VeK
POLICY ADVISORY & RESEARCH

States Matter



Tracking Legislation, Policy & Regulatory Developments

September–October 2026



Legislative Updates

Policy Trends

Regulatory Changes

State-Level Insights

Editor's Note





Dear Readers,

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the VeK newsletter 'States Matter: Tracking Legislation, Policy & Regulatory Developments'. India's policy landscape is evolving rapidly, with the government introducing new policies and revising existing frameworks across various sectors. As states and union territories are central to India's growth story, it is essential to track and observe developments in terms of progression and different lenses to understand the development landscape. By tracking these developments, we hope to highlight state policies, evolution, and their implications on the overall policy landscape.

Launched as a monthly newsletter, States Matter amalgamates the policies, legislations and regulatory developments taking place across Indian States covering diverse sectors such as agriculture, automobiles, business and finance, climate and environment, electricals and energy, industry and trade, FMCG, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, infrastructure and planning, land and labour, mining and cement, renewable energy, and science, technology and artificial intelligence. We hope this newsletter becomes a valuable resource for policymakers, industry and other stakeholders with a consolidated overview of state-level and union territory-level developments and their wider implications. We welcome your feedback which will help us refine forthcoming editions.

In This Edition

The Inaugural Edition of States Matter brings together the recent key legislations, policies and regulations across the agriculture, automobile and EV, business and finance, climate, land, energy, infrastructure, industry, and science and technology sectors through the months of September and October.


Master Plan for Delhi-2047 (MPD-2047): A Pathway to Holistic and Sustainable Development


Haryana Progressive MSME & Export Promotion Policy 2026


Andhra Pradesh PPP Policy 2026


Viksit Gujarat Industrial Policy 2026


Karnataka Aerospace Policy 2026-31


Assam Hydrocarbon Exploration, Production and Upstream Ecosystem Development Policy 2026


Uttar Pradesh Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Policy 2026


Karnataka Marine Biotechnology Policy 2026-31

Regards,
Anvi Gupta

Contents



04 Cover Story



05 Agriculture



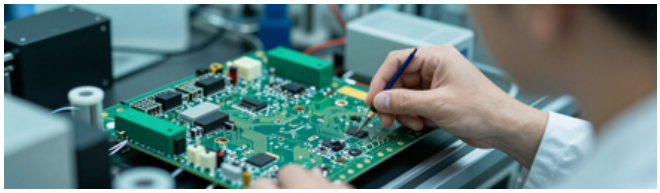
07 Automobile & EV



08 Business & Finance



09 Climate & Environment



11 Electrical, Electronics & AI



13 Industry & Trade



16 Infrastructure & Planning



17 Land & Labour



18 Renewable Energy



22 Science, Technology & AI

Master Plan for Delhi-2047 (MPD-2047): A Pathway to Holistic and Sustainable Development



KEY TAKEAWAY

The Master Plan for Delhi-2047 devises a comprehensive framework for Delhi's development focusing on economic development, culture and heritage, sustainability and low carbon mobility, and building resilient infrastructure.

The Master Plan for Delhi-2047 which lays out a framework for the development of Delhi has been notified by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) as of August 2026. The MPD-2047 provides a robust plan, targeting a holistic development framework for NCT Delhi and transforming the region by 2047. The vision of the plan is to "Foster a Sustainable, Liveable and Vibrant Delhi" with the goals of making Delhi an environmentally sustainable city that offers quality, affordable and safe living environments, and emerge as a dynamic hub for economic, creative and cultural development. The six main objectives which the plan meticulously explores are prioritising economic sustainability; facilitating economic development; enhancing heritage, culture and public spaces; improving housing and social infrastructure; moving towards efficient and low-carbon mobility; and developing resilient physical infrastructure. The MPD also proposes developing sectors such as transport and mobility, land-use and tourism.

Policy Implications

- There will be a greater shift in Delhi's power consumption towards the renewable energy sector, requiring investments from industry and the state.
- Strengthening digital infrastructure will enhance technology capacity and research and development and build a platform for information technology industries to operate and expand.
- Private sector participation in development will enable promotion of trade, ease of business through greater entry into sectors, and facilitation of a robust investment climate for industry.
- Development of low-carbon transportation will enhance connectivity with other pivotal regions, facilitate investment and growth in the EV and transport industry, and improve transportation efficiency.
- The objective of sustainability will promote conservation of biodiversity, building more efficient and resilient climate infrastructure and efficient use of natural resources, promoting a pivot towards the renewable energy industry, sustainable building material industry, and encourage green architecture.
- The development of a robust physical infrastructure will cultivate more business opportunities and hubs, increase economic activity and protect the city from disaster-management and shocks.

The VeK View

The MPD-2047 is a robust plan which will look at enabling accelerated development, along with an emphasis on sustainability and quality lifestyle. The plan through infrastructural development, technological and manufacturing advanced, reduced dependence on fossil fuels and promotion of clean and renewable energy, will look at holistic development of the National Capital Territory (NCT).

The plan will drive industrial growth and expansion, positioning Delhi as an export and investment hub through increased private participation. The emphasis on sustainability and conservation will also enable Delhi to fulfil India's carbon reduction goals and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), where green industry will become the centre of development. However, it is pivotal that infrastructural developments and project approvals are approved timely, without logistical bottlenecks.



A Andhra Pradesh Poultry Development Policy 2026-29 Approved

The Andhra Pradesh Poultry Development Policy 2026-29 plans an investment of Rs 657 crore (~US$ 68.98 million) to strengthen the poultry sector. The aim of the policy is to promote modern technology, attract investments, increase productivity, generate employment, and improve the poultry industry's competitiveness. Under the fiscal allotment, Rs 209 crore (~US$ 21.94 million) will be allotted to food-processing incentives, and Rs 296 crore (~US$ 31.08 million) will be for programmes under Animal Husbandry Department. The subsidies and incentives under this scheme include Rs 72 crore (~US$ 7.56 million) reserved for providing a 4% interest subsidy for loans for infrastructural development in poultry farms and hatcheries, a 25% government capital subsidy limited to a maximum of Rs 25 lakh (~US$ 26,250) for environmentally controlled poultry sheds infrastructure, existing poultry sheds receiving 25% subsidy for modernisation, electricity tariff; rural employment and income opportunities through establishment of Self-Help Groups, training and vaccination, value addition and marketing through facilitating Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models, and regulatory support.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Andhra Pradesh Poultry Development with a budget of Rs 657 crore (~US$ 68.98 million) looks at improving the poultry industry's competitiveness by promoting modern technology, attracting investments and increasing productivity.

Policy Implications

- Value chain expansion in the State through increasing and modernising production of poultry products, increasing exports and market competitiveness in the sector.
- Promotion of robust investments in the poultry sector, and enablement of expansion of poultry investment through technological and infrastructural support and facilitating PPP models.



