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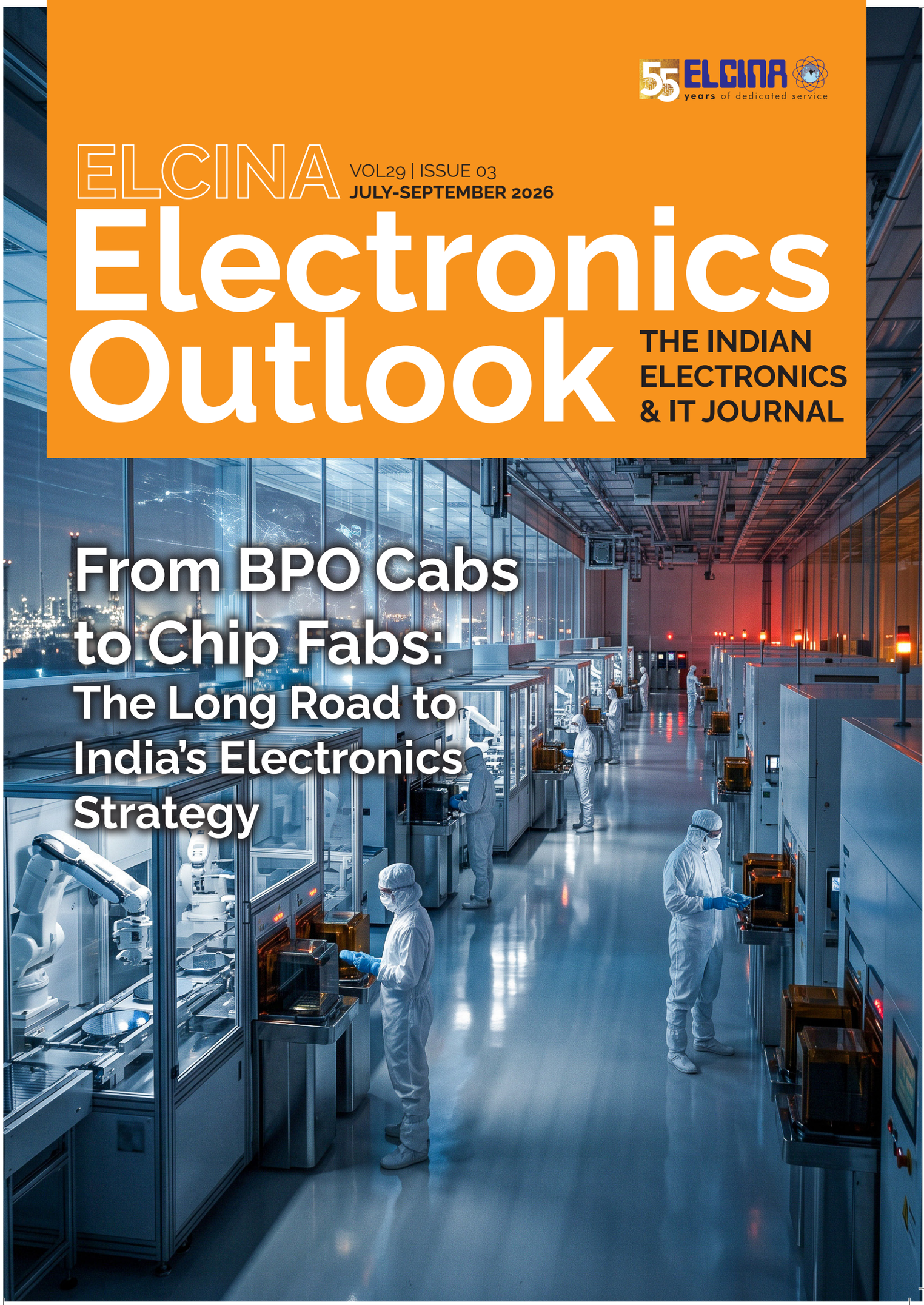

From BPO Cabs to Chip Fabs: The Long Road to India's Electronics Strategy

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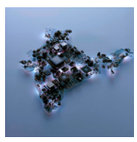

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EDITOR'S LETTER

Electronics Manufacturing – A Renaissance for Manufacturing in India



RAJOO GOEL
Secretary General
ELCINA

The share of the manufacturing sector in India has lingered below 15% of our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) over the last five to six decades. In spite of several policies and plans to promote MSMEs, the launch of the Make in India programme and other incentive schemes, including those for electronics that have attracted significant investments, the government has faced challenges in enhancing the structural presence of manufacturing in our economy.

Manufacturing's contribution to the economy has remained a sticking point and is quite exasperating. I am sure that policymakers are both at their wit's end and burning the midnight oil to break this impasse. Macro data shows that in the post-independence years, from 1960 to 1980, manufacturing output remained range-bound between 13% and 15.5%, peaked in 1995 at approximately 17.8%, and has since stayed between 14% and 17%. The variation is explained by the method of accounting, that is, whether current-price national accounts or revised GVA base series are used. It is notable that while the Indian economy has been consistently growing at a fairly rapid pace (high single digits) and is acknowledged as one of the fastest-growing large economies, along with China, the share of manufacturing has remained low.

The services sector fuelled accelerated growth, especially in IT and ITeS. Since independence, there has been a major structural shift, with the share of services and the tertiary sector growing from 30% to 55%, while agriculture and allied sectors have declined sharply from 50% to under 18% currently. Manufacturing, in the meantime, has remained within a narrow range of 13% to 17%.

India's GDP has grown from an estimated US$30.6 billion in 1947 to a projected US$4.15 trillion in 2026, an increase of more than 130 times in nominal terms over 75 years, while the share of manufacturing has remained largely unchanged. In spite of this, the sector has grown in stature and emerged as an important pillar of the economy.

Recognising that a vast developing economy with 140 crore people, many of whom are still underemployed or unemployed, needs a stronger manufacturing base to sustain growth and generate gainful employment, the Central Government launched key initiatives. These include Make in India and the production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes, as well as the National Mission on Manufacturing, announced in Budget 2025-26 to catalyse industrial growth and target an increase in manufacturing's share of GDP to 25% by 2035. In addition, this Mission has laudable goals of creating 143 million jobs and expanding merchandise exports to US$1.20 trillion. Achieving these targets requires deeper integration into global value chains and greater self-reliance, supported by sustainable supply chains.

EDITOR'S LETTER

As we speak of an electronics manufacturing renaissance, we have to keep historical facts in mind: why manufacturing has grown at a slow pace and what is changing, or needs to change further, to make this renaissance successful.

The West Asia war, preceded by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, has caused untold misery and destruction. The repercussions for the global economy have been severe. Supply chains have been disrupted, economic growth is slowing, prices are escalating rapidly, and rising logistics costs, increased commodity prices and delays are all contributing to a crisis scenario. India is especially vulnerable due to its heavy dependence on imported materials, technology and equipment to sustain growth and meet its ambitious manufacturing targets.

Another key factor restraining the growth of manufacturing is the legacy of licences and controls embedded in our DNA. The IT and software sector grew largely unhindered as markets were accessed and exports transmitted over fibre-optic cables and computers. By earning scarce foreign exchange for the country, the sector became the blue-eyed boy of the government and received crucial policy support and tax exemptions.

Manufacturing, in the meantime, has continued to cope with rules and regulations, with the most constraining ones relating to land and revenue, indirect taxes, import-export procedures and factory-related laws. Considerable efforts have been made to simplify and liberalise procedures and align them with emerging technologies and globalised value chains. However, several undercurrents continue to affect these efforts.

Traditional opposition to the liberalisation of labour laws has persisted, while engaging more women in the workforce requires greater social acceptance. Most of all, the implementation agencies themselves need to loosen their grip on the control and power they exercise over those they govern. These are vital steps towards improving the ease of doing business and efficiency. This change in mindset, though still incomplete, is visible, and the proactive engagement of government officials with industry is heartening and encouraging.

As India moves ahead with reinventing its technology manufacturing sector, electronics has been fortunate to receive significant policy support over the last 15 years. The first initiative, though now almost forgotten, was the Special Incentive Package of 2007 to promote semiconductor fabrication. It failed to take off and was soon shelved. This was followed by a slew of measures from 2012 onwards under the National Policy on Electronics 2012 and its revised version, NPE 2.0, in 2019.

The Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (MSIPS) supported capital investment in components, assemblies and parts, while the Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) Scheme focused on establishing electronics clusters. This was followed by the Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS), which promoted component and semiconductor manufacturing through capital subsidies. The PLI Scheme for large-scale electronics manufacturing, launched in 2020, focused on mobile phones. This scheme has been very successful, and India is now the world's second-largest mobile phone manufacturing hub, assembling over 300 million phones annually.

I believe that India's manufacturing renaissance commenced with NPE 2.0 and the SPECS and PLI schemes launched in 2020, which incentivised capital investment and large-scale mobile phone manufacturing. This gave the industry confidence and the volumes it needed, raising hopes that India could ascend to the next stage and engage more deeply with the global industry.

Technology is playing a transformative role in reshaping the industry. To deepen the value chain, we need to understand technology, machine tools, automation and digitisation. This requires scale and greater self-reliance, which are now being pursued through two crucial and highly successful schemes launched by MeitY: the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) and the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM). Both schemes have received substantial additional budgets through revised versions launched in quick succession after their initial announcements. They have the potential to boost domestic value addition in electronics manufacturing to above 40% and raise manufacturing's share of India's GDP to 25%, our vision for 2035.

As Shri Sushil Pal, Joint Secretary, MeitY, and one of the key officials implementing these schemes, put it: "The objective has moved beyond manufacturing more electronic products in India to building the ecosystem underlying these products, developing the components, the materials that go into the components, the supply chain supporting those materials, the machinery required to manufacture them and, ultimately, the skilled workforce capable of operating and improving the entire system."

As India moves ahead with reinventing its technology manufacturing sector, electronics has been fortunate to receive significant policy support over the last 15 years.

COVER STORY

From BPO Cabs to Chip Fabs: The Long Road to India's Electronics Strategy



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It is 1 AM on a cold January morning in 2005. A white Toyota Qualis is parked by the roadside in a DDA colony in South Delhi. Its engine idles, headlights cutting through the fog. The driver is getting impatient. There are five more pick-ups before he heads to Gurgaon. He is about to honk when a smartly turned-out Radhika Gupta steps out of her house and swiftly gets into the cab. The driver pulls away and heads towards the next destination.

This was a familiar scene in the mid-2000s – not only across Delhi-NCR, but in Bengaluru, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and Pune. Young workers like Radhika travelled at all hours to the brightly lit offices of business-process outsourcing, software and IT-enabled services companies. Overseas corporations relied on them for everything from customer-service and sales calls, technical help desks, claims processing, software development, application support and IT infrastructure services to billing, collections, payroll and other back-office operations.

India's BPO, IT-enabled and software services boom symbolised a wider economic shift that eventually made the country's electronics-manufacturing strategy unavoidable. A young, urban and increasingly confident workforce was entering the formal economy, earning regular salaries and gaining financial independence. At the same time, India was becoming more connected, more consumption-driven and more dependent on electronic devices that it did not yet have the capacity to manufacture at scale.

Today's policy stack – the Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS), Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) and Semicon 2.0 – can be understood as India's comprehensive response yet to a long-standing challenge: how to narrow the yawning gap between the country's demand for electronics and its ability to manufacture them.

The services paradox

India's economic liberalisation in 1991 created opportunities that would have been difficult to imagine a generation earlier. Software services, IT-enabled services, telecom, finance, trade, real estate and business services expanded quickly. In the mid-2000s, IT and ITES alone were estimated to provide direct employment to about 1.3 million people and indirect employment to more than 5 million.

For many young Indians, particular-


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ly in cities, the new economy was a route to financial independence. They could contribute to household incomes, rent apartments, obtain consumer credit, buy their first vehicle or phone, and participate in a consumer culture that had previously been limited to a smaller affluent class.

This did not mean every IT services employee became wealthy, nor that the country's growth was equally distributed. But it did mean that a large group of young consumers began earning, spending and aspiring earlier in life than their parents had.

The services sector became a larger part of India's economy. Its share of GDP was about 47% in 2000 and had risen to roughly 54-56% by 2008. Private consumption also expanded substantially in the high-growth years. The Economic Survey recorded real private-consumption growth of around 8% in 2007-08.

The most visible expression of this transformation was not necessarily the apartment, the car or the air conditioner. It was the device in the pocket.

India becomes a mobile nation

India's mobile revolution came before its smartphone revolution.

The early wave was built on falling call tariffs, prepaid connections, expanding cellular networks and increasingly affordable handsets. Mobile ownership was no longer limited to executives, businessmen or wealthy urban families. The phone became a personal device for students, workers, small traders, professionals and households across the country.

The scale of the change was startling. India's mobile subscriber base rose from about 1.9 million at the end of March 2000 to roughly 261 million by the end of March 2008 – an increase of nearly 259 million connections in eight years. By November 2012, India had more than 921 million telephone subscribers.

Then came the next wave: affordable Android devices, mobile internet, social media, messaging platforms, online video, app-based services, e-commerce and digital payments. The smartphone ceased to be only a communication tool. It became a camera, music player, television, navigation device, identity marker, workplace terminal, classroom, bank branch and social space.

That matters because the smartphone has a different place in Indian consumption from most other electronic goods. A household may postpone the purchase of an air conditioner, refrigerator or television. But a phone is personal, portable and increasingly essential. It is also replaced more often. A teenager may aspire to own a premium smartphone long before they could contemplate buying a major home appliance.

India's young population did not formulate industrial policy. But it

created much of the demand-side reality to which policymakers had to respond.

The country was becoming a vast market for electronics at precisely the moment when electronics became integral to work, entertainment, communication and economic participation.

There was only one problem: India was consuming the digital revolution faster than it was manufacturing it.

The import trap

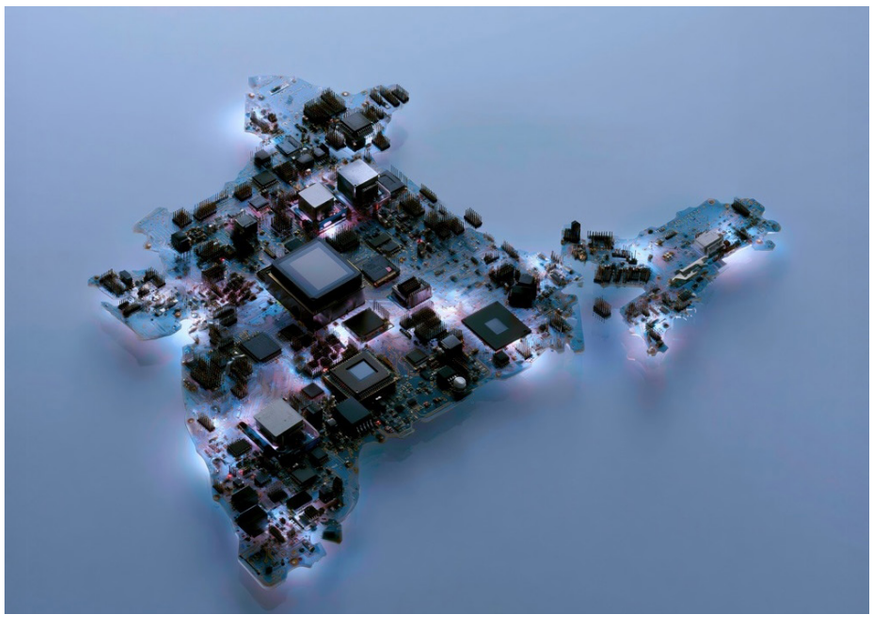
The roots of that problem predated the BPO and software services boom.

In 1997, India joined the World Trade Organization's Information Technology Agreement, or ITA-1. The agreement required participating countries to eliminate customs duties on a broad range of information-technology products, including computers, telecommunications equipment, semiconductors and related inputs.

The intention was not irrational. Lower tariffs made technology more accessible, lowered costs for consumers and businesses, and were expected to support India's growing information-technology economy. But India entered the arrangement with an underdeveloped electronics-hardware ecosystem.

It had limited domestic capacity in components, semiconductor manufacturing, advanced materials, tooling, equipment, precision engineering and global-scale electronics production. When duties came down, imported products and inputs became more competitive than locally produced alternatives. India's software and services sectors flourished, but electronics hardware did not build equivalent depth.

A Parliamentary Standing Committee's 2025 review concluded that zero-duty imports under ITA-1 had increased India's import dependence in certain product categories, encouraged concentration in assembly rather than manufacturing, and limited domestic technology transfer and capacity building.



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This should not be interpreted as saying the ITA alone destroyed Indian electronics manufacturing. The sector faced several constraints, which included infrastructure gaps, expensive finance, fragmented suppliers, weak R&D, limited scale, logistics costs and insufficient integration with global value chains.

But the broad outcome was clear. India became increasingly successful at using technology and providing technology-enabled services, without becoming equally successful at manufacturing the electronics hardware on which that economy depended.

The irony was sharp.

India developed a world-class software services sector at the cost of the domestic electronics manufacturing industry. That same services sector became one of the reasons for the steep and sudden consumption of electronic devices. That increased the electronics imports bill while the manufacturing bill remained stagnant. Which in turn led a shift in policy to develop India's electronics manufacturing industry.

The services sector created incomes, jobs, urban confidence and a new consumer class. Those consumers wanted phones, computers, televisions, music players, cameras, networking devices and later smartphones.

Yet a large part of the value embedded in those devices – chips, displays, camera modules, PCBs, batteries, components, tools and materials – came from abroad.

India was building a digital society on an imported electronics foundation.

The 2012 warning

By the beginning of the 2010s, the issue could no longer be treated as a narrow trade concern.

The National Policy on Electronics, approved in 2012, recognised that India's electronics demand was growing far faster than its domestic manufacturing capacity. It projected domestic electronics demand of $400 billion by 2020, while warning of the large gap between consumption and local production.

The concern was not that India should stop importing. No advanced electronics economy is fully self-sufficient; even the United States, China, South Korea, Japan and Taiwan depend on imported technologies, components, equipment and materials.

The concern was that India was excessively dependent on external suppliers for a sector increasingly central to daily life, industry, infrastructure, security and economic growth. Electronics imports were rising, domestic value addition was low, and India risked becoming one of the world's largest electronics markets without becoming a meaningful part of the global electronics supply chain.

NPE 2012 was India's first comprehensive effort to address that imbalance. It aimed to create a globally competitive Electronics System Design and Manufacturing ecosystem, or ESDM, supported by capital incentives, manufacturing clusters, procurement preference, design capability and semiconductor ambitions.

The policy did not achieve all its targets. But it established the core idea that would shape every major intervention that followed:

India could not remain only a market. It had to become a producer.

From policy ambition to manufacturing scale

The second major step came with the National Policy on Electronics 2019.

By then, India had begun to make progress in mobile-phone manufacturing through the Phased Manufacturing Programme. The country was learning how to attract device makers, create local assembly capacity and localise selected lower-level parts. But the limitations of the model were apparent.

A phone could be assembled in India while many of its high-value parts were still imported.

NPE 2019 therefore shifted the ambition from broad ecosystem-building to scale, exports and value-chain development. It targeted $400 billion in electronics-manufacturing turnover by 2025, including production of one billion mobile handsets, with 600 million units intended for export.

This was followed by a more forceful policy toolkit: the Production-Linked Incentive scheme for large-scale electronics manufacturing, the Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors, Electronics Manufacturing Clusters 2.0, and the Design Linked Incentive scheme.

The earlier policies had sought to support manufacturing. The later policies sought to create scale – enough production volume to attract global companies, develop suppliers, build export capability and establish India as a credible alternative manufacturing location.

India's mobile-phone story demonstrates that this approach can work. The country was 78% import-dependent for mobile phones in 2014; government data now puts mobile-phone import dependence at only 0.02% of demand.

That is an important achievement. But it is not the end of the story.

Assembly is not the same as manufacturing depth. A factory can make a finished device in India while drawing heavily on imported components. The next challenge was to make more of what goes into the phone.

The next stage: MPMS, ECMS and Semicon 2.0

This is where the current three-scheme architecture matters.

MPMS seeks to retain and extend India's scale in mobile-phone production while creating a stronger incentive for domestic sourcing. The scheme provides incentives on eligible sales and an additional incentive of up to 1.5% for domestic sourcing of designated components



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and sub-assemblies. It also offers additional support for Indian brands, design and R&D.

Its importance is larger than mobile phones alone. A large and predictable device-manufacturing base can create demand for Indian suppliers. Component makers need customers, volumes and long-term purchase commitments before they can justify investment in machinery, tooling, clean production lines, process engineering and testing.

ECMS is designed to build this missing component layer. It covers areas such as printed circuit boards, passive components, electro-mechanical components, sub-assemblies, camera modules, optical transceivers and capital goods for electronics manufacturing.

If MPMS is the demand pull, ECMS is the supply base.

Semicon 2.0 goes still further upstream, seeking to deepen India's semiconductor ecosystem through six pillars: design; machines and materials; fabs; ATMP/OSAT packaging and test; R&D; and talent.

This is not only about building a cutting-edge processor for a future smartphone.

Semiconductors are embedded in nearly every electronics system: phones, telecom equipment, electric vehicles, smart meters, inverters, medical devices, industrial automation, consumer appliances, defence systems and data infrastructure.

Together, the three programmes seek to connect the different layers of the electronics value chain: Indian semiconductor and packaging capability can feed into Indian components and modules, which in turn support Indian-made devices for domestic and global markets.

An unfinished but credible future

The future will not follow a straight line.

Some projects will be delayed. Some might fail. Indian suppliers could face difficult global benchmarks on price, reliability, yield, certification, delivery schedules and technology. India will continue to import many advanced chips, materials and production tools for years. It should not pretend otherwise.

But that does not diminish the importance of the current moment.

India is trying to connect the two ends of the electronics value chain: demand for finished products on one side, and the capabilities required to make their components on the other.

The white Qualis heading to Gurgaon in 2005 symbolised a country selling its talent to the world. MPMS, ECMS and Semicon 2.0 represent an effort to add another capability: making more of the technologies that the world – and India itself – will use.

The goal is not an isolated, import-free India. It is a more resilient, more technologically capable and more globally competitive India: one that serves its own market, participates more deeply in global supply chains, and captures a larger share of the value in the electronics that increasingly define modern life.

SPECIAL ARTICLE

How ECMS is Building the Deeper Foundations of India's Electronics Manufacturing Ecosystem

Insights from Shri Sushil Pal, Joint Secretary, MeitY as shared with ELCINA



India's electronics manufacturing journey has made significant progress in recent years. Production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes, including those for large-scale electronics manufacturing and IT hardware, have helped create substantial capacity among electronics manufacturing services (EMS) companies and strengthened capabilities in selected sub-assemblies.

The next challenge is deeper and more fundamental: building the component ecosystem that sits beneath this manufacturing capacity. This is where the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) is beginning to make a significant difference.

The 5th tranche of ECMS approvals, announced on 17th August at an event co-hosted by MeitY and ELCINA, is particularly revealing. The scheme is not simply encouraging the manufacture of individual electronic components but is beginning to build three interconnected layers of the ecosystem – bare components, the supply chains that feed into those components, and the capital equipment required to manufacture them.

This distinction is critical. A country cannot build a resilient electronics manufacturing ecosystem merely by assembling finished products. The real manufacturing capability depth is determined by how far down the value chain domestic production extends.

Beyond Components

The supply chain of an electronic component can be extraordinarily complex. A single component may depend on multiple layers of materials, intermediate products and specialised processes before it reaches the final stage of manufacturing. Mapping these supply chains can therefore mean going 10, 15 or even more layers deep.

ECMS is beginning to shine a light on just how much of this ecosystem can potentially be developed in India.

Take printed circuit boards (PCBs), for example. Building PCB manufacturing capability cannot stop at the board itself. The ecosystem extends to copper-clad laminate, copper foil, epoxy, glass cloth, variety of special chemicals and other critical inputs.

Similarly, the emerging battery ecosystem is moving beyond cell assembly towards materials and intermediate products, including cathode active materials and other inputs required for lithium-ion cells.

This is one of the most important outcomes of the ECMS approach – it is encouraging industry to look beyond the immediately visible product and invest in the layers that make that product possible.

The 5th tranche demonstrates this expanding ambition across a wide range of products, including sub-assemblies, bare components, supply-chain products and capital equipment. The breadth of participation is significant because these are not components restricted to a single industry.

A capacitor, connector, PCB or other electronic component does not belong exclusively to smartphones or IT hardware. The same underlying technologies can serve automotive electronics, consumer electronics, telecommunications, industrial electronics, aerospace, defence, space and other strategic applications.

As virtually every sector becomes increasingly electronic, the addressable market for domestic component manufacturers expands with it.

From Assembly to Manufacturing Capability

The earlier phase of electronics manufacturing was necessarily focused on creating scale in assembly and establishing India as a major manufacturing location. That process created demand, attracted global companies and helped build a substantial EMS ecosystem.

But assembly alone cannot deliver the depth, resilience and technological capability required for a globally competitive electronics industry.

The component ecosystem provides that depth.

And the response from industry to ECMS suggests that there is a much larger appetite for capability creation than might have been anticipated.

The 5th tranche includes approvals covering a diverse range of products – from camera and display modules and optical transceivers to connectors, transducers, speakers and microphones, relays, antennas, coils, filters, capacitors and metal shielding covers. It also extends into critical supply-chain products such as anode materials, rare-earth permanent magnets, acetylene black, electrolyte additives, metallised films and hermetic terminals.

