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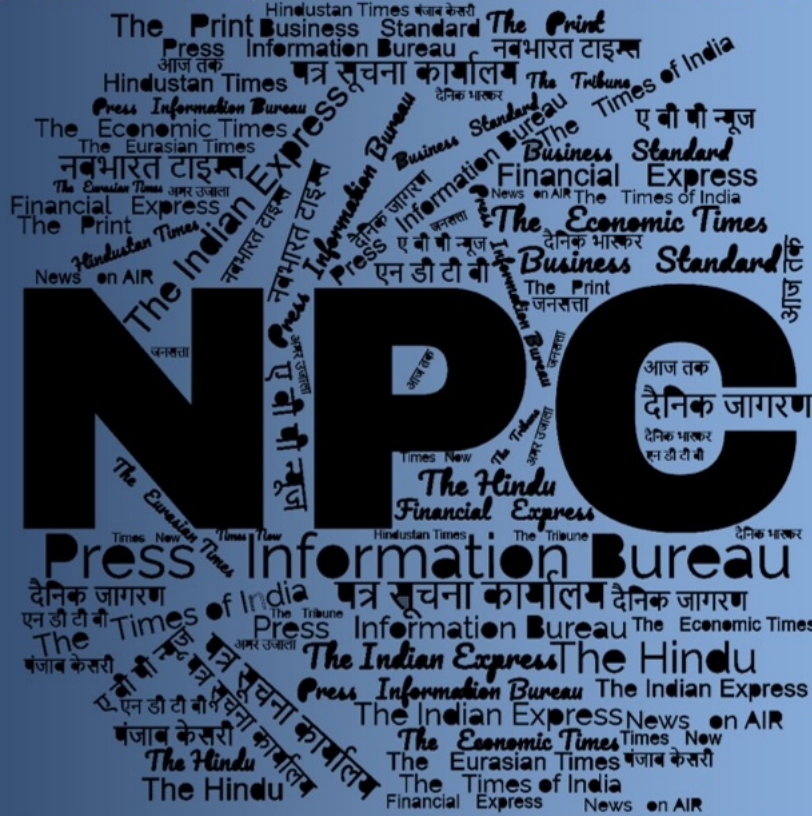
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# समाचार पत्रों से चयनित अंश Newspapers Clippings

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

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## CONTENTS

S. No.	Title	Source	Page No.
<b>DRDO News</b>			<b>1-2</b>
1	CDS inaugurates two-day CBRN Conclave organised by DRDO in New Delhi	<i>Press Information Bureau</i>	1
<b>Defence News</b>			<b>2-9</b>
2	4th Meeting of Joint Defence Cooperation Committee between India and Kenya Concluded	<i>Press Information Bureau</i>	2
3	'पाकिस्तान की परमाणु शक्ति से नहीं डरते, ऑपरेशन सिंदूर 2.0 और खतरनाक होगा'	<i>Dainik Jagran</i>	3
4	Army ready, won't deterred by nuclear threat: Lt Gen Katiyar	<i>The Indian Express</i>	4
5	President of India to take sortie in indigenous Light Combat Helicopter (Prachand) tomorrow	<i>Press Information Bureau</i>	5
6	एयरफोर्स ने दिखाया एस-400 का एक्शन मोड	<i>NavBharat Times</i>	5
7	In a first, IAF video shows S-400 in action	<i>The Tribune</i>	5
8	Future Warfare Course 3.0 Concludes, Strengthening Strategic and Technological Readiness	<i>Press Information Bureau</i>	6
9	Raksha Rajya Mantri inaugurates Chungthang-Lachen Axis and Taram Chu Bridge in Sikkim	<i>Press Information Bureau</i>	7
10	Military funding merits long-term planning	<i>The Tribune</i>	7
11	भारतीय नौसेना में शामिल होगा आईएनएस अंजदीप	<i>NavBharat Times</i>	9
<b>Science &amp; Technology News</b>			<b>10-11</b>
12	TDB supports Ayukriyam Innovations Pvt. Ltd. for Development of 'Autoscope' – An AI-Driven Whole Slide Imaging Diagnostic System	<i>Press Information Bureau</i>	10
13	TDB-DST supports Carbon Craft Design Pvt. Ltd. for Commercialization of Eco-Friendly Ultra-Low Carbon Wall Claddings	<i>Press Information Bureau</i>	11

