



# Defence Professionals News & Analysis

December 24, 2025 | Day 358

## Top Gainers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
RELINFRA	173.2	164.96	+5.0%
SWANDEF	1322.1	1259.2	+5.0%
DRONACHRYA	47.79	45.52	+4.99%
URAVIDEF	208.13	198.25	+4.98%
BDL	1481.2	1431.4	+3.48%

## Top Losers

Stock	Close	Prev	Change
TEMBO	745.0	782.75	-4.82%
LOKESHMACH	164.79	168.0	-1.91%
DYNAMATECH	9671.5	9852.0	-1.83%
TANEJAERO	292.65	297.8	-1.73%
CFF	545.45	554.55	-1.64%

## Defense Business and Industry

### DRDO completes successful user trials of indigenous Akash-NG missile system, enhancing India's air defense capabilities.

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24-Dec-25

DRDO has successfully completed the user evaluation trials of the indigenous Next Generation Akash-NG missile system on December 23, 2025, at the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha, marking a key milestone for its induction into the Indian Armed Forces. During the trials, witnessed by senior DRDO scientists and Indian Air Force representatives, the missiles intercepted aerial targets across varied ranges and altitudes, including near-boundary low-altitude scenarios and long-range high-altitude engagements, validating the system's operational versatility and reliability against diverse aerial threats. Equipped with an indigenous Radio Frequency seeker and propelled by a solid rocket motor, Akash-NG features major components like the Multi-Function Radar, Command and Control Unit, and Missile Launch Vehicle, all developed by DRDO labs in collaboration with Indian industry partners such as Bharat Electronics and Bharat Dynamics Limited. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated DRDO, the IAF, and industry teams, noting the system's role in bolstering IAF air defence capabilities and advancing Aatmanirbhar Bharat in defence. The trials met all provisional staff qualitative requirements, paving the way for enhanced India's air defence preparedness.

### India successfully tests K-4 SLBM from INS Arihant, enhancing deterrence.

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India has successfully tested the K-4 submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) from its indigenously developed nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, INS Arihant, in the Bay of Bengal, with an impressive range of 3,500 km. This test, which has yet to be officially confirmed by the Ministry of Defence, underscores India's strategic deterrence capabilities and enhances its second-strike capability while aligning with its "No First Use" doctrine. The K-4 missile, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation, features advanced navigation systems that ensure high accuracy and enhanced survivability against adversary missile defences. The successful launch marks a significant milestone in India's sea-based nuclear deterrent, reinforcing its operational maturity and continuous at-sea deterrence posture amid regional tensions. As India's submarine fleet expands with the commissioning of the second Arihant-class vessel, INS Arighaat, and plans for the third, INS Aridhaman, the K-4's capabilities solidify India's strategic position in South and Southeast Asia, emphasizing the importance of maintaining credible minimum deterrence in the face of evolving geopolitical challenges.

### DRDO's New Long-Range Loitering Missile Enhances IAF Strike Capabilities

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24-Dec-25

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is advancing a next-generation air-launched loitering cruise missile for the Indian Air Force, reported on December 23-24, 2025, with a 250 km range to bolster precision strikes. Key features include man-in-

the-loop Lock-Confirm-Kill capability for real-time visual confirmation via live feeds from loitering over targets, modular payloads for diverse missions, and hybrid INS-GPS guidance for land and sea engagements, minimizing collateral in urban or contested zones. Aligned with Atmanirbhar Bharat since early development phases, this enhances IAF standoff operations on Su-30MKI or Tejas platforms, reducing import dependence amid tensions with China and Pakistan, while countering adversary drone swarms through superior ISR-strike integration.

## Collins Aerospace demonstrates anti-jam navigation tech

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24-Dec-25

Collins Aerospace, an RTX business, successfully demonstrated its compact anti-jam Assured Positioning, Navigation and Timing (APNT) technology on December 22, 2025, at the U.S. Army's All-Domain Persistent Experiment in White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico. The modular CMOS Mounted Form Factor card, paired with an external antenna, fused military-code GPS and sensors to deliver precise navigation for ground vehicles amid dense jammers and spoofers, ensuring resilient performance in GPS-denied environments. India, drawing lessons from Operation Sindoora in April-May 2025—where GPS jamming disrupted adversary systems along the western border—is aggressively pursuing similar capabilities, with the Army rejecting 46 indigenous drones failing post-operation GPS-denied trials and prioritizing software-defined radios, terrain-based navigation, and anti-jamming modules for UAVs and platforms. This aligns with India's NavIC push for self-reliant PNT in contested scenarios.

