



Source: [Wikimedia Commons](#)

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LAND AND SEA

The twelfth combat aviation brigade, in collaboration with the army applications laboratory, launches the helicopter expedited refuelling operations or HERO project. The initiative aims to modernize the forward arming and refuelling point, enhancing operational efficiency during combat.

Source: [U.S. Army](#)

The *Kalvari* submarine escape training facility (*Vinetra*) is commissioned at *INS Satavahana*, Visakhapatnam, enhancing the escape capabilities of crew members from distressed kalvari-class submarines.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

SOFTWARE, SYSTEMS, AND CYBER

The IndiaAI independent business division announces the IndiaAI innovation challenge, aimed at driving the development, deployment, and adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) applications across key sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, climate change, and disaster management.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

On September 18, 2024, The U.S. government announced the successful disruption of a large-scale botnet, known as *Raptor Train*, operated by Chinese state-sponsored hackers. The botnet was being used to target critical sectors in the United States and Taiwan, including military, government, higher education, telecommunications, and the defense industrial base.

Source: [U.S. Department of Justice](#)

SPACE AND AEROSPACE

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is collaborating with GE Aerospace will design and build hybrid-electric airliners under the hybrid thermally efficient core (HyTEC) project. As part of NASA's advanced air vehicles program, HyTEC supports the sustainable flight national partnership, which aims to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions in U.S. aviation by 2050.

Source: [NASA](#)

The union cabinet approves the \$251.49 million *Chandrayaan-4* mission, aimed at developing and demonstrating technologies for returning to Earth after a successful lunar landing. The mission will also focus on collecting Moon samples and analyzing them on Earth.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

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BUSINESS UPDATES

GE Aerospace and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) are nearing a deal for the transfer of technology (ToT) for the *F-414* engine, with GE set to share nearly 80 percent of the ToT with HAL.

Source: [White House](#)

India is set to finalize a \$3.9 billion deal with the United States for thirty-one weaponized *MQ-9B* Predator drones.

Source: [White House](#)

Raytheon Inc. secures an office of naval research ManTech project to optimize production of *SPY-6* transmit/receive modules, delivering cost savings for the U.S. Navy.

Source: [RTX](#)

The U.S. Air Force *3DELRR* program team and Lockheed Martin complete risk reduction testing for the *TPY-4 radar*, advancing long-range radar technology capabilities.

Source: [Lockheed Martin](#)

Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announces that Dassault Systèmes is establishing a \$28.62 million aerospace and defence automotive electric vehicle training hub in Assam.

Source: [Economic Times](#)

GOVERNMENT UPDATES

The fourth in-person Quad leaders' summit took place in Wilmington, Delaware, on September 21, 2024, marking significant advancements in Indo-Pacific cooperation across various sectors through new initiatives. The leaders launched the Quad cancer moonshot, initially focused on combating cervical cancer in the Indo-Pacific. The maritime initiative for training in the Indo-Pacific or *MAITRI* was introduced to help regional partners enhance maritime security, and the first joint coast guard exercise is set for 2025 to improve interoperability and maritime safety. The Quad Indo-Pacific logistics network pilot will bolster disaster response airlift capacity, while the Quad ports of the future partnership will support sustainable and resilient port infrastructure development. In 2025, Quad regional ports and transportation conference will be held in Mumbai. The Quad BioExplore initiative aims to explore AI-driven biological data, and the Quad climate change adaptation and mitigation package or *Q-CHAMP* was announced to tackle climate challenges and promote clean energy cooperation. A memorandum of cooperation was signed to establish a semiconductor supply chain contingency network. Australia committed \$33.9 million to launch the clean energy supply chains diversification program, while India pledged \$2 million for solar projects in Fiji, Comoros, Madagascar, and Seychelles. Japan committed \$122 million to renewable energy initiatives in the Indo-Pacific. More than \$7.5 million in funding opportunities was announced for joint research and a

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memorandum of cooperation between science agencies, and India will offer fifty scholarships worth \$500,000 for Indo-Pacific students to pursue engineering degrees. The Quad pledged approximately \$20 million to support the open radio access network in the Pacific. A Quad maritime legal dialogue will support efforts to uphold a rules-based maritime order in the Indo-Pacific. The leaders collectively condemned North Korea's missile launches and nuclear pursuits, as well as militarization and coercive actions in the South China Sea. The leaders supported increasing humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized the importance of respecting Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty.

