

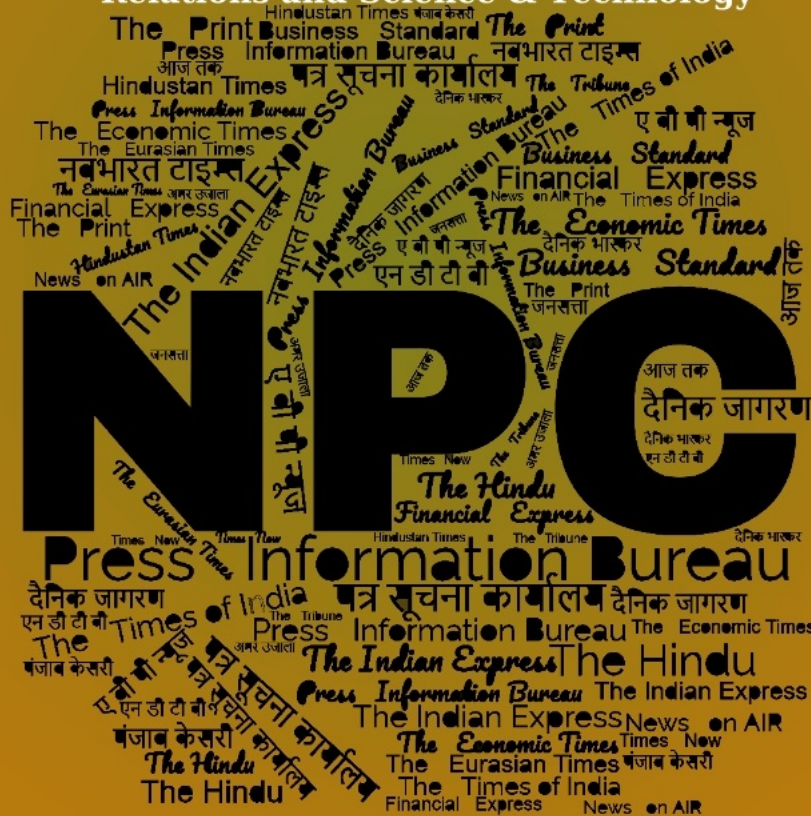
फरवरी  
Feb  
2024

खंड/Vol. : 49 अंक/Issue : 34  
16/02/2024

# समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

डीआरडीओ समुदाय को डीआरडीओ प्रौद्योगिकियों, रक्षा प्रौद्योगिकियों, रक्षा नीतियों, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संबंधों और विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी की नूतन जानकारी से अवगत कराने हेतु दैनिक सेवा

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# The Tribune

*Thu, 15 Feb 2024*

## **DRDO to set up Remote Avalanche Warning System at Zoji La in Kashmir**

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is setting up a remotely operated avalanche warning and monitoring system at Zoji La, a high mountain pass along the Srinagar-Leh national highway in Kashmir.

The system will consist of a network of infrasonic sensors, that are based on detection of sound waves or stress vibrations which are below the audible limit of humans, along with associated data processing and transmitting paraphernalia, DRDO sources said.

“The network will be deployed along the Sonamarg–Zojila–Tangdhar axis to detect and monitor avalanche activities in the area which is prone to vagaries of nature,” a DRDO scientist said.

The sensors will be installed at designated field locations along with data acquisition and processing units, real time data transmitting modules that are compatible with GSM and satellite communication and solar power units.

The Defence Geo-informatics Research Establishment (DGRE) based at Chandigarh will execute the project. Data from the remote network will be received at DGRE for analysis and further dissemination of actionable information.

DGRE is a DRDO laboratory that is mandated to develop critical technologies for enhancing combat effectiveness with a focus on terrain and avalanches by mapping, forecasting, monitoring, control and mitigation of landslides and avalanches in the Himalayas.

It is responsible to ensure safe mobility of troops in inhospitable terrains and also focus on the military potential of various types of terrains based on modern techniques of terrain evaluation. Information generated by DGRE is also used by other government agencies to ensure the safety of the civilian population in remote areas.

