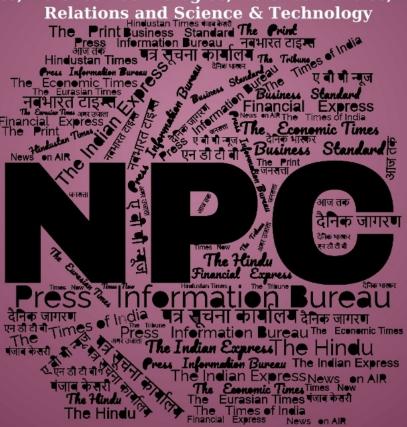
अक्टूबर Oct 2025 खंड/Vol.: 50 अंक/Issue:194

17/10/2025

# समाचार पत्रों से चयनित 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

A Daily service to keep DRDO Fraternity abreast with DRDO Technologies, Defence Technologies, Defence Policies, International Relations and Science & Technology





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## **DRDO News**

### ऑपरेशन सिन्दूर रक्षा क्षेत्र में आत्मानिर्भरता का बेहतरीन उटाहरण : राजनाथ सिंह

Source: Punjab Kesari, Dt. 17 Oct 2025



# Raksha Mantri-led Consultative Committee on Defence visits ARDE, a premier armament laboratory of DRDO, in Pune

Source: PIB, Dt. 16 Oct 2025

Inspects state-of-the-art products developed by labs of Armament & Combat Engineering Systems cluster

Emerging tech are a necessity in today's times; Govt committed to integrating it into the security apparatus: Shri Rajnath Singh

"We should not only be the users of technology; we should also be the creators"

## "Aatmanirbharta in defence is not just a goal, it is the strongest shield for national security"

The Consultative Committee for Ministry of Defence, headed by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, visited Armament Research & Development Establishment (ARDE), Pune, a premier laboratory of DRDO under the aegis of Armament & Combat Engineering Systems (ACE) cluster, on October 16, 2025. During the visit, the committee inspected the state-of-the-art products developed by different laboratories of the cluster. The notable products demonstrated include Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System, PINAKA Rocket System, Light Tank 'Zorawar', Wheeled Armoured Platform and AKASH-New Generation missile. The committee was also apprised of the status of the technologies being developed in the fields of Robotics, Rail Gun, Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System, High-Energy Propulsion Materials etc. A detailed future roadmap of the cluster was also presented.

Addressing the meeting on the topic 'Emerging Technologies and DRDO', Raksha Mantri stressed on the need to understand and adapt to the transformation taking place in the defence sector & the evolving nature

of warfare. He termed advanced technologies as a necessity in the rapidly-changing world, voicing the Government's commitment to integrating this necessity into the security apparatus.

"Today is an era of technological dominance. The nation that prioritises science and innovation will lead the future. Technology is no longer limited to labs; it has become the foundation of our strategic decisions, defence system and future policies. Our goal is not only to achieve *Aatmanirbharta* in defence, but also to develop a culture that inspires future generations and establishes India as a global defence innovation hub," said Shri Rajnath Singh.

Raksha Mantri underlined the essentiality of adopting future changes as a national mission and view it not just as a technical upgradation. "We should not only be the users of technology; we should also be the creators. To achieve this, there is a need to accelerate our self-reliance efforts. *Aatmanirbharta* in defence is not just a goal, it is the strongest shield for national security," he said.

Shri Rajnath Singh reiterated Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi-led Government's unwavering resolve to achieve self-reliance in defence, asserting that India cannot depend on import of technologies to safeguard national interests. "The scope of cutting-edge tech is very restricted. Sometimes, some countries resort to protectionism when it comes to disruptive technologies. Sometimes, they do not share information with other countries. India has challenged these limitations. We have shown that if our intentions are clear and policies are unambiguous, we can become self-reliant in any field. Today, India is not only meeting its own needs, but is also becoming a trusted defence partner for the world," he added.