Source: [White House](#)

On the sidelines of the Quad leaders' summit, President Joseph R. Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a bilateral meeting, highlighting key initiatives to deepen U.S.-India collaboration across multiple sectors. Both nations welcomed the establishment of a new semiconductor fabrication plant in partnership with India semiconductor mission, Bharat Semi, 3rdiTech, and the U.S. Space Force, while Global Foundries' Kolkata power center aims to enhance research and development (R&D) and semiconductor supply chains. Ford Motor Company submitted a letter of intent to utilize its Chennai plant to manufacture automobiles for export to global markets. The joint NASA-Indian Space Research Organisation mission to the International Space Station is scheduled for 2025, and a civil space joint working group will explore further collaboration opportunities. Over \$90 million will be mobilized for the U.S.-India global challenges institute to foster R&D partnerships, while a new U.S.-India advanced materials R&D forum has been launched to strengthen collaborations between universities, labs, and the private sector. Eleven funding awards supported by a combined grant of over \$5 million will enable joint U.S.-India research projects in areas such as next-generation telecommunications, connected vehicles, machine learning and an additional twelve funding awards with a combined outlay of nearly \$10 million will enable joint U.S.-India basic and applied research in the areas of semiconductors, next generation communication systems, sustainability and green technologies, and intelligent transportation systems. IBM will drive AI innovation in India through the *watsonx* platform on India's Airawat supercomputer. For 5G deployment and next-generation telecommunications, the U.S. agency for international development plans to expand the Asia open radio access network academy with an initial \$7 million investment to grow the workforce training initiative worldwide. In clean energy, \$250 million in loans have been extended to Tata Power Solar and \$500 million to First Solar, with a \$1 billion green transition fund being established by the national investment and infrastructure fund and the U.S. development finance corporation. The meeting also saw India signing agreements on clean economy and fair economy as part of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework or IPEF, while the Bio5 partnership, involving the U.S., India, Japan, South Korea, and the European Union was launched to secure pharmaceutical supply chains. A new memorandum of understanding has been signed to enhance the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises in global markets, with a special focus on women entrepreneurs, and the new U.S.-India global digital development partnership will expand digital technology

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collaboration in Asia and Africa.

Source: [White House](#)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the United States from September 21, 2024, to September 23, 2024, where he participated in the fourth Quad leaders' summit in Wilmington, Delaware. He also addressed a gathering of the Indian community on September 22, 2024, in New York. He engaged with chief executive officers of leading U.S.-based companies to foster greater collaboration between India and the United States in key areas such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, semiconductors, and biotechnology. On September 23, 2024, the Prime Minister addressed the summit of the future at the UN general assembly in New York. On the sidelines of the summit, he held bilateral meetings with world leaders including from Ukraine, Vietnam, Kuwait, Palestine, and Nepal.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#), [Press Information Bureau](#), [Press Information Bureau](#)

Assistant secretary of state for south and central asian affairs, Donald Lu, visited India and Bangladesh from September 10, 2024, to September 16, 2024. During his visit, he participated in the India ideas summit, hosted by the U.S.-India Business Council. He also co-chaired the eighth U.S.-India 2+2 intersessional dialogue, where discussions focused on identifying opportunities to enhance defense cooperation and expand U.S.-India collaboration in the Indo-Pacific. Key topics included advancing shared priorities in space and civil aviation, clean energy, and industrial logistics coordination.

