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India | Equity Research | Sector Update

Defence

INR 520bn AoN approved; ordering cycle expected to pick up

July'26 – key developments: 1) DAC has cleared procurement proposals worth INR 520bn. 2) India's defence exports have surged to USD 20.5bn in FY26. 3) India's private defence sector accounts for ~23% of total production. 4) GE has delivered the seventh F404 engine to HAL. 5) HAL has issued a new tender to outsource Tejas Mk1A substructures. 6) HAL and Safran have an agreement for the manufacturing of alloy turbine ring forgings for LEAP engines. 7) BEL has received a cumulative orders worth ~INR 14bn. 8) India and Indonesia have undertaken an agreement for various defence deals including BrahMos and Astra MK1. 9) ASTM has received orders for Uttam radar components from HAL. 10) Indian Navy has commissioned INS Nipun and INS Malvan. We maintain **BUY** on Solar and HAL.

July'26: Key developments

- India's private defence sector has captured ~23% of India's total defence production. ([Link](#))
- HAL has signed ToT agreement with Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad, for the manufacturing of servo valves, a step towards indigenisation. ([Link](#))
- Merlin Hawk Aerospace, in partnership with Italy's Viva Composites, has inaugurated Merlin Hawk Composites and Engineering Private Limited in the Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor. ([Link](#))
- Paras Defence has signed an agreement with US-based Tandem Defence to locally manufacture Guardian 1 interceptors in India. ([Link](#))
- Rolls-Royce has announced plans to increase its sourcing from India to USD 1bn within the next five years. ([Link](#))
- India and Japan have formalised an agreement to co-develop and co-produce the advanced Unicorn mast for Indian Navy warships. ([Link](#))
- Hughes Precision has announced that it is expanding its ammunition manufacturing capacity from 80mn to 220mn rounds per year. ([Link](#))
- HAL has issued a new tender to outsource Tejas Mk 1A substructures for accelerating production. ([Link](#))
- Indian Army has approved +INR 750bn five-year restoration and modernisation orders for its T-72, T-90 tanks, as well as BMP-2 and armoured recovery vehicles. ([Link](#))
- Garuda Aerospace has signed an MoU with Micron Instruments to jointly develop and manufacture indigenous loitering munitions, UAVs, and EW resistant unmanned systems. ([Link](#))
- GE has delivered the seventh F404 engine to HAL for Tejas Mk1A. ([Link](#))
- India and Indonesia have signed a major defence contract for the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile system. ([Link](#))
- Indonesia has also agreed to procure 150 nos. Astra Mk1 missiles for its Su-30 fighter jets from India. ([Link](#))

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Hindustan Aeronautics (BUY)

Solar Industries (BUY)

Bharat Electronics (ADD)

Astra Microwave (BUY)

MIDHANI (BUY)

Azad Engineering (ADD)

Bharat Dynamics (ADD)

Zen Technologies (HOLD)

Dynamatic Technologies (SELL)

July'26: Key developments (cont.)

- Indonesia has announced an air-to-air missile cooperation involving BDL and Indonesia's Republikorp. ([Link](#))
- Indian Navy has issued an RFI for tactical multi-copter surveillance drones for base surveillance and security at naval establishments. ([Link](#))
- Vector Technics (subsidiary of Zen Technologies) has expanded its manufacturing capacity to 300,000nos. drone propulsion annually. ([Link](#))
- Indian Navy has commissioned INS Mahendragiri, the sixth P17A stealth guided missile frigate. ([Link](#))
- Lockheed Martin has delivered the 22nd MH-60R Seahawk multi-role naval helicopter to the Indian Navy. ([Link](#))
- Lockheed Martin has recently delivered the Indian Navy's 22nd MH-60R Seahawk helicopter at Kochi out of 24nos. order. ([Link](#))
- India's defence exports have surged to USD 20.5bn in FY26, up from just USD 4.5bn in FY14. ([Link](#))
- HAL and Safran Aircraft Engines have signed a multi-year agreement to manufacture and supply superalloy turbine ring forgings for LEAP engines in Bengaluru. ([Link](#))
- MoD has issued an RFI to procure 10 nos. medium-altitude long-endurance drones for the Indian Coast Guard's Aviation Wing worth ~INR 20bn. ([Link](#))
- Indian Navy has commissioned INS Malvan anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft built by Cochin Shipyard Ltd. ([Link](#))
- Raghu Vamsi Aerospace to invest INR 6bn to establish a 50-acre integrated superalloy manufacturing facility in Telangana for jet engines, gas turbines, and missiles. ([Link](#))
- DRDO's Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory has transferred three advanced steel manufacturing technologies to SAIL for indigenous production of specialised materials used in warships and submarines. ([Link](#))
- Goodluck Defence has secured a Directorate General of Quality Assurance certificate from the Ministry of Defence for the production of 155 mm M-107 ready-to-fill artillery shells. ([Link](#))
- Cochin Shipyard Ltd has launched the seventh of eight Mahe-class anti-submarine warfare shallow watercraft for the Indian Navy. ([Link](#))
- Hindustan Shipyard Ltd has delivered INS Nipun, the second and final diving support vessel to the Indian Navy. ([Link](#))