Raksha Mantri appreciated DRDO for developing technologies that were previously imported and making a mark in futuristic products that are just beginning to be discussed globally. On the supportive environment being created in the country for R&D, he stated that DRDO, in collaboration with industry, academia, and start-ups, has taken steps towards creating a new ecosystem. This endeavour, he said, is no longer just a Government effort, but has become a national effort, where all stakeholders are moving forward together in pursuit of a common goal.

"DRDO, public sector enterprises, private industries, start-ups and academia are together setting new benchmarks in defence innovation. Our youth are continuously making breakthroughs in areas like Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, Robotics, Quantum Communication, and Space Technology. India is becoming a technology leader due to the hard work and talent of our people. Emerging technologies not only modernise the forces but also open up new opportunities for the youth," said Shri Rajnath Singh.

Other members of the committee expressed satisfaction over the achievements & work being carried out by the ACE cluster, and provided valuable suggestions for future policy making. They urged the officials to tread faster and more methodically in their future plans for safeguarding national interests. Raksha Mantri assured the members that their suggestions will be given due consideration.

Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Sanjay Seth, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, Secretary (Defence Production) Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat and other senior officials of Ministry of Defence attended the meeting. DG (ACE) and Directors & scientists of the cluster were also present.

https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2179962

## **Defence News**

Operation Sindoor is a glowing testimony to India's growing indigenous prowess: Raksha Mantri

Source: PIB, Dt. 16 Oct 202

"we hope to achieve Rs 3 lakh crore defence manufacturing target & Rs 50,000 crore exports target by 2029"

# Shri Rajnath Singh urges students to move beyond academic achievement and strive to become creators, innovators & contributors to national development

"Operation Sindoor is a glowing testimony to India's growing indigenous prowess which is a result of the Government's relentless efforts to create a self-reliant defence manufacturing ecosystem within the country," said Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh in Pune on October 16, 2025. He was elucidating the importance of possessing qualities such as faith and perseverance to the students of Symbiosis Skills and Professional University during their convocation ceremony.

Raksha Mantri told the students that when the Government commenced work to make India self-reliant in defence, it seemed difficult in the beginning, however, under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership, no stone was left unturned to expand the domestic defence manufacturing, and the efforts began to yield positive results due to this resolve.

"We pledged to move towards transforming the defence sector because, since independence, we had been heavily dependent on other countries for weapons. We had become accustomed to purchasing weapons as we lacked the political will to manufacture in India, nor did we have the laws that promoted defence manufacturing. This required a change. It is our resolve that India manufactures indigenous weapons for its soldiers. The entire world witnessed the bravery of our soldiers during *Operation Sindoor*. They achieved the set objectives using large amount of Made-in-India equipment," stated Shri Rajnath Singh.

Acknowledging the contribution of youth in defence manufacturing, Raksha Mantri stated that, in the last 10 years, annual defence production has increased from Rs 46,000 crore to a record Rs 1.5 lakh crore, of which approx. Rs 33,000 crore has been contributed by the private sector. He exuded confidence of achieving Rs 3 lakh crore defence manufacturing target and Rs 50,000 crore exports target by 2029.

Shri Rajnath Singh urged the students to move beyond academic achievement and strive to become creators, innovators and contributors to national development, emphasising that true success lies not merely in acquiring degrees but in applying knowledge meaningfully for the benefit of society.

Highlighting the importance of skill development in shaping India's future, Raksha Mantri said: "We are no longer in the era of 'What do you know?'. The world now asks, 'What can you do?' Knowledge that cannot be applied is incomplete. Skill is the bridge between learning and doing."

Speaking about the impact of technology, particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI), Shri Rajnath Singh dispelled fears about job loss and human redundancy, stating that AI will not replace humans, but those who use AI will replace those who don't. Technology must remain a tool, not a substitute for human sensitivity,

values, and ethics, he said, while also addressing the challenges posed by social media and external pressures. He exhorted the youth to follow their own dreams rather than get caught in comparisons.

As India steps into its *Amrit Kaal*, aiming to become a developed nation by 2047, Raksha Mantri told the students that they too are entering the most decisive phase of their lives. "The next 20-25 years won't just shape your careers, but also shape the destiny of the Nation. Let your ambition fuel the country's transformation," he said.