A Gujarat Green Mobility Policy 2026

The Gujarat Green Mobility Policy 2026 aims for green vehicles to make up 30% of new vehicle registrations by 2031. From January 2028 and January 2029, only green vehicles will be permitted for new registrations in many priority-sector vehicle categories. Green vehicles under the policy are defined as a motor vehicle powered by electricity, hydrogen, biofuels or another low-emission and environmentally sustainable technology with low environment impact and low emissions. Green vehicles will include pure electric vehicles and battery-operated vehicles, fuel-cell hydrogen vehicles and hydrogen internal combustion engine vehicles, and ethanol 100 vehicles. The policy offers scrappage incentives, retrofit support, 100% motor vehicle tax exemption for eligible vehicles under Gujarat Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, including both lumpsum and recurring taxes.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Gujarat Green Mobility Policy 2026 looks at green vehicles constituting for 30% new vehicle registrations by 2031, offering scrappage incentives, retrofit support, and motor vehicle tax exemption for promoting adoption.

Policy Implications

- Facilitation of greater adoption of green vehicles in the State through encouraging targets for green vehicles to form a significant share of new vehicles, expanding the green vehicle industry.
- Promotion of greater research and development in developing various types of green vehicles, and will impact development of technology, innovation and entrepreneurship in the State through fiscal and non-fiscal incentives. By setting targets for green energy, investment and production in the automobile and EV industry will be promoted.

B Delhi-NCR approves Phased Shift towards Cleaner Light Goods Vehicles (LGV)

The Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) under Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change announced a phased shift towards cleaner light goods vehicles (LGVs) in Delhi-NCR, allowing only electric N1 light goods vehicle to be registered from January 1, 2027 in Delhi, extending to Gurugram, Faridabad, Sonipat, Ghaziabad, and Gautam Budh Nagar later in the same year. This would result in businesses operating goods vehicles in these areas to factor the new electric vehicle registration into future fleet purchases.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Delhi-NCR phased shift towards Cleaner LGVs will allow registration of only electric N1 vehicles from January 1, 2027, marking a greater adoption of EV in the region.

Policy Implications

- The shift towards cleaner light goods vehicles will promote greater investment, production, and research and development in the EV sector.
- Promotion of exploration, research and development, and investment in the green energy sector; and development of automobiles that can operate on cleaner fuels and green energy alternatives.
- The policy will be a step towards lowering carbon emissions from LGVs, resulting in improved air quality.

C Jammu and Kashmir EV Policy 2026

The Jammu and Kashmir Electrical Vehicle Policy, 2026 outlines a phased framework for the Union Territory to transition towards sustainable, affordable and green mobility, with an overall reduced dependence on fossil fuels with a six-year roadmap from 2026-32. The policy covers electric two-wheelers, cars, taxis, buses, goods carriers, government vehicles and other eligible categories. Vehicle adoption is modelled under three scenarios, covering ~60,000 vehicles under the Conservative Scenario, ~1,00,000 vehicles under the Base Scenario, and ~1,40,000 vehicles under the Accelerated Scenario over the implementation period. The financial support entails providing an incentive of 3% to 5% for a maximum period of 36 months, subject to category-wise vehicle caps, eligible loan ceilings and annual budget limits. There is also a provision for early-adopter support for ~15,800 vehicles with a rolling top-up provision of Rs 84 crore(~US$ 8.82 million). The policy looks at installation of 900 public charging sites in 6 years, and 140 fast charging hubs on priority corridors.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Jammu and Kashmir EV Policy 2026 looks at green mobility adoption, providing financial incentives and charging infrastructure in the Union Territory.

Policy Implications

- The policy will drive clean mobility in the UT, leading to robust investments and expansion of the electrical vehicle sector.
- Investments in the EV sector, infrastructure and mobility will enhance transportation in the UT, enhancing connectivity, reduce dependence on fossil fuels for vehicle, and promote domestic and international trade with the UT.

D Meghalaya EV Policy 2026

The Meghalaya Electronic Vehicle (EV) Policy 2026, aims to establish an electric mobility ecosystem that promotes environmental sustainability, reduces fossil fuel dependence, improves the quality of air and creates opportunities to foster entrepreneurship, private investment and generation of employment. The policy will remain in force for three years from the date of notification, replacing the 2021 policy. The policy provides purchase incentives for eligible electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers and four-wheelers on first-come, first-serve basis. In terms of electric two-wheelers there is an ex-factory price ceiling of Rs 1.75 lakh (~US$ 1,837) , with separate incentives for private and commercial electric two-wheelers, setting a category-wise limit of 2,000 vehicles each. The commercial electric three-wheelers category has a limit of 500 units along with incentives encouraging electric mobility in commercial transport. The policy sets an ex-factory price ceiling of Rs 35 lakhs (~ US$ 36,750) for electric four-wheelers, with private vehicles receiving a purchase incentive of Rs 25,000 (~US$ 262) and commercial vehicles being eligible to receive Rs 50,000 (~US$ 525), with each category having a limit of 3,000 vehicles. Other incentives under the policy include the waiver of motor vehicle tax and registration fees, scrappage incentives to replace older vehicles, expansion of charging and battery-swapping infrastructure, and investment facilitation and opportunity creation for green enterprises. The Commissioner of Transport, Government of Meghalaya, has been designated nodal agency responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the policy.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Meghalaya EV Policy 2026 aims to establish an environmentally sustainable electric mobility ecosystem, providing incentives will the ceiling of Rs 1.75 lakh (~US$ 1,837) for two-wheelers, and sets an ex-factory price ceiling of Rs 35 lakhs (~ US$ 36,750) for four-wheeler incentives to promote EV adoption.

Policy Implications

- The policy will enable establishment and expansion of the electrical vehicle industry in the State and lead to growth of eco-friendly enterprises, through providing adequate infrastructure and incentives.
- The policy will promote increased connectivity, public transportation, tourism, trade, employment, battery management services, and reduced dependence on conventional energy sources in the State.



A Delhi Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2026

The proposed Delhi Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2026 introduces deemed approvals, self-certification for low-risk businesses, and a single-window clearance system for reducing delays and regulatory barriers. If an authority fails to approve or reject an application within the fixed timelines which will be decided, the approval, registration, or No Objection Certificate (NOC) will be considered automatically granted. The proposed portal under this policy will handle building plan approvals, factory licenses, fire safety clearances, electricity, water and sewer connections, Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) registrations, and cooperative society registrations. The bill also proposes removing restrictions on Floor Area Ratio (FAR), ground coverage, setbacks, and building height to support industrial growth & expansion.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Delhi Ease of Doing Business Bill 2026 looks at fast-tracking business approvals and plans through a single-window clearance system and has the provision of automatic approvals in case of no response being given in the decided stipulated time by the concerned authority.

