



Defense Business and Industry

Russia Offers 'Trojan-Free' Su-57E with Source Code to India. SHARE

27-Dec-25

In a strategic bid to enhance ties with India, Russia has proposed its fifth-generation Su-57E stealth fighter, assuring complete technological transparency and the provision of full source code, thereby addressing India's concerns over foreign-supplied military equipment potentially containing hidden vulnerabilities. This offer stands in stark contrast to the American F-35 program, which limits operator nations' control over the aircraft's software. The United Aircraft Corporation (UAC) emphasizes that the Su-57E can serve the Indian Air Force (IAF) for up to 50 years, equipped with an open architecture that facilitates continuous upgrades and adaptations to future technologies, including the integration of unmanned aerial vehicles. This proposal aligns closely with India's "Atmanirbhar Bharat" initiative, allowing for indigenous integration of weapons and systems, thus promising both immediate stealth capabilities and long-term technological independence as the IAF navigates a critical phase of fleet modernization amidst depleting squadron strength. The Su-57E's potential as a foundation for a future air combat ecosystem positions it as a significant component in India's defense strategy.

Indian Army seeks industry input for 20 Tactical RPAs for diverse operations. SHARE

27-Dec-25

The Indian Army has issued a Request for Information (RFI) to acquire 20 Tactical Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPAs) aimed at enhancing its intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities across plains and high-altitude regions, particularly along the Line of Actual Control with China. This initiative aligns with the Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat campaigns,

promoting domestic defense manufacturing and reducing reliance on foreign technology. The RPA program emphasizes modular design and multi-payload capabilities, responding to evolving security challenges. This move is part of a broader modernization strategy, ensuring operational readiness and situational awareness in dynamic security environments, particularly in light of increasing tensions along India's northern borders.

Defence Ministry Approves Key Indigenous Projects to Strengthen Security SHARE

27-Dec-25

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, convened on December 26, 2025, but due to incomplete attendance, deferred decisions on nearly 20 major procurement proposals slated for approval, postponing them to a future meeting tentatively around January 15, 2026. The council instead focused on extending the Emergency Procurement (EP) mechanism till January 15, empowering vice chiefs of the Army, Navy, and Air Force to fast-track acquisitions up to Rs 300 crore each for urgent operational needs like ammunition, drones, and surveillance systems, originally introduced post-2020 Galwan standoff. Key items discussed but not cleared included an indigenous integrated air defence weapon system for Delhi-NCR protection from aerial threats, procurement of around 850 loitering munitions for Indian Army drone capabilities, medium-range surface-to-air missiles (MR-SAM) for Navy warships, Astra Mark 2 air-to-air missiles exceeding 200 km range for the Air Force alongside Meteor missiles, modernization of 200 T-90 tanks by a public sector unit, Spice-1000 air-to-ground missiles from Israel, leasing of two Sea Guardian MQ-9B drones from the US, and 120 km-range Pinaka rocket development—all aimed at boosting self-reliance amid regional security challenges. This outcome ensures continuity in emergency buys while major deals worth up to Rs 80,000 crore await final clearance.

AMSL secures over Rs 100 crore in new defense orders for UAS.

27-Dec-25

Apollo Micro Systems Ltd (AMSL) has secured new defense orders exceeding Rs 100 crore for the supply of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) to the Ministry of Defence, set to be executed within four months. This order, part of AMSL's ongoing business operations, has positively impacted its stock, which surged by 5% to reach an intraday high of Rs 275. With a substantial order book totaling Rs 7,850 crore, AMSL stands out as a leading player in the Indian defense sector, particularly noted for its involvement in indigenous DRDO missile programs and its robust in-house R&D capabilities. The company has demonstrated impressive financial growth, reporting a year-on-year revenue increase of 39% and net profit growth of 106% for Q2FY26, showcasing its strong market position and potential for continued success in India's defense industry. This development underscores the increasing reliance on domestic firms to bolster India's defense capabilities, aligning with the government's initiatives to enhance indigenous defense production and reduce dependency on foreign imports.

Pakistan Enhances LoC Defense with Chinese Anti-Drone Systems After India's Operation Sindoor.

27-Dec-25

Indian intelligence reports indicate that Pakistan is rapidly deploying advanced anti-drone systems along the Line of Control (LoC) following India's Operation Sindoor, which targeted terrorist infrastructure. Pakistan's response includes specialized counter-UAS units equipped with the Spider system and the Sufra drone-jamming gun to disrupt Indian drone operations. This escalation reflects a broader shift towards drone-centric deterrence in South Asia, highlighting the urgency of enhancing airspace security amid India's advancements in drone warfare. The situation underscores the strategic imperative for both nations to bolster their defense capabilities, as they navigate an increasingly complex security landscape marked by asymmetric threats.

Vajra Anti-Drone System Enhances Air Defence at Kartavya Path

27-Dec-25

Chennai-based Big Bang Boom Solutions (BBBS) deployed its indigenous Vajra Sentinel Anti-Drone System at Kartavya Path in New Delhi on December 25-26, 2025, bolstering the capital's layered air defence

against low-cost commercial drones like DJI models. Developed over five years with passive RF sensing, AI-driven classification, and autonomous jamming—cleared by DGAQA on first trials—the system secured ₹200 crore contracts from the Indian Air Force and Army in 2024 under iDEX, with first deliveries in May 2025 and proven efficacy during Operation Sindoor. This deployment, amid rising asymmetric threats from borders, underscores Atmanirbhar Bharat's success in fortifying strategic assets, cutting import reliance, and enhancing India's deterrence against Pakistan-China axis drone incursions.

