

# SUGOSHA DEFENCE

## DAILY NEWS & ANALYSIS

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### National

#### BHEL signs technology pact with South Korea's E2S for excitation systems

Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) on April 9, has signed a technology collaboration agreement (TCA) with South Korea's E2S Company Ltd. to strengthen its capabilities in excitation systems for synchronous machines.

The agreement covers static excitation systems (SEE) and brushless excitation systems (AVR), the company said in an exchange filing. Under the collaboration, BHEL will be able to design, engineer, manufacture, install, commission, service and retrofit excitation systems for synchronous machines across domestic and international markets.

The company said the partnership is expected to enhance its technological capabilities and help maintain a competitive edge in the excitation systems segment.

The agreement will also support BHEL's participation in global markets

#### India's first test seaplane lands at Ganga Barrage in Rishikesh

India's aviation landscape may soon see a major shift, but this time from water. SkyHop Aviation, which is preparing to become the country's first commercial seaplane operator, has successfully completed a test flight at the Ganga Barrage in Rishikesh on April 6, 2026. The aircraft smoothly landed and took off from the river, marking a key milestone in bringing seaplane travel closer to reality in India. Unlike conventional aircraft, seaplanes do not require long runways and can operate directly from water bodies. This feature makes them ideal for regions where building airports is difficult.

#### OptiValue Tek Bags Big Deal for Defence Technology, Advances 'Make in India' Defence Tech

OptiValue Tek has successfully clinched a high-value contract from a prominent Indian defense major to develop and supply advanced indigenous technology suites. The engagement centers on the manufacturing of ruggedized electronic sub-systems and specialized software-defined components intended for integration into frontline land and naval platforms. By localizing this complex electronics layer, the firm is addressing a critical Tier-2 supply chain gap, reducing India's historical reliance on imported sub-assemblies. Awarded via the Government e-Marketplace (GeM), the deal represents a large-scale defence contract involving advanced sensing and detection technologies aligned with OptiValue Tek's recently launched Integrated Counter-UAV Defence System (ICUDS). The order underscores growing confidence in the company's ability to build cutting-edge, indigenous defence technologies.

This development follows OptiValue Tek's strategic entry into defence with ICUDS—an AI-driven counter-drone platform designed to detect, track, and neutralize modern aerial threats, including autonomous and RF-silent drones that can evade traditional systems. The platform is engineered to support a wide range of operational environments across defence, army, and naval applications, where real-time threat detection and response are critical.

Built on a multi-layered sensor fusion architecture, ICUDS combines RF intelligence, acoustic detection, and electro-optical surveillance to deliver fast and accurate threat identification. As drone threats become more sophisticated and widespread, such advanced systems are becoming essential for safeguarding critical assets and strengthening operational readiness across defence forces.

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### Indian Navy handed over 100 INSAS rifles & 50,000 rounds to Kenyan Navy

India handed over 100 INSAS rifles, 50,000 rounds of ammunition, and a 1.5 Tesla MRI machine to the Kenya Defence Forces during the port call of Indian Naval Ship (INS) Trikand at Mombasa Port. The visit forms part of a Quick Impact Project under India's MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions) initiative, aimed at strengthening bilateral defence and maritime partnerships.

"Reflecting the growing depth of defence cooperation, the visit also saw the signing of an Implementing Arrangement under a Quick Impact Project (QIP) for the provision of a 1.5 Tesla MRI machine to the Kenya Defence Forces, as well as the handover of 100 INSAS rifles and 50,000 rounds of ammunition

### Dhash Defense Systems debuts indigenous all-terrain mobility platforms to revolutionize tactical ground operations in extreme terrains

Indian defense startup Dhash Defense Systems is set to unveil its latest lineup of indigenous All-Terrain Mobility Platforms (ATMPs). These ruggedized vehicles are specifically engineered to provide high-mobility solutions for the Indian Army in challenging environments like high-altitude Himalayan ridges and marshy border sectors. Deep research indicates the platforms feature a modular design, allowing for rapid reconfiguration into casualty evacuation units, logistics mules, or weapon carriers. By utilizing advanced suspension systems and low-signature silhouettes, Dhash is providing a sovereign alternative to imported ATVs. This development is a critical addition to the "Make in India" tactical vehicle ecosystem, ensuring that frontline infantry units possess the necessary agility and cargo-carrying capacity to maintain situational dominance in regions where traditional heavy vehicles cannot operate effectively.