Located at an altitude of 11,575 feet in the treacherous terrain of Kargil district, Zoji La, which means 'pass of blizzards' and is the second highest pass on this stretch, remains closed during winter months because of heavy snow.

The pass is strategically vital as it lies on the vital road link to Ladakh from Jammu. A 14-km long tunnel is being constructed under the pass to provide all-weather, year-round connectivity to Ladakh.

As per revised schedule, work on the tunnel is expected to be complete by 2030. When commissioned, it will be Asia's longest di-directional tunnel and reduce the time to cross the pass from over three hours to just about 20 minutes.

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/india/drdo-to-set-up-remote-avalanche-warning-system-at-zoji-la-in-kashmir-591077>

## अमर उजाला

Fri, 16 Feb 2024

### DRDO: दुश्मनों की खैर नहीं, क्रूज मिसाइल का परीक्षण अगले महीने, अब समुद्र से वार करने की बढ़ेगी भारत की क्षमता

जल्द ही भारत दुश्मनों पर समुद्र से भी वार कर सकेगा। इसके लिए अगले महीने पूर्वी तट पर सबमरीन लॉन्च क्रूज मिसाइल (एसएलसीएम) का परीक्षण हो सकता है। इस क्रूज मिसाइल में 500 किमी दूरी तक वार करने की क्षमता होगी। इस प्रणाली को रक्षा अनुसंधान व विकास संगठन (डीआरडीओ) ने विकसित किया है।

भारत में निर्मित सबमरीन के लिए एसएलसीएम एक अहम हथियार साबित हो सकती है। इन सबमरीन को प्रोजेक्ट 75 के तहत बनाया जाना है।

क्रूज मिसाइलें भविष्य में बनने जा रही रक्षा बलों की रॉकेट आधारित फोर्स में शामिल होंगी। इस फोर्स में छोटी और मध्यम दूरी की बैलिस्टिक मिसाइलें भी शामिल की जाएंगी। इस बीच रक्षा हथियारों में भी नया इजाफा हो सकता है, रक्षा मंत्रालय 800 किमी दूरी तक मारक क्षमता वाली मिसाइलों की खरीद पर इसी हफ्ते बैठक करने जा रहा है।

यह मिसाइल जमीन पर वार करने वाली होंगी। मंत्रालय के सूत्रों के अनुसार इसका फायदा रक्षा बलों की हथियार प्रणाली को मजबूत करने में मिलेगा। एजेंसी

#### खासियतें: दो प्रकार की एसएलसीएम

एसएलसीएम प्रणाली को भारत में ही दो रूपों में विकसित किया जा रहा है, लैंड अटैक क्रूज मिसाइल और एंटी-शिप क्रूज मिसाइल। इनमें थ्रस्ट वेक्टर कंट्रोल जैसी तकनीक शामिल होगी, जो इसे लक्ष्य की ओर बढ़ने वाले हथियार में बदल सकेगी। उड़ान के दौरान ही इसमें पंख तैनात किए जा सकेंगे, उड़ान के दौरान इंजन शुरू करने की क्षमता भी मिलेगी। तकनीकी परीक्षणों में ये खासियतें साबित की जा चुकी हैं। फरवरी 2023 में भी एसएलसीएम का परीक्षण हुआ था, जिसमें उसने 402 किमी की रेंज हासिल की थी।

<https://www.amarujala.com/india-news/drdo-submarine-launched-cruise-missile-tested-next-month-2024-02-16>

## **India Likely to Test 500 km Strike Range Submarine Launched Cruise Missile in March**

India is planning to carry out the of a 500 Km strike range Submarine Launched Cruise Missile (SLCM) from the east coast next month. The Indian defence forces' arsenal is also likely to get a boost as the defence ministry is expected to take up the case for procurement of an 800 km strike range land attack cruise missile in a meeting scheduled this week, defence officials told.

