

SANKET

Monthly Strategic Intelligence on India's Industrial Systems

ISSUE 04 • AUGUST 2026 • 10-MIN READ

COVER STORY

PRICING THE GAP

Three service roadmaps, one composite index, 312 import surfaces—August was the month India put a number on what it does not make. July priced the opportunity; August priced the gap. The question now is whether the numbers build anything.



DEFENCE & DUAL-USE

40 /100
+1

ENTERPRISE SOFTWARE

40 /100
HOLD

SEMICONDUCTORS

37 /100
+1

AI INFRASTRUCTURE

33 /100
+2

CRITICAL MINERALS

23 /100
HOLD



840

ONE-WAY ATTACK DRONES
₹1,577 CRORE ORDER



~₹1.2 LAKH CR

INDIAN NAVY SUBSYSTEM
MARKET OPPORTUNITY



312

IMPORT SURFACES
SCORED



9/12

INDIA'S MARITIME
READINESS SCORE

SANKET

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The Issue in One Page

The August issue, compressed: the Index, the forecast, the Board and the month in one line each.

THE SANKET INDEX

35 / 100

BUILDING +1

Composite of the Board. Up one on July as three corridors moved; the series now runs 33 → 34 → 35.

FORECAST SNAPSHOT • CONVERSION BY 2035

Base 50% • Bull **30%** • Bear **20%**

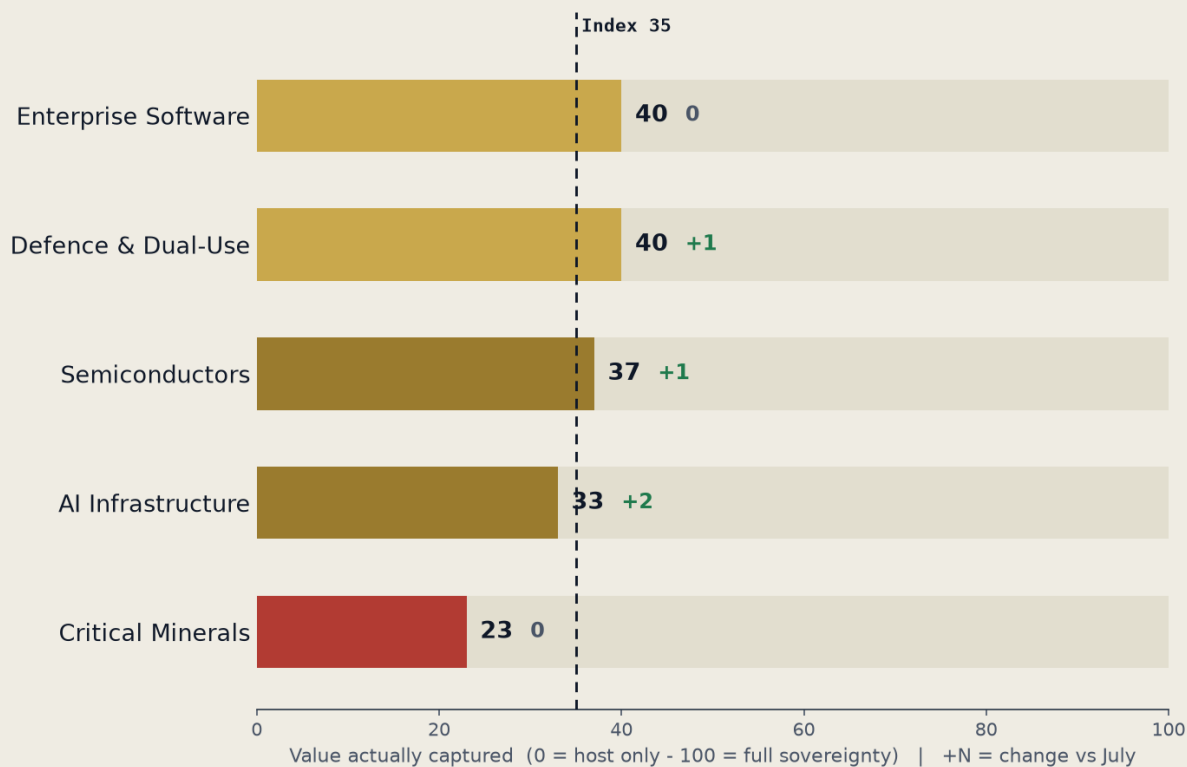
India converts two or three of August's scored gaps into real capacity but stays import-dependent elsewhere.

THE BOARD

CORRIDOR	READING	TREND	BASIS
Defence & Dual-Use	40 /100	+1	Three services' roadmaps priced the gap; BEL's ₹600 cr unit, the 840-drone order and the OSAT shift put capital behind it.
Enterprise Software	40 /100	HOLD	No structural change in August; the Edge AI economy report (forthcoming) is the next test of the layer.
Semiconductors	37 /100	+1	India enters IC substrates at the frontier (Intel + 3DGS, Odisha); LTSCCT moves packaging home; UP commits ₹45,000 cr.
AI Infrastructure	33 /100	+2	15,916 IndiaAI GPUs, 1,575 MW of data-centre capacity and L&T's ₹15,000 cr AI-factory order - capacity, not maps.
Critical Minerals	23 /100	HOLD	Vedanta wins a manganese block and Hindustan Copper explores partnerships - but no processing output yet.

