# Communications & PR Review

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India Softens China FDI Curbs: Growth Push Or Risky Move? The Big Question

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Pax Silica, Memory Chips & ISM 2.0: The Next Phase of India's Semiconductor Strategy | Ashok Chandak

# PRINT

THE TIMES OF INDIA

# FDI rejig: Global investors with small Chinese stake likely to gain

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**FAST-TRACKING CLEARANCES**

> For sectors such as capital goods, electronic components, polysilicon and ingot-wafer, proposals will be cleared within 60 days

> Rare earth and rare earth magnets are expected to be on the list of department of promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT)

> Investments are likely to come in electronic components, such as passive devices, connectors, PCB manufacturing and electronic capital goods

"Opening up doesn't mean that concerns with regards to security have gone away" —AMARDEEP SINGH BHATIA | SECRETARY, DPIIT

**Chennai/ New Delhi:** The changes in foreign direct investment (FDI) rules for China and other land bordering countries (LBCs) are expected to fast track investment by global investment firms, such as Blackrock and Carlyle, as they were feeling the heat of approvals required, even if there was a very small Chinese shareholding.

On Wednesday, the Union cabinet allowed for tweaks in Press Note 3, which in 2020 had kept all FDIs from China, Hong Kong and other LBCs out of the automatic route. Now, companies can get automatic approval for investment in India, where beneficial ownership of Chinese entities are under 10% and they do not exercise control.

"We are opening up in a strategic and calibrated manner… It's a changing world and the opening up doesn't mean that concerns with regards to security have gone away," Amardeep Singh Bhatia, secretary for department of promotion of industry and internal trade, told reporters.

He said that a detailed SOP, along with a list of product categories for faster approvals in strategic sectors will be released "as soon as possible". For sectors such as capital goods, electronic capital goods, electronic components, polysilicon and ingot-wafer, proposals will be cleared within 60 days, while ensuring that majority shareholding and control remains with resident Indian citizens or entities controlled by them. Rare earth and rare earth magnets are expected to be among the list of productions that will be notified by DPIIT.

"In the expedited process, some steps have been done away with… but broadly, as far as the security clearances are required, political clearance is required, that process will remain in place," Bhatia said.

Easing of rules are expected to remove regulatory uncertainties that had stalled Indian joint ventures with Chinese partners since 2020, although it is not going to be easy for the Chinese majors, including BYD, to enter the market. With this, Indian companies are expected to easily access capital and process technologies, which are crucial for building a domestic ecosystem, as China currently dominates the global electronic manufacturing landscape.

J S Gujral, MD of Syrma SGS, an electronics manufacturing services provider to global players, said: "Easing rules will enable technology partnership and bridge certain gaps in the domestic availability of components, specialised materials and advanced manufacturing know-how."

The investments are likely to come in electronic components, such as passive devices, connectors, PCB manufacturing, and electronic capital goods, where India has large demand but limited domestic manufacturing capacity, said Ashok Chandak, president of IESA. The move is also expected to help India in electronics capital goods, including SMT assembly lines, chip materials, such as Polysilicon and silicon ingots and even assembly materials, such as enclosures and mechanical parts.

Shardul S Shroff, executive chairman of Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas said an expedited approval timeline for investments will bring greater certainty in processing timelines but will have limited applicability due to stringent requirements. Some experts said to make this meaningful BIS reforms are needed, including faster approval timelines, simplification and expanding testing infrastructure.

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

# Chip Firms Tap Gujarat Govt for Free Trade Zone and Shared Warehouse

## Applied Materials, Lam, KLA, Micron, Kaynes, CG Semi make representations to govt

Suraksha P & Dia Rekhi

**Bengaluru | Ahmedabad:** Semiconductor equipment makers, memory storage suppliers and companies that specialise in chip packaging and testing have approached the Gujarat government, requesting setting up of an exclusive free trade zone and shared warehousing infrastructure for the sector, people in the know told ET.

These companies include Applied Materials, Lam Research, KLA, Micron, Kaynes Semicon and CG Semi. They are establishing, or supplying equipment for, large semiconductor and related facilities in Gujarat, especially at the industrial belt of Sanand and Dholera where Tata Electronics is setting up India's first fabrication plant.

Analysts said having a free trade zone will allow companies to import, assemble and store equipment locally without paying import duties, making logistics smoother and enabling more efficient global supply chain operations. "We have got representations from Micron and CG Semi. The government is actively working with the industry for the same," a Gujarat government official told ET. "Micron has already been given approval for the SEZ and the representations from industry have mainly been about the shared warehousing and SEZ status."

