

# समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

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## MoD silent on Defexpo dates

*Contacted over the phone, a DEO official told Business Standard that dates would be intimated "when they are decided"*

*By Ajai Shukla*

Keeping the global arms industry on tenterhooks, India's defence ministry has not yet announced dates for Defexpo 2018 — the full name of which is the 10th Land, Naval & Internal Homeland Security Systems Exhibition-2018. This is a major event on the calendar of corporations that sell defence equipment to India's military — the world's largest importer of weaponry.

The world over, organisers of major defence exhibitions announce their dates 4-6 months in advance. With just two months to go for February-end, when previous Defexpos were held, the defence ministry remains silent.

Exhibitors say they are already short of time to plan their displays, book exhibition space, ship equipment they will showcase - artillery guns, heavy vehicles, etc - from their home countries to India, plan the travel of VIPs like defence ministers, and book hotel accommodation and transport for the thousands of personnel who are required for participating in a defence exposition.

Last month, a top official from the Defence Exhibition Organisation (DEO), which organises Defexpo, informed defence firms that Defexpo 2018 would be held in Goa from February 21-24. But, on December 14, Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, said in New Delhi that it was uncertain if the exposition would be held in February.

Since then, there is no word from the DEO. Contacted over the phone, a DEO official told Business Standard that dates would be intimated “when they are decided”. An email to the defence ministry seeking comments evoked no response.

Business Standard learns the decision is currently up before Sitharaman herself. But there are apparently “pressures” against holding it in Goa, including an army offer to provide the space to hold Defexpo 18 in New Delhi.

“India is trying hard to improve its ranking on the Ease of Doing Business Index. Well, this sort of confusion and delay is exactly the wrong way to go about it,” complains a senior official from one of the world's five biggest arms majors.

Similar confusion surrounded the last edition, which the then defence minister shifted from its traditional venue in New Delhi to his home state, Goa. Manohar Parrikar said the shift was taking place because the Pragati Maidan exhibition venue in Delhi was being refurbished. However, there were widespread allegations that Parrikar had done his home state a favour by taking big-spending defence corporations to Goa, effectively extending the tourist season there by a week.

In the event, Parrikar had to overcome heavy opposition from environmental activists in Goa over his written request (revealed through a Right to Information query) to his successor in Panjim, Chief Minister Laxmikant Parsekar, to allocate 150 acres along the coast, near Betul village, to create a permanent venue for holding defence expositions.

While Parrikar had his way, Defexpo 2016 was sharply criticised. Pointing out that a defence exposition involved creating an entire eco-system of access roads, exhibition halls, business facilities and service providers, defence journal, Force, noted after the show: “The defence minister himself admitted in his inaugural speech that trade exhibitions the world over take place in metropolitan cities. This is not a

coincidence, Mr Minister. They happen in big cities because of their proximity to local industry, government organisations and infrastructural facilities, none of which exist in Goa.”

However, Parrikar, now back as chief minister of Goa, declared in June that Defexpo 2018 would again be held in Goa.

Defexpo, which is held biennially every even year, is India's premier land and naval systems show. The biennial Aero India, which is held on odd years, showcases aerospace systems. Defexpo 2018 is expected to attract 400-500 defence companies, including practically every major non-Chinese arms vendor. For now, they are all waiting for the dates.

## THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Wed, 27 Dec, 2017

### **Raise Cost for Pak’s Rogue Army**

*India should increase scale & intensity of dose: When Pak army begins to hurt & bleed, the ‘deep state’ will realise futility of its nefarious designs on India*

*By Gurmeet Kanwal*

On December 23, an officer and three soldiers of the Sikh regiment were ambushed and killed by the Pakistan army in the Rajouri sector of LoC. Their bodies were reportedly mutilated. The Indian Army responded appropriately.

Pakistan’s rogue army has mutilated the bodies of Indian soldiers many times in the past in flagrant violation of the honour code of soldiering and the provisions of the Geneva Convention.

Despite the gravest of provocations over three decades of Pakistan’s war for Jammu and Kashmir by asymmetric means, India showed immense strategic restraint. After the terrorist attacks at the IAF airbase at Pathankot and the Army camp at Uri, the Army conducted surgical strikes at several terrorist camps across the LoC in September 2016 and caused extensive damage.

