Empowering global digital change: Tamil Nadu's data centre and cloud vision

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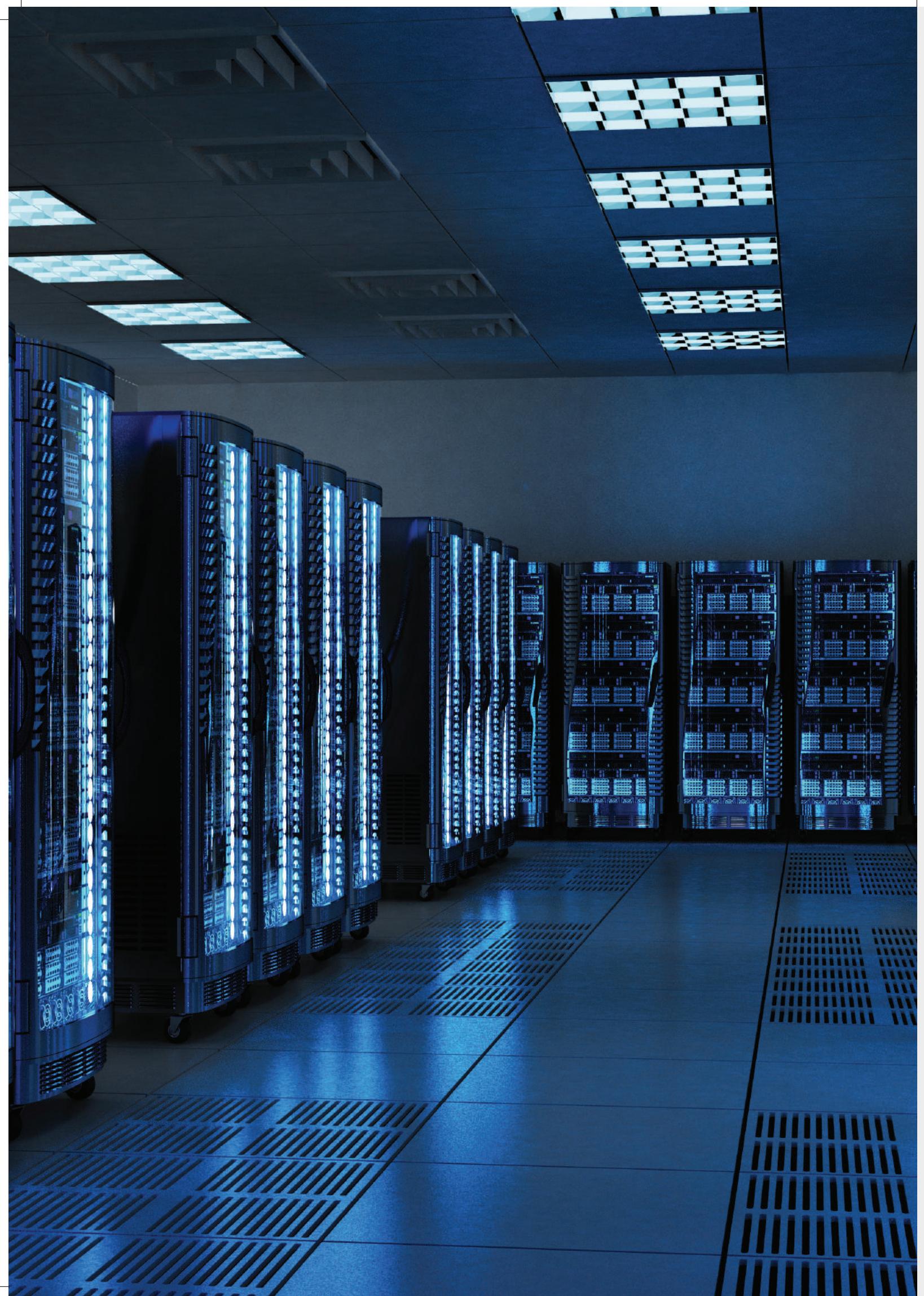
Foreword by PwC

Shivendra Singh
Partner – Cloud and Digital Transformation
PwC India

India is seeing exciting developments in the area of digital innovation and digital transformation, in both public and private sectors. Such developments have a compounding effect on the country's economic growth – especially in an economically significant state such as Tamil Nadu. At the core of these developments are efficient and cost-effective data centres.

In this paper, we explore the impact made by data centres across industries and sectors. We discuss how data centers form a core part of the digital initiatives by states around India – particularly focusing on Tamil Nadu – and highlight some of the key opportunities one can look forward to in this space.

Pursuing these exciting opportunities comes with its own challenges – such as regulatory complexities, environmental obligations, global political climate and operational costs. Considering the challenges at hand, we've come up with some recommendations for tackling these issues, which include identifying and facilitating close collaborations between industry, policymakers and regulators. We have also highlighted key strategic advantages offered by Tamil Nadu, including its strong infrastructure, ease of business and renewable energy capabilities – all of which will contribute positively towards enhancing data centre growth in the country.

At PwC, we are committed to leveraging our technology consulting expertise to support the evolution of India's data centre and cloud ecosystem. We aim to become trusted advisors for our clients and partners as they embark on the journey to unlock the true potential of data centres.

PwC is proud to partner with ASSOCHAM as the knowledge partner for the 'Empowering global digital change: Tamil Nadu's data centre and cloud vision' event. Together, we look forward to be part of India's growth story of sustainable digital transformation.

Foreword by ASSOCHAM

Manish Singhal
Secretary General
ASSOCHAM

The digital revolution – marked by increasing data-centricity and the rise of powerful digital platforms – is now a key driver of India's economic growth. Recognising this potential, the Government of India has set an ambitious goal of building a USD 1 trillion digital economy. However, achieving this vision hinges on the development of a strong and sophisticated digital infrastructure. The government has taken proactive steps by formulating forward-looking policies and making substantial investments. Establishing world-class data centres is a cornerstone of this strategy, playing a vital role in the Digital India mission to transform the nation into a digitally empowered society and knowledge-driven economy.

In this digital revolution, Tamil Nadu stands at pivotal crossroads, where resilient infrastructure aligns with visionary governance, and technological innovation converges with inclusive economic growth. Contributing 8.8% to the national gross domestic product (GDP) and with 80.09% literacy rate, the state continues to attract investors, technologists and entrepreneurs alike.[1]

This collaborative report by ASSOCHAM and PwC India provides an in-depth exploration of Tamil Nadu's thriving economic and digital landscape, with a special focus on the state's rapidly expanding data centre ecosystem. Tamil Nadu's digital-first policies reflect a forward-thinking governance model that fosters investment, innovation and long-term digital resilience. With a robust infrastructure, skilled talent pool and proactive government support, Tamil Nadu is uniquely positioned to lead India's digital future.

The report suggests a set of ecosystem enablers to help Tamil Nadu emerge as a data centre hub in India. It also highlights specific and actionable suggestions for industry stakeholders, lawmakers and regulators including academia and startups within the data centre ecosystem.

We strongly believe that by implementing these recommendations and fostering collaboration among stakeholders, Tamil Nadu can strengthen its position as a leading data centre hub and drive sustainable growth in the sector.

Message

Sunil Gupta
Chair, ASSOCHAM National Council
on Datacentres

India is entering a defining era of digital transformation, where data and AI are set to drive inclusive growth, economic resilience and global competitiveness. From financial services and healthcare to manufacturing and governance, AI-led innovation is reshaping every industry.

Recent government initiatives like the IndiaAI Mission and AI Data Bank, and the rollout of shared GPU infrastructure reflect a clear strategic intent: to position India as a global AI powerhouse. These programmes are not only enabling faster innovation and R&D but are also laying the groundwork for a robust, self-reliant AI ecosystem.

But AI cannot thrive without the right digital foundation. The exponential growth in AI workloads demands high-performance computing, scalable GPU infrastructure, secure data environments and low-latency networks – the building blocks of a future-ready India.

This evolving reality has catalysed the rise of a dynamic data centre economy, backed by progressive policy reforms, data localisation imperatives and significant private sector investment.

Among India's emerging digital hubs, Tamil Nadu is taking a leadership role. The state offers a compelling blend of reliable power, stable governance, industry-friendly incentives, a deep talent pool and strategic international connectivity via submarine cables. Its temperate climate also supports energy-efficient operations, reinforcing the sustainability imperative.

As this PwC–ASSOCHAM report highlights, Tamil Nadu is poised to be a cornerstone of India's data and AI ambitions. The future is clear: India's leadership in AI and data will be built on smart, sustainable and inclusive digital infrastructure.