## India's Defence Council to Approve T-90 Tank Overhaul for Modernization

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India's Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, convenes on December 26, 2025, to approve a major overhaul of four T-90 Bhishma main battle tank regiments, as reported on December 23. This life-extension program targets aging tanks by resetting engines, gun barrels, and mechanical systems to modern standards, extending operational life by up to 20 years while prioritizing cost-effective indigenization over new acquisitions. Key actors include the Indian Army's Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers and domestic firms like Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited, building on prior successes such as the 505 Army Base Workshop's T-90

refurbishments since October 2024. From an Indian strategic lens, this bolsters armored deterrence against China and Pakistan amid border tensions, sustaining 1,000+ T-90s for high-altitude warfare into the 2030s without straining budgets during 2025's defense reforms push.

## CoreEL Technologies Secures \$30 Million to Boost Defense Growth

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CoreEL Technologies India Private Limited, a Bengaluru-based provider of advanced electronic systems for aerospace and defence, raised USD 30 million in Series B funding on December 23, 2025, led by ValueQuest Scale Fund with strong support from 360 ONE Asset, which led its prior Series A in December 2023. The funds will scale manufacturing capacity, bolster research and development, advance product engineering, and enable participation in major domestic and international defence programmes, following the December 2, 2025, acquisition of Lekha Wireless's Aerospace and Defence Systems division that enhanced its military communication portfolio with indigenous IP in tactical SDRs, secure data links, and SATCOM solutions. Serving clients like DRDO, defence PSUs, and the Ministry of Defence, CoreEL's growth underscores investor confidence in India's self-reliance drive amid rising demand for mission-critical electronics.

## Enord wins major contract for 700 VR drone simulators for Indian Army training.

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24-Dec-25

Enord Pvt. Ltd., an AI-on-Edge drone technology startup founded in January 2021, secured a landmark multi-crore contract on December 21, 2025, from the Indian Army's School of Artillery in Deolali, Nashik, under the Emergency Powers Revenue 2025 mandate. The deal covers over 700 indigenous VR Drone Training Simulators for deployment across 19 Category-A units in three phases, with full rollout by Q2 2026 (April-June). These high-fidelity systems enable immersive FPV flying, ISR mission rehearsals, and emergency drills without live UAVs, slashing costs, risks, and foreign dependencies while aligning with Atmanirbhar Bharat. From an Indian strategic lens, this bolsters secure supply chains amid border tensions with China and Pakistan, accelerates drone operator readiness, and elevates startups like Enord—nurtured in IIT/IIIT/IIM incubators—as pillars of defense innovation and self-reliance.

## Gliders India Ltd Supplies Hybrid Brake Parachute for Tejas Fleet

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24-Dec-25

India's Gliders India Ltd (GIL), in collaboration with DRDO's Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), successfully inducted a lightweight Hybrid Brake Parachute for the LCA Tejas fleet on December 22-24, 2025, enhancing landing safety during high-speed recoveries up to 285 km/h normally and 340 km/h in emergencies. Weighing just 10 kg with a Uni-Cross canopy (5.75 m span, 17 sq m area) and multi-stage deployment via pilot and auxiliary chutes, the system shortens landing runs on short runways and forward bases, certified by CEMILAC for rapid turnaround and minimal maintenance. From an Indian strategic perspective, this bolsters Tejas operational flexibility amid IAF modernization, reduces import dependence on critical safety gear, fortifies self-reliance under Atmanirbhar Bharat, and strengthens aerospace deterrence against regional threats.

## BEL and Astra Microwave to develop indigenous EW, radar, and satellite systems.

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24-Dec-25

Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Astra Microwave Products Limited (AMPL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to develop indigenous Electronic Warfare (EW), radar systems, and satellite technologies, reflecting India's commitment to self-reliance in defense manufacturing. This partnership aims to enhance India's design and production capabilities in critical electronic technologies, significantly reducing reliance on imports. The collaboration is expected to foster innovation and create a robust ecosystem for advanced defense electronics, aligning with the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. By leveraging BEL's extensive experience and AMPL's expertise in Electronic System Design and Manufacturing, this strategic alliance will cater to the sophisticated needs of the Indian Armed Forces and bolster national security.

## Indian Navy to enhance surveillance with MQ-9 drones acquisition.

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The Indian Navy is set to enhance its surveillance capabilities with the acquisition of 31 MQ-9 drones, alongside a collaborative initiative with the Coast Guard for 15 indigenous C-295 maritime reconnaissance aircraft. This move follows the commissioning of the INAS 335 MH-60R Seahawk helicopter squadron,

reinforcing anti-submarine and surface warfare readiness amidst rising regional tensions. Additionally, plans to procure six more P-8I Poseidon aircraft aim to address operational gaps in intelligence and reconnaissance. These developments reflect India's commitment to bolstering maritime defense through self-reliance and forging deeper defense ties with the United States, crucial for safeguarding national interests in the increasingly contested Indian Ocean Region.

