



# WEEKLY WEALTH WRAP-UP

YOUR GUIDE TO INDIA'S MARKETS AND ECONOMY

23 AUGUST 2025 | ISSUE 11

## INDIA, RUSSIA DEEPEN TRADE TIES DESPITE U.S. TARIFF THREATS

India and Russia on August 21, 2025, agreed to strengthen bilateral trade at the 26th Intergovernmental Commission meeting in Moscow. The move underscores their partnership despite U.S. tariff threats of up to 50% on Indian exports, triggered by New Delhi's rising imports of Russian oil. Both sides pledged to broaden cooperation across energy, pharmaceuticals, and other sectors.



## GOVERNMENT APPROVES 23 SEMICONDUCTOR DESIGN PROJECTS UNDER DLI SCHEME

The Government of India has approved 23 chip design projects under the Design Linked Incentive (DLI) scheme, aimed at boosting the country's semiconductor ecosystem. The move supports startups and MSMEs, including Bengaluru-based Vervesemi Microelectronics, to accelerate the design and development of chips and System-on-Chip (SoC) solutions.

### Adani Ports Secures US\$125 Million Loan from MUFG to Reduce Debt and Expand Infrastructure

Adani Ports & Special Economic Zone Ltd. (APSEZ), India's largest private port operator, has raised US\$125 million through a foreign currency loan from Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG). The funding highlights renewed confidence from global lenders in the Adani Group and forms part of its broader strategy to strengthen its balance sheet and fuel business growth.

### U.S. Government Acquires 10% Stake in Intel Under Trump's Industrial Policy Push

In a significant move that underscores the U.S. government's deeper involvement in the private sector, the Trump administration has acquired a 10% stake in Intel Corporation, the only American company currently capable of manufacturing advanced chips on U.S. soil.

## IRDAI CONSIDERS CAPPING HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM HIKES, CONSULTATION PAPER EXPECTED SOON

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is weighing a proposal to cap annual health insurance premium hikes at both the product and portfolio levels. A formal consultation paper is expected shortly, inviting feedback from insurers, policyholders, and industry experts.

The move comes amid growing concerns about the affordability of health insurance and the need to balance sustainability for insurers with protection for consumers.



## HAL in Spotlight as CCS Clears Procurement of 97 LCA Mk-1A Aircraft for Indian Air Force

In a filing with BSE and NSE on August 21, 2025, HAL confirmed that the Ministry of Defence had formally communicated the CCS approval. The order covers 97 LCA Mk-1A units and supporting systems, further boosting the IAF's fleet modernisation program. The disclosure was made under Regulation 30 of SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, which mandates listed entities to report material developments. HAL clarified that the announcement was shared for information and record purposes.

## SEBI EXTENDS DEADLINE FOR PLEDGE-REPLEDGE MARGIN FRAMEWORK TO OCTOBER 10, 2025

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has extended the deadline for implementing its revised pledge-repledge margin framework to October 10, 2025. The new rules, originally scheduled to come into effect on September 1, 2025, are aimed at strengthening investor protection and improving transparency in margin obligations.

The extension comes after formal requests from depositories Central Depository Services Ltd (CDSL) and National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL). Both institutions sought additional time to complete system upgrades and end-to-end testing, ensuring smooth operational readiness before the framework goes live.

## China's Export Lifeline: Resuming Supplies to India Amid Global Trade Turmoil

In a significant diplomatic breakthrough, China has lifted export restrictions on fertilizers, rare earth minerals, and tunnel boring machines (TBMs) to India, as confirmed during Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi's visit to New Delhi on August 18, 2025. This decision, conveyed to Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, marks a step toward normalizing bilateral ties strained by trade curbs and border tensions.



## IRFC Sanctions ₹200 Crore Loan for Surat Multi-Modal Transport Hub

Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) has sanctioned a fresh term loan of ₹199.70 crore for the development of India's first international standard multi-modal transport hub (MMTH) in Surat, Gujarat. The loan agreement was formally executed on August 19, 2025, at the New Delhi office of Surat Integrated Transportation Development Corporation Limited (SITCO), the special purpose vehicle spearheading the project.

## I-T RELIEF: NO PROSECUTION FOR UNDISCLOSED FOREIGN ASSETS UP TO ₹20 LAKH

The Income Tax Department, through a CBDT circular dated August 20, 2025, announced that individuals will not face prosecution for failing to disclose foreign movable assets valued up to ₹20 lakh. The move significantly relaxes provisions of the Black Money Act, which earlier imposed jail terms of up to seven years and penalties of ₹10 lakh even for small-value overseas holdings. The higher threshold now covers bank accounts, pensions, and ESOPs, offering major relief to employees and professionals working abroad.

Disclaimer: This newsletter is intended solely for informational and educational purposes. It does not constitute investment advice or a recommendation to invest in any asset, product, or service. All investments, including but not limited to securities, mutual funds, real estate, and alternative assets, are subject to market risks. Please read all relevant documents carefully.