Aryavart Technologies delivers ARYA-5001 UAV, boosting IAF's indigenous defense capabilities.

27-Dec-25

Bhopal-based Aryavart Technologies has successfully delivered the first batch of its indigenously designed, developed, and flight-tested ARYA-5001 tactical UAV to the Indian Air Force on December 26, 2025, bolstering the nation's self-reliance in defense manufacturing. Featuring up to 4 hours of endurance, a cruise speed of 180 km/h, and 20 kg payload capacity, the UAV excels in long-range surveillance with electro-optical/infrared sensors and mapping cameras, while supporting multi-role operations like precision cargo drops, logistics in challenging terrains, and one-way missions in GPS-denied or electronic warfare environments. With dimensions of 4.6m wingspan, 3.5m length, 0.8m height, and 35 kg takeoff weight, its integration enhances IAF's operational versatility for border surveillance, reconnaissance, and tactical support, positioning India as a leader in homegrown drone technology under Atmanirbhar Bharat.

L&T's Chanakya Framework Enables Coordinated Flight of UAV Swarms

27-Dec-25

L&T Precision Engineering and Systems (L&T PES) has achieved a breakthrough with successful flight trials of its Chanakya Swarm Autonomy Framework on December 25-26, 2025, demonstrating decentralized operations of multiple fixed-wing UAVs in coordinated flocking, collision avoidance, and surveillance missions. This indigenous technology enables heterogeneous swarms to function as a cohesive unit, boosting operational resilience against electronic warfare threats along India's borders with China and Pakistan. From an Indian strategic viewpoint, Chanakya aligns with Atmanirbhar Bharat, reducing reliance on foreign drone tech amid rising two-front challenges, and positions

L&T as a pivotal player in networked warfare evolution. Key actors include L&T PES engineers, with trials underscoring low-cost swarm tactics for enhanced reconnaissance in high-threat environments.

China retrofits cargo ship with missile launchers, threatening maritime security.

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27-Dec-25

Images released on December 25, 2025, revealed that China has retrofitted the cargo ship ZHONG DA 79 with approximately 60 modular missile launchers, advanced phased-array radars, and a Type 1130 close-in weapon system, effectively transforming it into a formidable surface combatant. This development illustrates China's strategy of using its extensive merchant fleet to enhance naval capabilities at minimal costs, posing a significant threat to maritime security in contested regions like the Indian Ocean and South China Sea. For India, this militarization raises alarms amid ongoing border tensions with China, emphasizing the urgent need for enhanced vigilance and modernization of the Indian Navy's anti-access and area denial capabilities to protect national interests and critical maritime routes.

China's Type 076 ship showcases drone, raising Indo-Pacific tensions.

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27-Dec-25

An image has emerged of China's Type 076 amphibious assault ship, Sichuan, showcasing a navalized loyal wingman drone, indicative of advancements in the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN). Commissioned recently, the 44,000-ton vessel's capabilities, including an electromagnetic catapult, signal a significant enhancement in China's amphibious warfare and drone operations, potentially escalating tensions in the Indo-Pacific. This development poses challenges to regional stability, particularly for India's maritime interests in the Indian Ocean and South China Sea, where increased PLAN aviation flexibility could support aggressive territorial claims. Consequently, India must enhance its naval drone integration and carrier capabilities to maintain a strategic equilibrium in the face of these evolving threats.

Lt Gen Rathee Reviews Initiatives for Army Modernization and Self-Reliance

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27-Dec-25

Lieutenant General A V S Rathee, General Officer Commanding of the Konark Corps, recently reviewed the initiatives at the Konark Corps Technology Centre, highlighting its crucial role in enhancing personnel skills

and fostering indigenous capabilities essential for future conflicts. He commended the Centre's commitment to integrating advanced technology and promoting innovation, aligning with the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision by reducing dependency on external resources. The focus on grassroots innovation is expected to expedite capability enhancements, ensuring the Army is technologically empowered to face evolving security challenges. This initiative underscores the Indian Army's dedication to modernization and self-reliance, which is vital for maintaining a strategic advantage in high-tech, multi-domain warfare.

Indian Army to deploy 10,000 drones per corps by 2027.

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27-Dec-25

The Indian Army is set to enhance its operational capabilities significantly by establishing a drone force comprising 8,000 to 10,000 units per corps by 2027, integrating drones across all military arms and services. Specialized training centers will be established at 19 key institutions, ensuring soldiers master various drone classes for missions such as surveillance and offensive operations. With a focus on indigenous technology and initiatives like the Production-Linked Incentive scheme, the Army aims for self-reliance, exemplified by the Nagastra-1 loitering munition. This evolution in drone doctrine reflects a broader strategy to increase tactical flexibility, improve situational awareness, and counter aerial threats effectively, positioning India advantageously in modern high-intensity warfare.

AMCA to use AI for predictive maintenance, targeting 75% fleet readiness for IAF.

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27-Dec-25

India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) programme is set to enhance the Indian Air Force's (IAF) operational capabilities through a groundbreaking AI-driven self-monitoring system aimed at achieving a fleet availability rate of 75%. This innovative approach, developed by the Aeronautical Development Agency, shifts maintenance from a reactive to a predictive model, utilizing sensors and digital diagnostics to preemptively address technical faults. Coupled with 'Digital Twin' technology and augmented reality training for technicians, the AMCA not only promises increased combat readiness but also aims to reduce logistical burdens and lifecycle costs. With a budget of 15,000 crore and an expected operational induction by

2034-35, the AMCA represents a significant step towards self-reliance in critical defence technologies, setting new benchmarks for Indian defence aviation.