## IAF expects Rudram-II missile production clearance by 2026 after successful trials.

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The Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) are optimistic about achieving production clearance for the indigenous Rudram-II air-to-surface missile by 2026, following successful validation trials, including a significant flight test in May 2024. The missile, capable of reaching hypersonic speeds of Mach 5.5 and boasting an extended operational range of approximately 300 kilometers, offers enhanced strike capabilities through its advanced dual-seeker system. Designed for integration with multiple platforms, including the Su-30MKI and Mirage 2000, Rudram-II aims to phase out older missile systems and strengthen the IAF's offensive capabilities, particularly in Suppression of Enemy Air Defences (SEAD) and deep strike operations. Its induction is expected to significantly bolster India's indigenous defense manufacturing and operational readiness.

## HAL Boosts Indigenisation of Honeywell TPE331 Engine Components for Aircraft

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24-Dec-25

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has accelerated indigenisation of critical Honeywell TPE331 turboprop engine components, issuing a Request for Information (RFI) in late November 2025 to Indian manufacturers for castings, forgings, and spares powering Do-228 utility aircraft and HTT-40 trainers. This move, corroborated by reports from December 23-24, 2025, counters Honeywell supply delays—first TPE331-12B engines now due January 2026—ensuring spares for IAF's 70+ HTT-40 order and over 100 planned, while HAL has flown prototypes TH-4001 (October 24) and TH-4002 (December 6) using refurbished units. From India's strategic lens, it bolsters self-reliance amid geopolitical supply risks, cuts forex outflows, and

empowers domestic firms in high-precision aerospace, fortifying trainer fleet readiness against squadron shortages.

## Defense Policy and Budgeting

### Rajnath Singh launches BRO guide to enhance border road project execution.

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Defence Minister Rajnath Singh unveiled the 'Guide on Preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for Road Infrastructure Projects' by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) in New Delhi, aimed at enhancing the quality and consistency of project reports. This initiative, which addresses issues of time and cost overruns, is expected to improve strategic connectivity and socio-economic development in border regions, ensuring critical military mobility and logistics. Earlier, Singh dedicated 125 significant infrastructure projects across various states and Union Territories, reflecting the government's commitment to strengthening border infrastructure. The total investment of Rs 5,000 crore underscores the importance of robust infrastructure in enhancing security, boosting tourism, and fostering regional development.

## Geopolitics and Security Alliances

### Pentagon report underscores China's claim on Arunachal Pradesh as a core interest.

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A recent Pentagon report submitted to the US Congress highlights China's claim over Arunachal Pradesh as a "core interest" linked to its broader national rejuvenation goals aimed at achieving a world-class military by 2049. The report suggests that China may attempt to capitalize on de-escalating tensions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with India to stabilize relations and curb the deepening of US-India ties, particularly following a recent agreement between the two nations to disengage from border standoffs. Former diplomat KP Fabian emphasized that China's expansionist policies threaten India's territorial integrity, reflecting a historical pattern of such claims, while noting India's pragmatic approach in maintaining relations, particularly in trade and investment. Despite ongoing efforts to normalize ties—illustrated by resumed direct

flights and mutual agreements on people-centric initiatives—mutual distrust persists, complicating the bilateral relationship. This situation underscores the broader geopolitical dynamics at play, where China's territorial ambitions and strategic positioning challenge India's security interests and its growing partnership with the United States.

### India offers \$450 million aid to support Sri Lanka's cyclone recovery efforts.

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24-Dec-25

India has proposed a \$450 million assistance package to aid Sri Lanka's recovery following Cyclone Ditwah, as announced by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar during his visit to Colombo. This package includes \$350 million in concessional credit and \$100 million in grants, focusing on infrastructure repair and economic stabilization. Jaishankar emphasized India's role as the first responder and highlighted the urgency of support amid Sri Lanka's ongoing challenges from a prior economic crisis. This initiative aligns with India's "Neighbourhood First" policy, aiming to strengthen bilateral ties and promote economic recovery through enhanced tourism and foreign direct investment, while countering external influences in the region.

### ISRO launches heaviest American satellite, enhancing global space capabilities.

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24-Dec-25

ISRO successfully launched the American BlueBird Block-2 satellite into a precise orbit aboard the LVM3-M6 rocket, marking a significant milestone as it became the heaviest satellite ever launched from Indian soil, weighing 5,908 kg. This mission, conducted on December 24, 2025, further solidified ISRO's capabilities in the global space launch market, achieving a remarkable accuracy of 518.5 km, just 1.5 km below the targeted altitude. The successful lift-off boosts confidence in India's Gaganyaan program, which aims to send astronauts into orbit, with ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan emphasizing the critical role of the LVM3 launch vehicle in this human spaceflight initiative. Additionally, the mission showcased advancements in the LVM3 rocket, including improved payload capabilities and the introduction of a new electro-mechanical actuator system. The increasing global interest in LVM3, with prospective launches expanding to six annually from 2026-27, highlights ISRO's growing significance in the international space community and its expanding commercial prospects.

