

Plastic Parks Scheme, Features, Challenges, Objective

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The Plastic Parks Scheme, introduced by the Government of India and approved by the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, aims to establish 10 Plastic Parks across India. These parks aim to create industrial zones for plastic enterprises and allied industries, marking growth and innovation in the sector. India's share in the \$1 trillion global plastic exports market. To promote environmentally sustainable growth through innovative waste management and recycling, Plastic Parks Scheme was introduced and Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) were appointed with the responsibility of setting up the Plastic Parks in the span of 3 years.

Plastic Parks Scheme Features

- The Central Government provides 50% of the project cost (up to ₹40 crore per project). The remaining cost is provided by State Governments, beneficiary industries, and loans from financial institutions.
- Approval has been granted for 10 Plastic Parks across India, with 6 parks in advanced stages of implementation in the following states:
 - Madhya Pradesh: Two parks at Tamot and Bilaua
 - Odisha: Paradeep
 - Tamil Nadu: Thiruvallur

- Jharkhand: Deoghar
- Assam: Tinsukia

Plastic Parks Scheme Challenges

1. 60% of plastic waste is recycled; segregation and re-aggregation of waste streams remain major challenges.
2. Pollution from plastic waste impacts the environment and aquatic ecosystems.
3. Lack of innovation in product quality and range.
4. India has committed to phasing out single-use plastic by 2022, intensifying the need for sustainable practices.

Plastic Waste Industry in India

The Plastic Waste Industry in India is growing significantly since recent years, which is playing a crucial role as a key economic driver, by contributing to various industries, including automotive, construction, electronics, healthcare, textiles, and FMCG. Globally, India ranks among the top 10 consumers of plastic, yet awareness of its recyclability remains low. The country generates over 15,000 tonnes of plastic waste daily, with 6,000 tonnes remaining littered.

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