As part of the event, School of Defence and Aerospace Technology was inaugurated by Raksha Mantri and Maharashtra Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis. Other Ministers of the State Government and the Vice-Chancellor of the University were present on the occasion.

https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2179836

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## ऑपरेशन सिन्दूर रक्षा क्षेत्र में आत्मानिर्भरता का बेहतरीन उदाहरण : राजनाथ सिंह

Source: Punjab Kesari, Dt. 17 Oct 2025



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## सिन्दूर ने दिखाया , हम आत्मनिर्भर : राजनाथ सिंह

Source: Navbharat Times, Dt. 17 Oct 2025



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## एयरफोर्स की शक्ति में भारत ने चीन को पछाड़ा

Source: Navbharat Times, Dt. 17 Oct 2025



#### HAL's Nashik Mig-Sukhoi plant to build LCA Tejas now

Source: The Economic Times, Dt. 17 Oct 2025



marking a manufacturing technologies. The additional step towards self-reliance in millitary aviation.

Defence minister Rajnath Singh will preside over the first public flight of the locally-built LCA MklA from Nashik on Friday, symbolically closing a six-decade chapter of dependence on imported combat aircraft.

HAL's new production line technologies. The additional assembly line is fully operational with over 30 structure assembly ligs for major LCA MklA modules such as centre fuselage, rear fuselage, wings, and air intake, officials said.

During the visit, the defence minister will also inaugurate the second production rate the second production.

rate the second production line for the HTT-40 trainer aircraft, which is fully Indian in design and being pro-duced in both Bengaluru and Nashik to accelerate de-liveries to the Air Force.

lines in Bengaluru, the com-

## आत्मनिर्भरता का उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण ऑपरेशन सिन्दूर

Source: Navbharat Times, Dt. 17 Oct 2025

## आत्मनिर्भरता का उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण आपरेशन सिंदूर'

ने गुरुवार को आपरेशन सिंदूर को भारत के रक्षा क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भरता उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण बताया। उन्होंने कहा कि इस अभियान के दौरान समस्त्र बलों की ओर से उपयोग किए गए ज्यादातर उपकरण स्वदेशी थे। भारत ने उस बाधा को तोड दिया है, जो आजादी के बाद से बनी हुई थी।

रक्षा मंत्री पुणे में सिम्बायोसिस स्किल्स एंड प्रोफेशनल्स यूनिवर्सिटी के दीक्षा समारोह को संबोधित कर रहे थे। उन्होंने कहा, 'हमने रक्षा क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर बनने की दिशा में काम करना शुरू कर दिया है। शुरुआती दौर में यह मुश्किल था, क्योंकि हम पूरी व्यवस्था को बदलने की कोशिश कर हरे थे। आजादी के बाद से हम हथियारों



णे में गुरुवार को सलाहाकार समिति की बैठक के दौरान हल्के टैंक जोरावर में सवार रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह = प्रेट्

के लिए दूसरे देशों पर निर्भर थे। हमारे लिए विदेश से रक्षा उपकरण खरीदना एक जरूरत बन गई थी व स्वदेशी उत्पादन लगभग न के बराबर था। भारत ने अब उस बाधा को तोड़ दिया है, जो आजादी के बाद से बनी हुई थी।' कहा, 'हमने

श्वाज पहली बार उड़ान भरेगा स्वदेशी एलसीए मार्क १ए

नासिक, एएनआइ: भारत का स्वदेशी लडाक विमान तेजस एमके १ए शुक्रवार को एचएएल के नासिक संयंत्र से पहली बार उड़ान भरकर इतिहास रचेगा। हिंदुस्तान एयरोनाटिक्स लिमिटेड के नासिक संयंत्र में निर्मित पहला एलसीए मार्क १ए विमान रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह के समक्ष कौशल दिखाएगा। वायसेना को मार्क । ए लड़ाकू जेट की तेजी से डिलीवरी करने के उद्देश्य से