## Protests erupt in India over brutal killing of Hindu worker in Bangladesh.

24-Dec-25

India witnessed widespread protests following the brutal killing of Dipu Chandra Das, a 25-year-old Hindu garment factory worker in Mymensingh, Bangladesh, who was lynched by a mob over blasphemy allegations. Demonstrations erupted in major cities including Delhi, Kolkata, and Bhopal, where Hindu groups such as the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and Bajrang Dal demanded justice for Das and accountability from the Bangladeshi government, led by interim Prime Minister Muhammad Yunus. Protesters accused the Yunus regime of complicity in the violence against Hindu minorities and expressed outrage over perceived state-sponsored oppression. In Kolkata, clashes with police occurred as protesters attempted to breach barricades near the Bangladesh Deputy High Commission, resulting in several injuries and the arrest of twelve individuals. These events underscore rising tensions regarding the treatment of minorities in Bangladesh and reflect a broader sentiment among Indian Hindus concerning security and justice for their community, potentially straining diplomatic ties between India and Bangladesh.

## Bangladesh High Commission in Agartala halts visa services amid tensions.

24-Dec-25

The Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Agartala has suspended visa services indefinitely following a series of violent incidents, including the lynching of Hindu youth Dipu Chandra Das, which has raised alarm over minority safety in Bangladesh. Diplomatic tensions escalated between India and Bangladesh, with both nations summoning each other's diplomats in response to security concerns and vandalism incidents linked to anti-India sentiments. While India has temporarily halted visa services at its Indian Visa Application Centre in Chittagong, services in Kolkata remain operational, potentially serving as a diplomatic channel. These developments reflect strained relations, exacerbated by political upheaval in Bangladesh and increasing calls for minority rights, underscoring the fragile security environment in the region.

## US Sends Ospreys and MC-130Js to Puerto Rico Amid Venezuela Tensions

24-Dec-25

On December 17, 2025, the US deployed at least five MC-130J Commando II aircraft and nine CV-22B

Ospreys to Puerto Rico amid rising tensions with Venezuela's Nicolás Maduro. This military buildup, part of Operation Southern Spear, aims to enhance US special operations capabilities in the region, preparing for potential actions against the Venezuelan regime. The deployment signifies a strategic emphasis on regional power projection, offering insights for India in reinforcing its defense posture in the Indo-Pacific against similar hybrid threats. By analyzing US operational strategies, India could bolster its maritime security and counter adversarial influences in its own neighborhood.

## Philippine Navy escorts Chinese frigate, asserting sovereign rights in waters.

24-Dec-25

The Philippine Navy has deployed two warships, BRP Emilio Jacinto and BRP Diego Silang, to escort a People's Liberation Army Navy frigate spotted loitering in the Philippines' exclusive economic zone near Capones Island. This operation underscores the Philippines' commitment to asserting its sovereign rights amidst ongoing tensions over maritime territorial claims in the South China Sea, particularly near Scarborough Shoal, which is recognized as a traditional fishing ground for the Philippines, China, and Vietnam. The encounter reflects the Philippine Navy's focus on maintaining peace and stability in the region while adhering to international law, particularly following a 2016 ruling that affirmed its sovereign rights against China's expansive claims.

## Contact lost with jet carrying Libyan army chief, flights diverted from Ankara.

24-Dec-25

Radio contact was lost with a private jet believed to be carrying Libya's army chief of staff, Mohammed Ali Ahmed Al-Haddad, over Ankara, Turkey. This incident prompted the diversion of flights from Ankara's Esenboga airport, as confirmed by flight tracking data. Earlier this week, the Turkish defense ministry announced Al-Haddad's visit, during which he met with his Turkish counterpart and other military officials. The loss of contact raises concerns about the safety and security of international military figures, particularly amidst ongoing geopolitical tensions in the region, highlighting the complexities of international diplomacy and military collaboration.

## Pentagon report highlights China's military growth as a vulnerability for the U.S.

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A recent Pentagon report underscores the rapid modernization of the Chinese military, which is described as a "historic military buildup" that poses growing vulnerability to the U.S. homeland. This assessment highlights China's advanced capabilities, particularly in hypersonic weapons, and its strategic partnership with Russia, despite underlying mutual distrust. The report emphasizes the necessity for the U.S. to address China's challenge, which has the intent and capacity to reshape the international order, marking it as the primary geopolitical concern for American military strategy. This development reaffirms the urgency for the U.S. to enhance its defense policies in light of increasing Chinese military assertiveness, particularly regarding Taiwan.

## Zelensky: No US consensus on territory, nuclear plant negotiations.

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Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky announced that negotiations with the United States regarding long-term territorial issues related to the ongoing conflict with Russia have not yielded consensus, particularly concerning the Donetsk region and the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant. He emphasized the importance of discussing these sensitive matters at a higher level, suggesting a need for direct dialogue between leaders to resolve these critical issues. Zelensky's call for a meeting with U.S. leaders underscores the complexities of international diplomacy in addressing territorial disputes and highlights the ongoing challenges in achieving a resolution to the war. This development reflects the broader implications of U.S.-Ukraine relations and the necessity for strategic alignment in geopolitical stability.

