

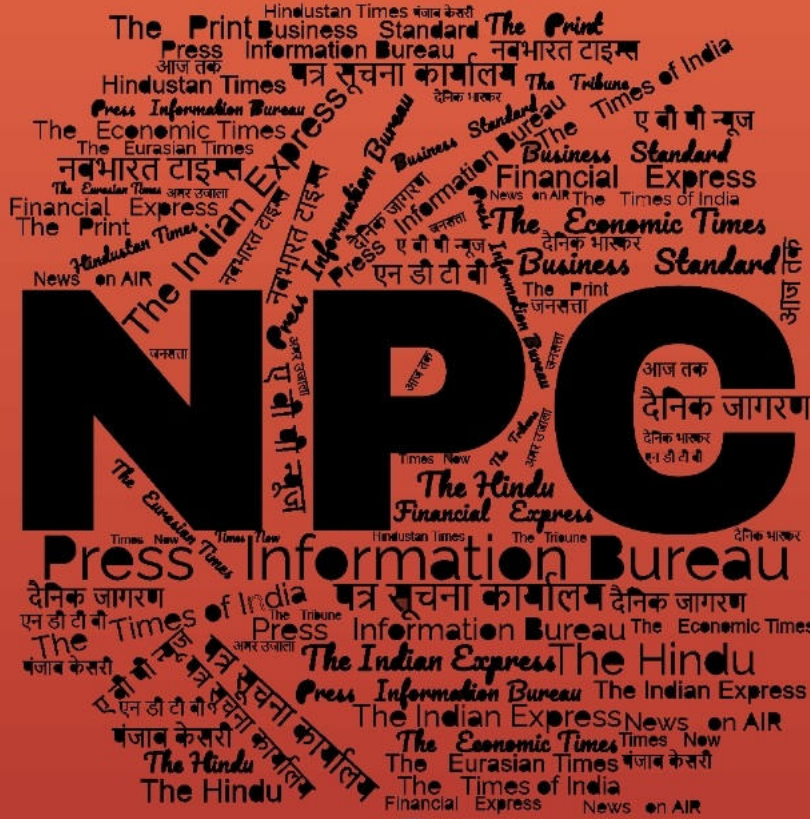
जनवरी
JAN
2026

खंड/Vol. : 51 अंक/Issue : 19
28/01/2026

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

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने कहा कि 'प्रौद्योगिकी लागू करने वाला देश आगे रहता है'

Source: Jansatta, Dt. 28 Jan 2026

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो
नई दिल्ली, 27 जनवरी।

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने मंगलवार को कहा कि आपरेशन सिंदूर ने यह साबित कर दिया है कि स्वदेशी प्रणालियां देश की परिचालन तैयारियों को मजबूत कर रही हैं। उन्होंने प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के नेतृत्व में राष्ट्रीय सोच बन चुकी आत्मनिर्भरता को हासिल करने में रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (डीआरडीओ) की भूमिका की सराहना भी की।

राजनाथ सिंह डीआरडीओ के एक कार्यक्रम को संबोधित कर रहे थे। कार्यक्रम में डीआरडीओ के वैज्ञानिक और तकनीकी विशेषज्ञ भी शामिल हुए, जो गणतंत्र दिवस परेड में विशेष अतिथि के रूप में उपस्थित थे। सिंह ने कहा कि प्रौद्योगिकी तेजी से बदल रही है। उन्होंने कहा, आज जो भी तकनीक नई है, वह चार-पांच साल में अप्रासंगिक हो सकती है। इसलिए, आज के समय में, विशेष रूप से युद्धक्षेत्र में हमें केवल सर्वश्रेष्ठ की उत्तरजीविता के सिद्धांत पर ध्यान देने

के बजाय सबसे तेज और आगे रहने वालों के सफल होने के सिद्धांत को भी ध्यान में रखकर आगे बढ़ना चाहिए। रक्षा मंत्री ने कहा, जो देश तेजी से सोचता है, निर्णय लेता है और प्रौद्योगिकी को लागू करता है, वही आगे रहता है।