Message

Surajit Chatterjee
Co-Chair, ASSOCHAM National
Council on Data Centres

India stands at the cusp of a data-driven transformation. As digital consumption surges across sectors – governance, finance, healthcare, manufacturing, education and entertainment – the need for robust, scalable and sustainable digital infrastructure has never been more crucial. At the heart of this transformation lies the data centre industry, quietly powering the platforms, services and experiences that define the modern economy.

This report by ASSOCHAM, in collaboration with its knowledge partner PwC, arrives at an opportune moment. The data centre sector has rapidly evolved from an ancillary service to a national priority. With exponential data generation, growing cloud adoption and an urgent push for data sovereignty, the sector is no longer just reacting to demand – it is proactively shaping India's digital readiness for the future.

The growth journey, however, is layered with both promise and complexity. While the policy environment has become increasingly supportive – with infrastructure status, state-level incentives and data protection frameworks – operators continue to navigate challenges around power availability, connectivity, talent and environmental sustainability. Addressing these requires a collaborative, future-focused approach – not just from the industry, but from policymakers, regulators, academia and investors alike.

This year's spotlight on Tamil Nadu reflects how a coordinated policy push, combined with geographic advantage and ecosystem maturity, can catalyse regional leadership. Yet, the goal must be broader: to create a pan-India network of data infrastructure that is decentralised, resilient and inclusive – bringing Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities into the fold while maintaining excellence at the core.

Sustainability must now be viewed not as an option, but as an obligation. As workloads become denser and power demands increase, energy-efficient cooling, renewable power procurement and water-conscious design practices must become industry norms. Edge computing, AI-integrated operations and circular design models can offer exciting pathways for innovation and impact.

Workforce development is another urgent frontier. Data centres demand specialised skills across engineering, cybersecurity, operations and energy management. Without a pipeline of trained professionals, the sector risks growing faster than it can support. Joint skilling initiatives between industry and academia are therefore essential to ensure long-term operational excellence.

As Co-Chair of the ASSOCHAM National Council on Datacentres, I am encouraged by the strides the industry has taken, but also acutely aware of the distance we must cover. The coming years will define whether India emerges as a true global hub for digital infrastructure or simply keeps pace with demand. The difference will be made by vision, velocity and collective will.

This report offers a comprehensive blueprint for stakeholders across the spectrum. It presents policy insights, benchmarks global best practices and lays down actionable recommendations for the next phase of growth. I extend my appreciation to ASSOCHAM, its partners and all contributors who have lent their expertise to this important publication.

Let this be more than a moment of reflection. Let it be a call to build boldly, think responsibly and collaborate deeply – for a data-first India that is inclusive, intelligent and future-ready.

Message

Manoj Paul
Co-Chair, ASSOCHAM National
Council on Datacentres

India's data centre footprint is rapidly expanding – expected to nearly double by 2027, to over 2,000 MW.[2] India is expected to have the second-largest data centre capacity in the APAC region. The growing adoption and demand for digital services in India and government-backed initiatives like UPI are further fuelling this growth, with sustainability is emerging as a key priority. Encouragingly, India added a record 29.52 GW of renewable energy capacity in FY 2024–25, taking total renewable capacity to 220.10 GW.[3] In 2024-25, 29.52 GW renewable energy capacity was added further.[4] This positions the country well to power its digital infrastructure and become a competitor to address the upcoming demand for AI infrastructure responsibly, while meeting climate goals.

Data centres today have evolved beyond traditional colocation hubs to become highly interconnected ecosystems. These facilities support complex business needs by enabling seamless connectivity between enterprises, cloud service providers and telecom operators. Services such as metro connects, internet exchanges, and multi-cloud exchanges and fabric cloud routers – enabling efficient and cost-effective data transfer between cloud service providers (CSPs) – are now critical for supporting digital transformation and managing the surge in demand for computing and storage in order to handle the ballooning data traffic.

An important factor influencing the growth of data centres – and the broader digital economy – is the Indian Government's special focus on improving the ease of doing business for enterprises deploying digital platforms and services. India Inc. is undergoing a rapid digital transformation, with individuals increasingly leveraging digital platforms to access a wide array of services, from entertainment to financial solutions. At the same time, enterprises are adopting digital technologies to deliver more efficient services, expand their reach and scale operations effectively.

While India has made notable progress, there are still areas of improvement to align India's regulatory conditions in line with some Asian counterparts in terms of regulatory facilitation. Encouragingly, several state governments have introduced dedicated data centre policies aimed at attracting investments and simplifying approvals. The industry now awaits the release of Ministry of Electronics and Technology (MeitY)'s national data centre policy, which is expected to bring greater clarity and uniformity across states. A cohesive, pan-India policy framework will be instrumental in driving equitable growth of data centre infrastructure beyond metro cities, supporting more inclusive digital expansion.

Cloud computing continues to be a pivotal force in India's digital transformation. This growth is driven by the increasing adoption of digital services, scalable consumption models and the need for operational agility. Global CSPs are responding with aggressive expansion strategies, establishing dedicated infrastructure through owned and partner data centres across the country to meet the growing demand.

While cloud computing serves as the foundation of digital transformation, data centres are the critical infrastructure that enable cloud services. As enterprises advance their digital agendas, leaders are redefining their data centre strategies – embracing hybrid cloud platforms, as-a-service models, digital ecosystems and third-party data centre providers to drive efficiency, resilience and future-ready operations.

CSPs are among the largest consumers of data centre co-location space. Beyond building their own infrastructure, CSPs rely heavily on third-party data centres, making them key drivers of industry growth. Over the past three years, hyperscalers have accounted for more than 60% of new data centre capacity in India – a trend that continues to gain momentum.[5] To meet performance expectations, CSPs also require a network of edge data centres to ensure seamless connectivity with carriers, telecom operators, enterprises and end users. Interconnected facilities across key cities are essential to deliver ultra-low latency (under 1 millisecond) and ensure high availability with 99.999% uptime, making them indispensable for scaling next-generation digital services.

I extend my appreciation to ASSOCHAM and PwC on the release of this insightful and timely report. By combining rigorous analysis with a deep understanding of industry trends, the report provides a strong foundation for informed discussions around the growth and regulation of India's data centre and cloud ecosystem. I am confident it will serve as a valuable reference for policymakers, industry leaders and government bodies, as they work towards building a robust and future-ready digital economy.

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2   https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/technology/indias-ai-market-projected-to-reach-17-billion-by-2027-report/articleshow/107856845.cms?from=mdr
3   https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=2120729
4   https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/in-talks-with-states-for-signing-ppas-of-40-gw-re-capacity-pralhad-joshi/articleshow/120521822.cms
5   https://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/internet/india-emerges-as-hotspot-for-hyperscalers-driving-data-centre-expansion/119569446

Message

Suresh Rathod
Member, ASSOCHAM National Council
on Datacentres

As India emerges as a key data centre hub globally, its data centre industry is poised for promising growth. In 2025 alone, IT spending in India is slated to reach nearly USD 160 billion.[6] But it gets more interesting as we dig deeper.

India's AI boom is projected to add USD 3.8 billion flow into the country's data centre industry by 2026.[7] It's evident that the future of data centres in India will be pivoted by AI and generative AI applications.

However, are India's data centres prepared for this?

Sustainable growth
With the government's target of achieving 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030,[8] India is headed towards its larger goal of achieving net zero by 2070. While the government has laid out its carbon-neutrality goal, it's time that data centre players devise a concrete roadmap to net zero.[9]

Advantage Tamil Nadu
With over 10,734 MW of wind and solar installations, Tamil Nadu is leading India's renewable energy agenda.[10] This, combined with the state's progressive data centre policy and robust subsea connectivity, fosters a conducive environment for Tamil Nadu as well as the country. Furthermore, with the growth of hyperscalers in India, Chennai is well-positioned to help them meet their Scope 3 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Building a competitive edge
While the need of the hour calls for ultra-scalable facilities in the form of hyperscale data centre parks, there's also a growing potential arising from India's Tier-II and Tier-III markets. Recently, the government announced a major milestone – over 95% of villages in India now have access to the internet.[11] This translates into a huge growth in digital consumption.[12]

Along with hyperscale facilities, India's data centre ecosystem will need to invest in a pan-India network of edge data centres to meet the demands arising from the country's hinterlands.

Aligning with the future
India has already secured its place among the top 10 nations with AI-readiness,[13] and now, we must build a robust fabric of digital infrastructure that's future-ready too. While mature markets like Mumbai will continue to contribute a large share to India's digital infrastructure, we also need a strong focus on edge capacities and sustainable initiatives for the next decade of data centre growth in India.

