

# Industry Matters

Weekly Updates

August 15, 2025



## Economy, Industry and Policy

**How advanced manufacturing can define India's global manufacturing rise:** India is steadily advancing toward becoming a global manufacturing powerhouse. The sector has undergone rapid transformation—driven by cutting-edge technology, skilled talent and strong policy support. Contributing 17 per cent to the nation's GDP and employing over 27.3 million people, manufacturing is a vital pillar of the economy. *[Business Standard]*

**Independence Day 2025-Tryst with growth-India's economic journey from Nehru to now:** India's economic journey since 1947 is a story of transformation. It began with Nehru's socialist vision. Reforms in 1991 led to rapid growth. The services sector boomed, making India a global outsourcing hub. Today, India is the fastest-growing major economy. Initiatives like Digital India and GST are shaping its future. The goal is to become a developed nation by 2047. *[The Economic Times]*

**A trillion-dollar tech momentum:** India's path to becoming a \$10-trillion economy by 2032 will be built through digital-first thinking, tech-led inclusion, and collaborative innovation. *[Financial Express]*

**RBI rate cut in October MPC meeting looks unlikely as inflation set to rise in August-SBI:** The Reserve Bank of India is unlikely to cut interest rates in October due to expected inflation rise in August 2025, potentially delaying any rate cut until December. India's retail inflation hit a 98-month low in July 2025, driven by falling food and core inflation. *[The Economic Times]*

**Tariffs to make exporting to US unviable for India Inc-Crisil Ratings:** Crisil reports that the 25% tariffs on Indian goods due to Russian oil purchases could render exports to the US "unviable," impacting sectors like diamond polishing, shrimp, and home textiles. *[The Economic Times]*

**Shaping cleantech transition:** As India charts its journey towards becoming Viksit Bharat by 2047, two priorities are emerging as the pillars of its transformation: Economic resurgence through manufacturing and climate leadership without trading off India's development priorities. *[Financial Express]*

**Trump tariff shock-Morgan Stanley warns of 80 bps dent on India's GDP:** India's growth outlook faces fresh pressure after the US doubled tariffs on key exports to 50 per cent, a move Morgan Stanley warns could shave up to 80 bps off GDP over the next year. The escalation may trigger rate cuts and higher government spending. *[Financial Express]*

**Shell-shocked India Inc weighs costs:** Bharat Forge chairman & MD Baba Kalyani minced no words on Thursday when he said that a 50% import tariff by the US was something that no industry in India could absorb. "It is simply undoable. You might as well not have a business at all," he said unequivocally, adding that a long-term political solution to the trade issue with the US was important. *[Financial Express]*

**India should review existing trade agreements-Former diplomat:** Jawed Ashraf, former Ambassador of India to France and High Commissioner to Singapore, has called for a review of India's existing free trade agreements (FTAs) with countries such as Korea, Japan, ASEAN, South Africa and Singapore. *[Business Line]*

**Comprehensive land reforms are imperative for India's competitiveness-CII:** In order to boost manufacturing in India, industry body, Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) on Sunday has advocated for comprehensive land reforms. This will help to capitalise on emerging opportunities and march towards the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047, it said. *[Business Line]*

**Sitharaman introduces Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill in Lok Sabha:** The Bill, introduced in the Lok Sabha, also incorporates changes in the scheme of block assessment with regard to Income Tax search cases, and to provide for certain direct tax benefits to public investment funds of Saudi Arabia. *[Business Line]*

**Govt should flag EUDR as non-tariff barrier at WTO-Parliamentary panel to govt:** A parliamentary panel suggests India raise concerns about the EU's anti-deforestation rules at the WTO. They want a review of free trade agreements' effects on the spice trade. The committee urges promoting 'Make in India' for leather goods to protect artisans. *[The Economic Times]*

**India moving fast towards becoming the world's third-major economy-PM Modi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said India is moving fast towards becoming the third major economy in the world. The Prime Minister's comments come days after US President Donald Trump's "India a dead economy," jibe. *[Business Standard]*

**Govt plans ₹25,000 cr export support mission to counter US tariff impact:** The commerce and industry ministry has firmed up support schemes worth about ₹25,000 crore under the Export Promotion Mission for a six-year period, amid continuing uncertainties from higher tariffs imposed by the US. *[Business Standard]*



