

WHAT ARE TECHNICAL TEXTILES?

According to a recent research report, the global Technical Textile market size is expected to reach USD 272.3 billion by 2030.



About Technical Textiles:

- Technical Textiles are textile products that are manufactured primarily for their functionality and use rather than aesthetic appeal.
- They are designed to have high levels of physical, mechanical, thermal, and/or chemical properties for use in specific applications within industrial sectors such as earthworks, construction, civil engineering, transport, defense, medical, and healthcare.

Technical Textiles Mission in India:

- The Ministry of Textiles has launched NTTM to increase the penetration level of technical textiles in India while leveraging the extraordinary growth rate of the sector.
 - The aim of the mission is to position India as a global leader in Technical Textiles.
 - The mission will comprise the following four components:
 - Research, Innovation and Development;
 - Promotion and Market Development;
 - Export Promotion;
 - Education, Training, Skill Development;
 - **Implementation:** The NTTM has been approved with an implementation period of four years starting from FY 2020-21 till FY 2023-24. The total outlay of the mission is INR 1480 Cr.
 - **Target:** The Mission has a target to take the domestic market size of the technical textile sector to \$ 40-50 Bn by the year 2024 with an average growth rate of 15-20% per annum.
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DURAND CUP

Recently, the union Ministry of Defence inaugurated the 132nd edition of Durand Cup in Kokrajhar.



About Durand Cup:

- It is Asia's oldest and the world's third oldest football tournament, in which top Indian football clubs from across the country participate.
- The inaugural edition took place in Shimla in 1888, when it started off as an Army Cup, open only to the British Indian Army troops in India.
- The tournament is named after its founder Sir Henry Mortimer Durand.
- It was begun as a football tournament for different departments and regiments of the Armed forces of India and the princely states.
- Since independence, the army's presence is maintained by the participation of several clubs of different regiments of the Indian Armed Forces as guest invitees.
- The Durand Cup tournament is unique where in the winning team walks away with three trophies,
 - The Durand Cup (a rolling trophy and the original prize).
 - The Shimla Trophy (also a rolling trophy and first given by the residents of Shimla in 1904).
 - The President's Cup (for permanent keep and first presented by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, India's first President, in 1956).

GSAT-24

Direct-to-home (DTH) company Tata Play is set to expand its bandwidth capacity by 50% by adding 24 new Ku-band transponders on the communication satellite GSAT-24.



About GSAT-24:

- It was built by ISRO for NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) which was successfully placed into geostationary orbit by the Ariane 5 rocket.

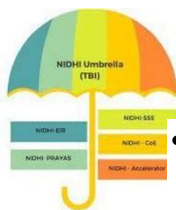
- It is a **24-Ku band communication satellite** weighing 4,180 kg with pan-India coverage for meeting DTH application needs.
- It was the **first demand driven communication satellite** mission undertaken by NSIL post space sector reforms.
- It is configured on ISRO's proven I-3k Bus with a **mission life of 15 years**.

Key facts about NewSpace India Limited

- NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) NewSpace India Limited headquartered in Bengaluru is a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE).
- It is a **commercial arm under Department of Space (DoS)**, Government of India.
- It was incorporated in March 2019 and was set up to take high technology space-related activities in India.
- Under the new space policy reforms announced by the Government of India in June 2020, NSIL is to undertake operational satellite missions on a “demand-driven” model.
- They are **responsible to build, launch, own and operate the satellite** and provide services to customers.

NIDHI PROGRAM

Recently, the union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology informed the Rajya Sabha about the NIDHI Program.



About NIDHI Program:

- National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing innovations (NIDHI) program was launched in 2016.
- It is an umbrella programme conceived and developed by **the Innovation & Entrepreneurship division, Department of Science & Technology**.
- **Aim:** To nurture start-ups through scouting, supporting and scaling innovations.

- **Key stakeholders:** Various departments and ministries of the central government, state governments, academic and R & D institutions, mentors, financial institutions, angel investors, venture capitalists and private sectors.
- **Funding:** By the National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB).

Key Components of the Program

- **The NIDHI- PRAYAS** (Promoting and Accelerating Young and Aspiring Innovators and Startups) program at Proof-of-Concept level provides mentoring and financial support to innovator for converting their ideas into prototypes.
- **NIDHI Entrepreneurs-In-Residence (EIR)** Program provides fellowships to the students opting for entrepreneurship.
- **The NIDHI Seed Support Program** provisions availability of early-stage seed support funding to startups and the NIDHI Accelerator program speeds up the investment readiness of the startups.
- The NIDHI program has been helpful in creating state-of-the art infrastructure for incubating startups in technology sectors through Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) and Centres of Excellence (CoE).
- **NIDHI Accelerator:** An accelerator is typically a 3-6 months fast track structured program helping ideas get accelerated to the next orbit.

WHAT IS A CHARGE SHEET?

Rajasthan DGP recently ordered the preparation of a charge sheet against the accused in the rape and murder of a 14-year-old girl



About Charge Sheet:

- According to Section 173 of Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), a charge sheet is a report generated by police officers after investigating a case.

- It contains all the stringent records right from the commencement of investigation procedure of lodging an FIR to till the completion of investigation and preparation of final report.
- It contains the names of the people brought in the custody, the charges they are brought in for and the identity of the accusers.
- Once the charge sheet has been submitted to a court of law, prosecution proceedings against the accused begin.
- Time limit for filing a Charge Sheet:
 - It is to be filed within 60 days from the date of arrest of the accused in cases triable by lower courts and 90 days in cases triable by Court of Sessions.
 - If the charge sheet is not filed within the prescribed time mentioned above, the accused has a right to default bail.
- A charge sheet is distinct from the First Information Report (FIR).

