

UP's 1st semiconductor unit groundbreaking likely to be held in Jan

Shailvee.Sharda
@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: UP's first semiconductor unit, coming up through a joint venture between HCL and Foxconn in Sector 28 of Jewar area in Gautam Budh Nagar, is set for groundbreaking ceremony in Jan 2026.

Coming up for an investment of around Rs 3,706 crore, the unit falls in OSAT (Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test) category, which will manufacture Display Driver Integrated Circuits (DDICs).

DDIC is a crucial chip that acts as the "brain" of smartphones, televisions, and personal computers. They are also important for in-car displays and wearables such as smartwatches and smart glasses. In the world of technology, these chips are the force behind realms like 4K, UHD, micro-LED, OLED, and AMOLED, besides enabling features like touch control and foldable screens.

"As of now, India imports these chips. When functional, the unit — which will have a production capacity of 20,000 wafers per month — will bring down India's dependence on foreign play-

ers," an industry expert said, adding that the unit's proximity to the national capital and presence in UP makes it of immense strategic national importance, besides making it a driver of UP's ambitious economic goals.

Officials said that the project would serve as a building block of semiconductor operations in UP while making it of strategic national importance. "The unit that is set to advance India's goal of semiconductor self-reliance is due for a groundbreaking ceremony sometime in mid-Jan, after which rapid construction will begin," an official said.

Citing HCL Group chairperson Roshni Nadar Malhotra, the spokesperson said the venture would bring global technical expertise and strengthen skill development in semiconductor sector. Experts said with the ability to process 20,000 silicon wafers per month, the facility can support the mass production of millions of microchips, meeting growing domestic demand and reducing import dependency.

An official spokesperson credited the state govt for having created a lucrative environment for the arrival of such an industry in UP.