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DOT Weekly

NEWSLETTER FEB 03 – FEB 09, 2024

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LAND AND SEA

The Indian Navy commissioned its first survey vessel large ship, *INS Sandhayak*, in a ceremony, at the naval dockyard in *Visakhapatnam* on February 3, 2024. The ship is equipped with advanced hydrographic tools, including an autonomous underwater vehicle, side scan sonars, and terrestrial survey equipment.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

CYBER, SYSTEMS, AND SOFTWARE

Nothing Critical to report this week.

SPACE AND AEROSPACE

Axiom mission 3, the third private astronaut mission to the international space station, successfully concluded its journey. The mission was launched on January 18, 2024, aboard a Falcon 9 rocket from NASA's Kennedy space center in Florida.

Source: [NASA](#)

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SPACE AND AEROSPACE

On February 9, 2024, SpaceX launched an additional set of “Starlink” internet satellites. The launch involved a Falcon 9 rocket, which lifted off from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California.

Source: [Space.com](https://www.space.com)

BUSINESS UPDATES

Ocean Aero, INTRA Defense Technologies, and MEMR announce a partnership to advance unmanned systems in Saudi Arabia. The partnership aims to bring innovative maritime technology, specifically Ocean Aero’s triton autonomous unmanned surface vehicle (AUSV), to the region. The triton AUSV is the world’s first autonomous underwater and surface vehicle, capable of serving various applications in Saudi Arabia.

Source: [Business Wire](https://www.businesswire.com)

LocatorX, a key player in supply chain internet of things, partners with New Vista Capital to enhance its growth in the aerospace and defense industry, as well as in national security, supply chain, and manufacturing sectors.

Source: [LocatorX](https://www.locatorx.com)

Xcelerate Solutions, a defense and national security company under McNally Capital, merges with VMD Corporation, a cybersecurity and critical infrastructure protection firm. The combined entity, operating as Xcelerate Solutions, will provide a mission-focused portfolio of secure solutions to the federal government.

Source: [Xcelerate Solutions](https://www.xcelerate-solutions.com)

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BUSINESS UPDATES

Advantage Capital, an investment firm, invests \$3 million in Malone's CNC Machining, a manufacturer of replacement parts for U.S. military aircrafts. The funding will be used for acquiring new equipment and meeting working capital requirements.

Source: [Advantage Capital](#)

Synthetaic, an artificial intelligence solutions provider, raises \$15 million in series-b funding. Lupa Systems and TiletownTech co-led the round, with participation from IBM Ventures and Booz Allen Hamilton.

Source: [Synthetaic](#)

Lockheed Martin and MilDef sign a memorandum of understanding to enhance aerospace collaboration for the Swedish Air Force's C-130J-30 super Hercules tactical airlifter. The partnership aims to integrate MilDef solutions into Lockheed Martin's global aerospace and defense network.

Source: [Lockheed Martin](#)

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia awards Lockheed Martin with two vital subcontracts for specific components in the terminal high altitude area defense weapon system. The contract aligns with the localization Agreement between Saudi Arabia and Lockheed Martin.

Source: [Lockheed Martin](#)

Austal USA initiates the design phase for a new manufacturing facility, marking a significant expansion of its shipyard in Mobile, Alabama. The project, planned for summer 2024, includes a new assembly building, waterfront enhancements, and a ship lift system, positioned to the south of Austal USA's existing waterfront facility.

Source: [Austal USA](#)

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GOVERNMENT UPDATES

India is set to host a nine-day naval exercise in *Visakhapatnam* from February 19, 2024, with over fifty participating navies. The “*Milan*” exercise will include countries such as the United States, Japan, Australia, France, Bangladesh, South Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Malaysia. The event aims to address security concerns in the Red Sea and foster cooperation in a complex geopolitical environment.

Source: [Press Trust of India](#)

India and French navies staff held talks in Delhi on February 6 and February 7, 2024, focusing on current naval activities and exploring new cooperation areas in operations, training, and expert exchanges. Rear Admiral Nirbhay Bapna, assistant chief of naval staff for foreign cooperation and intelligence, and Rear Admiral Jean-Marc Durandau, director of international engagements for the French navy, co-chaired the meeting.

Source: [DD News](#)

India and Saudi Arabia successfully concluded the first joint military exercise, “*Sada Tanseeq*,” at the *Mahajan* field firing ranges. The twelve-days exercise, from January 29 to February 9, 2024, focused on enhancing interoperability and familiarizing both forces with operational procedures and combat drills under the United Nation mandate.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

The Indian Air Force (IAF) will conduct exercise *Vayu Shakti-24* on February 17, 2024, in *Jaisalmer*, India. This year's exercise will witness the participation of one hundred and twenty-one aircrafts, including the indigenous *Tejas*, and *Dhruv*. Exercise *Vayu Shakti* will showcase the IAF's ability to deliver weapons with long-range precision and accuracy.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

The U.S. Department of State hosted the inaugural meeting of C5+1 critical minerals dialogue on February 8, 2024. The initiative, announced by President Biden and the presidents of Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kazakhstan, stems from C5+1 presidential summit on September 19, 2023, in New York.

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

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GOVERNMENT UPDATES

On February 9, 2024, Greece officially became the thirty-fifth country to sign the Artemis Accords.

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

This week, the Department of Defense revealed that scientists from the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia conducted trials of robotic vehicles and their sensors in late 2023. The tests aimed to identify vulnerabilities in autonomous systems operating in electronic warfare environments. This collaborative effort falls under the AUKUS security and technology partnership, focusing on advancing the adoption of emerging technologies among the three countries.

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

TENDERS AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Advanced Technology International, managed by U.S. Marine Corps warfighting lab, awards AeroVironment a \$2.67 million contract. AeroVironment will provide prototype *tomahawk* rgip tab active controllers and test kits, enabling the Department of Defense to assess technical capabilities for future operation.

Source: [AeroVironment](#)

The Naval Air Warfare Center awards Kopin Corporation a contract to create “advanced microdisplays for lensless computational imaging.” The objective is to design a high-resolution microdisplay with the ability to operate at very high framerates, facilitating the development of reliable artificial intelligence and autonomous features for computational imaging.

Source: [Kopin Corporation](#)

The U.S. Navy grants Science Applications International Corp an \$80.5 million task order. The task involves designing and producing “MK 710 torpedo system test sets” to improve the navy's ability to supply the submarine force with reliable and validated MK 48 heavyweight torpedoes.

Source: [SAIC](#)

The U.S. Navy selects Anduril, along with its dive family of autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs), to develop prototypes focused on long-range, and payload delivery in contested environments. Anduril's artificial intelligence enabled AUVs offer versatile capabilities for various defense and commercial missions.

Source: [Anduril](#)

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TENDERS AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The U.S. Army awards Kopin Corporation a \$1.4 million additional production contract for a specialized long-range optical weapon sight module targeting the international market.

Source: [Kopin Corporation](#)

On January 16, 2024, the U.S. Army granted a \$75 million contract to RTX Corporation for the production of six-hundred Coyote -2C interceptors. The Coyote plays a crucial role in the overall counter-UAS system.

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

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About Us



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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