The significance lies not merely in the number of products but in the layers of capability being created around them.

Capital Equipment: The Missing Piece

There is a third element that deserves equal attention: capital equipment.

A manufacturing ecosystem cannot become truly self-reliant if the machines used to manufacture its components continue to be almost entirely imported.

Capital equipment is itself a highly diverse category. Different manufacturing processes require different machines, and a modern electronics production line can consist of numerous specialised pieces of equipment.

Yet beneath this diversity are several common technological capabilities.

A typical automated manufacturing system may bring together sensors, controllers such as CNC and PLC systems, motors, actuators and other precision systems. Sensors collect information from the environment; controllers process it and provide instructions; motors and actuators translate those instructions into precise physical movement.

Developing these capabilities domestically can therefore have benefits far beyond a single machine or production line.

The 5th ECMS tranche has already generated significant interest in capital equipment manufacturing. Around ₹3,000 crore of investment in capital equipment has been approved so far, indicating that this part of the ecosystem is beginning to gain traction.

There is still a long way to go. Capital equipment is a particularly complex and diverse field, and India will not develop every class of equipment overnight. But building the underlying capabilities can provide a foundation from which a much wider domestic equipment industry can emerge.

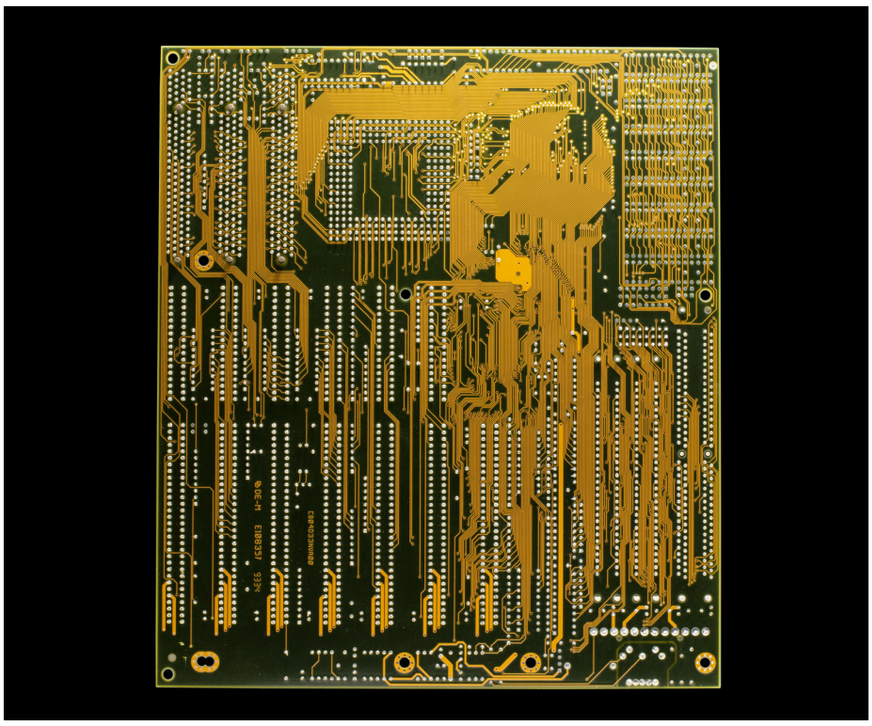
The recent emphasis on manufacturing SMT equipment and its constituent systems is particularly important. An SMT line is not a single machine but an integrated system involving multiple types of equipment, including pick-and-place machines, testing systems and other specialised machinery.

Building even parts of this ecosystem domestically is an important first step.

Scale is the Real Objective

Perhaps the most important feature of ECMS is that it is designed to be

SPECIAL ARTICLE



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sector-agnostic.

A component manufacturer cannot achieve global scale if its business depends on supplying only one product category or one end-use sector. A PCB manufacturer, for example, should be able to serve mobile phones, computers, automobiles, industrial equipment and defence electronics. A connector manufacturer should be able to address multiple markets. The same applies to capacitors, magnets, antennas and other components.

This cross-sector demand is essential for creating economies of scale.

It also makes the timing particularly significant. Electronics content is increasing across virtually every major industry. Automobiles are becoming software- and electronics-intensive. Defence platforms are incorporating more sophisticated electronics. Industrial systems are becoming increasingly automated. Consumer products are becoming smarter and more connected.

India therefore has an opportunity to create component manufacturers with sufficiently large domestic markets to achieve scale before competing aggressively in global markets.

Skills Must Grow Alongside Capital

Capital investment, however, is only one side of the equation. On the other side are skilled personnel capable of operating and maintaining advanced and sophisticated equipment.

A person graduating with a formal technical qualification may still lack practical exposure to operating specialised production equipment. Manufacturers cannot be expected to place expensive and sophisticated machinery in the hands of personnel without adequate shop-floor training.

The solution requires much closer collaboration between industry, educational institutions, IITs, polytechnics and other technical training institutions.

Industry-led courses and practical training are needed to bridge the gap between classroom education and factory-floor requirements. The objective should not simply be to teach someone how to operate a machine, but to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the manufacturing process.

In advanced electronics manufacturing, this includes knowledge of materials, their properties, precision processes, machine behaviour, process control and equipment maintenance.

These deeper skills matter because they eventually determine whether a manufacturing ecosystem can innovate.

The Next Phase of India's Electronics Journey

The objective has moved beyond manufacturing more electronic products in India to building the ecosystem underneath those products.

That means developing the component, the materials that go into the component, the supply chain supporting those materials, the machinery required to manufacture them and, ultimately, the skilled workforce capable of operating and improving the entire system.

The journey is still at an early stage. India will continue to depend on global supply chains for several critical technologies and materials, and building globally competitive component and capital-equipment companies will take time.

But the direction is clear.

If ECMS can successfully connect components, materials, supply chains, capital equipment and skills into a coherent ecosystem, it can do more than reduce import dependence. It can give India the technological and industrial foundations needed to become a serious global manufacturing hub for electronics.

And that may ultimately be the most important achievement of the scheme.

INTERVIEW

We're making security systems more intelligent, not merely more observant: CP PLUS

From AI-enabled surveillance to integrated command centres, India's internal security market is shifting from standalone equipment to connected, intelligence-led systems. Mr. M.A. Johar – President, Project Business, CP PLUS, discusses the forces behind this transformation and how CP PLUS is responding.



MR. M.A. JOHAR

President,
Project Business,
CP PLUS

1. Over the past year, how has the Indian CCTV industry matured beyond simple SKD assembly towards true localization?

The supply chain of an electronic compIndia's surveillance industry is at an inflection point: the conversation is shifting from where products are assembled to where their technology is conceived, engineered and owned. Manufacturing scale remains important, but genuine localization demands deeper capabilities in electronics, PCB design, software, component sourcing and intellectual property.

For CP PLUS, this ambition is reflected in our advanced manufacturing facility in Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh, with a production capacity of approximately 2.5 million units per month. Investments in SMT lines, assembly and quality-control infrastructure strengthen our manufacturing depth, while our pursuit of backward integration aims to deepen domestic value creation.

The next frontier is technological ownership. India has made considerable strides in building manufacturing capacity, but a globally competitive component ecosystem and greater indigenous design capability will determine whether it can move from manufacturing for the world to creating technology for it.

2. As internal security becomes as critical as border defense, how is the Indian industry tailoring solutions to meet critical needs?

Internal security requires more than cameras that capture events; it demands systems that can be trusted to function securely when the stakes are the highest. As surveillance becomes integral to public infrastructure, transportation and law enforcement, device integrity and protection against tampering are as consequential as image quality.

Mandatory Essential Requirements (ER) certification for surveillance cameras has brought cybersecurity to the forefront, requiring products to meet prescribed security benchmarks. At CP PLUS, we complement this compliance with our CP PLUS Trusted Core Technology (CTC), which incorporates safeguards such as Secure Boot, encryption and protection against unauthorized firmware modification.

Alongside these protections, AI-powered analytics are making surveillance more useful across complex environments, helping operators identify relevant events and respond with greater speed. The objective is to build an internal security ecosystem in which intelligence and integrity work together: systems that not only reveal what is happening, but can also be relied upon to protect the information they capture.

3. How close is CP PLUS to achieving 100% domestic sovereignty over the intellectual property, PCB designs and core software stack of its hardware?

Technological sovereignty is not a single milestone; it is a progression towards greater control over the design, development and security of the technology a company builds. Domestic manufacturing is one part of that journey. Ownership of intellectual property, PCB designs, firmware and core software represents a deeper level of capability, with semiconductor dependencies presenting an additional challenge.

At CP PLUS, we are strengthening our R&D capabilities across Noida, Gujarat and Taiwan, with work spanning hardware engineering, AI-powered surveillance, video analytics and cybersecurity. We are also advancing secure device architecture through CTC and collaborating with technology partners to develop more capable AI-driven systems.

Our objective is to progressively expand indigenous design and engineering ownership while reducing strategic dependencies wherever feasible. We would not attach a percentage to complete sovereignty without a comprehensive assessment of every layer. What matters is the direction of travel: building the expertise and intellectual property that give India greater technological autonomy.

4. How has the policy shift towards rigorous domestic cyber-clearance reshaped India's domestic industry?

Mandatory ER certification has changed the competitive equation for India's surveillance industry. Local assembly and attractive pricing are no longer sufficient on their own; manufacturers must also demonstrate compliance with prescribed cybersecurity requirements. This has made product qualification, firmware security, testing and engineering investments central to market participation.

The impact extends beyond individual products. Manufacturers must reassess their portfolios, strengthen development and testing processes, and pay closer attention to the security of underlying hardware and software. The result is a gradual shift towards competition based on demonstrable security and engineering capability, rather than manufacturing cost alone. This transition offers India an opportunity to build a more accountable domestic industry and compete on technological credibility.

At CP PLUS, we aim to stay ahead of certification requirements. Our R&D investments enable us to continually strengthen the security layers built into our products. CTC incorporates safeguards such as Secure Boot, encryption and protection against unauthorized firmware modification. Our approach is to treat cybersecurity as an architectural principle, not a certification exercise.

5. What specific technological innovations is CP PLUS developing right now to directly address India's local infrastructure pain points?

We see AI taking video surveillance beyond detection towards understanding. The next generation of video intelligence will be able to interpret events in context, correlate information across cameras and help users retrieve relevant footage through natural-language queries, turning vast volumes of video into actionable intelligence.

Through our collaboration with Qualcomm Technologies, we are advancing AI capabilities that bring intelligent processing closer to the source, enabling faster insights and more responsive systems. Generative AI adds another dimension: making complex video information easier to search, interpret and act upon.

These capabilities have particular relevance in India, where crowded public spaces, sprawling infrastructure and resource-constrained control rooms make manual monitoring increasingly impractical. AI can help surface unusual activity, identify safety violations and reduce the time required to investigate incidents. Edge processing and on-premises deployment can further support real-time performance and controlled handling of sensitive data. Our focus is on making security systems not merely more observant, but meaningfully more intelligent.

6. Where does CP PLUS see itself and the Indian internal security industry in 2036?

By 2036, we believe the defining shift will be from surveillance to situational intelligence. Cameras will increasingly serve as the eyes of a wider AI-driven ecosystem, capable of interpreting events, connecting patterns across locations and helping security teams anticipate risks rather than simply review incidents after they occur. Natural-language search and AI agents could make complex video environments far easier to navigate, while human judgment remains central to consequential decisions.

CP PLUS aspires to help shape this evolution by combining indigenous R&D, advanced AI, secure technology architectures and manufacturing scale. India's diversity presents both the challenge and the opportunity: solutions must work across dense urban centres, critical infrastructure, industrial environments and smaller communities, often under very different operating conditions.

The larger ambition is for India to become a creator and exporter of trusted security technology, not merely one of its largest markets. For CP PLUS, success in 2036 will mean helping build an ecosystem in which Indian engineering delivers global impact, and technological independence is matched by international competitiveness.

Market Trends from India & Abroad



TOP STORIES

Semicon 2.0, ECMS & MPMS together can build end-to-end electronics value chain: ELCINA

ELCINA has welcomed the launch of Semicon 2.0, emphasising the need to connect India's rapidly growing electronics manufacturing base with domestic semiconductor and component capabilities. The industry body sees Semicon 2.0, the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) and the newly launched Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS) as complementary parts of an integrated value chain. Semicon 2.0 can strengthen capabilities in chip design, fabrication, advanced packaging, equipment and materials, while ECMS supports the production of critical electronics components. Meanwhile, the Rs 62,500 crore MPMS could generate demand and scale for domestically produced inputs through expanded mobile-phone manufacturing. ELCINA President Dr. Sasikumar Gendham said the initiative marks a shift towards building a globally competitive semiconductor ecosystem, with greater opportunities for domestic suppliers, technology companies and startups.

The Economic Times | 02 September 2026

Government eases import ban on high-tech electronics

The government is adopting a more flexible approach towards imports of select high-value electronic components, allowing manufacturers temporary and limited access to overseas supplies even where domestic production has begun. The shift follows industry representations that locally produced components are not yet available at sufficient scale or competitive prices compared with imports from China, Taiwan and Vietnam. A quota- and time-bound import mechanism has already been introduced for compressors and inner-grooved copper tubes used in air-conditioners and refrigerators, with similar provisions under consideration for smartphone components such as displays. Earlier, restrictions on overseas suppliers effectively curtailed imports once domestic production commenced. Industry executives argue that controlled imports can support continued growth in electronics manufacturing while giving domestic suppliers time to achieve scale, improve competitiveness and strengthen the local component ecosystem.

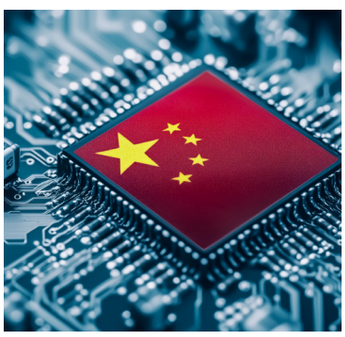
The Economic Times | 02 September 2026

Centre notifies Semicon 2.0 scheme with ₹1.27 lakh crore outlay

The Centre has notified the ₹1.27 lakh crore Semicon 2.0 scheme, marking a major expansion of India's efforts to build a comprehensive semiconductor ecosystem. The programme is expected to attract investments of around ₹4 lakh crore and generate semiconductor production worth approximately ₹2 lakh crore during its implementation period. It provides support across the semiconductor value chain, including chip design by Indian companies, fabrication, assembly, packaging and testing, as well as capital equipment, materials, research and development, and talent creation. Silicon semicon-

INDUSTRY UPDATE

Prices of key materials such as epoxy resin, glass cloth, and copper foil have risen significantly over the past eight to nine months, while global PCB suppliers have increased prices by over 20%.



Adobe Stock

ductor wafer fabs will receive Central government support covering 40% of eligible capital expenditure, subject to a minimum investment of ₹20,000 crore. The government has opened applications and expects India to capture a growing share of the global semiconductor market.

The Economic Times - Telecom | 31 August 2026

Rs 62,500 crore to Rs 39 lakh crore: The roadmap of India's new mobile manufacturing scheme

The government has notified the ₹62,500-crore Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS), a five-year programme aimed at strengthening India's position across the mobile-phone value chain. Running from 2026-27 to 2030-31, the scheme replaces the earlier production-linked incentive programme for large-scale electronics manufacturing. It targets approximately ₹39 lakh crore in mobile-phone production, ₹15 lakh crore in exports and around 60,000 direct jobs. Unlike earlier policies focused primarily on attracting handset assembly, MPMS seeks to promote domestically manufactured components, Indian-owned intellectual property, product design and research, as well as globally competitive Indian smartphone brands. The government expects the programme to nearly double the production and export value achieved under the previous incentive scheme while ensuring that a larger share of the value generated by mobile manufacturing remains within India.

Financial Express | 23 August 2026

China steps up protection for chip designs in revised regulations

China has introduced stricter regulations to protect integrated circuit (IC) layout designs, reinforcing its strategy to secure domestic semiconductor intellectual property. The revised rules, signed by Premier Li Qiang and effective from October 15, require applicants to demonstrate genuine originality, identify original design elements, and submit declarations of authenticity, while enabling regulators to reject weak or bad-faith applications. They also strengthen enforcement by allowing damages based on actual losses or illicit gains, with punitive damages available in serious infringement cases. In addition, the regulations clarify procedures for licensing, transferring, and using layout-design rights as collateral, and require creators to receive appropriate rewards. The reforms come as China intensifies efforts to strengthen indigenous chip capabilities amid continuing U.S. restrictions on semiconductor design tools and manufacturing technologies.

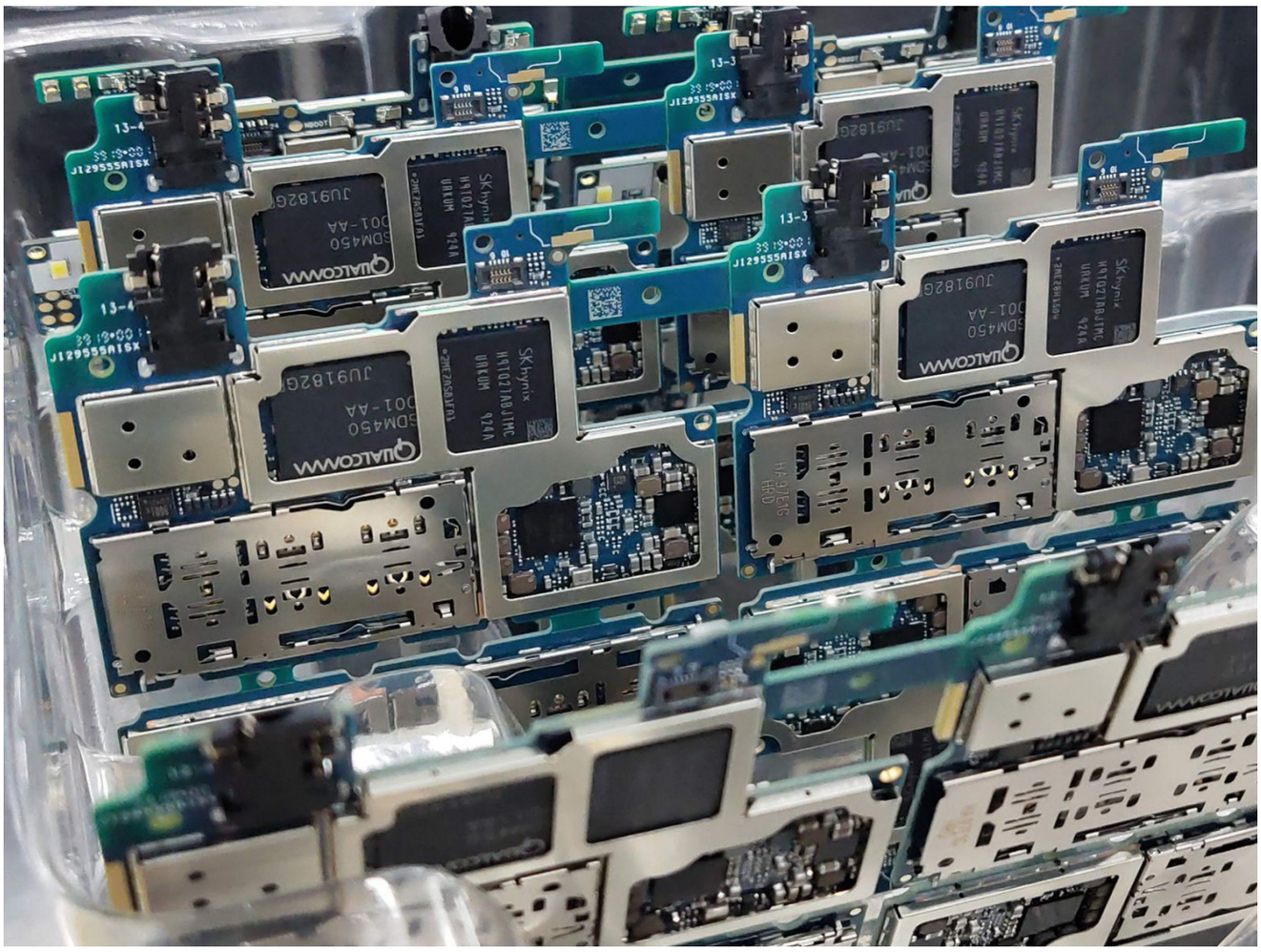
Reuters | 03 August 2026

AI boom, West Asia crisis trigger printed circuit board shortage, price rise in electronics industry

The electronics industry is facing mounting cost pressures due to a global shortage of printed circuit boards (PCBs), caused by disruptions from the West Asia conflict, rising AI server demand, and escalating raw material prices. ELCINA highlighted India's heavy dependence on imported PCB inputs, including copper clad laminates, photoresists, and specialised chemicals, although domestic manufacturing capacity is gradually expanding. Prices of key materials such as epoxy resin, glass cloth, and copper foil have risen significantly over the past eight to nine months, while global PCB suppliers have increased prices by over 20%. Strong demand from AI servers, electric vehicles, smart meters, and power electronics is further straining supplies. ELCINA has urged faster execution of domestic CCL and PCB manufacturing projects approved under the ECMS scheme to reduce import dependence and improve supply resilience.

The Economic Times | 02 August 2026

INDUSTRY UPDATE



'Made in India' phones go global: Smartphone exports jump 165 times to Rs 2.59 lakh crore

PLI 2.0 aims to boost India's smartphone manufacturing by targeting over 55% domestic value addition and cutting import dependence on high-value components like displays, camera modules and chipsets. The scheme will align with the Rs 40,000 crore Electronic Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) to encourage local sourcing and backward integration. The finance ministry has urged MeitY to strengthen localisation targets and tie incentives more closely to domestic production. Companies producing critical components such as Li-ion batteries and display assemblies locally will receive additional benefits. The initiative builds on the success of the first PLI scheme, which drove India's smartphone exports and investments beyond initial targets. PLI 2.0, with a calibrated incentive framework, seeks to create a self-reliant ecosystem and position India as a global smartphone hub.

The Economic Times | 29 May 2026

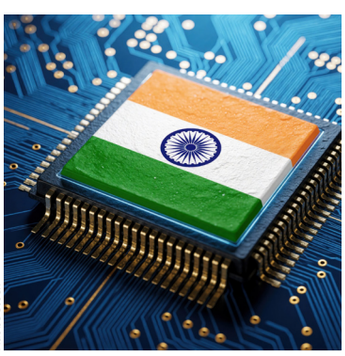
India's electronics manufacturing grows sevenfold to 13.11 lakh crore, creates nearly 25 lakh jobs: Govt

India's electronics manufacturing sector surged nearly seven-fold, from ₹1.9 lakh crore in 2014-15 to ₹13.11 lakh crore in 2025-26, generating 25 lakh jobs. Exports soared from ₹38,000 crore to ₹4.24 lakh crore, led by mobile phones, which are 99.2% domestically produced and now top the export list at ₹2.59 lakh crore. Government initiatives such as the PLI scheme, FDI liberalisation, and tax reforms fuelled this growth. Tamil Nadu emerged as a major manufacturing hub with large industrial clusters. Simultaneously, semiconductor manufacturing and design projects worth ₹1.64 lakh crore are progressing, supported by a nationwide talent development effort spanning 315 academic and training institutes. These combined measures are positioning India as a global electronics powerhouse, with strong export competitiveness and advanced domestic capabilities.

The Economic Times - Manufacturing | 23 July 2026

INDUSTRY UPDATE

ISM 2.0 will encourage design-driven startups, enhance supply chain resilience, and nurture skilled talent to support industry growth.



Adobe Stock

Govt greenlights ₹1,012 crore electronics manufacturing clusters in Tamil Nadu

The Union government has cleared two major Electronics Manufacturing Clusters in Tamil Nadu—Manallur (474.3 acres, ₹587.47 crore) and Pillapaikkam (379.3 acres, ₹7,424.55 crore)—as part of a ₹71,012 crore plan to accelerate hardware production. In 2025-26, India's electronic goods output surged sevenfold to ₹713.11 lakh crore, driven by a 33-fold rise in mobile production and a 165-fold jump in exports. The sector now sustains 25 lakh jobs, with 99.2% of mobile phones manufactured domestically. Tamil Nadu will further benefit from semiconductor design support, 61 specialised talent institutes, and two AI Centres of Excellence under the national deep-tech initiatives, reinforcing the state's role as a hub for advanced electronics and innovation in India's growing manufacturing ecosystem.

The Hindu Business Line | 21 May 2026

Semicon 2.0 lays foundation for India's long-term semiconductor ambitions: ELCINA

The Union Cabinet has cleared Semicon 2.0 with a funding outlay of ₹1,27,500 crore to fast-track the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM). Building upon ISM 1.0, the new programme adopts a six-pillar strategy focused on chip design IP, semiconductor fabs, advanced packaging, equipment and materials manufacturing, R&D, and talent creation. It seeks to integrate design, manufacturing, research, and skilled workforce development to establish a resilient and globally competitive semiconductor ecosystem. Industry body ELCINA welcomed the move, highlighting its potential to enhance India's technological leadership, strategic capabilities, and economic growth. By nurturing end-to-end capabilities from research to production, Semicon 2.0 aims to position India as a key player in the global semiconductor value chain, ensuring long-term self-reliance and industrial advancement.

