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NEWSLETTER JANUARY 18 – JANUARY 24, 2025

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LAND AND SEA

Fleet Readiness Center East or FRCE completed its F-35 Lightning II expansion project, marking the occasion with an informal ribbon-cutting ceremony.

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

The U.S. Seventh Fleet has opened a new navigation, seamanship, and ship-handling trainer facility in Yokosuka, Japan.

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

The Indian Navy is pursuing a land-based deployment strategy of long-range anti-ship missile or LRASHM to enhance coastal defense and deterrence in the Indian Ocean region.

Source: [Defence.in](#)

The Indian Army inaugurates two newly constructed bailey bridges over the Shyok River, enhancing connectivity between the Shyok and Nubra valleys in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

Source: [PTI](#)

The Ordnance Parachute Factory in Kanpur begins manufacturing seat ejection parachutes designed for the Tejas fighter aircraft pilots.

Source: [Indian defence research wing](#)

The Indian Army held its annual firepower training exercise TOPCHI at Devlali Field Firing Ranges in Nashik, Maharashtra.

Source: [ANI](#)

SOFTWARE, SYSTEMS, AND CYBER

The Stargate Project plans to invest \$500 billion over the next four years to build advanced artificial intelligence infrastructure in the United States.

Source: [OpenAI](#)

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) completes ground-based testing for the solid fuel ducted ramjet or SFDR propulsion system, designed for the Astra MIII beyond visual range air-to-air missile or BRAAM.

Source: [Indian defence research wing](#)

The Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL) advances hypersonic technology by developing a long-duration scramjet-powered system. DRDL recently conducted a successful 120-second ground test of its actively cooled scramjet combustor.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

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India develops a thermal barrier coating capable of withstanding the extreme temperatures of hypersonic flight. DRDL and the Department of Science & Technology laboratory collaborated on this effort.

Source: [Indian defence research wing](#)

Defence minister Rajnath Singh flagged off SANJAY, a battlefield surveillance system on January 24, 2025. The automated system integrates inputs from all ground and aerial battlefield sensors.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

Chinese startup DeepSeek gained global attention by launching its latest artificial intelligence models, which were developed at a fraction of the cost of leading U.S. industry models. DeepSeek-V3, the company's flagship model, was trained using less than \$6 million and was powered by Nvidia H800 chips.

Source: [DeepSeek](#)

SPACE AND AEROSPACE

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is evaluating an ADS-B system's ability to prevent collisions in a simulated urban environment. Researchers are using Pilatus PC-12 aircraft to investigate how these systems can manage the demands of air taxis flying at low altitudes through cities.

Source: [NASA](#)

The Naval Postgraduate School, in partnership with the National Reconnaissance Office and New Zealand's Defence Science and Technology unit, successfully launched Otter, a CubeSat suite, aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 Transporter-12 mission from Vandenberg Space Force Base. The mission is designed to test innovative technologies for complex space operations.

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

Xplore Inc. successfully launched, communicated with, and took control of XCUBE-1, its first hyperspectral satellite, as part of the bandwagon-2 rideshare mission with SpaceX, facilitated by Maverick Space Systems.

Source: [Xplore Inc.](#)

Skyroot Aerospace announces plans to invest \$58 million in establishing a state-of-the-art rocket manufacturing, integration, and testing facility in Telangana.

Source: [Government of Telangana](#)

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GalaxEye, a space-tech startup working on satellite-based Earth observation, successfully deployed its GLX-SQ payload aboard the Indian Space Research Organisation's PSLV orbital experimental module or POEM platform.

Source: [CEO's Tweet](#)

BUSINESS UPDATES

PTC Industries formalizes an agreement with AMIC Toho Titanium Metal Company Limited or, ATTM, for supplying titanium sponges.

Source: [PTC Industries Twitter](#)

Dynamic Technologies Ltd is working on the development of a jet-powered loitering munition that operates without a global positioning system or GPS, in conjunction with its CHEEL vertical take-off and landing surveillance drone. The system, featuring an 80-kilometer range and optical waypoint guidance, aims to transform tactical operations.

Source: [Defence.in](#)

Larsen & Toubro partners with the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur to establish a flight laboratory to develop fixed-wing unmanned aerial vehicles and flight control computers.

Source: [Defence.in](#)

Safran's India unit expects to increase its revenue by nearly 70 percent in 2025, driven by its contributions to India's Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission and a growing number of private-sector contracts.

