AMARAVATI QUANTUM VALLEY DECLARATION

NEWS: Recently, the **Government of Andhra Pradesh** has officially approved the **Amaravati Quantum Valley Declaration (AQVD)** to transform Amaravati into **India's first Quantum Valley** and a global hub for quantum technologies.

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

About Amaravati Quantum Valley Declaration (AQVD)
- **Strategic Vision:** The AQVD positions Amaravati, the capital region of Andhra Pradesh, as a **deep-tech nucleus** in India, with a special focus on **quantum technologies**.

- **Alignment with National Mission:** It aligns with the **National Quantum Mission (NQM)**, a national effort to develop quantum capabilities across computing, sensing, cryptography, and communications.

- **Multi-Stakeholder Partnership:** The declaration reflects a **collaborative commitment** involving:

    - **Andhra Pradesh state government**

    - **Global tech giants** like IBM, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), and Larsen & Toubro (L&T)

    - **Indian and international academic institutions**

    - **Startups and research labs**

- **Investment Goals:** The initiative aims to attract **$1 billion in total investment** by **January 1, 2029**, including:

    - **$500 million by 2027**

    - Focused on building capabilities in **quantum computing, quantum chips, sensing technologies**, and **quantum communication networks**

- **Infrastructure Development – QChipIN:** The AQVD supports the creation of **QChipIN**, envisioned as **India's largest open quantum testbed**.

    - This facility will **integrate quantum computers** to promote experimentation, validation, and development of quantum applications.

Significance of AQVD
- **Establishing a Quantum Innovation Hub:** The AQVD seeks to make **Amaravati a globally recognized center** for quantum R&D and commercialization.

- **Fostering Public-Private Collaboration:** Encourages joint innovation efforts among **government, industry, and academia** to accelerate quantum technology adoption.

- **Boosting Research & Skill Development:** The initiative will promote **education, skilling, and advanced research** in quantum mechanics, computer science, and material science.

- **Driving Tech-Led Economic Growth:** Supports India's broader ambition to become a **global leader in frontier technologies** and reduce dependency on imported tech ecosystems.

What is a Quantum Computer?
- **Quantum Foundation:** A quantum computer leverages principles from **quantum mechanics** — the laws governing subatomic particles — to process information in fundamentally different ways.

- **Superiority Over Classical Computers:** Capable of **exponentially faster calculations**, especially in domains like **molecular simulation, encryption, optimization**, and **AI algorithms**.

Core Concepts in Quantum Computing
- **Qubit (Quantum Bit):** The smallest unit of quantum data. Unlike binary bits (0 or 1), a qubit can exist in a **superposition** of both states.

- **Superposition:** Allows a qubit to perform **multiple calculations simultaneously**, increasing processing power exponentially.

- **Entanglement:** A powerful quantum phenomenon where **two qubits remain correlated**, such that the state of one instantly affects the other — even if they are far apart.

- **Quantum Gates:** Quantum analogs of classical logic gates. These gates **manipulate qubit states** through precise operations, forming the foundation of quantum algorithms.

Strategic Importance of Quantum Technology
- **Dual-Use Potential:** Quantum technologies have both **civilian and defense applications**, making them strategically crucial.

- **National Security:** Enables **secure communications** via quantum encryption and **defense applications** through advanced simulations and cryptographic capabilities.

- **Economic and Scientific Leap:** Helps in solving **complex financial, logistical, and scientific problems** that are beyond classical computers.

- **Digital Sovereignty Concerns:** Developing **indigenous quantum systems** avoids reliance on **foreign quantum cloud services**, ensuring **data sovereignty and security**.

Quantum Technologies in India – Progress and Projects
- **National Quantum Mission (NQM):**

  - Launched with an **outlay of ₹6,003 crore**.

  - Goal: Develop **quantum computers with 50–1000 qubits by 2031**.

  - Also supports quantum sensing, materials, encryption, and skill development.

- **QpiAI-Indus (2025):**

  - India's **first full-stack quantum computer**.

  - Built with **25 superconducting qubits**.

  - Developed by QpiAI and deployed in Bengaluru.

- **Quantum Communication Systems:**

- **ISRO and SAC** are leading efforts to build **quantum key distribution (QKD) networks** via satellites, ensuring **unhackable communication**.

- **Quantum Materials Research:**

  - Focus on **superconductors, topological insulators**, and other advanced materials essential for stable quantum hardware.

Challenges in Quantum Computing

- **Fragility of Qubits:** Quantum states are highly sensitive to environmental interference — a problem called **decoherence** — making **error correction** essential.

- **Scalability Issues:** Building quantum machines with **thousands of reliable qubits** is still a major **engineering bottleneck**.

- **Infrastructure Complexity:** Requires **cryogenic temperatures** (near absolute zero), **vacuum systems**, and **magnetic shielding**, making hardware development **costly and complex**.

- **Talent & Ecosystem Gap:** India needs to build a **larger talent pool** in quantum physics, computer science, and system engineering.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/andhra-pradesh-government-approves-amaravati-quantum-valley-declaration/article69782492.ece