6   https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/information-tech/indian-it-spending-to-grow-11-1-to-161-5-billion-in-2025-gartner/articleshow/117430555.cms?from=mdr

7   https://cio.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/data-center/ai-boom-likely-to-trigger-3-8-bn-flow-into-indias-data-center-industry-report/115532630

8   https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1913789

9   Ibid.

10   https://investingintamilnadu.com/DIGIGOV/TN-pages/individual-sector.jsp?pagedisp=static&sector=focus_renewable_energy

11   Ibid.

12   https://in.investing.com/news/general-news/over-95-per-cent-villages-now-have-access-to-internet-centre-4356654

13   https://cio.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/artificial-intelligence/india-among-top-10-countries-with-ai-readiness-report/115565534

Message

Sharad Agarwal
Member, ASSOCHAM National Council
on Datacenters

India is undergoing a digital revolution fuelled by cloud computing, AI and IoT. Yet, its data center capacity is less than 2% of the global total, despite being home to the second-largest internet user base.[14] This disparity underscores a major opportunity to scale its digital infrastructure.

The data centre sector is expected to grow from 637 MW in 2022 to 1,800 MW by 2026, with the market value projected to increase from USD 4.5 billion in 2023 to USD 11.6 billion by 2032.[15] Key drivers include data sovereignty laws, digital payments, OTT platforms and government programmes like Digital India. India's rapid data consumption growth demands accelerated infrastructure development and investment.

Leading players are making major moves with more campuses planned across India. Presently, however, the majority of the data centre capacity in India remains concentrated in Mumbai, creating risks due to urban congestion and climate events. Decentralisation is crucial, with cities like Chennai identified as ideal alternatives to build a diversified and resilient data centre ecosystem.

Tamil Nadu has emerged as a frontrunner with its 2021 Data Center Policy.[16] It offers incentives such as subsidised land, expedited clearances and capital subsidies up to 30%. The state targets South Asia's top data centre spot and mandates at least 50% renewable energy usage, promoting edge data centers to test scalable, green models.

To accelerate investment, Tamil Nadu must continue enhancing its ecosystem through streamlined permissions and infrastructure provisioning. As a manufacturing leader, the state can also support supply chains for servers, power systems and HVACs. The rise of low-latency services makes edge computing development essential alongside hyperscale centers.

Chennai holds a geographic advantage with its position on India's eastern coast, hosting over five international submarine cables. This provides high-bandwidth connectivity to Southeast Asia and the Pacific Rim, enhancing global data flow and disaster recovery capabilities.

Given Mumbai's vulnerabilities – urban density, rising costs and climate risks – Chennai serves as a strategic alternative. A dual-core model with hubs in both cities can balance loads and mitigate risks.

India must also ensure sustainable power supply for data centres. Beyond solar and wind, nuclear energy and green hydrogen offer stable, clean power alternatives. Tamil Nadu, with over 15 GW of renewable capacity, can lead this shift. Open access policies enable green power sourcing and appealing to environmental, social and governance (ESG)-conscious investors.

Each 1 MW of data centre capacity can generate 30–40 direct and up to 200 indirect jobs. With strengths in electronics and automotive manufacturing, Tamil Nadu is positioned to support employment growth, benefiting real estate, logistics and other auxiliary sectors.[17]

Chennai's startup ecosystem can drive data centre-related innovation in cooling, cybersecurity and energy efficiency. Incubators should foster collaboration between startups and operators.

Lastly, closing the skills gap is critical. PwC recommends industry-aligned courses, certifications and hands-on training. Programmes like Naan Mudhalvan can align education with industry needs.

For India to realise its data centre potential, coordinated efforts between the state and industry are essential. Joint task forces can shape enabling policies, power reforms and incentive frameworks. With its location, policies, energy mix and talent pool, Tamil Nadu can emerge as a digital infrastructure leader. PwC calls on stakeholders to build India's data-driven future – starting with Chennai.

14   https://www.ibef.org/news/india-s-internet-users-to-exceed-900-million-in-2025-driven-by-indic-languages

15   https://www.ibef.org/blogs/booming-data-centre-growth-in-india

16   https://it.tn.gov.in/en/Tamil_Nadu_Data_Centre_Policy_2021

17   https://www.ibef.org/states/tamil-nadu-presentation

Message

Sanjay Bhutani
Member, ASSOCHAM National Council
on Datacenters

As the global economy moves deeper into the digital age, the demand for secure, scalable and sustainable data infrastructure has never been more urgent. With cloud computing, AI and digital services expanding at an unprecedented rate, the need for modern data centers is not simply a technological necessity, it is a national imperative.

Among India's fast-growing digital hubs, Chennai stands out – not just for its scale, but for its strategic relevance to India and the wider Asia-Pacific region. Anchored by strong connectivity via submarine cable landings, robust industrial ecosystems and a progressive policy environment, Chennai has emerged as India's digital east coast powerhouse. Mumbai and Chennai collectively represent approximately 70% of India's total IT power capacity, with Mumbai alone contributing nearly 49%. These cities have experienced significant growth, with Mumbai's capacity increasing by 92% and Chennai's by 340% between 2022 and 2024.[18]

The sector's explosive growth is being driven by rising cloud adoption, generative AI use cases, data localisation requirements, and the expanding digital services ecosystem in sectors such as banking, e-commerce and logistics.

Importantly, Chennai's growth story is not in isolation. It is powered by the broader enablers offered by Tamil Nadu – a state that has invested significantly in infrastructure, sustainability and industry readiness. The Tamil Nadu Data Centre Policy 2021 has been instrumental in providing a enabling environment for growth, offering incentives like industrial power tariffs, fast-track clearances, and subsidies for land and renewable energy integration.

Crucially, Tamil Nadu leads India in renewable energy, with over 19.8 GW of installed capacity, enabling operators like us to build truly sustainable digital infrastructure.[19]

Chennai's potential extends beyond scale and sustainability. It is supported by an exceptional talent pool, globally connected seaports and airports, and a government that actively collaborates and enables the private sector to drive innovation. The city is also seeing increasing interest in greenfield data center projects, along with growing demand for edge infrastructure to support AI, IoT and low-latency applications.

This report outlines how Chennai is uniquely positioned to be more than just a national data hub – it can be a regional anchor for the Asia-Pacific digital economy. The report also highlights the strategic steps required to accelerate this journey, from policy enablers to workforce development, public-private partnerships and technology adoption.

As India advances towards a USD 1 trillion digital economy by 2030, the importance of cities like Chennai cannot be overstated.[20] Such cities are not just enabling the country's digital backbone, they are shaping how the world will perceive India in the age of AI and cloud.

We are proud to be a part of this journey, and committed to build the infrastructure that powers tomorrow – reliably, responsibly and at scale.

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18   https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/indian-data-centre-industry-valuation-investment-anarock-report-125032400625_1.html

19   https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/tamil-nadus-total-installed-power-capacity-stands-at-4052724-mw-cea-data/article68539768.ece