Since then, the policy has changed to one of tactical assertiveness under the umbrella of strategic restraint. The aim was to inflict punishment on the Pakistan army to raise its cost for the sponsorship of terrorism across the LoC as an instrument of state policy.

The experience since then, including a major increase in the number of infiltration attempts and violations of the mutually agreed ceasefire of November 2003, shows that the new policy has not worked effectively enough. Hence, it is necessary to formulate a comprehensive national-level strategy to counter Pakistan’s war for Kashmir.

The political aim should be to raise the cost for the ‘deep state’ for waging a continuous war, with a view to eventually making the cost prohibitive. Indian diplomacy should aim to isolate Pakistan in the international community and have Pakistan branded as a terrorist state by the UN Security Council. India should take the first step in this regard and itself make a declaration to this effect.

The aim of pro-active measures in the economic field should be to choke Pakistan’s economy. The imposition of unilateral economic sanctions and those by the UN Security Council should be considered. India could also use its buyer’s clout with defence MNCs to ensure that companies that sell weapons and defence equipment to India refrain from supplying these to Pakistan.

The military aim should be to inflict punishment on the Pakistan army deployed on the LoC for every act of terrorism on Indian soil for which there is credible evidence of the army’s involvement or that of the ISI. For each subsequent act of terrorism the scale and the intensity of the dose should be increased by an order of magnitude. The level of military retaliation should be carefully calibrated to avoid escalation to large-scale conflict, which is not in India’s interest.

Operations should include artillery strikes to destroy bunkers on forward posts; stand-off PGM strikes on brigade and battalion HQ, communications and logistics infrastructure, ammunition dumps and key bridges; and, raids by Special Forces and border action teams. Every Pakistani post through which infiltration takes place should be reduced to rubble.

Firepower-heavy operations should be supplemented by covert operations by Special Forces as Pakistan is not inclined to bring to justice the leaders of terrorist organisations like the LeT and the JeM, terrorists whom they call 'strategic assets'.

When the Pakistan army begins to hurt and bleed, the 'deep state' will realise the futility of its nefarious designs on India. While Pakistan may not give up its claims on J&K, it will be forced to come to the negotiating table to discuss a long-term solution to the dispute through peaceful means.

*The writer is Distinguished Fellow, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi. Views are personal.*

## दैनिक जागरण

Wed, 27 Dec, 2017

### भारतीय आसमान में पहली बार उड़ेगा 'मेड इन इंडिया' विमान

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर : 'मेड इन इंडिया' विमानों का व्यावसायिक उपयोग जल्द ही एक वास्तविकता बनने वाला है। यानी भारतीय आसमान में जल्द ही यात्री स्वदेश निर्मित इस विमान से हवाई सफर का लुत्फ उठा सकेंगे, क्योंकि सरकारी कंपनी हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड (एचएएल) ने 19 सीटों वाले डॉर्नियर विमान-228 के परीक्षण का सफलतापूर्वक पूरा कर लिया है। डॉर्नियर-228 विमान को नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) ने कमर्शियल (व्यावसायिक) उड़ान भरने की मंजूरी दे दी है। सशस्त्र बल पहले से ही डॉर्नियर-228 का इस्तेमाल कर रहे

हैं। हाल में कानपुर हवाई अड्डे पर इसका सफल परीक्षण किया गया।

मालूम हो, कानपुर स्थित एचएएल का 1960 से ही ट्रांसपोर्ट एयरक्राफ्ट डिवीजन है। एचएएल ने इस विमान का निर्माण किया है। यह पहला मौका है जब किसी घरेलू कंपनी द्वारा निर्मित विमान को डीजीसीए ने कमर्शियल उड़ान की मंजूरी दी है।

एयरलाइंस को मिल सकती है छूट: डीजीसीए की अनुमति मिलने के बाद एचएएल अब भारत में एयरलाइंस कंपनियों को भी विमान बेच सकेगी। ऐसे में घरेलू उद्देश्यों के लिए इसका इस्तेमाल

किया जा सकेगा। अधिकारियों ने बताया, डॉर्नियर-228 का इस्तेमाल करने वाली एयरलाइंस को कुछ छूट भी दी जा सकती है ताकि स्वदेश निर्मित विमान का उपयोग बढ़े।