There is a plan to carry out the test firing of the 500 Km strike range cruise missile next month. The missile system was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation, the officials said.

The Submarine Launched Cruise Missile is planned to be one of the critical weapons of the indigenously manufactured submarines planned to be built by the Indian Navy under Project 75 India, they said.

The cruise missiles of the defence forces along with the short and medium-range ballistic missiles are likely to be part of the rocket force planned to be set up in future. Submarine Launched Cruise Missile (SLCM) is indigenously developed with two variants. The two variants are the Land Attack Cruise Missile (LACM) and Anti-Ship Cruise Missile (ASCM).

Technologies like thrust vector control to turn the missile into and onto the target plane, in-flight wing deployment and in-flight engine start have been proven. A trial of the SLCM was conducted in February 2023 and met all the mission objectives with a range of 402 km.

Indian industries Larsen and Toubro, Godrej and Sameer are partners of DRDO in this programme and are likely to help the industry to take part in future missile development projects too. India has supersonic missiles in the form of the BrajMos which has now capability to strike targets beyond 800 kms and has achieved success in exports.

The subsonic cruise missiles are also expected to be offered to friendly foreign countries after they are fully tested and are inducted in Indian defence forces.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-to-test-500-km-strike-range-submarine-launched-cruise-missile-in-march/articleshow/107717199.cms>



**Press Information Bureau**  
Government of India

**Ministry of Science & Technology**

*Thu, 15 Feb 2024*

### **MoD's procurement on Government e-Marketplace (GeM) crosses Rs 1 Lakh Crore milestone**

**About 50% of orders awarded to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) bolstering  
Aatmanirbharta in Defence**

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) achieved a significant milestone by becoming the only ministry to cross the figure of Rs 1 lakh crore Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of procurement through Government e-Marketplace (GeM) since its inception in 2016.

In the current fiscal year, MoD has placed orders worth Rs 46,000 cr approx. on GeM as of 13.2.2024. The order value of MoD in FY 2022-23 was worth Rs 28,732.90 cr, while it amounted to Rs 15,091.30 cr in the FY 2021-22.

The significant increase of over sixty percent from the previous financial year is a testament to MoD's continuous efforts, commitment to adoption of GeM platform to undertake its procurement activities.

More than 19,800 defence buyers from across the country have placed over 5.47 lakh orders on GeM. About 50% of these orders were awarded to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs), aligning with the core value of maximising social inclusion in public procurement market and bolstering India's economic growth towards 'Aatmanirbharta'.

GeM is an online platform for public procurement in India envisaged by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

This initiative was launched on August 9, 2016 by Ministry of Commerce and Industry with the objective of creating an inclusive, efficient, and transparent platform for the buyers and sellers to carry out procurement activities in a fair and competitive manner.

This milestone is a reflection of collaborative efforts by MoD, Armed Forces, PSUs, Defence industry, and research institutions. It not only celebrates the success of GeM platform but also reaf-

firms the MoD's dedication to bolstering national defence capabilities and securing a prosperous future for India.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2006328>

# THE ECONOMIC TIMES

*Thu, 15 Feb 2024*

## **As India again shifts its gaze to seas, I see signs of aspiring maritime power: Navy chief**

Navy chief Admiral R Hari Kumar on Thursday said as India once again shifts its gaze to the seas for economic growth, he sees "signs of an aspiring maritime power". In his address at an event hosted by the National Maritime Foundation (NMF) here, Admiral Kumar also said there has been a "substantial contribution" of this think-tank even towards formalising the Maritime Anti-Piracy Act of 2022, which is seldom recognised.

"As we navigate the evolving complexities in the region, marked by ongoing conflicts in Europe and the Middle East and the emergence of non-traditional threats, a deeper understanding of the evolving geopolitical dynamics, along with associated strategies to counter these challenges, becomes an imperative, making the NMF's role even more critical today," he said.

Notably, the NMF collaborated with the Navy towards formulating the landmark Indian Maritime Security Strategy (IMSS) released in 2015. The document "continues to guide the Navy's efforts in protecting, preserving, promoting and pursuing our national interests in the maritime domain", Admiral Kumar said.

