



National Technical Textiles Mission

For Prelims: Technical Textile, Schemes related to Technical Textile.

For Mains: Significance of Technical Textile in Indian Economy.

Why in News

Recently, the Ministry of Textiles cleared 20 strategic research projects worth Rs 30 crores in the areas of **Specialty fibers and Geotextiles** under the Programme '**National Technical Textiles Mission.**'

Technical Textiles

- Technical textiles **are functional fabrics** that have applications across various industries including automobiles, civil engineering and construction, agriculture, healthcare, industrial safety, personal protection etc.
 - Technical Textile products derive their demand from development and industrialization in a country.
- Based on usage, there are **12 technical textile segments:** Agrotech, Meditech, Buildtech, Mobiltech, Clothtech, Oekotech, Geotech, Packtech, Hometech, Protech, Indutech and Sportech.
 - **For example,** 'mobiltech' refers to products in vehicles such as seat belts and airbags, airplane seats; geotech, which is incidentally the fastest growing sub-segment, used to hold back soil, etc.

Key Points

- **About:**
 - It was **approved in 2020 by the [Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs \(CCEA\)](#)** with the aim **to position the country as a global leader in technical textiles** and increase the use of technical textiles in the domestic market.
 - It aims at taking the domestic market size from USD 40 billion to USD 50 billion by 2024.
- **Ministry:**
 - A Mission Directorate is operational in the Ministry of Textiles.
- **Components:** It will be **implemented for four years starting from 2020-2021** and has four components-
 - **First component:** It will **focus on research, development and innovation** with an outlay of Rs. 1,000 crores.
 - The research will be at both fiber level and application-based in geo, agro, medical, sports and mobile textiles and development of biodegradable technical textiles.
 - Research activities will also focus on the development of indigenous machinery and process equipment.
 - **Second component:** It will be for the **promotion and development of the market for**

technical textiles.

- **Third component:** It will **focus on export promotion** so that technical textile exports from the country reach from Rs 14,000 crores to Rs 20,000 crores by 2021-2022 and ensure 10% average growth every year till the Mission ends.
 - An **export promotion council** for technical textiles will be set up.
- **Fourth component:** It will **focus on education, training and skill development.**
 - The Mission will promote technical education at higher engineering and technology levels related to technical textiles and its application areas.

▪ Scenario of Technical Textile:

- The growth of technical textiles in India has **gained momentum in the past five years**, currently growing at an **8% per annum rate.**
 - It is aimed **to hasten this growth to 15-20% range** during the next five years.
- The current world market is USD 250 billion and **India's share in it is USD 19 billion.**
- India is an aspiring player **with USD 40 billion in this market (8% Share).**
 - The **biggest players are the USA**, western Europe, China and Japan (20-40% share).

▪ Initiatives Related to Technical Textile:

- **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles Sector:** It aims to promote the production of high value Man-Made Fiber (MMF) fabrics, garments and technical textiles.
- **Harmonized System of Nomenclature (HSN) Codes for Technical Textile:** In 2019, Government of India dedicated 207 HSN codes to technical textiles to help in monitoring the data of import and export, in providing financial support and other incentives to manufacturers.
- **100% FDI under Automatic Route:** The Government of India allows 100% **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** under automatic route. International technical textile manufacturers such as Ahlstrom, Johnson & Johnson etc have already initiated operations in India.
- **Technotex India:** It is a flagship event organized by the Ministry of Textiles, in collaboration with **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)** and comprises exhibitions, conferences and seminars with participation of stakeholders from across the global technical textile value chain.
- **Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme:** To improve exports and indirectly promote investments in textile machinery.

Source: PIB