

# Jobs-linked incentive programme approved

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**NEW DELHI:** The Union cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday approved the much-awaited employment-linked incentive (ELI) scheme proposed in the 2024-25 Budget, which will offer fresh recruits in private-sector jobs a month's wages, while firms hiring them will get financial incentives — steps aimed at boosting job opportunities and enhancing skills of

working-age people.

The sops, aimed at creating 35 million new jobs in two years, will provide direct financial benefits up to ₹15,000 in two instalments to 19.2 million first-time employees, Union minister of information and broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw said at a briefing. The outlay cleared by the Cabinet for the roll out stands at ₹99,446 crore. "The aim of the scheme is to create more formal employment and sustain it," the minister said.

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