France monitors India's Pinaka Mk3 as it seeks artillery replacements.

27-Dec-25

The French Army is closely monitoring India's advanced Pinaka Mk3 multi-barrel rocket launcher (MBRL) system as it seeks urgent replacements for its aging long-range artillery units. Developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), the Pinaka Mk3 aims to achieve precision strikes at ranges of 120-130 km, addressing operational gaps due to the depletion of French artillery stocks amid ongoing military support to Ukraine. As France evaluates this system, which has proven its effectiveness during the Kargil War, it highlights the deepening defense cooperation between India and France and positions the Pinaka Mk3 as a potential interim solution while France's domestic artillery programs evolve. This engagement underscores India's rising stature in the global defense technology market.

India Pursues ToT and Local Production for Javelin Missiles After US Sale Approval

27-Dec-25

India is advancing negotiations for the Transfer of Technology (ToT) and local production of Javelin anti-tank missiles following a \$45.7 million Foreign Military Sale approved by the US. The procurement includes 100 Javelin missiles and 25 Lightweight Command Launch Units, aligning with India's strategic push for self-reliance in defense manufacturing. A Memorandum of Understanding between Bharat Dynamics Limited and the Javelin Joint Venture aims to explore domestic production capabilities, enhancing India's anti-armour combat readiness while supporting the "Make in India" initiative. This initiative could set a precedent for future defense collaborations, significantly bolstering India's defense industrial base and operational readiness against emerging threats.

Defense Policy and Budgeting

Japan's record defense budget boosts Indo-Pacific security amid China tensions.

27-Dec-25

Japan's Cabinet has approved a record defense budget exceeding 9 trillion yen (\$58 billion) for fiscal year 2026, marking a 9.4 percent increase amid escalating tensions with China. This budget supports the five-year Defense Buildup Program aimed at achieving a 2 percent GDP target, with significant allocations for long-range cruise missiles and the introduction of the 'SHIELD' coastal defense system employing unmanned vehicles. Defense Minister Shinjiro Koizumi cited the necessity of this initiative in light of heightened security threats, including Chinese military activities in the Pacific. This development is pivotal for regional stability, as it enhances Indo-Pacific deterrence strategies, aligns with India's interests in countering Chinese assertiveness, and fosters collaborative defense industry efforts among allies.

DAC extends emergency procurement powers to enhance military readiness until January 2026.

27-Dec-25

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, has extended the Emergency Procurement framework until January 15, 2026, to bolster the operational readiness of the Indian armed forces. This framework, initiated in response to the 2020 standoff with China's PLA, empowers the Vice Chiefs of the Army, Navy, and Air Force to expedite the procurement of critical military resources, addressing urgent needs arising from potential conflicts or unforeseen emergencies. For the financial year 2025-26, the government has allocated ₹6,81,210.27 crore for defense, with ₹1,80,000 crore specifically designated for capital acquisition. This extension underscores India's commitment to maintaining robust military preparedness in a dynamic geopolitical landscape.

Politics

Alok Mehta presents his book on PM Modi's 25-year journey.

27-Dec-25

Shri Alok Mehta met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi to present the first copy of his book, "Revolutionary Raj: Narendra Modi's 25 Years." The Prime Minister expressed his appreciation for the meeting and the book, highlighting its significance in documenting his political journey and transformative policies over the past quarter-century. This engagement underscores the importance of literary contributions in shaping public discourse around leadership and governance in India. By acknowledging such works, the government reflects its commitment to promoting discussions that analyze the impact of Modi's administration on the country's socio-political landscape, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of India's evolving narrative.

including the extradition request for former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The developments underscore India's ongoing diplomatic efforts to ensure the safety of minorities and uphold democratic principles in its neighboring country, while addressing an increasingly unstable political landscape that has implications for regional security and bilateral ties.

Putin warned Bush in 2005 about Pakistan's nuclear proliferation risks.

27-Dec-25

Recent declassified transcripts reveal that in a 2005 meeting, Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President George W. Bush expressed significant concerns regarding Pakistan's nuclear proliferation activities, specifically its uranium being found in Iran's nuclear program. Both leaders acknowledged the risks posed by Islamabad's nuclear stewardship, with Putin characterizing Pakistan as a junta with nuclear weapons and criticizing the lack of international pressure on it compared to Iran and North Korea. This candid dialogue underscores the persistent unease among global powers concerning Pakistan's nuclear governance, highlighting the potential for catastrophic leakage and the broader implications for international security in a post-9/11 context. The documents reflect a shared anxiety about Pakistan's nuclear capabilities and their proliferation risks, further complicating the geopolitical landscape in South Asia.

Geopolitics and Security Alliances

India urges justice for Hindu youth lynching, condemns violence against minorities in Bangladesh.