The Board, Moving - Three Corridors Up

August priced the gaps and moved capital: defence, semiconductors and AI infrastructure all ticked up



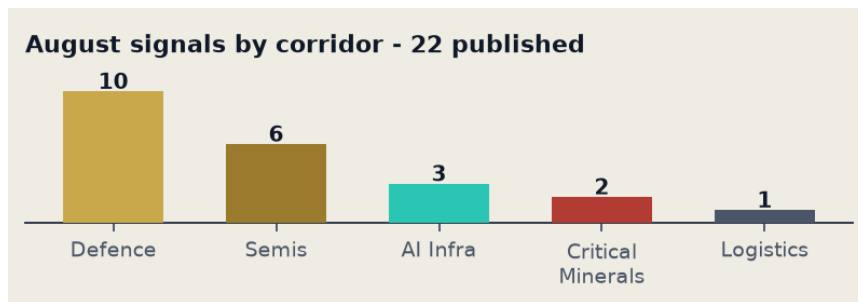
SOURCE Sanket Board, August 2026 - Dependency Capture Framework; deltas vs July readings

The five corridors, scored 0-100 - three moved in August. +N = change vs July.

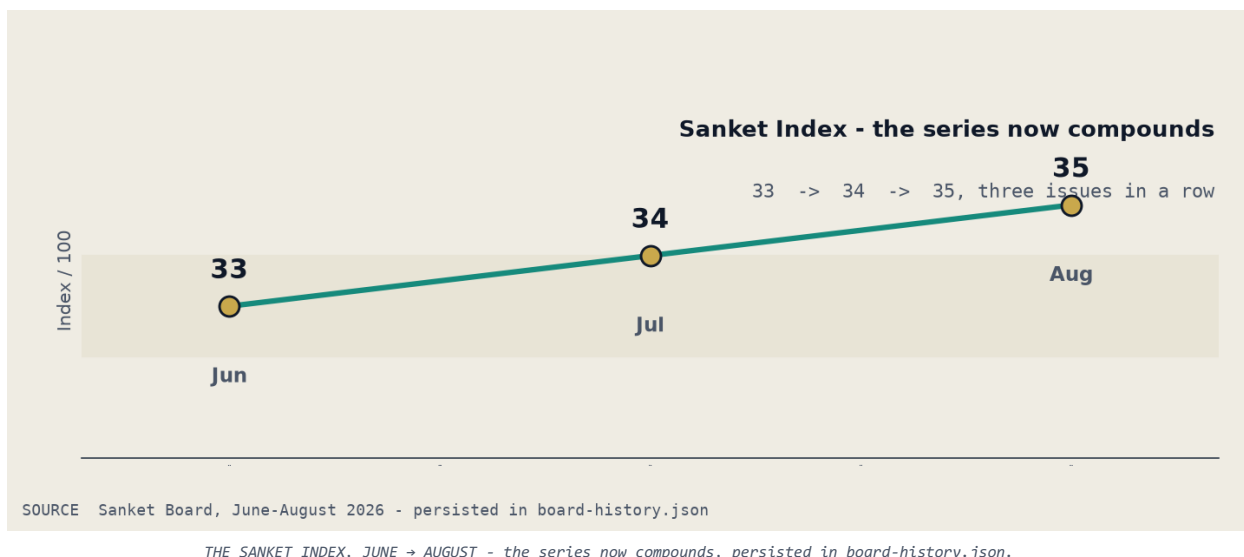
Five Corridors, Now Moving

India's industrial sovereignty, read corridor by corridor on the Dependency Capture FrameworkT. Each reading is how much of the value India **captures** - not how much it hosts. From this issue every reading carries its move on July, and the series is persisted in board-history.json so the trend compounds rather than resets.

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AUGUST SIGNALS BY CORRIDOR - 22 published, 10 in defence, 6 in semiconductors.



THE TECHADYANT SIGNAL SCORET

Every signal is scored 0-100 on four weighted dimensions - the same model, every issue, so the number means something over time.

Strategic Impact 40% · India Relevance 30% · Time Horizon 15% · Confidence 15%

THE BOTTOM LINE

- August priced the gap: **IAF 34/100 vs USAF 88**, a Navy ~₹1.2 lakh crore subsystem market, maritime readiness 9/12, and 312 import surfaces scored.
- The month's biggest order - **840 one-way attack drones for ₹1,577 crore** (Tata 64%, Nibe 36%) - puts a price on the drone gap.
- Capital moved behind the scores: **L&T's ₹15,000 crore AI-factory order, 15,916 IndiaAI GPUs, 1,575 MW** of data-centre capacity, BEL's ₹600 crore Chitrakoot unit.
- Every score points the same way: the gap is **upstream** - subsystems, silicon, cells, substrates - not platforms.
- Measurement is now real. **Output is not yet.** Watch the first line that runs, not the index.