Kaynes Semicon chief executive Raghu Panicker said the outsourced semiconductor assembly and test (OSAT) company already has approval for a special economic zone (SEZ) at Sanand. "We are not looking at a separate FTZ (free trade zone)," he said, but added that it would partner with other companies for a shared warehouse.

FOR FULL REPORT, GO TO www.economictimes.com

**EASING THE WAY**

Having a free trade zone will allow cos to import, assemble and store equipment locally without paying import duties

Sanjay Samaya

# ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಬಜೆಟ್ 2026ರಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಾನಿಕ್ಸ್, ಸೆಮಿಕಂಡಕ್ಟರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಡೀಪ್-ಟೆಕ್ ಆವಿಷ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಮಹತ್ವ

"ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಬಜೆಟ್ ಜಾಗತಿಕ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಾನಿಕ್ಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಸೆಮಿಕಂಡಕ್ಟರ್ ಉದ್ಯಮಕ್ಕೆ ಆಶಾದಾಯಕ ಸಂಕೇತವನ್ನು ಕಳುಹಿಸಿದೆ. ಇಎಸ್‌ಡಿಎಂ ಮತ್ತು ಸೆಮಿಕಂಡಕ್ಟರ್ ಹೂಡಿಕೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಆಕರ್ಷಕ ತಾಣವಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಹೊರಹೊಮ್ಮುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಈಗ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಪೂರಕವಾಗಿ ನೀತಿ ನಿರೂಪಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ನಾಯಕತ್ವ ಸಾಧಿಸುವ ಬದ್ಧತೆ ಹೊಂದಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸೆಮಿಕಂಡಕ್ಟರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇಎಸ್‌ಡಿಎಂ ವಲಯದ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳಿಂದ ಸುಮಾರು 45,000 ಕೋಟಿ ಹೂಡಿಕೆಯ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯು, ಜಾಗತಿಕ ಮಟ್ಟದ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಮೇಲೆ ಇಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಗಾಢವಾದ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸವನ್ನು ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತದೆ," ಎಂದು ಐಇಎಸ್‌ಎ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾದ ಅಶೋಕ್ ಚಂದಕ್ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಬಜೆಟ್ ಕುರಿತು ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯೆ ನೀಡಿದ ಅವರು, "ಅಷ್ಟೇ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಸಂಗತಿಯೆಂದರೆ, ಅತ್ಯಾಧುನಿಕ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರತಿಭೆಗಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ರಾಜ್ಯವು ಮಹತ್ವದ ಹೂಡಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಇಸ್ರೋ ಮತ್ತು ಕಿಯೋನಿಕ್ಸ್ ಸಹಯೋಗದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಐಐಎಸ್ಸಿ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಯಾಗಲಿರುವ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ರೋಬೋಟಿಕ್ಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಎಐ ಇನ್ನೋವೇಶನ್ ಝೋನ್, ಐಬಿಎಬಿ, ಸಿ-ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್ ಮತ್ತು ನಾಸ್ಕಾಂ ಸಹಯೋಗದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಆರಂಭವಾಗಲಿರುವ ಹಲವಾರು ಎಐ ಸೆಂಟರ್ ಆಫ್ ಎಕ್ಸಲೆನ್ಸ್ ಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕ್ವಾಂಟಮ್ ಟೆಕ್ನಾಲಜಿ ರೋಡ್ ಮ್ಯಾಪ್ ನಂತಹ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳು ಮುಂದಿನ ಪೀಳಿಗೆಯ ಸೆಮಿಕಂಡಕ್ಟರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಸುಧಾರಿತ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಾನಿಕ್ಸ್ ಆವಿಷ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಶಕ್ತಿ ತುಂಬುವ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿವೆ".

THE TIMES OF INDIA

# Helium supply hit, scans may get costlier

Veena Mani & Rupali Mukherjee | TNN

**15-20 DAYS OF INVENTORY LEFT**

> Helium is used right from conducting MRI tests to making semiconductors

> With barely 15-20 days of inventory left, manufacturers warn of disruptions in supplies to hospitals in the country

> A byproduct of natural gas processing, helium moves with LNG output

> Helium prices could spike by 50-200% in severe shortage scenarios, according to Fitch

> The semiconductor industry estimates indicate a sharp short-term price spike of 35-50%, with further increases ranging between 25-50% possible over the next one to three months

**Bengaluru/ New Delhi:** The impact of the Israel-Iran war is spreading like a contagion across different sectors. Its latest fallout is the disruption in supply of the noble gas helium which is used right from conducting MRI tests to making semiconductors.

