

Government of India to invest ₹4,500 crore for modernization of SCL Mohali; Assures that it will not be privatised

28 student-designed chips fabricated at SCL handed over today

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Union Electronics and Information Technology Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw and Union Minister of State Shri Ravneet Singh visited Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL), Mohali to review the progress of work and ongoing modernisation activities.



During the visit, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw announced that the **Government of India will invest ₹4,500 crore** to upgrade and expand SCL. *“There is no doubt. SCL Mohali will be modernised and it will not be privatised. A big journey is ahead, and India is ready for it,”* the Minister assured. The Minister was speaking at SCL Mohali during a programme where 28 chips designed by students from 17 academic institutions were handed over.



These chips have been designed using Electronic Design Automation (EDA) tools provided to students as part of Chips to Start-up (C2S) program. With this, a total of 56 chips designed by students have been fabricated at SCL as part of the this programme.

The Minister also inaugurated the Semiconductor Process Gallery and Abhyuthanam Training Block. Semiconductor Process Gallery showcases a clean room lab equipped with earlier-generation fabrication tools. It offers students a real feel of a semiconductor fab and ATMP facility. The Abhyuthanam Training Block includes online and offline semiconductor training modules & hands-on fire and safety training.



Roadmap for SCL Mohali

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has drawn a clear roadmap for SCL Mohali, and he outlined the key vision areas.

SCL will be upgraded on the modern lines and government will invest Rs 4500 crore. This will include a large-scale increase in production capacity, targeting 100 times production of wafers from current levels.

SCL Mohali will also continue to support students, researchers and start-ups by providing fabrication facilities that turn their chip designs into real silicon.



World Class EDA tools

India is one of the few countries where students from nearly 300 universities are designing semiconductor chips using world-class EDA tools provided through Government support. This ecosystem, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw said, is unique in the world.

He reaffirmed that SCL will remain a platform for talent development, innovation and start-ups. This fabrication support provided by SCL so far will further increase in future.

To support the further modernisation programme of SCL, the Government of India has also requested the Punjab Government to allot 25 acres of land.

Atmanirbharta in strategic areas

The Minister added that self-reliance in strategic sectors is essential, and India will build an ecosystem for indigenous chip development.

A strong consortium featuring CDAC, DRDO and other organisations will work together on design, product development and manufacturing of Swadeshi chips.

MSZ

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