



PRESS RELEASE

ICEA Launches Semiconductor Product Design Leadership Forum to Champion Semiconductor Innovation and IP Creation in India

New Delhi, September 1, 2025 - India Cellular & Electronics Association (ICEA), the apex industry body representing the electronics and semiconductor sector, today announced the launch of ICEA Semiconductor Product Design Leadership Forum at the Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi. This strategic platform is designed to position India as a global leader in semiconductor product design, IP creation, and high-value innovation.

The launch event witnessed the participation of over 80 stakeholders spanning the semiconductor ecosystem, including domestic product design companies, DLI-recognised firms, early-stage design start-ups, Indian corporates driving semiconductor growth, global semiconductor ecosystem companies, representatives from MeitY, DST, Invest India, NITI Aayog, state governments, venture capital firms, and other strategic partners. Their presence reflects the growing consensus that design-led innovation will be central to India's semiconductor ambitions.

The Forum is chaired by Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Chief Executive, L&T Semiconductor Technologies. It will bring together leaders from across the design ecosystem, including fabless firms, IP providers, tool vendors, and system integrators, to address structural challenges and shape a forward-looking roadmap for design-led semiconductor growth.

India is home to one of the largest semiconductor design talent pools globally. However, despite this strength, India has yet to produce a globally dominant semiconductor design firm. This Forum has been constituted to change that trajectory by creating an enabling environment for Indian engineers to innovate, by promoting IP creation within the country, and by facilitating pathways for Indian companies to become product design champions at a global scale.

The Forum will work closely with the Government of India and the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), complementing the design-linked incentive (DLI) scheme and other policy initiatives. It aims to bridge the critical gaps in access to capital, advanced EDA tools, IP acquisition, global collaborations, and specialised semiconductor design talent. Through structured dialogue with policymakers and strategic collaboration across the ecosystem, the Forum will support the emergence of a vibrant semiconductor design industry in India that is globally competitive, IP-rich, and innovation-driven.

The forums are envisioned as structured and strategic platforms to focus on:

- Promote India-led IP creation and indigenous semiconductor design
- Attract and retain global and Indian talent in product design
- Enable deeper integration between design and manufacturing ecosystems
- Support strategic collaborations with global partners.
- Positioning India as a key node in the trusted global semiconductor supply chain.

Quote: Mr. Pankaj Mohindroo, Chairman, ICEA

"ICEA Semiconductor Product Design Leadership Forum reflects our conviction that India must lead not only in manufacturing but also in chip innovation. This Forum will serve as a catalyst for

creating globally competitive Indian design companies, homegrown IP, and a strong talent pipeline. **With this initiative, we envision catalysing the growth of 500 successful semiconductor product design companies over the next decade.** We are privileged to have Mr. Sandeep Kumar's visionary leadership guiding this mission. The future of semiconductors in India rests on our ability to innovate at home and build national design champions."

Quote: Shri S Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India

"I congratulate ICEA for stepping beyond its comfort zone and taking up the critical challenge of semiconductor product design, a domain where India has both the talent and the opportunity to lead globally. As we invest in fabs and manufacturing through the India Semiconductor Mission, it is imperative that we also strengthen the design ecosystem, for that is where true value, autonomy, and sovereignty lie. With our skilled human resources, robust academic and startup ecosystem, and growing global interest in India's semiconductor journey, this forum will play a pivotal role in positioning our nation as a hub for world-class product design. The intellectual property we create must be Indian, globally competitive, and transformative—not just for the world, but for India itself."

Quote: Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Chief Executive, L&T Semiconductor Technologies and Chairperson, ICEA Semiconductor Product Design Leadership Forum

"By bringing together leaders across the design ecosystem — fabless companies, IP institutions, tool vendors, supply chain, marketing and funding agencies — we aim to address key structural gaps & provide the stage to overcome challenges and chart a dynamic, design-led growth story. With world's largest pools of semiconductor talent and support from the government, the formation of this forum marks a strategic step towards establishing India as a global powerhouse in advanced semiconductor products and innovations."

About ICEA:

India Cellular & Electronics Association is the premier industry association representing the entire electronics value chain and striving to make India a global hub for electronics manufacturing and exports.

Website: <https://www.icea.org.in>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/india-cellular-electronics-association/>

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