20   https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/data-centers-to-enable-indias-trillion-dollar-digital-economy-growth-mumbai-chennai-to-lead-report/articleshow/90217868.cms
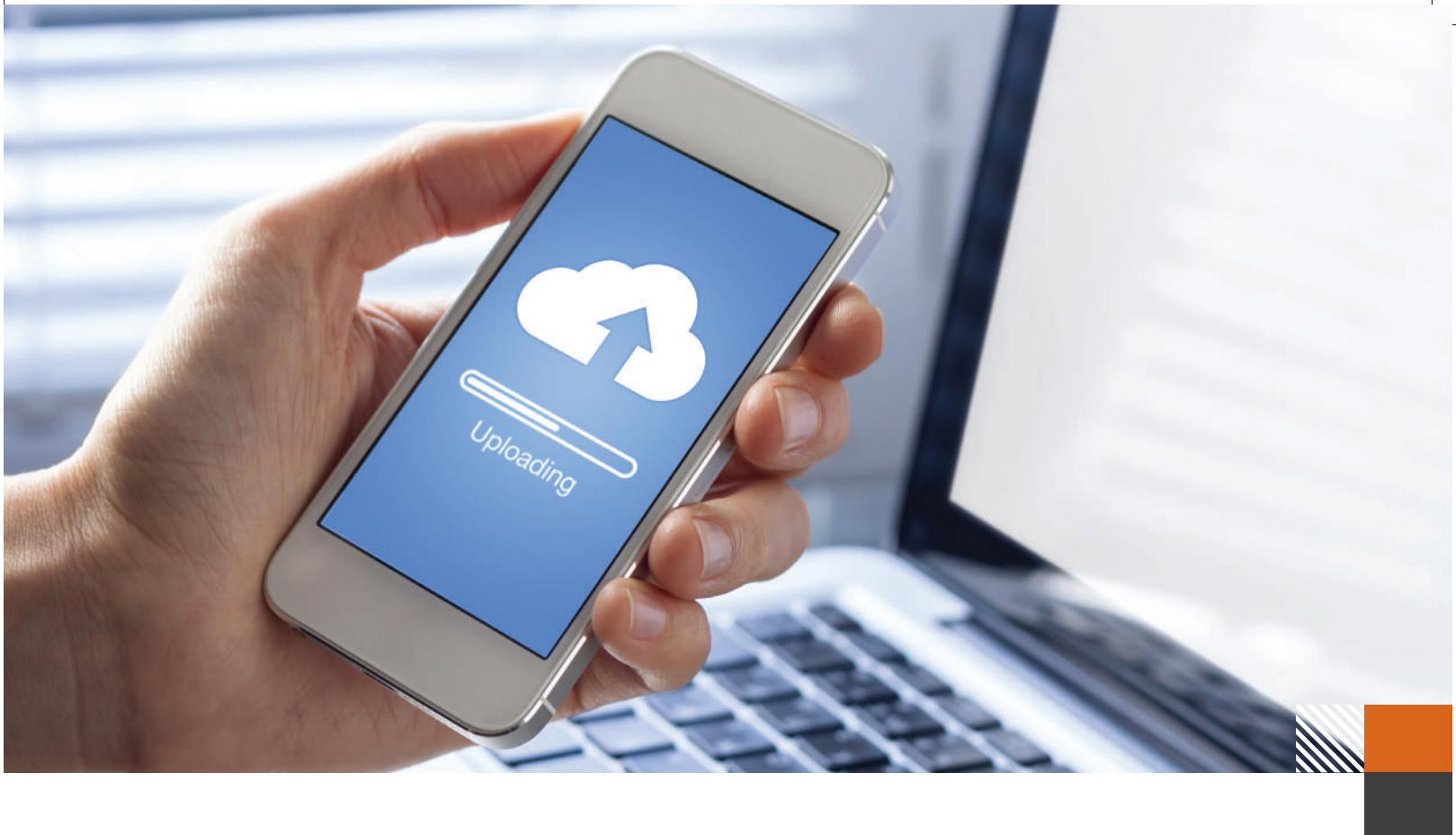
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1 Introduction

1.1. Overview of the data centre industry in India

India is rapidly becoming a key player in the global data centre industry. This trend is evident through the growing international interest and investment in the country. After a foundational phase of development from 2019 to 2022, the Indian data centre industry gained momentum as major global players entered the scene, intensifying competition. Currently valued at around USD 10 billion, the data centre sector contributed approximately USD 1.2 billion in revenue in FY 2023–24. Thereafter, consistent capital deployment was maintained, with investments totalling up to USD 4.2 billion by the end of FY24, positioning India as a major player in this space.

Over the past decade, the sector has attracted more than USD 6.5 billion in investments. The industry has experienced remarkable growth, with total data centre capacity increasing from 590 MW in 2019 to an estimated 1.4 GW in 2024.[21] This expansion emphasises the sector's swift development.

The widespread adoption of internet services has been a major driver of India's digital growth story, reaching even the most remote areas and considerably improving everyday life. Internet penetration increased from 33.4% in 2019 to 55.2% in 2024.[22] This data clearly indicates the urgent need for advanced, reliable data centres. Although still developing, India's data centre market is aiming to reach 11 million square feet of real estate across its top seven cities, with a capacity of approximately 819 MW.[23]

As India continues its digital transformation, the demand for data-driven services is expected to grow substantially in the coming years. A swift expansion of data centre infrastructure will encourage innovation, support diverse growth opportunities and create numerous new job opportunities. Future data centres are anticipated to incorporate advanced processing features, enhanced security measures and energy-efficient technologies in various locations, supporting the country's ongoing digital ambitions.

The recent issuance of infrastructure status categorically accentuates the advanced regulatory policies associated with data centres in India. It is also expected to enhance loan and investment accessibility in the region, stimulating growth from a myriad of channels. Due to the proliferation of cloud computing, prominent hyperscale participants are strategically positioning themselves with substantial investments in key emerging markets. The central focus of the data centre industry is now towards providing continuous business, with operators increasingly aiming for decarbonisation to achieve net-zero emissions by 2040. These efforts for sustainable growth are expected to impact the geographical ecosystem, enhance cost and rental of the services, asset valuations, and day-to-day operations.

The Indian data centre industry has witnessed substantial growth in a short period. Trends show considerable improvements in terms of digital enablement and localisation of data. Here are some key points:

- **Composition of geography of data centres in India:** Important data centre locations are Mumbai, Chennai, Noida, Pune, Gurgaon, Bangalore and Hyderabad.

- **Market value:** Investment towards the data centre market is expected to be about USD 2 billion with the 1 GW of capacity to be installed.[24]

- **Key drivers:** The policies of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) also mark out the key elements regarding data storage – i.e. data related to finance to be stored locally – and the improvement of network infrastructure in the country.

- **Investment and expansion:** Considerable investment of around **USD 10 billion crore** in the next three years is expected from other industries to shift focus towards data centres.[25] The setup costs associated with data centres denote the increasing requirements and complexities of these establishments.

- **Future projections:** Although the conversation revolves around cost logic, it is essential to highlight the significance of edge data centres which are cost efficient, enhance data processing with low latency and reduce the total cost of ownership. Moreover, the growth of data centres has exceeded the 1-GW mark and maintained a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 24% for the past seven years.[26] Inexorable demand from cloud services is the one of the major reasons for this growth.

21 https://www.ibef.org/news/india-s-data-centre-industry-now-worth-rs-85-580-crore-us-10-billion-shows-explosive-growth

22 https://www.statista.com/statistics/792074/india-internet-penetration-rate/

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25 https://www.businessworld.in/article/adani-to-invest-10-bn-in-data-centre-expansion-move-554431

26 https://bfsi.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/industry/indias-data-centre-capacity-set-to-surge-77-pc-to-reach-1-8-gw-by-2027/120120125

1.2. Role of digital infrastructure in boosting the economy

Public investment in infrastructure can generate economic returns that are 1.5 times greater than the initial investment within a span of two to five years. Thus, any money spent for the development of digital infrastructure can enhance the economic activity of a country and boost the sector to newer heights. A digital economy helps in creating a diverse talent pool and becomes a key driver in job creation in domains such as IT, telecommunications and e-commerce.

Furthermore, digital infrastructure improves connectivity. Due to digital innovation, industries are benefiting due to the adoption of the hybrid mode which has improved productivity in most sectors and helped penetrate the market in remote areas owing to increased internet connectivity. Moreover, it has been instrumental in improving the ease of doing business and creating healthy competition with other stakeholders.

The adoption of emerging technologies like generative AI, internet of things and blockchain has been continuously improving productivity and costs. Further adoption will help boost economic growth and opportunities in the country.

The rapid adoption of internet services offers equal opportunity to the masses and has generated a level playing field for the society.

In addition, digital infrastructure has helped strengthen businesses and enhance productivity. Hybrid work culture, online services and 24x7 availability have created an advanced delivery ecosystem, which was especially beneficial during the COVID-19 pandemic. A sustainable digital infrastructure can help in achieving environmental goals and reduce the need for physical infrastructure, along with promoting a lower carbon footprint.

2 Current landscape

2.1. Status of data centres in India

Growing market: India's data centre sector is booming, with capacity expected to jump by about 77%, reaching around 1.8 GW by 2027.[27] The surge is driven by a rising demand for cloud-based services, boom in AI development and the push for data to stay localised.

Key locations: India's data centre industry continues to expand greatly, with the total capacity expected to reach approximately 2 GW by 2026. Currently, close to 525 MW are under various stages of development across major cities including Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore, reflecting an energetic and rapidly growing market.[28]

Investment opportunities: The sector is expected to grow significantly by 2030, with large investments pouring into cloud-based infrastructure and data centres. Both Indian as well as international players are actively involved, with around USD 80 billion estimated to be the required amount to manage the pace and demand.[29]

Supportive government: The Indian government has rolled out friendly policies to attract investments in data centres, such as benefits in taxation, subsidies in land grants and power supplies, as well as relaxation in rules and regulations. These efforts aim to boost growth and turn India into a key regional data hub.