# DRDO News

## CDS inaugurates two-day CBRN Conclave organised by DRDO in New Delhi

*Source: Press Information Bureau, Dt. 26 Feb 2026*

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is organising Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Conclave at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi on February 26 & 27, 2026. The conference, with the theme 'From policy to practice: Building CBRN resilient India', was inaugurated by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan. It brings together various experts and policymakers from the Armed Forces, CAPFs, and NDRF etc. with the aim to strengthen India's response against CBRN threats.

In his address, the Chief of Defence Staff commended the work done by DRDO towards achieving self-reliance in CBRN defence technologies. Quoting Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, he stated that India will not be deterred by nuclear blackmail, emphasising that "CBRN needs to be considered as more of an environment than a threat, and we should brace ourselves to learn to live and operate in contaminated environments." He underlined the need to stay ready with indigenous, state-of-the-art CBRN defence equipment for early warning systems, light weight Individual Protective Equipment & gadgets, well researched SOPs, and protocols to carry out coordinated operations in synergy with military and civilian establishment.

Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat voiced the DRDO's commitment to build CBRN resilient India through its specialised labs and centres which dedicatedly work on developing advanced technology for defence against CBRN threats. He urged the participants of the conference to utilise this as an opportunity for peer learning and contribute to advance research endeavours to build a resilient India.



Guest of Honour of the event, DG Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin congratulated DRDO for timely organising this conclave and said that this will not only help in reflecting on the outstanding work done by its Scientists & Engineers but also bring in the users' perspective for making a robust plan for futuristic technology development. She commended

Vikiran Prehri program, a joint initiative of DRDO and AFMS for training the medical doctors of AFMS & CAPFs and said that the program has resulted in capacity building in the country for availability of trained manpower in medical management of radiological events.

DG (Soldier Support System) Dr UK Singh spelt out the broad contours of the conclave and modalities of engagement. He urged all the stakeholders to utilise this platform as an opportunity to come up with varied scenarios and the criticality in their operations and prepare a comprehensive plan, which will work as a guiding document for development of products/technologies with a speed of relevance to tackle any CBRN threat whatsoever.

The two-day event focuses on enhancing national resilience by incorporation of stakeholder's perspectives in training and infusion of technologies. This will enhance the preparedness of security agencies in coordinated response for handling any CBRN event. The conclave underlined DRDO's commitment in building a robust national network centric command and control framework utilising state-of-the-art sensors and Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning tech for CBRN security & defence of the nation.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2233229&reg=3&lang=1>

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## Defence News

### 4th Meeting of Joint Defence Cooperation Committee between India and Kenya Concluded

*Source: Press Information Bureau, Dt. 26 Feb 2026*

The fourth meeting of the Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) between India and Kenya was held in Nairobi, Kenya between 24th and 26th February 2026. Discussions focused on expanding Services engagements, enhancing training opportunities, strengthening maritime security cooperation, and promoting collaboration in defence R&D and production. Both countries expressed satisfaction on the progress made since the previous JDCC meeting and agreed to formulate a five year roadmap to further deepen and expand defence cooperation. Both sides agreed to broaden the scope of service-to-service engagements, including initiating structured interactions between their respective Navies.

Both countries deliberated on cooperation in customized training programmes, instituting military exercises, border management, capacity building in advanced domains such as Electronic Warfare, Cyber Security, cooperation in military medical services, including training and knowledge exchange. The meeting was co-chaired by Shri Amitabh Prasad, Joint Secretary (IC) and Major General Fredrick L. Leuria, Assistant Chief of Defence Forces, Kenya. The Indian delegation included senior officers from Department of Defence, Services and DGAFMS. Ambassador of India in Kenya Dr. Adarsh Swaika and India's Defence Attache in Kenya also joined the meeting.

