MATEXIL
MANMADE AND TECHNICAL TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL
(Formerly SRTEPC)

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TRADE REVIEW

MATEXIL Signs MoU with RWTH Aachen University – ITA, Germany at Bharat Tex 2026

 # Expert Article

- Beyond Better Fibers: Why Demand-Driven Supply Chains Will Define the Next Era of Sustainable Textiles

 # Export Review

- Manmade Fiber Textiles
- Technical Textiles

 # Recent Developments

- India–UK CETA Comes into Effect

 # FAQ

- Deferred Duty Payment for AEOs
- Trade Regulations, Accreditation & Compliance Enablement (TRACE) under Export Promotion Mission (EPM) – NIRYAT DISHA

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Bharat Tex 2026

Seminar on Potential to Increase Exports under FTAs

Webinar on How Textile Exporters Can Comply with Sustainability and Environmental Laws in the EU & UK

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Chairman's Message

Dear Friends,

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits.

Global Ecosystem

Members of our Council continue to face challenges in their export activities due to the uncertainty that prevailing in the Global economic and geopolitical environment. The situation that appeared to be easing out a bit a few weeks back seems to be turning out to be adverse as both the US and Iran have tightened their positions after agreeing to a ceasefire.

This West Asia conflict have led to steep increase in the freight rates, shortage of containers, diversion of export cargos to ports other than the port of destination, cost escalations due to increase on the raw-material prices etc. There are reports of curtailment in production at major clusters which is a matter of deep concern as it may impact employment.

Challenges for Exporters

Our exporters are currently facing several challenges. Raw material prices, particularly petrochemical-based inputs, remain volatile, while high logistics and freight costs continue to put pressure on margins. We are also seeing instances of delayed payments from overseas buyers, which can affect the cash flow of exporters.

At the same time, compliance requirements are increasing, particularly with regard to sustainability and traceability standards. These requirements are becoming especially important as India enters into new Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and seeks greater access to international markets.

All of these factors are putting pressure on exporters—not only on their margins, but also on their ability to expand and sustain exports in a competitive global market.

Export Trends – FY 2025–26

Despite these headwinds, I am pleased to note that exports of manmade fibre textiles and technical textiles have demonstrated resilience during the current financial year, particularly in comparison with several other sectors.

During FY 2025–26, exports of manmade fibre textiles registered a marginal decline of 0.74% compared with the previous year, while exports of technical textiles declined by 1.4%. These relatively modest declines can largely be attributed to external factors, including the impact of US tariffs and the continuing West Asia crisis.

We remain hopeful that the global economic environment will improve in the coming period, creating conditions for our exports to regain momentum and return to a stronger growth trajectory.

While external circumstances are beyond our control, we must remain focused on the areas where we can make a difference. This includes strengthening our global competitiveness, diversifying our product basket, making greater use of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), and expanding our presence in new and emerging markets, while simultaneously consolidating our position in traditional markets.

These efforts will be critical to ensuring that the Indian manmade fibre and technical textiles sectors remain competitive, resilient and well positioned to capture emerging opportunities in the global market.

Free Trade Agreements

The recently signed FTAs with large markets such as the UK, Australia and the EU will certainly create greater market-access opportunities for Indian textiles in leading developed export markets. However, only globally competitive businesses will be able to convert these opportunities into sustained exports.

We now need to closely monitor and address the non-tariff barriers in destination markets, including Rules of Origin, technical standards and certification requirements. This is particularly important for MSMEs, which may not

be able to fully benefit from FTAs as long as such regulatory hurdles persist.

U.S. Section 301 Investigations

The US has imposed a 10% tariff following a forced-labour probe under a Section 301 investigation, which has provided India with some advantage over competing countries. However, uncertainty continues as the US is yet to conclude its separate Section 301 investigation into structural excess manufacturing capacity and overproduction, covering 16 economies, including India.

Meanwhile, reportedly , the US retailers are delaying the placement of orders from India, as they remain unwilling to absorb the higher costs.

We hope that the India–US Trade Deal will be finalised at the earliest. The US continues to be the largest market for Indian man-made fibre textiles and technical textiles, and greater certainty in trade policy is therefore critical for the industry.

Freight Rates

It is a matter of deep concern that the renewed escalation of the West Asia conflict is disrupting India's overseas shipments, resulting in container shortages, congestion at major ports and an unprecedented rise in freight rates.

