

MATEXIL participated in 19th Intex South Asia Expo (Sri Lanka), showcasing Indian Textile Excellence

Venue: BMICH, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Dates: 5th – 7th August 2026

Overview:

MATEXIL (Manmade and Technical Textiles Export Promotion Council) successfully participated in the 18th edition of Intex South Asia Expo (Sri Lanka), held from 5th to 7th August 2026 at BMICH, Colombo. MATEXIL led a delegation of 14 Indian exporters, representing a wide range of man-made fibre-based textiles, yarns, woven and knitted fabrics, tapes and technical textiles.

The Council's participation aimed to promote Indian textile capabilities and facilitate trade linkages with the Sri Lankan market, a key regional partner for Indian textile exports.

About the Sri Lankan Market:

Sri Lanka is a key and growing market for Indian man-made fibre (MMF) textiles, driven by its strong apparel manufacturing sector that relies heavily on imported raw materials. India's exports to Sri Lanka have seen consistent growth, reinforcing its position as a preferred sourcing partner.

In FY 2025:

- Nylon Filament Yarn exports reached US\$2.30 million
- Viscose Spun Yarn grew from US\$5.83 million (FY 2024) to US\$9.68 million
- Polyester Filament Fabrics rose 21% to US\$28.43 million

Key MMF-based fabric exports included:

- Weft Knitted Fabrics: US\$86.80 million
- Poly-Viscose: US\$16.55 million
- Viscose Spun Fabrics: US\$7.98 million
- Poly-Cotton: US\$1.76 million

These trends highlight strong and diversified Indian capabilities. Additionally, Sri Lankan buyers are increasingly focused on innovative, high-performance, and sustainable textiles, areas where MATEXIL members are well-positioned to deliver value.

Inauguration Ceremony:

The show was inaugurated in the presence of esteemed dignitaries including Hon. Chathuranga Abeysinghe, Deputy Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development, Mr. Saurabh Sabhlok, First Secretary (E&C), High Commission of India, Colombo, H.E. Miyon Lee, Ambassador of Republic of Korea, H.E. Dewi Gustina Tobing, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia. The ceremonial lamp lighting and ribbon cutting was followed by powerful addresses by these dignitaries that set the tone for business, collaboration and knowledge sharing.



Inauguration by Hon. Sunil Handunnetti, Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development, Government of Sri Lanka

Key Feedback from the Exhibitors & Buyers:

Indian participants, under the facilitation of MATEXIL, reported a positive experience in terms of business opportunities, visitor engagement, and market insights. On average, each exhibitor received 15–20 qualified business enquiries during the event.

Exhibitors Feedback:

- Mr. Mehul Gohel, *Export Marketing Manager, Darshana Textile*: “We were impressed with the quality of visitors and their interest in our product range. MATEXIL’s support was commendable, and we are eager to participate again.”
- Mr. Yogesh Dhande, *Garware Fulflex India Pvt. Ltd.*: “The Sri Lankan market values quality and long-term engagement. We had a productive experience, thanks to MATEXIL’s well-organized participation.”

Exhibitors appreciated the targeted nature of the event, the mature and informed buyer base, and the platform's effectiveness in facilitating business dialogue.

Buyers Feedback:

- Ms. Ishara Wijemanne, *Head of Marketing and Sales, Garment Services Ltd, Sri Lanka*: "I am here to look at the new fabrics, it's nice to have an exhibition like this for us to see what's happening in the textile world. Having an exhibition of this scale, with all the amazing suppliers here, is fantastic. I am really enjoying it, and we are finding amazing things."
- Mr. Ruhan Rodrigues, *General Manager, Bernatali Sourcing Studios Pvt Ltd, Sri Lanka*: "I have been visiting Intex for a long time, both since it started in Sri Lanka and also in India. I am very impressed by the number of exhibitors, the services, and the offerings for the industry."
- Ms. Indika Gallage, *Factory Manager, Plastipak Lanka (Pvt) Ltd*: "I'm here looking specifically at PP Yarn in the 1200D to 5000D range, and it's been really valuable to see the variety on offer. It's great to have a platform like this where we can connect directly with suppliers and explore new materials. The scale of the exhibition and the quality of exhibitors is truly impressive. It's been an insightful experience."

Constructive suggestions from Exhibitors:

In the spirit of continuous improvement, several exhibitors shared feedback aimed at enhancing future editions:

- Limited support during setup, difficulties sourcing workers for booth assembly, and delays in mounting shelves and rods. A suggestion was made for lockable counters to secure materials.
- Exhibitors recommended sharing the detailed event agenda in advance and distributing printed kits (including badges) directly at booths during setup to streamline planning.
- Some exhibitors observed a higher number of general visitors, including students, which impacted lead quality. There was a call for better visitor pre-qualification and enhanced B2B matchmaking to boost ROI.

Way Forward:

The positive outcomes from MATEXIL's participation at Intex Sri Lanka 2026 clearly demonstrate the relevance and potential of the Sri Lankan market for Indian textile exporters. Key next steps include:

- Follow-up with prospective buyers to convert leads into business orders.
- Participation in future editions with an even more targeted product offering, especially in technical textiles, eco-friendly materials, and value-added synthetics.

- Strengthening ties with Sri Lankan industry associations such as the Joint Apparel Association Forum Sri Lanka (JAAF) and the Sri Lanka Apparel Exporters Association (SLAEA) to foster long-term collaborations.
- Promoting India's strengths in innovation, sustainability, and product diversity through roadshows, and engagement with Indian Embassies.

Since Sri Lanka is a growing market for man-made fibres and technical textiles, Council will be participating in the next edition of Intex Sri Lanka and shall also evaluate other exhibitions and BSM's in Sri Lanka.

Glimpses of Intex Sri Lanka 2026:







Buyers at Exhibitors Booths.