27-Dec-25

India has expressed grave concern over the ongoing violence against minorities in Bangladesh, particularly following the lynching of Hindu youth Amrit Mondal and the earlier killing of Dipu Chandra Das, amid a reported surge in such incidents under the interim government led by Muhammad Yunus. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), represented by spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, condemned these acts and called for justice, asserting that over 2,900 cases of violence against minorities have been documented since the government took office, emphasizing that these cannot be dismissed as mere political clashes. Concurrently, India has reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining close and friendly relations with the Bangladeshi people, advocating for free, fair, and inclusive elections as the country approaches its parliamentary polls on February 12. The MEA's cautious remarks regarding the return of Tarique Rahman, acting chairman of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, highlight India's desire for a stable electoral process in Bangladesh, while also navigating the complexities of regional dynamics,

Pakistan's \$4 billion arms deal with Libya raises global security concerns.

27-Dec-25

Pakistan's recent \$4 billion arms deal with the Libyan National Army (LNA), led by Khalifa Haftar, has raised significant international alarm, particularly as it breaches the United Nations arms embargo imposed in 2011. This deal marks Pakistan's largest-ever weapons export and includes advanced military hardware such as JF-17 fighter jets, tanks, and artillery, potentially exacerbating the ongoing conflict in Libya and undermining global security efforts. The agreement has sparked concerns that it could destabilize the Mediterranean region, notably affecting European nations like Italy, while further isolating Pakistan diplomatically due to its alignment with a non-state actor like the LNA, which opposes the internationally recognized government in Tripoli. Critics argue that prioritizing military deals over democratic reforms could damage Pakistan's credibility and deepen its international isolation, as the world watches

Islamabad's gamble in the complex and fragile landscape of Libyan politics.

Suvendu Adhikari vows to mobilize 5 lakh monks if Hindu attacks continue.

27-Dec-25

Protests against escalating violence targeting Hindu minorities in Bangladesh intensified in Kolkata on December 26, 2025, as BJP Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari, alongside Hindu Sanhati activists and monks, rallied outside the Bangladesh Deputy High Commission. Adhikari met officials, demanding an end to attacks, and threatened to return with five lakh Gangsagar pilgrims in January if assaults persist, slamming the Muhammad Yunus interim government's failures and likening West Bengal police actions to Bangladeshi repression following December 23 clashes. Key incidents include the December 18 lynching and burning of Hindu youth Dipu Chandra Das in Mymensingh and the recent beating death of Amrit Mondal in Rajbari, fueling inter-religious tensions amid political unrest. From an Indian strategic lens, these events heighten border security risks, refugee pressures, and calls for Dhaka to protect minorities, with New Delhi voicing grave concerns and expecting justified.

China Sanctions 20 US Defense Firms Over Taiwan Arms Sale

27-Dec-25

China has imposed sanctions on 20 US defense firms and 10 executives in response to a historic \$11.1 billion arms sale to Taiwan, emphasizing the Taiwan issue as a pivotal red line in China-US relations. The sanctions freeze the assets of the affected entities within China and prohibit transactions with them, further escalating tensions in the Indo-Pacific. From an Indian strategic perspective, this development highlights the growing US-China rivalry, potentially presenting opportunities for India to strengthen its defense partnerships amid disrupted supply chains and heightened regional stability concerns. This situation underscores India's ongoing interests in countering aggressive expansionism in the region, aligning with its broader geopolitical objectives.

Estonia seeks Indian military hardware, boosting defense cooperation by 2025.

27-Dec-25

India and Estonia are advancing defense ties, with discussions on a draft MoU for technology

partnerships, co-production, and joint R&D in air defense, artillery, and ammunition, as confirmed by Indian Ambassador Ashish Sinha on December 22, 2025. Estonia's Permanent Secretary Kaimo Kuusk emphasized India's cost-effective systems to counter Russian threats, aligning with NATO frontline needs amid heightened spending to over 5% of GDP from 2026, noted in reports from December 24-25. From New Delhi's strategic lens, this bolsters 'Make in India' exports to Europe, diversifies Baltic procurement beyond Western suppliers, and fortifies democratic alliances against authoritarian aggression, building on PM Modi's February 2025 Paris summit with President Alar Karis. Key dates include Kuusk's recent remarks (December 2025) and ongoing Tallinn talks, enhancing India's geopolitical footprint.

Philippine Navy confronts Chinese warship in West Philippine Sea.

27-Dec-25

The Philippine Navy has taken decisive action in response to a Chinese warship, identified as a Jiangkai II class frigate, intruding into its Exclusive Economic Zone off Zambales. Following the sighting on December 17, the Navy deployed BRP Emilio Jacinto and subsequently BRP Diego Silang to assert maritime rights under international law, as outlined by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. This incident reaffirms ongoing tensions in the West Philippine Sea, particularly in light of China's disregard for a 2016 international ruling against its expansive claims. The commitment of the Philippine Navy to protect its territorial integrity highlights the broader geopolitical struggle in the region, reflecting the delicate balance between asserting sovereignty and preventing conflict at sea.

Thailand and Cambodia agree to ceasefire, freeze troops, and aid civilians.

27-Dec-25

Thailand and Cambodia have signed a ceasefire agreement to halt hostilities along their disputed border, committing to freeze troop positions and allow displaced civilians to return home. This agreement follows weeks of renewed clashes that resulted in over 40 fatalities and the displacement of nearly one million civilians. The ceasefire aims to prevent further escalation of violence amidst a long-standing territorial dispute rooted in colonial-era border demarcations, particularly surrounding the Preah Vihear temple site. Despite the agreement, tensions remain high, with both sides accusing each other of failing to adhere to

previous commitments, underscoring the complexity of the situation and the urgent need for sustained diplomatic engagement to stabilize the region.

Zelenskyy and Trump to discuss security guarantees and peace framework.

