+918988885050 +918988886060



www.vajiraoinstitute.com info@vajiraoinstitute.com



TODAY'S ANALYSIS

(04 September 2024)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- DIGITAL AGRICULTURE MISSION
- INDIA PLANS \$15 BN FOR SEMICONDUCTOR CHIP

MANUFACTURING

MCQs





DIGITAL AGRICULTURE MISSION



On September 2, the Union Cabinet approved the Rs 2,817-crore Digital Agriculture

Mission aimed at creating Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in the agricultural sector.

This initiative follows the success of similar e-governance projects like Aadhaar and

UPI.

OBJECTIVES

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI):

- The DPI Mission will integrate advanced technology into agriculture, including 3
 major components:
 - i. AgriStack,
 - ii. Krishi Decision Support System (DSS),
 - iii. Soil Profile Maps.
- The mission will also establish the Digital General Crop Estimation Survey
 (DGCES) for accurate agricultural production estimates.

COMPONENTS

- 1. AgriStack:
 - Farmers' Registry:
 - Purpose: Create a digital identity for farmers, similar to Aadhaar, to centralize information on land ownership, crops, livestock, and demographics.
 - Implementation: Farmers will receive a digital ID that links to a comprehensive database containing their personal and agricultural details. This system aims to simplify interactions with government schemes and services.



- Pilot Projects: Trials have been conducted in districts such as Farrukhabad
 (Uttar Pradesh) and Gandhinagar (Gujarat). The goal is to create digital IDs for
 11 crore farmers, with 6 crore targeted in the current financial year and the rest in subsequent years.
- Funding: Rs 5,000 crore has been allocated separately for state incentives to develop the Farmers' Registry.

Crop Sown Registry:

- Purpose: Track and record crop planting information through digital surveys.
- **Method:** Mobile-based ground surveys will be used to gather data each crop season. This registry will help in assessing crop patterns and planning agricultural policies.
- Pilot Projects: Conducted across 11 states in 2023-24, with plans to expand to
 400 districts in the current financial year and the rest in 2025-26.

Geo-referenced Village Maps:

 Purpose: Link geographic data with land records to provide accurate mapping of agricultural areas.

+918988885050 +918988886060



www.vajiraoinstitute.com info@vajiraoinstitute.com



 Details: These maps will integrate land records with physical locations, improving land management and agricultural planning.

2. Krishi Decision Support System (DSS):

- Purpose: Develop a geospatial system that integrates information on crops, soil,
 weather, and water resources.
- Features:
 - Crop Mapping: Generate detailed crop maps to identify planting patterns and monitor agricultural trends.
 - Disaster Monitoring: Track droughts, floods, and other environmental factors affecting crops.
 - Yield Assessment: Use data to estimate crop yields, aiding in insurance claims and policy formulation.

3. Soil Profile Maps:

- Purpose: Create detailed soil maps to enhance soil management and agricultural productivity.
- Details:



- Scale: Maps will be produced on a 1:10,000 scale, covering 142 million hectares of agricultural land.
- Progress: A soil profile inventory of 29 million hectares has already been
 completed, with further mapping underway.

DIGITAL GENERAL CROP ESTIMATION SURVEY

- Purpose: Improve the accuracy of crop yield estimates to support agricultural policies and services.
- Features:
 - o **Data Collection:** Use scientifically designed **crop-cutting experiments** and remote sensing data to estimate yields.
 - Benefits: Provide accurate data for Minimum Support Price (MSP)-based procurement, crop insurance, and credit-linked loans. Facilitate balanced use of fertilizers and improve irrigation practices.

FUNDING & IMPLEMENTATION

Budget Allocation: Rs 2,817 crore allocated, with Rs 1,940 crore from the central government and the remainder from state governments and Union Territories (UTs).
 ADDRESS:

- Timeline: The mission will be rolled out over 2 years, concluding in 2025-26.
 Originally planned for 2021-22, the launch was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Current Status: Pilot projects are in progress, and the mission is part of the Agriculture
 Ministry's goals for the first 100 days of the Modi government's third term.

IMPACT ON FARMERS & AGRICULTURE

- Enhanced Efficiency: Streamlined access to services and benefits through digital platforms will reduce paperwork and physical visits.
- Improved Data Accuracy: Better crop estimates and soil profiles will support more effective agricultural policies and resource management.
- Empowerment: Digital tools will empower farmers with accurate information and services,
 leading to better decision-making and increased productivity.