Policy Implications

- The policy focuses on fast-tracked approvals and greater facilitation for businesses through its portal which will enable easier operations, ensure efficiency in commercial activities and provide better access to required infrastructure.
- The removal of restrictions and limitations will lead to industrial expansion and flourishment.

B Haryana Progressive MSME & Export Promotion Policy 2026

The Haryana Progressive MSME & Export Promotion Policy 2026 aims to develop an ecosystem of self-reliance and innovation through offering incentive framework through technology adoption, infrastructure development, innovation and research, market access, export promotion, cost competitiveness and quality and value addition. The key objectives of the policy are to attract investment of Rs 55,000 crores (~US$ 5.77 billion) in the MSME sector; generate employment of 5,00,000 persons in the MSME sector, double exports from Haryana in the next 5 years; enable Joint Ventures and technology transfers while simultaneously promoting global trade and partnerships of state MSMEs, promote inclusive entrepreneurship, and promote green and renewable technologies. The policy has provisions for fiscal and other incentives for MSMEs including R&D, AI solutions and labs, and infrastructure.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Haryana Progressive MSME & Export Promotion Policy 2026 looks at export competitiveness, self-reliance, technology advancement, entrepreneurship and MSME promotion and global trade and partnership for the State, with an aim to attract investments worth 55,000 crore (~US$ 5.77 billion)

Policy Implications

- MSMEs will be provided a robust platform for development through investment in the State, having access through greater infrastructure, ease of business, technology, export and market access.
- Export and entrepreneurship opportunities will be created, fostering an investment market through incentives and infrastructure for diverse sectors including renewable energy, artificial intelligence, export and trade, and the manufacturing sector.



A Rajasthan Mandates Plantation of Trees in Renewable Projects

The Rajasthan State Government has mandated for renewable energy developers to reserve 10% of their allotted land for tree plantation & revises land allotment norms, fixing 2 hectares per MW for solar and wind projects & 2.5 hectares per MW for hybrid projects.

Policy Implications

- The renewable energy sector, specifically the solar and wind power industry, in the state will have to adhere to the limitations set for land utilisation and emphasise environmental protection in their operations through facilitating plantation.
- The mandate requires more efficient compliance checks and develops further frameworks for sustainable development by maintaining a balance between infrastructural and energy development and environmental protection.

B Haryana Diesel Generator Set Subsidy Scheme

The Haryana Diesel Generator Set Subsidy Scheme has the objectives to reduce air pollution by decreasing emissions from diesel generators; promote transition from diesel-only generators to cleaner, environmentally friendly alternatives to enhance compliance with Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) standards; and to support Small and Medium enterprises in adopting Retrofit Emission Control Devices (RECD) through shifting to cleaner fuels for sustainable practices. Under the scheme the state's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) shall be eligible for a 50% reimbursement of the cost of RECD, subject to a maximum of Rs 5 Lakh (~US$ 5,250)& MSMEs are eligible for a 50% reimbursement for the purchase of a new generator up to Rs 20 Lakh (~US$ 21,000).

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Haryana Diesel Generator Set Subsidy Scheme facilitates MSMEs to purchase RECD to reduce emissions for cleaner air, providing a 50% reimbursement for the cost of RECD up to Rs 5 lakh (~US$ 5,250) and reimbursements up to Rs 20 lakhs (~US$ 21,000) for purchasing new generators.

Policy Implications

- The policy will promote cleaner air and reduced emissions in Haryana, with the impact also being prevalent in the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR).
- The RECD industry will have a platform for growth and expansion in the state, through increased demand and policy support.
- MSMEs in the state will be able to shift to sustainable practices, contribute to cleaner air quality and reduce their carbon footprint.

C Telangana's Urban Climate Atlas

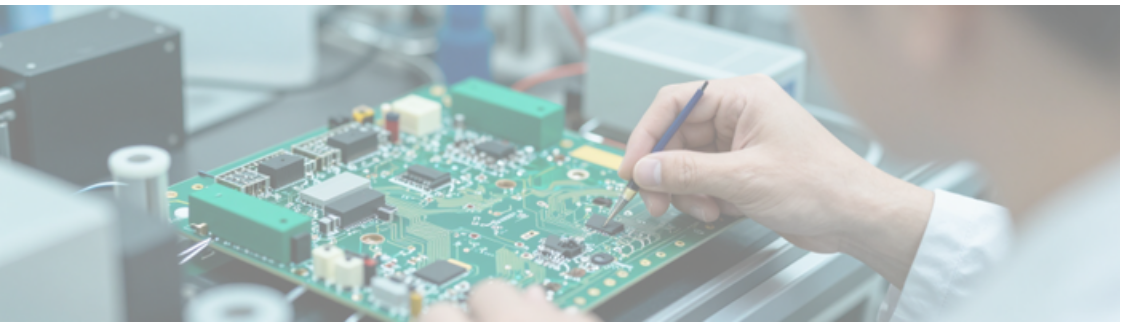
Telangana has launched the Urban Climate Atlas, which is a digital, map-based platform to provide Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) with data regarding climate risk and vulnerabilities to support climate-responsive urban planning. The atlas was launched as a part of the State Climate Centre for Cities, established under the City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain (CITIIS) Programme 2.0. The Centre will serve as the state's nodal knowledge, data and technical-support platform for municipal climate action. Its mandates entail climate-data management, greenhouse gas emissions, climate-risk and vulnerability assessments, including heat islands and urban flooding, climate action planning and capacity building. There will also be facilitation of integration of climate considerations into urban policies, infrastructure projects and municipal decision-making. The Centre will also provide support in preparation of climate action plans for ULBS and combine it to construct an Integrated State Climate Action Plan. The Telangana Urban Climate Atlas will consolidate data on climate risks, vulnerabilities, emissions, and urban services; enable municipal bodies to identify vulnerable areas and plan investments, as well as design area-specific climate measures.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Telangana Urban Climate Atlas is a digital, map-based platform which provides ULBs climate data and aims to strengthen climate planning, systematise climate budget allocation, and help devise region-wise climate action plans in Telangana and India.

Policy Implications

- Strengthened climate planning in the state and enhanced immediate disaster management and mitigation.
- Systematisation of climate budget expenditure and identification of areas where investment must be prioritised.
- The atlas can be extended to other states in India which will enable the preparation of comprehensive state-wise climate action plans and analyse local climate problems meticulously.



A Meghalaya State Electricity Regulatory Commission (State Grid Code) Regulations, 2026

The Meghalaya State Electricity Regulatory Commission (State Grid Code) Regulations, 2026 repeal the 2012 Code and its subsequent amendments upon the implementation of the new regulations, being applicable to all users connected to the State Transmission Utility. The new Grid Code aims to improve grid stability; specify transmission requirements for new generating companies, distribution/trading licenses; indicate generation scheduling and dispatch; and enforce what is verbally agreed. The user must provide reliable speech and data communication systems on path diversified data links to facilitate necessary communication, data exchange, supervision and control of the grid by State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC) according to Central Electricity Authority (CEA) Technical communication standards.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Meghalaya State Electricty Regulatory Comission (State Grid Code) Regulations 2026 aim to improve grid stability, specify transmission requirements and enforce verbal agreements.