What is the First Information Report (FIR)?

- It is a written document prepared by a Police officer based on information given by an aggrieved person or any other person either in writing or made orally about the commission of a Cognizable Offence.
- Investigation is started only after filing of the FIR.
- Who can file an FIR? Anyone can file a FIR, whether it is the victim, victim's family or friends, or any witness to a crime.
- An FIR can only be lodged in case of cognizable offences.

What is a Cognizable Offence?

- It is one in which the police may arrest a person without warrant.
- The police are authorized to start investigation into a cognizable case on their own and do not require any orders from the court to do so.

[COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT ON OFFICIAL LANGUAGE](#)

Recently, the Union Home Minister chaired the 38th meeting of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language.



About Committee of Parliament on Official Language:

- The Committee of Parliament on Official Language was set up in 1976 under Section 4 of The Official Languages Act, 1963.
- Section 4 of the Act says “there shall be constituted a Committee on Official language, on a resolution to that effect being moved in either House of Parliament with the previous sanction of the President and passed by both Houses”.
- Under the provisions of the 1963 Act, the **panel submits its report to the President**, who “shall [then] cause the report to be laid before each House of Parliament, and sent to all the State Governments”.
- The **Committee is chaired by the Union Home Minister**, and has, in accordance with the provisions of the 1963 Act.
- The committee consists of **30 members** — 20 MPs from Lok Sabha and 10 MPs from Rajya Sabha.
- The mandate of the Committee is to review the progress made in the use of Hindi for official purposes, and to make recommendations to increase the use of Hindi in official communications.
- The first Report of the Committee was submitted in 1987.

AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME

- **About:**
 - Launched in February 2023 by the Ministry of Railways, the ABSS envisages the **development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term approach**.
 - The scheme was launched to **redevelop 1,309 stations** across the country and is based on **Master Planning** for long term and implementation of the same as per needs and demand of the station to station.
- **Need:**

- India Railways is an integral part of the nation's transportation infrastructure.
- In a bid to keep it **safe** for passengers as well as freight transportation, it is essential to **modernise** its infrastructure with latest technologies, amenities and others from time to time.
- In this context, the government is working to transform the railway stations across the country in line with its vision of 'Naya Bharat'/ New India.
- **Objectives of the ABSS:**
 - The ABSS aims at **enhancing the facilities** beyond the Minimum Essential Amenities.
 - It also aimed at construction of **Roof Plazas and City Centres** at the station.
 - It caters for the **introduction of new amenities** as well as upgradation and replacement of existing amenities.
- **Scope of work under ABSS:** The ABSS involves improvement of amenities at the stations like -
 - Entry and exit, circulating areas, waiting halls, toilets, lift/escalators, cleanliness, free Wi-Fi
 - Kiosks for local products through schemes like '**One Station One Product**'
 - Better passenger information systems
 - Executive Lounges
 - Nominated spaces for business meetings, landscaping, etc.

JAN VISHWAS (AMENDMENT OF PROVISIONS) BILL, 2023

- **The bill seeks to redefine the regulatory landscape** of the country with decriminalisation of minor offences under 42 Acts to reduce compliance burden and promote ease of living and doing business in the country.
- It was tabled in Parliament by the **Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry** last year and later referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) for review.
- Most recommendations of the JPC have been approved by the Union Cabinet, clearing the way for its passing.

Important Features of the Bill

- **Decriminalising of 180 offences** across 42 laws governing environment, agriculture, media, industry and trade, publication, etc.

- **It seeks to completely remove or replace imprisonment** clauses with monetary fines, to provide a boost to the business ecosystem and improve the well-being of the public.
- **The Bill also proposes compounding of offences in some provisions.**
- The Bill removes all offences and penalties under the **Indian Post Office Act, 1898.**
- **Changes in grievance redressal mechanisms** and the appointment of one or more Adjudicating Officers for determining penalties.
- **A periodic revision of fines and penalties** (an increase of 10% of the minimum amount every 3 years) for various offences in the specified Acts.

What was the Need for the Bill?

- **MSMEs are the backbone of the Indian economy** and contribute significantly to the GDP.
- For these enterprises to make a shift to the formal sector and generate jobs and income, **there must be effective and efficient business regulations** in place that eliminate unnecessary red tape.
- Currently, **there are 1,536 laws which translate into around 70,000 compliances** that govern doing business in India.
- A **2022 report by the ORF on imprisonment clauses** in business laws revealed that **among the 69,233 unique compliances that regulate business in India, 26,134 have imprisonment clauses as a penalty for non-compliance.**
- These excessive compliances have proved **onerous for business enterprises, especially MSMEs**, creating barriers to the smooth flow of ideas and the creation of jobs, wealth, and GDP.
- Moreover, **the lengthy processing times for the needed approvals can escalate costs and dampen the entrepreneurial spirit.**

Significance of the Bill

- **Reducing compliance burden** gives impetus to business process reengineering and improves ease of living of people.
- **It would accelerate investment decisions** due to smoother processes and attracting more investment.

- **The Bill is also aimed at reducing judicial burden.** As per the National Judicial Data Grid, out of a total of 4.4 crore pending cases, 3.3 crore cases are criminal proceedings.
- Settlement of many issues, by **compounding method, adjudication, and administrative mechanism**, without involving courts, will save time, energy, and resources.
- To summarise, the Bill seeks to bolster **‘trust-based governance.’**

Conclusion

- While, the **Jan Vishwas Bill** will address technical and procedural defaults without **imposing severe penalties** and establish a balanced approach between the severity of offence and prescribed punishment, it **allows bureaucracy to discharge the duties of judiciary.**
 - **The government should not be a prosecutor and judge** in its own cause. That is the essence of ‘rule of law’.
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