Pricing the Gap

June named the problem - India assembles, but the value lives upstream. July priced the opportunity: ~₹1.5 lakh crore of it, mostly in the layers India imports. August answers the next question, and it is the most uncomfortable one yet: precisely how much does India not make? Three service roadmaps, one composite index and 312 import surfaces later, the gap is no longer a claim. It is a number.

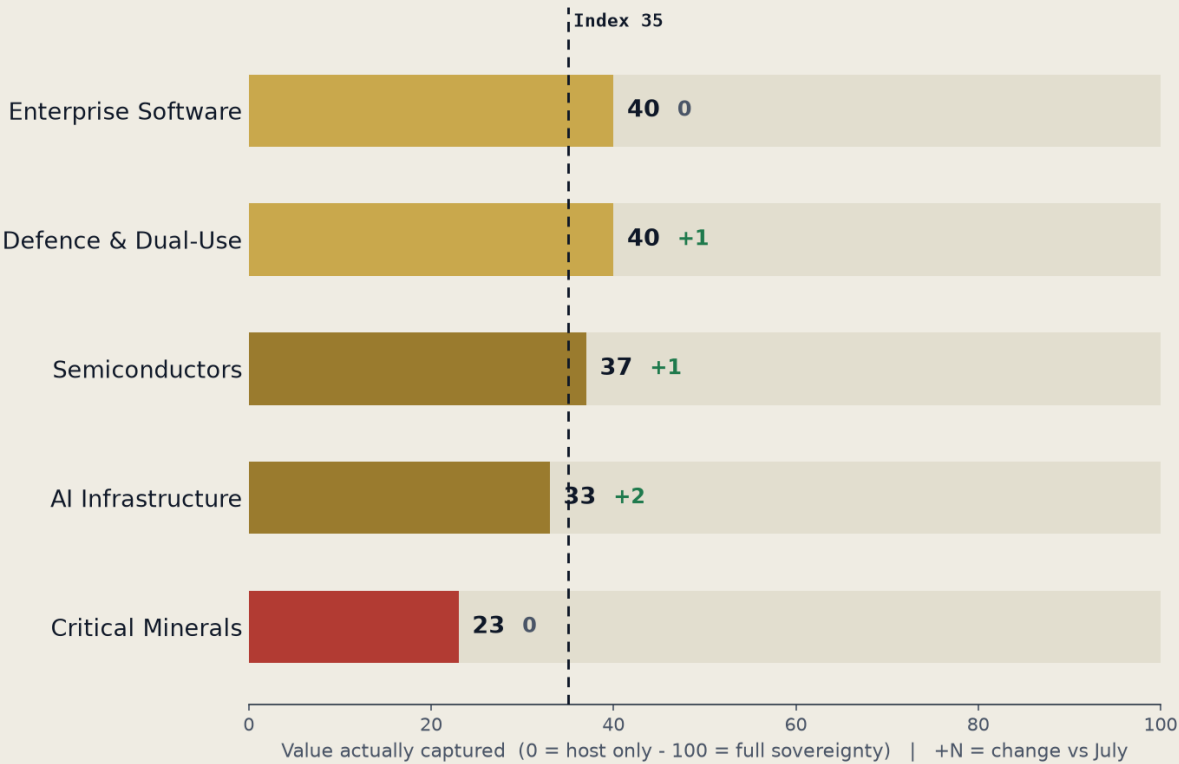
Start with the services, because that is where August is loudest. The IAF roadmap scores India's autonomous air power at 34/100 against the USAF's 88. The Navy's transformation report sizes a ~₹1.2 lakh crore cumulative subsystem market to 2035 and ranks 58 surfaces - with AI silicon at roughly 15% indigenous and battery cells at 35%. The Maritime Autonomy Readiness Index places India 9th of 12 at 4.5/10. Three services, three scored gaps, one shared finding: the platform is not the problem; the subsystem base beneath it is.

The month's orders agree. The Army's 840 one-way attack drones for ₹1,577 crore - Tata Advanced Systems and Nibe - price the drone dependency at roughly ₹1.9 crore per platform, most of it in subsystems still imported. BEL's ₹600 crore Chitrakoot unit, L&T Semiconductor's OSAT shift home, UP's ₹45,000 crore of chip-and-electronics commitments, L&T's ₹15,000 crore AI-factory order and 15,916 new IndiaAI GPUs: the capital is arriving at the layers the scores flagged.

This is the measured dependency - India moving from slogans to indices, from "make in India" to "score what we do not make". The index is a necessary instrument of policy, and it is now in place. The risk is that it becomes an end in itself. Pricing the gap is not closing it. The decade's question has changed shape: not where the gap is, but whether the numbers build anything.