The Indian delegation called on Chief of Defence Forces General Charles Kahariri and Principal Secretary Defence Dr Patrick Mariru of Kenya and briefed them on the key outcomes of the 4th India-Kenya JDCC. The discussions focused on expanding and deepening India-Kenya defence cooperation. The Indian delegation interacted with Commandant NDC, Kenya Lt Gen Juma Shee Mwinyikai who briefed them on the role of NDC Kenya in preparing Kenyan Defence Forces and

civilians to make strategic and important decisions in their future higher roles. Both sides discussed ways to further strengthen defence training cooperation between India and Kenya.

The Indian delegation also called on Commander of Kenya Navy Maj Gen Paul Otieno at the Mtongwe Naval base. They discussed ways to further strengthen Naval cooperation through deeper engagement between the two Navies. As part of the visit, the delegation toured the CT Scan Radiology Centre at Mtongwe, gaining insights into ongoing initiatives in military medical infrastructure and healthcare support services, and Kenya Naval Training College at the naval base.

Joint Secretary (IC) also paid homage at the Joint India-Africa Commemorative Memorial at Mile 27, Taita Taveta County, Kenya to honour the valour and the supreme sacrifice of the unknown Indian and African soldiers who laid down their lives during World War I in the East African theatre, reaffirming the shared respect for the sacrifices of Indian and African soldiers. India attaches great importance to its relationship with Kenya, which is anchored in historical links, shared democratic values and close people-to-people ties.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2233323&reg=3&lang=1>

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## 'पाकिस्तान की परमाणु शक्ति से नहीं डरते, ऑपरेशन सिंदूर 2.0 और खतरनाक होगा'

Source: Dainik Jagran, Dt. 27 Feb 2026

जागरण संवाददाता, पठानकोट: भारत पाकिस्तान की परमाणु धमकी से नहीं डरता है। अब अगर पाकिस्तान ने दुस्साहस किया तो भारतीय सेना की प्रतिक्रिया ऑपरेशन सिंदूर से भी ज्यादा खतरनाक होगी। अब अगर ऑपरेशन सिंदूर 2.0 हुआ तो दुनिया के नक्शे से पाकिस्तान ही खत्म हो जाएगा। यह बात गुरुवार को पठानकोट पहुंचे पश्चिमी कमांड के जनरल आफिसर कमांडिंग लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल मनोज कुमार कटियार ने कही। वह यहां बीते वर्ष में विशेषकर ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के दौरान असाधारण प्रदर्शन करने वाली यूनिट के पदाधिकारियों को सम्मानित करने आए थे। उन्होंने चेतावनी दी कि अगर पाक ने फिर कोई दुस्साहस किया, तो भारत की कार्रवाई केवल आतंकी कैम्प या एयरबेस तक सीमित नहीं रहेगी। जीत ऐसी होगी कि दुनिया देखेगी।



पठानकोट में सैनिकों को संबोधित करते हुए पश्चिमी कमांड के जीओसी लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल मनोज कुमार कटियार • सौ. सेना

### अग्नि ड्रोन प्लाटून बना रही सेना

कटारिया ने कहा कि युद्ध में ड्रोन का उपयोग अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण हो गया है। इसी कारण युद्ध क्षमताओं को मजबूत करने के लिए इन्फैंट्री, आर्टिलरी और आर्म्ड रेजिमेंट्स में समर्पित अग्नि ड्रोन प्लाटून बनाई जा रही हैं। हर रेजिमेंट के पास ड्रोन युद्ध में विशेषज्ञता रखने वाली छोटी इकाइयां होंगी।

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# Army ready, won't be deterred by nuclear threat: Lt Gen Katiyar

Source: *The Indian Express*, Dt. 27 Feb 2026



Bhairav Battalion, the Army's elite force tasked with operational requirements along the India-Pakistan borders, perform during the Capability Demonstration and Investiture Ceremony organised by the Western Command at Dhyana Chand Stadium in Punjab's Pathankot on Thursday. PTI

## Press Trust of India

Pathankot, February 26

THE ARMY is fully prepared for future contingencies and will not be deterred by nuclear threats, Western Command chief Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar said on Thursday, asserting that "any future conflict would see decisive outcome on the ground".

