

7. Made in India Products – Economy

India is bolstering its manufacturing sector through initiatives like PM MITRA parks, aiming to raise its GDP contribution to 25% from the current 17%. Despite challenges like infrastructure gaps, the 'Make in India' push has yielded major successes in defence, electronics, and vaccine production.

PM Modi's Push for a "Made in India" Future

In a strong call to action to build a developed India by 2047, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has urged citizens to embrace and purchase "Made in India" products. This vision was highlighted during the foundation-laying ceremony for the country's first PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) park in Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh, a landmark project aimed at bolstering the nation's manufacturing prowess.

About the PM MITRA Parks Scheme

The PM MITRA Park scheme is a strategic initiative to create world-class industrial ecosystems for the textile industry.

Vision – The initiative is based on the 5F theme – Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign. This integrated approach aims to create a seamless value chain, from raw material sourcing to finished product exports, all within a single location.

Objective – The primary goal is to boost India's textile manufacturing capacity, enhance its export competitiveness, and create large-scale employment opportunities.

Approved Locations – The Park in Dhar is one of seven such establishments approved by the Union Ministry of Textiles across the country. The other six sites are –

1. Virudhnagar, **Tamil Nadu**
2. Warangal, **Telangana**
3. Navasari, **Gujarat**
4. Kalaburagi, **Karnataka**
5. Lucknow, **Uttar Pradesh**
6. Amravati, **Maharashtra**

Current State of India's Manufacturing Sector

India's manufacturing sector is at a crucial inflection point, showing robust growth while aiming for an even larger role in the national economy.

Contribution to GDP – The manufacturing sector currently contributes 17% to India's GDP. The government has set an ambitious target to increase this share to 25%.

Focus on Sunrise Sectors – To achieve this goal, India is focusing on 14 identified sunrise sectors. These include high-tech industries like semiconductors, renewable energy components, medical devices, and batteries, as well as labour-intensive industries like leather and textiles.

Recent Growth and Performance – According to the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) for 2022-23, the manufacturing sector registered a remarkable growth rate of 21.5% in output, with a Gross Value Added (GVA) growth of 7.3%. Key sectors like basic metals, refined petroleum products, food products, and motor vehicles collectively contributed 58% to the total manufacturing output.

Employment Generation – The sector has been a significant job creator, adding approximately 22 lakh jobs in 2022-23. Major industrial states like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Uttar Pradesh have been the leading contributors to both GVA and employment.

Challenges Faced by India's Manufacturing Sector

Despite its successes, the sector grapples with several persistent challenges that hinder its global competitiveness.

Infrastructure Bottlenecks – High logistics costs, inconsistent power supply, and poor port connectivity continue to be major hurdles, leading to lower output and higher operational expenses.

Low R&D and Innovation – India's investment in Research and Development (R&D) is less than 1% of its GDP, which limits its ability to innovate and compete in high-tech manufacturing segments.

Import Dependence – The country remains heavily reliant on imports for critical components in sectors

like semiconductors, electronics, and advanced defence equipment.

Skill Gaps – A significant mismatch persists between the skills of the available workforce and the evolving requirements of modern industries, affecting productivity and quality.

Low Productivity – The prevalence of small-scale, fragmented manufacturing units, coupled with outdated machinery and limited automation, results in lower overall productivity compared to global peers.

Intense Global Competition – Indian products face stiff competition from countries like Vietnam, Bangladesh, and China, which often offer cheaper production costs and more mature manufacturing ecosystems.

Environmental Concerns – There is rising pressure on industries to adopt sustainable and green manufacturing practices, which involves high compliance costs and technological upgrades.

Major Government Initiatives to Boost Manufacturing

The government has launched a suite of reforms and schemes to address these challenges and create a conducive environment for manufacturing.

Initiative	Objective / Key Feature
Make in India	A flagship campaign launched in 2014 to transform India into a global design and manufacturing hub.
Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme	Offers financial incentives to companies on incremental sales from products manufactured in domestic units, boosting production in key sectors.
National Logistics Policy	Aims to streamline logistics, reduce transportation costs, and improve the efficiency of the supply chain to make Indian goods more competitive.
Startup India	Fosters a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship by providing support to new and emerging businesses.
One District One Product (ODOP)	Promotes and brands a unique product from each district of India to create a market for local crafts and industries.
PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan	A digital platform that brings 16 Ministries together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects.

Recent Achievements of the 'Make in India' Initiative

The concerted push for domestic manufacturing has yielded remarkable successes across various sectors.

Ease of Doing Business – India's ranking in the World Bank's Doing Business Report surged from 142nd in 2014 to 63rd in 2020, reflecting significant regulatory reforms.

Pharmaceuticals & Vaccines – India not only achieved record COVID-19 vaccination coverage for its population but also solidified its title as the 'Pharmacy of the World'. The country supplies nearly 60% of the world's vaccines.

Railways – The Vande Bharat Express, India's first indigenous semi-high-speed train, is a shining example of 'Make in India'. Over 100 Vande Bharat services are now operational across the country.

Defence Manufacturing – The commissioning of INS Vikrant, the first domestically made aircraft carrier, marks a historic milestone. In 2023–24, defence production soared to ₹1.27 lakh crore, with exports reaching over 90 countries.

Electronics – Electronics production has nearly doubled from \$48 billion in FY17 to \$101 billion in FY23. Driven primarily by mobile phones, India is now the second-largest mobile manufacturer in the world, producing 99% of its phones domestically.

Global Reach of Indian Products – Made in Bihar' boots are now part of the Russian Army's official equipment. Indian bicycles are being exported in large numbers to the UK, Germany, and the Netherlands. Dairy giant Amul has successfully launched its products in the US market.

Textile Industry – The sector has created a staggering 14.5 crore jobs, playing a crucial role in India's employment landscape.

Conclusion

The 'Make in India' initiative has had a transformative impact on the country's industrial landscape. By fostering technological advancement, boosting domestic production, and generating massive employment, the initiative has played a pivotal role in strengthening India's economic base. With sustained policy support and continued investment, the manufacturing sector is poised for even greater growth and is central to India's ambition of becoming a developed nation by 2047.

Source - <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/pm-narendra-modi-madhya-pradesh-dhar-rally-updates-september-17-2025/article70060230.ece>