The foundation's contributions to this strategic document underscore its profound understanding of maritime challenges, dedicated to shaping effective responses, the Navy chief added.

He was delivering the inaugural address at the Vice Admiral K K Nayyar Memorial Lecture. There has been a substantial contribution of the NMF even towards formalising the Maritime Anti-Piracy Act of 2022, which is seldom recognised, Admiral Kumar said.

The Indian Navy has got a shot in the arm because of this legislation, he said and underlined the deployment to counter piracy attempts. "We need to cultivate a deeper understanding of the significance of the seas, not just as a source of trade, but as a strategic domain, impacting our security, economy and environment.

This necessitates raising maritime awareness and then enhancing consciousness, encouraging maritime research, promoting maritime-related careers," Admiral Kumar said. "We are endowed with a distinct maritime geography.... It is an opportune moment today to remember and reaffirm the role of maritime power in her rise and relevance.

It was the seas, the medium of culture, connectivity and commerce, which enabled prosperity in pre-historic Bharat," he added. In his address, Admiral Kumar extolled the maritime prowess in the

era of the ancient kingdoms, such as the Mauryas and Guptas and right until the period of the Cholas and Marathas. "The Chola kingdom and its maritime endeavours exemplified the maritime virtuous cycle that the symbiotic relationship between maritime trade and naval strength, a defining attribute of contemporary maritime powers. We saw that happening with the European powers, and then the US and then China. And now I feel, it is our turn," he said.

"So, as Bharat once again shifts its gaze to the seas ... for economic growth, I see the signs of an aspiring maritime power," he added. Vice Admiral Nayar's vision of reinvigorating India's maritime privacy resonates strongly today and it is "our collective responsibility" now to build upon his legacy, foster maritime thinking and ensure that "India continues to ride the waves" with unwavering zeal and elan, the Navy chief said. "The Navy itself is undergoing transformation ... be it 'ghulami ki mansikta se mukti' or 'virasat pe garv'.... There is criticism from many quarters, but we are transforming rapidly. And, it is catching pace. We want to keep in step with what is happening in our country," he said.

"We are harnessing the youth dividend. We want to be a fully aatmanirbhar (self-reliant) Navy by 2047, a 'post-modern Navy' as Geoffrey Till says in his book Sea Power, that is what we want to achieve. I think, 2047 is far away, perhaps we will achieve that even before that," Admiral Kumar asserted.

As the country's first maritime think-tank, the NMF has grown rapidly in stature and strength, addressing a myriad of themes and issues that together constitute comprehensive maritime power, he added.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/as-india-again-shifts-its-gaze-to-seas-i-see-signs-of-aspiring-maritime-power-navy-chief/articleshow/107731663.cms?from=mdr>

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

*Fri, 16 Feb 2024*

### **Army Chief visits US, explores training synergies with Specialist Units**

As part of his four-day official visit to the United States, the Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Manoj Pande visited Headquarters of 1 Corps of the US Army, where he received briefings on the Stryker Unit, Multi-Domain Task Force, and the Special Forces Group, aiming to explore opportunities for more significant training engagements.

The US Army's Multi-Domain Task Force is a theaterspecific unit that uses long-range precision effects. They are the organizational centerpiece in the US Army's operationalization of Multi-Domain Operations (MDO). MDO describes how the Army can counter and defeat a near-peer adversary in all domains.

The Indian Army in a post on X, highlighted General Manoj Pande's activities during his visit to the USA. "General Manoj Pande, #COAS, visited @USArmy Headquarters 1 Corps during his



#USA visit, briefed on Stryker Unit, MultiDomain Task Force, and Special Forces Group. The aim: explore avenues for more significant training engagements."

During the four-day official visit to the US (February 13- 16), the Army Chief engaged in discussions with General Randy George, the Chief of Staff of the United States Army, aimed at strengthening bilateral relations and fostering global peace and security efforts. The Army Chief commenced his visit by reviewing the US Army Guard of Honour.