The Economic Times | 16 July 2026

Cabinet clears Rs 1.28 lakh-crore Semicon 2.0 to deepen India's semiconductor ecosystem

The Union Cabinet has cleared India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) 2.0 with an allocation of ₹1.275 lakh crore, prioritising the creation of a robust domestic semiconductor ecosystem over large chip fabs. The initiative focuses on fostering local manufacturing of semiconductor equipment, speciality chemicals, raw materials, and advanced packaging to cut import reliance. ISM 2.0 will encourage design-driven startups, enhance supply chain resilience, and nurture skilled talent to support industry growth. By targeting the expansion of India's chip market from $50 billion to $100 billion by 2030, the mission lays the groundwork for self-reliance and competitiveness in the global semiconductor landscape. It further aims to position the nation for next-generation technologies, including the development of 2 nm semiconductor nodes, marking a strategic move towards advanced chip innovation.

Moneycontrol | 15 July 2026

Govt approves₹1.25 trillion outlay for India Semiconductor Mission 2.0

The finance ministry has approved a ₹1.25 trillion outlay for India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) 2.0, nearly doubling the earlier ₹76,000 crore under ISM 1.0, pending Cabinet clearance. The scheme will provide up to 50% fiscal support for semiconductor fabrication plants, compound semiconductor units, assembly and testing facilities, and chip design initiatives. ISM 2.0 emphasises large-scale manufacturing, advanced design, skill development, and self-reliance, with special incentives for raw material manufacturers and retention of domestic intellectual property. The Expenditure

INDUSTRY UPDATE

Finance Committee cleared the proposal last week, and ₹1,000 crore has already been allocated in the 2026-27 Union Budget. The upgraded mission seeks to position India as a global semiconductor hub while nurturing a complete ecosystem from materials to market-ready chips.

Business Standard | 30 June 2026

Indian electronics manufacturers forge more and more partnerships with companies from South Korea, Taiwan, Japan

Indian electronics manufacturers are accelerating efforts to cut dependence on China by forging partnerships with South Korean, Taiwanese, and Japanese firms or pursuing independent projects. Companies such as Dixon, Amber Enterprises, PG Electroplast, Epack Durable, and Syrma SGS have collectively initiated at least eight collaborations in recent months to produce components and finished products. These initiatives align with the government's push for self-reliance in electronics manufacturing. However, industry leaders admit that China maintains an advantage in both cost efficiency and technological capabilities. Some players, like PG Electroplast, have opted to construct new plants on their own after proposed collaborations with Chinese partners faced long regulatory delays. The strategic shift reflects a mix of geopolitical caution, supply chain diversification, and the drive to localise high-value electronics production.

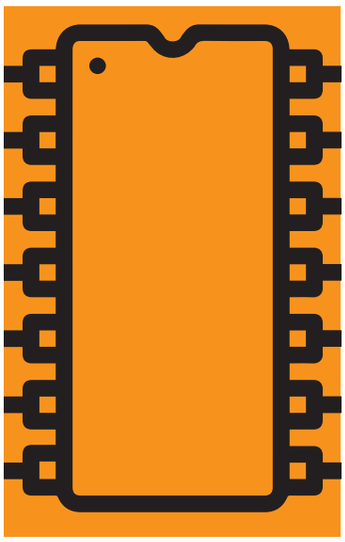
The Economic Times | 30 June 2026

India's annual defence production surges to 1.78 trillion in 2025-26

India's defence production hit an all-time high of ₹1.78 trillion in 2025-26, registering a 15.6% increase over ₹1.54 trillion in 2024-25 and reflecting a 110% jump from ₹84,643 crore in 2020-21. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh attributed this record to the Department of Defence Production's initiatives, favourable policies, greater private sector involvement, and the country's growing export potential. He highlighted that the achievement underscores the rapid expansion of India's indigenous defence industrial base and signals strong momentum towards self-reliance in manufacturing. The Defence Ministry hailed the milestone as a crucial step in strengthening national capabilities, with expectations of sustained growth and further acceleration in the years ahead, reinforcing India's position as a rising force in the global defence production landscape.

Business Standard | 17 June 2026


Wikipedia



GENERAL ELECTRONICS

Syrma JV inaugurates state-of-the-art high-reliability electronics manufacturing facility in Bengaluru

Syrma SGS Technology and Europe's Elemaster Group have expanded their electronics manufacturing capabilities in India with the inauguration of a new high-reliability facility in Bengaluru through their joint venture, Syrma SGS Elemaster. Located in the Bommasandra Industrial Area, the 20,000 sq. ft. facility features advanced Surface Mount Technology (SMT), Through-Hole Technology (THT) and box-build assembly lines. The facility is intended to address rising demand for high-reliability electronics where quality, reliability and stringent manufacturing standards are critical. Its capabilities will serve sectors including railways and transportation, industrial electronics, energy and medical electronics. The new facility will also enable the joint venture to support global OEMs with manufacturing from India, strengthening its ability to serve both domestic and international markets.

Business Standard | 02 September 2026



Elemaster

OpenAI Claims Its New Chips Can Outperform Nvidia Processors in Tests

OpenAI has reported promising test results for Jalapeno, its new AI processor developed in partnership with Broadcom, claiming that the chip outperformed Nvidia's GB300 in energy efficiency and response speed. The company plans to begin deploying the processor to support its AI models later this year, joining other major technology companies developing proprietary alternatives to Nvidia's chips. According to OpenAI, Jalapeno combines high-throughput performance, enabling AI services to handle large numbers of users more economically, with low-latency capabilities for faster responses. The company will decide which models are best suited to the new hardware, potentially offering users a choice between lower costs and higher performance. Operating at around 700 watts, Jalapeno could also reduce electricity costs, an increasingly significant expense for large AI data centres.

Yahoo Finance | 25 August 2026

CXMT Overtakes Tencent to Become Most Valuable Chinese Company

CXMT has overtaken Tencent to become China's most valuable company, fuelled by surging AI-driven demand for memory chips. The Shanghai-listed DRAM maker now commands a market value of US$524 billion, edging past Tencent's US$510 billion, even after a 1.2% share dip. CXMT, a key player in China's semiconductor ambitions, debuted with a 467% surge and remains up 8%. Its inclusion in the MSCI China All Shares Index on 10 August has amplified investor momentum, as markets favour AI hardware over traditional internet giants. Analysts predict the valuation gap between CXMT and Tencent will expand further, reflecting growing confidence in chipmakers powering the AI boom. The company's rise underscores the strategic shift in China's tech landscape towards semiconductor leadership and next-generation computing.

Bloomberg | 13 August 2026

India's data centre boom faces a gridlock on power infra lag

The rapid growth of India's data centre and AI ecosystem is exposing critical gaps in power infrastructure, as expanding facilities increasingly

Mobile phone production surged 2.4 times, with 99.2% now locally made, while imports dropped by 77%.



pexels.com



GettyImages

struggle to secure reliable and scalable electricity. Industry executives say the biggest delays arise from the construction of high-voltage substations and transmission lines, which involve complex land acquisition, regulatory approvals and right-of-way clearances. Addressing these infrastructure constraints is expected to require investments of several lakh crore rupees to upgrade the national power network. The financial burden is shared between state electricity distribution companies and private developers, with discoms generally funding substations outside data centre campuses, while operators finance transmission lines, step-down transformers and internal electrical infrastructure required to support large-scale digital facilities.

Mint | 03 August 2026

PLI schemes attract Rs 2.40 lakh crore investment, generate over 14.15 lakh jobs: Jitin Prasada

Minister Jitin Prasada told the Lok Sabha that the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes spanning 14 sectors with a total outlay of ₹1.91 lakh crore have significantly strengthened domestic manufacturing, exports, and employment. Mobile phone production surged 2.4 times, with 99.2% now locally made, while imports dropped by 77%. The pharmaceutical sector achieved sales of ₹3.64 lakh crore, supporting 1,931 products and 55,000 MT of API capacity. Solar photovoltaic projects led with ₹64,873 crore in investments. Food processing generated 3.29 lakh jobs, and electronics, pharma, and the automobile industries recorded major capital inflows and employment growth, reflecting the schemes' broad economic impact and their role in advancing India's self-reliance and industrial expansion.

Moneycontrol | 21 July 2026

India Semiconductor Mission 2.0: Centre not keen on covering tech transfer, land costs under new chip scheme

India's ISM 2.0, with a ₹1.27 lakh crore budget, broadens its scope from fabs to the entire semiconductor ecosystem. It offers up to 30% incentives for equipment, specialty gases, chemicals, and materials. Industry experts foresee reduced import reliance and growth for local suppliers if ecosystem participation is enforced. Key opportunities include refurbishing semiconductor tools domestically and boosting infrastructure, consumables, and supply capabilities. Initiatives such as INOX Air Products' ₹500 crore gas hub in Dholera highlight the drive towards a self-sufficient semiconductor chain. This phase aims to build integrated local capabilities across production, materials, and support systems, encouraging collaboration and investment to strengthen India's position in the global semiconductor landscape while nurturing indigenous manufacturing and reducing external dependencies.

pexels.com

The Indian Express | 17 July 2026

'New mobile phone manufacturing scheme can aid Tamil Nadu's shift from assembly to value-added manufacturing'

The ₹62,500-crore Mobile Phone Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (MPMS) is set to accelerate Tamil Nadu's electronics sector by offering up to 1.5% extra incentives for sourcing components and sub-assemblies locally. TN Industries Secretary S Vijayakumar stated that the scheme will fortify the State's electronics supply chain and attract more component manufacturers. ELCINA President Sasikumar Gendham noted that MPMS complements the existing Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), fostering both fresh investments and capacity expansions. Together, these initiatives aim to position Tamil Nadu as an even stronger hub for electron-

ics manufacturing and exports. By encouraging local sourcing and incentivising component production, the State is expected to deepen its industrial ecosystem, enhance self-reliance in critical electronics infrastructure, and reinforce its leadership in India's growing electronics export landscape.

The Hindu Business Line | 15 July 2026

Jefferies' Christopher Wood warns Microsoft, Meta, and Alphabet AI spending may backfire

Jefferies' Chris Wood cautioned that Wall Street might soon reject hyperscalers' aggressive AI investments, warning of "massive capital destruction." Microsoft, Meta, Amazon, and Alphabet have issued $144 billion in bonds in 2026, up from $83 billion in 2025, despite their shares soaring as much as 180% since 2023. Yet, they have fallen 9% since May, lagging the S&P 500. Wood foresees the AI craze fading as markets resist debt-driven spending, aligning with Austrian economists' "malinvestment" theory. This comes after $2 trillion was wiped off tech giants' market value.

The Economic Times | 06 July 2026

Tata Electronics exports $26.3 billion worth of iPhones in five years, overtakes Foxconn: Report

Tata Electronics has surpassed Foxconn in iPhone export value under India's PLI scheme from FY22 to FY26, with $26.3 billion compared to Foxconn's $25.6 billion. Overall iPhone production saw Tata at $35.5 billion (46.01% share) and Foxconn at $38 billion, with Foxconn leading in domestic sales worth $12.4 billion against Tata's $6.3 billion. Tata entered the market later, acquiring Wistron's India operations in 2023 and a 60% stake in Pegatron India in 2024, rapidly emerging as Foxconn's main competitor in the country's iPhone manufacturing ecosystem.

Moneycontrol | 03 July 2026

Japan bets ₹1 lakh crore on India: Manufacturing, AI and semiconductors lead 120 new India Japan deals

Japan is set to invest nearly ₹1 lakh crore in India, driving growth across manufacturing, semiconductors, AI, green energy, finance and digital infrastructure, underpinned by 120 MoUs signed since August 2025. Key projects target Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana, Assam and Meghalaya, aimed at boosting supply chain diversification and advancing Indo-Pacific collaboration. Major manufacturing investments come from Toyota, Suzuki, Daikin and JFE Steel, while semiconductor ventures involve Fujifilm, Toho Koki and IIT Guwahati. Strategic cooperation also spans AI, quantum technologies and submarine cable infrastructure, designed to bolster India's technology ecosystem and global electronics ambitions. This comprehensive partnership aligns with India's push for high-tech self-reliance, sustainable growth, and enhanced connectivity across the region, strengthening bilateral economic and geopolitical ties between the two nations.

Business Today | 02 July 2026

PLI, duty incentives soon for Lithium, Nickel processing units in India

India is set to introduce a ₹2,000 crore production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme with duty waivers for lithium and nickel processing to strengthen domestic refining and reduce import dependence. This initiative complements the ₹16,300 crore National Critical Minerals Mission, which spans mining to recycling. Currently, India has no domestic production of these minerals and relies on imports, while China dominates global processing. Upcoming mining projects in Bihar, Karnataka, and Chhattisgarh, coupled with a surge in EV battery demand projected to reach 210 GWh by 2030, highlight the urgent need to establish local refining capacity. The PLI scheme aims to accelerate investment in processing infrastructure, secure critical mineral supply chains, and position India competitively in the rapidly growing electric vehicle and energy storage sectors.

The Economic Times | 20 June 2026

Jio Plans 1,600+ LEO Satellites

Reliance Jio is planning to deploy a low-Earth orbit (LEO) satellite constellation of 1,600-1,650 satellites at around 650 km altitude within the next two to three years, aiming to provide broadband and direct-to-device connectivity across India and potentially beyond. The company has submitted its proposal to IN-SPACe, with the government backing International Telecommunication Union orbital filings. Estimated to cost $10-15 billion, this ambitious project would make Jio the first Indian operator in the LEO space, currently dominated by global players like Starlink, Amazon Kuiper, and OneWeb. The initiative will be spearheaded by Jio Platforms' satellite communications unit, which is also gearing up for an initial public offering, signalling a major push into the next phase of digital infrastructure and space-based connectivity services.

The Economic Times | 18 June 2026



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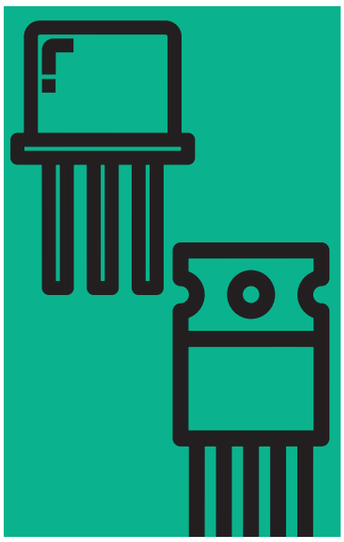


SEMICONDUCTORS

HORIBA India may chip in with local semicon gear as demand builds

HORIBA India could consider local manufacturing of mass flow controllers and specialised semiconductor equipment once India develops sufficient demand and scale in chip fabrication and packaging, according to Dan Horiba, executive director and general manager, Group Strategy Division, Horiba. He said the company has global manufacturing and R&D capabilities and would assess local production based on market needs. Horiba also stressed that India should move beyond semiconductor R&D and build a complete value chain covering manufacturing, components and materials. A stronger domestic ecosystem, he said, would help Indian companies and researchers generate and retain intellectual property. Drawing on Japan's experience, he noted that strong component and material suppliers had contributed to the country's semiconductor industry. Government support remains important, but policies should also respond to industry investment and demand requirements..

Business Standard | 14 September 2026

India's semiconductor sector attracts $1.4 billion in funding across 281 companies

India's semiconductor ecosystem has attracted $1.4 billion in cumulative equity funding across 281 funded companies, according to Tracxn data. Nearly half of this funding has been raised since 2025, with companies securing $701 million during the period, including $228 million so far in 2026. India currently has 3,557 companies operating in the semiconductor sector, although only 142 of the 281 funded companies have raised equity capital. The funding momentum comes as India prepares to host the fifth edition of SEMICON India from September 17–19 at Yashobhoomi in Dwarka, New Delhi. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to inaugurate the event on September 17. The exhibition is expected to bring together global semiconductor companies, government representatives, state officials and industry experts as India expands its semiconductor ecosystem.

The Times of India | 13 September 2026

AI Semiconductor Market to Hit $255.90 Billion by 2035

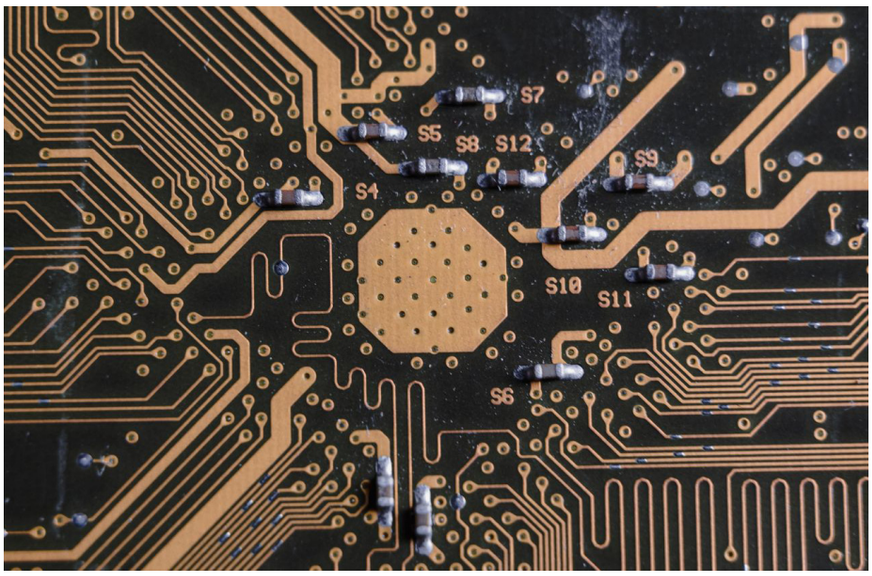
The global market for AI semiconductors is forecast to nearly quadruple from USD 65.8 billion in 2025 to USD 255.9 billion by 2035, growing at a 14.55% CAGR between 2026 and 2035. The expansion is closely linked to the rapid buildout of hyperscale AI data centres, which require increasingly specialised processors for demanding AI workloads. The growing use of large language models and generative AI is further increasing demand for GPUs, NPUs and custom AI accelerators. Meanwhile, developments in chip architecture, memory and advanced packaging are helping improve the performance and energy efficiency of AI-focused semiconductor systems. Together, these trends are supporting sustained demand for specialised silicon as AI workloads become more complex and data-centre infrastructure continues to expand.

The Economic Times - Data Centers | 09 September 2026

India's semiconductor investment push gains pace as Tata, L&T chip in

India's established industrial conglomerates are emerging as important investors in the country's semiconductor ambitions. Since January 2025, Tata Electronics, Murugappa Group's CG Power and HCL Group have announced semiconductor projects worth ₹1.29 trillion under the India Semiconductor Mission. Actual investments in manufacturing and assembly facilities have so far reached ₹3,345 crore, increasing to ₹4,157 crore when L&T's ₹812 crore investment in chip design is included. Tata Electronics has invested ₹2,401 crore in subsidiaries supporting its semiconductor fabrication and assembly projects, in-

INDUSTRY UPDATE



pexels.com

cluding a ₹1.18 trillion fab and OSAT investment approved for Gujarat and Assam. CG Power has invested ₹820 crore in its CG Semi venture, whose Sanand facility has already begun commercial chip supplies.

Mint | 27 August 2026

India's chip story enters next phase: 5-6 semiconductor projects may go commercial by end of 2026

India is likely to have five to six semiconductor projects in commercial production by the end of 2026, marking an important milestone for the country's semiconductor ambitions, according to MeitY Secretary S. Krishnan. Three major projects approved under the first phase of the India Semiconductor Mission have already started commercial operations, with additional facilities expected to be inaugurated this year. Krishnan said these projects would demonstrate the on-ground success of ISM 1.0 and strengthen India's credibility as a global semiconductor destination. The government is now expanding its ambitions through ISM 2.0, covering chip design, manufacturing, advanced packaging, equipment, materials, R&D and talent development. Emerging technologies, including silicon photonics and power semiconductors, will also receive attention, alongside efforts to build a skilled manufacturing workforce.

The Times of India | 18 August 2026

India's chip startups struggle to fund leap from design to commercial production

India's semiconductor startups are benefiting from growing seed-stage funding and government support but face a significant financing challenge when attempting to scale from chip design and initial production to commercial manufacturing. Semiconductor and physical-AI companies raised $523.3 million across 44 deals in 2025, compared with $114.4 million across 48 deals in 2024, and secured another $193.3 million by August 10, 2026. However, the funding funnel narrows considerably after the early stages. Between 2023 and 2026, the sector recorded 94 seed and angel deals but only 20 Series A transactions. Although Series A funding has gradually improved, the gap highlights the difficulty Indian hardware and semiconductor startups face in raising the substantial capital required for product development, manufacturing and commercialisation.

Mint | 16 August 2026

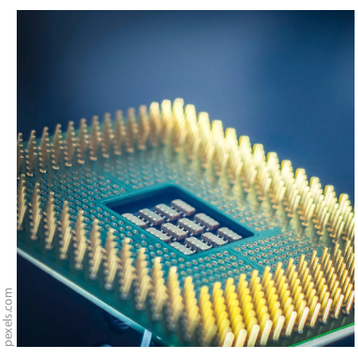
India's big semiconductor push: PM Modi says 7-8 plants coming up; stresses self-reliance in chips

India has begun commercial semiconductor production at three manufacturing facilities, with another seven to eight plants expected to become operational over the next seven to eight years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said. He described the development as an important milestone in building technological self-reliance, given the growing importance of semiconductors across electronics, healthcare, transportation and other industries. India's semiconductor strategy has expanded significantly with the launch of Semicon 2.0, which has received a financial outlay of ₹1.275 lakh crore, compared with ₹76,000 crore under the first phase. The government has so far approved 12 semiconductor projects involving investment commitments of more than ₹1.64 lakh crore. Production has already started at three facilities, with exports also underway, marking a shift from India's earlier dependence on imported semiconductor manufacturing capabilities.

The Times of India | 15 August 2026

An Indian encore, for chips: Meity's semiconductor plan is just beginning

India is seeking to replicate its rapid rise in iPhone manufacturing by establishing itself as an alternative source for mature-node semiconductors. Within five years, India has captured roughly a quarter of Apple's global iPhone production, helped by government incentives designed to attract manufacturing away from China. The government now wants to apply a similar strategy to semiconductors, focusing on chips at 28 nanometres and above, a segment largely dominated by China. Mature-node chips account for about 70% of global semiconductor volumes and are essential for auto-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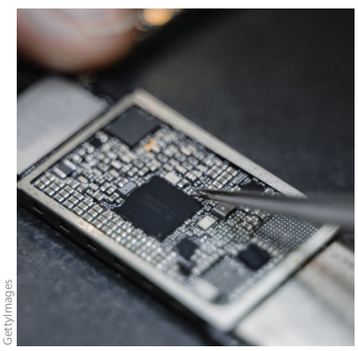

GettyImages

mobiles, consumer appliances, IoT devices and telecom equipment. According to MeitY, leading semiconductor economies such as the US, Japan and South Korea are increasingly prioritising advanced chips for AI, data centres and smartphones. This could create an opportunity for India to emerge as a competitive alternative in mature-node manufacturing.

Business Standard | 10 August 2026

L&T Semiconductor goes local with chip backend, shifts OSAT to India

L&T Semiconductor Technologies (LTSCT) is moving some of its outsourced semiconductor assembly and testing (OSAT) operations from overseas to India, reflecting growing confidence in the cost competitiveness of domestic chip packaging capabilities. The company is already working with Tata Electronics as it prepares to begin commercial operations. Indian OSAT companies currently support around 50 of roughly 500 semiconductor package types, with capabilities expected to expand. LTSCT's chip designs are still fabricated at facilities in the US, Taiwan and Japan, but the company is open to using Tata Electronics' planned fab once it becomes operational in 2028, provided pricing is competitive. The company noted that generous subsidies have enabled Chinese fabs to offer aggressive prices, while India is also providing substantial support for semiconductor manufacturing projects, potentially improving the competitiveness of domestic fabs.

Business Standard | 03 August 2026

Govt raises semiconductor demand forecast 50% to $150 billion by 2030

India's semiconductor demand is projected to reach $150 billion annually by 2030, a 50% increase over the estimate made in early 2025. The revision reflects expectations of rapid growth in electronics and component manufacturing, which could create a $500 billion ecosystem, alongside increasing chip consumption from AI applications and expanding data centres. The government expects one domestic fabrication plant and 12 incentivised OSAT/ATMP facilities to meet 20–30% of national semiconductor requirements by 2030. Three facilities operated by Micron Technology, Kaynes Technology and CG Power are already operational. India is also gaining attention as a second semiconductor assembly base alongside Malaysia. Global chip companies are exploring Indian facilities to serve international markets, potentially allowing India to become an important link in global semiconductor supply chains.

Business Standard | 02 August 2026

How 5 professors and 2 PhD scholars built a chip India couldn't afford to import

A team of five professors and two PhD scholars at IISc Bengaluru dedicated 15 years to developing Gallium Nitride (GaN) semiconductor technology, despite India's lack of chip infrastructure. Their perseverance led to the creation of AGNIT Semiconductors, the nation's first vertically integrated GaN startup, supported by MeitY. What began as an uncertain research initiative has evolved into a strategic enterprise powering India's defence, telecom, consumer electronics, and electric mobility sectors. Emerging during a global semiconductor shortage and aligning with India's drive for self-reliance in chips, AGNIT marks a key milestone in reducing dependence on foreign technologies. This breakthrough reflects the long-term vision and innovation of Indian researchers, transforming a high-risk academic pursuit into a critical pillar of the country's semiconductor ecosystem.