Lt Gen Katiyar said during Operation Sindoor, Pakistan desperately sought a ceasefire while simultaneously issuing nuclear threats. "They said if they go down, they will take half the world with them. During Operation Sindoor, we ignored their nuclear threats. This time, we are better prepared as compared to the past, with a clear future plan," he said while addressing troops after an investiture ceremony at Dhyana Singh Stadium in the Mamoon Military Station in Pathankot.

He asserted that Pakistan had neither the courage, nor the strength to take on India in open



Western Command chief Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar in Pathankot on Thursday. PTI

combat, and resorted to proxy warfare to provoke a response. "Pakistan has repeatedly provoked India through their terrorist outfits, so that when we retaliate, it escalates into a war-like situation and they garner support from their people." He further alleged, "They (Pakistan) spread lies in the media to promote their general to field marshal and deceived their public. This time, we will not give them such an opportunity."

Lt General Katiyar stressed that future success would not be limited to destroying bases or posts. "This time, we will not

limit our victory to destroying base stations and posts alone; our victory will be on the ground. It will be so decisive that they will be brought to their knees and will have to accept their defeat before the world."

Underscoring the role of formations under the Western Command, he told troops that their position and preparedness would be critical in achieving decisive objectives during future action. "You must have the courage to enter enemy territory, seize important areas and inflict injuries. At the same time, you have to protect Jammu and Punjab. Your success in the next operation will make the country proud."

Addressing troops during an operational demonstration organised on a training field, he said, "Instead of a ceremonial display, we showcased modern equipment and operational capabilities. This is our way of thanking the units that performed exceptionally well during Operation Sindoor..."

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## President of India to take sortie in indigenous Light Combat Helicopter (Prachand) tomorrow

Source: Press Information Bureau, Dt. 26 Feb 2026

The Hon'ble President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu will visit Jaisalmer, Rajasthan tomorrow (February 27, 2026) to witness Indian Air Force's Exercise Vayu Shakti. Prior to the exercise, Hon'ble President will fly a sortie in indigenous Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) at Jaisalmer. The mission will be undertaken as a two aircraft LCH formation, with Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, flying in the second LCH.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2233303&reg=3&lang=1>

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## एयरफोर्स ने दिखाया एस-400 का एक्शन मोड

Source: NavBharat Times, Dt. 27 Feb 2026

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■ नई दिल्ली : इंडियन एयरफोर्स ने गुरुवार को विडियो जारी किया, जिसमें पहली बार S-400 एयर डिफेंस मिसाइल सिस्टम को एक्शन करते हुए दिखाया गया। 'ऑपरेशन सिंदूर' का साफ सकेत देते हुए, मिसाइल को मिलिट्री इतिहास में अब तक का सबसे लंबी दूरी का एयर किल करने वाली बताया गया।

रूस से लिए गए S-400 एयर डिफेंस सिस्टम ने पिछले साल मई में पाकिस्तान के खिलाफ चलाए गए 'ऑपरेशन सिंदूर' में अहम भूमिका निभाई थी। इस सिस्टम ने लगभग 300 किलोमीटर दूर पाकिस्तानी क्षेत्र के अंदर पाकिस्तान एयरफोर्स के एक विमान को मार गिराया था। विडियो में एयरफोर्स ने कहा कि 'दुश्मन हमारी पहुंच से बाहर हो सकता है, लेकिन हमारी नजर से कभी बाहर नहीं।'

**रडार में जेट आते ही सिस्टम एक्टिव**

विडियो में रडार पर एक आते हुए जेट की पहचान और उसके बाद एयर डिफेंस सिस्टम के सक्रिय होने की प्रक्रिया दिखाई गई है। हालांकि ये विडियो ऑपरेशन सिंदूर का नहीं है और एयरफोर्स ने इसे वायुशक्ति एक्सरसाइज से पहले रिलीज किया है। वायुशक्ति एक्सरसाइज शुक्रवार यानी आज पोखरण में होनी है।