27-Dec-25

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is set to meet with U.S. President Donald Trump to discuss a nearly finalized security guarantee agreement and a 20-point peace framework aimed at resolving the ongoing conflict with Russia. Zelenskyy emphasized the importance of addressing territorial issues, particularly in the Donbas region, while seeking stronger, legally binding commitments from the U.S. to deter future aggression. Despite ongoing negotiations, tensions remain high as Russia continues its attacks on Ukraine's infrastructure. The outcomes of this meeting may significantly influence diplomatic efforts and the potential for a ceasefire, highlighting Ukraine's strategic reliance on U.S. support in its fight against Russian forces.

Russia deploys nuclear-capable hypersonic missiles at Belarus airbase, extending missile reach across Europe.

27-Dec-25

Russia is reportedly positioning new nuclear-capable hypersonic Oreshnik missiles at a former airbase in Belarus, as confirmed by satellite imagery analysis. The deployment is seen as a strategic move to extend Russia's missile reach across Europe and to deter NATO's support for Ukraine. Russian officials assert that this action is a response to perceived aggressive actions from the West, particularly the planned U.S. missile deployments in Germany. Analysts suggest that while the military advantages of such positioning may be limited, it serves as a strong political signal of Russia's reliance on nuclear deterrence, marking a significant shift in its military strategy since the Cold War.

Nigeria partners with US for airstrike, avoiding unilateral action.

27-Dec-25

Nigeria has publicly cooperated with the United States in executing a Christmas Day airstrike targeting Islamic State militants, potentially averting unilateral military action threatened by President Trump. The operation, involving Tomahawk missiles launched from a U.S. Navy warship, was conducted due to the remote location being inaccessible for Nigerian forces. Despite

the strike, experts express skepticism about its long-term impact on militancy, urging the U.S. to demonstrate a sustained commitment to addressing the growing violence from groups like the Lakurawa sect. This development highlights the delicate balance Nigeria must maintain between international partnerships and internal sectarian tensions, particularly regarding perceptions of religious persecution.

Hasina condemns Yunus government for violence against minorities in Bangladesh.

27-Dec-25

Former Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has criticized the interim government led by Muhammad Yunus for allegedly committing atrocities against minorities, particularly following recent incidents of violence against Hindus. In her Christmas message, Hasina condemned the government's actions, including claims of setting horrific precedents such as the lynching of a Hindu man, asserting that it has curtailed religious freedom for all communities. She expressed hope that the festive season would foster harmony among different religions in Bangladesh. This situation underscores the rising concerns over minority rights and religious freedoms in the country, reflecting broader implications for social cohesion and stability in the region.

MEA Engages Foreign Governments to Repatriate Economic Fugitives Modi and Mallya

27-Dec-25

India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has reaffirmed its commitment to repatriating high-profile economic fugitives, including Lalit Modi and Vijay Mallya, who are currently evading legal proceedings abroad. Amid public outrage over a viral video where Modi celebrated Mallya's birthday in London, the MEA confirmed ongoing discussions with various foreign governments to secure their return, emphasizing India's legal mechanisms, including the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018. This incident has reignited scrutiny over the government's effectiveness in tackling financial crimes, as critics demand accountability and justice for the significant losses suffered by public sector banks. The situation underscores the complexities of international extradition processes and the government's resolve to confront economic offenders through diplomatic and legal avenues.

Military Operations

Rajasthan court clears way for strategic aviation base near Pakistan border.

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27-Dec-25

On December 26, 2025, the Rajasthan High Court dismissed legal challenges against the acquisition of land for a Forward Composite Aviation Base (FCAB) near Sadulshahar, Sri Ganganagar, just 40 kilometers from the Pakistan border. This strategically important base will enhance the Indian Air Force's ability to quickly deploy fighter jets to counter threats from Pakistani installations, reinforcing deterrence amid regional tensions. The court's ruling prioritizes national security over individual grievances, facilitating infrastructure development critical for India's defense posture in the volatile South Asian geopolitical landscape. The establishment of the FCAB, part of Operation Sindoora, will bolster operational capabilities while contributing to local economic growth through job creation and development opportunities.

Indian Army, Assam Rifles Enhance Helicopter Insertion Skills in Arunachal

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27-Dec-25

The Indian Army and Assam Rifles successfully validated their helicopter insertion capabilities in a joint exercise in Arunachal Pradesh's Vijaynagar Salient, emphasizing enhanced operational readiness in remote border areas. The exercise demonstrated the forces' ability to swiftly deploy acclimatized troops, showcasing professionalism and coordination amidst challenging terrain. Additionally, the Army organized a Christmas celebration in Menchuka, fostering community bonding and cultural integration through local interactions, prayers, and visits to Gompas. This initiative underscores the Army's holistic approach to nation-building, reinforcing social ties and promoting harmony in frontier regions, thereby contributing to national integration and stability along the border with Myanmar.

Ukraine utilizes Barracuda drone boats to target Russian positions on Dnipro River.

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27-Dec-25

On December 26, 2025, Ukraine's 40th Coastal Defense Brigade successfully deployed the indigenously developed Barracuda uncrewed surface vessel (USV) to strike a Russian position along the Dnipro River, confirming the destruction of a camouflaged boat and outpost. This operation, showcased in a Telegram video, highlights Ukraine's innovative adaptation of USV technology, which has already proven effective against Russia's Black Sea Fleet. Additionally, on December 24, Ukrainian forces targeted a Russian unmanned vessel maintenance facility in Crimea, disrupting Moscow's USV buildup and protecting critical waterways. These developments underscore Ukraine's commitment to enhancing its defensive capabilities amid ongoing conflict and signify a strategic shift in naval warfare dynamics in the region.