July'26: Orders/AoNs

- Lekha Wireless Solutions has secured an Indian Navy contract to supply long-range communication system, for naval helicopters. ([Link](#))
- DAC has approved capital acquisition proposals worth INR 520bn. ([Link](#))
- DAC has cleared procurement of MR-SAM systems to strengthen the Indian Army's air defence. ([Link](#))
- Tata Advanced Systems Ltd has emerged as the lowest bidder in the Army's INR 16bn fast-track procurement of 850 nos. loitering munitions designed to strike enemy artillery positions deep across the border. ([Link](#))
- Dvipa Defence has secured a Ministry of Home Affairs contract to supply 200 nos. Ugram U51 rifles for induction into the Central Armed Police Forces. ([Link](#))
- Indian government has sanctioned INR 1.5bn to IdeaForge Technology for Project Yeti, an indigenous heavy-lift long-range autonomous logistics drone. ([Link](#))
- Lokesh Machines has secured INR 580mn contract from the Indian Army to supply modification kits for FN MAG 7.62 × 51 mm general-purpose machine guns. ([Link](#))
- PTC Industries has secured a two-year contract from BrahMos Aerospace to develop, integrate, and supply mission-critical metallic airframe assembly for the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile. ([Link](#))
- MoD has signed INR 4.25bn contract with Bharat Forge Ltd to supply 12 indigenous 1.25 MW marine gas turbine generators for the Indian Navy's Kolkata-class destroyers. ([Link](#))
- Data Patterns has emerged as the L1 bidder for contract worth INR 13bn from HAL to supply buffer amplifier and built-in test equipment modules for military aircraft. ([Link](#))
- Merlin Hawk Aerospace has signed an agreement with Boeing India Defence to provide MRO and life-cycle support for advanced electro-optical systems of P-8I maritime patrol aircraft. ([Link](#))
- BEL has secured a contract worth ~INR 5.7bn for supply of avionics, encryptors, tank sub systems, EVM, batteries etc. ([Link](#))
- Apollo Micro Systems has received a Make-II prototype sanction order from the Indian Navy to develop semi-submersible autonomous vessels. ([Link](#))
- PTC Industries has received design and development order from the DRDO to develop a titanium cradle for the 105 mm Zorawar light tank. ([Link](#))
- Zen Technologies has secured a INR 1.8bn MoD contract to upgrade the Indian Army's tank simulators. ([Link](#))
- Sigma Advanced Systems has secured INR 1bn export order for manufacture and supply of 147,000units of 155mm artillery shell bodies. ([Link](#))
- HAL has placed an order worth INR 22bn with Astra Microwave (ASTM) for 122 active antenna array units and 121 interface frames for the indigenous Uttam radar for the Tejas Mk1A. ([Link](#))
- BEL has secured a contract worth ~INR 8.5bn for supply of electro optics, security operation Centre, seekers etc. ([Link](#))

Outlook

We maintain our structurally positive stance on the Indian defence sector. Government policies remain firmly supportive, evidenced by the MoD's INR 3trn annual capital outlay target by CY29. This support implies a sustained double-digit CAGR in defence capex; further, with the recent Defence Procurement Manual 2025, acquisition timelines are expected to be significantly compressed. Given that DAC approvals were at an all-time high in FY26 and continued in Q1FY27 (INR 520bn AoN approved), we expect the order awarding momentum to pick up in FY27/28, especially in aerospace, missiles, electronic warfare and drone defence/offence side as the fabric of warfare has changed in the past couple of years. Navy may receive the long-awaited INR 700bn submarine orders soon. The geopolitical backdrop continues to provide a structural tailwind, as the conflict in the Middle East has reinforced defence budget urgency across GCCs. Indian OEMs with established export track records or MoUs are likely to benefit disproportionately, especially in the areas of missiles, drones, aerospace, defence electronics and radars.

Preferred stocks: HAL and Solar each rated **BUY**.