उन्होंने कहा कि आपरेशन सिंदूर के दौरान युद्धक्षेत्र में डीआरडीओ की तकनीक का प्रभावी ढंग से उपयोग किया गया और स्वदेशीकरण के प्रयासों के आधार पर रक्षा क्षेत्र में तेजी से हो रहे बदलावों में यह संगठन अहम भूमिका निभा रहा है। सिंह ने आज के प्रौद्योगिकी युग में अग्रणी बने रहने के लिए अनुसंधान एवं विकास पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया और डीआरडीओ के वैज्ञानिकों से नवीन और त्वरित सोच अपनाने का आग्रह किया। उन्होंने जोखिम लेने से नहीं डरने की अपील भी की। सिंह ने डीआरडीओ से उन क्षेत्रों से आगे बढ़ने का आग्रह किया, जहां निजी क्षेत्र पहले ही अपनी क्षमताएं विकसित कर चुका है।

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Rajnath stresses on indigenisation at DRDO meet

Source: The Pioneer, Dt. 28 Jan 2026

Given the fast-changing battlefield scenario, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday here urged the scientists to keep in mind the theory of 'survival of the fastest' and not just 'survival of the fittest'. Making this assertion while addressing the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), he also said, "the country that thinks, decides and deploys technology quickly stays ahead."

He also underlined that “Technology is changing rapidly. Any technology that is new today may become irrelevant in 4-5 years.” Stressing the crucial aspect of indigenisation, Rajnath Singh said, “Operation Sindoor demonstrated that indigenous systems are strengthening India’s operational readiness,” as he commended the crucial role of DRDO in achieving self-reliance that has become a national mindset under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



Addressing DRDO’s Best Performing Scientists and Technical Persons, who witnessed the 77th Republic Day Parade as Special Guests, he stated that DRDO’s technology was effectively used on the battlefield during Operation Sindoor, and it is playing a key role in the rapid transformation of the defence sector based on the indigenisation pursuit.

The defence minister urged the DRDO to move beyond the sectors where the private sector has already developed its capabilities, suggesting the creation of a separate wing within the organisation that takes risks in sectors where the chances of success may seem low. However, if success is achieved, it will be historic, he added.

Underscoring the importance of reducing the time between research and prototype, prototype to testing, and testing to deployment, Rajnath Singh asserted that “timely induction in the Armed Forces should be the biggest parameter of our performance”.

He pointed out that the DRDO usually focuses on design and prototyping, and production is the role of industries, emphasising that it is necessary to bridge this gap. He stated that, similar to international models, a co-development approach can be adopted, where the industry is involved from the early stages, from design to production.

Describing the scientists, engineers and technicians as the real strength of the DRDO, Rajnath Singh underlined the need to provide them with the opportunities to learn, while also giving them leadership responsibilities and assurances that their ideas will be heard. “There are failures in research; we must learn from them,” he said.

<https://dailypioneer.com/news/rajnath-stresses-on-indigenisation-at-drdo-meet>

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Rajnath praises DRDO scientists, asks them to 'increase appetite for risk in research'

Source: *The Times of India*, Dt. 28 Jan 2026

Defence minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday praised DRDO scientists for their role in strengthening India's strategic capabilities through the development of tanks, missiles and rocket systems, but advised them "to increase your appetite for risk in research".



Pointing out that "the country that thinks, decides and deploys technology quickly stays ahead", the minister said DRDO's technology was "effectively used on the battlefield during Operation Sindoor" and the agency is playing a "key role in the rapid transformation of the defence sector" driven by the pursuit of indigenisation. DRDO-developed systems, including D-4 anti-drone system, smart anti-airfield weapon and Akash air defence system, played critical roles in the operation last year.

The minister, however, suggested defence scientists to "increase your cooperation with the public and PSUs and share your knowledge with them...We should step out of the conventional areas". He suggested the creation of a "separate wing" within the organisation that "takes risks in sectors where the chances of success may seem low". However, if success is achieved, it will be historic, he said.

Rajnath also underlined the "need to reduce time" between research and arriving at a prototype, from prototype to testing and from testing to deployment, asserting that "timely induction in the armed forces should be the biggest parameter".

"Technology is changing rapidly. Any tech that is new today may become irrelevant in four to five years. Therefore, in today's times, especially on the battlefield, we must move forward keeping in mind the theory of 'survival of the fastest' and not just 'survival of the fittest'," he said. The minister praised DRDO for its journey from 10 labs during its inception to 45 labs today, saying the organisation has strengthened India's self-reliance in defence and meets global standards.