तीसरी प्रोडक्शन लाइन स्थापित की है। इससे एवएएल को वायुसेना द्वारा आर्डर किए गए 180 एलसीए मार्क १ए विमानों की आपूर्ति २०३२-३३ की निर्धारित समय-सीमा तक करने में मदद मिलेगी। ये ब्रह्मोस मिसाइल सहित कई स्वदेशी हथियारों से हमले करने में सक्षम है। इसमें प्रयुक्त 65% से अधिक घटक स्वदेशी निर्मित हैं।

एचएएल ने नासिक में विमानों के लिए

देश में ही हथियारों के निर्माण को जोरदार तरीके से बढ़ावा दिया है। 1.5 लाख करोड़ रुपये यह बिल्कल भी आसान नहीं था, क्योंकि देश रक्षा खरीद के मामले में एक सुविधाजनक स्थिति में पहुंच गया था।' बताया कि पिछले

हजार करोड़ रुपये से बढ़कर गया है। सरकार का लक्ष्य 2029 तक घरेलू रक्षा निर्माण को तीन लाख करोड़ रुपये तक ले जाना और रक्षा निर्यात को 50 10 वर्षों में रक्षा उत्पादन 46 हजार करोड़ रुपये तक बढ़ाना है।

## चीन को पछाड़ तीसरी ताकतवर वायुसेना बनी IAF

Source: Navbharat Times, Dt. 17 Oct 2025

## चीन को पछाड़ तीसरी ताकतवर वायुसेना बनी आइएएफ

जागरण न्यूज नेटवर्क, नई दिल्लीः भारत ने वायुसेना की ताकत के मोर्चे पर चीन को पीछे छोड़ दिया है। वर्ल्ड डायरेक्टरी आफ माहनं मिलिट्टी एवरक्राफ्ट (डब्ल्य्डीएमएमए) की ताजा रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, भारतीय वायुसेना (आइएएफ) अब अमेरिका रूस के बाद दुनिया की तीसरी सबसे ताकतवर वायुसेना बन गई है। चीन के पास भारत से ज्यादा लड़ाकु विमान हैं, लेकिन आइएएफ ज्यादा आधुनिक और मिशन को अंजाम देने के लिए बेहतर तरीके से तैयार है। भारत की ताकत आधुनिक ट्रेनिंग, तेज प्रतिक्रिया और सटीक हमलों में है। आपरेशन सिंदूर में भी भारतीय वायुसेना ने अपनी यह क्षमता साबित की है।



#### रैकिंग और टीवीआर

= अमेरिका २४२.9 = रुस ११४.2 = भारत 69.4 = चीन 63.8 ा जापान 58.1 नोट: टीवीआर को दुवैल रेटिंग कहते है। डब्ल्यूडीएमएमए वायुसेनाओं की रैकिंग करने के लिए इसी पैमाने का इस्तेमाल करती है।

डब्ल्युडीएमएमए ऐसे तैयार करती है रैंकिंगः डब्ल्यूडीएमएमए हर साल दुनिया भर की वायुसेनाओं की ताकत को आंकती है। यह रैंकिंग सिर्फ विमानों की संख्या से नहीं

#### आपरेशन सिंदर में दिखी थी भारत की तैयारी

भारत की तैयारी की झलक हाल ही में हुए आपरेशन सिंदूर में देखने को मिली, जहां भारतीय वायुसेना ने पाकिस्तान की वायुसेना को भारी नुकसान पहुंचाया। सेना के डायरेक्टर जनरल आफ मिलिट्री आपरेशंस ( डीजीएमओ) लेफ्टिनेट जनरल राजीव घर्ड ने बताया था कि आपरेशन सिंदर के दौरान एलओसी पर पाकिस्तान के 100 से अधिक सैनिक मारे गए थे और कम से कम 12 विमान तबाह हो गए।

बनती है। इसमें लडाक ताकत, रक्षा क्षमता, लाजिस्टक सपोर्ट, ट्रेनिंग और तकनीकी आधुनिकता भी मायने रखती है। चीन अपनी वायुसेना को अपग्रेड करने और