With barely 15-20 days of inventory left, manufacturers warn of disruptions in availability to hospitals. Reduced supply and higher costs will mean pricier scans and diagnostic delays, warns the healthcare industry.

"Qatar contributes nearly one third of helium's global supply. Any sustained disruption will have a direct bearing on MRI services and allied applications around the globe and early price signals are concerning," Medical Technology Association of India chairman Pavan Choudary told TOI.

A byproduct of natural gas processing, helium moves with LNG output.

Fitch said in its recent note on the situation that spot helium prices could spike by 50-200% in severe shortage scenarios, while contract prices are typically more stable but could still rise 20-40% on renegotiation. "Even so, the impact on overall cost of goods sold should be modest for larger manufacturers because helium generally comprises around 0.5%-1% of production costs," the agency said, talking about the impact on manufacturers globally.

"Input costs have risen around 30% and freight has nearly doubled amid war-risk surcharges, compounded by gas shortages, putting significant pressure on the industry," said Poly Medicure MD Himanshu Baid.

Used to cool MRI magnets, hospitals and imaging centres are bracing for tighter supplies as inventories remain thin and global logistics remain volatile. Several companies have moved to developing helium-free MRI machines over the years. Siemens Healthcare MD Hariharan Subramanian said: "We have already introduced helium free MRIs with proactive adoption of drycool technology. This helium-efficient approach reduces dependency on the gas and minimises service disruptions."

The pressure is compounded by a shortage of industrial gas used in boilers and rising energy costs, forcing companies to rely on more expensive diesel or power alternatives. A sharp escalation in the prices of key medical-grade plastics is compounding pressure on the industry.

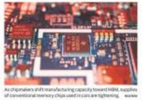
In March alone, the cost of widely used polymers such as ABS has climbed from about Rs 140 a kg to nearly Rs 190, while SAN has risen from Rs 135 to Rs 180. Polycarbonate has jumped to around Rs 240 per kg and polypropylene, from which a large range of disposables are made, has increased from roughly Rs 111 to Rs 147 per kg.

The semiconductor industry estimates indicate a sharp short-term price spike of 35-50%, with further increases of 25-50% possible over the next one to three months if supply constraints persist.

Helium plays a vital role in semiconductor fabrication, particularly in wafer cooling, leak detection and maintaining ultra-high purity environments. Its unique physical properties make it difficult to replace, especially in advanced chip manufacturing nodes where precision and contamination control are crucial.

"Helium is a critical input in semiconductor manufacturing and there are limited substitutes in advanced fabrication processes. Supply disruptions and price volatility could impact production costs globally," said Ashok Chandak, president of the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association.

# Artificial intelligence boom making new chip problem for car firms



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FINANCIAL EXPRESS
Read to Lead

PRESS NOTE 3 EASING EXPECTED TO UNLOCK TECHNOLOGY TIE-UPS

# Push to electronics manufacturing

URVI MALVANIA
Mumbai, March 11

**VOCAL FOR LOCAL**

- The scheme has an outlay of ₹40,000 cr
- It targets segments such as passive components, printed circuit boards and semiconductor supply chain materials

- Easing of rules signals a stronger policy focus on building a domestic component ecosystem, say analysts
- India still depends heavily on imports for key components

**THE EASING OF** investment restrictions under Press Note 3 is expected to give a fresh push to India's electronics manufacturing ambitions by enabling faster technology tie-ups and minority investments in component manufacturing.

Industry executives and analysts told Fe that the changes could complement the recently launched electronics components manufacturing scheme (ECMS), which aims to deepen domestic production of components and materials used in electronic devices. The scheme has an outlay of ₹40,000 crore and targets segments such as passive components, printed circuit boards and semiconductor supply chain materials.

Industry executives said the new PN 3 framework could ease collaborations between Indian manufacturers and global technology providers, particularly in upstream electronics manufacturing.

Ashok Chandak, president of the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association, said the move brings greater clarity for investors. "Clear rules on beneficial ownership and faster approvals will help attract technology partnerships into electronics manufacturing," he said.