Exhibit 1: Defence valuation snapshot

	CMP (INR)	Rating	Adj EPS (INR)		PER (x)		EV/EBITDA (x)		P/BV (x)		RoE (%)	
			FY27E	FY28E	FY27E	FY28E	FY27E	FY28E	FY27E	FY28E	FY27E	FY28E
PSUs												
Bharat Dynamics	1,240	ADD	24.8	34.0	49.9	36.4	53.7	37.0	8.8	7.1	19.4	21.6
Bharat Electronics	390	ADD	9.7	11.4	40.1	34.0	29.6	25.1	9.2	7.2	25.8	23.7
Hindustan Aeronautics	4,645	BUY	135.4	150.7	34.1	30.7	27.3	22.7	6.7	6.0	20.8	20.6
MIDHANI	416	BUY	10.4	13.6	39.9	30.5	24.6	19.9	4.5	3.9	12.0	13.8
Private												
Astra Microwave	1,809	BUY	23.2	34.7	75.3	50.7	45.2	32.4	11.1	9.1	14.3	17.5
Azad Engineering	2,229	ADD	26.9	38.3	83.0	58.1	50.9	37.3	8.5	7.4	10.7	13.6
Dynamatic Technologies	10,993	SELL	133.6	187.6	82.3	58.6	33.1	26.1	8.5	7.5	10.9	13.6
Solar Industries	18,400	BUY	287.6	374.6	64.0	49.1	29.1	22.5	19.0	13.7	34.6	32.4
Zen Technologies	1,675	HOLD	38.5	47.8	46.5	36.8	35.2	27.4	6.6	5.5	15.3	16.3

Source: I-Sec research

Exhibit 2: Potential order inflow (OI)

Company	Potential orders
Astra Microwave	Order pipeline/opportunity: 1) QR-SAM (Radar); 2) Man-Portable SDRs; 3) Uttam AESA Radar; 4) Su-30 Mk1 EW Suite; 5) Virupaksha AESA Radar; and 6) Astra-Rafael ComSys (SDRs & EW suites)
Bharat Dynamics	Order pipeline/opportunity: 1) ATGMs; 2) SAMs; 3) underwater weapons; and 4) some export orders.
Bharat Electronics	Order pipeline/opportunity: 1) QR-SAM; 2) NG Corvettes programme; 3) EW suite for LCA; 4) spares for LRSAM, Atulya Radar, Shakti, GBMEF, ADFCR and others; 5) Project Kusha; and 6) export orders from Re-Arm EU.
Hindustan Aeronautics	Order pipeline/opportunity: 1) 145 – LUH; 2) Su-30 upgrade order worth INR 620bn; 3) 40 – Do228 upgrades; 4) RD33 engine; and 5) RoH orders worth INR 200bn.
Solar Industries	Order pipeline/opportunity: 1) Nagastra; 2) Bhargavastra; 3) additional order of Pinaka; 4) export orders; and 5) industrial explosive orders from Coal India and subsidiaries.
Zen Technologies	Order pipeline/opportunity: 1) Naval Simulators. 2) An additional order for military training simulators. 3) Likely to get some ADS orders.
MDSL	Order pipeline/opportunity: 1) Six submarines P 75 (I); 2) extension of P75 order for three additional submarines; 3) next-gen destroyers (four for MDSL); and 4) eight next-gen frigates. Besides, there may be a steady inflow of MRLC orders.
GRSE	Order pipeline/opportunity: 1) Coastal research vessel; 2) NG Corvette (already declared as L-1 for five ships); 3) NG survey vessels large; 4) NG fast patrol vessels; 5) NG ocean going patrol vessels; 6) multi-purpose vessels; 7) fast interceptor vessels; 8) water jet FAC; 9) P17B; 10) mine counter measure vessels; 11) LPD; and 12) NG destroyer.

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 3: AoNs cleared by MoD in CY26

