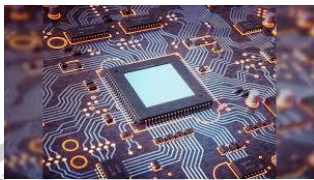




Economy

India's Vision: Establishing a Dedicated Semiconductor R&D Wing

Context: India takes a strategic leap forward in semiconductor research with plans to inaugurate a specialized research and development (R&D) unit within the framework of the India Semiconductor Research Centre (ISRC).



Structural Framework and Financing

- ❖ The envisioned R&D wing will operate autonomously within ISRC, concentrating on expediting development cycles.
- ❖ The government explores various funding avenues, including public-private partnerships (PPP) and potentially co-funded initiatives, to drive intensive research endeavors.
- ❖ Emphasis is laid on fostering intellectual property rights (IPR) to enhance domestic capabilities and innovation in semiconductor manufacturing.

Agriculture

Proposed Policy to Exclude Stubble Burners from MSP Benefits

Context: In response to the 2023 Supreme Court mandate to address stubble burning and its impact on air pollution, the Central Government has initiated measures to withhold Minimum Support Price (MSP) benefits from farmers involved in this practice.



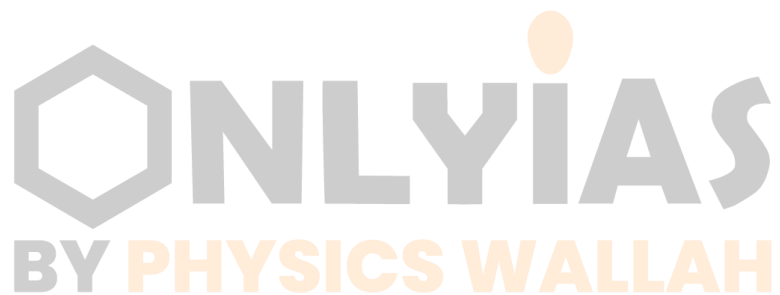
Implementation and State Involvement

- ❖ To enforce these directives, the Department of Food and Public Distribution (DoFPD) has communicated with the chief secretaries of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, NCT of Delhi, and Rajasthan.
- ❖ Dated January 5 and 30, 2024, these letters outline strategies for penalization through record-keeping and subsequent exclusion of offending farmers from MSP benefits starting from the next Kharif season (2024-25).

Mitigation and Sustainability

❖ The researchers emphasize the critical role of decarbonizing the electricity sector in mitigating the environmental impact of digital content consumption.

❖ Through a swift transition to renewable energy sources and advancements in carbon dioxide removal technologies, they project a potential reduction of climate impacts to just 12% of the per capita carrying capacity by 2030.



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