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# Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme (IFLDP)

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**Why is in news?** Leather and Footwear industries are being benefited through Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme (IFLDP)

Central Government on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022, has approved the continuation of **Central Sector Scheme** 'Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme (IFLDP)' till 31.03.2026 or till further review, whichever is earlier.

The programme aimed at developing infrastructure for the leather sector, addressing specific environmental concerns, facilitating additional investment, generating employment and increasing production.

Leather and Footwear industries are being benefited through this programme.

IFLDP has been approved for implementation with **six sub-schemes** and the details are as under:

Sustainable Technology and Environmental Promotion (STEP)

Integrated Development of Leather Sector (IDLS)

Mega Leather Footwear and Accessories Cluster Development (MLFACD)

Establishment of Institutional Facilities (EIF)

Brand Promotion of Indian Brands in Footwear and Leather Sector

Development of Design Studios in Footwear and Leather Sector

## **Current Status of Leather Industry of India:**

India is the **second largest producer of footwear and leather garments** in the world **after China** and the **second largest exporter of leather garments** in the world (after China).

The industry is known for its consistent high export earnings and is one of the top ten foreign exchange earners for the country.

India has 20% of the world's cattle and buffalo population and 11% of goat and sheep population as leather raw material.

Leather industry is an employment intensive industry which provides employment to more than 4 million people from weaker sections of the society.

Women constitute about 30% of the leather products industry. The leather industry in India is one of the youngest workforce with 55% of the workforce below the age of 35.

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**Major markets** of Indian leather products are **USA, Germany, UK, Italy, France, Spain, Netherlands and UAE etc.**