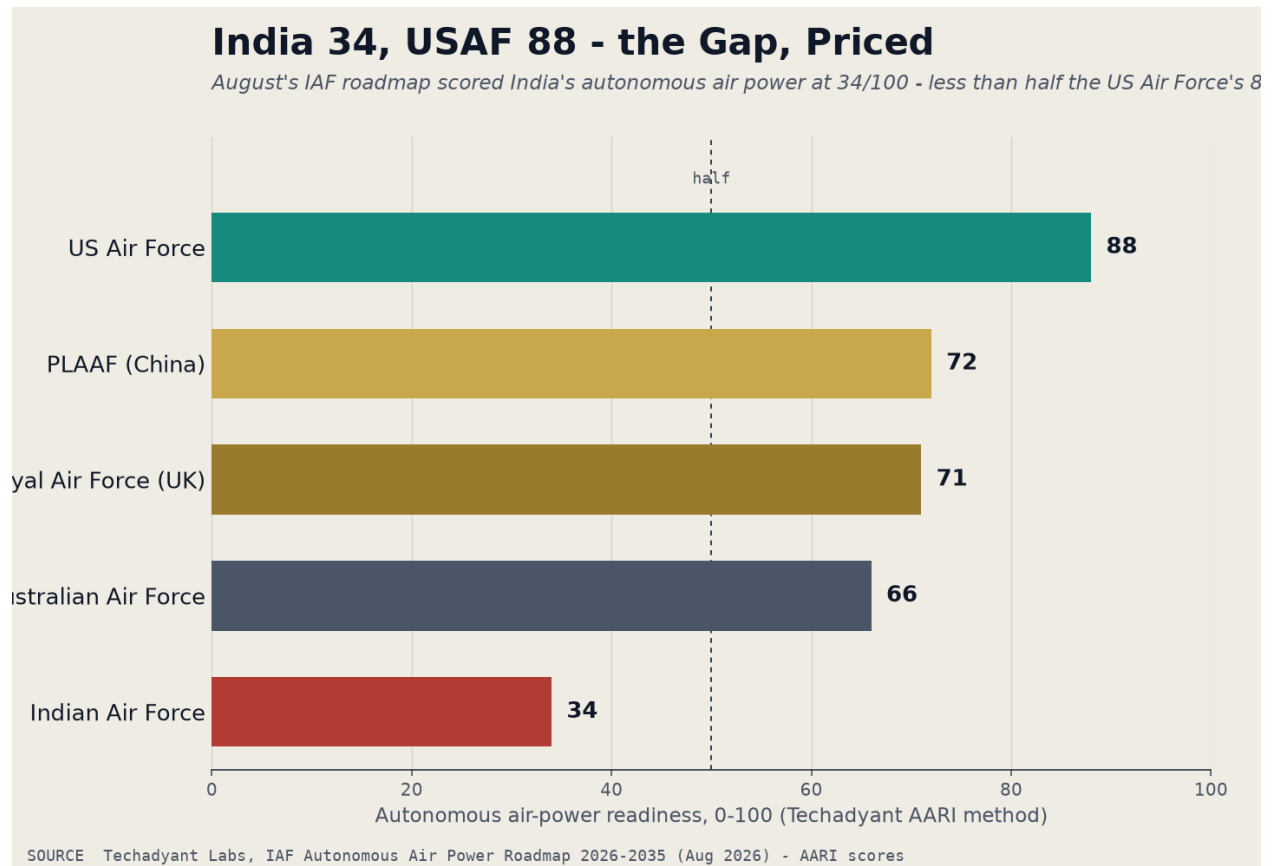
The Board, Moving - Three Corridors Up

August priced the gaps and moved capital: defence, semiconductors and AI infrastructure all ticked up



SOURCE Sanket Board, August 2026 - Dependency Capture Framework; deltas vs July readings

India 34, USAF 88



THE TAKEAWAY India published its own number this month - 34/100 against the USAF's 88 - and ran the same exercise for sea and land. Nobody scored India's dependencies for us; we scored them ourselves, and the score is the starting point for the build.

What Actually Moved in August

The month's hard moves - capital, policy and capacity - tagged by corridor and sourced. The record you can file and check back against.

THE MOVE	CORRIDOR	SOURCE
Army orders 840 one-way attack drones ₹1,577 cr across two contracts with Tata Advanced Systems (64%) and Nibe (36%); strike beyond 100 km in jammed and spoofed environments; delivery in 12 months under Buy (Indian) IDDM.	DEFENCE	ET • HT (14 Aug)
L&T wins India's largest AI-factory order ₹10,000–15,000 cr from Together AI for 10,000 NVIDIA B300 GPUs at Chennai - Phase 1 at 250 MW compute with 150 MVA power ready.	AI INFRA	Reuters (13 Aug)
BEL proposes ₹600 cr defence-electronics unit Initial outlay ₹562.5 cr at the Chitrakoot node of the UP Defence Industrial Corridor; QRSM, air-defence and next-gen radar lines plus MRO; HLEC Letter of Comfort on 11 Aug.	DEFENCE	Drishti IAS • Jagran (12–13 Aug)
UP lands ₹45,000 cr of chip commitments Eight companies in Gautam Buddha Nagar; HCL-Foxconn ₹3,706 cr, Ascent Circuits ₹3,250 cr for PCBs and substrates, SAEL 5 GW cell + 5 GW module.	SEMICONDUCTORS	Financial Express (8 Aug)
L&T Semiconductor moves OSAT home Assembly and testing shift to domestic partners incl. Tata Electronics; Indian OSATs cover ~50 of 500 package types - the backend gap now being closed.	SEMICONDUCTORS	Business Standard (4 Aug)
India's first rotating detonation engine validated D-Propulse's 5 kN air-breathing RDE (aerospike nozzle) reaches TRL-5 at DRDL; 15–25% higher thermodynamic efficiency; flight-ready target Dec 2027.	DEFENCE	ET Manufacturing • Bharat Shakti
Vedanta wins the Punnam manganese block 152-hectare block at G4 exploration stage in Andhra Pradesh (BSE filing, 13 Aug) - ferro- and silico-manganese feed for steel.	CRITICAL MINERALS	ET Manufacturing (14 Aug)
MSC's first import rake at Adani ICD Malur The world's largest container carrier moves a full train rake through the Bengaluru inland terminal - rail-led logistics for South India's factories.	LOGISTICS	India Shipping News (10 Aug)