India Today | 25 July 2026

Tata Electronics to launch India's first chip fab using older technology

Tata Electronics will produce India's

INDUSTRY UPDATE

first semiconductor wafers at its Dholera fab, starting with 90nm technology, mainly for automotive and industrial applications. This represents a cautious launch compared to the 28nm target mentioned in Tata Sons' 2025 report. In collaboration with Taiwan's PSMC, the company plans a phased shift from 90nm to 55nm and eventually 28nm chips. The ₹10.7 billion project is part of India's $23 billion semiconductor incentive programme, highlighting the country's initial hurdles in infrastructure, technology, and skilled manpower as it seeks to establish a domestic chip ecosystem.

Business Standard | 17 July 2026

India bets on OSAT to accelerate semiconductor manufacturing as investments reach ₹64,000 crore

India is emerging as a strategic player in the global semiconductor supply chain by focusing on OSAT (Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test) and ATMP (Assembly, Testing, Marking, and Packaging) facilities. Backed by the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), the government has attracted around ₹64,000 crore in investments to boost domestic capability, cater to rising local demand, and support global supply chain diversification. Major initiatives include Tata Electronics' ₹27,000-crore plant in Assam, CG Semi's ₹7,600-crore unit, Kaynes Semicon's ₹3,300-crore facility, HCL–Foxconn's ₹3,700-crore project in Uttar Pradesh, and Suchi Semicon's $100-million plant in Gujarat. These ventures signify India's practical and scalable entry into semiconductor manufacturing, leveraging packaging and testing as the first step towards a broader role in the global chip ecosystem.

The Hindu Business Line | 08 July 2026

Up to 500 million chips a year': PM Modi inaugurates CG Semi chip plant in Gujarat

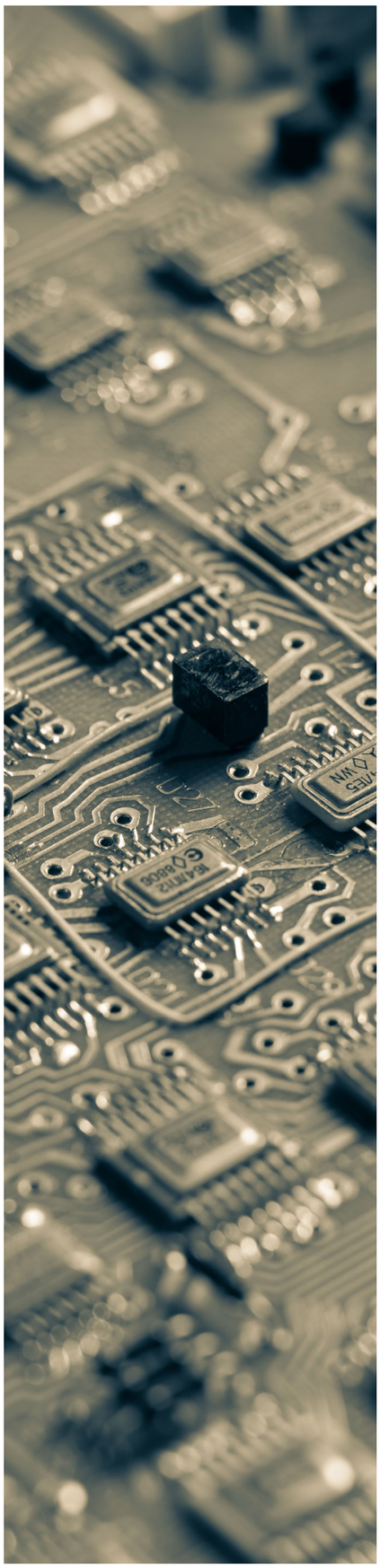
Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated CG Semi's ₹7,600-crore OSAT semiconductor plant in Sanand, Gujarat, marking India's leap in the Semicon India programme. Operated by CG Semi, a CG Power unit, in collaboration with Renesas Electronics and Stars Microelectronics, the facility signals the start of commercial chip production. Modi recounted the project's journey from its 2024 foundation to 2025 testing and now full-scale operations. He hailed the milestone as a collective national effort to transform India into a global semiconductor hub. This marks the country's third operational semiconductor plant and reinforces its strategic bid for electronics self-reliance. The Prime Minister emphasised that the achievement would boost domestic manufacturing, attract global partnerships, and accelerate India's presence in the high-value semiconductor ecosystem.

Moneycontrol | 04 July 2026

India plans semiconductor buildout with ₹7,100 crore incentives in FY27

In FY27, the Department of Expenditure has mandated MeitY to accelerate India's semiconductor ecosystem with a ₹7,100 crore outlay. The plan supports one semiconductor fab, nine manufacturing/ATMP-Osat units, and 30 design firms. The fab unit will receive ₹2,000 crore, targeting ₹4,000 crore in private investments and 1,500 jobs. The nine ATMP-Osat/manufacturing facilities will secure ₹5,000 crore, aiming to leverage ₹11,000 crore in additional investments and create 3,000 jobs. Simultaneously, ₹100 crore under the DLI scheme will enable 30 design firms to develop 10 IP cores and employ 200 professionals. This comprehensive strategy is intended to nurture domestic manufacturing, strengthen chip design capabilities, and generate high-quality employment, positioning India as a competitive player in the global semiconductor industry during FY27 with tangible investment and talent outcomes.

Mint | 22 June 2026



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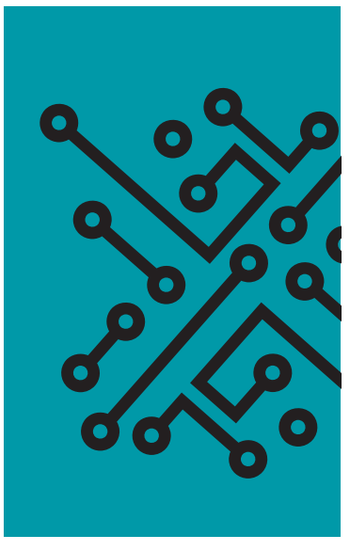


INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

AI is prompting companies to reconsider investments in captive service operations, while European businesses are restructuring amid economic pressures and increased competition from China's export-driven economy.

Move faster': Nvidia's Jensen Huang has an AI message for India, the world's leading IT power

Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang has urged India to move faster on artificial intelligence, arguing that its established IT industry gives the country a strong foundation for developing a domestic AI economy. Speaking at the G20 Innovation Ministerial, Huang said the rapid pace of AI development means countries cannot afford to move slowly. He described AI as a new technology platform that India can build on using the expertise and infrastructure created by its decades-old technology sector. Recalling earlier discussions on AI with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Huang said he was now keen to see Indian companies and startups turn that early interest into businesses, products and technologies. He also emphasised the need for India to develop its own AI ecosystem, with local companies not only adopting the technology but also contributing to its development.

The Economic Times | 03 September 2026

AI leads salary growth in India as employers pay more for scarce skills

India's compensation trends are showing a growing premium for specialised, high-demand skills, while salaries in several established technology segments remain under pressure. The latest foundit Insights Tracker shows AI leading salary growth at 12% year-on-year, followed by computer and network security and semiconductors at 9% each. Over the 2024–2026 period, AI salaries have risen 22%, compared with declines in areas such as computer hardware and e-commerce. Salaries in IT services, meanwhile, have remained stagnant. The trend indicates that employers are becoming more selective about where they offer higher pay, with specific skills increasingly valued over experience alone. For professionals, the implication is that keeping skills current and building expertise in areas aligned with changing business requirements will be increasingly important for salary growth.

Business Standard | 02 September 2026

IT firms turn to bundled deals to weather AI deflation

Indian software services companies are witnessing renewed interest in structured transactions that combine the acquisition of a client's captive technology operations with long-term service contracts. TCS's recent $1.4 billion deal with Porsche, including the acquisition of its IT arm MHP, exemplifies this trend. Other companies, including HCLTech, Tech Mahindra, LTM and Wipro, have pursued similar arrangements involving acquisitions and multi-year outsourcing contracts. HCLTech recently acquired Guardian Life Insurance's India operations alongside a seven-year services agreement, while Wipro acquired Olam Group's IT arm, Mindsprint, as part of a broader eight-year partnership. Industry experts say two major forces are driving the trend: AI is prompting companies to reconsider investments in captive service operations, while European businesses are restructuring amid economic pressures and increased competition from China's export-driven economy.

The Economic Times | 26 August 2026

Indian IT firms are buying growth, one client at a time

Indian IT services companies are reviving a deal-making strategy that combines the acquisition of a client's technology unit with a large, long-term outsourcing contract. TCS's recent $373 million acquisition of Porsche's



pexels.com

management and IT consulting arm, MHP, accompanied by a five-year $1.45 billion IT modernisation contract, is the latest example. At least nine similar transactions have taken place over the past two decades, involving companies including TCS, Wipro, Infosys and WNS, with three occurring in the past year. Wipro recently followed a similar approach with Olam Group, while TCS and WNS executed comparable transactions in 2008. Such deals can provide IT companies with access to established client ecosystems, specialised capabilities and new markets. However, analysts question whether the strategy is genuinely strengthening their position in the AI-driven technology landscape or primarily serving as a shortcut to revenue growth.

Mint | 25 August 2026

H-1B costs soar, prompting Indian IT companies to rethink US hiring



Adobe Stock

Indian IT companies have significantly reduced fresh H-1B visa applications for the US FY27 amid sharply higher fees and changes to the visa selection process. According to USCIS, eligible registrations fell 38.5% to 211,600 from 343,981 a year earlier, marking at least a seven-year low compared with a peak of 758,994 registrations in FY24. Immigration lawyers reported an even steeper 60–70% decline in H-1B cap-case volumes among some Indian technology companies. The reduction has been attributed to the higher cost of hiring through the programme, new lottery rules that favour higher-salaried applicants, and increasing adoption of AI tools that could reduce demand for some technology roles. However, the available registration data do not distinguish between new applications, extensions and change-of-status requests, limiting conclusions about the exact scale of the decline.

Business Standard | 13 August 2026

India's IT sector is surviving artificial intelligence

India's technology sector is widely expected to face significant disruption from AI because many of the jobs it performs, including software development and routine business processes, are increasingly automatable. However, there is little evidence yet of large-scale AI-driven job losses. Employment data are limited, with around 6 million Indians working in IT, representing only about 1% of the workforce and proving difficult for traditional surveys to capture. Headcount at major listed Indian IT companies has fallen from 1.71 million in 2023 to 1.66 million by June, but remains 9% above the pre-pandemic trend. The decline also reflects a reversal of pandemic-era hiring rather than AI alone. Similar employment patterns are evident at major foreign IT companies, suggesting that AI has not yet caused the expected widespread displacement.

The Economist | 06 August 2026

Indian IT firms revive hiring, but AI talent shortage slows rebound

India's IT sector is witnessing a rebound in hiring, albeit selectively, with a strong emphasis on AI and emerging technologies. Mass campus recruitment has slowed as companies like TCS, Infosys, Wipro, HCLTech, Tech Mahindra, and LTI-Mindtree pivot to skill-focused hiring strategies. According to Naukri's June 2026 JobSpeak report, AI-related roles saw a 16% year-on-year increase, even as overall IT job postings dipped 3%. Demand is particularly high for professionals in generative AI, cloud, and data engineering, reflecting the surge in enterprise AI adoption. Firms are moving away from traditional qualification-based hiring to capability-driven recruitment, seeking industry-ready talent that can deliver business-centric innovation and accelerate digital transformation through advanced AI solutions.

Business Standard | 17 July 2026

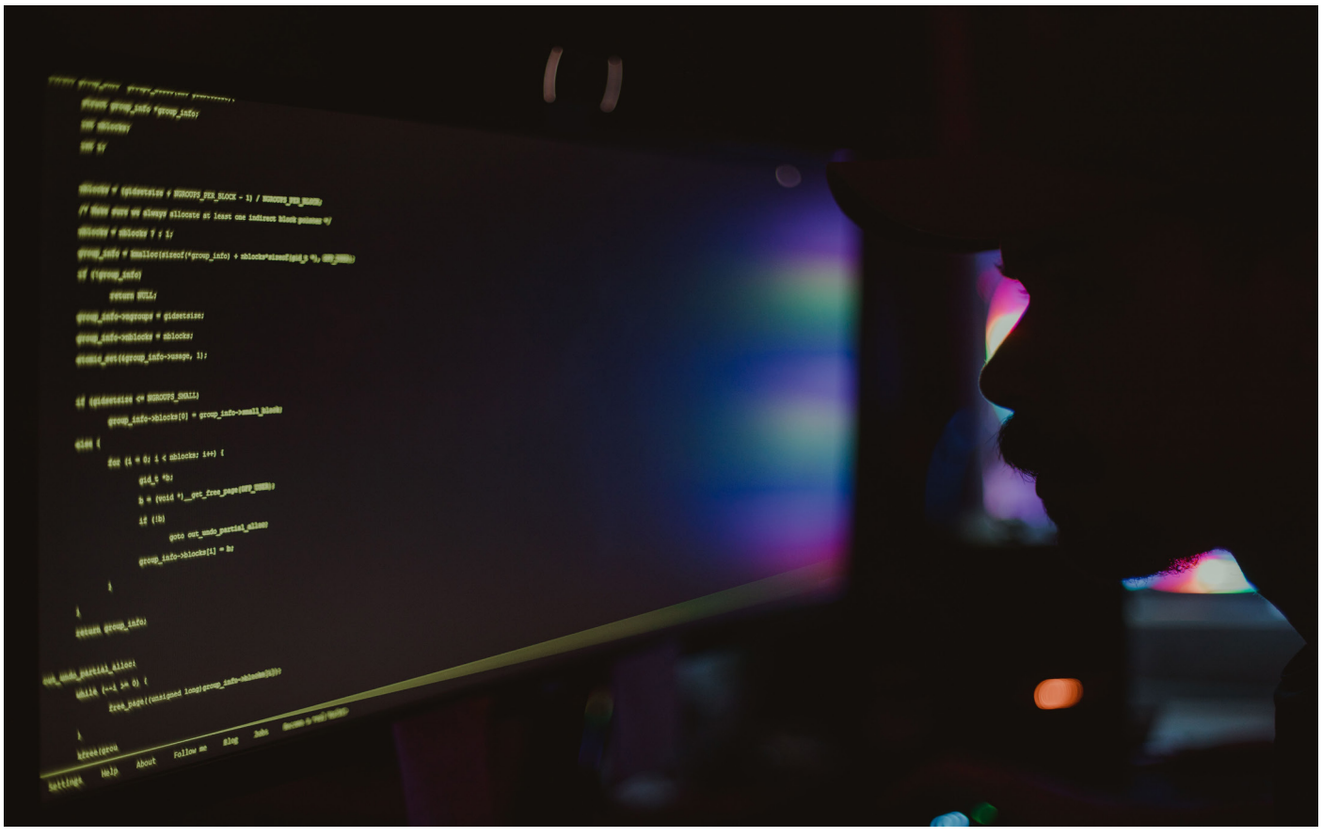
India becomes world's largest retail GCC hub with 180 centres: Report

India has emerged as the world's largest hub for retail global capability centres (GCCs), hosting 180 centres and employing 2.72 lakh professionals, according to TeamLease Digital. The country's GCC ecosystem is 34% larger than the combined scale of the next five markets, underscoring its dominance in the sector. These centres are increasingly driving advanced functions such as AI, product engineering, and digital commerce, moving beyond traditional operational roles. Future hiring will be concentrated in technology, supply chain, and data functions, with specialised skills in AI, generative AI, LLM engineering, and MLOps seeing the highest demand. Scarcity of AI talent persists, with Bengaluru maintaining its top position as the leading hub, while Hyderabad is rapidly emerging as a strong secondary centre for these specialised capabilities.

Business Standard | 08 July 2026

IT deals face rejig as clients force new terms for AI gains

Corporates are rapidly revisiting IT service contracts within two years as AI-driven productivity reshapes pricing models. Large deals above $50 million, particularly pandemic-era annuity contracts, are under pressure as clients favour outcome-based pricing, automation commitments, and gain-sharing over traditional FTE or time-and-materials terms. Analysts observe that AI efficiencies materialise within quarters, triggering mid-term renegotiations of misaligned agreements. While firms like TCS, In-



Pexels

fosys, and Wipro enjoy healthy deal pipelines, revenue growth remains subdued due to AI-enabled pricing deflation across banking, insurance, manufacturing, and consumer industries.

The Economic Times | 30 June 2026

Indian IT industry faces long growth slowdown amid AI shift and global uncertainty: JPMorgan

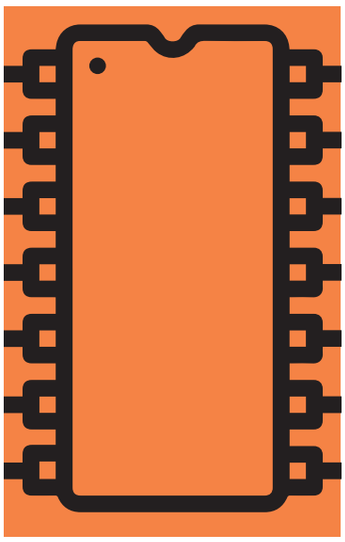
JPMorgan has cautioned that India's IT sector may face a prolonged phase of weak growth due to AI-driven disruption and geopolitical headwinds. Industry revenue has been stagnant at 2-3% annually for the past three years, with AI-led cost deflation and delayed client spending expected to keep growth subdued till FY30. Large IT firms are projected to expand only 3-4%, a sharp drop from the historical 7-8% growth. Deal signings and ramp-ups remain sluggish, while sector valuations have already fallen 10-25% as structural growth stays below 5%. A meaningful recovery will need visible revenue acceleration, which currently lacks clarity.

Moneycontrol | 28 June 2026

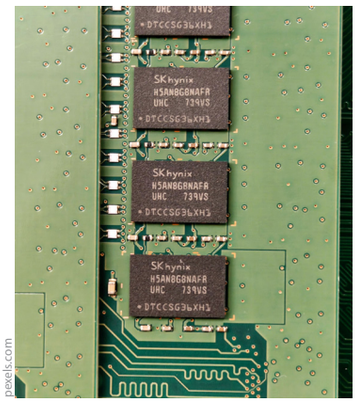
India's top 10 IT firms spent $4.5 billion in acquisitions in H12026 amid AI shift

In the first half of 2026, India's top IT companies spent $4.5 billion on acquisitions to strengthen AI, cybersecurity, and industry-specific offerings amid cooling organic growth. Coforge led with its $2.35 billion Encora deal, while TCS, HCLTech, Infosys, and Wipro also pursued new buys. Globally, IT services M&A touched $25 billion, with Accenture's $4.18 billion cybersecurity acquisitions sparking a 20% stock drop and investor caution. Analysts foresee a slower, more selective deal pace in the second half, as firms balance AI-driven revenue pressures with their traditionally cautious investment style.

Moneycontrol | 25 June 2026



CONSUMER ELECTRONICS



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Consumer durables and electronics makers bet on premiumisation to drive festive demand

India's consumer durables and electronics sector is approaching the festive season with expectations of a stronger consumption cycle, helped by improving consumer sentiment, premiumisation and an extended festive period. Major companies including LG Electronics India, Haier Appliances, Blue Star, Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals, BSH Home Appliances and Dreame Technology India are seeing positive early signals, particularly for premium and feature-rich products. Consumers appear increasingly willing to spend more on larger, energy-efficient and technology-led appliances. However, higher prices are expected to make demand uneven, with analysts forecasting value growth to outpace volume growth. Financing schemes, exchange offers and discounts could help sustain purchases among price-sensitive buyers. Early sales indicators from Independence Day and Onam, particularly at the premium end, have also pointed to improving consumer demand.

Moneycontrol | 14 September 2026

Memory Chip Prices Force Samsung India To Cut Jobs Of Up To 25% Of Consumer Electronics Staff

Samsung Electronics has begun restructuring its India operations, with around 80–100 employees in its TV and home appliance divisions reportedly being asked to leave. The move comes as rising memory chip prices squeeze margins in the consumer electronics business. Reports indicate that the layoffs could eventually extend to as much as 25% of Samsung's consumer electronics sales and marketing workforce, with additional reductions possible after the festive season. The company's smartphone operations in India remain stable for now and have not been included in the reported cuts. Samsung is instead counting on strong festive-season demand to support smartphone sales. The restructuring highlights the pressure on consumer electronics companies from higher component costs, even as India remains an important market for Samsung across smartphones and home appliances.

Mint | 09 September 2026

Samsung foldables now account for over 20% of flagship sales in India, says Southwest Asia CEO

Samsung's foldable smartphones now contribute over 20% of its flagship sales in India, reflecting growing consumer acceptance of innovative designs, according to Samsung Southwest Asia CEO J B Park. The company launched the India-made Galaxy Z8 series, its eighth-generation foldables, while seeing 65% of premium sales driven by tier-2, tier-3, and rural markets, which are expanding faster than metros. To counter the impact of global chip shortages and inevitable price hikes, Samsung offers interest-free EMIs extending up to 30 months and absorbs part of the increased costs, ensuring its price rises remain lower than competitors. This strategy aims to sustain demand across emerging markets and highlights a sharp shift in premium smartphone adoption beyond urban centres, with foldables becoming a key growth engine for the brand in India.

The Economic Times | 28 July 2026

Apple's India iPhone boom hits first speed bump in four years

Apple is grappling with limited iPhone 17 availability in India due to surging memory chip prices and supplier renegotiations, with shipments unlikely to stabilise before 2028. While Mac and iPad prices increased in June, iPhone prices have yet to rise, though retailers anticipate hikes soon. India's smartphone market is set to contract 12–15% in 2026, falling to about 130 million units—the weakest since 2018—amid lengthening replacement

cycles and economic pressure. Despite this downturn, iPhone demand remains steady, with projected sales of 15 million units, a modest increase from 2025, reflecting a sharp slowdown in growth.

Mint | 27 July 2026

Samsung cuts hundreds of jobs in US; shifts headquarters from New Jersey to …

Samsung Electronics has laid off hundreds of staff in the United States as part of relocating its headquarters from New Jersey to Texas. Approximately 739 positions in Englewood Cliffs and 100 in Plano were impacted, with some staff offered relocation packages and others laid off. The strategic move is aimed at fostering better collaboration within Texas's growing tech and AI ecosystem. Samsung's consumer electronics division faces mounting pressure from rising operational costs and stiff market competition, even as its semiconductor business performs strongly. Employees are increasingly concerned about potential further restructuring and the possible consolidation of its mobile, appliance, and home entertainment divisions. The transition reflects Samsung's effort to streamline operations and strengthen its presence in a competitive technology landscape.

The Times of India | 19 July 2026

How Onida plans to reclaim its place in Indian homes

Onida is undertaking a strategic revamp to strengthen its market presence by significantly expanding its dealer network and identifying 1,000 key benchmark outlets to enhance retail performance. The company is shifting focus from affordable products to the mass-premium segment, aiming to reconnect with its traditional customer base while appealing to younger buyers. This repositioning comes amid intense competition from LG, Samsung, Voltas, and Bluestar, as the Indian consumer durables market surges towards a projected ₹3 trillion by FY29. Onida's renewed strategy leverages the sector's positive momentum, fuelled by strong summer demand that has already improved the industry outlook for FY27, according to Motilal Oswal. By targeting premium positioning and stronger distribution, Onida seeks to reinvigorate brand relevance and capture a larger share of the growing market.



pexels.com

Mint | 12 July 2026

Chipflation is here and you'll have to pay for it

The AI-driven demand for high-bandwidth memory is fuelling chipflation, as semiconductor fabs shift focus from standard DRAM, NAND, and microcontrollers, leading to supply shortages. Memory prices have skyrocketed, with eMMC surging 12 times and DDR 15 times, resulting in a 30% increase in smart TV prices and higher costs for smartphones, SD cards, and home appliances. Analysts predict chip prices will climb 10–15% this quarter, pressuring smaller electronics manufacturers who face difficulty in sourcing components. As device prices rise, budget-conscious consumers are deferring upgrades, potentially pushing global smartphone shipments down to 1.1 billion units. The escalating costs and constrained supply chains highlight the widening impact of the AI boom on the broader electronics market, threatening affordability and disrupting production cycles across the industry.

The Times of India | 03 July 2026

Xiaomi plans entry into large home appliances in India as smartphone shipments decline

Xiaomi is set to expand into India's large home appliances sector to offset falling smartphone sales and target long-term growth. The company has appointed Alex Tang as South Asia head and elevated India as its regional headquarters. Its new product line will include air-conditioners, refrigerators, and washing machines, all to be locally manufactured through collaborations with domestic partners. This move addresses previous supply chain and certification challenges while promoting strong localisation. COO Sudhin Mathur and CBO Sandeep Arora highlighted that integrating local production with technology transfer will be central to Xiaomi's next phase of growth in India, with the strategy also extending to neighbouring markets. The shift underlines the company's intent to diversify operations and strengthen its presence in the competitive consumer electronics landscape.

The Economic Times | 19 June 2026

As new phones, cars get costlier, Indians turn to second-hand market in droves

Rising prices of smartphones and passenger vehicles are pushing more consumers towards refurbished and second-hand options. According to Counterpoint Research, pre-owned smartphones accounted for 26% of sales between January and May 2026, up from 23% in the same period last year. Prices for new devices have surged 30-70% due to higher memory chip costs, virtually eliminating sub-₹10,000 4G phones. Limited financing options in smaller towns are also encouraging buyers to opt for used devices. The second-hand smartphone market is expected to expand by 12% this year, while new smartphone sales may decline by 11%. Overall, total handset sales are projected to reach 190 million units in 2026,

reflecting the growing preference for budget-friendly alternatives in a high-cost market environment.