## Foreign Investment

**India inked 5 FTAs in past 5 years, negotiations on for a few more-Jitin Prasada apprises Parliament:** India has boosted its trade relations by signing five Free Trade Agreements. These agreements include deals with Mauritius, UAE, and Australia. Trade data shows mixed results, with growth in some sectors. India is also in talks for new agreements with several countries. *[The Economic Times]*

**Raising FDI limit for insurers to 100% will generate employment opportunities-FM Nirmala Sitharaman:** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed Parliament that raising the FDI limit in Indian insurance companies to 100% would attract more players, generate jobs, and enhance efficiency through improved technologies. *[The Economic Times]*

**CapitaLand to invest over Rs 19,200 crore in Maharashtra by 2030:** CapitaLand Investment will invest over nineteen thousand two hundred crore rupees in Mumbai and Pune by 2030. This investment will strengthen its presence across business parks, data centers, logistics, and industrial assets. The company launched its first data center in Navi Mumbai. *[The Economic Times]*

**Banks tighten scrutiny on overseas investments amid falling net FDI:** Banks are closely watching Indian companies' foreign investments. They are asking more questions about the purpose and success of these ventures. This happens as foreign investment in India has significantly decreased. Banks now want detailed information and proof before approving money transfers abroad. *[The Economic Times]*



## Trade Policy and Competitiveness

**FTAs may give India a share in \$875 bn imports to EU, UK from China-BCG:** India's proposed free trade agreement (FTAs) with the European Union could unlock access to a USD 875 billion market and bring tariff parity with ASEAN peers as the country navigates a critical juncture in the evolving global trade landscape, Boston Consulting Group (BCG), India-head Rahul Jain said. *[Business Standard]*

**Mahindra plans to export EVs to UK with trade agreement in place:** Mahindra & Mahindra is set to export its electric vehicles to the UK, capitalising on the India-UK free trade agreement. Group CEO Anish Shah envisions India as a global auto manufacturing hub. The company aims for EVs to constitute 30% of its sales by 2030. *[The Economic Times]*

**Centre wants states to support exporters hit by Donald Trump tariff:** The commerce and industry ministry is set to reach out to export-oriented states such as Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu, urging them to support labour-intensive sectors hit by the 50 per cent tariff imposed by the US government. *[Business Standard]*

**Govt focusing on 50 countries to boost exports:** In response to US tariffs, the Indian government is formulating strategies to bolster exports by targeting 50 countries, primarily in the Middle East and Africa, which constitute 90% of India's export market. *[The Economic Times]*

**India diversifies trade strategy as US drives hard bargain:** The government on Monday informed Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs that the US has driven a hard bargain with all the countries with which it has finalised bilateral trade deals. *[Business Line]*

**India signs trade cooperation pact with Zambia to boost cooperative exports:** India and Zambia have formalized a trade agreement to bolster cooperative alliances, as announced by Cooperation Minister Amit Shah. This initiative aims to fortify India's cooperative export network through its international missions. *[The Economic Times]*

**US tariffs leave a deep cut in India's diamond industry:** US tariffs on diamonds, escalating from 10% to 50% since April, have led to approximately 100,000 job losses in Saurashtra's diamond cutting and polishing industry, particularly impacting smaller units. *[The Economic Times]*

**India's Trump tariff crunch-and the policy levers that could shift the game:** Recent US tariff actions, including levies on imports and penalties related to Russian oil, pose trade challenges for India. While other nations negotiated tariff adjustments, India faces the full impact, affecting key export sectors. *[The Economic Times]*

**Trade in a fragmenting world-Navigating the new global disorder:** Global trade faces a significant transformation marked by rising protectionism and geopolitical tensions. Businesses must navigate a fragmented landscape with complex legal challenges, including sanctions and diverging regulations. *[The Economic Times]*



## Corporate Governance

**Amber may offload ILJIN stake, to invest ₹4,200 crore in PCB plants:** Electronics maker Amber Enterprises is planning a ₹4,200 crore investment under ECMS, while exploring pre-IPO or private equity options for ILJIN Electronics. *[Business Standard]*

**NTPC willing to invest ₹80,000 cr in solar and wind power projects in Telangana:** National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is willing to invest ₹80,000 crore in renewable power generation. This was conveyed by NTPC Gurudeep Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, NTPC in his meeting with Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy here on Saturday. *[Business Line]*

**CSR spends climb, yet corporate reputations show little improvement:** India's unique corporate social responsibility (CSR) law was introduced in 2013 under the second United Progressive Alliance government at a time when India Inc's reputation was somewhat tarnished. *[Business Standard]*