Sources are listed as published; load-bearing policy figures trace to PIB / government primaries where they exist.

The August Changelog

The intelligence platform compounds, and this is where subscribers see it. Every item below shipped in August - verified against the deployment log - with what it does for you and where to use it. Sanket is the platform's system of record.

WHAT SHIPPED	WHAT IT DOES FOR YOU	SURFACE
Report + Data, two tiers	Every paid report now sells as the PDF or Report + Data (PDF + an Excel data pack) - a licence tier, not a second file. Five August reports carry it: CMDD ₹6,999/₹11,999 · Navy ₹5,900/₹10,900 · Solar ₹6,999/₹9,999 · Hydrogen ₹4,900/₹7,900 · IAF ₹5,900/₹8,900.	/reports
Every August report shipped on R2	Paid PDFs download via signed URLs; covers and free editions serve from the public library bucket; data packs from the private bucket.	/reports
Evidence-credibility layer	Every report shows a Last reviewed date, a lifecycle badge (current / updated / corrected / superseded) and an Updates & corrections log.	/reports
A public corrections ledger	/corrections aggregates every update across published reports - the record, in the open.	/corrections
Policy & support pages	Refund, terms, privacy and support pages now sit under the buy button.	/refund · /terms
Shape Techadyant	Request a report, ask a research question, suggest an Atlas entity, flag a gap - plus "Did this answer your question?" micro-feedback on every report.	/shape
Engage hub	Subscribe, Shape and Contact in one place; now the masthead CTA on every page.	/engage
Institutional licensing	Team, enterprise and data-licence models, with engagement types published on /services .	/licensing
AI-MedTech Atlas pillar	86 tracked players on a 10-layer capture grid - the hardware-software paradox made legible: world-class AI SaMD on a ~100% imported imaging-hardware base.	/research/pillars/ai-medtech
Semiconductor Ecosystem Atlas	The fact-checked pass-2 dataset (661 entities / 828 edges, zero fabrications) cleared audit for load; the glass-substrate frontier signal (S-034) is live; the Atlas shows 392 players / 995 relationships.	/research
Dholera SIR interactive map	MapLibre GIS with real WGS84 geometry and the DSIRDA 2010–2040 master-plan overlay; sites graded verified / indicative / undisclosed.	/maps/dholera-sir.html

USE THEM LIVE Atlas → labs.techadyant.com/research · Dependencies → [/dependencies](#) · Corridors → [/corridors](#) · Shape → [/shape](#)

S-053

15 AUG 2026
LIVE SIGNAL

The Army Puts a Price on the Drone Gap: ₹1,577 Crore for 840 One-Way Attack Drones

The Ministry of Defence signed two contracts worth ₹1,577 crore with Tata Advanced Systems and Nibe on 14 August for 840 loitering munitions that strike beyond 100 km in jammed and spoofed environments - delivery within 12 months under the Buy (Indian) IDDM fast-track. It is the first large order of its kind, and it is this month's thesis in a number: roughly ₹1.9 crore per platform, most of it in subsystems - motors, controllers, seekers, cells - that India is only beginning to make.

The tell to watch: how much of the ₹1,577 crore lands with Indian subsystem makers - and whether the follow-on orders the Army has signalled (tens of thousands of UAS over five years) price the industrial base, not just the platform.

SOURCE Economic Times · Hindustan Times · India Sentinels (14 Aug 2026)

THREE SIGNALS THAT MATTER

The Rest of the Month

S-040

LIVE

IndiaAI Mission adds 15,916 GPUs.

The empanelled national compute pool reaches 34,333 (target 100,000 by end-2026) and a ~1.1 EFLOPS HPC system is ordered at the NIC data centre, Delhi - sovereign compute, priced and ordered, not just promised.

SOURCE PIB (6 Aug)

S-034

LIVE

India enters IC substrates at the frontier.

Intel and 3DGS's US\$3.3bn Odisha plant will build glass-core substrates - pre-commercial worldwide - at a layer where India has zero producers and three firms hold ~70%. India enters as host, not yet owner.

SOURCE Reuters · TrendForce

S-055

LIVE

Vedanta wins the Punnam manganese block.

A 152-hectare G4-stage block in Andhra Pradesh (BSE filing, 13 Aug) - manganese for ferro- and silico-manganese alloys. A supply-side step while processing output stays at zero.