The Economic Times | 19 June 2026

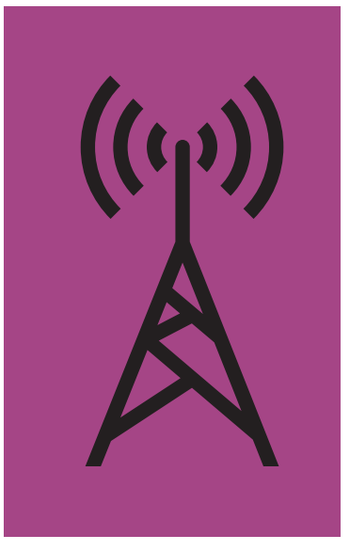
Will iPhones and MacBooks get costlier? Why Tim Cook says Apple price hikes are unavoidable

Apple CEO Tim Cook warned that rising memory and storage chip costs, driven by the AI boom, will force Apple to increase product prices. Cook cited severe DRAM shortages and said Apple had absorbed costs as long as possible, but the situation is now "unsustainable." Macs and iPads are likely to face the first hikes, and future iPhones could become up to $270 dearer. Since 2025, memory and storage prices have quadrupled, which Cook described as a "hundred-year flood." He noted Apple might invest to improve supply chains but dismissed the idea of building its own chip factories. The shortages are straining Apple's operations amid surging AI demand, and the company is preparing consumers for steeper prices across its product lineup.

Mint | 18 June 2026



Apple



TELECOM

Digital Communications Commission approves TRAI recommendations on satcom spectrum

The Digital Communications Commission has approved most of TRAI's recommendations for allocating spectrum to satellite communication operators, with the Department of Telecommunications now expected to seek Cabinet approval on pricing and allocation. Starlink, Eutelsat OneWeb and Jio Satellite Communications have already received permission to offer satcom services in India, but launches remain subject to spectrum allocation and a second stage of security clearance. TRAI had proposed allocating satellite broadband spectrum for five years, extendable by two years, and charging operators 4% of annual adjusted gross revenue (AGR). Sources said the DoT is considering a higher 5% charge. The proposed 4% levy would apply to both geostationary and non-geostationary operators, with a minimum annual charge of ₹3,500 per MHz. Urban-area services would also attract an additional ₹500 per subscriber annually.

The Economic Times - Legal | 09 September 2026

India joins US-led global initiative to shape next-generation 6G networks

India has joined the United States and 24 other countries in an international initiative focused on guiding the development and deployment of next-generation 6G telecommunications networks. Announcing the agreement, the US Department of Commerce said the initiative will seek to align future networks with shared security interests, strengthen competitiveness and encourage innovation. The announcement followed a bilateral meeting between US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and India's Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada on the sidelines of the G20 Innovation Ministerial. Prasada led the Indian delegation at the September 1–2 meeting in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, hosted by the US Department of Commerce and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Officials from MeitY, DST, DPIIT and the Indian Embassy in the US also participated.

The Economic Times | 08 September 2026

Elon Musk's Starlink reapplies for India approval of satellite network with direct-to-device tech

Starlink has reapplied to India's space regulator, IN-SPACe, for authorisation to deploy its advanced Gen 2 satellite constellation, which includes newer technologies such as direct-to-device connectivity. The Elon Musk-owned company had previously sought approval for both its Gen 1 and Gen 2 constellations but received clearance only for the Gen 1 network of 4,408 low-earth-orbit satellites in July 2025. Its earlier proposal for the larger 30,000-satellite Gen 2 constellation was rejected due to non-conformity with certain technical features and spectrum bands. Starlink's renewed application comes as India considers allowing direct-to-device services and opening additional spectrum bands for satellite communications. If approved, the Gen 2 constellation could give Starlink a significant technological and capacity advantage over competitors including Jio, Amazon Leo and Eutelsat OneWeb.



Adobe Stock

The Economic Times | 20 August 2026



Adobe Stock



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INDUSTRY UPDATE

Govt mulls single-window clearance for space sector

The government is considering extending India's National Single Window System to the space sector to streamline regulatory approvals and improve the ease of doing business. Space companies, including foreign operators, currently need clearances from multiple departments such as the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Department of Space and IN-SPACe, with the ministries of home and external affairs and security agencies also involved where required. The Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and IN-SPACe have already discussed and agreed in principle to an inter-departmental interface for applications requiring approvals from all three. However, the broader framework has yet to receive agreement from all relevant ministries. A streamlined system could be particularly useful for satellite communication providers such as Starlink, Eutelsat OneWeb and Jio Satellite, which require inter-ministerial security clearances.

The Economic Times | 14 August 2026

Trai proposes QoS norms for 5G network slicing

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has proposed introducing quality of service (QoS) standards for 5G network slicing to ensure reliable performance of dedicated virtual networks for enterprise and specialised applications. Under the proposal, telecom operators must submit details of both proposed and existing network slices at least 21 days before rollout, demonstrating that sufficient network capacity is available across all affected cells. The consultation also recommends a new QoS benchmark based on Physical Resource Block (PRB) utilisation, which measures radio resource usage and helps identify network congestion. The proposed framework aims to support advanced 5G use cases such as industrial automation, autonomous vehicles, healthcare and smart factories, while ensuring enterprise network slices do not degrade service quality for other users.

Financial Express | 05 August 2026

Scindia announces India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone in Gwalior

Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has announced India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ) in Gwalior, aimed at boosting indigenous telecom manufacturing, data centres, and semiconductor production. An MoU between the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Madhya Pradesh government will initiate Phase I of this project. Designed as a plug-and-play ecosystem, the TMZ seeks to attract investment, foster innovation, and position India as a global leader in 6G technology. The initiative also aligns with India's ambition to play a significant role in international telecom bodies like the ITU and 3GPP. Complementing this vision, the 10th Indian Mobile Congress, scheduled from 7–10 October 2026 and themed "Scale without Boundaries," will bring together 150,000 participants, 300 exhibitors, and global telecom leaders to showcase cutting-edge advancements.

Business Standard | 29 July 2026

Telecom subscriber base rises to 1.3 bn in June, Airtel leads growth: TRAI

India's telecom subscriber base touched 1.348 billion in June 2026, with a net addition of 6.2 million users. Bharti Airtel and Reliance Jio led the growth, jointly adding 5.45 million subscribers, accounting for 87% of total additions. Airtel gained 3.16 million users, while Jio added 2.29 million. Vodafone Idea saw a minor rise of 163,000, and BSNL added 94,000, whereas MTNL lost 11,284 users. Wireless connections reached 1.3 billion, while wireline subscribers dropped to 47.8 million, largely due to BSNL's decline. Broadband users rose to 1.0875 billion, with Jio at 532.2 million and Airtel at 379.9 million driving the increase.

Business Standard | 29 July 2026

Why does high-power Wi-Fi in India need a debate?

India's Department of Telecommunications (DoT) is considering allowing high-power 36 dBm Wi-Fi in the 6 GHz band. Telecom operators such as Jio and Airtel argue this could boost affordable home broadband without the need for extensive fibre rollout, potentially serving up to 15 million households. A government panel has assessed the interference risk as minimal, but both Isro



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and the home ministry have opposed full clearance, warning of potential disruptions to satellite services and police communications, and favouring strict device restrictions. The DoT is also reviewing the move's broader implications, including its effect on spectrum revenue, the risk of microwave link replacement, and projected future spectrum requirements, before reaching a final decision on the proposal.

Mint | 09 July 2026

Telecom players eye fresh price hikes amid affordability concerns: Nomura

Nomura's research highlights potential strain on Indian consumers from the next telecom tariff hike, projecting around a 15% increase by Q3 FY27. Since 2019, mobile tariffs have risen 19–29% every two years, reflecting a consistent uptrend in the industry's tariff repair cycle. Telecom operators justify these hikes on the grounds of India's exceptionally low revenue per user and per-gigabyte rates by global standards. However, Nomura warns that household spending power remains constrained, raising concerns about affordability. Brokerages view the hikes as necessary to sustain profitability while gradually closing the gap between cost and revenue. This ongoing balance between financial health for operators and affordability for subscribers remains central to the sector's growth outlook, making future tariff adjustments a sensitive area for both companies and consumers.

The Hindu Business Line | 01 July 2026

India rewrites telecom rulebook, replacing licence contracts with statutory authorisations

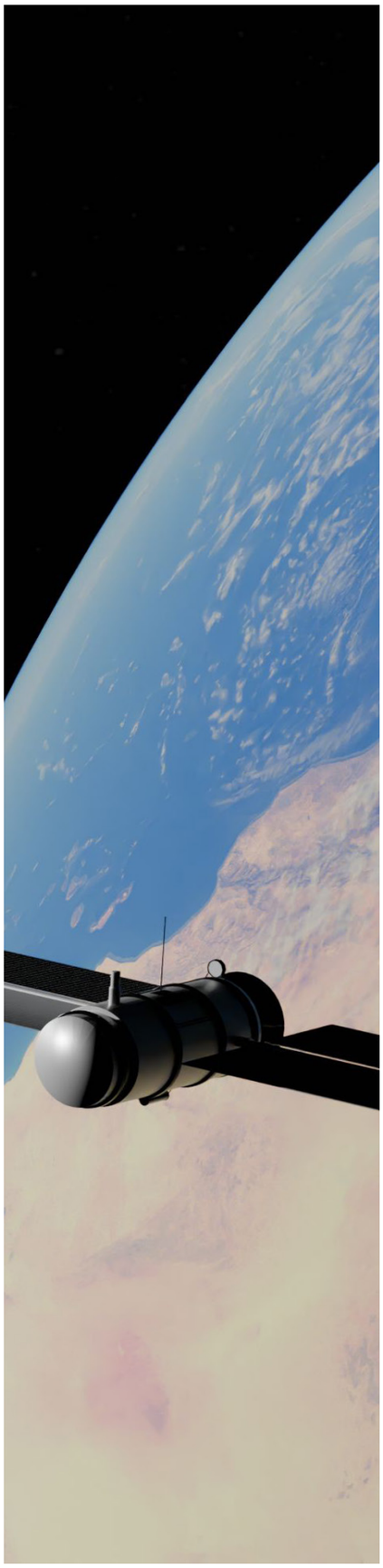
The Telecommunication (Authorisation for Provision of Major Telecom Services) Rules, 2026, shift the sector from bilateral licences to a unilateral statutory authorisation regime. Under this system, any future government directions automatically become binding obligations for operators, and non-compliance is treated as a statutory breach under the Telecom Act instead of a contractual violation. A three-tier enforcement mechanism is established, comprising an adjudicating officer, an appeals committee, and the TDSAT. Current telecom licences will remain valid until their scheduled expiry, after which the authorisation framework will govern operators. Significantly, the rules exclude non-telecom revenues from adjusted gross revenue calculations, resolving a persistent concern of the industry regarding AGR liabilities. This reform aims to simplify compliance, enhance regulatory clarity, and reduce litigation in the telecom sector.

The Economic Times | 25 June 2026

India removes local-sourcing rules for satellite internet, but ambiguity remains

India's Telecommunications (Authorisation) Rules, 2026 replace the old licensing model with an authorisation framework. The final rules remove the earlier proposal for 20% local sourcing and prohibited investor clauses, while introducing stringent security and monitoring standards, particularly for satellite internet players. Indian traffic cannot be routed via foreign gateways, terminals must be tied to registered premises, and operators must prevent location spoofing. Corporate insolvency events require notification within 48 hours. The framework creates five distinct service authorisations, accompanied by strict anti-fraud mechanisms, SIM hoarding controls, and mandatory systems to block spoofed or tampered calls. This shift aims to streamline the telecom regulatory structure while reinforcing national security, ensuring traceability, and enhancing consumer protection in satellite and terrestrial communications services across the country.

Mint | 24 June 2026



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EVS & AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRONICS

Tata, Adani, Reliance triple their EV charging points in 3 years

India's electric vehicle charging infrastructure continues to expand, led by major private companies and public-sector oil firms. The combined charging points operated by Adani, Tata and Reliance increased 21% from FY25 to FY26, and have grown 67% since FY24 and 280% since FY23. Their network serves electric passenger vehicles, buses and trucks across public, semi-public and private locations, including workplaces, malls, hotels and hospitals. Industry estimates suggest that state-run oil companies HPCL, BPCL and IOCL together account for more than a third of the EV charging market. Data from EV charging analytics portal ExpWithEVs shows that Adani, Tata and Reliance maintained a 24% share of public four-wheeler chargers in FY26, while PSUs increased their share by three percentage points to 37%. Smaller operators account for the remaining market.

Mint | 15 September 2026

EV charging startups explore peer-to-peer solar power trading

India's EV charging startups are expanding into peer-to-peer energy trading, enabling households and other producers with surplus solar power to sell electricity directly to EV owners and charging operators. Companies such as Kazam Energy, Pulse Energy, Powerchange and YoGrid are participating in early pilots based on the India Energy Stack, a digital infrastructure initiative designed along the lines of Aadhaar and UPI. Their platforms connect buyers and sellers while existing power distribution companies handle transaction settlements. Since launching its pilot in February, Pulse Energy has facilitated around 700–800 trades, with farmers in Uttar Pradesh selling surplus solar power to EV users and charging operators in Delhi. The model could improve returns for producers, who can earn approximately ₹5 per unit through P2P trading compared with ₹3.50 from discoms.

The Economic Times | 21 August 2026

India's EV charger network crosses 67,600 as FAME-II supports 16.7 lakh vehicles

India's EV ecosystem continues to expand, with 67,657 EV chargers installed across states and Union Territories as of August 7, 2026, including 1,139 chargers at battery-swapping stations. Government programmes have significantly supported adoption, with FAME-II facilitating sales of 16.72 lakh EVs and deployment of 5,299 electric buses. The PM E-DRIVE scheme has supported another 26.59 lakh EV sales, while the automobile and auto-component PLI scheme accounted for around 21.30 lakh EVs by March 2026. Policy measures include a 5% GST rate on EVs and charging infrastructure, along with green licence plates and exemptions from permit requirements for battery-operated vehicles. The PM-eBus Sewa-PSM scheme also covers 27,555 electric buses. FAME-II, which ran from 2019 to 2024, had a ₹11,500 crore budget.

India TV News | 13 August 2026

India's EV penetration rises to 8.26%, registered electric vehicles cross 1 crore

India's electric vehicle (EV) adoption has surged, with penetration rising over 11-fold from 0.71% in FY20 to 8.26% in FY26, and total EV registrations surpassing 1 crore by 26 July 2026. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari attributed the growth to lower running costs and zero tailpipe emissions. By March 2026, the country had 52,718 public charging stations, bolstered by FAME-II support of ₹912.5 crore and the ₹2,000 crore PM E-DRIVE scheme. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is enhancing highway infrastructure by planning wayside amenities offering EV charging points every 40–60 km, integrated with fuel stations, eateries, parking, and essential facilities. This coordinated push in



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infrastructure and incentives aims to accelerate India's transition towards sustainable mobility and expand the EV ecosystem nationwide.

Moneycontrol | 31 July 2026

Maruti emerges top EV exporter in Q1, claims 97% share in total EV shipments from India

Maruti Suzuki India Ltd, which entered the electric vehicle (EV) market last year, has become the top EV exporter in Q1 FY27. From April to June, the company shipped 15,210 units, representing 97% of India's total EV exports. Overall, the country exported 15,641 EVs during the quarter, as per industry data. While Tata Motors and Mahindra continue to dominate the domestic EV market, Maruti Suzuki has secured a strong lead in the export segment this quarter, reflecting its growing focus on global markets. This performance highlights a strategic shift towards leveraging international demand for EVs, even as the company builds its presence in India's competitive electric mobility space. The surge in exports signals Maruti Suzuki's potential as a key EV player worldwide.

The Hindu | 29 July 2026

India crosses 52,000 public EV charging stations, ramps up infra push

India now has 52,718 EV public charging stations, including 16,561 fast chargers, according to Minister Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma. To tackle range anxiety, the government allocated ₹912.50 crore under FAME-II and ₹2,000 crore via PM E-DRIVE for charging infrastructure. Incentives for EV cars are provided under the PLI Auto Scheme, offering 13–18% benefits. FAME-II, with ₹11,500 crore funding, has supported 16.72 lakh EVs and 5,197 buses. PM E-DRIVE, with ₹10,900 crore, targets deployment of 28.3 lakh EVs and an upgraded nationwide charging network. Additionally, the government



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has simplified the process by making EV charging station installation an unlicensed activity, boosting private participation and faster infrastructure growth.

The Economic Times - Auto | 22 July 2026

EV ownership cost rises with battery-as-service

Battery-as-a-Service (BaaS) is helping reduce the upfront cost of EVs in India, with models like the Tata Punch EV priced at ₹6.5 lakh and the Creta Electric at ₹11 lakh. Instead of owning the battery, buyers pay recurring costs of ₹2.3–5 per km, along with minimum monthly usage fees and often dual EMIs. This makes the model attractive for high-mileage drivers, who can save ₹3–5 lakh over time, but uneconomical for low-mileage users due to per-kilometre costs rising when billed kilometres go unused. Over a 5–8 year period, the total cost of ownership is highly dependent on driving behaviour and financing structures, meaning BaaS enhances affordability upfront but shifts the financial burden to ongoing usage and subscription commitments, requiring careful calculation before purchase.

The Times of India | 11 July 2026

Mercedes-Benz India says price-linked EV incentives could slow premium EV uptake

Mercedes-Benz India has cautioned that Delhi's updated EV policy, which limits incentives to cars priced below ₹30 lakh, could slow the adoption of premium electric vehicles. Managing Director and CEO Santosh Iyer highlighted that EV penetration in the brand has reached 14%, driven by the ₹60 lakh all-electric CLA, which grew the company's EV portfolio without heavy discounts. He warned that linking benefits to price may discourage luxury buyers, who might revert to internal combustion cars if high-end EVs receive no incentives. Iyer cited Telangana's approach as an example, advocating for policies that

reward advanced technology rather than just affordability. He stressed that sustaining growth in the premium EV segment requires incentives that support decarbonisation over price-based restrictions.

The Economic Times - Auto | 07 July 2026

Delhi's EV policy poses big risk if adopted by other states, warns report - here's why

Delhi's 2026 EV Policy, effective from 1 July 2026, targets a phased elimination of internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles with ₹70 billion allocated for consumer incentives and ₹80 billion for charging and infrastructure. The policy sets a ban on new ICE two-wheelers from April 2028 and on commercial three-wheelers and sub-3.5-tonne vehicles from January 2027. Buyers can receive subsidies of up to ₹50,000 and scrappage benefits of ₹1 lakh to encourage faster adoption. While Morgan Stanley observes minimal immediate disruption to the market, it warns that broader uptake by other states could increase pressure on automakers, particularly in the motorcycle segment. Companies like Hero MotoCorp, Bajaj Auto, and TVS Motor are expected to be comparatively better prepared to navigate this transition in the coming years.

The Times of India | 03 July 2026

In top gear: Electric passenger vehicle sales may cross 3 lakhs in 2026

India's electric passenger vehicle (EPV) market is projected to exceed 3 lakh annual sales in 2026, rising from under 2 lakh last year, with 1.5 lakh units already registered in 2026. The surge is fuelled by new model introductions, better charging infrastructure, and festive season demand. Structural growth factors include a doubling of model availability, longer battery warranties, and the emergence of Battery-as-a-Service offerings. High global fuel prices due to the West Asia conflict are enhancing the cost advantage of EVs, while breakthroughs in battery technology and reduced range anxiety are driving wider adoption. Industry experts Crisil and Frost & Sullivan highlight that both consumer confidence and policy support are aligning to sustain this momentum, signalling a transformative phase for the domestic EV ecosystem.

The Times of India | 29 June 2026

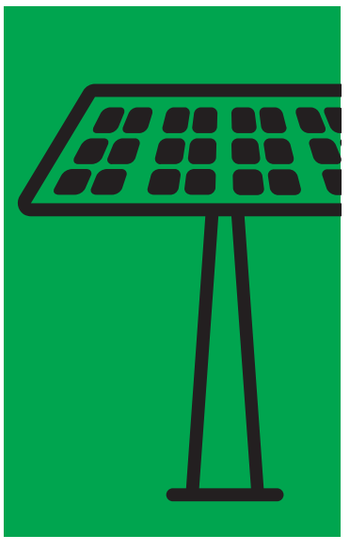
Tata Agratas inks $530-million EV battery supply pact with JLR

Agratas, Tata Group's EV battery arm, will begin commercial operations by the last quarter of this fiscal, initially supplying NMC cells under its first ₹400 crore ($42 million) deal in FY27, with LFP chemistry to follow. The 20 GWh Sanand plant, backed by a $730 million loan, will supply Tata Motors and JLR, supporting their EV rollout while reducing dependence on China amid rare-earth limitations. Chaired by N. Chandrasekaran, Agratas is a core part of Tata's new-age strategy, leveraging group synergies for cost efficiency and long-term growth.

Mint | 22 June 2026



Adobe Stock



DEFENSE & SOLAR ENERGY

India clears 1.10 lakh crore defence acquisitions for Army, Navy and Air Force

The Defence Acquisition Council has approved in principle procurement proposals worth approximately ₹1.10 lakh crore for India's armed forces, with around 98% of the acquisitions to be sourced from Indian industry. Chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, the council granted Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for a range of requirements covering the Army, Navy and Air Force. Army proposals include CBRN reconnaissance vehicles, high-mobility vehicles, self-propelled mechanical mine layers, Advanced Light Helicopters, trawl tanks and the Sarvatra Bridge System. The CBRN vehicles will enhance the Army's ability to detect and monitor contaminated areas, while high-mobility vehicles will improve operational mobility and logistics in difficult terrain. Mechanical mine layers will provide rapid mine-laying capability, and Advanced Light Helicopters will support complex missions across varied terrains and operational conditions.

The Economic Times | 07 September 2026

How 'local' is India's defence infrastructure, really?

India is strengthening its defence manufacturing ecosystem through localisation mandates, industry partnerships and proposed procurement reforms. The latest example is the agreement between a Lockheed Martin unit and Tata Advanced Systems to manufacture Javelin anti-tank missiles in India. The partnership follows the release of the sixth Positive Indigenization List, the largest so far, which seeks domestic sourcing of more than 400 defence items valued at over ₹3,000 crore. Government data also shows that Indian suppliers procured more than 15,700 items locally over the past five years, generating ₹10,000 crore in revenue for domestic vendors. Meanwhile, the proposed Defence Acquisition Procedure seeks greater domestic ownership of designs and intellectual property and a minimum 60% local value addition in government procurement. While defence exports reached ₹38,424 crore in 2025-26, India still has considerable ground to cover in global markets..



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Mint | 01 September 2026

Shortage of engineers becomes a bottleneck for Ukraine's defence-tech

Ukraine's defence industry is struggling with an acute shortage of skilled workers, creating a major obstacle to weapons production and rapid technological innovation during the war. The constantly changing demands of the battlefield, particularly for drones, require companies to develop and modify products within weeks. However, thousands of defence companies created through wartime demand and billions of dollars in investment are competing for a limited pool of engineers, production managers and other specialists. Companies are offering significantly higher salaries, recruiting workers from competitors and even seeking retired professionals. Ukraine's working-age population had already been declining before Russia's 2022 full-scale invasion, which further reduced the available workforce as millions fled abroad and others joined the military. A recent survey found that defence technology companies had collectively expanded their workforces substantially, but all continued to face a shortage of qualified talent.

Moneycontrol | 25 August 2026

INDUSTRY UPDATE



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DRDO to transfer missile technology to Indian defence industry

The government has approved the transfer of technology for all conventional missile systems developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation to qualified Indian defence manufacturers. Approved by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, the decision is intended to strengthen indigenous defence manufacturing and further the Aatmanirbharta initiative. The technology transfer will allow eligible domestic companies to manufacture missile systems developed by DRDO, provided they meet the necessary technical qualifications, certification standards and regulatory requirements. The move could also help address the challenge of moving advanced defence technologies from the research and development stage to large-scale industrial production. By expanding the role of Indian industry in manufacturing DRDO-developed missile systems, the initiative is expected to strengthen domestic capabilities and support a more self-reliant defence industrial ecosystem.

The Hindu | 25 August 2026

60% of 2030 target: India hits 300 GW clean energy milestone as solar capacity skyrockets

India has crossed 300 GW of installed non-fossil electricity generation capacity, marking significant progress towards its target of 500 GW by 2030. Non-fossil sources now represent more than 54% of the country's total installed power capacity, with solar accounting for the largest share. Solar capacity has expanded from 2.8 GW in 2014 to 164.59 GW, while wind capacity has reached 58.14 GW. During 2025-26, India added a record 44.6 GW of solar and 6 GW of wind capacity, helping renewable generation rise to 477.79 billion units. The country has also expanded domestic solar manufacturing, with capacity listed under ALMM crossing 200 GW, supported by the PLI scheme. Meanwhile, the National Green Hydrogen Mission seeks deeper industrial decarbonisation, although implementation has progressed more slowly.

Business Today | 09 August 2026

Army seeks indigenous drone-radars to see through dense foliage

The Indian Army is initiating a Make II project to acquire indigenous drone-mounted foliage-penetration radars for counter-insurgency operations in Jammu & Kashmir and the North East. These systems will detect terrorist movements in dense forests, with the army committing to purchase any solutions that meet its specifications. The radars must be compatible with lightweight drones under 20 kg, capable of 60–120 minutes of flight, cover ranges of 5–10 km, and transmit real-time encrypted data. Industry-led research and development is required, with no initial government funding, and at least 60% of the system must be of indigenous origin. Several Indian companies, in collaboration with foreign partners, are currently engaged in developing the advanced technology to bolster surveillance and operational effectiveness in challenging forested terrains.