**ONGC to invest ₹4,600 crore to drill 10 wells, other infra in KG Basin:** Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has approached the Ministry of Environment and Forests seeking fresh environmental clearance for the proposed project. *[Business Standard]*

**House panel favours phased adoption of proposed digital competition law to regulate Big Tech:** A parliamentary committee suggests a phased approach to the digital competition law. The law aims to regulate Big Tech companies. The committee wants to prevent inadvertently capturing domestic firms. They propose a rebuttal mechanism for companies. *[The Economic Times]*

**Government may sell 2.5-3% stake in LIC to potentially raise as much as Rs 17,000 crore:** Indian government holds 96.5 per cent stake in the Life Corporation of India. According to the SEBI guidelines, LIC need to increase its public shareholding to a minimum of 10 per cent. *[Financial Express]*

**Vodafone Idea invests Rs 1.56 crore in Aditya Birla Renewables SPV 3 to secure captive green energy:** Vodafone Idea has signed binding agreements to acquire a 26 per cent stake in Aditya Birla Renewables SPV 3 for Rs 1.56 crore, aimed at securing captive renewable power. *[Financial Express]*



## MSMEs and Start-ups

**In an uncertain world, India's small businesses are sure about growth:** Small and medium businesses in the country are optimistic about the first quarter of FY26 (Q1 FY26) and those in the services sector do not see US tariff hikes on India affecting them, says a survey that was conducted before President Donald Trump cracked down on Indian goods. *[Business Standard]*

**US tariff impact on MSME workers may hit affordable home sales-Anarock:** Affordable home sales are likely to be hit by the proposed US tariffs on Indian exports, which will hurt small businesses and income of their staff who are major buyers of housing properties costing up to ₹45 lakh, according to realty consultant Anarock. *[Business Standard]*

**Speciale Invest raises ₹600 crore fund to back Indian deep-tech start-ups:** Venture capital firm Speciale Invest has closed its third fund at Rs 600 crore, surpassing its Rs 500 crore target as investor appetite grows for early-stage deep-technology companies. The fund will make 18–20 investments over the next four years in space, advanced manufacturing, energy, health, and artificial intelligence start-ups. *[Business Standard]*

**Fairdeal raises \$3 mn in pre-series A funding to expand, deepen tech infra:** Fairdeal.Market, a business-to-business (B2B) quick commerce platform, on Tuesday announced that it has raised \$3 million in a Pre-Series A funding round led by Incubate Fund Asia and Waterbridge Ventures. *[Business Standard]*

**Beyond capital, capability building is critical for MSMEs to thrive-DBS Bank India's Sudarshan Chari:** Beyond access to finance, MSMEs today need support in areas such as improving operational efficiency, tapping into new markets, and future-proofing their models, says Sudarshan Chari, MD and Head of SME Banking, DBS Bank India. *[The Economic Times]*

**Microfinance sector seeks up to \$2.2 bn credit guarantee support from govt:** India's microfinance industry has sought credit guarantee support of up to 200 billion rupees (\$2.2 billion) from the government to spur loan growth in a sector grappling with higher borrowing costs, senior industry officials said on Tuesday. *[Business Standard]*



## Employment and Industrial Relations

**TCS layoffs signal AI-driven transformation in \$283 bn outsourcing sector:** Indian outsourcing giant Tata Consultancy Services' decision to cut over 12,000 jobs signals the start of a broader AI-fueled trend that could end up eliminating around half a million jobs over the next two to three years from the \$283 billion sector, experts said. *[Business Standard]*

**No plan to restore OPS due to its 'unsustainable fiscal liability'-FM:** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the features of Unified Pension Scheme have been designed to ensure payment of assured payouts while also maintaining the fiscal sustainability of the fund. *[Business Standard]*

**Millennials, Gen Z make up two-thirds of all blue collar job applications:** A recent report indicates that Millennials and Gen Z constitute 65% of job applications in 2024-2025, with a significant surge among 20-23 year olds. Applications for laborer roles have increased dramatically, alongside interest in typist, data entry, and law-related positions. *[The Economic Times]*



## Industrial Finance

**Credit growth rose to 10% in July 25 fortnight, deposit growth at 10.2%:** Retail credit moderation and rising bond yields impact bank lending growth, as credit rises 10 per cent and deposits grow 10.2 per cent in the fortnight ended 25 July. *[Business Standard]*

