

India's Steel Sector Continues Positive Growth Trend in Apr–Aug 2026

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1. Steel Production & Prices

1a. Production Overview (in Mt)

Production	Aug 2026	Aug 2025	YoY %	Apr-Aug 2026	Apr-Aug 2025	CPLY %
Crude Steel	14.1	14.1	-0.1	70.3	69.0	1.8
Hot Metal	8.0	8.1	-1.1	40.0	39.2	1.9
Finished Steel	13.5	13.4	0.3	68.1	65.6	3.8

1b. Producer wise Production (Apr-Aug 2026) (in Mt)

Producer	Annual Crude Steel Capacity	Crude Steel Production	Hot Metal Production	Finished Steel Production
Top 7	117.4	39.2	37.2	36.5
Remaining producers	105.4	31.1	2.8	31.7
TOTAL	222.8	70.3	40.0	68.1
Public Sector Share (%)	13.9	15.8	30.0	13.5

Top 7 includes SAIL, RINL, NSL, TSL Group, AM/NS, JSL(JSPL), JSW Group

1c. Steel Prices (in ₹/tonne)

Product	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	MoM %	YoY %
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TMT (10 mm)	₹ 60,068	₹ 56,698	₹ 58,002	2.3%	5.8%
HR Coil (2 mm)	₹ 70,108	₹ 69,828	₹ 70,448	0.9%	15.5%
CR Coil (0.63 mm)	₹ 77,052	₹ 76,582	₹ 76,462	-0.2%	13.3%
GP Sheet (0.63 mm)	₹ 86,505	₹ 86,415	₹ 86,668	0.3%	17.7%

Note: Prices are inclusive of GST and shown in ₹/tonne, based on average prices from four metro cities—Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai, and Chennai.

2. Demand (in Mt)

Indicator	Aug 2026	Aug 2025	YoY %	Apr-Aug 2026	Apr-Aug 2025	CPLY %
Finished Steel Consumption	14.3	13.8	3.9	70.3	65.7	7.0

3. Trade Dynamics

3a. Finished Steel — Import & Export

Indicator	Unit	Aug-26	Aug-25	YoY %	Apr-Aug 2026	Apr-Aug 2025	CPLY %
Imports	'000 t	721.1	667.9	8.0	3487.3	2692.8	29.5
	Rs Crore	7863.1	6377.6	23.3	36193.9	26172.6	38.3
Exports	'000 t	693.7	528.2	31.3	2986.0	2226.2	34.1
	Rs Crore	5541.2	3914.9	41.5	23646.6	17911.1	32.0
Net Trade Position		India was net importer of finished steel in terms of quantity for the period of Apr-Aug 2026					

4. Raw Materials

4a. Domestic Raw Material Prices (₹/tonne)

Commodity	Jun 2026	Jul 2026	Aug 2026	MoM Change
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NMDC Iron Ore Baila Lump (65.5%, 10-40 mm)	₹ 5,700	₹ 5,450	₹ 5,250	-3.7%
NMDC Iron Ore Baila Fines (64%, 0-10 mm)	₹ 4,850	₹ 4,700	₹ 4,500	-4.3%
MOIL Manganese Ore Lump (Mn 37%, Fe 7.5%)	₹ 19,505	₹ 18,530	₹ 17,603	-5.0%
Scrap — HMS II	₹ 40,665	₹ 38,580	₹ 39,970	3.6%

5. Key Indices

Index	Jun 2026	Jul 2026	Aug 2026	MoM Change	YoY Change
Nifty Metal Index (avg.)	12,971.9	12,556.4	13,181.8	5.0%	41.7%
PMI Manufacturing Index	54.2	53.5	52.8	-1.3%	-11.0%
Baltic Dry Index (avg.)	2,779.9	2,769.9	2,951.1	6.5%	47.5%

Source: NSE, S&P Global, Trading Economics

6. Policy Initiatives/Industry Initiatives

Hon'ble Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries Shri H.D. Kumaraswamy reviewed SAIL's performance, capex and expansion plans. He stressed enhancing efficiency, capacity expansion and faster modernisation to strengthen SAIL's role in India's steel sector and support the vision of Viksit Bharat.

SAIL has received the 'Top Employer' Certification from the Top Employers Institute, valid till December 2027. This follows its third consecutive Great Place To Work certification, highlighting its strong HR practices, employee engagement and workplace culture.

NMDC recorded iron ore production of 4.07 Mt and sales of 3.58 Mt in August 2026, registering YoY growth of 20.8% and 5.6%, respectively. During Apr–Aug FY27, production and sales stood at 23.23 Mt and 18.72 Mt. NMDC's Kirandul, Bacheli and Donimalai mines recorded their highest-ever August production.

NMDC has successfully lit up the Indurating Machine at its 2 Mtpa Nagarnar Pellet Plant, marking a key step towards commissioning. The machine will convert green pellets into high-strength iron ore pellets through controlled heating and cooling.

7. International Co-operation

SRTMI and Sweden's SWERIM have signed an MoU to strengthen cooperation in iron and steel research, technology and innovation. The partnership will focus on joint R&D, green steel, decarbonisation, circular economy, advanced steels, AI/ML and digital technologies, and capacity building.

Mr. Glenn Purves, Deputy Minister, Global Affairs Canada, met Shri Sandeep Poundrik, Secretary, Ministry of Steel, to discuss strengthening bilateral cooperation in the steel sector. The discussions focused on enhancing trade, technology collaboration and investment across the steel value chain.

8. Green Steel Initiatives

SAIL's Bhilai Steel Plant has launched a CO₂ Dashboard for Bhilai Steel Plant and Chandrapur Ferro Alloy Plant to enable daily monitoring of carbon emissions. The data-driven platform will help identify deviations, support timely corrective action and strengthen decarbonisation and operational efficiency.

Source: Provisional JPC data for Aug 2026. Mt = Million Tonnes; Mtpa= Million Tonnes Per Annum; MoM = Month-on-Month; YoY = Year-on-Year; CPLY = Corresponding Period Last Year.

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