



DATE: 1 JULY 2026

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## Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (Source: The Hindu)

- The FCRA was passed in 1976 due to concerns that foreign governments were funding independent organizations to meddle in India's internal affairs.
- **The law aims to control foreign donations to organizations and people to ensure that they operate following the principles of a sovereign democratic republic.**
- FCRA registrations are granted to individuals or associations with definite cultural, economic, educational, religious, and social programs.
- **The FCRA requires every person or NGO seeking to receive foreign donations to be:**
  - Registered under the Act,
  - To open a bank account for the receipt of foreign funds in the State Bank of India, Delhi,
  - To utilize those funds only for the purpose for which they have been received and as stipulated in the Act.
- **Exceptions**
  - Under the FCRA, applicants must be genuine and cannot engage in forced or incentivized religious conversions.
  - They must not have been charged or convicted of inciting communal conflict.
  - The Act also prohibits political parties, public officials, journalists, media organizations, judges, government employees, and politically affiliated groups from accepting foreign donations.
- **Previous Amendments**
  - The FCRA was revised in 2010 to "consolidate the law" on the use of foreign funds and "to prohibit" their use for "any activities detrimental to the national interest."
  - The 2020 amendment strengthened government oversight and control over how foreign donations to NGOs are received and used.
- **FCRA Amendment Rules 2026**
  - NGOs must specify exact objectives and operational areas, with separate fees for each activity category and State/UT.
  - Foreign funds can be used for worship, religious education, heritage preservation, and community kitchens, but cannot be used for religious conversion.
  - Associations having foreign nationals (other than Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) ) as key functionaries will "ordinarily not be considered" for registration or prior permission to receive funds.
  - NGOs must utilize at least 75% of previous funds before receiving further installments and spend at least Rs 10 lakh on approved activities over two years for renewal eligibility.
  - Mandatory disclosure of the ultimate donor, official websites, social media accounts, and publications to strengthen accountability.



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## 2 Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) (Source: The Hindu)

The OCI scheme was introduced through an amendment to the Citizenship Act, 1955, in the year 2005, which allows foreign citizens of Indian origin to live, work, and travel freely in India without dual citizenship.

**Eligibility:** Any foreign national, except a national of Pakistan or Bangladesh

- Were citizens of India on or after 26th January, 1950.
- Were eligible to become Indian citizens on 26th January, 1950.
- Belonging to a territory that became part of India after 15th August, 1947.
- Are children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren of such persons
- Minor children of such individuals or those with one Indian parent.
- A foreign-origin spouse of an Indian citizen or an existing OCI cardholder is eligible if the marriage has been registered and has subsisted for at least two years preceding the application.

### **Ineligible Categories**

- Individuals who are currently serving or have retired from foreign military services are not entitled to receive OCI status.

### **Benefits for OCIs**

- Multiple-entry multi-purpose life-long visa to visit India
- Equality with NRIs in certain financial, economic, and educational matters, except for the acquisition of agricultural or plantation land, and in matters of inter-country adoption of Indian children.
- Eligible for grant of Indian citizenship under Section 5(1)(g) of the Citizenship Act, 1955, after completion of 5 years as an OCI cardholder, provided he has resided in India for one year out of 5 years before making the application.
- Eligible to enroll in the National Pension Scheme (NPS) for Non-Resident Indians.

### **Restrictions Related to OCI Cardholders**

- OCI does not confer political rights to vote.
- Do not provide dual citizenship.
- Not eligible to hold Indian constitutional posts like President, Vice President, Judges of the Supreme Court, or High Court.
- Not eligible for being a member of the House of the People/Council of States/ Legislative Assembly/Legislative Council.
- OCI cardholders cannot hold regular government jobs, except where specifically permitted by the Central Government via special notifications.
- Special permission is mandatory for research, mountaineering, missionary/journalistic work, and travel to Protected or Restricted Areas.



# Charlatana Margga

**ENLITE IAS**  
ENLIGHTENING MINDS, LIGHTENING JOURNEYS

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## 3 India Semiconductor Mission 2.0 (Source: The Hindu)



### INDIA SEMICONDUCTOR MISSION 2.0


Building Chips for a Self-Reliant & Technologically Advanced India

Approved by the Union Cabinet in December 2024





 <p><b>WHAT IS ISM 2.0?</b></p> <p>A comprehensive programme to accelerate the development of India's semiconductor and display ecosystem by strengthening the entire value chain – from design to manufacturing and technology leadership.</p>	 <p><b>VISION</b></p> <p>To make India a global hub for semiconductor design, manufacturing and technology innovation, ensuring self-reliance, economic growth and national security.</p>	 <p><b>OUTLAY</b></p> <p><b>₹76,000 crore</b> (approx.) for the period FY 2024–25 to FY 2030–31</p>	 <p><b>IMPLEMENTING AGENCY</b></p> <p>Digital India Corporation (DIC) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)</p>
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**KEY FOCUS AREAS**


-  **Semiconductor Fabs**  
Incentivising establishment of leading-edge and mature-node semiconductor fabs in India.
-  **OSAT & ATMP / Packaging**  
Promoting Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) units and Advanced Packaging facilities.
-  **Design Linked Incentives (DLI)**  
Strengthening chip design ecosystem and supporting start-ups, MSMEs and academia.
-  **Display & Compound Semiconductors**  
Supporting display fabs and compound semiconductor (e.g., GaN, SiC) manufacturing.
-  **R&D, Innovation & Talent**  
Investing in R&D, Centres of Excellence and skilling to build a world-class talent pipeline.
-  **Strong & Resilient Supply Chain**  
Developing a secure, trusted and diversified supply chain for critical materials, equipment and IP.

**WHAT'S NEW IN ISM 2.0?**

-  Expanded scope covering the entire semiconductor value chain including materials, equipment and IP development.
-  Greater private sector participation with attractive and predictable incentive framework.
-  Focus on global partnerships and technology collaborations with trusted countries.
-  Strengthening sustainable and energy-efficient semiconductor manufacturing.
-  Cluster development approach across states for balanced regional growth.
-  Emphasis on national security and strategic autonomy in critical technologies.

**EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

 Atmanirbhar Bharat in semiconductors

 Large-scale investments & job creation

 Integration into global semiconductor value chains

 Strengthened technological sovereignty

 Boost to GDP and high-tech exports

**VALUE CHAIN COVERED**

  
Design

  
Manufacturing (Fab)

  
Packaging & Assembly (OSAT/ATMP)

  
Testing

  
Display & Applications

**WHY IT MATTERS**

Semiconductors are the foundation of modern economies – powering everything from smartphones and EVs to defence systems and AI. ISM 2.0 is a decisive step towards making India a global semiconductor powerhouse.





**ENLITE IAS**

POWERING INDIA'S DIGITAL FUTURE. • SECURING TOMORROW. #ISM2.0