**IndusInd Bank to focus on building retail loan, MSME assets; ramping up retail liabilities in FY26:** IndusInd Bank, recovering from past financial irregularities, focuses on retail growth and ethical governance. The bank aims to increase retail liabilities, expand secured retail and MSME assets, and be selective in corporate lending. *[The Economic Times]*

**Fusion Finance gains over 4% as Q1 results show asset quality boost:** Shares of Fusion Finance, a microloans provider, gained 4.3 per cent on Monday following an upbeat performance in the quarter ended June 2025 (Q1). The stock closed at Rs 154, trimming its year-to-date loss to 11 per cent. *[Business Standard]*

**VinFast Auto India, HDFC Bank partner for auto, inventory financing:** VinFast Auto India on Monday said it has partnered with HDFC Bank to provide auto and inventory financing for its exclusive dealer network. The two partners have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the same, the company, a subsidiary of Vietnam's EV maker VinFast, said in a statement. *[Business Standard]*



## Technology and Innovation

**OpenAI offers millions in bonuses to 1,000 staff amid AI talent race:** OpenAI is awarding substantial bonuses to approximately 1,000 employees, which makes up about one-third of its workforce, as part of its effort to retain top technical talent amid growing competitive pressure in the artificial intelligence sector. *[Business Standard]*

**Costly middle layer faces the axe amid India's IT sector layoff drill:** According to data from specialist staffing firm Xpheno, more than 7,700 senior professionals with over 15 years of experience have exited India's IT services firms over the past 12 months. *[Business Standard]*

**UPI's top checkout by volume in July-The grocery aisle dominates:** NPCI uploads new data points on UPI from time to time. One of the reasons to do that is to provide an ecosystem-level overview to all ecosystem participants, including banks and fintechs. *[Business Standard]*

**Apple starts testing smarter Siri with third-party app integration:** Apple's next-gen Siri, now reportedly in trials with apps like WhatsApp and YouTube, will bring deeper voice control to iOS when it reportedly launches next year. *[Business Standard]*

**UPI and beyond-The great Indian banking leap:** India's banking and finance sector has transformed steadily. It evolved from colonial banking to a digitised system. The Reserve Bank of India and the Finance Ministry guided this evolution. Key events include bank nationalisation and the 1991 reforms. *[The Economic Times]*

**India's smartphone market sees 7-8% growth after two-quarter slump:** India's smartphone market saw a recovery in the June quarter. Shipments increased by 7-8% after a previous decline. New models and marketing efforts drove this growth. However, consumer demand remained moderate. *[The Economic Times]*

**Global satcom giants like Intelsat, Inmarsat eye India's \$2.3 billion market boom:** Global satellite operators are targeting India's expanding satellite communication market. They plan to resell capacity to offer broadband services. This could challenge Elon Musk's Starlink. Reliance Jio, Eutelsat OneWeb, and others have approvals. *[The Economic Times]*

**How Jio, UPI and 5G rewrote India's IT story:** India's telecom and IT sectors have undergone a remarkable transformation, evolving from limited landlines to a global leader in mobile technology. Policy reforms in the 1990s, the rise of IT hubs like Bengaluru, and the disruptive entry of Jio in 2016 fueled this growth. *[The Economic Times]*

**Generative AI set to improve banking operations in India by 46%-RBI:** A Reserve Bank of India report indicates that generative AI could boost Indian banking operations by up to 46%. AI adoption is driven by the need to enhance customer experience, improve productivity, and reduce costs. *[The Economic Times]*



## Industrial Infrastructure, Clusters and SEZs

**Vizhinjam port automates growth path:** The Adani Group-run Vizhinjam International Deepwater Multipurpose Seaport, near Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala, is rapidly automating the core of its container and ship handling operations. *[Business Line]*

**IndiGo CarGo targets high-value, time-sensitive sectors for global growth:** Airline major IndiGo's cargo arm, IndiGo CarGo, is ramping up its presence in the global logistics market by focusing on high-value, time-sensitive consignments on the recently launched long-haul flight operations to Europe. *[Business Line]*

**India's infrastructure leap-Nehru's temples to today's tech towers:** Since 1947, India's infrastructure has evolved from Nehru's state-led projects to a focus on connectivity and technology. Initiatives like the Golden Quadrilateral, Sagarmala, and metro systems have boosted connectivity and urban mobility. *[The Economic Times]*

**Public charging infra development vital for EV adoption-Maruti Suzuki:** The development of public charging infrastructure will play a vital role in faster adoption of electric vehicles as driving range anxiety has emerged as a deterrent to customers to accept an EV as a primary car in a household. *[Business Line]*

