

US Data Center Daily Briefing

August 16, 2026

KEY THEMES

- India CEA projects 26.3 GW data-centre demand by 2031-32
- 17 GW already filed for grid connectivity at State Transmission Utilities
- India DAE draft SHANTI rules permit captive nuclear for data centres
- Vikram Solar commissions 6 GW Gangaikondan module plant in Tamil Nadu

India's 26.3 GW data-centre demand: 17 GW is already filed with the grid

India's Ministry of Power told the Rajya Sabha that, as of May 14, 2026, the Central Electricity Authority projects [26.3 GW of additional data-centre electricity demand by 2031-32](#) across 11 major states. The more actionable detail sits inside that headline. Of the pipeline, about [17 GW has already lodged connectivity applications](#) with State Transmission Utilities, versus 9.3 GW that has not. That split — filed grid demand against still-planned load — is the distinction that separates near-term transmission capex from later-stage upside.

- [DAE opens SHANTI nuclear rules consultation, naming data centres](#) – India's draft SHANTI Rules explicitly permit captive nuclear generation for data centres, with comments due September 4, 2026.
- [Draft SHANTI Rules propose a single composite nuclear licence](#) – one licence covers build, own, operate and decommission, though AERB approvals stay mandatory across every phase.
- [Modi flags data centres as a major power-demand driver](#) – his August 15, 2026 Independence Day speech tied chips, AI and data centres to “enormous amounts of electricity” and a 100 GW nuclear target by 2047.
- [India's solar capacity has risen from 2 GW to 160 GW](#) – an 80x increase over twelve years, per the official Independence Day highlights.
- [Vikram Solar reports FY26 revenue of ₹4,802 crore](#) – up 40% year over year, with EBITDA of ₹917 crore, up 86%.
- [Vikram Solar commissions its 6 GW Gangaikondan module plant](#) – the first module rolled out on July 6, 2026 in Tamil Nadu.
- [Vikram Solar enlarges its wafer-ingot plan to 9 GW](#) – disclosed investment rises to up to ₹5,589 crore, with commissioning targeted by FY29.

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