नेपाल, श्रीलंका को बेचने की तैयारी: एचएएल डॉर्नियर-228 विमान का निर्यात करने की भी तैयारी कर रही है। अफसरों ने बताया है कि शुरुआत में इसका निर्यात नेपाल और श्रीलंका को किया जा सकता है। डॉर्नियर-228 का एयर टैक्सी और टोही विमान के तौर पर भी इस्तेमाल किया जा सकता है। तटरक्षक बल भी इस 19 सीटों वाले विमान का प्रयोग कर सकते हैं।

## THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Wed, 27 Dec, 2017

### HCL Technologies Steps Up Focus on Cybersecurity

*Software services co to double investments to upgrade facilities in the country, plans a new centre in US*

*By Surabhi Agarwal*

New Delhi: Country's fourth-largest software services firm HCL Technologies is doubling its investments in the cybersecurity space and is looking at upgrading its three facilities in India.

It is also planning a new Cyber Security Fusion Center in Dallas, Texas, US and is open to acquisitions to further beef up its presence in this space, a top official of the firm told ET.

**Playing Safe**  
HCL Tech is doubling up Investments in cybersecurity space

Co plans to upgrade its three facilities in India	Co to open a cyber security fusion centre in Dallas, Texas
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**IT CYBERSECURITY SERVICES AND PRODUCTS MARKET**

<b>\$120b</b> Value of market	<b>10-12%</b> Estimated annual growth rate
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The infographic features a stylized illustration of a hacker in a black suit and mask, holding a laptop and pointing at a computer monitor displaying a document. The background is yellow and red.

Maninder Singh, corporate vice president, CyberSecurity Services at HCL Technologies, said that in the last one year, corporations across the world have become increasingly cognizant of cyber attacks due to recent ransomware attacks such as WannaCry.

Also, the emergence of new technologies such as Internet of Things and new regulations around the world is leading companies to beef up their cybersecurity budgets.

Singh said that the three centres in India, Noida, Chennai and Bengaluru, were called security operations centres earlier and now they are being upgraded to be “cyber security fusion centres”.

HCL is also consolidating its existing centre in Cary in North Carolina, US into a bigger facility in Dallas. HCL has a centre in Gothenberg in Sweden that came as part of the recent Volvo acquisition by the company.

“The upgrading is in terms on new enhancements in the platform such as advanced analytics, machine learning, artificial intelligence. We are applying these to our existing platform which makes it more robust, more enriching from an analytical perspective and more ready to respond to emerging threats,” said Singh.

He added that these centres give the company footprint in the three major continents. They monitor the environment 24x7, 365 days and have separate emergency response teams. “They get a lot of threat intelligence from industry sources, and then collate them. They are preventive and reactive but the predominant role is preventive,” said Singh.

HCL could spend as much as a few million dollars on upgrading of these facilities and its cybersecurity practice overall, said Singh without sharing an exact number.

According to industry estimates the size of the IT cybersecurity services and products market is projected to be \$120 billion and is expected to grow at 10-12%.

Several big shifts in technology are driving the increasing uptake for not just cyber security products but also managed services, he said.

These shifts include the popularity of cloud, where companies are moving application from in premise to a mixture of in premise and cloud. “The second is digitisation of applications and corporations where the first screen is mobile now in many cases.”

He added that regulations and compliance are also becoming extremely stringent with the European GDPR law and China Internet law. “With IoT (Internet of Things), there is emergence of millions and billions of connected devices compared to a just a few hundred thousand, or lakhs a few years ago.”

The recent ransomware attacks have also significantly increased the awareness about cyber security among corporations, added Singh.

# N Korea won't stop nuke tests, warns South

**CHOE SANG-HUN**

SEOUL, DECEMBER 26

NORTH KOREA will keep improving its nuclear and long-range ballistic missile capabilities next year to gain leverage to force Washington to make concessions, like the easing of sanctions, government and analysts in South Korea said on Tuesday.

The isolated North has made major strides this year in its nuclear weapons program but has also faced increasingly tough sanctions from the UN.

On Sept 3, it detonated what it called a hydrogen bomb in its sixth and most powerful nuclear test. It has launched three intercontinental ballistic missiles this year, demonstrating rockets powerful enough to deliver warheads to all of the US.

After its last ICBM test, conducted Nov 29, North Korea claimed to have completed building its nuclear force.

But the country has yet to clear a key technological hurdle:

proving that its warheads can survive re-entry into the atmosphere after flying through space, according to Western officials and analysts.