Policy Implications

- The Meghalaya State Electricity Regulatory Commission (State Grid Code) Regulations, 2026 look at improved access to electricity for users & industry through improved data exchange and communication; and enforces and specifies rules for generation, distribution and trading companies in Meghalaya.

B Draft Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (Electricity Supply) Regulations, 2026

The drafted and proposed Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (Electricity Supply) Regulations, 2026 aim to create a uniform set of rules for consumers and distribution licensees across Karnataka. The draft suggests repealing many existing regulations and orders, such as the KERC Electricity Supply Code 2004, Conditions of Supply 2006, as well as previous provisions regarding security deposits, expenditure recovery and appeals. The new system proposes electricity supply categories to be based on contracted load and voltage levels, extending to 220 kV Extra Tension connections for large industrial requirements. Online applications for new connections will be required, with updates being given to applicants via SMS. The draft also suggests installation of at least four EV charging stations for large urban buildings with connected loads of 250 kW or more.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The proposed Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (Electricity Supply) Regulations, 2026 create uniform rules for consumers and distribution licensees, extend to 220 kV Extra Tension connections for large industrial requirements, require an online application system, and look at installation of EV charging systems.

Policy Implications

- Power-intensive industries can utilise the new rules to set up operations in the state due to improved access to infrastructure and having ease of applications for power supported by a digital system.
- The EV sector can further develop and expand in the state due to the regulations focus on installation EV infrastructure and stations, providing a larger market which aligns with the state's initiatives.
- The compliance and regulatory checks of the state are to improve due to the regulations having streamlined rules for consumers and distribution licensees.

C Gujarat Electricity Grid Code Regulations 2026

The Gujarat Electricity Commission (GERC) has notified the Gujarat Electricity Grid Code Regulations 2026 under the Electricity Act of 2003, which replace the 2013 regulations, and apply to entities within Gujarat's intra-state electricity network. The new code entails power transmission, scheduling, dispatch, grid coordination, and the integration of renewable energy sources. It also establishes requirements for energy storage, system security, frequency management and long-term resource planning. The updated framework outlines responsibilities for transmission planning, real-time grid management, power scheduling and coordination within connected entities. The regulations have established two coordination committees: the State Operation Coordination Committee will look after system planning and outage coordination, while the State Level Protection Co-ordination Committee will look at protection systems and related operational requirements. The Resource Planning Code of the regulations introduces a requirement for rolling out 10-year transmission development plan, entails integrated resource planning and demand forecasting across different time zones. Additionally, the Regulations entail specific provisions for solar power, wind energy, wind-solar hybrid projects, standalone Energy Storage Systems (ESS) and Pumped Storage Plants (PSPs); addressing technical and operational requirements.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Gujarat Electricity Grid Code Regulations 2026 focus on power transmission, scheduling, dispatch, grid coordination, integration of renewable energy sources; and establish requirements for energy storage, system security, frequency management and long-term resource planning.

Policy Implications

- The new regulations will increase energy efficiency and planning in the state, providing a more comprehensive framework for energy grid management in the state.
- The revised rules will ensure smoother transition and availability of renewable energy sources and streamline resource planning.

D Tamil Nadu Semiconductor Ecosystem Scheme 2026

Tamil Nadu's Semiconductor Ecosystem Scheme 2026 predates India's Semicon 2.0 Programme, with incentives and support for machines and materials, setting up more fabs, and further strengthening the Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) / Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) industry, covering categories 4 to 8 of the Semicon 2.0 notification. The scheme looks at two tracks: Track 1 covers projects approved by the Government of India under Semicon 2.0, and Track 2 covers projects that have either not applied under Semicon 2.0 or have not been selected. State support under Track 1 project entails 15-25% support dependent on the categories. State support for Track 2 projects provides a fixed capital subsidy for Eligible Fixed Assets ranging from 15-25% and turnover subsidy ranging from 1.5-2%, dependent on the category, minimum investment and employment threshold. Other incentives under Track 1 and Track 2 include special training incentives, payroll subsidy, localisation support incentives, product testing and prototyping incentives, land cost incentives, stamp duty incentives, electricity tax exemptions, enhanced quality certification incentives, interest subvention, and green industry incentives. The scheme will apply to eligible proposals submitted to Guidance Tamil Nadu on or before 30th September 2027. Incentives sanctioned by the Government of Tamil Nadu under Track 1 will become effective subject to the sanction of the project by the Government of India under Semicon 2.0. The incentives sanctioned under Track 2 will be effective from the date of sanction by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Tamil Nadu Semiconductor Ecosystem Scheme provides fiscal incentives for categories 4-8 of India's Semicon 2.0 programme for eligible proposals submitted on or before 30th September 2027.

Policy Implications

- Promotion of investments in the semiconductor industry of the State, through the provision of subsidies and adequate infrastructural support.
- The significant investment and development of semiconductor manufacturing will position the State as a leading exporter of electronic exports.



A Andhra Pradesh Government Approves its Public Private Partnership (PPP) Policy 2026

The proposed Andhra Pradesh Public Private Partnership (PPP) Policy 2026 is aimed at attracting private investments in transport, ports, airports, healthcare, education and renewable energy, providing Rs 1,500 crore (~US$ 157.5 million) under Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme & Bridge Fund to support financially unviable projects with long-term revenue potential. The policy approved fresh & revised land allocations in the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) area, also approving a reduction of monitoring charges levied by the Andhra Pradesh Transmission Corporation (APTRANSCO) & Andhra Pradesh Power Distribution Companies (APDISCOMs) for industries & land transfers for solar projects under the PM-KUSUM feeder-level solarisation scheme in Kadapa district.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The proposed 1,500 crore (~US$ 157.5 million) Andhra Pradesh Public Private Partnership (PPP) Policy 2026 aims to attracting private investment across several industries in the State, providing funding and land allocations for industrial development.

Policy Implications

- Private sector industries in the transport, infrastructure, healthcare and renewable energy sector can capitalise on the state provided funding under the policy to set up operations, expand business activities, develop long-term projects, and invest to further develop the state as a commercial and infrastructure hub.
- The solar power sector has the scope to be a prominent industry under the policy, with land and infrastructure support, and subsidy in monitoring charges.