Date	DAC clearance for procurement	Worth (INR bn)
Jul'26	i) Anti-Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV)	520
	ii) Electronic Warfare System – Akash Tarang	
	iii) Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)	
	iv) Medium Range Surface-to-Air Missile (MRSAM) Weapon System	
	v) Runway Independent Aerial Surveillance System	
	vi) Very Short-Range Air Defence System (V-SHORADS)	
	vii) Active Protection System for Tanks	
	viii) Jet Based Kamikaze Drone System	
	ix) Multi Influence Ground Mine (MIGM)	
	x) Naval Shipborne Unmanned Aerial System (NSUA)	
	xi) Land Based Testing Facility (LBTF) for Electric Propulsion System	
	xii) Fixed-Wing Based High Altitude Pseudo Satellite (FW-HAPS)	
Mar'26	ix) Overhaul of Su-30 Aero engines	2,380
	x) Heavy Duty Air Cushion vehicles	
	iii) High-capacity Radio Relay	
	iv) Dhanush Gun System	
	v) Runway Independent Aerial Surveillance System	
	vi) Medium Transport Aircraft	
	vii) S-400 LR SAM	
	viii) Remotely Piloted Strike Aircraft	
	ix) Overhaul of Su-30 Aero engines	
	x) Heavy Duty Air Cushion vehicles	
Feb'26	i) Multi Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) - Rafale	3,600
	ii) Combat Missiles	
	iii) Air-ship based High Altitude Pseudo Satellite (AS-HAPS)	
	iv) Anti-Tank Mines (Vibhav)	
	v) Overhaul of Armoured Recovery Vehicles (ARVs), T-72 Tanks & Infantry Combat Vehicles (BMP-2)	
	vi) Marine Gas Turbine (4MW) based Electric Power Generator	
	vii) Infantry Combat Vehicles (BMP-2)	
	viii) P8I Long Range Maritime Reconnaissance Aircraft	
	ix) Electro-Optical/Infra-Red system for Dornier aircraft	

Source: I-Sec research

Exhibit 4: Orders by MoD in FY27-YTD

Date	Order	Awarded to	Worth (INR mn)
19-Jun-26	Marine Gas Turbine Generators for Indian Navy	Bharat Forge	4,250
10-Jun-26	Enhanced Capability Global Navigation Satellite System (ECGNSS) Jammers	Accord	4,490
5-May-26	Ground-based mobile electronic system - 5units	Bharat Electronics	14,760
21-Apr-26	TRAWL Assembly for T-72/T-90 Tanks	Bharat Earth Movers	9,750
31-Mar-26	Mountain Radar - 2 units	Bharat Electronics	19,500
27-Mar-26	MRO from P8I Long-Range Maritime Reconnaissance Aircraft	Boeing	4,130
27-Mar-26	Tunguska Air Defence Missile System	JSC Rosoboronexport	4,450
3-Mar-26	Shtil Missiles - SAM vertical launch	JSC Rosoboronexport	21,820
3-Mar-26	ALH Mk2 - 6 units	Hindustan Aeronautics	29,010

Source: I-Sec research

Exhibit 5: OI for Astra Microwave in FY27-YTD

Date	Order	Worth (INR mn)
30-Jul-26	122 AAAU and 121 Interface Frames for the Uttam Radar	22,052

Source: I-Sec research

Exhibit 6: OI for PTCIL in FY27-YTD

Date	Order	Worth (INR mn)
24-Jul-26	Development order for Artillery Gun Components	

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 7: OI for Azad Engineering in FY27-YTD

Date	Order	Worth (INR mn)
23-Apr-26	Supply of turbo-machinery of power generator for Baker Hughes	-
26-Mar-26	Supply of nozzle vanes of gas turbines for Mitsubishi	

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 8: OI for BDL in CY26

Date	Order	Worth (INR mn)
24-Jun-26	Helina launchers and CMDs LRUs	13,477
30-Jan-26	Supply of Defence Products for International clients	8,300
30-Jan-26	Supply of Defence Products for International clients	5,890

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 9: OI for BEL in the CY26

Date	Order	Worth (INR mn)
31-Jul-26	Supply of electro optics, security operation Centre, seekers etc.	8,470
13-Jul-26	Supply of avionics, encryptors, tank sub systems, EVM, batteries etc.	5,720
22-Jun-26	Supply of comms equipment, radars, CBRN protection system etc	10,810
25-May-26	Supply of coastal surveillance radar system, tank sub systems, laser-based fuses, etc	6,080
5-May-26	Ground Based Mobile ELINT System (GBMES) to Indian Army	14,760
22-Apr-26	Supply of avionics, EW system, high energy laser, etc	5,690
31-Mar-26	Avionics package for LCA	67,950
30-Mar-26	Supply of satellite comms. network, EW Suite, EVM, avionics etc	16,600
17-Mar-26	Supply of radar warning and jamming system; fire control sys; warning sys. for fighter jets etc.	10,110
25-Feb-26	Supply of TR modules, communication equipment, encryptors, Radars Etc.	7,330
6-Feb-26	Supply of Radar warning receivers, Tank sub-sys., Radar, Software solutions, Comms. Etc.	5,810
23-Jan-26	Supply of comms, medical electronics, thermal imagers, jammers etc.	6,100
8-Jan-26	Supply of drone detection and jamming system, mobile communication terminal etc.	5,960
1-Jan-16	Supply of comms., medical electronics, instant fire detection & suppression sys.	5,690