Ukrainian drones successfully destroy Russian surveillance and electronic warfare stations in the southern combat zone.

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27-Dec-25

Ukrainian border guards successfully utilized drones to target and destroy a Russian Murom-M long-range surveillance complex and two electronic warfare stations in the southern combat zone. This operation, reported by the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, highlights the increasing reliance on unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for rapid response and strategic advantage on the battlefield. The effectiveness of these drone strikes underscores the evolving nature of modern warfare, where technology plays a crucial role in countering enemy capabilities. This development not only reflects Ukraine's tactical innovations but also signifies the growing significance of drone warfare in contemporary conflicts, potentially influencing military strategies globally.

Air Marshal Kapoor Inspects Readiness and Infrastructure at Jodhpur Air Force Station

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27-Dec-25

Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor, the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the South Western Air Command, visited Air Force Station Jodhpur to assess operational readiness and infrastructure capabilities. During his tour, he emphasized the importance of

vigilance, teamwork, and the adaptability of personnel in light of the evolving security landscape. He acknowledged the dedication of officers, airmen, and civilian staff, asserting that their efforts are crucial to maintaining high standards of efficiency. This visit reaffirms the Indian Air Force's commitment to combat readiness and highlights the significance of leadership engagement in bolstering troop morale, ensuring the effective protection of national airspace and operational objectives.

Israeli military targets Hezbollah in Lebanon amid ongoing tensions.

27-Dec-25

The Israeli military has conducted a series of strikes on Hezbollah targets in Lebanon, targeting weapons depots and training facilities, citing these as essential for Hezbollah's terror operations against Israel. This escalation comes despite a ceasefire established in November 2024, which has not curtailed hostilities, with over 340 casualties reported since its implementation. The Lebanese army plans to disarm Hezbollah in the south by year's end, amidst skepticism regarding its effectiveness and accusations of rearming. The situation remains precarious, reflecting ongoing tensions in the region and the complexities of military engagements involving state and non-state actors.

Kyiv faces intensified Russian assault amid diplomatic talks with U.S.

27-Dec-25

The Ukrainian capital Kyiv experienced a significant escalation in hostilities as it came under a massive Russian attack early on Saturday, featuring multiple explosions and active air defense operations, according to local officials. This military action coincided with the upcoming meeting between Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy and U.S. President Donald Trump, aimed at negotiating a resolution to the nearly four-year conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Eyewitnesses reported the deployment of cruise and ballistic missiles, raising alarms about the intensifying military confrontation. This development underscores the ongoing volatility in the region and the complexities of international diplomatic efforts to achieve peace.

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

CRPF thwarts major Maoist attack in Chhattisgarh, destroying IEDs.

27-Dec-25

On Christmas Day, the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) successfully thwarted a major Maoist attack in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, by recovering and safely destroying two high-powered Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) during an anti-Maoist operation. The 214th Battalion's vigilance during patrolling led to the discovery of the IEDs, weighing 20 kg and 5 kg, alongside 110 bundles of sutli bombs intended for explosive fabrication. This operation not only averted a potential tragedy but also underscores the ongoing commitment of security forces to maintain peace and stability in the region, amidst a backdrop of intensified anti-Naxal campaigns and a notable decline in Maoist activities due to increased surrenders and operational disruptions. The bravery and quick response of the CRPF personnel exemplify their dedication to safeguarding vulnerable communities.

Maoist leader Ganesh Uike: A 40-year underground threat in India.

27-Dec-25

Maoist leader Ganesh Uike, with a bounty of Rs 1.1 crore on his head, has been a significant figure in the underground militant movement for over forty years. His activities have posed considerable challenges to India's internal security, particularly in the central and eastern regions where Maoist groups have historically held sway. The Indian government's ongoing efforts to neutralize such threats underscore its commitment to maintaining law and order and ensuring the safety of its citizens. The focus on capturing leaders like Uike reflects a broader strategy aimed at dismantling the operational capabilities of Maoist factions and restoring peace in affected areas.

Mirwaiz Farooq drops Hurriyat Chairman title, signaling separatist decline.

27-Dec-25

Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, Kashmir's chief cleric and moderate separatist leader, removed his designation as "Chairman All Parties Hurriyat Conference" from his X profile on December 25, 2025, following persistent pressure from Jammu and Kashmir authorities threatening account suspension. He described the action as a "Hobson's choice," noting that Hurriyat

factions, including his Awami Action Committee, stand banned under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) post-2019 abrogation of Article 370, curtailing their influence amid internal rifts and security measures. This move, coinciding with house arrest barring him from Friday prayers at Srinagar's Jamia Masjid, signals the Indian government's firm resolve to neutralize separatist activities, fostering stability and mainstream integration in the region.

Modi Celebrates Article 370 Abrogation, Highlights UP's Development and Defense Corridor. SHARE

27-Dec-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Rashtra Prerna Sthal in Lucknow on December 25, 2025, marking former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee's 101st birth anniversary, and proudly stated that the BJP government tore down the wall of Article 370, ensuring India's Constitution now fully applies in Jammu and Kashmir for unbreakable national unity. He hailed Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee's opposition to dual constitutions and Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya's Antyodaya vision, expanded through saturation welfare reaching 95 crore beneficiaries from 25 crore pre-2014, delivering homes, water, gas, and insurance to the poorest. Modi criticized dynastic politics for sidelining leaders like Babasaheb Ambedkar and PV Narasimha Rao, while spotlighting Uttar Pradesh's transformation via Ram Mandir, Kashi Vishwanath Dham, and the defense corridor now manufacturing BrahMos missiles in Lucknow, poised to shine globally in defense production.