Forecasting North Korea's nuclear weapons program for the new year, the Unification Ministry in South Korea said on Tuesday that the North "will continue to advance its nuclear and missile capabilities" in 2018 despite its claims about completing its nuclear force.

North Korea will conduct at least one more missile test to master the re-entry technology for its warheads, analysts said.

But the North also was racing against time to secure full ICBM capabilities before new UN sanctions begin squeezing its economy, they said. "Re-entry is a question North Korea must solve to boost its negotiating leverage and for its military and technological purposes," Shin Beomchul, a security analyst, said in a report published over the weekend by the government-run

Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security in Seoul.

"For North Korea, there is a big difference between entering negotiations with the United States after acquiring full ICBM capabilities and starting such talks without them."

North Korea wants Washington to recognise it as a nuclear weapons state. With that status, analysts said, the North would seek arms-reduction talks in hopes of gaining concessions from Washington, such as easing sanctions and reducing the American military presence around the Korean Peninsula.

In return, Pyongyang could offer to freeze or give up its ICBMs while retaining the rest of its nuclear capabilities.

So far, all the North's three ICBM tests have taken place in the sea between North Korea and Japan. Though the missiles soared to extremely high altitudes, demonstrating their power, they never flew beyond Japan. **NYT**

## THE ECONOMIC TIMES

# N Korea Likely to Pursue Talks, South Says in New Year Forecast

*UN unanimously imposed new, tougher sanctions on North Korea on Friday for its recent ICBM test, a move the North branded an economic blockade and act of war*

Seoul: South Korea predicted on Tuesday that North Korea would look to open negotiations with the United States next year in an optimistic outlook for 2018, even as Seoul set up a specialised military team to confront nuclear threats from the North. The UN Security Council unanimously imposed new, tougher sanctions on reclusive North Korea on Friday for its recent intercontinental ballistic missile test, a move the North branded an economic blockade and act of war.

“North Korea will seek negotiation with United States, while continuing to pursue its effort to be recognised as a de facto nuclear-possessing country,” South Korea’s Unification Ministry said in a report, without offering any reasons for its conclusion.

The Ministry of Defence said it would assign four units to operate under a new official overseeing North Korea policy, aimed to “deter and respond to North Korea’s nuclear and missile threat”.

Tensions have risen over North Korea’s nuclear and missile programmes, which it pursues in defiance of years of UN Security Council resolutions, with bellicose rhetoric coming from both Pyongyang and the White House. US diplomats have made clear they are seeking a diplomatic solution but President Donald Trump has derided talks as useless and said Pyongyang must commit to giving up its nuclear weapons before any talks can begin.

In a statement carried by the official KCNA news agency, North Korea said the United States was terrified by its nuclear force and was getting “more and more frenzied in the moves to impose the harshest-ever sanctions and pressure on our country”.

In its 2018 forecast, South Korea’s Unification Ministry said it believed the North would eventually find ways to blunt the effects of the sanctions.

“Countermeasures will be orchestrated to deal with the effects, including cuts in trade volume and foreign currency inflow, lack of supplies, and reduced production in each part of the economy,” the report said. **Reuters**



*Wed, 27 Dec, 2017*

## **Ready to Mediate N Korea-US Talks If Both Sides Willing: Kremlin**

Moscow: Russia is ready to act as a mediator between North Korea and the US if both parties are willing for it to play such a role, the Kremlin said on Tuesday.

Moscow has long called for the two sides to hold negotiations aimed at reducing tensions over the nuclear and missile programme North Korea is pursuing in defiance of years of UN Security Council resolutions.

“Russia’s readiness to clear the way for de-escalation is obvious,” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said in a phone call with reporters. Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov called on Monday for Washington and Pyongyang to start negotiations, saying Russia was ready to facilitate such talks.

Though US diplomats have said they are pursuing a diplomatic solution, President Trump has said Pyongyang must commit to giving up its nuclear weapons before any talks can begin.

The Security Council unanimously voted to impose new sanctions on North Korea on Friday, a move Pyongyang called an act of war, tantamount to a complete economic blockade. **Reuters**



*Wed, 27 Dec, 2017*

## **North Korea preparing to launch new satellite**

Seoul: North Korea is preparing to launch a satellite, a Seoul newspaper said Tuesday, as outside observers warn that the nuclear-armed regime’s space programme is a fig leaf for weapons tests. Pyongyang is

under multiple UN sanctions over its nuclear and missile tests and is prohibited from carrying out any launch using ballistic missile technology including satellites.