He then participated in a solemn ceremony, paying respects by laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

The Army Chief also visited the Army Geospatial Centre at Fort Belvoir and interacted with the Vice President of the National Defense University at Fort McNair. Additionally, General Pande held discussions with the Charge d'Affaires of the Indian Embassy in the United States, where they deliberated on important ongoing and prospective initiatives.

This visit is another milestone in the Indo-US defence relationship, reflecting a mutual desire to enhance military collaboration, exchange strategic perspectives on global threat perceptions, and work together toward future force development and modernisation.

The engagements between General Manoj Pande and senior leadership of the United States Army are poised to yield substantive outcomes, fostering an environment conducive to shared security interests and defence cooperation.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/army-chief-visits-us-explores-training-synergies-with-specialist-units/articleshow/107741240.cms>

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

*Thu, 15 Feb 2024*

### **IAF's full rehearsal for 'Vayu Shakti'**

The Indian Air Force on Wednesday conducted a full day-and-night rehearsal for Vayu Shakti 2024 exercise in Chandhan area at Pokhran field firing range in . The Vayu Shakti 2024 demonstration and exercise will be held on February 17 at the Pokhran range. As part of the rehearsal, IAF used its fighter planes, helicopters, bombs, missiles and other war equipment and weapons to hit dummy targets.

The special feature of this full rehearsal was Rafale fighter plane and Prachand helicopter taking part. There were tremors in the entire range when the Rafale plane passed 1,300 kmph speed with supersonic boom.

In the full rehearsal, a total of 121 aircraft including Sukhoi, Mirage, Jaguar, fighter helicopters and cargo planes took part.

The chief guests at the full rehearsal were deputy air chief marshal A P Singh, Southern Western Command chief air marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari, and vice air marshal Manish Khanna. Many senior officers of the Army, IAF, Navy and BSF, as well as hundreds of defence personnel and other eminent persons, witnessed the firing capabilities of the air force.

Indian-made fighter planes and helicopters fired surface-to-air Akash missiles during the rehearsal. C130 Hercules choppers air-dropped commandos, Chinook helicopter carried an M777 Howitzer gun, and a Jaguar aircraft flew very low to take photos which were later presented to the chief guests.

The IAF also demonstrated its ability to track airplanes intruding into Indian air borders and shot them down.

Indian Air Force to conduct day and night exercise Vayu Shakti at Pokhran field firing range near India Pakistan border. Rafale to fire guided bombs and missiles on pseudo hideouts. Tejas and Rafale to test accuracy and firing capability of R-73 missiles and Myka missile. Joint campaigns with Indian army.

Actress Vedhika shares a dance rehearsal video on Twitter, giving fans a glimpse into her preparation for a kickass song. The video features Vedhika gracefully rehearsing alongside her trainer, showcasing her impeccable dance moves. She is known for her mesmerising acting and has upcoming projects including 'Fear' and 'Gana'.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/jaipur/iafs-full-rehearsal-for-vayu-shakti-in-jaisalmer-highlights-of-the-exercise/articleshow/107706882.cms>



*Fri, 16 Feb 2024*

## **BrahMos Missiles, Ammunition & more: A look at India's growing Defence Exports**

India is on a path to make its defence sector 'self-reliant'. To achieve this goal, New Delhi has cut back on arms imports in the last few years, besides taking steps to boost its defence exports.

India has set a target to more than triple its annual defence exports to Rs 35,000 crores by 2024-25. The country's defence exports broke records in the financial year 2022-23, touching nearly Rs 16,000 crore mark, according to the Ministry of Defence.

"With a 23-fold increase in exports, Indian design and development capabilities are reaching over 85 countries," the ministry said last year. Let's take a look at how India has increased its defence exports.

### **India's defence exports**

India's military exports have seen a significant surge in the last few years.