Indian Army Boosts Operations Against 30-35 Terrorists in Jammu SHARE

27-Dec-25

The Indian Army has significantly escalated counter-terror operations in the Kishtwar and Doda districts of Jammu and Kashmir following intelligence reports indicating that 30 to 35 Pakistani terrorists have sought refuge in the region's challenging mountainous terrain during winter. Employing a comprehensive "Surveillance-Swift Ops" strategy, the army is utilizing advanced technologies like drone reconnaissance and ground sensors to monitor movements and prevent terrorist regrouping. The operations involve joint efforts with local law enforcement and community defense groups to enhance intelligence sharing. This proactive approach aims to thwart potential threats posed by these militants as winter conditions create opportunities for concealment and evasion.

Turkey detains 115 ISIS suspects amid holiday attack threats. SHARE

27-Dec-25

Turkish security forces have detained 115 individuals suspected of being linked to ISIS in a nationwide operation, following intelligence reports of potential attacks targeting non-Muslims during the Christmas and New Year celebrations. The coordinated raids, conducted across 124 locations, resulted in the seizure of weapons and crucial documents, while efforts continue to locate 22 additional suspects. This crackdown underscores the ongoing security challenges Turkey faces from extremist groups and highlights the nation's commitment to safeguarding its citizens during significant holiday periods. The situation reflects broader geopolitical concerns regarding terrorism in the region and the importance of vigilance in counter-terrorism efforts.

Delhi Court Extends NIA Custody of Two Suspects in Red Fort Attack SHARE

27-Dec-25

A Delhi court has extended the National Investigation Agency's (NIA) custody of two suspects linked to the Red Fort terror attack that resulted in 11 fatalities. Yasir Ahmad Dar, arrested under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, is alleged to have played a pivotal role in the conspiracy and has connections to other accused individuals. Dr. Bilal Naseer Malla, who allegedly provided logistical support to the main perpetrator, is also in NIA custody. The agency is actively investigating a broader conspiracy and has conducted extensive searches in Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh, seizing digital evidence and other materials. This ongoing investigation underscores the Indian government's commitment to combating terrorism and enhancing national security.

Mil Personnel & Veterans

Ten-year-old Shravan Singh honored with Bal Puraskar for aiding Indian Army. SHARE

27-Dec-25

Ten-year-old Shravan Singh was awarded the Pradhan Mantri Bal Puraskar 2026, recognized for his remarkable bravery and compassion during Operation Sindoor, where he assisted Indian Army personnel near the India-Pakistan border. His selfless acts included providing soldiers with essential refreshments and

offering his home as a resting place, earning him praise from senior military officials. Shravan's contributions exemplify the spirit of patriotism and humanity, inspiring not only his family but also a broader audience. His aspiration to join the Indian Army in the future underscores the significant impact of youth involvement in national service, highlighting how acts of kindness can uplift morale in challenging circumstances.

Miscellaneous

Indian Army restricts social media to viewing only for security.

27-Dec-25

The Indian Army has implemented a new policy restricting social media usage among its personnel, allowing access to platforms like Instagram solely for viewing and monitoring purposes, with no comments or opinions permitted. Additionally, while communication via platforms such as Skype, WhatsApp, Telegram, and Signal is allowed, it is limited to unclassified information exchanged only with known contacts, placing the responsibility of recipient verification on the user. This policy aims to enhance operational security and prevent the disclosure of sensitive information, reflecting the evolving approach of the Indian military towards information management in an increasingly digital age. Such measures underline the Army's commitment to maintaining confidentiality and safeguarding national security interests in the face of modern communication challenges.

PM Modi honors Guru Gobind Singh Ji during Parkash Utsav celebration, highlighting his teachings and values.

27-Dec-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid homage to Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji on the occasion of the sacred Parkash Utsav, emphasizing the enduring significance of the Guru's life and teachings, which embody courage, compassion, and sacrifice. In his tribute, Modi highlighted the importance of standing for truth, justice, and human dignity, noting that Guru Gobind Singh Ji's vision continues to inspire generations towards selfless service. The Prime Minister also shared his personal experience of visiting the Takhat Sri Harmandir Ji Patna Sahib earlier in the year, where he sought blessings at the Holy Jore Sahib. This event not only

celebrates the spiritual legacy of the Guru but also reinforces the values of righteousness and selfless duty, which are significant in guiding the moral compass of society and fostering unity among diverse communities in India.

India Approves Three New Airlines: Shankh Air, Al Hind, FlyExpress to Boost Aviation Competition

27-Dec-25

India's Ministry of Civil Aviation has granted No Objection Certificates (NOCs) to three new airlines—Shankh Air from Uttar Pradesh, Al Hind Air backed by Kerala-based Alhind Group, and FlyExpress—on December 24-25, 2025, boosting competition in the world's fastest-growing aviation market. Shankh Air, led by Chairman Sharvan Kumar Vishwakarma, plans to launch operations in Q1 2026 with aircraft under preparation, aiming to expand its fleet to 20-25 planes over the next few years, following a meeting with Minister K Rammohan Naidu who assured full support from the ministry and DGCA. Al Hind Air and FlyExpress, focusing on domestic and regional routes to connect underserved cities, also eye 2026 starts pending final DGCA approvals, enhancing connectivity and job creation while challenging the IndiGo-Air India duopoly amid nine existing scheduled carriers.