B Viksit Gujarat Industrial Policy 2026

The Government of Gujarat has rolled out the Viksit Gujarat Industrial Policy with a validity period of 5 years from 1st June 2026. The policy will look at positioning Gujarat as a thriving economic hub, strengthen Gujarat's integration with Global Value Chains (GVCs), drive export diversification and import substitution, develop industrial infrastructure, create the Udyog Sahay Kendras to serve as an integrated support hub for all invest-related communication and engagement between stakeholders, foster innovation-led growth by strengthening research and development, build a future-ready workforce with advanced technologies to promote startups and MSMEs, regional development in the state, and accelerate the growth of the service sector to enhance Gujarat's GDP contribution and global market competitiveness.

Under the policy, the State has identified thrust sectors which have driven or have the potential to drive significant economic growth at the state and national level to deepen manufacturing capacities across the value chain and ensure long-term industrial resilience and productivity. The selected thrust sectors are manufacturing of sports goods and equipment, toys, footwear, robots, and drones. The policy also provides financial support for startups such as seed support of up to Rs 30 lakhs (~US$ 31,500) , with an additional Rs 10 lakhs (~US$ 10,500) for startups with pivotal societal impact, and another Rs 10 lakhs (~US$ 10,500) for technology-related startups; and the total maximum seed support will be Rs 50 lakhs (~US$ 52,500) per startup. Further, cross-border innovation hubs through collaboration between startups of two countries will receive incentives up to Rs 1 crore(~US$ 105,000). Eligible enterprises will receive 45% of eligible capital investment in Category-A areas and 35% in Category B-areas as explicated in the policy, with selected thrust sectors receiving assistance of 50% in Category-A areas and 45% support in Category-B areas.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Viksit Gujarat Industrial Policy 2026 looks at positioning Gujarat as a globally competitive industrial hub, outlining priority thrust manufacturing sectors in the state such as sports equipment, toys, footwear, robots and drones, and providing fiscal and infrastructural support to promote the states startups.



Policy Implications

- Gujarat will be further established as a key industrial and commercial hub through robust investment and development across sectors; diversification of exports and global market competitiveness through cutting-edge innovation, research, advanced technology and infrastructure; and reduce import-dependence through strengthening advance manufacturing ecosystems.
- An increase in exports at the state and national level will be prompted, through strengthening the state's supply value chain of merchandise with footwear, apparel and sports goods and equipment being a part of selected thrust sectors and promote a significant rise of MSMEs and startups through providing financial support for establishment.
- The policy will drive significant economic growth, industrial expansion, strengthen the service sector, and lead to creating innovative products and solutions due to a focus on investment in technology, infrastructure and research, with manufacturing drones and robots being selected priority sectors.

C Delhi Industrial Policy 2026 Approved

The Government of Delhi has approved a new industrial policy which will be applicable for the next 10 years and focus on providing special incentives for 10 priority sectors, including IT and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES), global capacity centres, data centres, and healthcare to drive Delhi as a technologically driven, clean industrial hub. The policy allocates Rs 1,000 crore (~US $ 105 million)under Mukhyamantri Udyamshree Yojana for industrial promotion and employment generation. Invest Delhi, the concerned government agency, will operate through the Delhi Udyog Mitra and serve as the nodal point of contact and guide investors for initial information, getting approvals, disburse incentives and resolve grievances. The policy offers tailored incentives dependent on the sector, ranging from Rs 10 lakh (~US$ 10,500) to Rs 60 crore(~US$ 6.3 million), offering higher incentives for women especially in the MSME sector. The policy will also offer support in the forms of certification and data security related expenses, patent related assistance, capital investment technology modernisation, energy conservation, and skill development.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The 1,000-crore (~US$ 105 million) Delhi Industrial Policy 2026 will drive industrial growth and expansion, strengthen technology and advanced manufacturing infrastructure, generate employment promote MSME growth, and enable ease of operations in UT.



Policy Implications

- Establishment and expansion of new industries in the national capital region, promoting technological, multinational, healthcare and clean industries and industrial activity. There will also be an additional emphasis on green industrial activity.
- Expansion and growth of MSMEs, entrepreneurship and generate employment in the State.
- Ease of operations and business, promotion of more investment in the UT, provision of intellectual property rights protection to business, and increased exports and trade from the Delhi region.



A Karnataka Aerospace Policy 2026-31 Approved

The Karnataka State Cabinet approved the Karnataka Aerospace Policy 2026-31 with a focus on aerospace, defence, aviation, and space research and development, expecting an investment of ~Rs 60,000 crore (~US$ 6.3 billion) investment over the next 5 years. The policy looks at a subsidy of up to 50%, capped at three anchor investors per cluster. The government will entirely fund two new common testing and certification facilities under this policy, in addition to the Devanahalli Aerospace and Defence Park.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Karnataka Aerospace Policy 2026-31 Approved will look at a Rs 60,000 crore (~US$ 6.3 billion) investment in the aerospace and defence sector, provision of infrastructure for research and development in the sector, and promotion multi-industrial development and growth in the State.

Policy Implications

- The establishment of testing centres, which are costly, in the state will encourage more private investment in the state, with several product-intensive industries shifting to the state, leading to increased industrial and economic activity.
- The development of aerospace and defence structure will improve connectivity and security in the state, prompting export and investment at national and international level, with the potential of attracting foreign direct investment to further solidify infrastructural and economic development in the state.



A Jammu & Kashmir Land Pooling Policy 2026

The Jammu & Kashmir Land Pooling Policy 2026 aims to harness the expertise, resources and efficiency of private developers to create well-planned urban spaces. Under the policy the Developer Entity is to have a pool of landowners who have consented to constitute a Consortium as prescribed and render their lands free from all encumbrances to form part of the Land Pooling Scheme, provided that voluntary consent is secured from at least 70% of landowners in a contiguous area before the land pooling schemes are proceeded. The Developer entity or consortium may retain 60% of the contiguous area, surrendering the remaining 40% to the Development Authority, free from all encumbrances for the development purposes of city level infrastructure, recreational and PSP facilities.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Jammu & Kashmir Land Pooling Policy 2026 aims to utilise the expertise, resources and efficiency of private developers to create well-planned urban spaces, providing developers 60% of the contiguous land area.

Policy Implications

- Through enabling voluntary participation of landowners, greater urban infrastructural developments in the region will take place.
- Land development will enable the establishment of several industries such as power, and construction which will drive infrastructural development in the region.

B Gujarat Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill

The Gujarat Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill provides that if a registered sale document relates to the rightful land, with all account holders having given consent and there being no prior dispute, the transaction will be registered and certified on the same day. The amended bill also provides for the immediate registration and certification of changes according to the orders issues by a competent authority, court or tribunal, without the issuance of a separate notice. The State will also implement e-Dhara digital land records through this system.

Policy Implications

- The amendment will reduce regulatory delays and increase transparency for farmers, citizens and industries, building a greater digital land record ecosystem in Gujarat.