आज 'वायुशक्ति' में IAF दिखाएगी दमखम



पाकिस्तान बॉर्डर के पास पोखरण रेंज में एयरफोर्स अपनी ताकत का शुक्रवार को प्रदर्शन करेगी। एक्सरसाइज वायुशक्ति के जरिए अपनी अत्याधुनिक युद्ध क्षमता, स्वदेशी इनोवेशन और एकीकृत युद्ध तैयारी की झलक दिखाएगी। ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के दौरान किस तरह एयरफोर्स ने पाकिस्तान को सबक सिखाया, ये भी दिखेगा। राफेल, मिराज, जगुआर जैसे कई एयरक्राफ्ट शामिल होंगे। एयरफोर्स इससे प्रतिरोध (डिटरेस) का संदेश देगी और आत्मनिर्भर भारत की तस्वीर पेश करेगी।

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## In a first, IAF video shows S-400 in action

Source: The Tribune, Dt. 27 Feb 2026

The Indian Air Force on Thursday released the first-ever video showing an S-400 air defence missile system firing away, and, in an obvious reference to Operation Sindoor, tagged the missile in flight as having conducted the "longest-ever air kill recorded in military history".

The Russian-origin system played a key role in Operation Sindoor against Pakistan in May last year and brought down a Pakistan air force plane some 300 km away inside Pakistan's territory. "Enemy may be out of reach, but is never out of sight" said the IAF video put out on Thursday. It also has a radar image showing an approaching jet that is picked up by the radar and that activates the air-defence mechanism.

The video of the missiles is not from the operation, but is part of the promotions for the upcoming exercise Vayu Shakti scheduled to be conducted on February 27 in Rajasthan. In October last year, IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal AP Singh had said IAF destroyed or damaged at least a dozen planes of Pakistan during the operation. Counting the IAF strikes, he had said then “we have clear evidence of a long-range hit that was almost 300 km away. It happened to be a PAF signal intelligence plane along with that five hi-tech fighters between the F-16 and the J-17 ( Chinese) class, is what our system tells us”.

The strikes in air were done using the Russian S-400 air defence system, the IAF Chief had hinted calling it the newly inducted long-rang surface-to-air missile. Mentioning, the S-400 missiles he had said “the long range SAMs (surface-to-air missiles) that we have procured recently and operationalised, that again turned the tables on them. We could look deep inside their territory. We could make sure that they were not able to operate even within their territory to a certain distance”.

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/top-headlines/in-a-first-iaf-video-shows-s-400-in-action/>

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## **Future Warfare Course 3.0 Concludes, Strengthening Strategic and Technological Readiness**

**Source: Press Information Bureau, Dt. 26 Feb 2026**

The third edition of the Future Warfare Course (FWC-03) culminated on February 25, 2026 at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi. The course was organised by the Doctrine, Organisation and Training (DOT) under the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS) from February 2 - 25, 2026. Curated through the vision of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan, the FWC 3.0 provided a heady mix of operational and strategic alignment and technological proficiency to the participants. A total of 39 officers from the army, navy and air force participated in the course.

The course was conducted in two phases. The first phase included members from startups, MSMEs, private industry, academia & defence public sector undertakings (DPSUs), highlighting the civil-military fusion aligned with India’s quest for self-reliance in national security. During the second phase, the participants interacted with the academia and subject matter experts (SMEs) including space tech companies and counter Unmanned Aircraft System (C-UAS) companies at Hyderabad from February 15-17, 2026. Visits to these companies also included field demonstrations of cutting-edge technologies.

Visits to Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) Gurugram and Indian Institute of Technology Delhi were also conducted for deeper insight in the field. The participants were also familiarized with cognitive warfare by exposing them to a media and social media interface. The course was focused on Multi Domain Operations (MDO) and culminated with a two day Strategic War gaming Exercise mentored by retired Ambassadors and representatives of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). The participants gained insightful knowledge on foreign policy, international and internal affairs to reinforce their military beliefs.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2233177&reg=3&lang=1>

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## Raksha Rajya Mantri inaugurates Chungthang-Lachen Axis and Taram Chu Bridge in Sikkim

*Source: Press Information Bureau, Dt. 26 Feb 2026*

Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Sanjay Seth inaugurated Chungthang – Lachen axis and a 400 ft Bailey Suspension Taram Chu Bridge in North Sikkim restored by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO). It is a major milestone in post-disaster recovery efforts by BRO following the devastating cloud bursts in May-June 2025, Cyclone Remal in June 2024 and the Glacial Lake Outburst Flood in October 2023.