These exports include missiles, artillery guns, rockets, armoured vehicles, offshore patrol vessels, personal protective gear, different radars, surveillance systems and ammunition, according to a *Hindustan Times (HT)* report.

As per the defence ministry data, India has exported bullet-proof jackets to 34 countries including Australia, Japan, Israel and Brazil. About 10 countries, including the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Egypt, Indonesia and Thailand, have purchased ammunition (ranging between 5.56mm to 155mm) from India. Defence electronics have been acquired by the United States, the United Kingdom and France, while India has exported fast interceptor boats to Mauritius, Seychelles and the Maldives, *HT* reported citing the defence ministry data.

Last December, India's state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) said it was in talks with at least three countries to sell its indigenous Tejas multirole combat jets. While the talks with Nigeria were at an early stage, the plan was to sell 15 light-combat aircraft to Argentina and 20 to Egypt, HAL Chief Managing Director CB Ananthkrishnan said at the time, as per *Deccan Herald*.

The Philippines, the US, Australia and Indonesia have also expressed interest in Tejas LCA, a single-engine multi-role fighter jet. Armenia is one of India's top weapons importer of Akash Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM). As per *Sputnik News*, India started supplying defence equipment to the Asian country in 2022 amid Armenia's protracted conflict with Azerbaijan.

New Delhi will also export the indigenous Akash anti-air system to Armenia, *Economic Times (ET)* reported last December. The delivery, which was a part of a Rs 6,000-crore deal, of the Bharat Dynamics Limited-manufactured system was to start soon. In September 2022, India signed a deal to export several weapons, including Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launchers (MBRL), anti-tank missiles, rockets and ammunition, to Armenia. Last August, Armenia received its initial shipment of India's Advanced Towed Artillery Gun Systems (ATAGS).

Indian defence firm Kalyani Strategic Systems Limited will supply artillery guns to Armenia for the 155mm weapon system by 2025. India has also offered the Defence Research and Development Organisation-developed Akash missile air defence system for export to Vietnam and the Philippines, while Egypt has also shown interest. BrahMos cruise missiles, Varunastra (Water Weapon) anti-submarine torpedoes, and coastal radars have also been offered by New Delhi to Vietnam, as per *The EurAsian Times*.

In January, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) chief Samir V Kamat said India would supply the BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles to the Philippines by March. This is the first export order for the missile jointly developed by India and Russia.

### **India's defence export and import**

India's defence exports have witnessed a sharp rise in recent years, with a 23-fold jump between 2013-14 and 2022-23 – from Rs 686 crore to Rs 15,918 crore, *HT* reported citing the defence ministry data.

During this period, India has also reduced spending on imported weapons and systems, from 46 per cent in 2018-19 to 36.7 per cent in December 2022.

In fact, India's defence exports rose tenfold in the last six years, *Mint* reported in April 2023. However, New Delhi is still far from its goal of achieving annual export target of Rs 35,000 crore by next year.

Moreover, India remains the top importer of defence supplies globally. According to a report released last year by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), a Sweden-based research institute on global security, Russia is India's largest arms supplier, accounting for 45 per cent of its shipments.

From 2018 and 2022, France emerged as India's second largest arms importers, replacing the US.

India's share in arms exports was not much significant during the period with the country not even in the top 25 nations of defence suppliers, as per the SIPRI report.

India has taken measures to become self-reliant in defence, including phased bans on the import of weapons. Its aim is to achieve a turnover of Rs 1.75 lakh crore in defence manufacturing by 2025.

While New Delhi is still far from its defence export target, experts believe the country can reach the milestone, reported *HT*.