SOURCE ET Manufacturing · BSE

KEY JUDGEMENT · CONFIDENCE: MODERATE

We assess that August moved India's industrial debate from claims to measurements: three services, one composite index and 312 import surfaces now carry numbers, and the month's capital - the ₹1,577 crore drone order, the ₹15,000 crore AI factory, the OSAT shift, 15,916 GPUs -

is landing at the layers the scores flagged. That alignment between measurement and capital is the month's real signal.

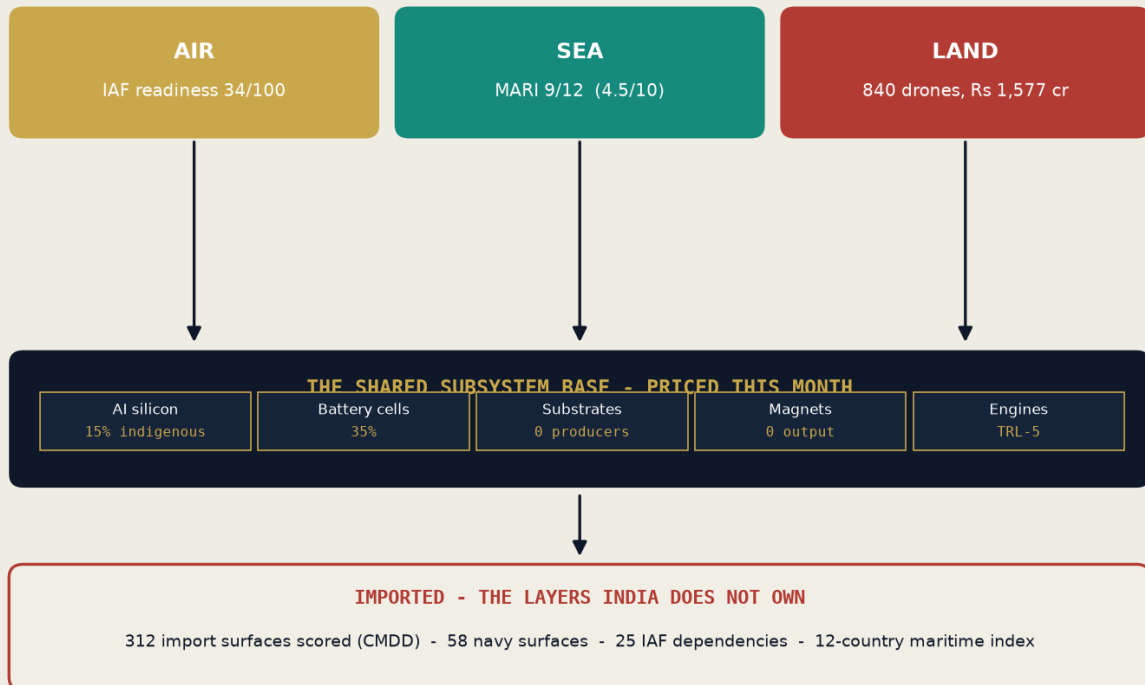
Principal risk: the indices become the deliverable. Scores are instruments of policy, not outcomes; import surfaces shrink only when lines run. Confidence is capped by India's record of converting scores into output - and by the certification, power and component-capital bottlenecks the reports themselves document.

EMERGING ECOSYSTEM MAP

The Dependency Stack, Priced

The Dependency Stack, Priced

Platforms are downstream of ecosystems: August scored the platforms - and priced the shared subsystem base beneath



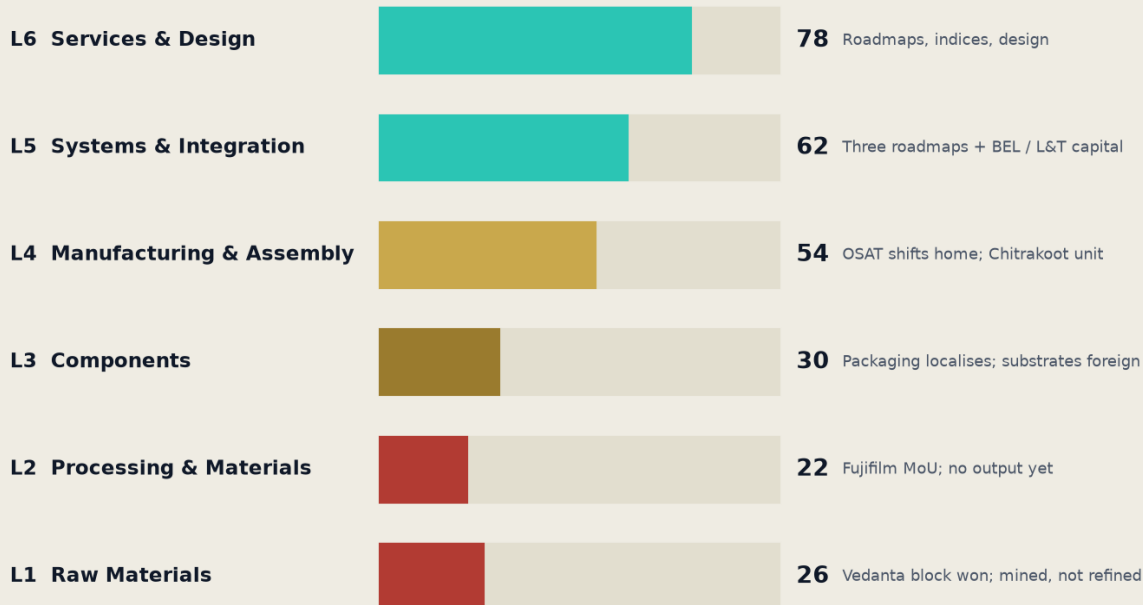
SOURCE Techadyant Labs, August 2026 - CMDD, Navy, IAF and Beyond Sea Drones reports; MARI = Maritime Autonomy Readiness Index