करने पर अरबों डालर खर्च कर रहा है। वहीं भारत सिर्फ मशीनों पर नहीं, पायलटों की ट्रेनिंग और युद्ध की तैयारी पर भी ध्वान देता है। भारत की वायुसेना के ताकतवर होने का कारण बेहतर ट्रेनिंग, तेज प्रतिक्रिया देने की क्षमता, सटीक की तीनों सेनाओं आमीं, नेवी और एयरफोर्स के बीच अच्छा तालमेल भी है। यही साझेदारी युद्ध के समय काम आती है। रूस के पास ज्यादा विमान हैं, लेकिन फिर भी वह यूक्रेन पर हवाई प्रभुत्व नहीं बना पाया। दूसरी और इजरायल ने 2025 में सिर्फ चार दिन में ईरान के वायुक्षेत्र में दबदबा बना लिया था, क्योंकि उसकी योजना और तकनीक बेहतर थी।

#### **Army chief revisits Capt Salaria's Bravery**

Source: The Tribune, Dt. 17 Oct 2025



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## Prime Minister dedicates to the nation Advanced Night Vision factory in Nimmaluru, Andhra Pradesh

Source: PIB, Dt. 16 Oct 2025

Marking another step towards *Aatmanirbharta* in defence, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation an Advanced Night Vision factory in Nimmaluru, Andhra Pradesh on October 16, 2025. The facility is among the multiple development projects worth around Rs 13,430 crore which the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for, inaugurated, and dedicated to the nation in Kurnool.

Addressing the gathering, he stated that the Advanced Night Vision factory will enhance India's capability to produce night vision equipment, missile sensors, and drone guard systems, and will elevate the country's defence exports to newer heights. He added that the entire world had witnessed the success of Indigenous weapon systems during *Operation Sindoor*.

Expressing satisfaction that the Andhra Pradesh government has resolved to develop Kurnool as India's drone hub, the Prime Minister stated that through the drone industry, several new sectors linked to futuristic technologies will emerge in Kurnool and across Andhra. He cited the success of drones in *Operation Sindoor* and affirmed that Kurnool will become a national strength in the drone sector in the coming years.

#### About the facility

Established by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) at an investment of around Rs 360 crore, the facility has been created to meet the demands of Armed Forces as also for Export purposes for various electro-optical devices (Advanced Night Vision Devices), Infrared Seekers for various indigenously developed missiles and

different types of drone guard systems for protection from rogue drones, UAV and other aerial threats. It has been constructed at Nimmaluru, Krishna District in 50.54 acres of land with a built-up area of 36,000 sqm.

The facility will cater to the growing demands with flexible production lines and space that can accommodate future product lines and advanced manufacturing techniques. It will also generate employment over a period of 2 to 3 years.

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# UNTCC CHIEFS' CONCLAVE 2025 CONCLUDES IN NEW DELHI WITH SHARED COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHENING UN PEACEKEEPING

Source: PIB, Dt. 16 Oct 2025

The UNTCC Chiefs' Conclave 2025, hosted by the Indian Army from 14-16 October 2025, concluded today with high-level deliberations, solemn ceremonies and reaffirmation of collective resolve to strengthen United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Smt Droupadi Murmu, the Hon'ble President of India interacted with the Chiefs and Representatives of UN Troop Contributing Nations, during a Call On at Rashtrapati Bhawan. Highlighting the positive contribution of Indian Peace-keepers, the President appreciated all the participating countries in their resolve towards sustainable peace and prosperity. She expressed her happiness of coming together of countries in the UN TCC Chiefs' Conclave to collectively evolve workable framework for future peace-keeping operations in the challenging world order. The Hon'ble President stressed on the need to coopt all stake holders and exploit technology to ensure deeper cooperation, enduring friendship and safety of UN peace-keepers.