The Economic Times | 27 July 2026

Weeks after rollout, Centre defers domestic solar cell sourcing mandate till December 31

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has granted a temporary exemption for domestic, commercial, and industrial solar projects from the mandatory use of locally sourced solar cells until 31 December, extending the previous 31 May deadline by seven months. Projects that have already advanced in land acquisition, financing, or grid connectivity may receive case-by-case deadline extensions to protect existing investments. While India's solar module manufacturing capacity stands at 200 GW annually, its

solar cell capacity is just 30 GW, necessitating significant imports. This exemption provides relief to smaller, non-integrated module manufacturers and offers breathing space for domestic producers to align with the updated Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM-II) requirements.

The Indian Express | 19 July 2026

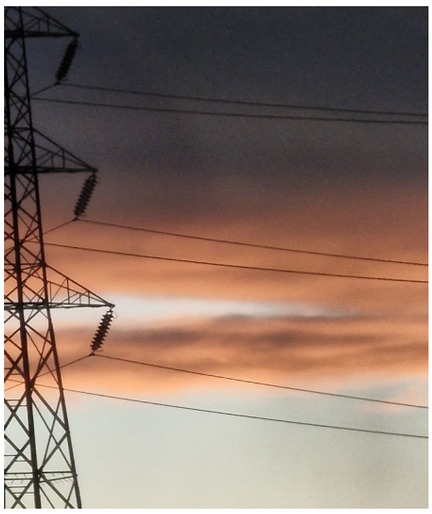
India estimates 300 GW power demand next year, backs local clean-energy manufacturing

India is gearing up to meet an anticipated peak power demand of 300 GW in 2027, according to Power Minister Manohar Lal. The country has already witnessed demand touching 271 GW and expects it to reach 276–280 GW this year. Lal attributed the surge to rapid data centre expansion, growing AI adoption, and increasing electric vehicle usage. He underscored the need for accelerated development of domestic clean-energy supply chains, calling for significant investments in energy storage solutions, robust grid infrastructure, and local manufacturing. Strengthening these areas would reduce reliance on imports, bolster energy security, and mitigate risks from global market fluctuations and geopolitical uncertainties. The minister stressed that proactive measures now are crucial to meeting future demand sustainably while supporting India's economic and technological growth.

Reuters | 08 July 2026

India's rising solar penetration is causing power grid stress: EAC-PM paper

India's rapid solar expansion is straining the national grid, the EAC-PM cautioned in a new report. Fast-growing renewable capacity, without matching investments in storage or flexible grid operations, is driving erratic electricity demand, steep evening generation ramps for thermal plants, and sharp price fluctuations. Peak power load surged 46.7 GW in



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under eight hours, highlighting system stress. Solar curtailment in May led to 24 GWh of daily energy being wasted. Seasonal demand patterns now form summer "duck curves" and winter "camel curves," exposing grid vulnerabilities. To reliably absorb solar output and meet evening peaks, India would need 130 GWh of storage, but current discharge capability averages only 23.8 GWh, underscoring a critical shortfall as renewable growth accelerates and grid flexibility lags behind.

Business Standard | 07 July 2026

India, Indonesia deepen defence partnership with BrahMos, Astra pacts

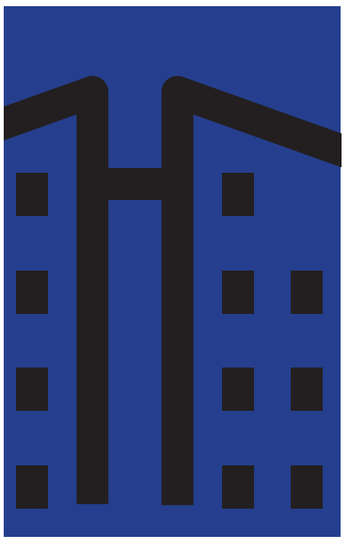
India and Indonesia have reached in-principle agreements to boost defence cooperation through the planned purchase of an additional BrahMos supersonic cruise missile battery and Astra Mk-1 beyond-visual-range air-to-air missiles. A senior government official confirmed that while these understandings reflect both nations' intent to advance the acquisitions, detailed commercial discussions and formal contract signings will follow. The move represents a key step in deepening defence collaboration, highlighting a growing strategic partnership aimed at enhancing regional security. By expanding military ties, the two countries are underscoring their shared commitment to strengthening deterrence, improving interoperability, and supporting broader stability across the Indo-Pacific region. This development further signals their intention to reinforce mutual trust and long-term cooperation in high-value defence technologies and joint security initiatives.

The Hindu | 07 July 2026

Reliance New Energy prepares battery-swapping rollout for EV two-wheelers in logistics, delivery segment

Reliance New Energy, the green energy division of Reliance Industries, will introduce battery-swapping services for electric two-wheelers in delivery and logistics. It has obtained ARAI certification for four battery types and three vehicle platforms, allowing internal fleet trials to commence. The company will first conduct in-house testing, followed by city-based pilots, aiming for a full commercial rollout by the end of FY27. The removable lithium-ion batteries, initially revealed at REI Expo 2023, are designed to serve commercial fleets in e-commerce and last-mile logistics. This approach offers a cost-effective and practical solution for high-utilisation electric two-wheelers, reducing downtime and facilitating quicker turnarounds for delivery operations. The initiative underlines Reliance's push towards sustainable mobility solutions within urban logistics and electrification of last-mile transport networks..

The Economic Times | 18 June 2026



MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

India pushes for more MSME suppliers in global aerospace market: Civil Aviation Minister Naidu

India's expanding aviation market is creating significant opportunities for domestic MSMEs and startups to enter global aerospace supply chains. Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu said India should develop capabilities across the value chain, including designing, certifying and manufacturing aerospace components, rather than remaining primarily an assembly base. Indian airlines currently have an order book of 1,640 aircraft, translating into an estimated requirement of 80 crore parts and components. The country's commercial aviation fleet is expected to more than double to around 2,050 aircraft, while the aerospace and defence market could nearly double from over $30 billion in 2025 to $61 billion by 2035. Globally, Airbus and Boeing have orders exceeding 15,000 commercial aircraft. Indian MSMEs and startups already supply more than $4 billion worth of components annually to global OEMs.

The Economic Times | 10 September 2026

Beyond the bill: How India is rewriting the rules for MSMEs

India's proposed MSMED Bill represents a broader effort to reform the business environment for micro, small and medium enterprises. The legislation seeks to address persistent challenges, including delayed payments, lengthy dispute resolution processes and compliance burdens, while introducing a classification framework designed to encourage businesses to grow without fear of losing MSME benefits. In a conversation with ET Digital, Bharat Khera, Secretary in the Ministry of MSME, discusses the practical implications of these reforms and the challenges involved in translating policy changes into benefits on the ground. A key objective is to close the implementation gap and create an ecosystem in which small enterprises can access support, resolve disputes more efficiently and scale their operations with greater confidence.

The Economic Times | 24 August 2026

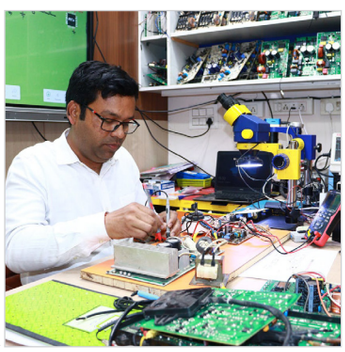
MSMED amendment bill could be an 'IBC moment' for small enterprises: Report

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (Amendment) Bill, 2026, could significantly improve payment discipline and ease working-capital pressures on small businesses, potentially creating an "IBC moment" for MSMEs, according to a report by a Crisil group entity. The legislation, recently passed by Parliament, provides for time-bound resolution of payment disputes and stronger enforcement of settlements and awards. The report compares its potential impact with the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, which transformed credit discipline by creating serious consequences for corporate borrowers that defaulted on loans. Similarly, the new MSME framework could alter buyer behaviour by making delayed payments more difficult and costly, helping small enterprises receive their dues faster and improve their access to working capital.

Business Standard | 17 August 2026

MSME Amendment Bill 2026 Explained: What changes for corporate payments, disputes and CFOs

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (Amendment) Bill, 2026, seeks to strengthen payment discipline and dispute resolution for MSMEs by introducing several changes to the existing framework. The legislation would require Central Public Sector Enterprises to route MSME invoice settlements through the Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS), while establishing defined timelines for resolving payment-related disputes. It retains the requirement for buyers challenging arbitration awards to deposit 75% of the awarded amount. However, if a challenge remains pending for more than six months, courts would be empow-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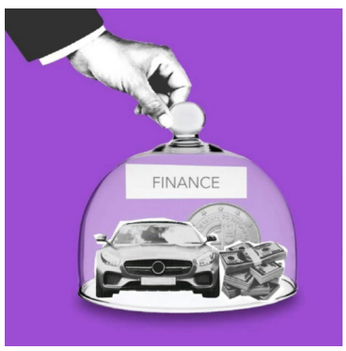

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ered to direct payment of at least 50% of the award to the MSME supplier. The Bill also proposes making MSME registration free and voluntary, with enterprise classification based on investment and turnover. The specific thresholds will be notified separately by the Central Government.

The Economic Times - CFO | 11 August 2026

India's ₹124.9 trn MSME procurement mkt offers digital growth opportunity

India's MSMEs are increasingly turning to digital procurement, with 80% expecting online sourcing platforms to contribute to business growth over the next three years. The India SME Forum's Digital Bharat: India Digital Procurement Report 2026 estimates the country's MSME procurement economy at ₹124.9 trillion, based on purchasing behaviour across 51.53 million Udyam-registered MSMEs. The findings highlight the expanding role of digital marketplaces in helping small businesses access suppliers and improve procurement efficiency. Amazon Business ranked highest for price transparency and supplier quality, while Moglix led in industrial procurement and embedded finance. The report suggests that digital procurement is evolving beyond a routine purchasing function into a strategic business tool, enabling MSMEs to reduce costs, strengthen supply chains, access broader markets and improve their competitiveness in India and globally.

Business Standard | 06 August 2026

MSMEs may get their payments faster as new bill aims to cut delays

The Centre has tabled the MSME Development (Amendment) Bill, 2026 to tackle delayed payments and streamline dispute resolution for small businesses. Key provisions include mandating that government buyers and central PSUs make all MSME payments through RBI-approved TReDS platforms, currently five in operation. The bill removes minor penalties and allows states to set up additional MSE Facilitation Councils to accelerate grievance redressal. These changes aim to improve receivables financing and ensure timely payments, complementing the FY27 budget push to strengthen MSME cash flows. With MSMEs contributing 31.1% of India's GDP and 48% of exports, the reforms are expected to enhance liquidity, reduce payment risks, and support the sector's growth while promoting the formalisation of trade credit and digital financial practices.

Mint | 28 July 2026

Recurring West Asia tensions force MSME exporters to prioritise resilience over cost savings

Renewed tensions in West Asia are severely affecting Indian exporters, especially MSMEs, through shipping delays, surging freight costs, and disrupted supply chains. MSMEs, which contribute 48% of India's exports, are struggling with shrinking margins as higher input costs, freight charges, and insurance premiums erode the benefits of rupee depreciation. Experts caution that global trade has become structurally volatile, demanding both resilience and cost efficiency. Smaller exporters remain vulnerable due to limited market diversification, tight working capital, and low bargaining power. In this environment, logistics flexibility and strategic risk management are emerging as critical tools for sustaining competitiveness and weathering unpredictable trade disruptions.

The Economic Times | 22 July 2026

TReDS settlement mandate to speed up MSME payments, improve access to working capital: Ministry of MSME

The MSME Ministry has mandated all Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) to settle MSME supplier invoices via RBI-approved TReDS from 30 June 2026. This move, aligned with

the Union Budget 2026-27, aims to curb delayed payments and provide collateral-free working capital to small businesses. TReDS enables banks and NBFCs to competitively discount invoices, ensuring faster liquidity for MSMEs. CPSEs must disclose TReDS transactions and obtain auditor certification. The measure promotes timely payment discipline and supports over 8.7 crore MSMEs employing 38 crore people.

The Economic Times - Legal | 10 July 2026

AI Indian MSMEs: AI could unlock $490 billion for Indian MSMEs, says Google report

A joint report by Google and the India SME Forum highlights that AI adoption could add $490 billion to India's MSME economy. Based on a survey of 3,249 enterprises, 60% saw double-digit revenue growth, with AI projected to enhance profitability by 30–35% and lower operating costs by up to 30%. Digital tools have fuelled 66% market expansion, 58% customer growth, and 2x–5x returns on ad spend. MSMEs' digital activity contributed Rs 49,700 crore in output, Rs 32,300 crore in GVA, and Rs 6,534 crore in GST collections. The findings underscore how technology is transforming grassroots businesses, driving economic value, improved efficiency, and wider market reach while positioning AI as a key enabler of future growth across India's MSME sector.

The Times of India | 08 July 2026

India's MSME Credit Gap Widens As Only 14% Businesses Can Access Formal Loans: Deloitte Report

Deloitte's State of Financial Services in India report highlights a major credit challenge for MSMEs, with only 14% accessing formal loans and a credit gap of ₹25 lakh crore that could cross ₹50 lakh crore. This persists despite 89% financial account penetration and the rapid rise of UPI. Overall, only 15% of adults use formal credit, and insurance penetration remains low at 3.7% of GDP. MSME lending is largely collateral-driven, limiting access for small businesses. The report calls for a shift towards cash-flow-based lending, robust digital lending infrastructure, and enhanced monitoring of credit outcomes. Strengthening such measures is seen as vital to deepen financial inclusion, expand MSME financing, and support India's broader economic growth.

Businessworld | 29 June 2026

Rajasthan CM announces steps to promote MSMEs, semiconductor manufacturing

Rajasthan CM Bhajanlal Sharma unveiled a series of initiatives to boost MSMEs, electronics, and industrial growth. Artisan markets will be set up in Pushkar, Nathdwara, Jaisalmer, and Alwar, while 25 startups will receive state support. Incentives for semiconductor manufacturing were announced alongside eased RIPS-2024 thresholds and higher skill allowances for women and disabled workers. ODOP units will benefit from financial aid. The government has streamlined land allotment and industry approval timelines and plans new industrial hubs, including solar, ceramic, and defence parks. Sharma also launched the Industrial Development Policy, the RAMP portal, and distributed ₹13 crore in subsidies and land allotment letters, aiming to create a robust ecosystem for entrepreneurship and investment across Rajasthan's key industrial sectors.

The Economic Times - Manufacturing | 28 June 2026



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POLICY UPDATE

Govt. Policy, Business Procedures & Regulations

POLICY/ NOTIFICATIONS

Q3 2026

TEC Revises Standards for IoT and Smart Devices

The Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) has notified revised standards for IoT gateways, smart electricity meters, tracking devices, feedback devices, and environmental monitoring end-point devices. The existing and revised standards will remain valid concurrently for 90 days, after which compliance with the revised standards will become mandatory.

Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, Telecommunication Engineering Centre | CG-DL-E-23062026-273750 | 19 June 2026

Implementation Deferred for Select Steel Quality Standards

The Steel and Steel Products (Quality Control) Order, 2024 has been amended to defer the enforcement of specified Indian Standards for certain steel products. Compliance for two standards has been postponed by three years, while three others have been deferred until March 31, 2027, providing additional time for industry to meet the quality control requirements.

Ministry of Steel | CG-DL-E-22062026-273720 | 20 June 2026

Enforcement Deferred for Select Cross Recessed Screw Standards

The Cross Recessed Screws (Quality Control) Order has been amended to defer enforcement of specified Indian Standards for products listed at serial numbers 12, 13, and 14. The compliance requirement for these standards has been postponed by three years from the date of publication of the amendment.

Ministry of Steel | CG-DL-E-22062026-273719 | 20 June 2026

Anti-Dumping Investigation Initiated on CRGO and Amorphous Metal Imports

DGTR has initiated an anti-dumping investigation into imports of Cold Rolled Grain Oriented (CRGO) electrical steel and Amorphous Metal used in transformer cores from China, Japan, South Korea, and Russia. The investigation will examine whether dumped imports have caused injury to the domestic industry and may lead to the imposition of anti-dumping duties, including possible retrospective application, if the allegations are substantiated.

Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Directorate General of Trade Remedies Dgtr | Notification No. F. No.6/17/2026-DGTR | 22 June 2026

Anti-Dumping Investigation Initiated on PET/BOPET Film Imports

The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has initiated an anti-dumping investigation into imports of polyethylene terephthalate (PET/BOPET) film above 100 microns from China, the UAE and Thailand, following a complaint from the domestic industry. Based on prima facie evidence of dumping and material injury, the investigation will examine pricing, import volumes and their impact on

POLICY UPDATE



domestic producers, while inviting submissions from interested parties through the SETU portal before determining whether anti-dumping duties are warranted.

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Trade Remedies | CG-DL-E-04072026-274133 | 30 June 2026

Rules of Origin Notified for India–UK Trade Agreement

The Government has notified the Rules of Origin under the India–UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), effective from 15 July 2026, to enable preferential tariff benefits on bilateral trade. The rules prescribe the criteria for determining the origin of goods, including value addition, tariff classification changes, cumulation provisions, and product-specific requirements, while also laying down procedures for proof and verification of origin to ensure uniform implementation and prevent misuse of trade concessions.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs | CG-DL-E-04072026-274076 | 03 July 2026

Customs Exemption Expanded for Lithium-Ion Cell Manufacturing Equipment

The customs exemption notification has been amended to update and expand the list of machinery eligible for concessional duty for lithium-ion cell manufacturing. The revised entry now covers 85 categories of specialised equipment used across the cell manufacturing process, supporting domestic battery manufacturing and strengthening the local EV and energy storage supply chain.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue | CG-DL-E-08072026-274290 | 08 July 2026

Customs Duty Concession Extended to Wireless Charging Components

The customs exemption notification has been amended to provide concessional duty on specified components used in the manufacture of inductor coil modules for wireless charging in mobile phones. The notification covers key inputs such as nano-crystalline assemblies, NFC coils, magnets, and related components, with the benefit remaining in force until March 31, 2029.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue | CG-DL-E-08072026-274289 | 08 July 2026

Customs Duty Concession for Components Used in Display Assembly Manufacturing

Customs Duty Concession for Components Used in Display Assembly Manufacturing.

The Notification extends concessional customs duty to specified components used in the manufacture of display assemblies for automotive, medical and industrial applications. The benefit covers items such as display cells, Flexible Printed Circuit Assemblies (FPCAs), backlight units, frames and anisotropic conductive films (ACF), while excluding display assemblies for mobile phones, smartwatches, smart meters, TV panels and interactive flat panel displays. The concession will remain in force until 31 March 2029.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue | CG-DL-E-08072026-274288 | 08 July 2026

SEZ Rules Amended to Extend Timelines

The Special Economic Zones (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026 extend the timeline specified in Form H from 180 days to nine months and revise the relevant compliance reference in Annexure-I from the second quarter to the third quarter. The amendments are intended to provide greater operational flexibility for SEZ units.

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce | CG-DL-E-10072026-274331 | 09 July 2026

Preferential Customs Duty Rates Notified for Imports from the UK

A new customs notification grants preferential Basic Customs Duty (BCD), Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC), and, for certain goods, Health Cess concessions on eligible imports from the United Kingdom under the India–UK trade agreement. The notification also prescribes tariff rate quotas (TRQs) for specified products, with concessional in-quota duty rates, subject to compliance with applicable rules of origin and related conditions.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue | CG-DL-E-14072026-274505 | 14 July 2026

POLICY UPDATE

Revised TEC Standards Notified for Telecom and Quantum Technologies

The Department of Telecommunications has notified revised Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) standards covering network management systems, micro duct optical fibre cables, quantum-safe cryptographic systems, and Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) systems. The updated standards take effect immediately and are intended to support the deployment of secure, next-generation telecom infrastructure and emerging quantum communication technologies.

Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, Telecommunication Engineering Centre | CG-DL-E-22072026-274716 | 17 July 2026

DoT Notifies Telecom eServices Portal for Digital Authorisation Processes

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has officially notified the Telecom eServices Portal as the designated digital platform for implementing the Telecommunications (Authorisation for Telecommunication Network) Rules, 2026. The portal will serve as the single online interface for processing applications and other regulatory procedures under the new telecom authorisation framework.

Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications | CG-DL-E-22072026-274693 | 20 July 2026

Telecommunications Authorisation Rules, 2026 Notified

The Department of Telecommunications has notified the Telecommunications (Authorisation for Telecommunication Network) Rules, 2026, establishing a unified framework for granting authorisations to telecom network and infrastructure providers under the Telecommunications Act, 2023. The rules prescribe eligibility criteria, application procedures, fees, validity periods and operational conditions for various service providers, while introducing key requirements on data localisation, trusted telecom equipment procurement, security compliance and foreign investment, aimed at streamlining the telecom regulatory framework.

Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications | CG-DL-E-22072026-274689 | 20 July 2026

US Imposes New Section 301 Tariffs over Forced Labour Concerns

The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) has imposed new Section 301 tariffs on imports from 60 economies, citing inadequate measures to prevent goods made with forced labour from entering their markets. India has been assigned a 10% tariff rate under the new framework, while some countries face higher duties of 12.5%. The tariffs apply to most imports, with certain products remaining exempt under existing trade provisions.

23 July 2026

Implementation of BIS Registration Requirement for Television Sets Deferred

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has extended the implementation date for the Compulsory Registration Order (CRO) covering television sets from 26 July 2026 to 26 January 2027. The extension delays the mandatory compliance requirement under IS 18112:2022 by six months, providing manufacturers and importers additional time to meet the BIS certification requirements before the order comes into effect.

MeitY | CG-DL-E-29072026-274919 | 26 July 2026

Export Policy Aligned with Finance Act, 2026 Tariff Changes

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has amended Schedule-II (Export Policy) of ITC (HS) 2022 to align export classification codes with the changes introduced under the Finance Act, 2026. The notification updates tariff lines across multiple product categories through the addition, deletion, renaming and reclassification of export codes, ensuring consistency between India's export policy and the revised customs tariff framework.

Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce, DGFT | NOTIFICATION No. 26/2026-27 | 27 July 2026

US Imposes Preliminary Countervailing Duty on Graphite India Exports

The US Department of Commerce has imposed a preliminary countervailing duty of 3.68% on imports of large diameter graphite electrodes from Graphite India after a preliminary finding of subsidisation. While the duty could increase landed costs and affect the company's competitiveness in the US market, Graphite India has stated that the financial impact cannot yet be quantified as the investigation is still ongoing and the determination is not final.

28 July 2026

Value Limit Removed for Exports Through Courier Services

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has amended the Foreign Trade Policy to remove the ₹10 lakh per consignment value limit for exports through registered courier services. Effective 1 April 2026, exporters can ship consignments of any value through courier mode, subject to applicable Customs provisions and the export policy under the ITC (HS), simplifying export procedures and facilitating higher-value shipments..

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, DGFT | CG-DL-E-29072026-274914 | 29 July 2026

POLICY UPDATE

DGFT Digitises Duty Payment Data for EODC Processing

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has integrated license-wise voluntary duty payment data from Customs/ICEGATE into its online system for processing Export Obligation Discharge Certificate (EODC) applications under the Advance Authorisation and EPCG schemes. For payments made from 1 August 2026, the digitally reflected data on the DGFT portal will serve as the official record, reducing manual documentation and improving transparency, accuracy and paperless processing.

Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce, DGFT | Trade Notice No. 15/2026-27 | 05 August 2026

DGFT Introduces Procedures for Exporters-on-Record and Seller-on-Record

DGFT has introduced procedures under Chapter 9 of the Handbook of Procedures for registration and digital record-keeping of Exporters-on-Record and Seller-on-Record. The framework requires registration through ANF-9A, timely reporting of changes, and a digital repository linking procurement, GST and export documents, with Exporters-on-Record responsible for destination-country compliance and related obligations.

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, DGFT | CG-DL-E-06082026-275234 | 05 August 2026

Anti-Dumping Duty Imposed on Phthalic Anhydride Imports from China and Korea

The government has imposed anti-dumping duty on imports of Phthalic Anhydride from China and South Korea, following findings that dumping has continued and that ending the existing duty could lead to renewed injury to the domestic industry. The duty is set at USD 40.08 per MT for imports from China and USD 140.17 per MT for imports from South Korea, and will remain in force for five years.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue | CG-DL-E-05082026-275230 | 05 August 2026

Domestic Steel Policy Replaces 50% Value Addition with Melt & Pour Requirement

The Domestically Manufactured Iron & Steel Products Policy-2025 has been amended to replace the existing 50% Domestic Value Addition requirement with a Melt & Pour requirement for specified iron and steel products under HS Codes 7301, 7302, 7303 and 7308–7326. The change requires the steel used to meet the prescribed melt-and-pour criteria and the final product to be manufactured entirely in India, while other provisions of the policy remain unchanged.

Ministry of Steel | CG-DL-E-11082026-275385 | 07 August 2026

Domestic Steel Procurement Norms Shift to 'Melt & Pour' Criteria

The government has amended the Domestically Manufactured Iron & Steel Products Policy, 2025, replacing the existing 50% Domestic Value Addition requirement with a 'Melt & Pour' criterion for specified iron and steel products. The revised requirement applies to products under HS



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Codes 7301, 7302, 7303 and 7308 to 7326, requiring the steel to meet the prescribed domestic melt-and-pour criteria and the final product to be manufactured entirely within India.