## Intelligence warns of nuclear risks in Bangladesh-Pakistan defense pact.

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Bangladesh is on the verge of formalizing a military cooperation agreement with Pakistan, reminiscent of a previously established pact between Islamabad and Riyadh. The proposed agreement, amid rising regional tensions, could facilitate joint military exercises and intelligence sharing, raising security concerns for India. The Bangladesh Army is reportedly eager to proceed,

with both countries conducting multiple rounds of talks to finalize the draft before upcoming elections. However, the political landscape in Bangladesh could shift if the opposition party, which tends to favor India, gains power, potentially jeopardizing the agreement. Indian intelligence agencies are closely monitoring the situation, especially given implications of enhanced military ties between Bangladesh and Pakistan during a period of internal conflict in Bangladesh.

## ICGS Sarthak hosts reception, enhancing India-Saudi naval ties and community bonds.

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Indian Coast Guard Ship Sarthak recently hosted a reception in Dammam, Saudi Arabia, for officials from the Royal Navy and the Indian community, signifying the strengthening maritime ties between India and Saudi Arabia. This goodwill visit, led by Captain Thiam Newton, included meetings with key Saudi naval and border security officials, reaffirming commitments to enhance maritime security cooperation. The visit featured a yoga session on the ship's deck, promoting cultural exchange and community engagement. The discussions emphasized the momentum in bilateral maritime collaboration, reflecting India's strategic focus on strengthening partnerships in the region amidst evolving geopolitical dynamics.

## Assam risks becoming part of Bangladesh with 10% more immigrants, warns Himanta Sarma.

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Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma warned on December 23, 2025, in Guwahati that a further 10% rise in the state's Bangladeshi-origin population—already at 40%, or about 1.6 crore people—could render Assam "automatically part of Bangladesh," exacerbating demographic invasion risks projected to equalize Hindu-Muslim numbers by the 2027 census. Sarma's remarks responded to National Citizen Party leader Hasnat Abdullah's December 15 threat at Dhaka's Shaheed Minar to shelter Northeast separatists and sever the "Seven Sisters" from India via the vulnerable Siliguri Corridor if tensions escalate. From an Indian security lens, these developments heighten anxieties over illegal migration undermining indigenous Assamese identity, border porosity, and mainland-Northeast connectivity, demanding vigilant border fortification and demographic safeguards.

## Military Operations

### India must gear up for quick strikes and extended conflicts: CDS Chauhan

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India's Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan, emphasized the necessity for the country to be prepared for a diverse range of conflict scenarios, from rapid strikes to protracted wars, particularly in response to terrorism and territorial disputes. Speaking at IIT Bombay, he underscored the importance of adopting a dual approach: maintaining readiness for swift military operations while being equipped for sustained engagements. He highlighted the evolving nature of warfare, shaped by technological advancements, and the criticality of strategic deterrence given the nuclear capabilities of India's main adversaries. General Chauhan's remarks reflect India's commitment to a modernized defense posture that leverages emerging technologies to enhance operational effectiveness across multiple domains.

### Indian Army JCO dies in Samba firing incident; investigation ongoing.

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A Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) of the Indian Army was killed in a firing incident at a military camp in Samba district, Jammu and Kashmir, according to a defense spokesperson. The incident occurred late Tuesday night, with initial reports ruling out any terror connection. The JCO sustained a gunshot wound while on duty and unfortunately succumbed to his injuries. The situation is currently under investigation, with a commitment to provide further details as they emerge. This tragic event underscores the ongoing risks faced by Indian soldiers in volatile regions, highlighting the need for continued vigilance and robust security measures within military installations.

### Indian Army to Exhibit Op Sindoos Success and Indigenous Weapons in Jaipur Parade

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Jaipur will host a historic Army Day Parade on January 15, 2026, showcasing India's military prowess along public roads for the first time. The event will celebrate the successes of Operation Sindoos, highlighting advanced weaponry and formations such as the newly raised Bhairav Battalion. Key displays will include the

Light Combat Helicopter Prachand, T-90 Bhishma tanks, and air defense systems like MRSAM, emphasizing India's strategic capabilities against threats. Additionally, the parade will feature performances by Army bands and honored soldiers, marking a significant shift in the location of military celebrations as suggested by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, aiming to enhance public engagement and showcase military strength beyond the national capital.

### Army and Assam Rifles disrupt militant activities in Manipur.

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Intelligence-based joint operations conducted by the Indian Army and Assam Rifles in collaboration with Manipur Police from December 13 to 20 have successfully thwarted militant activities in Manipur. Targeting districts such as Thoubal, Kakching, Bishnupur, and others, these operations resulted in the apprehension of 20 insurgents and the recovery of weapons, explosives, and contraband, effectively disrupting networks involved in militancy and illegal activities. This initiative underscores the commitment of the security forces to maintain peace and stability in the region, demonstrating effective inter-agency cooperation and proactive counter-insurgency measures, while sending a strong message against insurgency and criminal activities in Manipur.

