PLI impact assessment: investment 76% of target, production 64%, jobs lag at 28%

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16 November 2026: NITI Aayog released the report **"Impact Assessment of PLI Schemes"** on 12 November, prepared with **IIM Ahmedabad** as the knowledge partner. As of March 2026, the 14 Production Linked Incentive schemes have drawn **cumulative investment of Rs 2,40,138 crore (76% of the full-tenure target)**, generated **production/sales of Rs 22,66,412 crore (64%)** and created **8,49,069 jobs**, with **Rs 35,354 crore (18.51% of the outlay)** disbursed as incentives.

The PLI scheme at a glance

- **Design:** production-linked incentives for select high-performing firms across 14 notified sectors, to boost manufacturing competitiveness, GVC integration and Atmanirbhar Bharat; total outlay about Rs 1.91 lakh crore.
- **Assessment method:** firm-level data from implementing ministries plus authenticated industry inputs; sectors grouped into four categories - On-Track, Partial Impact, Insignificant Evidence of Impact, and Data unavailable.
- **Headline:** nearly **70% of targeted segments are on track**; the scheme has stimulated investment and production **beyond targets**.

Key numbers (as of March 2026)

- **Investment:** Rs 2,40,138 crore - 76% of the full-tenure target.
- **Production/sales:** Rs 22,66,412 crore - 64% of the target.
- **Employment:** 8,49,069 - just **28%** of the 30,18,750 target; the weakest link. Sector-wise: food processing **3,29,200**, large-scale electronics (LSEM) **1,69,249**, pharmaceuticals **1,14,880**, automobiles **67,820**.
- **Disbursement:** Rs 35,354 crore cumulative - 18.51% of outlay. The pace is improving: against a planned Rs 15,401 crore up to FY 2023-24, actual was Rs 9,721 crore; FY 2024-25 disbursement hit **Rs 14,277 crore (71% of the annual target)**.

Sectoral picture

- **Strong:** pharmaceuticals, mobile manufacturing (LSEM), food processing, telecom, white goods, automobiles and **drones** - drones emerging as an early implementation success.
- **Capacity growth:** high-efficiency solar PV modules.
- **Gradual:** ACC batteries, specialty steel and technical textiles.

Recommendations

- Deeper **MSME participation**, harmonised data systems and sustained ecosystem development.
- Long-term effectiveness will be judged by deepening **domestic value addition** and supply chains, not just incentives disbursed - a reference for the Viksit Bharat 2047 manufacturing vision.

Quiz: Test your knowledge

▶ Q1: Consider: 1. Investment reached 76% of the full-tenure target 2. Incentive disbursement crossed 50% of the outlay 3. Nearly 70% of targeted segments are on track. Which are correct?

▶ Q2: Which PLI sector generated the most employment as per the report?

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

In short: NITI Aayog-IIM-A report: PLI investment Rs 2.40 lakh crore (76% of target), production Rs 22.66 lakh crore (64%), jobs 8.49 lakh (28%), disbursement Rs 35,354 crore (18.51%); 70% segments on track.

Question: Who assessed the PLI schemes?

NITI Aayog, with IIM Ahmedabad as knowledge partner, released the "Impact Assessment of PLI Schemes" report on 12 November 2026, using firm-level data from implementing ministries.

Question: What is the weakest link in the findings?

Employment - only 8.49 lakh jobs against a full-tenure target of 30.19 lakh (28%). Disbursement pace was also slow, though it improved in FY 2024-25.

Question: Which sectors performed best?

Pharmaceuticals, mobile manufacturing (LSEM), food processing, telecom, white goods, automobiles and drones; solar PV module capacity also expanded significantly.

Sources:

- https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetailm.aspx?PRID=2335594&lang=2®=48 (official: PIB, 12 November 2026)
- https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-11/Impact-Assessment-of-PLI-Schemes.pdf (official: NITI Aayog report PDF)