DRDO has significantly accelerated its advanced weapons programmes and missile testing pace, conducting multiple trials within a short span of 40 days to bolster deterrence capabilities. It tested two Pralay quasi-ballistic missiles in quick succession and India's first long-range hypersonic missile (1,500km) in Dec last year as well as conducted a ground test of its scramjet combustor for hypersonic cruise missile this month.

Meanwhile, Ankathi Raju, director of DRDO's lab DRDL, spoke on Akash upgradation. "Akash's first version has already been inducted in the Army and IAF. It was successfully used during Op Sindoor and has a range of 25km. AkashPrime is an upgraded version. Though AkashPrime range is the same, its special feature is it can be used in high-altitude areas. AkashNG is the most advanced version with a max range of 50 km and its user trials have been completed."

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/defence/news/rajnath-praises-drdo-scientists-asks-them-to-increase-appetite-for-risk-in-research/articleshow/127652141.cms>

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Defence News

ईयू के साथ रक्षा-सुरक्षा समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर

Source: Dainik Jagran, Dt. 28 Jan 2026

नई दिल्ली: वैश्विक व्यवस्था में बढ़ती दरार, यूक्रेन से लेकर हिंद-प्रशांत तक भू-राजनीतिक तनाव, चीन के साथ तनातनी और डोनाल्ड ट्रंप प्रशासन की तरफ से टैरिफ युद्ध के बीच भारत और यूरोपीय संघ ने अपने रिश्तों को अभूतपूर्व मजबूती दी है। दोनों ने एक ऐतिहासिक मुक्त व्यापार समझौते (एफटीए) को अंतिम रूप दिया है और इसे दो अरब लोगों का बाजार बनाने के लिए 'मदर आफ आल डील्स' करार दिया है।

मंगलवार को संपन्न भारत-ईयू शिखर सम्मेलन में प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी और यूरोपीय संघ के शीर्ष नेतृत्व उर्सुला वान डेर लेयेन व एंटोनियो कोस्टा ने व्यापार और रक्षा को सहयोग के नए स्तंभ के रूप में स्थापित करते हुए न केवल एफटीए पर वार्ता के समापन की घोषणा की, बल्कि पहली बार रक्षा एवं सुरक्षा साझेदारी समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए। साथ ही भारतीय प्रतिभाओं की यूरोप में आवाजाही से जुड़े समझौते, मोबिलिटी सहयोग को लेकर फ्रेमवर्क समेत 13 करारों पर सहमति बनी और नियम

आधारित वैश्विक व्यवस्था के साझा दृष्टिकोण के तहत वर्ष 2030 तक के लिए संयुक्त व्यापक रणनीतिक एजेंडे को मंजूरी दी गई। द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के बाद स्थापित वैश्विक व्यवस्था में हो रहे तेज बिखराव के दौर में भारत-ईयू की इस साझेदारी

को विश्व में स्थिरता और भरोसा जगाने वाला माना जा रहा है।

सम्मेलन को संबोधित करते हुए प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने कहा, 'आज भारत ने अपने इतिहास का अब तक का सबसे बड़ा मुक्त व्यापार समझौता संपन्न किया है।

यह ऐतिहासिक समझौता हमारे किसानों, छोटे उद्योगों की यूरोपीय बाजार तक पहुंच आसान बनाएगा, मैन्युफैक्चरिंग में नए अवसर पैदा करेगा और वैश्विक स्तर पर आपूर्ति श्रृंखला को मजबूत करेगा। आज वैश्विक व्यवस्था में बड़ी उथल-

पुथल है। ऐसे में भारत-ईयू की साझेदारी अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रणाली में स्थिरता को मजबूती देगी।' कहा- यह सुखद संयोग है कि माह के 27वें दिन भारत 27 देशों के यूरोपीय यूनियन संग एफटीए कर रहा है।

ईयू कमीशन की प्रेसिडेंट उर्सुला

वान डेर लेयेन ने इस सम्मेलन को भारत-ईयू संबंधों में एक ऐतिहासिक मोड़ करार दिया और कहा, 'हम सिर्फ अपनी अर्थव्यवस्थाओं को ही मजबूत नहीं कर रहे, बल्कि एक ऐसे समय में अपने नागरिकों की सुरक्षा भी सुनिश्चित कर रहे हैं।