“Through various channels, we’ve recently learned that the North has completed a new satellite and named it Kwangmyongsong-5,” the Seoul-based Joongang Ilbo daily reported, quoting a South Korean government source.

“Their plan is to put a satellite equipped with cameras and telecommunication devices into orbit,” he said.

Pyongyang launched their Kwangmyongsong-4 satellite in February 2016, which most in the international community viewed as a disguised ballistic missile test.

A spokesman for the South Korean military joint chiefs of staff said there was “nothing out of ordinary at this moment” but added that Seoul was watching out for any provocative acts by its neighbour, “including the test of a long-range missile disguised as a satellite launch”.

The report came as the North’s ruling party newspaper Rodong Sinmun reasserted the regime’s right to launch satellites and develop its space technology.



*Wed, 27 Dec, 2017*

## **Space dept lists achievements for ‘17**

The Mars Orbiter Mission (MoM) has completed three years as against its stipulated life span of six months in its orbit on 24 September 2017 and continues to send “valuable” data and pictures of Mars’ surface. This, besides other important achievements, have been enlisted by the department of space in the year-end review of its achievements during 2017.

“Mars Colour Camera onboard MOM has acquired more than 700 images of Martian surface. MOM atlas is published and updates on MOM images are regularly provided on ISRO website,” a Space department press note said.

“ISRO and Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL)/NASA are jointly working on the development of Dual Frequency (L&S band) Synthetic Aperture Radar Imaging Satellite named as NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR),” it added.

“The satellite will be useful in mapping and monitoring of natural resources; estimating agricultural biomass over full duration of crop cycle; assessing soil moisture; monitoring of floods and oil slicks; coastal erosion, coastline changes and variation of winds...,” the note stated. In a significant feat, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched 104 satellites, in one go, on board PSLV-C37 on 15 February 2017 and 31 satellites, in a single launch, on-board PSLVC38 on 23 June 2017.

Similarly, India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark-II (GSLV-F09) successfully launched the 2230 kg South Asia Satellite (GSAT9) into its planned Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) on 5 May 2017.

In another milestone, the first developmental flight (GSLV MkIII-D1) of India's heavy lift launch vehicle GSLV Mk-III was successfully carried out on 5 June 2017 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota, with the launch of GSAT-19 satellite.

“AstroSat, India’s multi-wave length space telescope also completed two years in orbit during the year,” the Space Department note added.

## Now, a big bubble theory

*Solar system was born in a shell made of material flung off a giant star, says study*

Scientists have said that the solar system could have formed in the bubbles produced by a giant, long-dead star, which was 40 to 50 times the size of the sun.

Despite the many impressive discoveries humans have made about the universe, scientists are yet to come to a consensus about the birth story of the solar system.

The prevailing theory is that the solar system formed billions of years ago near a supernova.

But the new scenario, explained in a paper in the *Astrophysical Journal*, begins with a giant type of star called a Wolf-Rayet star.

They burn the hottest of all stars, producing tonnes of elements which are flung off the surface in an intense stellar wind.

As the Wolf-Rayet star sheds its mass, the stellar wind ploughs through the material around it, forming a bubble structure with a dense shell.

“The shell of such a bubble is a good place to produce stars,” because dust and gas become trapped inside where they can condense into stars, said study co-author Nicolas Dauphas, Professor at University of Chicago in the U.S.

The researchers estimate that 1% to 16% of all sun-like stars could be formed in such stellar nurseries.

The study addresses a nagging cosmic mystery about the presence of two elements in our solar system compared to the rest of the galaxy.

Meteorites left over from the early solar system suggests there was a lot of aluminium-26. In addition, studies increasingly suggest the solar system had less of the isotope iron-60.

This brings scientists up short, because supernovae produce both isotopes.

“It begs the question of why one was injected into the solar system and the other was not,” said co-author Vikram Dwarkadas from the University of Chicago.

This brought the scientists to Wolf-Rayet stars, which release lots of aluminium-26, but no iron-60.

As for the fate of the giant Wolf-Rayet star, the researchers believe that its life ended long ago, likely in a supernova explosion or a direct collapse to a black hole.