+918988885050 +918988886060



www.vajiraoinstitute.com info@vajiraoinstitute.com



INDIA PLANS \$15 bn FOR SEMICONDUCTOR

CHIP MANUFACTURING



The Indian government has announced an increased funding outlay of \$15 billion for the second phase of its semiconductor manufacturing incentive policy.

- A. This marks a significant rise from the \$10 billion allocated for the first phase.
- B. The push aims to enhance India's presence in the global semiconductor industry.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Major Investments and Partnerships:
 - Tata Group's Fab Plant: Tata, in partnership with Taiwan's Powerchip
 Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (PSMC), is setting up India's first ADDRESS:

www.vajiraoinstitute.com info@vajiraoinstitute.com



commercial semiconductor fabrication plant with an investment exceeding Rs 91,000 crore.

- Assembly and Testing Plants: The government has approved 3 additional assembly and testing plants (ATMPs and OSATs). These plants, less complex than fabrication plants, focus on assembling and testing semiconductor components.
 - Micron Technology: The first ATMP, approved in June 2023, is being developed by US-based Micron Technology.
 - Tata's Assam Facility: Tata is also building an assembly plant in Assam.
 - G Power and Industrial Solutions (part of the Murugappa Group) and Japan's Renesas Electronics.

Financial Commitments:

- Total Project Cost: The combined cost for these four projects exceeds Rs 1.48 lakh crore.
- Government Subsidies: The central government will contribute nearly Rs 59,000
 crore in capital expenditure subsidies.



 State governments are enhancing the appeal of these projects by offering land and electricity at reduced rates.

IMPORTANCE OF CHIP MAKING

- Economic and Strategic Significance:
 - Current Landscape: India currently has minimal involvement in semiconductor manufacturing. Major production is concentrated in Taiwan and the United States, with the US investing around \$50 billion and the EU also offering substantial incentives.
 - Strategic Goals: Building domestic fabrication capabilities is crucial for economic growth and strategic autonomy, given the extensive use of semiconductors in various industries from aerospace to consumer electronics.
- Geopolitical Context:
 - Global Tensions: Amid rising geopolitical tensions, particularly between the US and China, India aims to capitalize on opportunities to strengthen its local chip industry with government support.

LIMITATIONS

• Technological Limitations:

- Node Sizes: The Tata-PSMC fabrication plant will not produce cutting-edge semiconductor nodes. This technology requires advanced capabilities not yet available with these partners.
- High Barriers: The semiconductor industry faces high entry barriers. Despite significant investments, like those made by China in Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation (SMIC), achieving technological advancements in smaller node sizes remains challenging. Leading companies such as Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC) possess a substantial technological advantage in this area.

• Technological Innovation:

 Innovation Needs: Manufacturing advanced semiconductor nodes involves a high level of technological innovation, which is currently beyond the scope of many new entrants, including the Tata-PSMC venture.



MCQs

- 1. Which of the following are the components of Digital Public Infrastructure for farmers?
 - 1. AgriStack
 - 2. Soil Profile Maps
 - 3. e-Commerce for agriculture.
 - (A) Only 1 & 3
 - (B) Only 1 & 2
 - (C) Only 1
 - (D) All of the above

Ans. (B)

- 2. The component of AgriStack in DPI for agriculture deals with which of the following?
 - 1. Giving a digital identity to farmers
 - 2. Digital mapping of land records
 - 3. Digital survey of crop planting.
 - (A) Only 1 & 3
 - (B) Only 1 & 2
 - (C) Only 2
 - (D) All of the above

Ans. (D)

- 3. Consider the following statements and mark the correct one:
 - 1. The Digital agri mission is completely funded by the center
 - 2. The Digital agri mission aims to improve soil health among other things.
 - (A) Only 1
 - (B) Only 2
 - (C) Both 1 & 2
 - (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (B)

- 4. Consider the following statements wrt Semiconductor chip manufacturing plants and mark the correct one:
 - 1. Semiconductor chip fabrication plants are more complex than assembly plants.
 - 2. Tata group has invested in a semiconductor fabrication plant.
 - (A) Only 1
 - (B) Only 2
 - (C) Both 1 & 2
 - (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (C)



- 5. Which of the following can be considered as the advantages of domestic semiconductor chip manufacturing?
 - 1. Atma Nirbharta
 - 2. Economic Development
 - 3. Strategic Autonomy
 - (A) Only 1 & 2
 - (B) Only 2
 - (C) Only 2 & 3
 - (D) All of the above

Ans. (D)

