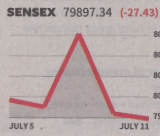


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**IN FOCUS**

	LATEST	CHANGE
Nifty 50	24315.95	-8.50
P/E Ratio (Sensex)	24.31	-0.01
US Dollar (in ₹)	83.56	+0.03
Gold Std 10 gm (in ₹)	72273.00	-52
Silver 1 kg (in ₹)	92204.00	+411

**FIRING THE FUEL.**  
**The Petroleum Ministry** has formed a joint working group to enhance oil and gas production and attract investment **p3**



**GAINING PACE.**  
**Above-normal monsoon** in July helps raise water levels in 150 key reservoirs for 2nd straight week **p8**

## TN to soon announce policy on deep tech and AI

**Our Bureau**  
 Chennai

Tamil Nadu will soon announce a policy on deep tech and artificial intelligence, said Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services, at the first anniversary of the Tamil Nadu Technology Hub (iTNT Hub).

In alignment with the Centre's Deep Tech Policy — which is expected to be announced soon — the Tamil Nadu government will focus on areas of tech product design to facilitate product development with a confluence of product designers, developers and manufacturing support. The second is to host the TN Innovative Conclave regularly as it will be a bedrock for innovation; the State is already a leader in patent filing and R&D and expects to have a deep tech fund, he said.

"We are at an interesting inflection point in the techno-



**FOSTERING INNOVATION.** Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, TN Minister for IT & DS, with Vanitha Venugopal, CEO, iTNT, at the first anniversary of iTNT in Chennai on Thursday **BIJOY GHOSH**

logy space with the advent of both deep tech and AI. While some may argue that AI is overhyped, there is no question that it profoundly changes the nature of work in many ways... creating new kinds of opportunities and enterprises," he said.

"In the recent discussion on demands for grants of the IT & DS department in the Assembly, we talked about a mantra or slogan — Innovate in Tamil Nadu. As we are the most industrialised State with a large talent pool, we need to use the innovation approach

to stimulate our economy and achieve Chief Minister MK Stalin's vision of a \$1 trillion economy by 2030," he said.

"Tamil Nadu had lost the overall momentum in the sector when compared to Bengaluru or Hyderabad or the NCR. Part of the issue is funding. We fund this department substantive lower, in absolute number and as a percentage of total budget outlay, when compared to States like Karnataka or Telangana. Despite that we are doing relatively so well because of the human talent," he said.

When asked if it would be two different policies for deep tech and AI or an integrated one, Rajan said it could be an incentive or regulatory policy or guideline on how it would be developed. From an incentive policy perspective, all will be aligned in one way. From regulations, standards, applications and compliance policy, there will be a separate AI policy because of the risk factors involved, he said.

**MOUs INKED**

At the event, the iTNT Hub inked MoUs with Tamil Nadu Smart and Advanced Manufacturing Centre (in association with Siemens), Tamil Nadu Centre of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing (in association with Dassault Systèmes), Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Fund Management Corporation, Amazon Web Services India, Microsoft India, and Hyderabad's DLabs Incubator Association, India School of Business, T-Hub and T-Works.