A The Government of Rajasthan Amends the Rajasthan Land Revenue (Allotment of Land for setting up of Power Plant based on Renewable Energy Sources) Rules, 2007

The 2026 amendment of the Rajasthan Land Revenue (Allotment of Land for setting up of Power Plant based on Renewable Energy Sources) Rules, 2007 allows allotment of land for mega renewable energy projects, renewable energy parks & green hydrogen projects of 1,000 MW and above. Under the new provision, land can be allotted for projects of 1,000 MW & above even where developers do not presently have connectivity from Central Transmission Utility (CTU) or State Transmission Utility (STU), with a separate mechanism for allotment of land for energy storage systems, including standalone & renewable energy-integrated projects. For pumped storage hydro projects, the Rajasthan Renewable Energy Cooperation (RREC) can recommend land only post acceptance of non-forest land for compensatory afforestation by the Forest Department or Stage-I Forest clearance. The government has provided flexibility in project timelines where the land has to be utilised within prescribed period linked to the Scheduled Commercial Operation Date or firm connectivity with the overall maximum timeline capped at 9 years from 'Right to Use' order issuance.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The amended Rajasthan Land Revenue Rules allow land allotment for mega renewable energy projects, renewable energy parks & green hydrogen projects of 1,000 MW and above.

Policy Implications

- The policy enables an easier mechanism for renewable land approval which will prompt development, growth and infrastructural support for the renewable energy sector in the state.
- Through allotment of land for large renewable energy projects, there will be robust investment, infrastructural development, and greater adoption of renewable energy in the state.
- Flexible timelines will reduce regulatory restrictions and simplify completion of capital-intensive and time-intensive projects, providing ease of doing business.

B The Government of Odisha Amends the Odisha 2022 Renewable Policy

The 2026 amendment to the Odisha 2022 Renewable Policy brings in Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), wind energy & Pumped Storage Project (PSP) projects under it. The amendments look at removing the existing 500 MW cumulative cap for the allocation of wind power projects under the first-come-first served mechanism, providing a Right of First Refusal (RoFR) of up to 25% of the renewable capacity of captive projects. The policy grants an Electrical Duty Exemption of 50 paise/unit for RE projects in the State for 10 years from commissioning & lays down operational guidelines to improve efficiency and streamline renewable energy projects. The policy extends CPSU/SPSU flexibility by allowing development of self-identified PSP sites on a MoU/nomination basis as State-identified site; sets clear registration fee provisions with fee remaining at INR 10,000/MW, capped at Rs 21 crore (~US$ 2.2 million) per project & extending the registration window from 3 weeks to 3 months, enabling self-identification of sites and submission of applications.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The amendments in the Odisha 2022 Renewable Policy incorporate BESS, wind energy and PSP projects, grant electrical duty exemption for 10 years from commissioning, sets clear registration fees support capped at Rs 21 crore (~US$ 2.2 million) per project, and extends the registration window to 3 months.

Policy Implications

- Through the removal of the cumulative cap for wind projects, larger wind projects can be developed by the renewable energy industry, increasing investments in the state and its infrastructure.
- Through offering financial incentives, subsidies, flexibility, and streamlined process guidelines, the policy will enable establishing the state as a key hub for the renewable energy sector.

C Assam Hydrocarbon Exploration, Production and Upstream Ecosystem Development Policy, 2026

Assam Hydrocarbon Exploration, Production and Upstream Ecosystem Development Policy, 2026 focuses on enhancing domestic energy security, increasing exploration intensity, reducing dependence on imported hydrocarbons and promoting advanced upstream technologies, positioning Assam as India's preferred destination for hydrocarbon exploration and production. The objectives of the policy are to facilitate exploration, appraisal, development, production, recovery enhancement and revival of non-producing assets; increase utilisation within State; develop external and common infrastructure required by multiple operators and host communities; and provide a transparent mechanism for applying a portion of State petroleum revenue in producing districts. The policy outlines licensing procedures for projects, project categories covered, single window facilitation and timeline, infrastructure and fiscal incentives, as well as upstream supply chains, MSMEs and local procurement.

KEY TAKEAWAY

Assam Hydrocarbon Exploration, Production and Upstream Ecosystem Development Policy, 2026 looks to explore and establish hydrocarbon as a stronger renewable energy source, foster R&D and innovation in the state, MSME facilitation, and reduce hydrocarbon imports to India.

Policy Implications

- The policy will facilitate establishing a robust hydrocarbon energy industry in the state and country.
- The fostering of research and development will enable exploration of more renewable energy resources in the country, reducing dependence in imported hydrocarbons.
- There will be potential growth and development for the renewable energy industry and MSMEs in the state.

D Uttar Pradesh Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Policy 2026

The UP cabinet approved the Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Manufacturing Promotion Policy 2026 with the aim of attracting investment, promulgate clean aviation fuel production, as well as employment generation through agricultural waste and other locally available feedstock utilisation. The policy will remain effective for 5 years with the UP New and Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPENDA) as the nodal agency. The objective is to establish UP as a major SAF manufacturing hub, pushing the aviation sector towards cleaner energy and enhancing energy security. The policy will divide SAF manufacturing units under three categories according to investment, with units with Rs 200-500 crore (~US$ 21 million- 52 million) being under the bronze category, units investing Rs 500-1,500 crore (~US$ 52 million- 157 million) being under the silver category, and investments over Rs 1,500 crore (~US$ 157.5 million) being under the gold category. The policy will provide incentives to eligible units with exemptions and reimbursements for stamp duty, land-use conversion charges, development charges, interest subsidies, 100% electricity exemptions for 10 years, as well as reimbursement of patent registration fees.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The UP SAF Policy 2026 aims to attract investment, promote clean aviation fuel production, providing fiscal incentives and patent support to eligible units.

Policy Implications

- Creation of a new market for crop residues, converting agricultural waste into a value-producing industry, provide sustainable fuel to the state and country.
- Attract robust investments in the state which will focus on green energy and utilisation of resources, promoting exports and foreign investments in the state.
- Reduce reliance on fossil fuels for the aviation sector, provide energy security through reduce import reliance on fuel during times of crisis, and lead to decarbonisation and sustainability.

E Draft Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy 2026

The proposed Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy 2026 looks at creating production, consumption, market creation, electrolyser manufacturing and other elements in the entire value chain of Green Hydrogen/Ammonia units, while aligning Bihar to India's Nation Green Hydrogen Mission. The policy targets the production capacity of 0.10 million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMTPA) of green hydrogen/ ammonia by 2031. It looks at achieving ~ 1 GW of electrolyser capacity and 2.5 GW of renewable energy capacity tagged with green hydrogen/ammonia projects. The policy aims to attract investments of ~16,000 crore, providing employment to ~12,000 people. A single window clearance system and fast track approvals will be provided for expansion of green hydrogen/ammonia projects, with clearances for open access, storage, and grid integration. Support and incentives under the policy include infrastructural support, research and development, land and water availability, reimbursements, fiscal incentives, and regulatory support. Bihar Renewable Energy Development Agency (BREDA) will act as the nodal agency of this policy.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Draft Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy 2026 looks to position Bihar as a green ammonia hub, attract investments of 16,000 crore, and provide fast-track clearances and infrastructural support for green hydrogen development.

