

#India NITI

An Insight to latest policy updates in India



April - June 2023

FOREWARD

This newsletter on the policy changes made by various Central Government Ministries is a unique initiative to capture and provide an update to the readers on the rapidly changing Policy Environment in India.

This Newsletter could be of relevance to the Policy Analysts and Executives to understand the policy initiatives of the Union Government undertaken in Quarter ending March 2023.

We hope this newsletter provides a bird eye view on the recent policy updates of the Indian Government.

July 2023



About Authors

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Abhishek is the brain behind the Policy Initiatives at Finex. He has diverse experience working with Policy Makers and Businesses in relation to various policy initiatives. Abhishek has been instrumental for helping the clients obtaining various policy benefits and has been actively involved in public consultation by the governments around the globe.



Sneha Dalal - Policy Analyst

A public policy enthusiast, Sneha has completed Masters in Public Administration from Panjab University. She has a knack for the field of policy and research and also has an inclination towards policy consultancy. Her previous works includes conducting an extensive review of data and transform it into a rational assessment.

Department of Space



Indian Space Policy 2023

The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi, approved the Indian Space Policy.

Under this policy roles and responsibilities of ISRO, New Space India Limited and Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) have been laid down.

Through this policy Government of India intends to encourage and promote greater private sector participation in the entire value chain of the Space Economy, including in the creation of space and ground based assets. Focus areas of this policy are as follows :-

- Encouraging advanced Research & Development in space sector to sustain and augment the space program.
- Providing public goods and services using space technology for national priorities.
- Creating a stable and predictable regulatory framework to provide a level playing field to Non-Government Entities in the Space sector through IN-SPACe.
- Promoting space-related education and innovation, including support to space-sector start-ups.
- Using space as a driver for overall technology development, nurture scientific temperament in the society, and increase awareness on space activities.

The policy seeks to institutionalise private sector participation in the space sector, with ISRO focusing on research and development of advanced space technologies. The policy will pave the way forward with much-required clarity in space reforms and augment private industry participation to drive the space economy opportunity for the country.



Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

National Medical Devices Policy 2023

It aims to build on these measures to facilitate the orderly growth of the medical device sector. The policy focuses on creating an enabling ecosystem for manufacturing and innovation, streamlining regulations, promoting training and capacity building programs, and fostering talent and skilled resources in line with the industry requirements.

The policy covers six broad areas of policy interventions—

1. Regulatory streamlining
2. Enabling infrastructure
3. Facilitating R&D and innovation
4. Attracting investments, human resources development
5. Brand positioning and awareness creation.

Policy lays down a roadmap for accelerated growth of the medical devices sector to achieve the following missions viz, Access & Universality, Affordability, Quality, Patient Centred & Quality Care, Preventive & Promotive Health, Security, Research and Innovation and Skilled manpower.

The policy is expected to provide the required support and directions to strengthen the medical devices industry into a competitive, self-reliant, resilient and innovative industry that caters to the healthcare needs of not only India but also of the world.



Assistance to Medical Device Clusters for Common Facilities (AMD-CF)

Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), under Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India, has announced the scheme for “Assistance to Medical Device Clusters for Common Facilities (AMD-CF)”.

This scheme aims to strengthen Medical Device clusters by providing financial assistance and to strengthen and / or establish more testing laboratories for Medical Devices to improve quality and sustainable growth. For Common Infrastructure Facilities (CIF) for the Medical Device (MD) clusters, the limit of support will be 70% of the approved project cost or Rs 20 crore, whichever is less, as per the approval of Scheme Steering Committee (SSC). To strengthen testing laboratories, the limit support will be 70 % of the approved testing facilities project cost of Rs. 5 crore, whichever is less.