These developments are adding significantly to the cost pressures faced by exporters at a time when global competitiveness is already under strain.

PLI – Phase II

I am glad to note that a second phase of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme is being considered, which may include the textile sector.

The proposed changes are reportedly likely to include a revision of the minimum investment threshold, an expansion of the range of eligible products and a reduction in the incremental turnover requirement. If implemented with appropriate flexibility, these changes could make the scheme more accessible to a wider range of textile manufacturers, and user friendly particularly those with the potential to scale up production and investment.

Bharat Tex 2026

MATEXIL participated in the 3rd edition of Bharat Tex 2026, held from 14–17 July 2026, with enthusiastic participation from its members. The event witnessed significant participation from overseas buyers representing various countries, alongside a strong presence of domestic buyers. On the sidelines of the exhibition, a series of knowledge sessions were organised on a wide range of subjects relating to textiles and clothing, as well as technical textiles, providing valuable insights into emerging trends and developments across the sector.

Exhibitors had excellent opportunities to interact with international buyers, with many reporting that they established promising business contacts and explored new avenues for collaboration. The exhibitors also benefited from productive interactions with domestic suppliers and buying houses.

During the event, we also signed MoUs with RWTH Aachen University – ITA, Germany, and MPIDC, Government of Madhya Pradesh, to strengthen cooperation in research, innovation, export promotion and new business opportunities for our members.

MATEXIL's participation in this important global platform further reinforces its commitment to facilitating business opportunities, strengthening industry linkages and promoting India's textile and clothing exports globally.

Seminars/Weninars

The Council organised a seminar in Bhiwandi on leveraging India's Free Trade Agreements to help exporters access preferential markets and expand their global presence. Complementing this, a webinar on June 11, 2026, focused on ESG and environmental regulations in the EU and UK, equipping exporters with a better understanding of evolving sustainability requirements and global buyer expectations.

Way Forward

Friends, while the challenges before us are significant, I believe the opportunities ahead are even greater.

Our focus now must be on converting strengths into greater global opportunities. With the right policy support, industry initiatives and market strategies, we can significantly increase India's share in global trade in manmade fibre textiles and technical textiles.

I am confident that with continued collaboration between the Government and industry, and with the collective efforts of our exporters, we can build a stronger, more competitive and globally successful textile sector.

- Shaleen Toshniwal
Chairman, MATEXIL

Bharat Tex 2026

Bharat Tex 2026, India's largest textile exhibition, was successfully held from 14–17 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, reaffirming India's position as a leading global destination for textiles and apparel.

The third edition of Bharat Tex brought together the entire textile value chain under one roof, covering fibre, yarn, fabrics, apparel, home textiles, technical textiles, handlooms and handicrafts. The exhibition witnessed an overwhelming response from the global textile fraternity, attracting more than 6,000 international buyers from over 130 countries and over 1.3 lakh trade visitors. Spread across 1.6 million square feet, the event featured over 20,000 textile products, providing a comprehensive platform for sourcing, networking, business development and knowledge sharing.

MATEXIL, one of the Textile Export Promotion Councils under the Ministry of Textiles, actively participated in the exhibition with a large number of member exhibitors. The Council also facilitated the participation of international buyers, enabling meaningful business interactions between Indian exporters and overseas buyers.

Inaugural Ceremony

The exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Giriraj Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, in the presence of Shri Pabitra Margherita, Hon'ble Minister of State for Textiles.

The inaugural ceremony was also attended by Ms. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Shri Naren Goenka, Chairman, Organising Committee, and Shri Bhadresh Dodhia, Co-Chairman, Organising Committee.

The event witnessed the participation of distinguished international delegations, including a Russian Ministerial delegation led by Hon. Timur Gavaev, Minister of Agriculture, Russian Federation, and a New Zealand delegation led by Hon. Mark Patterson, Associate Minister of Agriculture and Minister for Rural Communities.

Senior officials from the Ministry of Textiles, industry leaders and representatives from the textile sector also attended the inauguration.

Knowledge Sessions

A major highlight of Bharat Tex 2026 was its extensive knowledge programme, which complemented the exhibition by bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, academicians, researchers and global experts to deliberate on the future of the textile sector.

More than 100 carefully curated knowledge sessions were organised during the four-day event. The discussions focused on key themes such as global trade and tariffs, investment opportunities, sustainability, policy frameworks, global supply chains, emerging sourcing destinations, Industry 5.0, smart manufacturing, digitalisation, research and development, and advanced textile solutions.