Policy Implications

- The policy will enable industrial growth and expansion of electrolyser manufacturing, green ammonia and the renewable energy sector, giving rise to green hydrogen startups.
- Robust investments in the green hydrogen sector and infrastructure will position the state to have greater economic growth and regional competitiveness in the power sector.
- The policy will reduce dependence on conventional energy and fossil fuels, building a base for domestic reliance in the state in the fertiliser and power sector.

F Jammu and Kashmir Compressed Biogas (CBG) Policy 2026

The Jammu and Kashmir Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) Policy 2026 looks at creating a transparent and time-bound framework to set up CBG plants across the Union Territory (UT), with entails converting everyday organic waste into clean cooking and vehicle fuel, and into organic manure that farmers can replace chemical fertiliser with. The policy will be applicable until 31 March 2032, unless earlier reviewed, revised or superseded by the J&K Government. The vision and goals of the policy are to establish J&K as a model UT in clean and sustainable energy, harness its abundant organic-waste resources to produce CBG, reduce dependence on fossil fuels to meet the national net-zero commitment, reduce methane emissions from open dumping of organic waste and from agricultural-residue burning, and providing support to convert waste into wealth, with the provision of a robustly investor-friendly CBG ecosystem by 2030.

The policy will be rolled out in three phases: Phase I will lay the foundation in the first year with a focus on establishing first plants and institutional systems. Phase II will be centred around the scale up the second year with a focus to expand across feedstocks and regions, and Phase III will pertain to consolidation in the third and fourth year with the focus being on consolidation and preparation for gas-grid integration. The Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA) will be the state nodal agency of the policy. A single window portal system will be established for CBG projects with time-bound approvals. Fiscal support under the policy includes land support, feedstock-aggregation support with 30% state subsidy on approved biomass-aggregation equipment with a cap of Rs 20 lakh (~US $ 21,000) per plant. Eligible projects will receive capital expenditure support of ₹0.50 crore (~US$ 52,500) per tonne per day (TPD) of installed capacity, with maximum assistance of ₹10 crore (~US$ 1.05 million) per project. Fiscal incentives also include bio-manure utilisation support, power-related support, interest subvention of up to Rs 2 crore (~US$ 210,000) on bank term loans, manpower support and support for infrastructural development.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Jammu and Kashmir CBG Policy 2026 looks at converting agricultural waste into CBG plants, reduce dependence on fossil fuels, provides a single window portal system and providing maximum assistance of Rs 10 crore (~US$ 1.05 million) per project.

Policy Implications

- Establishment and expansion of the clean energy industry in the state, promoting utilisation of biomass resource.
- Advance domestic and international investment in the state for setting up CBG units and exploration, contributing to State GDP, generating employment, and diversifying its investment portfolio.
- Promotion of sustainable and organic agriculture, growth of the organic manure industry, and reduced fossil fuel dependence in the State.



A Jharkhand AI Policy 2026 Proposed

The Government of Jharkhand has proposed to notify the Jharkhand Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy, 2026 as a 5-year strategic framework to bring in AI into the mainstream in governance and development, build institutional capacity, promote responsible innovation & establish Jharkhand as a leading AI-enabled state that emphasises upon AI for governance, healthcare and mineral-resource administration. The scope of the policy entails all government bodies under the Government of Jharkhand to guide partnerships with academia, start-ups, private firms, research organisations, and development partners for AI projects funded, facilitated or adopted by the State. The policy aims to cover use of AI across governance, agriculture, healthcare, education, rural and urban affairs, mineral administration, environment, logistics, law enforcement support systems and citizen service delivery.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The proposed Jharkhand AI Policy 2026 looks at introducing AI in governance, development, promotion of innovation, healthcare, education and research and startups.

Policy Implications

- Integrating AI with health, the biotechnology industry can develop and expand in the state, facilitating a greater healthcare system which is robust, enables early detection of diseases, and is more accessible by the widespread public.
- Using AI for governance and mineral-resource administration, research efficiency can be optimized, contingent upon human cross-verification and checks at every stage, systematising data, and improve monitoring of progress of work.
- The policy will establish a secure data ecosystem, providing safeguards and facilitation to the technology industry, and result in increased entrepreneurship and employment in the state.

B Uttar Pradesh Data Centre Policy Draft 2026

The Uttar Pradesh Data Centre Policy Draft 2026 aims to adopt green, AI ready, and sustainable Data Centres. The policy targets establishing a robust additional 2GW+ capacity to be achieved by the data centre industry in the state, facilitate investment and the digital infrastructure ecosystem, and encourage adoption of at least 50% of renewable energy share in new data centres by 2030. The policy will look at providing higher exemptions from transmission and wheeling charges, several fiscal incentives, as well as adequate infrastructure and resource supply to the centres, proposing resource efficiency.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Uttar Pradesh Data Centre Policy Draft 2026 looks to foster green infrastructure and technology, strengthen renewable energy through targeting an additional 2GW+ capacity and making the state AI ready.

Policy Implications

- There will be incentivisation of developing data centres using renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, or hybrid renewable projects, strengthening the renewable energy industry in the state.
- The policy will promote green energy adoption, projects, and drive the development of greener data centres through facilitation of infrastructure, investments, incentives, and resources.
- There will be a prompt towards green technology and green AI innovation and development, strengthening the technology and science industry in the state, and providing a platform for cultivating Greentech entrepreneurship.

C Karnataka Marine Biotechnology Policy 2026-31

The Karnataka Marine Biotechnology Policy 2026-31 has been approved by the Karnataka State Government to expand the economic potential of the State's marine and coastal resources and establish the state as a major hub for marine biotechnology and blue bioeconomy. The aim of the policy is to increase the state's blue bioeconomy from ~US$ 2 billion to US$6-8 billion by 2031, proposing the establishment of Karnataka Institute of Marine Biotechnology and Blue Economy (KIMBE) as the institutional cornerstone for marine biotechnology research and development, innovation and commercialisation. The policy proposes a budget of Rs 120 crore (~US$ 12.6 million) over 5 years, which entails investments in KIMBE, Marine Biotechnology Zones, the Seaweed Value Addition PLI, the Karnataka Pilot Blue Carbon Certification Programme. The focus areas of the policy will be to transform scientific capability into commercially viable technologies and products, and exploring marine resources for applications across pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, cosmetics, biofertilizers, biodegradable plastics and other value producing industries.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The 120 crore (~US$ 12.6 million) Karnataka Marine Biotechnology Policy 2026-31 will establish a blue bioeconomy, provide research and development avenues, facilitate startups and industrial growth, and aims to increase the state's blue bioeconomy from ~US$ 2 billion to US$6-8 billion by 2031.