2.2. Existing gaps and challenges in the Indian data centre ecosystem

Although the sector is rapidly evolving and charting its growth path, it is often tricky for data centre operators to **navigate India's rules and regulations**. Even with supportive policies in place, red tape and certain inconsistent regulations can slow things down.

With new data centres being set up continuously, it is difficult to **ensure reliable electricity and solid infrastructure**, which is challenging to manage across different regions. Therefore, fixing these issues remains a top priority for attracting more investment.

Furthermore, **securing data and ensuring its privacy** is a major concern. The new Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDP Act 2023) aims to tackle these issues; however, operators still need to stay ahead of developing security threats and compliance rules in order to curb any problems well in time.

Finding suitable resources and retaining them to run and manage data centres is an equally challenging task. Hence, building a **strong talent pool** through training and upskilling is very important for the industry's growth and development.
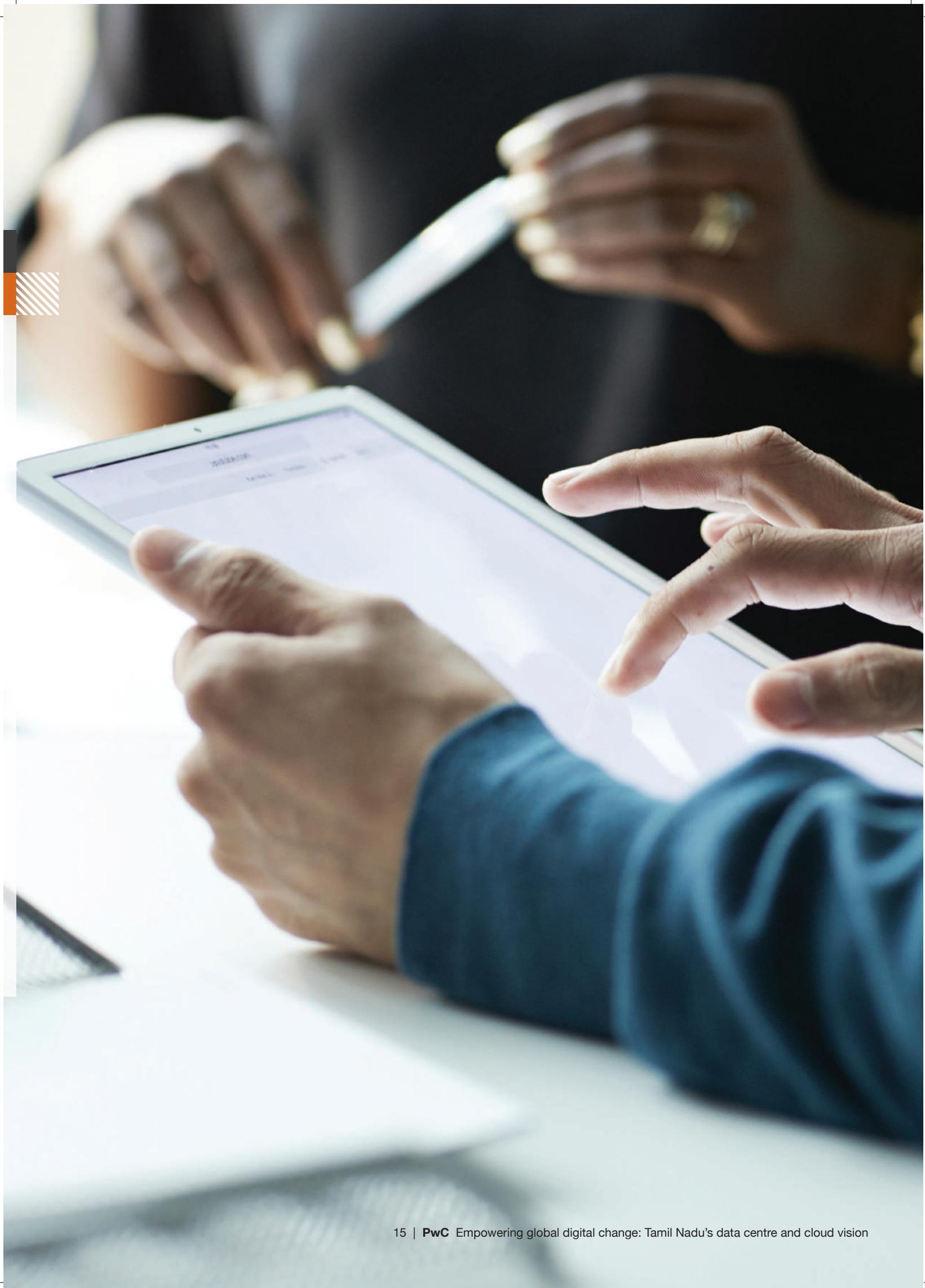
Data centres use a lot of energy, raising environmental issues and concerns. While operators are making the effort to **adopt greener practices**, balancing growth with sustainability is still a work in progress.

India's data centre industry is on the verge of further expansion, but tackling these challenges is key to making that growth sustainable and successful.

27 https://bfsi.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/industry/indias-data-centre-capacity-set-to-surge-77-pc-to-reach-1-8-gw-by-2027/120120125
28 https://www.thehindu.com/real-estate/real-estate-data-centre-india-energy/article69237541.ece
29   https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/technology/india-to-become-preferred-data-hub-as-demand-for-data-centres-soars-jm-financial/articleshow/120032565.cms

3 Global perspective

3.1. Global best practices for data centres

Uptime: It is essential that data centres remain operational round the clock. Implementing reliable backup systems, conducting regular maintenance and performing thorough testing are essential steps to prevent disruptions. Backup systems, in particular, assist routine checks and upgrades without interrupting critical services.

Energy efficiency: Emphasising on the reduction of energy consumption and adopting advanced cooling techniques not only cuts operational costs but also benefits the environment to a greater extent. In order to reduce carbon footprints, data centres are integrating energy-saving strategies.

Data-related security: Securing data requires a comprehensive approach that includes physical security measures, strong cybersecurity protocols and adherence to best data handling practices. This layered defence helps prevent breaches and maintains the integrity of the systems.

Diverse skillset: Teams can lead to fresh perspectives and innovative solutions if they are diverse and the workforce has different levels of experience and expertise. For example, a leading European company dealing in data centres is collaborating and encouraging local suppliers to establish training academies aimed at enhancing and upskilling the workforce for diversity across the industry.

Asset management: Developing effective programmes on asset management involves maintaining detailed inventories of physical equipment, tracking their age, condition and performance. This information guides decisions on whether to repair or replace components, thereby optimising the efficiency of facilities.

Data centre certifications: Data centre reliability and standards are classified by the various institutions into tiers ranging from Tier 1 to Tier 4, each reflecting different levels of redundancy and robustness:

Tier 1: Basic capacity

- **Description:** Offers fundamental capacity with no redundant systems
- **Suitability:** Suitable for small businesses or non-critical applications
- **Downtime:** More susceptible to outages due to single points of failure

Tier 2: Redundant capacity

- **Description:** Includes backup components to mitigate downtime risks
- **Suitability:** Appropriate for organisations requiring higher reliability than Tier 1
- **Downtime:** Scheduled maintenance may still lead to temporary interruptions

Tier 3: Maintainable

- **Description:** Allows maintenance activities without taking the entire system offline
- **Suitability:** Well-suited for businesses with critical applications needing high uptime
- **Downtime:** Features redundant systems and multiple distribution pathways to ensure stability

Tier 4: Fault-tolerance

- **Description:** Provides top-tier fault tolerance through fully redundant systems
- **Suitability:** Designed for mission-critical operations where downtime must be minimised
- **Downtime:** Guarantees continuous operation even when individual components fail

Indian certifications

These certifications recognise data centres that meet stringent standards for energy efficiency and eco-friendliness. They assess sustainability, water efficiency, energy conservation, materials, indoor air quality and innovation.

- **ISO certifications:**[30]

  - **ISO 27001:** Outlines requirements for information security management systems to safeguard data

  - **ISO 9001:** Ensures that quality management systems (QMS) and processes are in place for a consistent service delivery

  - **ISO 14001:** Promotes sustainable environment management best practices.

  - **OHSAS 18001:** Focuses on occupational health and safety standards to maintain a safe working environment.

International certifications

Here's a quick overview of some key standards and certifications relevant to data centres:

- **Leading institute that provides tier standards:** This institute categorises data centres based on their level of redundancy and fault tolerance, ranging from Tier 1 (basic) to Tier 4 (highest resilience).

- **TIA-942 Certification:** This standard, led by an institution working on the development of technical standards, outlines the minimum requirements for data centre infrastructure, including site location, architecture, electrical systems, mechanical setup, fire safety measures, telecommunications and security protocols.