### US Army's pilot training shortcomings led to deadly Washington crash.

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A recent investigation revealed significant safety concerns regarding the U.S. Army's aviators in Washington D.C., culminating in a tragic helicopter collision that killed 67 individuals in January. The Army's 12th Aviation Battalion had been criticized for inadequate training and reliance on inexperienced pilots operating aging Black Hawk helicopters in complex airspace. An investigation highlighted a lack of familiarity with critical air traffic routes and insufficient equipment, such as essential real-time traffic devices. These issues reflect broader systemic challenges within Army aviation, including decreasing flight hours and increasing accident rates, raising questions about future operational safety and the need for reforms to prevent further tragedies.

## Terrorism and Counterterrorism

### Srinagar Police and CRPF enhance security with joint operations against threats.

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Security forces in Srinagar, comprising the local police and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), conducted joint anti-sabotage operations to bolster security around vital installations amidst potential threats. The operations focused on critical infrastructure and sensitive locations in the North Zone, aiming to enhance operational preparedness and public safety. Thorough checks and sanitization of identified areas were carried out, alongside a review of existing security protocols. Such measures are crucial in maintaining security, especially with significant events like Republic Day and Independence Day approaching, underscoring the ongoing commitment to safeguard both infrastructure and the community in the region.

### 22 Maoists surrender in Odisha, aiding anti-insurgency efforts and community peace.

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24-Dec-25

In a major boost to India's anti-Naxal campaign, 22 Maoists, including 10 women and seven senior cadres from Chhattisgarh's Sukma, Dantewada, and Bijapur districts, surrendered before Odisha DGP Y B Khurania in Malkangiri district on December 23, 2025. Carrying a combined bounty of over Rs 2 crore, they handed over nine firearms like an AK-47, two INSAS rifles, three .303 rifles, 150 live rounds, 20 kg explosives, and 13 IEDs, citing disillusionment with Maoist ideology and Odisha's revised surrender policy offering 10% higher incentives than Chhattisgarh, including Rs 1.84 crore in benefits, housing, skill training, and marriage aid. This first mass surrender of the year weakens CPI(Maoist) leadership in the Dandakaranya and Andhra-Odisha zones, aiding the national target to eliminate Left Wing Extremism by March 2026, as security forces intensify operations and locals embrace peace.

### Arunachal Police Arrest Two Kashmiris for Allegedly Sharing Classified Info with Pakistan.

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Arunachal Pradesh police have detained two individuals from Jammu and Kashmir, Aijaz Ahmed Bhat and

Bashir Ahmad Ganai, for allegedly collecting and transmitting classified information to Pakistani agents, bringing the total number of arrests in the ongoing espionage case to five. These individuals were reportedly part of a spy ring and were involved in gathering sensitive information during their travels across Arunachal Pradesh. The investigation, led by Itanagar police, was initiated following credible intelligence about the activities of these men, who were primarily selling blankets to facilitate their information-gathering efforts. The IGP has urged local residents to remain vigilant and verify the credentials of anyone seeking accommodation, underscoring the importance of community awareness in national security matters.

### CRPF Sets Up 229 Bases Since 2019 to Eradicate Naxalism by 2026

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The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has established 229 Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) across six key states—Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Telangana—since 2019, as part of a strategic initiative to eradicate Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) by 2026. This year, 59 FOBs were set up, the highest annual total, significantly enhancing the security forces' capabilities to operate in insurgency-prone areas. The deployment of these semi-permanent bases has improved intelligence gathering, response times, and coordination with local police, contributing to an 89% reduction in LWE violence since 2010. As a result, the number of affected districts has decreased dramatically, underscoring the effectiveness of the multi-pronged approach articulated in the National Policy and Action Plan on LWE, which aims to restore state authority and promote development in previously inaccessible regions.

### Alert issued on potential terrorist threats from Pakistan into Punjab.

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Intelligence agencies have issued an alert regarding a potential terrorist intrusion from Pakistan into Punjab, specifically targeting military installations. This warning, stemming from Military Intelligence, indicates that elements supported by Pakistan's ISI may attempt to cross the border. In response, Punjab Police have heightened security measures, establishing special checkpoints on key routes from the international border and deploying additional forces to the area. This situation underscores ongoing security challenges in the region and highlights the need for vigilance in

countering cross-border terrorism, which poses a significant threat to national security and public safety.

## Cybersecurity and Information Warfare

### India faces over 2,000 weekly cyberattacks per organization by 2025.

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In 2025, Indian organizations are facing an alarming average of over 2,000 cyberattacks per week per entity, significantly higher than the global average of 1,657, with the education sector experiencing peaks of up to 9,800 attacks weekly. This surge reflects a broader trend of escalating cyber threats, with reported incidents rising from 1.03 million in 2022 to 2.27 million in 2024, driven by sophisticated phishing, infostealer malware, and ransomware tactics. Cloud misconfigurations are a critical vulnerability, accounting for a substantial share of breaches, while the shift towards extortion models in ransomware signifies a troubling evolution in cybercrime. The data underscores the urgent need for India to enhance its cybersecurity measures as its digital ambitions expand, emphasizing the integration of robust security frameworks into national infrastructure and economic resilience. With attackers increasingly employing AI-driven tactics, India must adapt by adopting comprehensive security strategies that prioritize identity protection and proactive threat detection to safeguard its rapidly digitizing landscape.

