



Textile Committee

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Why in News

Textiles Committee, Mumbai will now **test and certify the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** body coveralls required for healthcare workers and other **Covid-19** warriors.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) refers to protective clothing, helmets, gloves, face shields, goggles, facemasks and/or respirators or other equipment designed to protect the wearer from injury or the spread of infection or illness.

Key Points

- Textiles Committee is the ninth approved laboratory to test and certify body coveralls.
- The national accreditation body, **National Accreditation Board for Testing & Calibration Laboratories (NABL)** has approved the lab facility under the textile committee.
- The Textiles Committee has come up with fully indigenously designed **(Make in India)** PPE Testing Equipment, i.e. **Synthetic Blood Penetration Testing equipment**, required for determination of the resistance of protective clothing materials to penetration by blood and body fluids.
- **Benefits:**
 - This will help in overcoming the challenges of non-availability of reputed domestic manufacturers of PPE testing equipment. Further, there is a delay/long gestation period to import machines from China.
 - This would also help in making India the world's second largest manufacturer of body coveralls, next only to China.

- **Textiles Committee:**

- The Textiles Committee is a **statutory body** established in 1963 through an Act of Parliament and is under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Textiles**.
- It has been formed to ensure the quality of textiles and textile machinery both for internal consumption and export purpose.
- It is tasked with the functions of establishing laboratories for the testing of textiles and textile machinery. It provides for their inspection and examination.
- The **Chairman of the Committee is nominated by the Government**.

Source: PIB