

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 728
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 24.07.2026

DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY FOR INDIA'S AI INFRASTRUCTURE

728. SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed India's dependence on foreign hardware and cloud providers for Artificial Intelligence (AI) compute infrastructure;
- (b) the steps taken to ensure strategic autonomy and digital sovereignty in high-performance computing under the India AI Compute Pillar;
- (c) whether any indigenous Graphics Processing Unit (GPU), semiconductor or alternative compute initiatives are being supported under this Mission; and
- (d) the long-term roadmap to meet India's AI compute requirements beyond the current five-year Mission period?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (d): India's AI policy is based on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of democratizing technology. It is aimed at creating economic opportunities and employment for youth, while addressing risks associated with it.

India's AI strategy builds on India's vibrant IT sector with annual revenue of 300 billion dollars and 60 Lakh strong workforce. India AI Mission supports India's AI ambitions under seven pillars including development of AI models, applications, datasets, talent development and affordable compute.

Government is cognizant of India's present dependence on globally available hardware and cloud infrastructure for high-performance AI computing. To address this, the IndiaAI Compute pillar has been established to build a scalable, accessible and sovereign AI computing ecosystem for India's research institutions, startups, MSMEs, academia, public-sector organisations and government entities.

Affordable compute:

- Compute Service Providers (CSPs) empaneled: 15, over four rounds of empanelment, comprising both high-end and mid-tier GPUs.
- Number of end-users supported: 237, with approximately 93.18 lakh GPU hours sanctioned.
- Through demand aggregation and competitive price discovery compute rates have been secured significantly below prevailing market prices. With subsidies of up to 40% for eligible users, GPU access is available at rates of less than USD 1 per hour.

- A unified IndiaAI Compute Portal has been operationalized for discovery, request and access to compute resources, along with published ready reckoners and Standard Operating Procedures for billing and utilization.

Strategic autonomy and digital sovereignty:

To further strengthen India's sovereign AI infrastructure, a High-Performance AI Compute System of approximately 1.1 EFLOPS is being deployed at the NIC Data Centre, Shastri Park, Delhi.

Semicon India Programme:

The semiconductor industry is a foundational industry. All sectors of the economy such as industrial, consumer, defence, telecommunication and automotive etc depend on semiconductors. This sector offers transformative capabilities by driving technological innovation, economic growth, and strategic self-reliance.

Recognising the importance of Semiconductors, the Government launched Semicon India Programme in January 2022 for setting up of semiconductor fabs, display fabs semiconductor packaging and also for promotion of Indian designed chips.

Under Semicon India Programme, Government has approved 12 manufacturing projects spanning across 6 states namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Punjab, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh with total investment commitments of about ₹1.64 lakh crore. Out of these 12 projects, commercial production has already commenced from three plants – Micron semiconductor Technology India Pvt. Ltd, KaynesSemicon Pvt. Ltd and CG Semi Pvt. Ltd.

Further, Twenty-four (24) semiconductor design projects have also been approved for financial support. Additionally, 105 start-ups/MSMEs have been granted access to industry-standard Electronic Design Automation (EDA) tools. So far, the usage of these chip design tools has exceeded 87 lakh hours.

Semicon 2.0:

Building on the success of Semicon India 1.0, the Union Cabinet approved Semicon 2.0 on July 15, 2026, with an outlay of ₹1.275 lakh crore. This initiative aims to establish a self-reliant, globally competitive semiconductor design and manufacturing ecosystem. Semicon 2.0 is built on following six core pillars:

No.	Pillars	Segment
1	Design of Chips	Strategic & commercial chips
2	Machines and materials	Equipment, chemicals, gases, materials
3	Setting up more Fabs	Silicon, display, compound etc.
4	Further strengthening the ATMP/OSAT industry	Advanced & legacy packaging
5	Research & Development	Advanced technologies
6	Talent Development	Design & manufacturing talent