- सुरक्षा एवं रक्षा साझेदारी और एक-दूसरे के प्रमुख रक्षा सहयोगी बनने की रखी नींव
- मोबिलिटी सहयोग पर फ्रेमवर्क पर सहमति, यूरोप में भारतीय युवाओं के लिए नए अवसर
- 2030 तक के लिए संयुक्त व्यापक रणनीतिक एजेंडे को मंजूरी, 13 करारों पर सहमति
- संयुक्त प्रेस वार्ता में ईयू आयोग की प्रेसिडेंट ने अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति ट्रंप पर साधा निशाना



हैदराबाद हाउस में मंगलवार को बैठक के दौरान यूरोपीय परिषद के अध्यक्ष एंटोनियो कोस्टा और यूरोपीय आयोग की अध्यक्ष उर्सुला वान डेर लेयेन के साथ प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी

एफटीए की खास बातें

- ईयू को होने वाले 99 प्रतिशत भारतीय निर्यात पर टैरिफ कम होगा।
- भारत को होने वाले ईयू के 97% से अधिक निर्यात पर शुल्क कम होगा।
- यूरोपीय निर्यात पर सालाना टैरिफ में चार अरब यूरो तक कमी आएगी।
- भारत के वस्त्र, परिधान, चमड़े का सामान, हस्तशिल्प, जूते और समुद्री उत्पाद क्षेत्र को लाभ होगा।
- यूरोप को वाइन, आटोमोबाइल, केमिकल और फार्मास्यूटिकल्स जैसे क्षेत्रों में फायदा होगा।
- कानूनी जांच के कारण समझौते पर औपचारिक हस्ताक्षर होने में लगभग कम से कम छह महीने।
- वाणिज्य मंत्री गोयल को उम्मीद, इसी वर्ष समझौते को अमल में ला सकेंगे।

भारत-यूरोपीय संघ मुक्त व्यापार समझौता हमारी साझेदारी में एक महत्वपूर्ण मील का पत्थर है। मैं वर्षों से यूरोप के सभी नेताओं को उनकी रचनात्मक भावना और प्रतिबद्धता के लिए धन्यवाद देता हूँ, जिसने इसे संभव बनाया। यह समझौता आर्थिक संबंधों को और गहरा करेगा, हमारे लोगों के लिए अवसर पैदा करेगा, समृद्ध भविष्य के लिए भारत-यूरोप साझेदारी को मजबूत बनाएगा।

- नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री

क्यों कहा जा रहा 'मदर आफ आल डीलस'

- वैश्विक व्यापार का एक तिहाई हिस्सा इसमें शामिल है।
- वैश्विक जीडीपी के 25 प्रतिशत का प्रतिनिधित्व करेगा।
- दुनिया की दूसरी व चौथी सबसे बड़ी आर्थिकी को साथ लाया। 75 अरब डालर के निर्यात को प्राथमिकता।

9425

निर्यात होने वाली भारतीय वस्तुओं पर नहीं लगेगा टैरिफ

जब दुनिया पहले से कहीं अधिक असुरक्षित होती जा रही है।' भारत-ईयू के बीच पहली बार सुरक्षा और रक्षा साझेदारी को ईयू कमीशन की प्रेसिडेंट ने 'एक ऐतिहासिक और विश्वास-आधारित मंच' बताते हुए कहा कि यूरोप और भारत के रक्षा उद्योग में साझेदारी को और गहराई दी जाएगी। विशेष रूप से समुद्री सुरक्षा के क्षेत्र में सहयोग को और मजबूत किया जाएगा। यह (एफटीए) भारतीय कौशल, सेवाओं, विशालता को यूरोप की तकनीक, पूंजी एवं नवाचार के साथ

लाता है। इससे ऐसी ग्रोथ होगी, जो कोई भी अकेले हासिल नहीं कर सकता।" मोदी के बगल में खड़े होकर उन्होंने अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप व उनकी टैरिफ नीतियों पर भी निशाना साधा और कहा, "इन ताकतों को मिलाकर हम ऐसे समय में रणनीतिक निर्भरता को कम करते हैं, जब व्यापार को तेजी से हथियार बनाया जा रहा है।" वहीं, यूरोपीय परिषद के प्रेसिडेंट एंटोनियो कोस्टा ने कहा, व्यापार समझौते नियम-आधारित आर्थिक व्यवस्था को मजबूत करते हैं और साझा समृद्धि को बढ़ावा देते हैं।

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Defence ties to bolster strategic cooperation

Source: Hindustan Times, Dt. 28 Jan 2026

A Security and Defence Partnership finalised by India and the European Union (EU) on Tuesday will consolidate ongoing security cooperation and intensify collaboration in new areas such as space security, counter-terrorism, and the joint development of military hardware to support Europe's rearmament drive to address geopolitical threats.