To restore the Lines of Communication, BRO cleared 96 landslides, constructed four major bridges, and repaired two others under Project Swastik. The BRO engineering team completed eight kilometers of fresh formation cutting and created various diversions to navigate unstable slopes and sinking zones. These efforts follow the opening of the 7.5 km Naga-Toong stretch in October 2025, which further established connectivity in the region. The completion of the 28 km Chungthang-Lachen road and the Taram Chu Bridge will cater the needs of local residents, security agencies and boost regional economic activities.



RRM noted that these assets are pivotal to the infrastructure development of North Sikkim and the well-being of locals. He acknowledged the Border Roads Organisation for their consistent work in the region. The inauguration of these vital road connectivity assets align with the 'Atmanirbhar Sikkim-Viksit Bharat Vision' outlined by the Chief Minister of Sikkim.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2233059&reg=3&lang=1>

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## Military funding merits long-term planning

*-by Lt Gen DS Hooda Retd*

*Source: The Tribune, Dt. 27 Feb 2026*

The Indian defence budget announced for 2026-27 has been broadly welcomed by the armed forces and the industry. Defence allocation, at Rs 7.85 lakh crore, has increased by 15.19% over the previous year's estimates of Rs 6.81 lakh crore. In a push for modernisation, the capital budget is almost 22% higher than last year, with 75% spending earmarked for the domestic defence

industry. Approximately 20% of the total defence budget is earmarked for revenue expenditure on sustenance and operational preparedness. Although revenue expenditure is often viewed as not contributing to modernisation, it is critical to ensure the readiness of forces deployed on our unsettled borders and in the maritime spaces that are vital for India's economic growth.

While the government's focus on national security is clear, we must ask the larger question: how is defence spending contributing to the development of our military power? This question is important because we often equate military capability with inputs, assuming that higher defence spending automatically translates into better capability. While budgets matter, outputs are the real measure — what is our readiness status today? And there are some concerns here. The Indian Air Force (IAF) is down to 29 squadrons, the lowest figure since the 1960s. A total of 180 Tejas Mk1A are on order, but deliveries have not yet commenced. Media reports indicate that some pending issues remain before the IAF can accept the aircraft, but assuming these are resolved, the delivery of 180 aircraft will be completed by 2033.

The government has approved a deal to procure 114 Rafale fighter aircraft at a cost of about \$36 billion. Eighteen aircraft will be procured in fly-away condition from France, and 96 are to be manufactured in India with 60% indigenous content. Considering the current backlog of orders with Dassault Aviation, the first aircraft is likely to arrive in India after three years. The shortfall in air-to-air refuellers will be made up by converting six second-hand Boeing 767 airframes into tankers by Israel Aerospace Industries, in partnership with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. Also approved are six additional Airborne Early Warning & Control Systems, based on the Embraer aircraft. Both these projects are likely to see completion by 2032.

There is justifiable pride in the Indian Navy's indigenous shipbuilding capacity. Project 17A, which aims to equip the Navy with seven advanced stealth frigates, is on track with four frigates commissioned and the remaining three to be delivered this year. Project 15B, which was to provide the Navy with four stealth guided-missile destroyers, was completed in 2025. The challenge before the Navy is the induction of a new class of frigates and destroyers. Project 17B, the next-generation frigates, was approved in 2024, but the Request for Proposal has yet to be issued. Project 18, the next-generation destroyers, is in an advanced planning stage, but formal approval is pending. Therefore, it appears unlikely that any new frigate or destroyer will be inducted into the Navy in the next five years.