HOW TO READ IT Platforms are downstream of ecosystems: August scored the three platforms and priced the shared subsystem base beneath them - the layer every report this month flagged as the import bill.

The Dependency Capture FrameworkT

The Dependency Capture Framework - August

August priced the gap layer by layer: design and integration hold, the atoms still leak. Scores move only on real capacity, not on



SOURCE Sanket / Dependency Capture Framework, India capture score 0-100, August 2026

HOW TO READ IT Scores move only on real capacity. August's moves are small by design: OSAT shifting home (+2 at L4), the substrate entrant (+2 at L3), the Fujifilm and Vedanta steps (+2 at L2, +1 at L1). The thin middle is where the month's capital is headed.

"The month put a number on what India doesn't make.

Now the numbers have to build something."

Eight Reports, One Lens

August's research, each in a line and a number. Together they are the measurement behind this month's thesis.

- ₹ **India's Critical Manufacturing Dependencies** [PAID] The CMDI, first edition - the dependency ledger, quantified across the economy. **312 import surfaces** • **12 sectors**
- ₹ **The Indian Navy's Autonomous Maritime Transformation 2026-2035** [PAID] Platforms are downstream of ecosystems: the subsystem market beneath USVs, UUVs and XLUUVs, sized and ranked. **~₹1.2 lakh cr** • **58 surfaces**
- ₹ **IAF Autonomous Air Power Roadmap 2026-2035** [PAID] India's air-power autonomy readiness, scored against five air forces and 25 dependencies. **34/100 vs USAF 88**
- ₹ **Beyond Sea Drones: India's Autonomous Maritime Systems Ecosystem** [PAID] Twelve-country Maritime Autonomy Readiness Index; the USV/UUV market to 2035; 100 ranked opportunities. **9/12** • **₹35,000 cr base**
- ₹ **Beyond Solar Panels** [PAID] Capability inverts value up the stack: ~172 GW of ALMM-listed module capacity on an imported cells, wafers and polysilicon base. **Upstream is the gap**
- ₹ **The Hydrogen Mirage or Machine?** [PAID] Policy built around the molecule, not the machine: electrolyser capacity and the SIGHT split, corrected. **~3 GW operational**
- ₹ **Q-Day India** [FREE] Post-quantum-cryptography readiness and migration - the free edition every CISOs should file. **152 pages** • **FREE**
- ₹ **Kalpasar Economic Impact Assessment** [FREE] The bay project on the superseded design: ~₹1,33,246 cr capex, tidal dropped for a ~2,470 MW solar-wind hybrid. **DPR-stage** • **FREE**

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CONTRARIAN VIEW

Indices Are Not Output

Consensus will read the month as momentum: three roadmaps, a ₹1.2 lakh crore market, 312 surfaces scored. We would be careful. India has never lacked analysis; it has lacked output - and an index is the most comfortable deliverable a dependency programme can produce, because it costs nothing to publish and changes nothing by itself.

The scores are necessary. They are not the win. The win is the first line that runs: the first sintered-magnet batch, the first substrate die, the first factory floor that turns a scored import surface into a made one. Cheer the measurement. Stay sceptical until the number shrinks.

FORECAST • INDIA'S PRICED GAPS, CONVERTED INTO BUILD BY 2035

Three Ways This Plays Out

50%

BASE CASE

India converts two or three of August's scored gaps into real capacity - OSAT and packaging, the AI-factory build-out, an OWA subsystem line - but stays import-dependent in silicon, cells and magnets. The index moves in single digits.

30%

BULL CASE

Measurement converts into chokepoint ownership in at least one corridor - advanced packaging or rare-earth processing - and the Navy's ₹1.2 lakh crore subsystem market starts to be captured domestically.

20%

BEAR CASE

The indices become the deliverable; orders keep flowing to imports; another decade of scored-but-uncaptured dependencies - the gap priced, never closed.

On the Radar, Not Yet on the Board

- ₹ **Semicon 2.0 pillar two:** whether machines, materials, chemicals and gases is notified with real allocations and eligibility - a demand signal or a line in a release.
- ₹ **The 100,000-GPU target:** whether the IndiaAI pool closes 2026 at 100,000 empanelled GPUs - and where the power comes from.
- ₹ **First output, not first order:** the first sintered magnet, the first substrate die, the first OSAT line - the import surfaces that actually shrink.
- ₹ **AI-factory power:** whether the transmission build-out keeps pace with 1,575 MW of data-centre capacity and the L&T Chennai campus.
- ₹ **The subsystem bill on 840 drones:** how much of the ₹1,577 crore stays in India - the ledger for the follow-on order.