### Iranian cyberattacks reveal critical weaknesses in Israel's cybersecurity systems.

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24-Dec-25

A series of Iranian cyberattacks has exposed significant vulnerabilities in Israel's cybersecurity framework, which, despite its reputation as a cyber superpower, has been criticized for inadequate protections for non-critical infrastructure such as hospitals and educational institutions. Reports indicate that these attacks have increasingly focused on leaking sensitive information rather than disruptive sabotage, with breaches revealing internal communications from the Israel National Defense College and sensitive personal data of officials, including former Prime Minister Naftali Bennett. Analysts argue that Israel's heavy reliance on offensive cyber capabilities has not been matched by robust regulatory measures, leaving many civilian entities unprotected and susceptible to exploitation. The rising frequency of these attacks, which utilize

relatively simple techniques like phishing, underscores the need for comprehensive cyber legislation in Israel to address regulatory gaps and enhance overall national cybersecurity resilience, particularly in the face of persistent threats from adversarial cyber actors like Iran.

## Miscellaneous

### Assam man arrested for social media support of Bangladesh lynching.

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24-Dec-25

On December 23, 2025, Assam Police arrested Mohammad Shaif Akhtar Ali from Rangia in Kamrup district for posting videos on Facebook and Instagram endorsing the lynching of 25-year-old Hindu factory worker Dipu Chandra Das in Bangladesh's Mymensingh on December 18 over unproven blasphemy claims. The action followed an FIR at Rangia station based on complaints from Rashtriya Bajrang Dal and International Hindu Parishad, amid two other arrests in Sribhumi and Gauripur for similar provocative content. Widespread protests erupted across Assam, Delhi, and Kolkata, with VHP and Bajrang Dal clashing with security near Bangladesh missions, burning effigies of interim head Muhammad Yunus. From India's strategic lens, this highlights escalating anti-Hindu violence in post-Hasina Bangladesh, straining border security, fueling minority exodus fears, and demanding robust diplomatic pressure to safeguard 1.5 crore Hindus there.

### NIA court orders attachment of properties linked to US-based lobbyist Fai for terrorist connections.

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24-Dec-25

A special National Investigation Agency (NIA) court in Budgam, Jammu and Kashmir, on December 23, 2025, ordered the attachment of over 1.5 kanals of land owned by US-based Kashmiri separatist Ghulam Nabi Fai (alias Dr. Fai) in Wadwan and Chattabugh villages, following his declaration as a proclaimed offender on April 26, 2025, after evading summons in a 2020 UAPA case (FIR No. 46/2020). The Budgam district collector executed the order forthwith, with police support, targeting properties under Khewat Nos. 60 and 136 to prevent alienation by relatives. Fai, convicted in the US in 2011 for receiving millions from Pakistan's ISI to lobby against India via the Kashmiri American Council, exemplifies Pakistan's proxy interference in Kashmir. From an Indian strategic viewpoint, this disrupts ISI-

funded networks, bolstering counter-terrorism by dismantling overseas support for separatism and signaling zero tolerance for external destabilization.

## President Murmu's Christmas message: promoting love, harmony, and unity.

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24-Dec-25

On the eve of Christmas, the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, extended her heartfelt greetings to all citizens, particularly the Christian community. In her

message, she emphasized the themes of love, compassion, and the importance of the values exemplified by Lord Jesus Christ, including peace, harmony, equality, and service to others. The President called for a collective commitment to foster kindness and mutual understanding within society, reflecting the spirit of Christmas. This message not only strengthens communal ties but also reinforces the Indian ethos of unity in diversity, promoting a peaceful coexistence essential for the country's social fabric.