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, DGFT | CG-DL-E-11082026-275385 | 20 August 2026

Customs Extends Transshipment Facilitation Measures Amid West Asia Crisis

Customs has extended facilitative measures for the international transshipment of cargo through Indian ports and airports amid continuing disruptions to maritime routes and uncertainty in the Gulf region. The measures permit the temporary unloading, storage and onward transshipment of diverted bulk cargo under Customs supervision, while maintaining existing procedures for containerised cargo, and will remain in force until October 31, 2026.

Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs | 36/2026-Customs | 20 August 2026

Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS) Launched with ₹62,500 Crore Outlay

The government has launched the ₹62,500 crore Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS) to provide production-linked incentives for mobile phone manufacturing, deepen domestic value addition and support the growth of Indian mobile phone brands. The five-year scheme, running from FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31, offers incentives for both large-scale manufacturers and Indian brands, including additional benefits for domestic sourcing of key components and Indian design and R&D.

MeitY, Iphw Division | CG-DL-E-21082026-275648 | 21 August 2026

One Star Export House Criteria Relaxed

The government has relaxed the eligibility criteria for One Star Export House status by allowing exporters, other than those in the Gems & Jewellery sector, to qualify based on their export performance in any two of

the three preceding financial years. Previously, export performance was required in all three preceding years, subject to the provisions of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023.

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, DGFT | CG-DL-E-21082026-275649 | 21 August 2026

DGFT Introduces Automated Export Obligation Extension Facility

The DGFT has introduced an automated system for granting Export Obligation (EO) extensions for Advance Authorisation and EPCG cases approved by the PRC/EPCG Committee. Exporters will no longer need to submit a separate EO extension application to the concerned Regional Authority after receiving committee approval, with the extension processed automatically upon payment of the prescribed fee through the DGFT portal.

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, DGFT | 21/2026-27 | 21 August 2026

DGFT Updates Export Policy to Align ITC (HS) Codes with Finance Act 2026

The DGFT has amended the Schedule-II Export Policy under ITC (HS) 2022 to align India's export classification system with changes introduced through the Finance Act, 2026. The notification revises, adds, deletes, splits and merges tariff codes and related policy conditions across numerous product categories, with the changes taking effect immediately.

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, DGFT | CG-DL-E-25082026-275734 | 21 August 2026

BIS Notifies Amendment to Smart Electricity Meter Standard

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has established Amendment No. 4 to IS 16444 (Part 1): 2015, covering specifications for a.c. static direct connected watthour smart meters of Class 1 and 2. The existing version of the standard will remain valid until February 16, 2027, allowing a transition period for implementation of the amended requirements.

Bureau of Indian Standards, Department of Consumer Affairs | CG-DL-E-25082026-275763 | 25 August 2026

India Launches Semicon 2.0 Scheme to Strengthen Chip Ecosystem

The government has launched the Semicon 2.0 scheme to provide sustained policy and fiscal support across India's semiconductor value chain, covering chip design, fabrication, packaging, equipment and materials. The scheme aims to build a self-reliant and globally competitive semiconductor ecosystem, with dedicated incentives for strategic and commercial chip design, deployment-linked sales, and the development of domestic semiconductor manufacturing equipment and materials.

MeitY, IPHW Division | CG-DL-E-31082026-275860 | 31 August 2026

GST Rationalisation in Electronics and Green Technologies

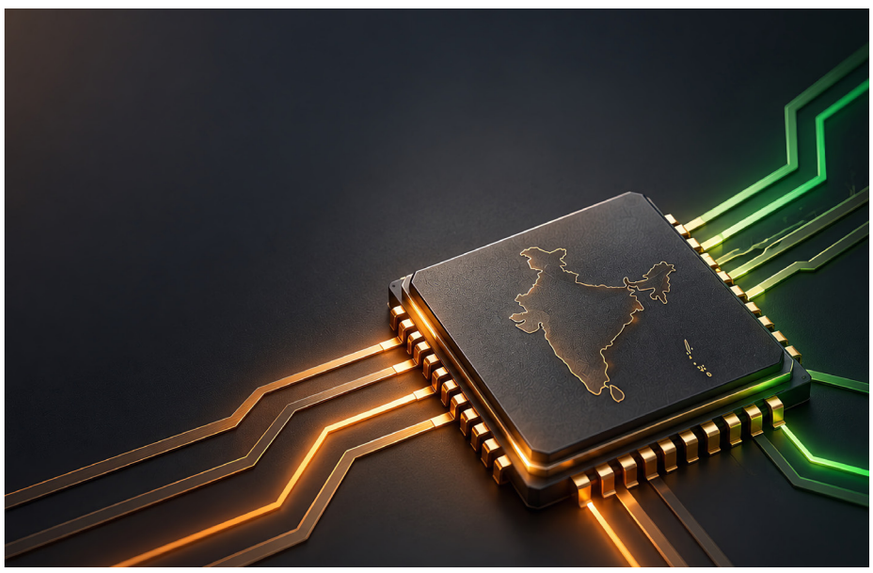
GST rates have been reduced on several electronics and green technology products to improve affordability and support domestic manufacturing. Rates on air conditioners, TVs, monitors, projectors and electric accumulators have been cut from 28% to 18%, while two-way radios, renewable energy devices, solar panels and composting machines now attract GST at 5%.

Ministry of Finance | GST-Rationalisation | 10 September 2026

Seeking Comments on Proposed Non-Preferential Rules of Origin

The DGFT has proposed amendments to Para 2.93 of the Handbook of Procedures, 2023, to comprehensively prescribe Rules of Origin (Non-Preferential) for both exports and imports. Exporters, importers, trade bodies and other stakeholders have been invited to submit comments and suggestions within 15 days of publication of the Trade Notice.

Ministry of Commerce & Industry, DGFT | Trade notice 27_0001 | 14 September 2026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VIEWPOINT

ECMS: Industry Leaders on the Next Phase of Electronics Manufacturing in India

The fifth tranche of approvals under the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) were announced recently. Three industry leaders – Mr Vinod Sharma, Managing Director, Deki Electronics; Mr Sanjay Agarwal, Managing Director, Globe Capacitors; and Mr Sanjiv Narayan, Co-founder & Director, Syrma SGS Tech – share their perspectives on the scheme's progress, the opportunities it presents for domestic component manufacturing, and the priorities ahead, including capital equipment, materials, design, and skill development.



MR VINOD SHARMA

MD, Deki Electronics

With 106 applications approved, ECMS has already surpassed its initial investment target of ₹59,000 crore, even though implementation is still underway. The additional allocation for ECMS announced in the Union Budget is another encouraging development.

India's electronics manufacturing journey is moving beyond assembly to components, modules, semiconductors, raw materials and capital equipment. These segments are more demanding in terms of technology, capital and talent. The ECMS, alongside the India Semiconductor Mission, is helping develop this wider ecosystem.

The next stages must focus on design and the emergence of Indian products and brands with a global presence. Many Indian designers already contribute to products developed for international markets; the opportunity is to build greater domestic design ownership. India also has specific needs in medical equipment, space and defence electronics. Bringing Indian designers, assemblers and component manufacturers together to develop products for these requirements could help create globally competitive Indian brands.

Developing domestic capital equipment is equally important. While approvals for CNC machines and drill-bit heads are encouraging, there is considerable scope to manufacture equipment such as surface-mount technology (SMT) machines, pick-and-place systems and specialised component insertion machinery. Building equipment capabilities for electronics manufacturing services (EMS) would be a practical starting point.

Talent and skills remain among the sector's biggest challenges. Training must become more demand-driven, with industry requirements determining the skills, numbers and locations of workers needed. The ECMS investment pipeline provides an opportunity to map employment requirements and align training programmes with upcoming manufacturing facilities. Greater corporate participation in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), including through programmes such as PM-SETU, can further align curricula with industry needs.

VIEWPOINT



MR SANJIV NARAYAN

Co-founder & Director, Syrma SGS Tech

The speed of approvals under ECMS and the scheme's expanding scope are encouraging, particularly its focus on deeper manufacturing capabilities spanning components, sub-components and raw materials. The approved categories cover a wide range of applications, including IoT, telecom and other electronics segments, strengthening the broader manufacturing ecosystem.

As electronic products become smaller and smarter, the components that go into them will require greater precision, miniaturisation and quality. Building these capabilities will be essential for Indian manufacturers to meet evolving industry requirements and compete globally. While significant progress is being made, much remains to be done, and the industry will need to continue investing in technology and manufacturing capabilities.

The growing emphasis on capital equipment is another important development, particularly as sourcing such equipment has become increasingly challenging. Indian companies are taking up the challenge of developing domestic capabilities, and we hope to see Indian-made capital equipment supporting manufacturing expansion over the next two to three years. The focus on materials, including graphite and other critical inputs, is equally welcome. India is moving in the right direction by deepening its manufacturing capabilities beyond assembly.



MR SANJAY AGARWAL

MD, Globe Capacitors

The approval of Globe Capacitors' application under the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) is an encouraging development for the company. We are currently India's leading manufacturer of capacitors for home appliances, exporting around 35% of our production to markets including Europe, the US, South America, Japan, Malaysia and Thailand.

With the new investment, we plan to enter the power electronics capacitor segment, where domestic manufacturing currently meets only around 20% of demand, as highlighted by the Hon'ble Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw. This represents a significant market opportunity. Our new facility is expected to commence production by November 2026, and we look forward to leveraging the ECMS to expand our capabilities.

Quality, design, skill development and localisation are central to building a competitive electronics manufacturing ecosystem. We have already achieved around 95% localisation and are recognised by the Government of India as an R&D and design house. We follow Six Sigma principles and maintain defect levels below 100 parts per million (PPM) for most customers. We also invest continuously in skill development through in-house training and partnerships with external agencies to train employees in operating specialised machinery and manufacturing processes.

Developing domestic capital equipment capabilities is another important priority. While some equipment is manufactured in India, the precision required for electronic capacitor production remains a challenge. There is considerable scope for technological advancement and investment in this area, which would help strengthen the domestic manufacturing ecosystem.

We are positive about the ECMS and its potential to improve the global competitiveness of Indian manufacturers. Globe Capacitors already supplies products to major international customers, including a large Chinese multinational. With appropriate policy support, greater technological capabilities and deeper localisation, Indian manufacturers can strengthen their position in global supply chains and compete more effectively with established international players.

ANALYSIS

The DUV Bottleneck: The Tech Shaping the Global Chip Supply

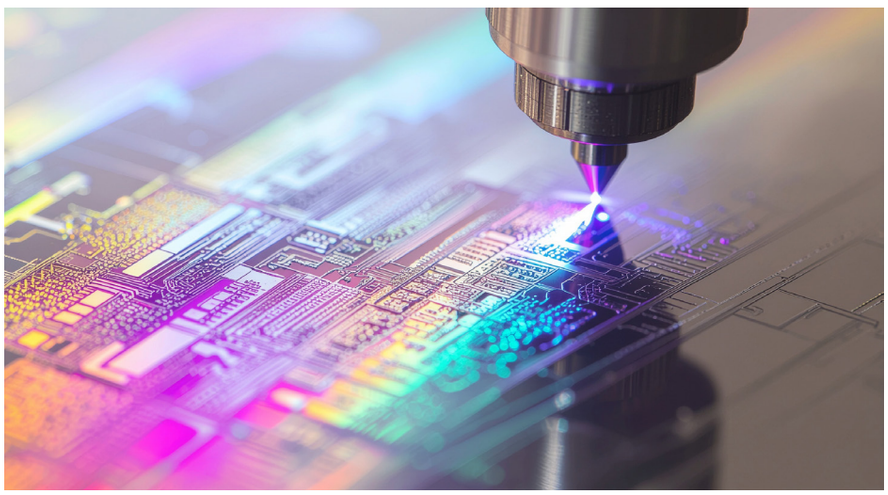
By Chetan Khanna, ELCINA

Imagine trying to paint a hyper-detailed map of the by-lanes of Delhi on a canvas the size of a dust mite. Now imagine doing it millions of times a minute, flawlessly. This seemingly impossible task is the magic of lithography, the beating heart of semiconductor manufacturing. At the centre of this process is deep ultraviolet (DUV) lithography – the workhorse technology that helps print the circuits powering smartphones, cars and practically everything else with an on switch.

For decades, the story of these machines was one of quiet, steady scientific collaboration. Today, lithography has become one of the most fiercely contested technological battlegrounds in the world.

The Workhorse and the Monopoly

To understand the conflict, we have to look at the light. DUV machines use highly controlled lasers, typically operating at wavelengths of 193 nanometres using argon fluoride, or 248 nanometres using krypton fluoride. They project light through a blueprint, shrinking the pattern through microscopic lenses and printing it onto a silicon wafer. In their most advanced form, called immersion DUV, a tiny layer of ultra-pure water is placed be-



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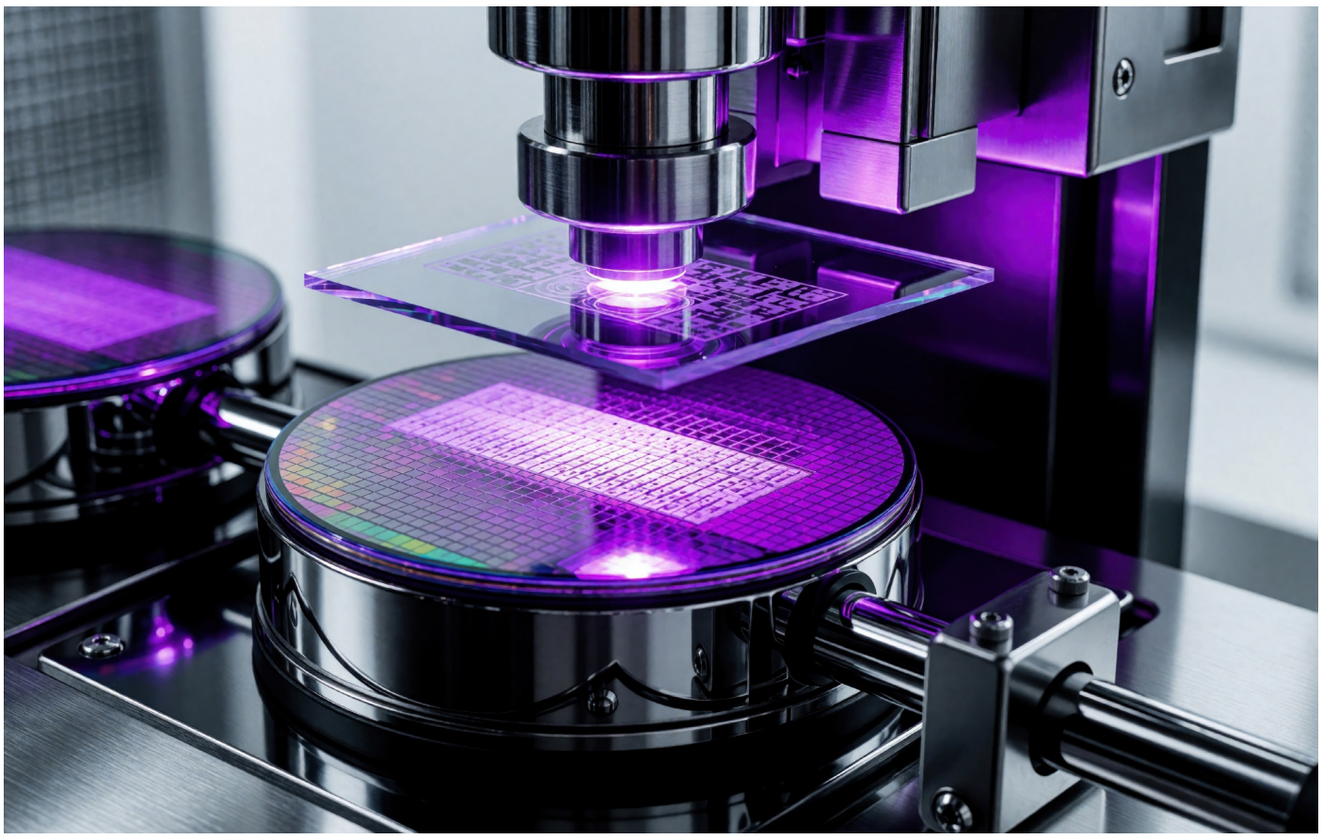

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tween the lens and the wafer. This increases the optical system's numerical aperture and improves resolution, allowing chipmakers to print extremely small features.

While newer extreme ultraviolet (EUV) machines get the headlines for printing the most demanding layers of cutting-edge chips, DUV machines still perform a large share of the patterning work in global chip production.

ASML is the world's dominant lithography-equipment supplier and the sole supplier of production EUV scanners. It also has a particularly strong position in advanced immersion DUV, although Nikon and Canon remain competitors in parts of the DUV market. A single advanced DUV machine can cost tens of millions of dollars, with the most sophisticated configurations costing more than $100 million. ASML shipped 131 immersion DUV systems in 2025, while its total shipments across lithography categories were higher.

The company is therefore a critical gatekeeper of advanced chipmaking technology, which means the Netherlands has an important role when countries seek to manufacture leading-edge semiconductors.

The Challenger from the East

Recognising this bottleneck, the United States, the Netherlands and other allies have used export controls to restrict China's access to ASML's most advanced machines. The aim is to slow China's ability to produce advanced logic chips, particularly those used in artificial intelligence and high-performance computing.

But necessity is the mother of invention. Faced with tighter access to foreign equipment, Chinese state-backed entities have accelerated efforts to develop domestic lithography capabilities. Recent reporting indicates that Shanghai Aishengna Electronic Technology Group has begun producing a limited number of domestically developed immersion DUV tools. Shanghai Micro Electronics Equipment, or SMEE, is also part of China's broader effort to build a domestic lithography-equipment industry.

However, these early tools are still expected to require substantial testing and remain well behind ASML's systems in performance, reliability and scale.

If Chinese foundries can eventually deploy competitive domestic immersion DUV machines, they could use techniques such as multiple patterning to produce denser circuit layers without relying on EUV. Multiple patterning involves exposing and processing the same wafer layer several times to create features that cannot be printed in a single exposure.

This could help Chinese manufacturers reduce their dependence on foreign equipment and support advanced-node production. But it would not automatically make economically competitive 7nm or 5nm manufacturing straightforward. Multiple patterning adds process steps,

time, cost and opportunities for overlay errors, placing greater pressure on yields.

The financial markets have already felt the tremors. Following reports that China had begun producing domestic immersion DUV tools, ASML's shares fell by approximately 10% over two trading sessions, wiping more than €60 billion off its market value. The fall reflected concern about the long-term threat to ASML's market position and future Chinese demand – not evidence that Chinese equipment had already become a commercial substitute.

China has recently been one of ASML's largest markets. It accounted for about 36% of ASML's revenue in 2024, while the company expected China to contribute roughly 20% of its revenue in 2026 amid tighter export controls and changing demand.

India Joins the ASML Ecosystem

While the US and China lock horns, India has entered the semiconductor race through a different route. It is not yet developing a domestic alternative to ASML's lithography systems. Instead, it is becoming a new customer and ecosystem partner for the Dutch company – much as China itself has been a major customer, even while pursuing equipment self-reliance.

In a significant development announced in May 2026, Tata Electronics signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding with ASML to support the establishment and ramp-up of India's first commercial 300mm semiconductor fab in Dholera, Gujarat. The planned facility represents an investment of more than ₹91,000 crore – approximately $11 billion – and is designed to reach capacity of up to 50,000 wafer starts per month.

The facility is being developed with Taiwan's Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation, or PSMC. Rather than targeting leading-edge 3nm production, its stated technology portfolio spans 28nm, 40nm, 55nm, 90nm and 110nm processes. These technologies support chips used in automotive, industrial, communications, computing, data-storage, AI, IoT and other applications.

For India, the partnership is a significant step. Buying the machines is only half the battle; knowing how to run them is the real hurdle. The ASML-Tata MoU covers ASML's lithography tools and solutions and includes cooperation on local talent development, lithography-intensive skills, supply-chain resilience and research. The companies have not publicly disclosed a detailed equipment list, commercial value or delivery schedule.

By joining ASML's established equipment and technology ecosystem, India is seeking to become a potential China-plus-one manufacturing location. But the partnership alone does not establish India as a trusted global semiconductor hub. That will depend on the fab's construction, process transfer, workforce development, utilities, supplier base, customer qualification and ability to achieve stable commercial yields.

China's Long Road to Self-Reliance

Sceptics correctly point out that China's domestic DUV equipment is likely to be relatively immature. Early tools may struggle with overlay precision, yields and throughput, while manufacturers may initially produce only a handful of units a year compared with ASML's much larger output. It would be premature to dismiss the effort and equally premature to treat it as a proven substitute for ASML.

China's history in sectors such as solar panels, high-speed rail, display technologies and electric vehicles shows how sustained state support, guaranteed domestic demand and aggressive iteration can help industries close large technological gaps. However, semiconductor lithography has unusually demanding requirements for optics, light sources, precision motion, control software, contamination management and process integration.

Chinese equipment may or may not become globally competitive. It may nevertheless become strategically valuable if it gives domestic foundries a viable alternative to imported tools, even at higher cost or lower productivity. Billions of dollars in state backing and a large domestic market could give Chinese toolmakers a long runway to fail, learn and improve.

We may be moving away from a unified global technology ecosystem. But the outcome is unlikely to be an immediate split between two fully separate lithography worlds. A more plausible scenario is a fragmented system: one centred on ASML's established capabilities and international supplier network, and another in which China gradually builds a more self-sufficient domestic ecosystem for deep-ultraviolet lithography.

The strategic contest will be determined not only by who can build a machine, but by who can operate it reliably, achieve competitive yields, maintain a supply chain and persuade chipmakers to use it at scale.

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EXHIBITION | CONFERENCE | B2B BUYER-SELLER MEET

NEW PARTICIPANTS CONFIRMED

CP PLUS

Zettaone Technologies — Success Through Agile Technologies

CDIL SEMICONDUCTORS

element14 AN AVNET COMPANY

Hiflo — BONDING BEYOND INNOVATIONS

WE AMG — Achieve, Manage, Grow

Ansol

Hiflo Green — Smarter Greener

SYRMA SGS

HIGHSTAR Technology Private Limited (Formerly Statclean Technology India Pvt Ltd)

hyna

LOYAL WINGMAN TECHNOLOGIES

Reeyaa Circuit & Electronics (opc) Pvt.Ltd

Sahasra

svm

KETPL

MELSS

NOIDA ELECTRONICS

TESCOM — EXCELLENCE DELIVERED

Milestones of Source India 2026

- **8000+ sqm** Gross Space
- **178** Exhibitors
- **7000+** Delegates & Visitors
- **50** Registered Buyers
- **Vendor Development / Technology Sessions**
- **Global Participation from Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia & Japan**
- **Innovative Startup Participation**







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www.elcina.com

Opportunities & Events

Forthcoming EVENTS

DOMESTIC EVENTS

IPCA Electronics Expo
07 - 09 January 2027
Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
More at Ipcaexpo.com

Source India
17 - 19 February 2027
Chennai Trade Centre, Chennai
More at Event.sourceindia-electronics.com

Elecrama
20 - 24 February 2027
India Expo Centre & Mart (IEML), Greater Noida
More at Elecrama.com

Convergence India Expo
23 - 25 March 2027
Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
More at Convergenceindia.org

India Electronics Expo
23 - 25 March 2027
Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
More at Indiaelectronicsexpo.com

Internet of Things India Expo
(Co-located with Convergence India Expo)
23 - 25 March 2027
Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
More at Iotindiaexpo.com

OVERSEAS SHOWS

SEMICON Europa
(Co-located with electronica)
10 - 13 November 2026
Trade Fair Center, Messe München, Munich, Germany

More at Semiconeuropa.org

Electronica
10 - 13 November 2026
Trade Fair Center, Messe München, Munich, Germany

More at Electronica.de/en/trade-fair

SEMICON Japan
09 - 11 December 2026
Tokyo Big Sight (Tokyo International Exhibition Center), Tokyo, Japan

More at Semiconjapan.org/en

Consumer Electronics Show (CES)
06 - 09 January 2027
Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

More at Ces.tech

Mobile World Congress (MWC)
01 - 04 March 2027
Fira Gran Via, Barcelona, Spain

More at Mwcbarcelona.com

Intelligent Asia
10 - 12 March 2027
Bangkok International Trade & Exhibition Centre (BITEC), Bangkok, Thailand

More at Intelligentasia-thailand.chanchao.com.tw

APEX EXPO
16 - 18 March 2027
Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, California, USA

More at Apexexpo.org

BUSINESS UPDATE

Embedded World
16 - 18 March 2027
NürnbergMesse (Nuremberg Exhibition Centre), Nuremberg, Germany

More at Embedded-world.de/en

Xponential Europe
16 - 18 March 2027
Düsseldorf, Germany

More at Xponential-europe.com

Appliance & Electronics World Expo (AWE)
17 - 20 March 2027
Shanghai New International Expo Centre, Shanghai, China

More at En.awe.com.cn



Adobe Stock

ELCINA Activity Update

ELCINA Hosts Award Ceremony for 5th Tranche of ECMS



ELCINA hosted the award ceremony for the 5th tranche of approvals under the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), covering 31 new applications across 20 target-segment products. Announced on 17 August 2026, the tranche involves ₹6,844 crore in proposed investment and is expected to generate significant production and employment across areas including components, sub-assemblies, camera and display modules, anode materials and capital goods.