- **SOC 2 (System and Organisation Controls):** This assessment evaluates how well an organisation manages data privacy, security and data integrity.

- **ISO/IEC 27001:** This is an internationally recognised standard for establishing and maintaining an effective information security management system.

- **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA):** This US regulation mandates privacy and security safeguards for data centres handling healthcare information.

- **PCI DSS:** It mandates data centres processing card payment information to adhere to strict standards of security.

- **LEED and Green Building Certifications:** These recognise energy-efficient and building practices on sustainability, encouraging eco-friendly operations.

These certifications play a crucial role in helping data centres in India and around the world adopt best practices, enhance operational efficiency, and support a secure, sustainable digital infrastructure.
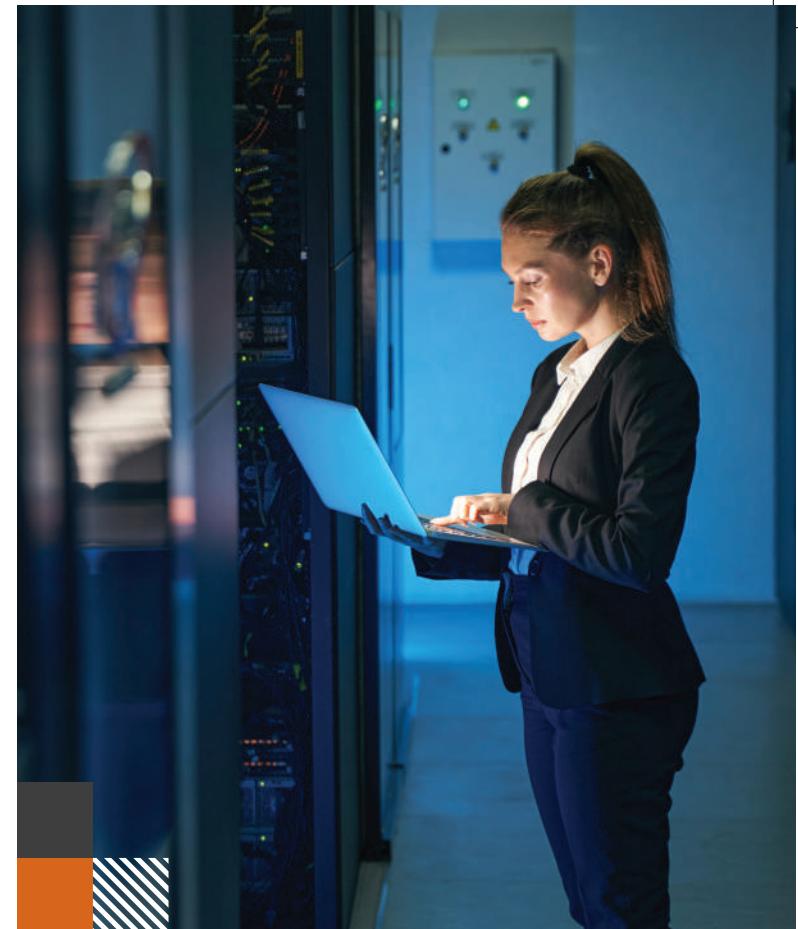
3.2. Examples of successful data centre hubs worldwide

- **Germany:** A leading data centre has designed a new sustainable facility in Germany to support AI workloads and is powered entirely by renewable forms of energy. It features advanced cooling technologies to optimise energy use and demonstrates a strong commitment to both sustainability and innovation.

- **India:** As India's second-largest data centre market, Chennai boasts a colocation capacity of 88 MW. The city benefits from six major submarine cable landing stations, ensuring high-speed, reliable connectivity. Key hubs like Ambattur and Siruseri are supported by a regular and uninterrupted power supply and an influx of skilled workforce. Chennai is expected to contribute about a quarter of India's new data centre capacity over the next five years, reaching approximately 551 MW by 2030, with a CAGR of over 22%.[31]

- **UK:** The UK government has designated data centres as critical infrastructure, leading to a surge in applications and approvals. This strategic classification aims to support the country's increasing demand for digital services and infrastructure expansion.

- **Latin America:** A renowned data centre company has launched Phase 2 of its Tamboré Campus in Latin America, committing over USD 1.13 billion to promote sustainable growth in the regional data centre market.[32]

30   https://www.iso.org/standard/27001

31   https://www.cnbctv18.com/budget/economic-survey-2025-india-data-centre-capacity-expansion-growth-19549957.htm

32   https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/scala-data-centers-inaugurates-phase-2-of-tambore-campus-with-governor-tarcisio-de-freitas-present-committing-1-13-billion-302224370.html

4 Spotlight on Tamil Nadu: A hub of innovation

4.1. State overview and strategic benefits

The state of Tamil Nadu stands out as one of India's most prosperous states, contributing nearly 10% to the nation's GDP.[33] Tamil Nadu's varied industrial environment, supported by a large, skilled workforce helps contribute to the economy with plenty of opportunities for growth.

Due to its strategic location, the state boasts excellent connectivity, making it an ideal spot for businesses looking to expand. With four international airports and major seaports, moving goods and people in and out of the region is seamless. Cities like Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai are quickly gaining recognition as key players in both industrial and technological fields, pointing to a bright future for the area.

4.2. Digital infrastructure status and policies

The state has begun an inspiring journey to develop a strong digital infrastructure, driven by a clear vision to lead in digital innovation through progressive policies that encourage growth and ensure security in the digital space.

- **Unified Digital Infrastructure (UDI)[34]:** Today's digital world demands smooth experiences. UDI aims to integrate various digital services and platforms, ensuring citizens enjoy smooth connectivity and easy access to services, making daily interactions with digital tools more convenient.

- **Tamil Nadu Data Centre Policy 2021[35]:** Imagine a thriving centre of data centres fuelling global businesses – this policy marks a step towards that vision. The policy offers attractive incentives like tax breaks, land subsidies and reduced power costs to attract investors and position the state as a major data centre hub.

- **Cyber Security Policy 2020[36]:** This policy is designed to safeguard the state's digital assets and data with strong cybersecurity measures, promoting a safe environment for innovation to flourish.

- **Tamil Nadu Blockchain Policy 2020[37]:** Blockchain is a powerful tool for digital transformation. By promoting blockchain technology, the policy aims to increase transparency and efficiency across different sectors, helping the state stay at the forefront of digital progress.

- **ICT Policy 2018[38]:** This policy sets the digital foundation for future growth. It focuses on upgrading IT infrastructure, promoting e-governance and enabling the technology sector's expansion, paving the way for a more technology-driven future.

The state's digital initiatives are not just about technology – they are about creating an environment where innovation thrives, benefiting both businesses and citizens alike. From state-of-the-art data centres to pioneering blockchain initiatives, the state is heading towards a future enabled by digital technology.

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33   https://www.investindia.gov.in/state/tamil-nadu
34   https://cms.tn.gov.in/cms_migrated/document/docfiles/it_e_pn_2024_25.pdf
35   https://www.it.tn.gov.in/en/Tamil_Nadu_Data_Centre_Policy_2021
36   https://dge.tn.gov.in/docs/TN_Cyber_Security_policy_2020.pdf
37   https://tnega.tn.gov.in/assets/pdf/Blockchan_Policy_TamilNadu.pdf
38   https://it.tn.gov.in/sites/default/files/2018-10/ICT_policy_2018.pdf

4.3. Key investments and developments

Tamil Nadu is making major strides in attracting major investments and launching key projects that promise to reshape the state's economic environment:

- **Global City near Chennai[39]:** It is a 2,000-acre smart urban area with IT parks, FinTech zones and research centres. This project aims to position Chennai as a leader in global innovation.

- **Semiconductor Mission 2030[40]:** With an investment of INR 500 crore, the government plans to establish semiconductor parks in Coimbatore, with the goal of making the state a major player in the semiconductor industry.

- **Industrial training institutes (ITIs)[41]:** Investing INR 152 crore, the state plans to establish ten new ITIs, including seven specifically for the children of construction workers, to develop a skilled workforce for the future.

- **Airport development[42]:** An allocation of INR 2,938 crore is dedicated to expanding airports in Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Trichy and Thoothukudi, enhancing connectivity and supporting the state's growth goals.

These projects demonstrate the state's proactive approach to promoting economic development and innovation, offering new opportunities across various sectors and transforming the region for the future.