<https://www.firstpost.com/explainers/brahmos-missiles-ammunition-more-a-look-at-india-defence-exports-13733092.html>

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

*Thu, 15 Feb 2024*

### **Russia mulls putting Nuclear Weapon in Space, US Intelligence finds**

US intelligence shows that Russia is discussing the possibility of basing a nuclear weapon in space, according to people familiar with the matter, a finding that emerged after a top House Republican publicly warned of an unspecified national-security threat. The threat cited by US intelligence is not yet an active one and Russia has not deployed a nuclear weapon into space, according to the people, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

While the conclusions are significant and US officials are taking the matter seriously, there's no immediate cause for public alarm, said the people. US national security advisor Jake Sullivan said he would meet Thursday with the US House contingent of the so-called Gang of Eight congressional leaders. The meeting was scheduled before House Intelligence Committee Chairman Mike Turner on Wednesday issued a cryptic public statement. The Ohio Republican called on President Joe Biden to declassify "all information relating to this threat." Turner did not offer further details about the nature of the threat.

Turner's decision to go public with the issue, without fully describing it, caused concern in Washington. The episode comes at a time when wars in Ukraine, Israel and Gaza are weighing heavily on the US. Sullivan declined to specify the subject of Thursday's meeting or respond to Turner's characterization of the national security matter. "I'm not in a position to say anything

further today,” he said. ABC News and the New York Times reported earlier that Russia was considering putting a nuclear weapon in space.

House Speaker Mike Johnson sought to ease fears that Americans could face imminent danger. He nonetheless told reporters he would “press the administration to take appropriate action” in the meeting with Sullivan. Sullivan told reporters at the White House Wednesday he had proactively reached out to the Gang of Eight to set a meeting — which he described a “highly unusual” move.

The four House members of that group will meet Sullivan on Thursday, he said. “That’s been on the books, so I am a bit surprised that Congressman Turner came out publicly today,” Sullivan said at the White House. “That’s his choice to do that. All I can tell you is I’m focused on going to see him.” House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries said he hoped more information on the classified matter would be made public soon.

Turner said the committee had provided members with all available material. The House Intelligence panel’s top Democrat, Representative Jim Himes of Connecticut, also urged calm. “People should not panic,” he said, describing the matter as a longstanding, albeit serious issue. Jeffries, speaking at the Capitol on Wednesday, said “it’s possible” he’ll attend a meeting Thursday. “I’ve got some familiarity with the situation,” he said. Explore Your Financial Landscape with Personalized Credit Insights.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/russia-mulls-putting-nuclear-weapon-in-space-us-intelligence-finds/articleshow/107705117.cms>

## Science & Technology News

**THE**  **HINDU**

*Thu, 15 Feb 2024*

### **GSLV-F14 carrying INSAT-3DS satellite to lift off at 5.35 pm on February 17: ISRO**

The GSLV-F14 carrying INSAT-3DS is scheduled for launch at 5.35 p.m. on February 17 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. “The launch is now scheduled at 17.35 Hrs. IST,” Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) tweeted on February 15.

The launch was earlier scheduled at 5.30 p.m. from the second launchpad of the spaceport in Sriharikota.

The GSLV-F14 is the 16th flight of the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV), and the 10th flight with the indigenous cryo stage. This is the seventh operational flight of GSLV with an indigenous cryogenic stage.

The GSLV-F14, with indigenous cryogenic stage, will place INSAT-3DS satellite in a geosynchronous transfer orbit.

According to ISRO, the INSAT-3DS satellite is a follow-on mission of the third generation meteorological satellite from geostationary orbit. The satellite is an exclusive mission designed for enhanced meteorological observations, monitoring of land and ocean surfaces for weather forecasting and disaster warning. INSAT-3DS Satellite will be augmenting meteorological services along with the presently operational INSAT-3D and INSAT-3DR in-orbit satellites.

The primary objectives of the mission are to monitor Earth's surface, carry out oceanic observations and its environment in various spectral channels of meteorological importance, provide the vertical profile of various meteorological parameters of the atmosphere, provide the data collection and data dissemination capabilities from the data collection platforms, and provide satellite aided search and rescue services.

The launch can be watched live from 5 p.m. on its website, on its Facebook page, on YouTube, and on the DD national TV channel.

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<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/gslv-f14-carrying-insat-3ds-satellite-to-lift-off-at-535-pm-on-february-17-isro/article67848844.ece>