The Security and Defence Partnership, signed by external affairs minister S Jaishankar and EU foreign and security policy chief Kaja Kallas, was described as an overarching framework to deepen ties in maritime security, defence industry and technology, cyber and hybrid threats, space,

counter-terrorism, protection of critical infrastructure such as undersea cables, non-proliferation and disarmament, and international peace and security. The EU currently has such agreements with nine countries, including Japan and South Korea in Asia.



External affairs minister S Jaishankar and EU foreign and security policy chief Kaja Kallas sign an EU–India Security and Defence Partnership agreement, as European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and European Council President Antonio Costa applaud next to them

“Defence and security are a foundation for any strong partnership. Today, we are making this official through a Security and Defence Partnership. This will help us work more closely on counter-terrorism, maritime security and cybersecurity,” Modi said at a joint media interaction with the EU leaders after their summit. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen described the partnership as a “trust-based platform” for cooperation on strategic issues that will build the resilience of both sides and expand maritime security cooperation through joint naval exercises against piracy and the countering of sophisticated hybrid threats.

The two sides also announced the launch of negotiations on a Security of Information Agreement, which people familiar with the matter described as a “legal enabler” that will complement the Security and Defence Partnership, acting as a “political enabler” for defence industrial cooperation in sensitive areas such as drones and air defence systems. At a meeting with Kallas, defence minister Rajnath Singh pitched for synergy between the defence industries of India and the EU, and said such an approach complements New Delhi’s vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) and aligns with the 27-member bloc’s pursuit of strategic autonomy.

“The partnership will become a force multiplier by integrating supply chains for building trusted defence ecosystems and future-ready capabilities,” Singh said. Kallas said the partnership will lead to the launch of an annual security and defence dialogue, with the first meeting taking place in a month. “We will also explore Indian participation in European defence initiatives,” she added.

Kallas said India and the EU must work together in the vast Indian Ocean and learn from each other's best practices through joint exercises. This comes at a time when China is attempting to strengthen its hold over the region, a strategic maritime expanse where challenges include Beijing's carefully calculated power play for influence and the defence of the rules-based international order.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, right, meets European Union Vice-President Kaja Kallas to discuss bilateral security and defence cooperation

Singh welcomed the EU's proposal for posting a liaison officer at the Indian Navy's Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) in Gurugram. This move will enhance operational coordination with the Indian Navy for counter-piracy and threat assessment in the Indian Ocean, the defence ministry said.

The Defence and Security Partnership and the proposed information security pact will pave the way for Indian defence firms to potentially benefit from the EU's €150-billion Security Action for Europe (SAFE) programme, which aims to urgently boost Europe's defence industrial base through joint procurement and financial support. A third of the outlay for SAFE is available for foreign participation, and foreign secretary Vikram Misri said that this will allow Indian defence firms to benefit from opportunities arising from the EU's defence initiatives.

SAFE is one of the pillars of Rearm Europe, launched in March 2025 to boost European defence spending and industrial capacity by mobilising up to €800 billion by 2030. "There is obviously a renaissance of the defence industry and the realisation for defence preparedness in Europe, which means there has to be preparation on the defence industrial front," Misri said. "We would look over a period of time to be able to take part in these European initiatives [for the] defence industry." Misri quoted the PM as saying that India offers a viable alternative as a defence manufacturing and development location, providing the EU "more bang for the buck" for initiatives such as SAFE. He also noted that the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers recently made a "very successful visit" to Brussels to meet with counterparts, and the information security agreement will prepare the ground for "more sensitive cooperation" in defence.

The India-EU Summit endorsed a new five-year comprehensive strategic agenda that seeks to reinforce defence and security cooperation, including setting up an industry-led Defence Industry

Forum for focused talks on defence industry opportunities, and enhancing joint efforts to promote a free, open, peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific based on respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful resolution of disputes.