There is a similar situation with Project 75I for six advanced diesel-electric submarines with Air-Independent Propulsion technology. Approved in 2019, the project is in advanced negotiations, and the first submarine is expected to be commissioned in 2032. The Army is also seeking replacements for its existing infantry fighting vehicles and battle tanks. Both projects have experienced numerous delays, and the earliest induction is unlikely before 2030. Due to delays in the procurement of new equipment, the Army has initiated projects to upgrade existing infantry fighting vehicles, air defence guns and artillery.

India ranks among the top five spenders globally on defence. There are voices in India's security establishment that regularly call for increasing the defence budget to at least 2.5% of the GDP, up from the current 2%. However, the central challenge is not the amount of funds, but the effectiveness of the ecosystem and processes that support military capability development. In this regard, three recommendations are made. First, the military must be funded in accordance with a long-term plan. Each service prepares a 10-year Integrated Capability Development Plan (ICDP) that the Chief of Defence Staff harmonises. The ICDP is approved by the Defence Acquisition Council in the Ministry of Defence. However, since there is no approval of this plan by the Ministry

of Finance, annual budgetary allocations reflect funding for annual requirements rather than a long-term plan. The government must approve the ICDP and ensure a regular flow of funds to ensure its completion.

One problem plaguing the modernisation of the military is that decision-making is hesitant and personalised. There are numerous examples, from fighter aircraft to submarines to tanks, which took decades from initiation to approval. A well-defined long-term capability plan can help mitigate this problem by making decisions more structured, predictable and institutionally anchored. Second, the procurement process requires structural reform. While some corrective steps have been taken, including updated acquisition manuals, the underlying culture remains overly compliance-driven, procedurally cumbersome and risk-averse. As Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh observed in June 2025, the real bottleneck is the acquisition cycle itself, with the purchase of weapon systems stretching five to six years. Such delays mean that systems risk obsolescence by the time they enter service and also undermine private-sector participation, since firms wait for years with no clear idea of orders.

Third, India must invest more in research and development (R&D). India's spending on R&D is about 0.65% of the GDP, well below the global average of 2%. Roughly two-thirds of R&D funding comes from the public sector, with the private sector contributing the balance. In most advanced economies, the situation is reversed, with private industry accounting for the bulk of R&D spending. Under-investment in R&D has left India import-dependent on critical technologies. The real challenge facing India is not about how much it spends on defence, but how it converts resources into usable combat power. That will require reform in procurement, greater investment in critical technologies and a stronger alignment between long-term planning and execution. Otherwise, India will continue to spend heavily while remaining short of the military capability its strategic ambitions demand.

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/comment/military-funding-merits-long-term-planning/>

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## भारतीय नौसेना में शामिल होगा आईएनएस अंजदीप

Source: NavBharat Times, Dt. 27 Feb 2026



■ NBT रिपोर्ट: भारतीय नौसेना में आईएनएस अंजदीप (INS Anjadip) शामिल होने जा रहा है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की महारत्न कंपनी स्टील अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड (SAIL) ने गार्डन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स एंड इंजीनियर्स लिमिटेड (GRSE)

ये कदम रक्षा क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भरता को मजबूती देगा

द्वारा निर्मित इस एंटी-सबमरीन वारफेयर शैलो वॉटर क्राफ्ट (ASW-SWC) कावेट

के लिए स्पेशल ग्रेड स्टील की पूरी सप्लाई की है। सेल ने आठ ASW-SWC जहाजों के लिए करीब 3,500 टन स्टील बोकारो, भिलाई और राउरकेला प्लांट्स से दी है। इससे पहले आईएनएस अरनाला और आईएनएस एंड्रोथ शामिल हो चुके हैं।

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# Science & Technology News

## **TDB supports Ayukriyam Innovations Pvt. Ltd. for Development of 'Autoscope' – An AI-Driven Whole Slide Imaging Diagnostic System**

*Source: Press Information Bureau, Dt. 26 Feb 2026*

In furtherance of the Government of India's vision to promote deep-tech innovation and technological self-reliance in healthcare, the Technology Development Board (TDB), Department of Science & Technology (DST), has entered into an agreement with M/s Ayukriyam Innovations Pvt. Ltd. for the project titled "Autoscope: A Fully Automated Whole Slide Imaging and AI-Driven Diagnostic System."

