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COVERAGE HIGHLIGHTS

TV/ ELECTRONIC COVERAGE



TN Seeks High-Value Electronics Manufacturing Via Clusters
With Shared Facilities, Drawing On Its Own Ecosystems

TN'S NEXT WAVE: INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS

By Anand Mahalingam

Tamil Nadu, already a hotbed for IT and IT-enabled services, is now looking to become a hub for industrial electronics. The state government is planning to set up clusters of industrial electronics manufacturing, drawing on its own ecosystem of talent, infrastructure, and shared facilities. The clusters will be set up in various parts of the state, including Chennai, Coimbatore, and Tiruchirappalli. The clusters will focus on manufacturing of industrial electronics products such as sensors, actuators, and control systems. The clusters will also provide shared facilities such as testing equipment, design services, and training facilities. The clusters are expected to create thousands of jobs and boost the state's industrial electronics manufacturing sector.

CLUSTER BASE

Cluster-based approach to industrial electronics manufacturing is a concept that has been gaining traction in various parts of the world. The concept involves creating a hub of industrial electronics manufacturing, drawing on the state's own ecosystem of talent, infrastructure, and shared facilities. The clusters will be set up in various parts of the state, including Chennai, Coimbatore, and Tiruchirappalli. The clusters will focus on manufacturing of industrial electronics products such as sensors, actuators, and control systems. The clusters will also provide shared facilities such as testing equipment, design services, and training facilities. The clusters are expected to create thousands of jobs and boost the state's industrial electronics manufacturing sector.

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MOVING UP

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Industrial electronics manufacturing in Tamil Nadu.

PHOTO: ANAND MAHALINGAM

Creating global IPs

THE UNION CABINET'S approval of Semicon India 2.0, with an outlay of ₹1.27 lakh crore marks an important evolution in India's semiconductor journey. The first phase focused on attracting investments. Phase 2 strengthens semiconductor design, fab, talent, equipment, materials and supply chains.



NAVIN BISHNOI

This shift in emphasis is timely. India has begun building semiconductor manufacturing value chain capacity, including the commissioning of facilities such as the CG Semi OSAT plant in Gujarat. But the real challenge is ensuring these facilities remain globally competitive long after incentives taper off and creating an ecosystem where end-to-end chip development can happen from design to manufacturing and not just parts like testing or packaging. That will depend on India's ability to create products, intellectual property (IP) and sustained domestic demand.

India's next transition is from engineering talent to ownership of products, platforms and intellectual property. Semicon India 2.0 policy recognises



The second priority is applied research. India has the talent but lacks institutions that bridge research and commercialisation. Germany's Fraunhofer Institutes and Taiwan's ITMI demonstrate how industry-led research can be translated into market-ready technologies. India should build such capabilities by aligning Semicon India 2.0 with the National Research Foundation and industry-led R&D.

The third priority is creating demand. Without sustained domestic demand, even world-class design and manufacturing capacity will struggle. The government can play a catalyst by encouraging procurement of India-designed solutions in strategic sectors.

Semicon India 2.0's focus on equipment, specialty chemicals, gases, materials, consumables and precision engineering is just as vital. Strengthening these capabilities will open new opportunities for MSMEs and deepen integration into global supply chains.

Talent development remains another cornerstone. A globally competitive semiconductor ecosystem requires sustained investment in specialised skills. Ultimately, the success of Semicon India 2.0 will be measured not by investments announced, but by whether India creates globally competitive IP, products and semiconductor companies that endure long after incentives expire.

The author is chairperson, IISATP Fund India industry manager, Marvel Technology

Semiconductor race heats up as conglomerates bet ₹4,000 crore

By Anand Mahalingam

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MUMBAI

Four of India's top conglomerates have cumulatively invested more than ₹4,000 crore in semiconductor projects over the past two financial years, with their top-jug government incentives as they bet on rising domestic demand for processors, memory chips, storage and other silicon products.

Starting January 2025, Tata Electronics, Murugappa Group's CG Power and HCL Group have announced semiconductor projects worth ₹2.29 trillion under the India Semiconductor Mission, which aims to strengthen domestic chip-making capabilities. Since then, these companies have invested ₹3,345 crore in as many semiconductor manufacturing and assembly plants in India, including L&T's ₹82 crore investment in chip design, the total rises to ₹4,137



Tata, Murugappa and HCL's investment plans total ₹2.29 trn.

Association. Chandak said these early investments are an "important breakthrough" as they could help "create a broader ecosystem for companies across the semiconductor value chain."

The government has earmarked more than ₹2 trillion in total outlay under two semiconductor incentive schemes - ₹70,000 crore under Semicon 1.0, launched in 2021, and ₹2.2 trillion under Semicon 2.0, approved in July 2024.

Flagships made by the ministry of corporate affairs, and accessed by Mint, showed that between FY25 and FY26, Tata Electronics invested ₹2,400 crore over six tranches in two step-down semiconductor subsidiaries - Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test (TSAT) Private Ltd. and Tata Semiconductor Manufacturing (OSM) Pvt. Ltd.

In February 2025, the Centre approved two Tata Electronics and Semiconductor

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

INDIA'S CHIPS

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An Indian encore, for chips

With a plan for semiconductor manufacturing in India, the country has a chance to become a global player in the industry.



Manufacturing path

Year	Investment (USD)
2023	100
2024	200
2025	300
2026	400
2027	500
2028	600
2029	700
2030	800

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TECH + SEMICONDUCTOR



"As electronics manufacturing and exports grow, they create demand for components and semiconductors, encouraging more investment across the ecosystem"

ASHOK CHANDRA
PRESIDENT, IESA AND SEMI INDIA



"Manufacturing is never going to be a start-up game. Start-ups can create value in chip design, intellectual property and specialised products"

ASHISH K. S.
OOFORWARD, AN INDIA-ORIENTED TECHNOLOGY FUND

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Business Standard

Business Today 10 August 2024



That optimism is why ISM 2.0, announced in the FY2026-27 Budget, and approved in June with an outlay of Rs 1.25 lakh crore, up sharply from ISM 1.0's Rs 76,000 crore is being watched closely. Where the first phase focused on getting manufacturing into the country, the second is meant to chase depth: equipment and materials, indigenous design IP, supply chains and R&D centres. These are the layers of this industry India still largely does not touch.

"Phase 1 established India's credibility; Phase 2 builds long-term capability. By strengthening fabs, advanced packaging, design, R&D, talent and the semiconductor supply chain, the Government is creating the foundation for a globally competitive ecosystem that will attract sustained investments, create high-value employment and significantly enhance domestic value addition," said Ashok Chandak, President of IESA and SEMI India.

Thank you!