Ministry of Coal

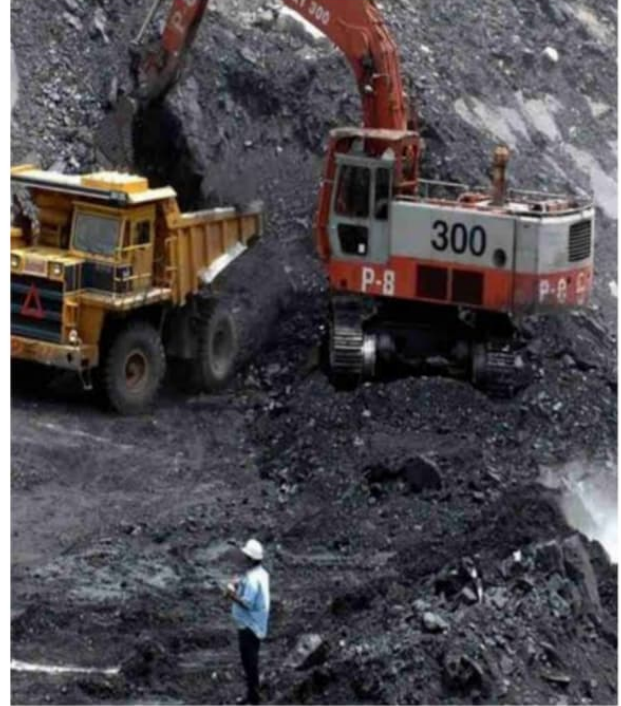
Exploration of Coal and Lignite scheme

Central Sector Scheme of "Exploration of Coal and Lignite scheme" has been approved with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 2980 crore from 2021-22 to 2025-26 co-terminus with the 15th Finance Commission cycle.

Two broad stages conducted under this scheme:

- (i) Promotional (Regional) Exploration (Outlay: Rs.1650 crore)
- (ii) Detailed Exploration in Non-Coal India Limited blocks (Outlay: Rs.1330 crore)

Exploration for Coal and Lignite is required to prove and estimate coal resources available in the country which helps in preparing detailed project report to start coal mining.



Ministry of Rural Development

Sangathan se Samridhhi' Scheme



- This campaign will empower marginalized rural Households by bringing all eligible rural women into the folds of Self Help Groups (SHGs)
- The government is targeting to bring 10 crore women under the purview of SHGs.
- The government has also set a target that every woman associated with SHGs should be able to earn 1 Lakh rupees per annum

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy



Government Unveils Plans To Add 250GW Renewable Energy Capacity In Next Five Years

The Government has decided to invite bids for 50 GW of renewable energy capacity annually for the next five years, i.e., from fiscal 2023–24 to fiscal 2027–28.

These annual bids of interstate transmission-connected renewable energy capacity will also include the setting up of wind power capacity of at least 10 GW per annum, it stated.

The bid plan will add 250 GW of renewable energy and ensure 500 GW of installed capacity by 2030.



Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative (APPI)

The key activities under APPI which are at different stages of execution are as follows:

1. Defined joint investigation and outbreak response teams (National & state)
2. Design an overall integrated disease surveillance system (built on National Digital Livestock Mission)
3. Strengthening the Regulatory system (e.g., Nandi online portal and Field trial guidelines)
4. Creating disease modelling algorithms and early warning systems
5. Strategizing Disaster Mitigation with National Disaster Management Authority
6. Initiate targeted R&D to develop vaccines/diagnostics/therapies for priority diseases
7. Build genomic and environmental surveillance methods to improve the timeliness and sensitivity of disease detection

The One Health Triad



Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

Revised domestic Gas pricing guidelines

The CCEA has approved the revised domestic natural gas pricing guidelines for gas produced from nomination fields of ONGC/OIL, New Exploration Licensing Policy Blocks and pre-NELP blocks.

The price of Natural Gas shall be 10% of the Monthly average of Indian Crude Basket and shall be notified on a monthly basis.

For the gas produced by ONGC and OIL from their nomination blocks, the Administered Price Mechanism (APM) price shall be subject to a floor and a ceiling.



Ministry of Finance

New Financing Solution for Electric Vehicle



SIDBI (Small Industries Development Bank of India) has launched a pilot scheme for better financing terms in the electric vehicle space and strengthening the whole ecosystem.

The pilot phase of 'Mission 50 K-EV4ECO' aims to strengthen the EV ecosystem, including uptake of two-wheelers, three-wheelers and four-wheelers, through direct and indirect lending.

Direct Lending – SIDBI will directly give loans to eligible MSMEs.

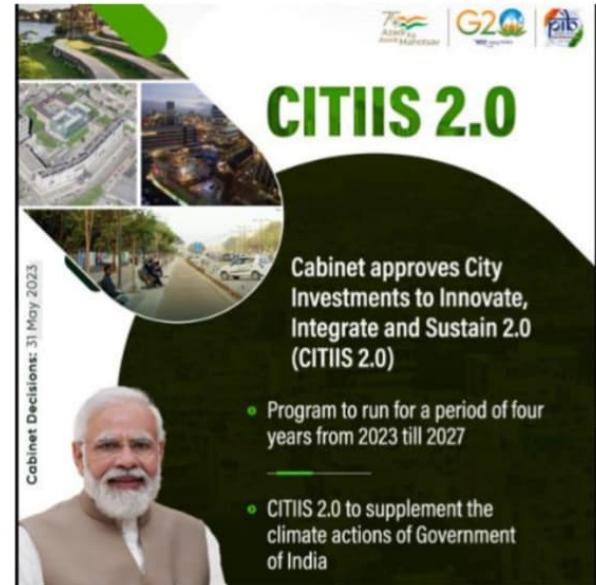
Indirect Lending – Targeted at NBFCs, including small unrated focused and emerging NBFCs.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

CITIIS 2.0

CITIIS 2.0 is a program conceived by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in partnership with the French Development Agency (AFD), Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, European Union, and National Institute of Urban Affairs. The program will run for a period of four years, from 2023 till 2027.