UPCOMING RESEARCH

India's Edge AI Economy

The hidden industrial opportunity behind AI hardware - due this month alongside India's AI Power Infrastructure Gap, which finds the data-centre build-out is constrained by transmission, not generation.

ALSO IN THE PIPELINE

- SEP The Cooling Economy of India SEP The Sensor Economy of India
- OCT Industrial Logistics Behind Manufacturing India NOV Water Behind India's Semiconductor Ambitions
- NOV Industrial Machine Vision DEC Semiconductor Supply-Chain Missing Links

Sanket is read by the funds, OEMs and ministries building this. Commission bespoke research or a DPR labs.techadyant.com/services

Citable, Every Number

Every load-bearing figure in this issue traces to a source. The Board is an analyst-set reading on the Dependency Capture FrameworkT (0-100 = value captured, not hosted); the Sanket Index is the rounded mean of the five corridors. Signals are scored 0-100 on Strategic Impact 40 / India Relevance 30 / Time Horizon 15 / Confidence 15 where the engine score exists; August signals are presented by corridor and date because the engine's score layer was unreachable this cycle.

LOAD-BEARING FIGURE	SOURCE
IAF readiness 34/100 vs USAF 88 / PLAAF 72 / RAF 71 / RAAF 66	Techadyant Labs, IAF Autonomous Air Power Roadmap 2026-2035 (Aug 2026) - AARI method
Navy: ~₹1.2 lakh cr cumulative subsystem market 2026-35; 58 ranked surfaces; AI silicon ~15% indigenous	Techadyant Labs, Indian Navy's Autonomous Maritime Transformation 2026-2035 (Aug 2026)
Maritime Autonomy Readiness Index: India 9/12, 4.5/10; USV/UUV market ₹2,200 cr (2026) → ₹11,500 / ₹35,000 / ₹55,000 cr (2035)	Techadyant Labs, Beyond Sea Drones (Aug 2026); MARI
CMDI: 312 import surfaces scored across 12 mega-sectors; 12 opportunity zones	Techadyant Labs, India's Critical Manufacturing Dependencies (Aug 2026)
840 one-way attack drones, ₹1,577 cr; Tata 64% / Nibe 36%; strike >100 km; 12-month delivery	Economic Times; Hindustan Times; India Sentinels (14 Aug 2026)
L&T AI factory: ₹10,000-15,000 cr; 10,000 NVIDIA B300 GPUs; Chennai; Phase 1 250 MW	Reuters (13 Aug 2026); L&T press release
IndiaAI Mission: +15,916 GPUs → pool 34,333; ~1.1 EFLOPS HPC order at NIC Delhi	PIB PRID 2295477 / 2295483 (6 Aug 2026)
Data-centre capacity ~375 MW (2020) → ~1,575 MW	Lok Sabha written reply via ANI / The Tribune (5 Aug 2026)
BEL Chitrakoot: ₹600+ cr (initial ₹562.5 cr); HLEC Letter of Comfort 11 Aug	Drishti IAS (13 Aug); Dainik Jagran (12 Aug 2026)
UP: ₹45,000 cr commitments; HCL-Foxconn ₹3,706 cr; Ascent Circuits ₹3,250 cr; SAEL 5+5 GW	Financial Express (8 Aug 2026)
LTSCOT OSAT shift home; Indian OSATs ~50 of 500 package types	Business Standard (4 Aug 2026)
D-Propulse 5 kN RDE at TRL-5 (aerospike); flight-ready target Dec 2027	ET Manufacturing; Bharat Shakti (Jul-Aug 2026)
Vedanta wins Punnam manganese block (152 ha, G4, Andhra Pradesh)	Vedanta BSE filing (13 Aug); ET Manufacturing (14 Aug 2026)
MSC first import rake at Adani ICD Malur (Bengaluru)	India Shipping News (10 Aug 2026)

BOARD METHOD • TWO LINES

Each corridor is scored 0-100 for how much of the value India captures - not hosts - on the six-layer Dependency Capture FrameworkT, judged monthly against capital, policy, capacity and import data. The

Sanket Index is the rounded mean of the five corridor readings; movements require real events, and the series is persisted in board-history.json.

Independence: no sponsored coverage; no positions in what we analyse. Corrections to labs.techadyant.com/corrections.

THE SANKET STANDARD

Every report adds evidence.

Every signal updates the record.

Every Atlas page expands India's Industrial Knowledge Graph.

ABOUT TECHADYANT LABS

Techadyant Labs is India's independent strategic-intelligence platform for industrial systems - semiconductors, AI infrastructure, critical minerals, defence and enterprise technology. **Sanket** is its monthly intelligence brief, compiled from a live signal engine and the month's research. We map dependencies, constraints and beneficiaries. No sponsored coverage; no positions in what we analyse.

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