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SEMICON 2.0: TARGET TO LAUNCH 200 CHIP-DESIGN START-UPS

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the initiative. To promote semiconductor manufacturing in India, the Union Government approved the Semicon 1.0 programme in December 2021.
- Under the programme, 12 semiconductor manufacturing projects worth a total of around Rs.1.64 lakh crore were approved. Similarly, the Union Government approved the Semicon 2.0 programme in July. An allocation of Rs.1,27,500 crore has been made for the programme.
- » **Six Pillars**
 - Semicon 2.0 will focus on six major pillars : Chip design, Equipment and raw materials, Manufacturing facilities, Advanced packaging, Research and Development, Skill development.
- » **Chip Design**
 - Under the Semicon 2.0 programme, chip design will be the first major pillar. Under Semicon 1.0, around 105 start-ups were involved in chip-design activities. These start-ups received investments worth around Rs.800 crore.
 - However, this was only the beginning. This time, India has set a much larger target — to establish around 200 start-ups across the country for semiconductor chip design.
- » **Training for 85,000 People**
 - The sixth pillar of the programme is skill development. Under this initiative, a target has been set to train around 85,000 design engineers over the next 10 years. Already, around 70,000 design engineers have been trained within four years.

BIRTH AND DEATH REGISTRATION AMENDMENT ACT TO COME INTO FORCE FROM OCTOBER 1

- A recently passed amendment intended to tighten procedures and prevent delays in the registration of births and deaths will come into effect from October 1. Amendments have been made to the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969 to encourage people to register births and deaths within the prescribed time. Under the existing law, the registration of births and deaths is compulsory.
- If registration is delayed by more than one year, an order has to be obtained from the District Collector, Revenue Divisional Officer or another authorised executive authority. Under the amended law, the existing procedure will continue to apply for delays of up to two years.
- However, if registration is delayed by more than two years, the birth or death can be registered only on the basis of an order issued by a First-Class Judicial Magistrate. For this purpose, Section 13(3) of the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969 has been amended.
- The amended law will come into force from October 1. A Gazette notification regarding its implementation was issued on Wednesday. The notification stated that the law would be implemented by exercising the powers provided under Section 1(2) of the Registration of Births and Deaths law referred to in the amendment. The notification was issued by Registrar General of India Mrityunjay Kumar Narayan.