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PLI Scheme- Textile Sector

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Summary:

India has scattered textile supply chain. It takes 90- 120 days to ship an order from India to USA, UK etc. The scattered supply chain also increases the shipping costs, which ultimately adding to the final cost of the material produced. In countries like Bangladesh and Vietnam, it takes merely 14-21 days because of their cluttered supply chain. As a result of which India struggles to compete with Bangladesh and Vietnam in the global textile market. In September 2021, the GOI announced a Rs. 10,683 crore PLI aimed at increasing production of man made fibres and technical textiles. But this scheme did not attract manufacturers because it did not cover apparels, which constitutes major share in the textile industry. In October 2021, the GOI launched scheme to build seven mega integrated textile parks, bringing various parts of the supply chain to one location.

Facts and Figures:

- Textile contributes around 2-3 percent to India's GDP and it employs 45 million people.
- As per the scheme, the manufacturer can choose to invest a minimum of 100 crore or 300 crore.
- Chaiti group of Bangladesh has 5,000 machines under one roof, whereas it is only 500 in the factories of Delhi and Punjab.

Opinion:

The PLI Scheme does not solve the problem of labour. Absence of trade agreements with Europe and USA also hinder India's export. The scheme's financial requirements are too much (100 crore or 300 crore). India mainly focuses on cotton textiles, but man made fibres and technical textiles count for two-third of the global trade. The PLI scheme would help the domestic companies become global champions.