4.4. Industry-focused governance

Tamil Nadu's government is actively creating an environment that supports business growth through a variety of policies designed to promote industry, innovation, and sustainability:

- **Tamil Nadu Industrial Policy 2021[43]:** This forward-looking plan aims for an impressive 15% annual growth in manufacturing, targeting INR 10 lakh crore in investments by 2025, and the creation of 20 lakh jobs.

- **Ease of Doing Business initiatives[44]:** The state is simplifying regulations by simplifying procedures, introducing single-window clearances and improving transparency, making it much easier for companies to set up and expand.

- **Incentives for investors[45]:** To attract and keep investments flowing, Tamil Nadu offers a range of benefits such as tax breaks, subsidies and infrastructure support.

- **Focus on eco-friendly practices[46]:** Recognising the importance of sustainability, the government encourages environmentally responsible industrial practices and renewable energy adoption, ensuring growth that promotes the 2030 agenda for sustainable development.

With a strong digital infrastructure, strategic investments and supportive policies, Tamil Nadu is positioning itself as a prime destination for business and technology development. These initiatives demonstrate the state's dedication to creating a lucrative ecosystem where industries can flourish and innovation can thrive.

39   https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/tn-budget-announces-new-city-near-chennai-with-international-standards/article69329006.ece

40   https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/tamil-nadu-budget-2025-state-to-launch-semiconductor-mission-2030-semiconductor-fabless-lab-in-chennai-knowledge-corridor-in-hosur/article69329308.ece

41   https://covaimail.com/major-announcements-from-tamil-nadus-budget-2025-26/

42   https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/centre-approves-new-chennai-airport-parandur-airport-cleared-for-landing-2706429-2025-04-09

43   https://www.tn.gov.in/industrial-policy

44   https://www.tn.gov.in/ease-of-doing-business

45   https://www.tn.gov.in/investor-incentives

46   https://www.tn.gov.in/sustainability

5 Investment opportunities in the state

5.1. Emerging data centre hubs in this region

- **Chennai:** Advantageous positioning, robust infrastructure and coastal proximity

- **Coimbatore:** Strong industrial base and educational institutions, offers appealing infrastructure and connectivity

- **Madurai:** Leverages its growing IT sector, strategic location and skilled workforce[47]

These cities benefit collectively from supportive government policies that foster their development and attractiveness for investments.

5.2. Greenfield and brownfield opportunities

- **Greenfield projects:** In cities like Chennai and Coimbatore, new data centres are using the latest designs and technologies. This helps connect South Asia better and makes the region more attractive for investors, boosting its status in the global data centre scene.

- **Brownfield projects:** Instead of building from scratch, brownfield projects upgrade and reuse old industrial buildings to create data centres. This approach is usually quicker and saves money because it makes use of existing utilities and structures, reducing both costs and construction time.[48]

5.3. Private sector and PPP investment potential

Major players in the field of data centre have already made substantial investments in the region, signalling strong confidence in its growth prospects. The Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board (TNIDB) has introduced a detailed PPP policy designed to promote collaboration between government agencies and private sector developers. This framework aims to increase transparency, assist risk-sharing and link payments to performance, creating a more attractive environment for project implementation.

Among multiple PPP initiatives, a notable one is the development of a 2 million sq. ft AI hub in Coimbatore, discovered at the 'Umagine TN 2025' tech summit. This project is part of Tamil Nadu's strategic vision to establish itself as a leader in advanced technologies such as AI, blockchain and IoT.[49]
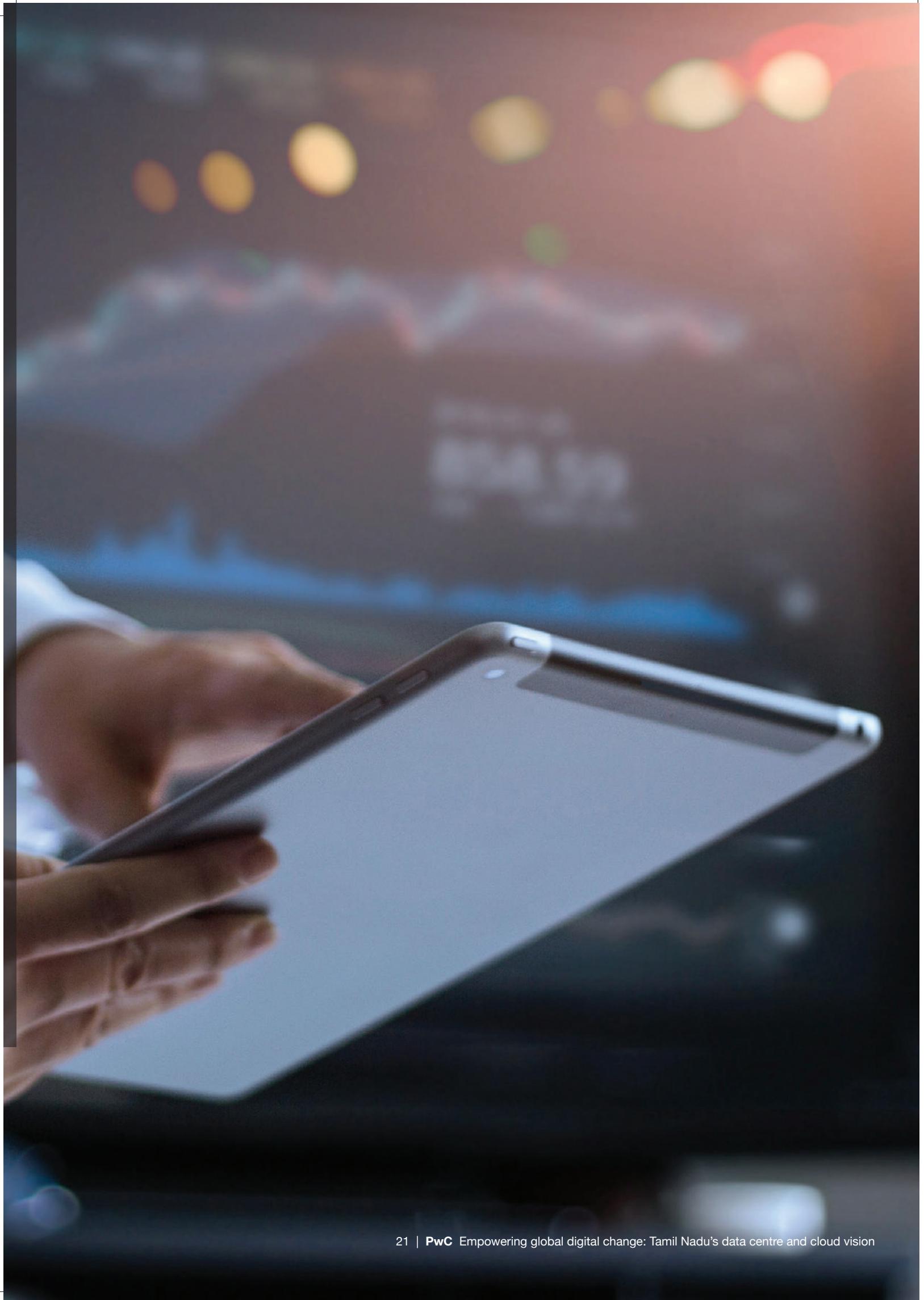
5.4. Opportunities in computing models

GPU-based computing has seen a surge due to AI growth, and easing access to these devices can have a multiplying effect on industry development. Besides, there's an increasing shift towards ARM-based processors, which are more energy-efficient and cost-effective compared to traditional x86 chips. These require reprogramming of existing software but open opportunities for indigenous, made-in-India processors through competitive licensing. In addition, partnerships with global original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) could lead to data centres being controlled locally while being powered by international technology, ensuring data protection for sensitive workloads.

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47   https://www.it.tn.gov.in/en/Tamil_Nadu_Data_Centre_Policy_2021

48   https://www.intelligentcio.com/apac/2023/02/09/bam-digital-realtys-first-greenfield-data-centre-in-chennai-will-serve-as-connectivity-hub-of-south-asia/

49   https://theppppost.com/tamil-nadu-ai-facility-coimbatore/

6 Growth outlook and projections

6.1. Tamil Nadu data centre market size: Current and forecast

Tamil Nadu, particularly Chennai, is emerging as a significant data centre hub in India. The Chennai data centre market is projected to grow from 202.43 MW in 2025 to 551.15 MW by 2030, at a CAGR of 22.18%.[50] This growth is driven by the city's strategic location, robust infrastructure and supportive government policies. The Tamil Nadu Data Centre Policy 2021[51] provides incentives such as tax benefits, land subsidies and power tariff concessions, further boosting the market.