### Defence ministry to create new info warfare unit for 'strategic communication'

The Indian Ministry of Defence has initiated the creation of a dedicated Information Warfare (IW) unit to significantly enhance its strategic communication and psychological operation capabilities. This move aims to proactively counter state-sponsored disinformation and manage India's security narrative on the global stage. This tri-services unit will integrate military intelligence with civilian experts in cybersecurity and digital media. By centralizing its "Information Operations," India intends to build a resilient cognitive defense architecture that can neutralize adversarial propaganda during high-intensity conflicts and hybrid warfare scenarios, effectively ensuring that the nation's strategic interests are protected across the global digital commons.

## Global

### The Netherlands expands its long-range air defense umbrella with a major follow-on order for additional Patriot missile systems

The Royal Netherlands Army has officially formalized a major procurement deal with US-based Raytheon (RTX) to significantly expand its Patriot long-range air defense capacity. This strategic expansion is a vital response to the high-intensity aerial threats emerging across Europe and serves to backfill inventory following Amsterdam's significant military contributions to Ukraine. Deep research indicates the package likely includes the latest PAC-3 MSE (Missile Segment Enhancement) interceptors and high-precision radar units, designed to neutralize tactical ballistic missiles and 5th-generation aircraft. By securing this additional battery, the Netherlands is reinforcing its commitment to NATO's collective security architecture, ensuring a resilient, multi-layered sky-shield that provides absolute protection for critical national infrastructure and strategic naval corridors in the North Sea.

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### Skydio to Supply USAF With Dock-Based ISR Drones for Mideast Air Bases

The US Air Forces Central (USAFCENT) has awarded Skydio a \$9-million contract to deliver dock-based drone systems for securing US airbases across the Middle East. The deal, covering an undisclosed number of Skydio Dock and X10 drone systems, marks one of the US Air Force's largest deployments of autonomous drone infrastructure for overseas installation security.

USAFCENT is the air component of US Central Command, whose area of responsibility spans the Middle East, Egypt, Central Asia, and parts of South Asia.

### TKMS Partners With Canadian Lithium Leader for Next-Gen Submarine Project

Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) and Canada's E3 Lithium have signed an agreement to explore integrating Canadian lithium into the supply chain for the Canadian Patrol Submarine Project (CPSP). Beyond the submarine program, the collaboration will also assess leveraging Canada's

lithium production for potential international opportunities. Lithium-ion batteries store significantly more energy than traditional lead-acid batteries, allowing submarines to remain submerged for longer periods. Partnering with E3 would enable TKMS to source a critical component domestically, strengthening its bid for the more than \$30-billion project.

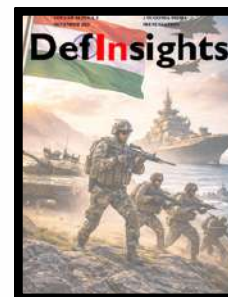
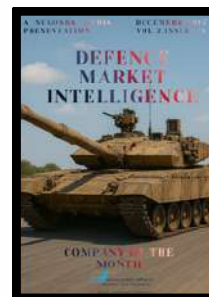
### Finland significantly scales up its armored artillery depth with a massive acquisition of 112 additional K9 'Thunder' howitzers

Finland has finalized a monumental agreement with South Korea's Hanwha Aerospace for the procurement of 112 additional K9 Thunder 155mm self-propelled howitzers. This strategic expansion follows the high operational success of the initial fleet (locally named 'Moukari') and is a direct response to the shifting security architecture on NATO's northern flank. The deal includes a comprehensive life-cycle support package and localized training frameworks. By standardizing its heavy artillery around the K9 platform, Finland is ensuring superior tactical mobility and high-volume fire support in extreme sub-zero conditions, effectively modernizing its defensive posture while fostering a resilient industrial-security corridor between Helsinki and Seoul.

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