India has expanded electronics assembly rapidly over the past few years, driven by incentives such as the production-linked incentive scheme. However, the country still depends heavily on imports for key components.

Analysts said the easing of investment rules alongside the ECMS signals a stronger policy focus on building a domestic component ecosystem. "India has virtually no background in electronic components manufacturing. Foreign support will be key," analysts at JM Financial said, adding that faster approvals would help ensure that projects under the component manufacturing scheme move quickly.

Several investment proposals in the electronics ecosystem are awaiting approvals under PN 3. Among the most closely watched is a proposed joint venture between Dixon Technologies and smartphone maker Vivo, which has been under regulatory review.

Industry executives said similar partnerships could emerge in areas such as display modules, printed circuit boards, connectors and passive components as companies look to localise supply chains.

Over the past few years, regulatory changes have already pushed smartphone brands to rely more on Indian manufacturing partners. Chinese companies like Xiaomi have tied up with local manufacturers including Dixon Technologies and Optiemus for assembly and exports, while other handset makers have adopted similar models.

The latest policy tweak could accelerate this shift by making it easier for companies to bring in technology and minority capital for component production while retaining majority ownership with Indian entities.

Industry estimates suggest the domestic market for passive components, connectors and printed circuit boards is already worth over $15 billion and could expand significantly as electronics production scales up in India. Strengthening the component base is seen as critical to reducing import dependence and improving the competitiveness of the electronics manufacturing sector.

Punya Nagri

# चिप हबकडे भारताची दमदार वाटचाल

## दररोज ७.५ ते ८ कोटी सेमीकंडक्टर चिप्स उत्पादनाची क्षमता

**या क्षेत्रांना होणार फायदा**

▮कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता ▮ऑटोमोबाईल उद्योग ▮स्मार्टफोन आणि लॅपटॉप ▮औद्योगिक उपकरणे ▮संरक्षण क्षेत्र

**मोठे प्रकल्प उभारणीच्या मार्गावर**

▮केन्स टेक्नॉलॉजी - प्रगत पॉवर मॉड्युल्स आणि पीसीबी उत्पादन

▮टाटा इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स - आसाममध्ये ओसॅट प्रकल्प; दररोज ५ कोटींपेक्षा जास्त चिप्स उत्पादन क्षमता

▮सीजी - औद्योगिक आणि ऑटोमोबाईल क्षेत्रासाठी इंटिग्रेटेड सर्किट्स; पूर्ण झाल्यावर दररोज १.५ कोटी चिप्स उत्पादन

▮नवी दिल्ली : देशातील सेमीकंडक्टर उद्योगात मोठी झेप घेण्याची तयारी सुरू असून नव्याने उभारण्यात येणाऱ्या प्रकल्पांमुळे दररोज सुमारे ७.५ ते ८ कोटी चिप्स तयार करण्याची क्षमता देशात निर्माण होणार असल्याची माहिती इंडिया इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स अँड सेमीकंडक्टर असोसिएशन संस्थेचे अध्यक्ष अशोक चांडक यांनी दिली.

कंपन्यांनी भारतात सेमीकंडक्टर प्रकल्पांची घोषणा केली आहे. त्यांचे कारखाने यंदाच्या वर्षअखेर किंवा पुढील वर्षाच्या सुरुवातीला सुरू झाल्यानंतर देशातील चिप उत्पादनात मोठी वाढ होईल. सर्व प्रकल्प कार्यान्वित झाल्यावर भारताची चिप असेंब्ली आणि टेस्टिंग क्षमता दररोज ७.५ ते ८ कोटी चिप्स इतकी होईल. यातील काही चिप्स देशांतर्गत वापरासाठी असतील, तर मोठा हिस्सा निर्यात केला जाईल. त्यामुळे जागतिक सेमीकंडक्टर साखळीत भारताचे स्थान अधिक मजबूत होईल असे चांडक म्हणाले.

**असेंब्ली आणि टेस्टिंगवर भर**

सध्या भारतातील सेमीकंडक्टर उद्योग मुख्यतः असेंब्ली आणि टेस्टिंग या टप्प्यावर लक्ष केंद्रित करत आहे. उदाहरणार्थ, मायक्रॉन टेक्नॉलॉजीचा भारतातील प्रकल्प असेम्ब्ली, टेस्ट, मार्क आणि पॅक प्रकारचा असून तो आधुनिक पॅकेजिंग सुविधा म्हणून काम करतो.