In the field of counter-terrorism, the two sides will enhance cooperation to counter cross-border terrorism, radicalisation and violent extremism, combat terror financing, promote globally agreed anti-money laundering standards, and prevent the exploitation of new and emerging technologies for terrorism. They will step up exchanges on hybrid threats and develop strategies to counter such challenges, and strengthen law enforcement cooperation through the working arrangement between India's Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Europol, including the deployment of an Indian liaison officer at Europol's headquarters.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/bang-for-the-buck-pm-modi-pitches-india-as-eu-s-defence-manufacturing-hub-101769531976961.html>

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Defence budget: Time to strive for strategic sovereignty

-by Karn Kedar & Nishit Patil, advisor and research analyst at Chintan Research Foundation

Source: The Pioneer, Dt. 28 Jan 2026

As India prepares Budget 2026, the defence sector stands at a pivotal inflection point. Years of policy intent around self-reliance must now translate into industrial depth, technological ownership, and export competitiveness. The recommendations emerging from recent policy thinking suggest a decisive shift-from assembling foreign platforms in India to owning intellectual property, from episodic procurement to modular upgrades, and from state-dominated production to a genuinely collaborative public-private ecosystem. If implemented with fiscal backing, Budget 2026 could redefine India's defence-industrial trajectory.

At the heart of this transformation lies the proposed Defence Production Manual (DPM) 2025. Expected to supersede earlier "Make in India" frameworks, the DPM signals a conceptual shift from import substitution to sovereignty. Past acquisition programmes relied heavily on licensed production, with limited absorption of design capability. The new framework is likely to mandate that indigenisation be measured not merely by where a product is manufactured, but by who owns the design and intellectual property.

This is a critical correction. Without indigenous design, India remains vulnerable to supply shocks, export controls, and geopolitical pressure. A chronic weak link in indigenisation has been the Tier-2 and Tier-3 supplier base, largely composed of MSMEs. The anticipated 'cluster approach' under DPM 2025-linking large prime contracts to mandatory MSME sourcing within defence industrial corridors-can help address this. However, clusters will not mature on policy intent alone. Budget 2026 must provide enabling incentives: accelerated depreciation on specialised machinery, GST rationalisation, and targeted credit support for MSMEs entering defence supply chains. Equally important is funding for design capability. The proposed Defence Modernisation Fund and government support for 70-80 per cent of prototyping costs, against shared IP, can de-risk private investment in long-gestation technologies such as aero-engines and advanced materials.

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) form the second pillar of reform. Defence manufacturing is capital-intensive and cyclical, making pure private investment risky. A refined PPP model, backed

by budgetary support, can balance efficiency with stability. The Government-Owned, Company-Operated (GOCO) model is an obvious low-hanging fruit for ammunition factories and repair depots, reducing costs while improving quality. For strategic systems like the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft or nuclear submarines, Special Purpose Vehicles that pool DRDO's design strengths, DPSU infrastructure, and private-sector supply chains offer a pragmatic solution. Budgetary provision allowing the Ministry of Defence to take equity stakes in such SPVs would effectively position the state as a venture capitalist in its own industrial base. Leasing and service-based models-paying for availability rather than ownership-can further enhance operational efficiency while smoothing capital expenditure.

Technology and R&D investment must underpin all these efforts. India's defence R&D spending, still below 1 per cent of GDP, needs sharper targeting. Modern warfare is data-intensive; investments in AI-enabled decision-support systems, high-fidelity simulators, cybersecurity, and space capabilities directly enhance human productivity and operational readiness. Scaling up the IDEX initiative and earmarking a meaningful share of R&D funds for start-ups and academia can democratise innovation. Defence Innovation Hubs within academic institutions can create a steady pipeline of mission-ready talent while keeping costs contained. Procurement reform is equally crucial. The era of 'big bang' acquisitions is increasingly untenable. Modular acquisition-buying open-architecture platforms with periodic upgrades-allows India to keep pace with technological change while smoothing budgetary outflows. Moving beyond the rigid L1 system towards Quality and Cost-Based Selection for high-technology platforms would prioritise lifecycle value over short-term savings, improving reliability and accountability. Finally, exports must be treated as a strategic instrument, not an afterthought.