6.2. National investment trends and projections

Indian data centre market expected to grow to INR 1,00,491 crore (USD 11.6 billion) by 2032.[52] Key trends driving this growth include:

Cloud adoption: The increasing adoption of cloud services by enterprises is a major driver of data centre investments. Companies are shifting to hybrid and multi-cloud environments, necessitating a robust data centre infrastructure.

AI and big data: The proliferation of AI and big data analytics is driving demand for high-capacity, energy-efficient data centres. These technologies require significant computational power and storage, leading to increased investments in data centre facilities.

50   https://www.mordorintelligence.com/industry-reports/chennai-data-centre-market
51   https://www.it.tn.gov.in/en/Tamil_Nadu_Data_Centre_Policy_2021
52   https://www.ibef.org/news/indian-data-centre-market-expected-to-grow-to-rs-1-00-491-crore-us-11-6-billion-by-2032-economic-survey

7 Policy enablers and best practices

7.1. Incentives and approvals mechanisms

Tamil Nadu offers a suite of incentives and simplified approval processes[53] designed to attract data centre investments. Here's how the state makes it easier for businesses to set up and grow their data infrastructure:

- **Single-window clearance:** The state provides a one-stop approval system that helps fast-track the permissions needed for data centre projects. This approach simplifies regulatory steps and cuts down on the time it takes to get approvals.

- **Subsidies and tax benefits:** Data centres can take advantage of various financial incentives, such as subsidies on land acquisition, electricity tariffs and infrastructure development. Additionally, tax exemptions and fiscal benefits help reduce the overall investment costs.

- **Infrastructure status:** Granting infrastructure status to data centres makes it easier to access funding from banks and financial institutions. It also enables benefits like lower compliance costs and more relaxed building norms.

7.2. Recommendations for strengthening the policy framework

To further strengthen the policy framework and support the growth of data centres in the state, the following recommendations can be considered:

- Offer additional perks to data centres that adopt energy-efficient technologies and achieve high sustainability standards, including increased subsidies for renewable energy and tax incentives for green certifications.

- Launch targeted training programmes in collaboration with educational institutions and industry players to develop a skilled workforce for the data centre sector, including specialised courses and certification programmes.

- Invest in enhancing power and internet connectivity infrastructure across the state, such as expanding undersea cable networks and strengthening the power grid, to ensure reliable, high-speed access.

- Clearly outline the guidelines for PPP projects to ensure transparency, efficiency and mutual benefit.

- Regularly review and optimise regulations to reduce bureaucratic delays. Implement digital platforms to enable faster, more transparent approval procedures.

- Encourage the adoption of innovative technologies like AI, IoT and blockchain within the data centre ecosystem. Support research and development initiatives in these areas through incentives to promote innovation.

By taking these steps, Tamil Nadu can bolster its position as a leading data centre hub in India, attracting more investments and encouraging sustainable growth.

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53   https://www.it.tn.gov.in/en/Tamil_Nadu_Data_Centre_Policy_2021

8 Making Tamil Nadu the hub of data centres

8.1. Infrastructure, talent, power and connectivity requirements

Infrastructure: Selecting strategic locations like Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai – i.e. cities with solid connectivity and industrial bases – is key. Incorporating modern cooling technologies like liquid cooling and free cooling systems will support efficient, eco-friendly data centres.

Talent: Cultivating a skilled workforce involves offering competitive pay, career growth opportunities and a positive working environment. Partnerships with educational institutions for training in data centre management and cybersecurity can bridge skill gaps.

Power: Building reliable power infrastructure, including substations and backup generators, ensures continuous operations. Accepting renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind, can reduce costs and support sustainability goals.

Connectivity: Providing high-speed internet through undersea cables and fibre optics is essential. Ensuring network resilience with multiple high-capacity links and sturdy cabling will prevent outages and keep data centres running smoothly.[54]

By investing in these areas, Tamil Nadu can become a premier data centre destination, drawing important investments and enabling sustainable growth.

54   https://www.it.tn.gov.in/en/Tamil_Nadu_Data_Centre_Policy_2021

9 Way forward

9.1. Recommendations for industry stakeholders

Industry leaders should focus on adopting energy-efficient technologies and renewable energy sources. Doing so not only cuts operational costs but also aligns with the world's sustainability goals. To boost further growth in the sector, continuous investment in R&D is key. Exploring emerging technologies like AI, IoT and blockchain can drive progress and enhance data centre capabilities.

Considering the high demand and large volumes of data being processed every day, it is essential to implement strong cybersecurity protocols to safeguard data and ensure compliance with regulations. Regular security audits, penetration tests and employee training should thus become standard practices.

However, pulling off a task of such magnitude cannot be possible without building advantageous and meaningful partnerships with government agencies and universities. Such collaborations can spark innovation and help solve industry challenges, enabling the creation of a skilled, future-ready workforce. Finally, in addition to these partnerships, it is imperative to invest in training programmes and ongoing learning opportunities for the workforce. Offering internships, apprenticeships and professional development will help cultivate a talented, adaptable workforce.

9.2. Recommendations for lawmakers and regulators

Simplify regulatory processes: Make regulatory procedures more straightforward and faster by reducing bureaucratic challenges. Implementing digital platforms can make approvals more transparent and efficient.

Offer incentives for green data centres: Provide additional support, such as higher subsidies for renewable energy use or tax breaks for green certifications, to encourage the adoption of energy-efficient data centre technologies.

Upgrade infrastructure support: Invest in modernising the power and connectivity infrastructure to ensure reliable, high-speed internet. Expanding undersea cable networks and strengthening power grids are key steps.

Promote PPPs: Promote more collaborations between the government and private sector to develop better data centre infrastructure. Clear guidelines and frameworks will help ensure these partnerships are transparent and effective.

Strengthen data security and privacy regulations: Develop and update laws to protect digital data and privacy, aligning with international standards. Regular updates to cybersecurity policies are crucial.

9.3. Recommendations for academia and startups in the ecosystem

Universities can lead the way in helping set up new data centres by conducting research and developing new technologies. Partnering with key industry players will further accelerate the creation of innovative solutions.

Furthermore, universities should begin preparing the future workforce early by offering specialised courses and training in data centre management, cybersecurity and related fields. This helps ensure a steady pipeline of qualified professionals.

Apart from this, universities can help startups thrive by providing incubation facilities, mentorship and access to funding, which are all essential components for innovation. A problem-solving mindset can be developed in the prospective workforce by encouraging joint research projects among universities, industry and the government to tackle key challenges and develop practical solutions.

Additionally, relevant workshops, seminars and conferences can further enable knowledge-transfer pertaining to latest research findings between the academia and the industry, keeping everyone informed about technological advancements.

By implementing these recommendations and fostering collaboration among industry stakeholders, lawmakers, regulators, academia and startups, Tamil Nadu can strengthen its position as a leading data centre hub and drive sustainable growth in the sector.

About ASSOCHAM

The Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is the country's oldest apex chamber. It brings in actionable insights to strengthen the Indian ecosystem, leveraging its network of more than 4,50,000 members, of which MSMEs represent a large segment. With a strong presence in states, and key cities globally, ASSOCHAM also has more than 400 associations, federations and regional chambers in its fold.

Aligned with the vision of creating a New India, ASSOCHAM works as a conduit between the industry and the Government. The Chamber is an agile and forward-looking institution, leading various initiatives to enhance the global competitiveness of the Indian industry, while strengthening the domestic ecosystem.

With more than 100 national and regional sector councils, ASSOCHAM is an impactful representative of the Indian industry. These Councils are led by well-known industry leaders, academicians, economists and independent professionals. The Chamber focuses on aligning critical needs and interests of the industry with the growth aspirations of the nation.

ASSOCHAM is driving four strategic priorities - Sustainability, Empowerment, Entrepreneurship and Digitisation. The Chamber believes that affirmative action in these areas would help drive an inclusive and sustainable socio-economic growth for the country.

ASSOCHAM is working hand in hand with the government, regulators and national and international think tanks to contribute to the policy making process and share vital feedback on implementation of decisions of far-reaching consequences. In line with its focus on being future-ready, the Chamber is building a strong network of knowledge architects. Thus, ASSOCHAM is all set to redefine the dynamics of growth and development in the technology-driven knowledge-based economy. The Chamber aims to empower stakeholders in the Indian economy by inculcating knowledge that will be the catalyst of growth in the dynamic global environment.

The Chamber also supports civil society through citizenship programmes, to drive inclusive development. ASSOCHAM's member network leads initiatives in various segments such as empowerment, healthcare, education and skilling, hygiene, affirmative action, road safety, livelihood, life skills, sustainability, to name a few.

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