**Making jobs in City of Joy-Is West Bengal ready to up its economic game?:** From IT hubs in Kolkata to manufacturing revivals in Uttarpara and mega power projects in Salboni, Bengal is wooing corporate giants to reverse migration and fuel economic growth. *[Business Standard]*

**State-run Shipping Corp of India to buy 26 local vessels in \$2 bn deal:** State-owned Shipping Corp. of India, the country's largest shipping line, is working on a plan to purchase 26 India-made ships for ₹19,820 crore (\$2.3 billion) as part of a government initiative to boost the domestic shipbuilding industry, according to people familiar with the matter. *[Business Standard]*

**Tesla plugs into India-Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru supercharging stations on fast track:** Tesla is gearing up to launch deliveries in India by September. The company will expand its supercharging network. Delhi-NCR, Mumbai and Bengaluru are the target locations. New supercharging stations are planned for Gurugram, Noida and Saket. *[The Economic Times]*

**MEPZ SEZ approves first marine sector EOU:** The projected investment is ₹2.25 crore, and the expected net foreign exchange earnings is ₹32 crore over five years and creation of 77 new jobs. *[Business Line]*



## Sustainable Industrialisation

**The stealth reform of India's electricity sector gains quiet traction:** As the use of energy-guzzling artificial intelligence (AI) grows, countries that embrace renewables will gain an obvious competitive advantage. And on this front, China has established a substantial lead. *[Business Standard]*

**Recharging the old-How retrofitting can help improve green mobility:** India's push towards green mobility has so far focused heavily on incentivising new electric-vehicle (EV) purchases. But a parallel, and potentially faster, route is emerging: Retrofitting existing internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles to turn them into EVs. *[Business Standard]*

**L&T to offer minority stakes in its green hydrogen projects:** Larsen & Toubro (L&T) is open to offering a minority stake to a global off-taker for its green hydrogen and ammonia projects in India, a top official said. The company is in discussions with global firms that see India as a hub of green hydrogen ammonia manufacturing. *[Business Line]*

**ACME Solar targets 7GW capacity by end of FY28:** ACME Solar Holdings plans to make nearly 7GW of its contracted renewable energy capacity operational by the end of FY28, with significant projects coming online in FY27 and FY28. *[Financial Express]*

**India's solar module capacity has hit 100 GW mark-Pralhad Joshi:** The progress brings India close to its vision of having 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based capacity by 2030, the Minister for New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). *[Business Line]*



## Sectoral News

**India's gems and jewellery exports to US halted after 50% tariff hike:** The 50 per cent tariff announced by the United States (US) on India's gems and jewellery export has halted its shipment, leading to a blow to this employment-intensive industry. *[Business Standard]*

**Indian auto component makers have huge export opportunities in markets of Brazil, Colombia, Poland, Africa:** The report also shared that the developing markets also hold immense promise, especially across Africa. North Africa is projected to have an aftermarket size of \$3,415 million, South Africa \$3,685 million, East Africa \$521 million, and West Africa \$596 million. *[Business Line]*

**Indian alloy steel makers seek anti-dumping duty on cheap Chinese imports:** India, world's second-biggest producer of crude steel, has the capacity to make around 18 million to 20 million metric tonnes per annum of alloy steel, used in auto, defence and aerospace sectors. *[Business Standard]*

**Govt targets critical minerals security through mining law changes:** The Centre is reportedly preparing to push key amendments to mining laws in Parliament this week, paving the way for state funding to acquire overseas critical mineral assets. The proposal, aimed at securing long-term access to resources like lithium, copper, cobalt, and rare earth elements, comes amid tightening global supply and rising geopolitical risks. *[Business Standard]*

**Indian telecom companies oppose DoT plan on direct network allocation:** Indian telcos have opposed a proposal from the department of telecommunications (DoT) on allotting airwaves for private 5G networks through direct allocation. *[Business Standard]*

**Cooperatives at the Core-The 2025 Policy Blueprint:** If implemented properly, NCP provisions would encourage professionalism, ease-of-doing business, end-to-end digitisation, and functionally converged and integrated welfare programmes to boost India's GDP during Amrit Kaal (2025-2047). *[The Economic Times]*

**Tourism Vision 2047-Industry aims for \$3 trillion tourism economy and 200 million jobs:** The conclave brought together the country's 10 major national tourism and hospitality associations, industry stakeholders and policymakers under the aegis of the Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism & Hospitality (FAITH). *[Business Line]*

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