Source: [Economic Times](#)

Tonbo Imaging exports its artificial intelligence-enabled Vault anti-UAV system, confirming Armenia as one of its customers.

Source: [Tonbo Imaging](#)

ideaForge Technology Limited's SWITCH MINI UAV earns the fit for Indian military use certification.

Source: [IdeaForge Twitter](#)

Saab India plans to collaborate with Dynamic Technologies to produce the Gripen-E fighter jet if it secures the Indian Air Force's multi-role Fighter aircraft or MRFA tender for 110 jets.

Source: [Indian defence research wing](#)

Paras Defence plans to invest \$1.39 billion to establish India's first optics park in Maharashtra, aiming to complete the project by 2035 with initial development targeted by 2028.

Source: [Economic Times](#)

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German shipbuilder ThyssenKrupp and its Indian partner Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd successfully clear field trials to build six advanced conventional submarines for the Indian Navy as part of a \$5 billion project.

Source: [Livemint](#)

India joins the Eurodrone program as an Organisation for Joint Armament Cooperation (OCCAR) observer state.

Source: [OCCAR](#)

GOVERNMENT UPDATES

Secretary Marco Rubio met with Indian external affairs minister Dr. S. Jaishankar at the Department of State, reinforcing diplomatic ties between the United States and India.

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

President Donald Trump signs an executive order temporarily suspending all U.S. foreign assistance programs for 90 days to review their alignment with his policy objectives.

Source: [White House](#)

The U.S. Department of Defense is deploying 1,500 active-duty service members, along with additional air and intelligence assets, to the southern border to support troops already conducting enforcement operations in the region.

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

Adm. Samuel J. Paparo, commander of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM), met with Australian secretary of the department of defence Greg Moriarty at USINDOPACOM headquarters on Camp H.M. Smith in Hawaii on January 21, 2025.

Source: [U.S. Indo-Pacific Command](#)

The Odisha Government signed eight memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Singapore-based companies, focusing on sectors such as skill development, semiconductors, sustainable energy, green hydrogen and ammonia, industrial park development, sustainable insure-tech, and city development planning.

Source: [New Indian Express](#)

The Uttarakhand government signs an MoU with Iceland's Varkis Consulting Engineers for geothermal energy exploration and development in Dehradun.

Source: [Government of Iceland](#)

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The Uttar Pradesh government approved a new aerospace and defense unit policy aimed at attracting \$5.78 billion in investments and creating 100,000 jobs.

Source: [Business Standard](#)

JSW UAV Limited signs an MoU with the Government of Telangana to establish a state-of-the-art unmanned aerial systems manufacturing facility at a cost of \$92.8 million in the state.

Source: [Government of Telangana](#)

INS Sarvekshak completes the final phase of Mauritius's hydrographic survey, mapping over 25,000 square nautical miles.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

India and the Czech Republic recently held their eighth round of foreign office consultations on January 15, 2025, in New Delhi.

Source: [MEA](#)

During the India-France foreign office consultations held in Paris, both sides agreed to strengthen their partnership in high-end technology sectors.

Source: [MEA](#)

INS Mumbai is participating in the fourth edition of multinational exercise LA PEROUSE, alongside navies from France, Indonesia, Australia, the United States, the United Kingdom, Malaysia, Singapore, and Canada, engaging in advanced maritime warfare exercises across all domains.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

TENDERS AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Riverside Research Institute receives a \$48.93 million contract for electromagnetic spectrum enhancement.

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

General Dynamic Information Technology is awarded \$18.64 million modification for the distributed common ground system network weapon system. The modification brings the total cumulative face value of the contract to \$180.92 million.

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

Lockheed Martin Rotary and Mission Systems secures a \$12.01 million contract to exercise option items supporting the ship-self-defense system, combat system ship integration, and test.

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

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Innovative Defense Technologies receives a \$9.26 million contract for naval engineering design, development, and supporting material for sound navigation and ranging systems or SONAR.

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

The Ministry of Defence signs a contract with Heavy Vehicles Factory, a unit of Armoured Vehicle Nigam Limited, for procuring 47 T-72 Bridge Laying Tanks or BLTs for the Indian Army at a total cost of \$180.19 million.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

Apache Innovations JV is awarded an approximately \$72.3 million contract from NASA to provide logistics and related support services to the Glenn Research Center in Cleveland.

Source: [NASA](#)

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