Policy Implications

- Construction of a blue bioeconomy in the State, with marine resources and research outcomes facilitating startups, industries, and global markets while emphasising on sustainable utilisation of marine ecosystems.
- Development of the research ecosystem in the state, improving its academic and scientific institutions, which will facilitate advancement in biotechnology innovations and solutions.
- The policy will enable significant economic growth for the State, with the potential of getting significant domestic investments and foreign direct investments in its blue bioeconomy ecosystem, generating more avenues of business and employment.

D Karnataka Sustainable Data Centre Policy 2026-31

The Government of Karnataka has approved the Sustainable Data Centre Policy 2026-31, which is a five-year policy framework aimed at establishing the State as a destination which will be globally competitive and sustainable for data centre investments. The policy proposes a budget framework of Rs ~1,300 crore (~US$ 136.5 million) for implementation, with targets of 1 GW cumulative data centre IT load by 2031, aiming to develop 10-12% of AI-ready data centre capacity in India. The objective if the policy is to promote sustainable data centre operations, extending the State's digital economy and resilience beyond Bengaluru. Investments covered under the policy will be across data centre units, data centre parks, operators, edge data centres, cable landing stations and related infrastructure. The focus on sustainable development will be through increased use of renewable energy, energy efficiency, advanced cooling systems, water management and carbon emission mitigation, in addition to looking at Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) and Water Usage Effectiveness (WUE). The policy provides next-generation infrastructure support for AI-enabled and intelligent data centres, edge computing, cable landing stations and AI-and quantum-ready facilities and proposes a Centre of Excellence for Data Centres and Sustainable Data Centre Zones and Parks which will facilitate applied innovation, research and ecosystem development. Incentives provided under the policy entail capital investment, project establishment, land, connectivity, electricity, green energy, demand centres, and research and development. The Department of Electronics, Information Technology, Biotechnology and Science & Technology will anchor the implementation, with Karnataka Innovation and Technology Services (KITS) serving as the registration and policy implementation interface, and Karnataka Udyoga Mitra (KUM) will act as the single-window clearance agency of data centre proposals.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The 1,300-crore (~US$ 136.5 million) Karnataka Sustainable Data Centre Policy 2026-31 targets 1 GW cumulative maximum data centre IT load by 2031, aiming to develop 10-12% of AI-ready data centre capacity in India, and provides infrastructure and incentives for sustainable AI development.

Policy Implications

- Growth of a digital economy, research and development, and establishment of an enhanced digital infrastructure in the State.
- Promotion of sustainable development, increased growth and expansion of the renewable energy sector, and facilitation effective usage of resources and energy in the State.

E Draft Goa AI Policy 2026

The State Government of Goa has launched the draft Goa Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy 2026 with the vision to establish Goa as India's "Responsible AI and Applied Innovation Hub" to strengthen governance, preserve cultural heritage, and drive sustainable growth across tourism, fisheries, creative industries, and emerging digital sectors. The policy has a validity of three years until 2029 and will be applicable to all government bodies under Government of Goa, all recipients of government grants and contract for AI-related activities in Goa, private enterprises, startups, academic institutions, individuals, and AI systems deployed in Goa's critical sectors. The Goa AI Policy will be structured around six interconnected policy pillars: AI skilling and human capital development; AI startups, industry, and innovation ecosystems; AI in government and public services; AI infrastructure, compute and data ecosystem; research, academia and international collaboration; and responsible, safe, and ethical AI. The policy will provide several incentives such as infrastructural support, technology transfer, fiscal incentives and grants, provide training and skill development, ensure human oversight to reduce AI related errors and issues, fast-track windows, technical and legal support, seed funding, and access to technological services.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Goa AI policy will apply to all government bodies under the State Government of Goa with a focus on AI infrastructure, skilling, integration in economy and heritage, fostering international collaboration, and using AI safely and ethically.

Policy Implications

- Promotion of economic growth and industrial expansion in the State through investments, digital infrastructure, research and innovation, advancement technology mechanisms, hence diversifying Goa's economy and reducing dependence solely on tourism.
- Advanced development of the technology sector of the State and strengthen governance through enhanced digital support and infrastructure for reducing response time and including human oversight to prevent errors.
- Building data centres and technological infrastructure and providing technical education and training in the State will promote domestic and foreign investment in the State, especially for the information technology industry.

Indian States are developing comprehensive, holistic development policies which are preparing India to have a competitive advantage in the global market, develop infrastructure, take steps forward towards its 2070 net zero emissions targets, generate employment for citizens, move towards advanced manufacturing and technology, and reduce regulatory delays for industries.

- The State policies on the automobile sectors are rapidly looking at EV adoption and infrastructure, with a focus on reducing dependence on fossil fuels and promotion of green mobility. The Gujarat Green Mobility Policy 2026 is looking at adoption of green vehicles in the state which will further facilitate green automobile research and entrepreneurship.

- The business and finance sector are looking at infrastructural support, reduction of regulatory delays, and flexibility of approvals which will prompt increased investments in States from international investors. The Haryana MSME & Export Promotion Policy 2026 seeks to attract investments worth 55,000 crore (~US$ 5.77 billion)and will be a greater step towards augmented international trade and investments, with a value chain and MSME focused approach.

- In terms of climate and environment, Indian states are looking at sustainable development, requiring conservation of flora and fauna along with industrial growth. Climate mapping and disaster planning is also pivotal, enabling specific state-wise plans with digital apparatus such as Telangana's Urban Apparatus.

- The Energy and Renewable Energy Sector sectors are focusing on expansion of energy grids, their stability, larger incorporation of renewable energy, renewable energy exploration, which will enable reduce fossil fuel import dependence heavily, creating a secure position for India in times of geopolitical and economic crises.

- Infrastructure development and technology seem to be the larger pillars of the Indian economy currently, with AI and technology startups receiving robust investments. The Indian states are developing AI policies which look at integration with governance, healthcare, education and skilling, with a focus on developing ethical and sustainable AI. The policy emphasis around sustainable AI data centres is something to be contemplated: one must analyse whether it will serve as a catalyst to industrial and technological growth while prioritising environmental conservation.

VeK is a policy advisory and research firm that works towards turning data into clear insight on policy and regulatory developments in India and worldwide.

For Further Information,
please contact:

Anvi Gupta
Research Analyst

+91 9313515253

anvi@vekpolicy.com

www.vekpolicy.com

Disclaimer:

States Matter is a monthly Newsletter published by VeK Policy Advisory & Research. The information and opinions contained in this Newsletter have been compiled from sources believed to be reliable and in good faith. While all efforts have been made to compile accurate information, VeK or its employees, affiliates, shall not be in any way responsible for any damage that may arise to any person from any inadvertent error in the information or omissions contained in the Newsletter.