANDEF	1322.1	1322.1	1322.1	1322.1	12688	5.0	100.0	865.21	136.63
RELINFRA	168.0	173.2	168.0	173.2	1588231	5.0	55.98	153.91	267.23
TEMBO	739.0	760.9	725.1	760.85	418706	4.99	58.59	731.55	562.7
DRONACHRYA	43.1	43.36	42.99	43.36	28000	4.99	41.16	46.64	69.79
APOLLO	240.15	249.8	238.0	249.8	2440065	4.98	48.36	250.26	210.43
BEML	1730.1	1807.0	1725.8	1795.8	508784	4.32	49.39	1746.68	1919.02
AXISCADES	1308.8	1369.9	1307.0	1361.9	88111	4.06	50.05	1338.87	1248.81
MIDHANI	299.8	313.6	298.65	308.9	794769	3.92	42.56	309.39	364.37
BDL	1380.0	1427.0	1372.1	1423.6	1601899	3.68	47.03	1442.15	1566.77
AVANTEL	155.05	160.5	154.84	159.16	1797245	3.63	55.66	151.02	148.52
PARAS	646.0	663.55	643.2	660.9	763146	3.35	44.81	678.18	686.88
DYNAMATECH	9515.0	9912.0	9426.5	9817.5	42277	3.17	62.51	9133.97	7233.35
ASTRAMICRO	917.85	938.0	909.55	935.3	207100	2.98	50.31	910.91	962.36
CFE	559.0	574.85	559.0	573.0	14000	2.65	42.14	587.86	588.15
AZAD	1639.9	1709.0	1629.6	1670.4	301181	2.52	56.13	1625.2	1587.73
DATAPATNS	2556.4	2639.0	2556.4	2615.4	352933	2.31	43.07	2724.61	2559.86
PTC	155.0	158.2	155.0	157.81	525285	2.21	47.33	157.17	172.37
ZENTEC	1379.9	1419.0	1369.1	1394.6	494259	2.09	52.92	1379.46	1552.99
MACPOWER	1003.95	1039.45	994.55	1021.6	14251	2.08	60.16	982.53	884.12
HAL	4311.7	4392.0	4307.1	4386.1	657486	1.88	46.15	4383.51	4560.72
HIGHENE	544.25	556.0	541.05	546.0	3908	1.6	41.45	559.35	608.68
TANEJAERO	295.0	301.6	294.2	298.75	9255	1.55	38.46	308.72	363.64
BEL	393.0	399.3	392.9	398.95	9321669	1.55	49.11	398.92	374.67
RTNINDIA	41.85	42.43	41.56	41.86	1289594	1.23	42.42	41.61	50.3
WALCHANNAG	192.71	204.39	188.2	198.39	5032936	1.2	66.1	168.96	190.41
BHARATFORG	1450.8	1463.4	1440.9	1456.2	605327	1.13	65.57	1414.64	1231.77
JYOTICNC	957.1	968.5	949.0	961.6	174344	1.1	51.73	967.34	1018.1
ADANIENIT	2260.0	2274.0	2245.9	2263.5	599195	1.09	45.12	2254.1	2420.37
NIBE	1149.45	1152.05	1124.6	1137.9	4232	0.77	53.24	1078.97	1344.67
HBLPOWER	850.0	881.9	845.0	849.6	2020447	0.49	49.2	831.47	694.69
GOODLUCK	1065.0	1066.0	1040.1	1053.9	73630	0.45	37.24	1110.16	1021.67
SIKA	885.1	908.6	885.1	892.45	19018	0.15	36.72	923.97	1024.23
LT	4081.0	4098.5	4068.5	4072.4	764774	-0.03	58.3	4039.1	3632.14
LMW	14900.0	15089.0	14828.0	14943.0	2488	-0.15	43.82	15107.15	15651.86
TECHERA	224.5	226.6	214.2	215.0	115200	-0.39	41.49	221.79	198.79
LOKESHMACH	165.35	169.75	165.0	166.01	57237	-0.62	51.02	157.56	181.4
ROSSELLIND	50.62	52.27	49.23	50.25	54710	-0.67	24.73	54.57	65.55