Earlier, Shri S Jaishankar, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India, in his address, underscored the need to recalibrate global peacekeeping efforts in tune with evolving realities. Highlighting that the nature of conflicts has transformed with the rise of non-state actors and asymmetric warfare, he called for decisions on peacekeeping mandates to be taken in close consultation with all stakeholders, including troop-contributing and host nations. Dr Jaishankar emphasised that while UN peacekeeping remains a cornerstone of global stability, it must adapt to emerging challenges through realistic mandates, better technology and enhanced safety for peacekeepers.

An Interactive Session on "Leveraging Technology in UN Peacekeeping" brought together Chiefs and Representatives of UN TCC and 15 industry leaders, to explore the role of innovation and indigenous solutions in enhancing operational effectiveness. Discussions highlighted the potential of emerging technologies in improving situational awareness, logistics, and troop safety and provided opportunities to share and mutually benefit from each others capabilities and possibilities on offer.

General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff, held a series of bilateral meetings with the Army Chiefs of Burundi, Tanzania, Poland, Ethiopia, Nepal and Uganda. The discussions centred on strengthening defence cooperation, enhancing interoperability and fostering closer coordination in future peacekeeping missions. These engagements reflected the Conclave's overarching spirit of dialogue, partnership and shared commitment towards promoting global peace, stability and collective security.

A Defence Expo featuring nine operational domains and 41 exhibitors was organised as part of the UN TCC Chiefs' Conclave, showcasing a wide range of indigenous weapon systems, platforms and cutting-edge technologies. The exhibition reflected India's growing emphasis on Aatmanirbharta (self-reliance) in defence production, underscoring the nation's commitment to design, develop and manufacture advanced military systems through indigenous innovation and industry collaboration.

Earlier in the day, the distinguished UNTCC Chiefs accompanied by their spouses, paid homage at the National War Memorial in New Delhi, honouring the supreme sacrifice of India's bravehearts. This was followed by a tree plantation ceremony at the Manekshaw Centre, symbolising a joint pledge towards sustainability and a greener future in line with the spirit of peacekeeping. The Ashoka saplings planted in the 'Peacekeepers Grove' is in consonance with the national initiative - "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam", symbolising gratitude, care and the nurturing bond that connects humanity and nature.

#### **Key Takeaways**

The Conclave concluded with an unanimous affirmation that UN peacekeeping must adapt to new realities through: -

- Inclusive decision-making with a stronger voice for troop-contributing nations.
- Safeguard peacekeepers and ensure their safety through realistic mandates.
- Leveraging indigenous and cost-effective technologies for mission success.
- Enhanced interoperability and training frameworks to prepare troops for complex environments.
- Sustained partnerships rooted in trust, cooperation and shared responsibility.

Over the past three days, the Conclave brought together UNTCC Chiefs' from 32 nations, senior UN officials, policymakers and industry leaders. The deliberations, cultural exchanges and operational showcases stood as a testament to India's commitment to bring together consensus through a collaborative approach towards a shared vision of a secure, inclusive and stable world order.

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### INDIAN NAVY SUCCESSFULLY ORGANISES SEMINAR ON 'IMPACT OF CYBER ATTACKS ON MARITIME SECTOR AND ITS EFFECTS ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS'

Source: PIB, Dt. 16 Oct 2025

Indian Navy successfully organized a seminar on 'Impact of Cyber Attacks on Maritime Sector and Its Effects on National Security and International Relations' at the Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi on 16 Oct 2025. The event was aimed at enhancing the understanding of cyber threats in the maritime domain and fostering collaboration amongst key stakeholders to strengthen the national cybersecurity posture.

Adm Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of the Naval Staff welcomed the Chief Guest, Hon'ble Minister of State for the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), and Commerce & Industry, Shri Jitin Prasada, who delivered the Keynote Address and stressed upon the growing significance of cybersecurity in safeguarding the maritime sector and our responsibility towards building a robust, resilient, and responsive maritime cyber defence architecture.

CNS in his address, emphasised the government's focus on the maritime sector as central to India's economic and security goals. Under the vision of 'Samudra se Samriddhi', India's maritime growth is guided by initiatives like Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, Sagarmala, and PM Gati Shakti. He also highlighted the need to embed cybersecurity into all maritime systems from inception and strengthen coordination among stakeholders for rapid information sharing.

