Textile sector to bring investment of ₹95K cr in next four-six years

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NEW DELHI: Indian textile sector is expected to attract ₹95,000 crore investments in the next four-six years from two schemes—the production-linked incentive (PLI) to the sector, and the proposed seven PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) parks and generate over 2.25 million additional jobs, a senior official said.

"While the seven PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) parks are expected to attract ₹70,000 crore in four-six years with 20 lakh direct and indirect employments, the PLI scheme is likely to attract investments worth ₹25,000 crore with 2.5 lakh additional jobs," textiles secretary Rachna Shah said on Friday.

Shah said 64 PLI proposals have been already approved and other 12 applications are under evaluation. Performance of units will be evaluated soon after gestation period is over on March 31, 2024, she added. According to the scheme, the government will start giving incentives from 2025-26.

"In case of fast paced investment when threshold investment and threshold turnover is achieved by 2023-24, incentive may be payable in 2024-25 itself," the scheme document said.

The PLI scheme for textiles sector is focused on man-made fibre (MMF), MMF apparel and technical textiles to boost large scale manufacturing and enhancing competitiveness. Launched in September 2021, the ₹10,683 crore PLI scheme for textiles sector is expected to result into a cumulative turn-

over of over ₹3 lakh crore. It is part of the ₹1.97 lakh crore PLI schemes for 14 sectors including automobile, pharmaceuticals, telecom, steel, white goods and solar modules.

The other scheme—the ₹4,445 crore PM MITRA parks—was notified by the government in October 2021. They are aimed at creating a modern, integrated large-scale, world class industrial ecosystem that will help in attracting investments and boosting employment, she said.

The seven sites are Virudhnagar in Tamil Nadu, Warangal in Telangana, Navsari in Gujarat, Kalaburagi in Karnataka, Dhar in Madhya Pradesh, Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh, and Amravati Maharashtra. It is estimated that each park will attract investment worth ₹10,000 crore from both foreign and domestic investors.

Shah said the government is taking several such policy measures to boost textile industry with the aim to make it \$350 billion sector by 2030 from the current level of \$154 billion. "One such effort is Bharat Tex, which is set to be the largest global textile event of India. The four-day event is beginning from Monday in New Delhi, which will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi."

"Besides China, India is the only country to have the entire textile value chain (from fibre to fabric and apparel), and Bharat Tex will project this strength before an international audience. This will showcase the entire strength of the textile ecosystem which is very unique to India," she said. Bharat Tex will have participation from 100 countries and more than 3,000 trade buyers, she added.