The event also introduced new monetised knowledge formats, enabling companies, technology providers and value chain stakeholders to showcase their latest product innovations, technologies and research through solution-oriented presentations.

The sessions provided valuable insights into emerging global trends, encouraged collaboration among stakeholders, promoted innovation and highlighted India's growing role in shaping the future of the global textile industry.

MATEXIL's Participation in Knowledge Sessions

The knowledge sessions held alongside Bharat Tex 2026 witnessed active participation from the leaders of MATEXIL. Shri Shaleen Toshniwal, Chairman, MATEXIL; Shri Anil Rajbanshi, Vice Chairman, MATEXIL; Shri A. Ravi Kumar, Executive Director, MATEXIL; Shri Pramod Khosla, Convenor, Technical Textiles Sub-Committee, MATEXIL; along with Members of the Committee of Administration, participated in various sessions covering diverse aspects of the textile and technical textiles sector.

Some of the key sessions attended by MATEXIL included:

Gujarat State Session

The Gujarat State Session brought together industry stakeholders and senior officials from the Government of Gujarat to highlight the state's investment potential and the opportunities available in the textile and Technical Textiles sector. The session was attended by Shri Anil Rajbanshi, Vice Chairman, MATEXIL, Ms. Mamta Verma, Additional Chief Secretary, Industries and Mines Department, Gujarat along with senior officials from the Government of Gujarat.

Addressing the participants, Shri Anil Rajbanshi highlighted Gujarat as an ideal state for investment and encouraged industry members to explore the opportunities available in the state. He said that Gujarat has a strong textile base, good infrastructure and an industry-friendly environment, along with attractive incentives and facilities for investors.

He also highlighted that the state offers attractive incentives and facilities to promote investment in textiles, especially Technical Textiles.

He encouraged exporters and industry members to consider Gujarat for setting up new projects, expanding existing facilities and exploring new areas of business.

Shri Rajbanshi further emphasized that increased investment in the textile and Technical Textiles sectors would help strengthen the industry, create new opportunities and contribute to the growth of India's textile exports.

The session provided an opportunity for participants to understand the investment support and facilities offered by the Government of Gujarat and explore the state as a potential destination for future expansion and investment.

Technical Textiles: Powering the Next Generation of Industrial Growth

The Round Table session on "Technical Textiles: Powering the Next Generation of Industrial Growth" was chaired by Ms. Manisha Chatterjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, and brought together senior representatives from the Government, industry, academia and research institutions.

The session was attended by leading stakeholders including Mr. J. K. Gupta, Director, Bureau of Indian Standards; Mr. Pramod Khosla, Chairman & Managing Director, Khosla Profil Pvt. Ltd. and Convenor, Sub-Committee for Technical Textile, MATEXIL; Mr. Kiran Warrier, Global Category Head – Advanced Textiles, Welspun World; Mr. P. K. Markanday, CEO – Growth & Projects, Trident Group; Mr. Narendra Dalmia, Director, Strata Geosystems (India) Pvt. Ltd., Member Sub-Committee for Technical Textile ; Mr. Prasanna Joshi, Joint President & Global Head – Technical Textiles, Aditya Birla Group – Textiles; Mr. Thomas Gries, Professor, RWTH Aachen University; and Mr. A. Ravi Kumar, Executive Director, MATEXIL, among other prominent industry experts and stakeholders.

The discussion focused on the growing importance of technical textiles as a key enabler of India's next phase of industrial growth, with applications across infrastructure, defence, healthcare, mobility, construction and renewable energy.

Participants highlighted the need to shift towards high-value, specialised and performance-based products through greater innovation, R&D, value addition and stronger industry-academia collaboration.

The session also emphasised the importance of strengthening domestic manufacturing of specialty fibres and advanced raw materials to reduce import dependence and build a resilient value chain. Quality standards, certification and Quality Control Orders (QCOs) were identified as important tools for improving product quality and enhancing India's global competitiveness.

Sustainability, circularity, traceability and low-carbon manufacturing were also highlighted as increasingly important requirements for accessing global markets. Participants stressed the need for greater collaboration among government, industry, academia and end-user sectors to accelerate technology adoption, research commercialisation and development of new applications.