The INR 50,000 crore defence export target by 2029 is achievable only if financing and regulatory bottlenecks are addressed. A dedicated corpus for defence lines of credit through EXIM Bank and a fully digital, single-window export clearance system can help Indian platforms compete with Chinese offerings in Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Indian Ocean Region. In sum, Budget 2026 has the opportunity to anchor India's defence ambitions in fiscal reality. By aligning indigenisation with design sovereignty, de-risking private participation, prioritising high-impact R&D, and treating exports as a strategic lever, India can move decisively from being a major arms importer to a credible global defence manufacturing power. The challenge is no longer intent-it is execution and coherence.

<https://dailypioneer.com/news/defence-budget-time-to-strive-for-strategic-sovereignty>

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India–EU Joint Comprehensive Strategic Agenda: Towards 2030: Tech, innovation to power ties

Source: The Indian Express, Dt. 28 Jan 2026

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the visiting European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council's President Antonio Costa adopted "Towards 2030: India–EU Joint Comprehensive Strategic Agenda" to elevate strategic cooperation between the two sides.

"Based on today's achievements, we are launching an even more ambitious and holistic strategic agenda for the next five years. In a complex global environment, this agenda will provide clear

direction, advance our shared prosperity, accelerate innovation, strengthen security cooperation, and deepen people-to-people ties,” Modi said.

The Joint Comprehensive Strategic Agenda is aimed at accelerating progress across five key pillars: prosperity and sustainability, technology and innovation, security and defence, connectivity and global challenges, as well as enabling factors such as skills, mobility, business and people-to-people ties.

According to the joint statement, “India and the EU have complementary strengths in the technology domain. Both sides will increase collaboration across the entire value chain, linking enhanced research and innovation to business engagement and market operationalisation.”

In the current geopolitical environment and amidst global disruptions, they reaffirmed the India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC), a high level coordination platform to address key trade, technology and economic security issues, as the cornerstone of their technology partnership and aim to further enhance its work.”

It said that the two sides will continue to advance together on promoting Digital Public Infrastructure including interoperable standards and exchange of best practices on regulatory frameworks, collaboration in new technologies (including semiconductors, artificial intelligence, quantum computing, digital public infrastructure and 6G) to build cyber secure, trusted digital ecosystems as well as to advance cooperation in clean tech.

They will broaden discussions on economic security, in particular on the resilience of supply chains and research security, underlining the importance of protecting sensitive technologies. Both sides agreed to hold the next TTC ministerial meeting in Brussels in 2026 and to deepen business consultations, it said.

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-eu-joint-comprehensive-strategic-agenda-towards-2030-tech-innovation-to-power-ties-10498306/>

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Secretary (Defence Production) interacts with Directors/ Deans of leading academic institutions

Source: Press Information Bureau, Dt. 27 Jan 2026

Secretary (Defence Production) Shri Sanjeev Kumar held a virtual interaction with Directors/Deans of leading academic institutions, including IITs, NITs and IISc, along with DPSUs and other stakeholders in New Delhi on January 27, 2026. The discussions focused on aligning academic research with needs of defence production and evolving structured mechanisms for sustained engagement.

Key areas of deliberations included fostering long-term student-driven research in academic institutions, strengthening Academia-DPSU collaboration moving beyond short-term project-based collaboration, and institutionalising structured initiatives for providing insights into futuristic technologies. This would help in facilitating effective translation of academic research into deployable defence capabilities.



Expressing gratitude to the participants for their valuable inputs, the Secretary (Defence Production) stated that such interactions would provide the Ministry with deeper insights into academic research capabilities and perspectives. He urged the academia for adoption of a consultative format with Department of Defence Production to enable long-term national capability development.

The interaction was attended by Director, IIT Madras Prof. V. Kamakoti; Director, IIT Kanpur Prof. M. Agrawal; Director, IIT Bombay Prof. S. Kedare; Director, IIT Hyderabad Prof. B.S. Murthy; Director, IIT Gandhinagar Prof R. Moona; Director, IIT Tirupati Prof K. N. Satyanarayana; Director, IIT Guwahati Prof D. Jaliha; and other senior professors from 24 premier academic institutions of the country.

The interaction reaffirmed the Ministry of Defence's commitment to leveraging the strengths of the nation's premier academic institutions in building a resilient, self-reliant, and future-ready defence technology ecosystem in collaboration with industry partners.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2219337®=3&lang=1>

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