**एआयमुळे मेमरी चिपची मागणी वाढली**

मायक्रॉनच्या प्रकल्पात डी-रॅम, नॅण्ड आणि एसएसडी सारख्या मेमरी चिप्स तयार केल्या जाणार आहेत. एआय तंत्रज्ञानाच्या वाढत्या वापरामुळे या चिप्सची मागणी प्रचंड वाढली असून जागतिक बाजारात त्यांची कमतरता जाणवत आहे.

**१४-२८ नॅनोमीटर चिप्सवर सुरुवात**

सुरुवातीच्या टप्प्यात भारतात १४ ते २८ नॅनोमीटर श्रेणीतील चिप्सचे असेंब्ली आणि टेस्टिंग होणार आहे. मात्र, वेफर अजून भारतात तयार होत नाही, ते परदेशातून आणले जाईल.

Dainik Bhaskar

# भारत की सेमीकंडक्टर यात्रा में एक अहम पड़ाव : अशोक चांडक

इंडिया इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स एंड सेमीकंडक्टर एसोसिएशन (आईईएसए) भारत सरकार और माइक्रोन टेक्नोलॉजी को माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा गुजरात के साणंद में माइक्रोन की अत्याधुनिक एटीएमपी (असेंबली, टैस्टिंग, मार्किंग और पैकेजिंग) फैसिलिटी के ऐतिहासिक उद्घाटन पर बधाई देती है।इस आयोजन में उपस्थित रहे, आईईएसए के प्रेसिडेंट श्री अशोक चांडक ने इस घटना को भारत की सेमीकंडक्टर यात्रा में एक अहम पड़ाव बताते हुए कहाः यह मेरे लिए बेहद खुशी की बात थी कि मैंने स्वयं इतिहास बनते हुए देखा। प्रधानमंत्री के तीन शब्दों ने सब कुछ कह दिया - 'भारत तैयार है, भारत भरोसेमंद है, और भारत काम करके दिखाता है' - यह एक विश्व स्तरीय चिप ईकोसिस्टम बनाने में देश के भरोसे का एक शक्तिशाली ऐलान था।माइक्रोन के एटीएमपी प्लांट का चालू होना भारत की सेमीकंडक्टर नीति के इरादे को लागू करने और मैन्युफैक्चरिंग की तैयारी में सफलतापूर्वक बदलने का सबूत है। यह भारत सरकार, इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय, इंडिया सेमीकंडक्टर मिशन, गुजरात सरकार की मजबूत प्रतिबद्धता और हमारी महत्वपूर्ण सदस्य कंपनी माइक्रोन के भारत की डिजाइन और मैन्युफैक्चरिंग क्षमताओं पर भरोसे को दिखाता है।

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## Industry hails 'historic' Micron chip plant inauguration in India

IANS | February 28, 2026 6:22 PM

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New Delhi, Feb 28 (IANS) The India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) on Saturday congratulated the government and US-based Micron Technology on the historic inauguration of state-of-the-art ATMP (assembly, testing, marking and packaging) facility in Sanand, Gujarat, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. लाइव समाचार अपडेट

Terming the event a defining milestone in India's semiconductor journey, Ashok Chandak, President, IESA, who was present at the inauguration, said that "this is not merely the inauguration of a plant; it is the emergence of India as a serious, credible, and fast-emerging player in advanced semiconductor design and manufacturing."

"It was a privilege to witness history on the ground. The Prime Minister's triple cadence said it all — India is ready, India is reliable, and India delivers' — a powerful declaration of the nation's confidence in building a world-class chip ecosystem," he added.

Micron's landmark investment of Rs 22,516 crore (approximately $2.75 billion) represents one of the largest commitments by a global semiconductor leader in India's manufacturing landscape in addition to their design centres in India.

The facility will manufacture DRAM, NAND, and Solid-State Drive (SSD) products — critical memory components that power AI systems, high-performance computing, smartphones, data centres, automotive electronics, and next-generation digital infrastructure.

Memory manufacturing is strategically significant, as only a handful of nations possess this capability.

"With global demand rising sharply — particularly driven by AI workloads — and short-term supply pressures continuing, India establishing memory manufacturing presence in addition to design centres of Micron is both timely and transformative," said the association.