NIA investigates Mysuru balloon gas cylinder blast site, ensuring public safety.

27-Dec-25

A National Investigation Agency (NIA) team inspected the site near Mysuru Palace where a gas cylinder blast on December 25, 2025, killed balloon vendor Saleem (40) from Uttar Pradesh's Kannauj district instantly and injured six others amid heavy Christmas crowds. The explosion, occurring around 8:30 pm at the busy Jayamarthanda Gate during a flower show and musical event, ripped apart Saleem's bicycle and scattered debris, with the vendor reportedly mixing caustic soda and water with aluminum to generate hydrogen gas for balloons, triggering a violent reaction. Tragically, two injured women—Manjula (38), a Nanjangud flower vendor, and Lakshmi (45-49), a Bengaluru tourist—succumbed on December 26 at KR Hospital, raising the death toll to three, while KSRTC employee Kotresh and others like Ranjitha recover under government-funded care. Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara highlighted absent regulations for tourist-area vendors, urging stricter oversight to safeguard public safety at

heritage sites, as NIA questions Saleem's associates and probes all angles amid forensic analysis.

India's semiconductor self-reliance to lead to imminent exports, says Amit

Shah.  **SHARE**

27-Dec-25

Union Home Minister Amit Shah declared on December 25, 2025, at the Abhyudaya Madhya Pradesh Growth Summit in Gwalior that India, despite entering the semiconductor sector late, has made a strong entry and will soon achieve self-reliance while beginning exports. Inaugurating projects worth Rs 2 lakh crore—expected to create 1.93 lakh jobs—he praised Madhya Pradesh's BJP government for registering a record 4.57 lakh MSMEs in one year, with nearly 50% of startups led by women, positioning the state as a hub for industries like agriculture, pharma, IT, textiles, and tourism. Shah highlighted the state's strategic central location for low logistics costs, surplus power, top cleanliness rankings, and initiatives like Indore's multi-modal logistics park, marking a shift from its BIMARU past to a key driver of India's technological rise under PM Modi's vision.

Navi Mumbai International Airport opens, boosting aviation capacity and connectivity.

 **SHARE**

27-Dec-25

Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA), developed by the Adani Group, officially launched commercial operations on December 25, 2025, with IndiGo flight 6E460 from Bengaluru landing at 8 am amid a ceremonial water cannon salute. Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani personally welcomed passengers, joined by Param Vir Chakra awardees Captain Bana Singh and Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar for a flag-hoisting ceremony, alongside cricketers Suryakumar Yadav, Mithali Raj, and Sunil Chhetri. Handling 48 flights and over 4,000 passengers on day one across nine domestic destinations by airlines like IndiGo, Air India Express, Akasa Air, and Star Air, NMIA eases chronic congestion at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, bolstering Mumbai Metropolitan Region's connectivity and India's aviation infrastructure for sustained economic momentum.

ICGS Rani Durgavati aids repatriation of Indian fishermen from Sri Lanka.

 **SHARE**

27-Dec-25

The Indian Coast Guard's recent operation facilitated the repatriation of Indian fishermen from Sri Lankan authorities, emphasizing enhanced maritime

cooperation between the two nations. Ninety fishermen, previously detained for allegedly crossing maritime boundaries in the Palk Strait, were safely escorted back to Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu. Despite recurring tensions over fishing rights in contested waters, India's proactive measures, including joint working groups and financial support for fines, mitigate the humanitarian impact of these disputes. The operation underscores the Indian government's commitment to safeguarding its citizens' livelihoods while fostering stability in the Indian Ocean region through diplomatic engagement and maritime patrols by the Coast Guard's Rani Durgavati.

President Murmu to make historic submarine sortie on December 28.

 **SHARE**

27-Dec-25

President Droupadi Murmu is set to make a historic submarine sea sortie on December 28 at Karwar Naval Base, reinforcing her active role as Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces. This event marks her commitment to assessing India's military readiness, following her previous military engagements, including piloting a Sukhoi-30MKI fighter jet and reviewing the indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant. The sortie is part of a broader itinerary showcasing India's maritime capabilities and cultural heritage, including attendance at the 15th Convocation of the National Institute of Technology in Jamshedpur and the centenary celebrations of the OI Chiki script. This multifaceted tour symbolizes the government's dedication to strengthening both defense initiatives and cultural identity, promoting national pride through strategic and cultural engagement.

PM Modi honors Sahibzade's bravery against fanaticism, promoting India's cultural identity and valor.

 **SHARE**

27-Dec-25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the significance of Veer Bal Diwas, commemorating the martyrdom of Sahibzade Baba Zorawar Singh and Baba Fateh Singh, asserting their sacrifice symbolizes India's courage against religious fanaticism during the Mughal era. Highlighting the resilience of the young Sahibzade, Modi emphasized the need to liberate the nation from a colonial mindset, which has historically downplayed Indian valor. He announced government initiatives to promote awareness of such sacrifices, aiming to inspire future generations and fortify India's cultural identity. Modi's remarks reflect a broader commitment to honor India's historical heroes and encourage self-reliance

and pride in indigenous traditions as the nation approaches its goal of developed status by 2047.

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