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# Defence Sector Stocks

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	RSI14	SMA20	SMA200
RELINFRA	168.0	173.2	168.0	173.2	1588231	5.0	55.98	153.91	267.23
SWANDEF	1322.1	1322.1	1322.1	1322.1	12688	5.0	100.0	865.21	136.63
DRONACHRYA	46.8	47.79	46.1	47.79	68000	4.99	48.73	45.59	69.58
URAVIDEF	204.0	208.16	199.24	208.13	15258	4.98	65.23	175.92	379.72
BDL	1434.0	1498.0	1426.7	1481.2	2713018	3.48	54.79	1440.28	1571.19
JYOTICNC	964.8	999.4	964.2	990.6	357378	2.57	58.03	961.12	1019.72
ASTRAMICRO	949.15	975.65	945.7	970.25	245628	2.22	57.67	912.4	965.86
TECHERA	219.15	221.6	214.5	219.25	24000	1.98	44.84	219.87	199.38
BEML	1837.0	1874.0	1828.8	1867.9	320922	1.68	56.78	1746.1	1925.27
GRSE	2420.1	2511.0	2412.0	2453.8	1436916	1.37	47.84	2457.42	2455.96
NIBE	1169.95	1186.75	1122.55	1137.85	2781	1.34	53.12	1083.05	1346.76
HIGHENE	533.95	554.9	533.95	541.0	6791	1.32	41.1	553.93	609.75
MAZDOCK	2515.0	2563.0	2511.0	2540.3	1104009	1.08	48.48	2523.51	2853.88
MTARTECH	2420.0	2477.0	2397.0	2450.7	187371	0.68	54.07	2409.97	1765.04
HBLPOWER	879.0	892.95	870.3	881.6	1498824	0.67	55.0	831.03	699.16
SIKA	900.0	906.0	891.35	902.0	7563	0.61	39.18	915.44	1028.58
DATAPATTNS	2645.0	2735.0	2630.4	2672.3	429900	0.55	47.55	2696.71	2572.28
IDEAFORGE	479.9	498.5	472.8	480.1	1712430	0.45	59.43	444.37	475.33
HAL	4415.0	4460.0	4397.4	4421.3	486359	0.32	49.11	4376.97	4572.37
APOLLO	265.0	274.1	258.65	263.0	7759584	0.29	54.76	249.33	211.95
BEL	399.0	403.65	397.6	400.0	8097208	0.15	50.03	397.61	376.05
COCHINSHIP	1644.0	1677.0	1635.0	1649.3	1155083	0.15	52.08	1613.6	1738.92
MACPOWER	1030.0	1050.0	1015.15	1024.1	10564	-0.12	60.39	990.07	887.27
LT	4065.0	4080.7	4048.1	4053.6	1021436	-0.13	55.01	4041.79	3640.65
SUNITATOOL	782.25	791.5	767.0	781.0	1625	-0.16	47.69	798.93	777.47
CENTUM	2385.0	2485.0	2372.1	2398.2	28431	-0.19	55.0	2289.87	2249.42
ZENTEC	1398.7	1414.4	1386.0	1391.6	261657	-0.24	52.14	1378.58	1556.34
AZAD	1661.5	1684.8	1650.8	1656.0	49152	-0.36	53.89	1628.31	1591.89
GOODLUCK	1061.2	1066.5	1048.0	1056.1	38245	-0.39	38.16	1102.22	1025.93
DCXINDIA	200.0	209.24	197.19	202.32	6544183	-0.4	63.24	174.32	252.97
MIDHANI	312.8	320.75	310.0	311.35	632289	-0.46	44.57	307.68	365.09
ROSSELLIND	50.77	51.97	50.77	51.05	28655	-0.47	31.23	53.92	65.51
SOLARINDS	12500.0	12708.0	12453.0	12485.0	107064	-0.48	44.52	12563.95	13905.0
AVANTEL	164.0	164.4	160.5	161.54	1151022	-0.58	57.65	151.98	149.04
BHARATFORG	1467.5	1470.6	1447.0	1450.5	406574	-0.66	62.74	1418.12	1236.06
AXISCADES	1346.2	1385.0	1331.0	1344.9	48055	-0.68	48.21	1331.6	1255.3
PTC	159.27	160.44	157.5	157.91	522491	-0.79	47.61	156.97	172.51
PARAS	679.9	685.15	669.0	670.9	405475	-0.86	48.05	674.11	689.35
LMW	15003.0	15042.0	14806.0	14872.0	1472	-0.87	42.44	15077.4	15656.57
WALCHANNAG	197.8	201.55	192.1	195.49	1030167	-0.91	63.75	172.72	190.87
MARINE	213.35	219.9	210.8	211.24	217216	-0.97	46.7	210.93	202.03
RTNINDIA	42.3	43.07	41.8	41.87	976468	-1.02	43.13	41.45	50.32
ADANIENT	2250.0	2258.8	2217.4	2222.7	825693	-1.16	40.19	2245.28	2421.42
PREMEXPLN	524.15	529.0	511.0	514.9	167625	-1.34	46.33	512.31	515.56
KRISHNADEF	791.0	793.0	781.7	783.05	10500	-1.59	55.52	744.76	793.66
CFF	550.1	562.0	543.0	545.45	20400	-1.64	34.61	580.91	589.67
TANEJAERO	297.9	302.5	292.0	292.65	10106	-1.73	34.91	305.74	364.05
DYNAMATECH	9852.0	9892.5	9606.0	9671.5	18060	-1.83	59.13	9207.07	7266.65
LOKESHMACH	168.1	171.0	161.8	164.79	49672	-1.91	49.79	158.26	181.55
TEMBO	779.65	780.75	743.65	745.0	236163	-4.82	53.04	732.45	564.62