

Piyush Goyal takes charge as textiles minister, confident of big growth in sector

Synopsis

"Textiles is a big sector for employment so this is a big opportunity that through this sector, the government will try to give a big support to the income of all the people employed in this sector, especially women," the government said in a statement, quoting Goyal.



Minister for commerce and industry, and consumer affairs and food & public distribution **Piyush Goyal** on Thursday took charge of the textiles ministry from women and child development minister **Smriti Zubin Irani**.

"Textiles is a big sector for employment so this is a big opportunity that through this sector, the government will try to give a big support to the income of all the people employed in this sector, especially women," the government said in a statement, quoting Goyal.

Goyal also said that he would ensure that this sector can be further improved and exports can be boosted, as the government wants to promote Brand India and Indian textiles, which have earlier played an important role in building brand India, will again play a key role.

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"The minister expressed confidence that there will be a big growth in this sector," textiles ministry said.

The textiles and apparel industry provides direct employment to 45 million people and 60 million people in allied industries, according to **Invest India**, and contributes 5% to India's gross domestic product.

The minister said that Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** wants this sector to be strong and become an even bigger support for the economy, and envisions a synergy between commerce and industry, and textiles sectors and that is perhaps the reason that he has been given the charge of this ministry also.

Both these ministries are based in Udyog Bhawan in the capital.

Besides commerce and industry, and consumer affairs, Goyal also held the railway portfolio before the latest rejig. While **Ashwini Vaishnaw** is the new railway minister, Goyal takes over the textiles ministry, previously headed by Irani.

The Minister of State for Textiles Darshana Vikram Jardosh also took charge.