Union Minister for Electronics & IT Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw highlighted the growing impact of ECMS on India's electronics manufacturing ecosystem. With the latest approvals, the scheme has cleared 106 projects across 15 states, with cumulative investments of ₹69,548 crore, projected production of ₹5.34 lakh crore and 74,628 direct jobs. He noted that ECMS has already surpassed its original investment target and is helping attract private investment into strategically important segments, strengthen domestic capabilities and integrate India more deeply into global electronics value chains.

The event was also attended by Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for Electronics & IT; Shri S. Krishnan, Secretary, MeitY; Shri Sushil Pal, Joint Secretary, MeitY; and Dr Sasikumar Gendham, President, ELCINA.

51st ELCINA Awards 2025-26

Excellence in exports, quality, R&D, innovation and design, sustainability and business performance took centre stage at the 51st ELCINA Annual Awards, held in New Delhi on 24th September 2026. The awards recognise achievements across India's electronics system design and manufacturing (ESDM) sector, covering both established companies and SMEs.



Shri Jitin Prasada, Hon'ble Minister of State for Electronics & Information Technology, presented the Special Jury Awards, including Electronics Man of the Year, Company and SME of the Year, Lifetime Achievement and Ambassador for Electronics Industry. In his address, he stressed the need for deeper localisation, greater domestic value addition and a stronger components ecosystem as India expands its electronics and semiconductor manufacturing base. He also called on industry to focus on quality and to identify the bottlenecks that government can address to accelerate growth.

Shri S. Krishnan, Secretary, MeitY, also addressed the gathering and presented awards, highlighting the progress made by the sector and government initiatives in the pipeline to support investment, development and production.

Instituted in 1976, the ELCINA Awards have recognised excellence in India's electronics hardware industry for five decades, spanning manufacturing, exports, technology, innovation and business performance.



electronica India
presents

51st ELCINA Awards 2025-26

Recognizing Excellence
in Electronics Hardware
Manufacturing and Services
since 1974

24th SEPTEMBER 2026
New Delhi, India

ELCINA ACTIVITY UPDATE

EXPORTS | Large Category

1st Prize	:	SFO Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Cochin
2nd Prize	:	AT & S India Pvt. Ltd., Nanjangud
2nd Prize	:	TDK India Private Limited, Kalyani
Certificate of Merit	:	Syrma SGS Technology Limited, Chennai
Certificate of Merit	:	Sanmina-SCI India Private Limited, Kancheepuram

EXPORTS | SME

1st Prize	:	Micropack Private Limited, Bangalore
Certificate of Merit	:	Magnatech, Mysore

QUALITY | Large Category

1st Prize	:	Varroc Engineering Limited, Pune
2nd Prize	:	Amphenol Interconnect India Pvt.Ltd., Pune
Certificate of Merit	:	Syrma SGS Technology Limited, Chennai

QUALITY | SME

1st Prize	:	Micropack Private Limited, Bangalore
2nd Prize	:	XPRO India Limited, Bankura
Certificate of Merit	:	Conformity India International Pvt.Ltd., New Delhi

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT | Large Category

1st Prize	:	TDK India Private Limited, Kalyani
2nd Prize	:	SFO Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Cochin
2nd Prize:	:	Sanmina-SCI India Pvt. Ltd., Kancheepuram
Certificate of Merit	:	Molex India Private Limited, Bangalore

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT | SME

1st Prize	:	Deki Electronics Limited, Noida
2nd Prize	:	XPRO India Limited, Bankura

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT | Large Category

1st Prize	:	Amphenol Interconnect India Pvt.Ltd., Pune
2nd Prize	:	SFO Technologies Pvt.Ltd., Cochin
Certificate of Merit	:	TDK India Private Limited, Kalyani

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT | SME

1st Prize	:	Samriddhi Automations Pvt.Ltd., Noida
2nd Prize	:	XPRO India Limited, Bankura

EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION | Large Category

1st Prize	:	Kaynes Technology India Limited, Mysore,
2nd Prize	:	Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), Bengaluru
Certificate of Merit	:	Electronics Corporation of India Limited, Hyderabad
Certificate of Merit	:	Continental Device India Limited, New Delhi

EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION | SME

1st Prize	:	Coratia Technologies Private Limited, Odisha
2nd Prize	:	Envisys Technology Private Limited, Bengaluru
Certificate of Merit	:	Keetronics India Pvt. Ltd., Pune

ELCINA ACTIVITY UPDATE

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE | Large Category

1st Prize	:	Amphenol Interconnect India Pvt. Ltd., Pune
Certificate of Merit	:	Dixon Electro Appliances Private Limited, Noida

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE | SME

1st Prize	:	Samriddhi Automations Pvt. Ltd., Noida
2nd Prize	:	Unistring Tech Solution Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad
Certificate of Merit	:	Ecopmin Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Chennai

HR & WORKPLACE SKILL DEVELOPMENT | Large Category

1st Prize	:	Syrma SGS Technology Limited, Chennai
2nd Prize	;	SFO Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Cochin
Certificate of Merit	:	Kaynes Technology India Ltd., Mysore

HR & WORKPLACE SKILL DEVELOPMENT | SME

1st Prize	:	Ind Sphinx Precision Ltd., Solan
2nd Prize	:	Samriddhi Automations Pvt. Ltd., Noida
Certificate of Merit	:	Unistring Tech Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

MOST PROMISING START-UPS

First Prize	:	Sensedge Transportation Systems & Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
Certificate of Merit	:	Atrivatech Private Limited, Chennai
Certificate of Merit	:	Agile Manufacturing Services Pvt.Ltd., Gurugram

ELCINA SPECIAL JURY AWARDS 2025-26

OUTSTANDING SME OF THE YEAR
Samriddhi Automations Pvt. Ltd., (SPARSH CCTV), Noida

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC ELECTRONICS
Dr. B. K. Das, Distinguished Scientist & Director General, Electronics & Communication Systems (ECS), DRDO

AMBASSADOR FOR INDIAN ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY
Mr. Gursharan Singh, Sr. Vice President BE Operations, Micron Technology

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Mr. Sanjiv Narayan, Co-Founder, Syrma SGS Technology Limited

ELECTRONICS COMPANY OF THE YEAR
Astra Microwave Products Ltd

ELECTRONICS MAN OF THE YEAR
Mr. Manoj Jain, CMD, Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL)

ELCINA ACTIVITY UPDATE

15th Strategic Electronics Summit (SES) 2026

ELCINA hosted the award ceremony for the 5th tranche of approvals under the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), covering 31 new applications across 20 target-segment products. Announced on 17 August 2026, the tranche involves ₹6,844 crore in proposed investment and is expected to generate significant production and employment across areas including components, sub-assemblies, camera and display modules, anode materials and capital goods.

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The event was also attended by Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for Electronics & IT; Shri S. Krishnan, Secretary, MeitY; Shri Sushil Pal, Joint Secretary, MeitY; and Dr Sasikumar Gendham, President, ELCINA.





Day 1 – 23 July 2026

Session I: Accelerating Defence Strategic Electronics Manufacturing: State Govt & Industry Initiatives

India's strategic electronics ecosystem needs stronger capabilities across manufacturing, components, testing and supply chains. The discussion highlighted gaps in critical materials and manufacturing capacity, along with the need for greater R&D, IP creation, industry–academia collaboration and skilled talent.

Moderator

Mr Ashwani Bhargava, Senior Director, Supply Chain, Boeing

Participants

- Mr Jetendra S. Gavankar, CEO, Safran India
- Dr Avinash Menon Rajendran, IAS, MD, KITS, Government of Karnataka
- Wg Cdr P Madhusoodhanan, VP – Aerospace & Defence, TIDCO, Government of Tamil Nadu
- Col. Sanjay Singh, CGM, Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor, UPEIDA, Government of Uttar Pradesh

Special Talk: "Legal Strategies for India's Defence Sector"

Speaker

Lt Gen Sanjay Verma (Veteran), PVSM, AVSM, VSM, Bar to VSM, Advisor – Defence & Strategy, S K Singhi & Partners

India's expanding defence sector brings increasingly complex issues



around procurement, technology transfer, IP, cybersecurity, data protection and export compliance. The talk emphasised integrating legal and contractual planning into business and technology strategies from the outset.

Session II: Tri-Service Plans for Self-Reliance

The armed forces are looking to indigenise legacy systems while developing next-generation capabilities in communications, sensors, RF, semiconductors, autonomous systems and AI. The discussion also highlighted opportunities for industry, startups, MSMEs and academia to contribute to this transition.

Session Chair

Maj Gen CS Mann, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, Addl. Director General, Army Design Bureau

Participants

- Air Cmde K Giri, VSM, Comdt, Air Force Technical College
- Capt Sanjay Sharma (Retd), Indian Navy
- Brig. Alok Jain, SM, Directorate of Indigenisation, Indian Army

Day 2 – 24 July 2026

Session I: Modernising Internal Security through Indigenous Technologies

Panel A: Modernising Internal Security through Indigenous Technologies

AI, drones, robotics, surveillance and data analytics are expanding their role in internal security, from routine policing to counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency. Speakers highlighted the need for integrated, cost-effective solutions adapted to Indian operating conditions and developed in closer collaboration with security agencies.

Session Chair

Mr. Gopesh Agrawal, IPS, Director/ IG (Modernization), BPR&D

Co-Chair

Dr. Vipul Kumar, IPS, IG, CRPF

Participants

- Mr. Sitanshu Mishra, IPS, IG, CISF
- Mr. A Nagaraja, SP, Internal Security Division, Karnataka
- Mr. MA Johar, President, CP Plus



Panel B: Emerging Security Threats in Himalayan Region

High altitude, extreme weather and difficult terrain create specific challenges for communications, surveillance and security operations along India's Himalayan borders. The discussion highlighted growing requirements for indigenous sensors, counter-drone systems, smart fencing and other technologies, along with greater industry access to operational requirements and user feedback.



Session Chair

Dr. AP Maheshwari, DG, CRPF (Retd)

Participants

- Mr. Dinesh Kumar Yadav, IPS, IG, BSF
- Mr. Sandeep Khosla, IG, Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
- Mr. Prakash Chandra Raturi, Commandant (Communication), SSB
- Mr. Sanjeev Sehgal, Founder & MD, Sparsh CCTV

Session II: Building a Supply Chain for the Indian Private Sector

Defence supply-chain vulnerabilities have increased the focus on reliable domestic sources for critical components, materials and spares. The discussion explored how India can connect capabilities in engineering, electronics, sensors, advanced materials and AI while balancing domestic capacity with global sourcing.

Session Chair

Lt Gen Sanjay Verma (Veteran), PVSM, AVSM, VSM, Bar to VSM, Advisor – Defence & Strategy, S K Singhi & Partners

Participants

- Mr. Robert John, CEO & Director, Amphenol Interconnect India
- Mr. Subramanya Ullal, Member, Board of Directors, SASMOS HET Technologies Ltd
- Mr. Ankur Gupta, Director of Strategy, International & Industrial Partnerships, Airbus Defence & Space
- Brigadier Dr. Ganesan Muthukumar, SM, VSM, PhD, FIE, FIITarb, Strategic Advisor, IITM Pravartak Technologies Foundation

ELCINA ACTIVITY UPDATE

Special Address: The Sovereign Arsenal

Speaker

Mr. Vish Sahasranamam, CEO, Forge Innovation & Ventures

India's growing defence capabilities could support both strategic autonomy and a larger export opportunity, but scaling defence technology companies will require greater access to domestic capital. The address called for patient strategic funding, faster acquisition processes and long-term partnerships to build companies capable of competing globally

Session III: Strategic Electronics – Sensors and Critical Futuristic Technologies

Sensors are central to modern defence and aerospace systems, as well as emerging AI and quantum applications, yet India remains heavily dependent on imports. The discussion focused on building domestic capabilities across advanced sensors, photonics, semiconductors and electronic warfare through sustained R&D, investment and industry–government collaboration.



Session Chair

Mr. Sudheer Narayan, Partner, Bain & Co.

Participants

- Col. Anupam Tiwari, PhD, 515 Army Base Workshop
- Col. Premnath Othayoth, SM, 515 Army Base Workshop
- Dr. DS Rawal, Associate Director & OS, SSPL, DRDO
- Mr. Vinod Yadav, Vice President – Design, Tata Advanced Systems
- Mr. Sarin Sundar, CTO, India Semiconductor Mission (Equipment & R&D)

Report Releases at SES 2026

Two reports released at the Strategic Electronics Summit examined key areas of India's defence-electronics ecosystem.

The ELCINA-EY report, Strategic Electronics for Defence & Aerospace 2026, examines the changing nature of modern warfare and the growing role of strategic electronics in mission effectiveness, operational capability and national security. It assesses India's position in the evolving defence and aerospace landscape and highlights the need to strengthen domestic capabilities in design, innovation, manufacturing and supply chains.



The ELCINA-Bain & Company white paper, India's Defense Sensor Ecosystem, focuses on the role of sensors in modern defence systems and the opportunities and challenges in developing an indigenous sensor ecosystem. It examines measures to strengthen domestic capabilities, encourage industry–government collaboration and R&D, and reduce dependence on imported technologies.

Vendor Development Sessions Strengthen Industry-Defence Linkages at SES 2026

The Vendor Development and Special Sessions at Strategic Electronics Summit (SES) 2026 provided MSMEs, start-ups and electronics manufacturers with insights into procurement requirements, vendor registration, sourcing opportunities and potential collaboration with Defence PSUs, government organisations and OEMs. The sessions also enabled direct interaction between industry participants and major defence organisations, helping businesses understand requirements and identify opportunities to participate in the defence supply chain.



Felicitation of Ms Nisha Sasikumar, Youngest female to Summit Mt Everest via South Col (Nepal Side)

Ms. Nisha Sasikumar, 16, was felicitated at the Strategic Electronics Summit 2026 for becoming the youngest female to summit Mount Everest via Nepal's South Col route on 25 May 2026. Nisha, daughter of ELCINA President Dr. Sasikumar Gendham, unfurled the Indian Tricolour and the ELCINA emblem at the summit.



ELCINA ACTIVITY UPDATE



Having already completed five of the Seven Summits, Nisha is now aiming to complete the challenge at the age of 17. ELCINA congratulates her on this remarkable achievement and wishes her success in the climbs ahead.

Defennovation Awards 2026

Recognising innovation and indigenous capability in defence electronics, ELCINA presented the Defennovation Awards 2026 at the 15th Strategic Electronics Summit. Instituted in 2018, the awards recognise companies, start-ups and institutions making significant contributions through R&D, design, manufacturing and technology development for defence and aerospace applications.

The 2026 edition awarded achievements in R&D and manufacturing across DPSUs and defence establishments, large companies, SMEs and start-ups. Entries were evaluated through a multi-stage process by experts from the defence, aerospace and electronics sectors.

Winners 2026

Excellence in R&D

DPSU / Defence Establishment

1st Prize: Indian Army – Project KALKI (Kinetic AI-Enabled Low-Latency Kill-Chain Interceptor)

Certificate: MCEME – Radio Based Secure Blue Force Tracking System

Certificate: Corps of Signals, Indian Army – Project AKASH DURG

Large

Outstanding Contribution to Indigenous R&D: Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) – TRINETRA AI-SOC: AI-Powered Enterprise Cyber Security Platform

1st Prize: SFO Technologies Private Limited

Certificate: Electronics Corporation of India Limited

SME

1st Prize: Comint Systems and Solutions Private Limited

Certificate: ELDAAS Technologies Private Limited

Startup

1st Prize: EyeROV (IROV Technologies Private Limited)

Certificate: Paninian India Pvt Ltd

Excellence in Manufacturing

DPSU / Defence Establishment

1st Prize: 509 Army Base Workshop, Agra)

Large

1st Prize: Amphenol Interconnect India Pvt Ltd

Certificate: SFO Technologies Private Limited

SME

1st Prize: Aimtron Electronics Limited

Startup

1st Prize: AGNIT Semiconductors Pvt Ltd

Special Recognition

Pioneering Research & Development in Strategic Electronics: DRDO (ECS Cluster)

ELCINA ACTIVITY UPDATE

ELCINA Delegation Meets Minister of State for Electronics & IT



An ELCINA delegation met Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for Electronics & IT and Commerce & Industry to brief him on ELCINA's six-decade contribution to India's electronics manufacturing industry, particularly in promoting localisation, domestic value addition and a stronger component ecosystem.

The delegation highlighted the impact of government schemes introduced under the National Policy on Electronics in driving growth in mobile manufacturing and other segments, including consumer, automotive, power, security and defence electronics. It also outlined ELCINA's role in the development of the earlier MSIPS and SPECS schemes and the recently introduced Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), which has received 106 project approvals.

ELCINA congratulated MeitY on the pace of ECMS implementation and the launch of India Semiconductor Mission 2.0 (ISM 2.0) and the Modified Programme for Manufacturing of Semiconductors (MPMS). These initiatives are expected to attract investment, create employment and deepen domestic manufacturing, moving the industry beyond assembly towards greater component production and value addition.

Bharat Security Expo 2026

Bharat Security Expo 2026 was co-located with the 15th Strategic Electronics Summit at BIEC, Bengaluru, as an industry platform focused on India's internal-security requirements and the technologies addressing them. The expo brought together technology companies, systems integrators, start-ups, government agencies and security stakeholders.

The exhibition showcased solutions spanning artificial intelligence, robotics, drones, surveillance, secure communications, cybersecurity, border management and semiconductor-enabled systems. It also provided an opportunity for technology developers to connect with users and industry partners, while creating a common platform across the defence, aerospace, security and surveillance sectors.

ELCINA CEO Forum 2026

India's next phase of electronics growth was the focus of the ELCINA CEO Forum 2026, held on 16 September 2026 at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Bengaluru, alongside electronica India. Organised by ELCINA in association with Messe München/electronica India, the forum explored the theme, "Beyond Manufacturing: India's Bid for Design, IP and Component Ownership – ECMS Scheme: A Catalyst for Self-Reliance & Value Addition."



The discussions covered the shift from "Made in India" to "Designed & Owned in India", along with opportunities to strengthen India's position in global value chains. Key areas included components, modules, test and measurement, niche equipment and critical inputs such as copper clad laminates, copper foil and specialty chemicals.

BPCA Tech Conference

With India's PCB demand expected to reach US$11 billion by 2030, the BPCA Tech Conference, held on 17 September 2026 at BIEC, Bengaluru, looked at the industry's growth prospects and the capabilities needed to meet rising demand. Organised by ELCINA and Messe München alongside electronica India, the conference was themed "India PCB 2.0: Catalysed by ECMS Scheme; Driven by Surging Demand".

Sessions covered the evolving PCB market, investments and growth opportunities, the challenges of reaching the US$11 billion target, and the need for stronger supply chains, equipment, technology and R&D. A technical forum also discussed advanced materials for next-generation PCB manufacturing.



ELCINA Tech Zone

The ELCINA Tech Zone was part of electronica India and productronica India, held from 16–18 September 2026 at BIEC, Bengaluru. It showcased technologies, products and applications from across the electronics ecosystem, giving visitors an opportunity to explore new developments and interact with industry participants.



ELCINA ACTIVITY UPDATE

India × Taiwan Networking Evening

ELCINA and Taiwan Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association (TEEMA) jointly hosted the India–Taiwan Networking Evening on 16 September 2026 in Bengaluru. Discussions centred on business opportunities, technology cooperation and potential partnerships between Indian and Taiwanese companies, with the informal gathering also providing an opportunity for participants to connect and explore areas of mutual interest.



ELCINA × Bain & Company – Advanced Manufacturing & Growth Forum @ SEMICON India

Held on 19 September 2026 in New Delhi as part of SEMICON India 2026, the ELCINA × Bain & Company – Advanced Manufacturing & Growth Forum focused on "Components and Materials for Advanced Electronics". The forum looked at capabilities needed to strengthen India's electronics and semiconductor ecosystem.

Three panel discussions covered power electronics, devices, components and design; building a globally competitive PCB industry; and the evolution of India's OSAT ecosystem.



Exclusive Knowledge Sharing Meet & Networking Dinner @ SEMICON India

ELCINA and Khaitan & Co. hosted an Exclusive Knowledge Sharing Meet & Networking Dinner on 18 September 2026 on the sidelines of SEMICON India 2026. The evening centred on a panel discussion, "Building Strategic Opportunities in India in the Evolving Global Semiconductor Ecosystem", covering shifts in the global semiconductor landscape and opportunities for India.

The discussion was followed by an informal networking dinner for industry representatives and stakeholders.



ELCINA Webinar on Power Semiconductors & OSAT

ELCINA hosted an Expert Perspectives Webinar on "Power Semiconductors – The Low-Hanging Fruit for Indian OSAT Investments" on 21 August 2026, bringing industry perspectives on opportunities for India in power semiconductor manufacturing and OSAT.

Mr. Raja Manickam, Founder & CEO, IVP Semiconductor, and Mr. Devendranath A M, CEO, Feedback Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd., shared perspectives on the power semiconductor and OSAT landscape. Discussions covered the potential of mature semiconductor products, emerging technologies such as GaN and SiC, and demand from sectors including EVs, renewable energy, automotive, industrial electronics, defence and data centres. Mr. Rajoo Goel, Secretary General, ELCINA, highlighted the role of OSAT investments and industry collaboration in strengthening India's semiconductor ecosystem.



ELCINA-Germany Industry Engagement

A visiting delegation from Germany on was hosted by ELCINA on 21st August 2026, for discussions on investment opportunities, advanced technologies and cross-border collaboration in electronics and manufacturing. Maciej Monkosa, Director of International Business Development, Economic Development Agency Brandenburg, shared perspectives on Brandenburg as an investment destination, while Heiko Witte, Managing Director, CHESCO, spoke on artificial intelligence, defence avionics and advanced tracking systems.

The interaction also included ELCINA past Presidents Sanjay Agarwal and Vinod Sharma, ESSCI CEO Madhvendra Singh, ELCINA Secretary-General Rajoo Goel, and representatives from Aequs Infra, ILJIN Electronics and the ELCINA Secretariat.



MEMBERS' SECTION





CP PLUS Opens New Corporate Office and R&D Centre in Noida

CP PLUS has consolidated its teams at a new corporate office and research and development centre in Sector 135, Noida. The facility brings together teams previously spread across multiple locations and supports the company's work in surveillance and security technologies. CP PLUS, the surveillance brand of Aditya Infotech Limited, offers CCTV and security products for government, commercial, residential and industrial applications.





Sancraft Industries Inaugurates New Manufacturing Facility in Chennai

Sancraft Industries inaugurated Plant 3 at Oragadam, Sriperumbudur, near Chennai, marking an expansion of its manufacturing facilities. The inauguration was attended by Dr. Sasikumar Gendham, President, ELCINA; Mr. Arul Prabhu, Managing Director, Salcomp; Mr. Karthik of Nokia; and other industry representatives. The ELCINA delegation met Mr. Amit Gupta and conveyed its best wishes to the company.

RIR Power Electronics Lists on NSE

RIR Power Electronics Ltd, an established manufacturer of semiconductor devices for power electronics applications, listed on the National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) on 16 July 2026, adding to its BSE listing, which dates back to 1986. The company expects the listing to improve share liquidity and price discovery, broaden access for institutional and retail investors, and strengthen its visibility in the capital markets as it expands its technological capabilities and manufacturing capacity. Established in 1969, RIR manufactures devices for sectors including railways, defence, electric vehicles and power generation, and is developing a new facility in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

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16th Edition



Defence & Aerospace SES 2027

16th Strategic Electronics Summit

29th & 30th July 2027

BIEC, Bengaluru

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भारत Security EXPO

Security Surveillance Self-reliance

Industry Platform for Internal Security, fostering Innovation, Collaboration, & Business Growth

Highlights of SES 2026

- **Strategic Conference Sessions**
- **150** Exhibitors
- **5000+** Industry Delegates and Visitors
- **50** Startups
- **DRDO Pavilion**
- **Vendor Development / Special sessions**

ELCINA defennovation AWARDS 2026









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www.ses-india.in www.elcina.com

Partner Association

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IN 2026

75000+
PARTICIPANTS

1000+
EXHIBITORS

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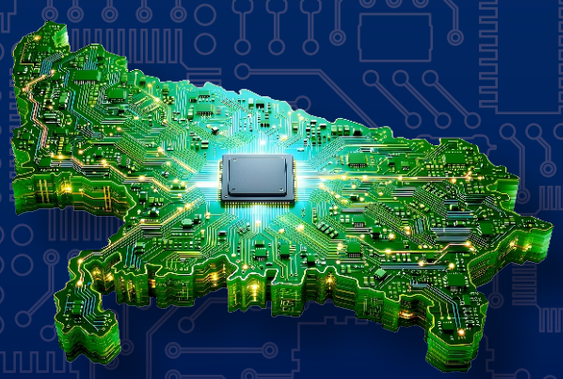
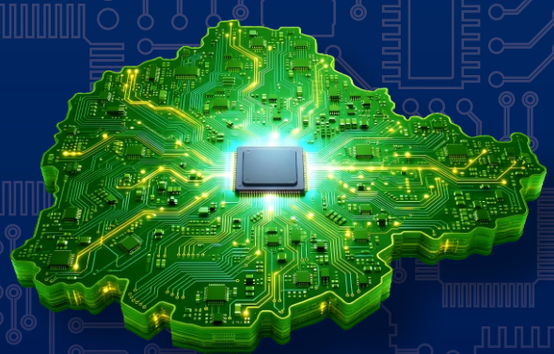


BENGALURU



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28-29-30 APR 2027

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