Source: I-Sec research

Exhibit 10: OI for HAL in CY26

Date	Order	Worth (INR mn)
3-Mar-26	ALH MK2 - 6units	29,010
12-Feb-26	Do-288 - 8units	23,120

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 11: OI for SOIL in CY26

Date	Order	Worth (INR mn)
29-May-26	Supply of Defence Products for International clients	10,760
30-Jan-26	Supply of defence products for international clients	5,890
30-Jan-26	Supply of defence products for international clients	8,300

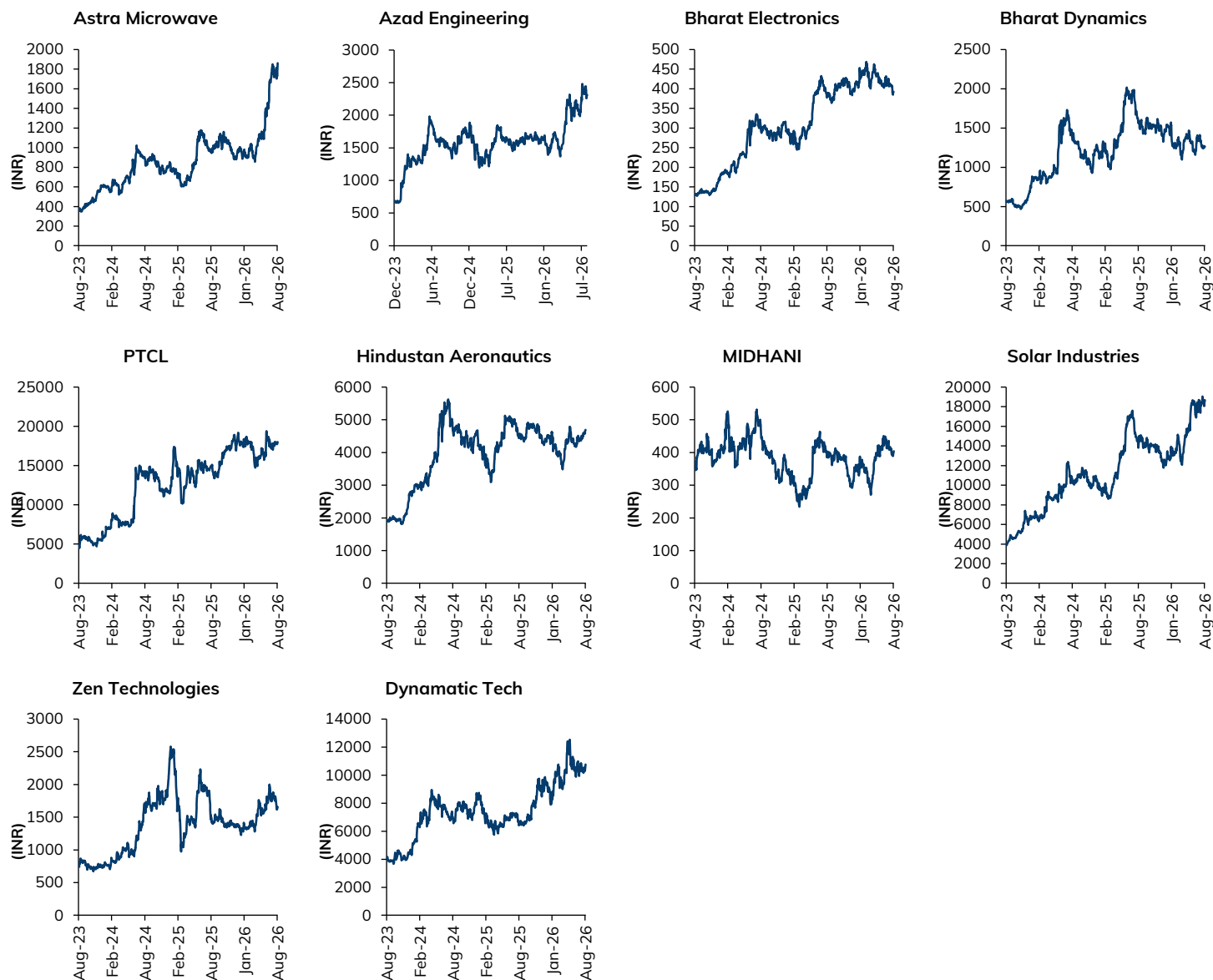
Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 12: OI for Zen in CY26

Date	Order	Worth (INR mn)
21-Jul-26	Upgradation and integration of Tank and Crew Gunnery Simulators	1,775
15-Jan-26	Supply of Anti-Drone Sys., C-UAS and Training Sim.	4,040

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Price charts



Source: Bloomberg

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