The program envisages to support competitively selected projects promoting circular economy with a focus on integrated waste management at the city level, climate-oriented reform actions at the State level, and institutional strengthening and knowledge dissemination at the National level.



The Ayush Ministry

The Bureau of Indian Standards introduces 31 Indian standards related to Ayush



The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has recently introduced 31 Indian standards related to Ayush, encompassing 30 herbs and one product, the stainless steel neti pot. In line with this initiative, BIS has established an additional department with a dedicated focus on Ayush, further strengthening its standardisation framework.

BIS also has initiated efforts to formulate international standards in collaboration with the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO).

A Working Group on 'Traditional Medicine' has been established within the ISO/TC-215 'Health Informatics' as well.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change



Amrit Dharohar and MISHTI Scheme (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes)

- PM Modi launched two schemes 'Amrit Dharohar' and 'MISHTI' to revive the country's wetlands and mangroves.

- Amrit Dharohar:
To ensure the conservation of the existing Ramsar sites through public participation
These sites will become the center of eco-tourism and a source of green jobs for thousands of people

- MISHTI:
It refers to Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes
It will help revive and protect the mangrove ecosystem in the country.



Ministry of Power

Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research (MAHIR)

- Aim: To quickly identify emerging technologies in the power sector and develop them indigenously, at scale, for deployment within and outside India

- Funded by: Ministry of Power, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, and CPSEs under the two Ministries

- Tenure: Five years, 2023-24 to 2027-28

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

PLI Scheme 2.0 for IT Hardware

Production Linked Incentive Scheme 2.0 for IT Hardware, 2023 offers a production linked incentive to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in the value chain. It is expected to result in broadening and deepening of the manufacturing ecosystem by encouraging the localisation of components and sub-assemblies and allowing for a longer duration to develop the supply chain within the country. Additionally, the scheme provides increased flexibility and options for applicants, and is tied to incremental sales and investment thresholds to further incentivise growth. Furthermore, semiconductor design, IC manufacturing, and packaging are also included as incentivised components of the PLI Scheme 2.0 for IT Hardware.

The Scheme shall extend an average incentive of around 5% on net incremental sales (over base year) of goods manufactured in India and covered under the target segment, to eligible companies, for a period of six (6) years.

The Target Segment under PLI shall include

- (i) Laptops
- (ii) Tablets
- (iii) All-in-One PCs
- (iv) Servers and Ultra Small Form Factor (USFF).



Export Boost

₹3.35 lakh crore Likely additional incremental production

75,000 direct job opportunities

SCHEME TO RUN FOR 6 YEARS

Applicable to cos that make **laptops, tablets, all-in-one PCs, etc**

Electronics Repair Services Outsourcing (ERSO) Pilot initiative

In line with the overall vision of making India a global electronics powerhouse, the Government launched the ERSO Pilot initiative today to validate certain transformational policy and process changes to make India the Repair Capital of the World. Over the next 5 years, India's ERSO industry is likely to fetch India a upto \$20 billion in revenue and also generate millions of jobs.

The pilot is being held in Bengaluru and will be run for a period of three months. Five companies, namely Flex, Lenovo, CTDI, R-Logic & Aforeserve have volunteered for the pilot. Post the pilot a detailed assessment will be carried out and modifications made in the process and policy as necessary. The ERSO initiative will be a gamechanger for Global environmental sustainability and reiterates India's commitment to the environment and our planet. It will enable extension of device life globally by providing cheap and reliable repair of ICT products for the globe.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

India's first mRNA-based Omicron-specific booster vaccine approved

Genova Biopharmaceuticals Ltd informed that its mRNA COVID-19 booster vaccine has received Emergency Use Authorization from the Drugs Controller General of India.

The vaccine, 'GEMCOVAC-OM' is approved against the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2. GEMCOVAC-OM has demonstrated robust immune responses in phase 3 clinical trials conducted at 20 centers across 13 cities in India. Presently approved vaccines used as precautionary/ booster doses.



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