Ayukriyam Innovations Pvt. Ltd. is a deep-tech spin-off from the Molecular Imaging & Diagnostics Lab in the Department of Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology at Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. The company is focused on advancing healthcare diagnostics through cutting-edge microscopy systems integrated with artificial intelligence to enable rapid, accurate, and deployable diagnosis of infectious diseases, particularly in resource-constrained settings.

The Autoscope platform is being developed as a fully automated whole slide imaging system combined with AI-driven diagnostic capabilities. The system aims to address critical gaps in pathology infrastructure by offering high-throughput, standardized, and scalable diagnostic workflows. By leveraging indigenous R&D and AI-enabled image analytics, the technology seeks to enhance diagnostic accuracy while reducing dependence on imported high-end imaging systems.

The sanctioned assistance from TDB will support the establishment of a dedicated manufacturing facility, production of multiple product batches, and comprehensive field performance evaluations. The project is expected to facilitate commercialization of an indigenously developed deep-tech platform, strengthen India's diagnostic ecosystem, and contribute to affordable and accessible healthcare solutions. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Rajesh Kumar Pathak, Secretary, TDB, stated, "Indigenous development of advanced diagnostic platforms integrating imaging and artificial intelligence is vital for strengthening India's healthcare infrastructure. Through this support, TDB aims to accelerate the translation of laboratory innovation into market-ready solutions, reduce import dependence, and promote Aatmanirbhar Bharat in the medical technology sector."

Promoters of Ayukriyam Innovations Pvt. Ltd. expressed gratitude to TDB for the support and noted that the assistance would significantly accelerate manufacturing readiness and field deployment of the Autoscope platform, enabling wider access to reliable and technology-driven diagnostics across the country. The project reinforces TDB's mandate to provide financial assistance for commercialization of indigenous technologies developed through in-house R&D and institutional linkages, and underscores the Government of India's continued commitment to fostering innovation-led growth in critical sectors such as healthcare and medical devices.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2232968&reg=3&lang=1>

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## **TDB-DST supports Carbon Craft Design Pvt. Ltd. for Commercialization of Eco-Friendly Ultra-Low Carbon Wall Claddings**

*Source: Press Information Bureau, Dt. 26 Feb 2026*

In line with the Government of India's commitment to promoting sustainable industrial growth and circular economy practices, the Technology Development Board (TDB), Department of Science & Technology, has signed an agreement with Carbon Craft Design Pvt. Ltd. for financial assistance to support the commercialization of eco-friendly, ultra-low carbon footprint wall claddings. The project, titled "Commercialization of the Eco-friendly Ultra Low Carbon Footprint Wall Claddings", entails the establishment of a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility for geopolymer-based tiles developed using indigenous technology.

CarbonCraft is a design and material innovation startup focused on developing ultra-low carbon, circular economy-based building materials utilizing construction and demolition waste. The company's proprietary technology enables the permanent sequestration of industrial byproducts into value-added products such as tiles, aggregates, and bricks. The proposed geopolymer wall claddings are sustainable, high-performance tiles manufactured using recycled quartz waste and multi-grade quartz sand through specialized processing and blending techniques, eliminating the need for energy-intensive kiln firing.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Rajesh Kumar Pathak, Secretary, TDB, stated, "The transition to sustainable construction materials is critical for achieving India's climate goals and net-zero ambitions. By supporting innovative startups like Carbon Craft, TDB is enabling the commercialization of indigenous technologies that reduce carbon footprint, promote waste valorisation, and strengthen India's green manufacturing ecosystem."

Founders of Carbon Craft Design Pvt. Ltd. expressed gratitude for TDB's support and noted that the assistance would accelerate the scale-up of manufacturing capabilities and expand market access for sustainable building materials. The company reaffirmed its commitment to advancing low-carbon construction solutions aligned with the principles of circular economy and Aatmanirbhar Bharat. The project is expected to contribute to import substitution in specialized architectural cladding materials, reduce industrial waste, and promote environmentally responsible construction practices across the country, reinforcing India's vision of sustainable and self-reliant growth.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2232966&reg=3&lang=1>

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The Tribune  
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