THE HINDU businessline

INFO TECH

## India shifts towards design-led semiconductor manufacturing, says IESA president

With strong design talent and policy support, country eyes global supply role through scaled-up production in coming years

By ANI

Updated - March 12, 2026 at 09:00 AM | New Delhi

India's semiconductor ecosystem is set to move towards design-led manufacturing, where chips are designed and manufactured within the country and then supplied globally. This was stated by Ashok Chandak, President of the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) and SEMI India.

In an exclusive conversation with ANI on India's progress in the semiconductor sector, Chandak said the country already has strong capabilities in chip design but now needs to ramp up manufacturing to complete the ecosystem.

"India is already good at design activity. We have to ramp up our manufacturing, and the next step will be design-led manufacturing. That means you design in India, and you manufacture in India and then use it worldwide," he said.

Chandak noted that various government policies have helped India move from aspiration to credibility in the

FORTUNE INDIA

## PM Modi inaugurates Micron's ₹22,516-crore ATMP facility in Gujarat; calls chips 'Regulator of 21st century'

Sentinel K

February 28, 2026, 20:18 IST | 5 mins read

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The ERP platform for billing

According to the India electronics and semiconductor association (IESA), Micron's investment of ₹22,516 crore is among the largest commitments by a global semiconductor major in India

Ashok Chandak, President, of IESA, toured the launch. "Lithography machines in India's semiconductor journey." | Credits: Getty Images

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"This century belongs to the AI revolution," PM Modi said. "If oil was the regulator of the last century, microchips will be the regulator of this century."

Narendra Modi
@narendramodi · Follow

With the commencement of commercial production at Micron's ATMP facility in Sanand, India will become an integral part of the global semiconductor value chain and our role in this sector will also grow stronger.

4:09 PM · Feb 28, 2026

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### From policy to production in record time

The Micron project has moved at an accelerated pace. The memorandum of understanding was signed in June 2023, followed by groundbreaking in September 2023. Installation of machines at the pilot facility began in February 2024, culminating in the start of commercial production in February 2026.

ET Manufacturing
From The Economic Times

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## Semicon players seek sops to meet goals

Industry experts say the next phase of policy evolution, ISM 2.0, is expected to address precisely this gap by focusing on upstream supply chains.

Suraksha P · ETtech
Published On Mar 19, 2026 at 08:06 AM IST

Companies related to semiconductors have sought financial incentives, such as capital subsidies and rebates on power and taxes, to help achieve the stated goals of the second phase of the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), underscoring the criticality of building a broader ecosystem beyond fabs.

Inox Air Products, for instance, sought a dedicated semiconductor materials localisation policy within the next six months.

"We don't see in the ISM 1.0 or SPECS scheme a very strong support for the semicon ecosystem players. The fab itself or the OSAT itself gets lots of incentives," said Diganta Kumar Sarma, head of strategy and business di

moneycontrol

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## Helium shock puts India's semiconductor, PCB push at risk due to the Iran-Israel war

India's semiconductor chip and printed circuit board (PCB) industry is staring at a critical supply risk after Iran's March 19 strike on Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG hub disrupted a key global source of helium—an essential, non-substitutable input for chip fabrication.

The shock threatens to ripple through manufacturing lines just as India accelerates its ambitions of becoming a global electronics hub, exposing a key vulnerability in its supply chain.

FINANCIAL EXPRESS

## Helium shortage may tighten chip supplies for user industries

A massive helium shortage triggered by Iranian strikes on Qatar's Ras Laffan facility has removed 30-38% of the world's supply, doubling spot prices overnight.

Written by Gaurvi Gupta

March 26, 2026 21:23 IST

Prefer FE

West Asia Crisis Shuts Down 1/3rd of Global Supply, Threatening April Chip Prices

A global helium supply disruption triggered by the West Asia crisis is beginning to add pressure on the semiconductor supply chain, with potential spillovers for electronics manufacturers that rely on chips, even as India's nascent fabrication units remain largely insulated for now.

Helium, a critical industrial gas used in semiconductor manufacturing, has seen supply constraints following disruptions in Qatar, which accounts for a significant share of global output. The immediate impact on India's chipmaking ecosystem is limited, as large-scale fabrication facilities are yet to ramp up production. However, industry executives said prolonged disruption could tighten chip availability for downstream sectors such as smartphones, laptops and consumer electronics.

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Faisal Kawoosa, chief analyst at Techarc, said pricing pressures were already building due to memory shortages, and the helium disruption could add to costs. "Prices have already been increasing for various reasons, mainly due to memory shortages. Now, with the West Asia crisis impacting helium supply, we expect another round of price increases starting early April," he said.

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