The seminar featured three eminent panel discussions each led by distinguished experts from the key ministries and organisations including the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG), the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS), the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH), the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), the National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC), and the National Maritime Foundation (NMF) as well as leaders from private organisations. The panels addressed Global Cyber Threats to Maritime Infrastructure, Civil and Military Partnership, and Maritime Sector as Critical Information Infrastructure.

The discussion brought out the increasing importance of cybersecurity in the maritime sector, stressing the urgent need to identify the maritime sector as an independent Critical Information Infrastructure (CII).

On the sidelines of the seminar, a Tech Exhibition was organised in partnership with Data Security Council of India (DSCI) featuring indigenous innovations in cybersecurity and defence technologies by various Startups from across the country towards promoting Aatmanirbharta and the vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

The key outcomes of the seminar included identification of vulnerabilities within the digital ecosystem supporting the maritime sector and formulation of mitigation strategies to strengthen the overall cybersecurity in the maritime sector.

This seminar is a testament that the Navy remains committed to enhancing maritime cyber resilience, fostering collaboration among the policymakers, industry, and technologists to ensure India's secure and prosperous digital maritime future.

## Science & Technology News

# India elected as Co-Chair of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) for 2025-2028 term

Source: PIB, Dt. 16 Oct 2025

India represented by the Surveyor General of India, Shri Hitesh Kumar S. Makwana, IAS, has been elected to the prestigious position of Co-Chair of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP).

The elections were conducted during the fourteenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP held from 24-26 September, 2025 in Goyang-si, Republic of Korea, hosted by the National Geographic Information Institute (NGII), Republic of Korea. The Meeting brought together delegates from member states, technical experts and observers to discuss issues relevant in geospatial information management across the Asia-Pacific region. Reports were presented by the Executive Board, working groups, and partner organizations on their progress and future plans.

India's election as Co-Chair highlights growing leadership of India in the global geospatial arena and acknowledges its contribution in advancing innovation, capacity building, and regional collaboration. With the support of all member states of Asia-Pacific region, India looks forward to a productive three-year term aligned with the UN-GGIM Strategic Framework.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Makwana said; "I am deeply honoured by the trust that the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region have placed in India. As we look ahead to the upcoming term, I wholeheartedly seek the continued cooperation and active support of all Member States, partners, and stakeholders.

Together with my fellow Co-Chair, Vice-Chairs, and Committee members, I am committed to working collaboratively with each of you to ensure our collective efforts are inclusive, resilient, and results-driven. "

He further mentioned that, in the coming term, our initiatives will be closely aligned with the UN-GGIM Strategic Framework—focusing on strong leadership, secure digital transformation, and good governance. We will promote data-driven decision-making, inclusivity, and transparency, while strengthening partnerships and building capacity to deliver measurable impact across the Asia-Pacific region. He expressed gratitude for the continued confidence and support, and conveyed his eagerness to further collaborate in advancing a more connected, capable, and forward-looking geospatial community.

The election of the Surveyor General of India as Co-Chair is expected to further enhance India's role in shaping policies and strategies for effective geospatial information management across the Asia-Pacific region.

About-UN-GGIM-AP: The UN-GGIM-AP is one of the five regional committees of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM). Representing the National Geospatial Information Agencies of 56 countries in Asia and the Pacific region, it works to maximize the economic, social, and environmental benefits of geospatial information through cooperation, capacity development, and shared solutions.

UN-GGIM is the apex inter-governmental mechanism for making joint decisions and setting directions with regard to the production, availability and use of geospatial information within national, regional and global policy frameworks. UN-GGIM aims to address global challenges regarding the use of geospatial information, including in the development agendas, to serve as a body for global policymaking in the field of geospatial information management.

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The Tribune The Statesman पंजाब केसरी जनसत्ता The Hindu The Economic Times Press Information Bureau The Indian Express The Times of India Hindustan Times नवभारत टाइम्स दैनिक जागरण The Asian Age
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