Government initiatives such as the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) and the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme were recognised as important enablers of sectoral growth. The session concluded that India's ambition to emerge as a global leader in technical textiles will require an integrated ecosystem built on innovation, quality, domestic capabilities, technology transfer and international collaboration.

MATEXIL Signs MoU with RWTH Aachen University – ITA, Germany during Bharat Tex 2026

As part of its efforts to strengthen international collaboration in technical textiles, MATEXIL signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with RWTH Aachen University – Institute for Textile Technology

(ITA), Germany, during Technical Textiles Session at Bharat Tex 2026.

The MoU was signed by Shri Shaleen Toshniwal, Chairman, MATEXIL, and Prof. Thomas Gries, Chairman of the Board of Directors, ITA. Ms. Manisha Chatterjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, along with leading industry representatives from the Technical Textiles sector, was present on the occasion.

The collaboration will promote joint efforts in research, innovation, skill development, and industry–academia partnerships in technical textiles. It is expected to create new opportunities for knowledge exchange and technological advancement, while strengthening India–Germany cooperation in this high-growth sector.

The initiative marks an important step towards building stronger global partnerships and enhancing the competitiveness of India's technical textiles industry.

MMF: Raw Material for an Emerging Textile Ecosystem – How Will India Produce the Fibre Needed to Power Future Growth?

The Roundtable session on "MMF: Raw Material for an Emerging Textile Ecosystem – How Will India Produce Fibre Needed to Power Future Growth?" was chaired by Ms. Manisha Chatterjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, and brought together leading representatives from the MMF textile industry to discuss the availability of raw materials and the future growth of India's man-made fibre sector. The session was attended by Mr. Amitava Banerjee, CEO, Garden Silk Mills Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. Gurpreet Singh, CGM – Technical, Vardhman Textiles Ltd.; Mr. Maneesh Patel, Chief Operating Officer, CIEL Textile; Mr. Shaleen Toshniwal, Joint Managing Director, Banswara Syntex Ltd. and Chairman, MATEXIL; Shri Anil Rajbanshi, Vice Chairman, MATEXIL, and Mr. Updeep Singh Chatrath, Resident Director & CEO, Welspun World, among other industry stakeholders.

The discussion highlighted the growing importance of MMF in the global textile ecosystem and the need for India to strengthen its position across the MMF value chain. Participants emphasised the need to develop a comprehensive ecosystem covering specialty and high-performance fibres, technical textile inputs and value-added MMF products, while ensuring the availability of raw materials at globally competitive prices. The need to further simplify and strengthen the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme was also highlighted, particularly by addressing challenges related to eligibility, infrastructure, land allocation and project approvals. Greater policy support and handholding were seen as important to encourage investment and accelerate project implementation.

Participants stressed the importance of expanding India's MMF product portfolio to include functional yarns, sustainable synthetic fibres and high-value apparel, while leveraging cotton as a complementary strength. Increased investment in R&D, innovation, advanced materials, textile machinery, start-ups and indigenisation of critical inputs was identified as essential for long-term competitiveness.

The session also highlighted the importance of raw material security, recycling and circularity in building a sustainable MMF ecosystem. The discussion concluded that strengthening domestic manufacturing capabilities, ensuring reliable raw material availability and promoting innovation will be critical for India to capture emerging global opportunities and establish itself as a competitive MMF textile manufacturing hub.

MoU with MP Industrial Development Corporation Limited (MPIDC), Government of Madhya Pradesh

As part of its efforts to strengthen export promotion and investment opportunities in Madhya Pradesh, MATEXIL signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Madhya Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation Limited (MPIDC) on 16 July 2026 during Bharat Tex 2026 in New Delhi.

The collaboration aims to promote Madhya Pradesh as an investment and export destination and facilitate MATEXIL's participation in the Invest Madhya Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2027.

The initiative marks a step towards strengthening cooperation in export promotion and investment facilitation and creating greater opportunities for MATEXIL members in Madhya Pradesh.

Building the workforce for a Globally Competitive and Technology Driven Textile Ecosystem.

On the sidelines of Bharat Tex 2026, a knowledge session on "Building the Workforce for a Globally Competitive and Technology-Driven Textile Ecosystem" was organised by the Ministry of Textiles. The session was moderated by Ms. Alaknanda Dayal, IAS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles.