Source: [U.S. Department of State](#), [U.S. Department of State](#)

The U.S.-India strategic clean energy partnership ministerial convened in Washington, D.C., on September 16, 2024. Both nations welcomed collaboration on the establishment of the national centre for hydrogen safety in India and their joint efforts at the second international conference on green hydrogen held earlier in the month. Additionally, the ministers recognized the progress made through the development of two joint reports on sustainable aviation fuels and biofuels under the biofuels task force.

Source: [U.S. Department of Energy](#)

On September 18, 2024, the U.S. Federal Reserve reduced the target for its key lending rate by 0.5 percentage points, to the range of 4.75 percent to five percent.

Source: [Federal Reserve Board](#)

On September 19, 2024, Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken met in Paris with Quint representatives from France, Italy, the UK, and Germany. During the discussions, he emphasized the urgent need to protect civilians in Gaza, reiterated support for Ukraine, and called for coordinated action on Iran.

Source: [U.S. Department of State](#)

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On September 18, 2024, the department of defense's (DoD) chief digital and AI office hosted the Advana Industry Day. The event brought together industry and government participants to discuss Advana, the DoD's largest enterprise data system, which provides data from over four hundred business systems to support data-driven decision-making across the department.

Source: [U.S. Department of Defense](#)

The union cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approves the construction of the first unit of the Bharatiya Antriksh Station (Indian Space Station). The decision expands the scope of the Gaganyaan program, marking a significant step in India's space exploration efforts.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

On September 19, 2024, union minister of commerce and industry, Piyush Goyal, chaired an inter-ministerial meeting in New Delhi to address rising freight costs, shipping delays, container shortages, and port congestion. The meeting focused on resolving the challenges faced by exporters and mitigating the adverse impact on trade.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

Indian coast guard offshore patrol vessel *Sujay*, along with its integral helicopter, makes a port call at Bali, Indonesia, on September 18, 2024, for a three-day visit as part of its ongoing East Asia deployment.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

The second edition of the naval commander's conference for 2024 took place in New Delhi from September 17, 2024, to September 20, 2024. The apex-level biannual event serves as a platform for the naval commanders to discuss critical strategic, operational, and administrative matters.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

Exercise Sea Breeze 2024 concluded on September 20, 2024. It is a joint mine countermeasure exercise between the Bulgarian Navy, Royal Navy, Ukrainian Navy, and the U.S. Navy. Sixteen countries and organizations participated in this year's iteration.

Source: [U.S. Navy](#)

Marine corps Sgt. Maj. Eric D. Cook is selected to replace navy fleet master chief David Islom as the command senior enlisted leader of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

Source: [U.S. Department of Defense](#)

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Chief of integrated defence staff Lt. Gen. JP Mathew attended the Indo-Pacific chiefs of defence conference in Hawaii from September 18, 2024, to September 20, 2024.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

Union minister of commerce and industry, Piyush Goyal, visited Vientiane, Laos, from September 20, 2024, to September 21, 2024, to participate in the twenty-first ASEAN-India economic ministers meeting and the twelfth East Asia summit economic ministers meeting.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

TENDERS AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The U.S. Air Force selects Capella space for an *AFWERX* ventures strategic funding increase award, providing \$15 million in funding to advance and scale its cutting-edge synthetic aperture radar technology.

Source: [Capella Space](#)

KBR secures an estimated \$230 million contract to provide optimized information technology solutions across the naval air systems command or *NAVAIR* enterprise.

Source: [KBR](#)

DoD announces \$269 million in funding for thirty-three new technical projects under the microelectronics commons initiative.

Source: [U.S. Department of Defense](#)

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IndUS Tech Council (IndUS Tech) is a Washington D.C. and New Delhi-based organization focused on accelerating U.S.-India technology collaboration, innovation, and investments. IndUS Tech's mission is to position the U.S.-India technology ecosystem for global innovation through thought leadership, policy advocacy, and facilitating collaborative partnerships between the two nations' private sectors.

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