<u>Solar charkha scheme</u>

- The Solar Charkha Mission is a Ministry of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) initiative launched during June 2018. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) would implement the programme.
- A pilot project on Solar Charkha was implemented at Khanwa village, Nawada District of Bihar in 2016. Based on the success of the pilot project, Government of India has accorded approval to set up 50 such clusters with a budget of Rs. 550 Crore for 2018-19 and 2019-20. The scheme is envisaged to generate direct employment nearly to one lakh persons in the approved Fifty (50) clusters.

Scheme objectives

The objectives of the Scheme are as follows:

- To ensure inclusive growth by generation of employment, especially for women and youth, and sustainable development through solar charkha clusters in rural areas.
- To boost rural economy and help in arresting migration from rural to urban areas.
- To leverage low-cost, innovative technologies and processes for sustenance

Criteria for selection of promoter agency

- 1. Existing Khadi and Village Industry Institution (KVI) could apply for setting up such a cluster. However, the following parameters must be fulfilled:
 - KVI having a positive balance sheet and assets in favor of the institution;
 - KVI having an artisan base of not less than 200;
 - KVI having a sales turnover of not less than Rs. One Crore in each of the preceding three financial years;
 - Should have an increase in number of new artisans in the last three years.
- 2. Other Institutions such as SPV, Society, Trust, Section 8 Company or LLP under Companies Act, 2013 registered under respective statutes could also apply for setting up a new Solar Charkha Cluster, with the following criteria:
 - Vision and Mission

- Board and Governing Structure with sufficient experience
- Proper Management Information System (MIS)
- Financial Resources equity and debt
- Financial Performance for last three years profitability and IRR

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- 3. First Timers who want to join the village industry movement through solar charkha clusters could apply for a new cluster, with the following criteria:
 - Highest Commitment to the cause of social and rural upliftment
 - Funding commitment from Scheduled Commercial Banks/ NBFC/ Venture Capital Fund/Private Equity funds
 - Proper Management Information System (MIS)
 - Any other criteria to be approved by Governing Council

For any queries

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