Mr. A. Ravi Kumar, Executive Director, MATEXIL, was among the speakers at the session. Other distinguished speakers included Mr. Rajeev Ranjan, Director, Ministry of Textiles; Prof. Abhijeet Majumdar, IIT Delhi; Dr. Swapna Mishra, Textile Sector Skill Council; Mr. Updeep Singh Chatrth, Welspun Living Ltd.; and Mr. Saurabh Bharti, Pearl Global.

Speaking on the changing requirements of the global textile and apparel industry, Mr. Ravi Kumar highlighted the significant opportunities emerging from India's Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with leading economies, including the European Union, the United Kingdom and Australia. He noted that these agreements have expanded market access for Indian exporters, while simultaneously raising buyers' expectations in terms of product quality, design, technology, compliance and delivery standards.

He emphasised that, to fully capitalise on the market access opportunities created by these FTAs, the Indian textile industry needs to align its products and production capabilities closely with the requirements of individual international markets.

Mr. Ravi Kumar underlined that workforce capability is a critical factor in improving the competitiveness, productivity and quality of India's textile exports. With global competition intensifying, labour productivity needs to improve in line with international standards. In this context, he stressed the importance of continuous re-skilling and up-skilling of the workforce to equip workers with the technical and technological capabilities required by a rapidly evolving industry.

He also called upon training and educational institutions to periodically revise their curricula in close consultation with industry, so that the gap between the skills possessed by graduates and the actual requirements of employers can be substantially reduced. Stronger industry–academia collaboration, he noted, would help create a workforce that is better aligned with emerging technologies, modern manufacturing practices and evolving global buyer requirements.

The session highlighted the need for a coordinated approach involving government, industry, educational and training institutions and workers to build a future-ready workforce capable of supporting India's ambitions of becoming a globally competitive and technology-driven textile ecosystem.

Feedback from Exhibitors at Bharat Tex 2026

Below are some of the feedback and suggestions received for this edition of Bharat Tex

"The quality of visitors at Bharat Tex 2026 was excellent. We received business enquiries worth more than ₹50 crore, with the majority of the enquiries coming from the domestic market. The response has been very encouraging, and we are positive about participating in the next edition as well."

- Mr. Neeraj Sarawgi, Business Development Manager

madhusudan group

"The quality of visitors was good, and we received business enquiries close to ₹10 crore from both domestic and international markets. We received enquiries from countries including Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Thailand and Turkey. Overall, the response was encouraging, and we would be happy to participate in the next edition as well."

- Mr. Manoj Pillay, Senior Vice President

PIONEER GROUP

"The quality of visitors at Bharat Tex 2026 was excellent. We received business enquiries close to ₹10 crore from both domestic and international buyers, including enquiries from India, Europe, Poland and Turkey. The response has been very encouraging, and we are positive about participating in the next edition as well."

- Mr. Sunil Barse, VP – Marketing

JIWARAJKA TEXTILE INDUSTRIES

"The quality of visitors was good, and we received business enquiries of around ₹6 crore from both domestic and international buyers. We also received opportunities for distributor appointments. Overall, we found the show to be very fruitful and are positive about participating in the next edition as well."

- Mr. Aarun Sharma, BDM

Garden® GARDEN SILK MILLS PVT. LTD.

"The quality of visitors was very good, and we received business enquiries close to ₹10 crore. We also received export orders, with enquiries coming from markets such as Saudi Arabia, Poland and Latin America. The response was very encouraging, and we are positive about exhibiting in the next edition as well."

- Mr. Ronak Rughani, Owner

RB RUGHANI BROTHERS

"The quality of visitors was good, and we received business enquiries of around ₹1 crore, mainly for export orders. We received enquiries from Dubai, Egypt, Kuwait, South Africa, Thailand and Brazil. We found the show to be very fruitful and appreciated the efforts to maintain Bharat Tex at international standards. With the way the show is growing, we believe that in the coming years Bharat Tex will become a must-visit exhibition for international customers."

- Mr. Manoj Sajnani, Exports Manager

RISHAB WORLD

Feedback from Internatioanl Buyers at Bharat Tex 2026

Below are some of the feedback and suggestions received for International Buyers from different Countries in this edition of Bharat Tex

Overall, my experience at Bharat Tex has been very positive. Compared with textile exhibitions in China, Bharat Tex is quite different and is steadily upgrading in terms of scale, organization and quality. Having the entire textile value chain under one roof is truly impressive and makes sourcing much more efficient.

Although prices are generally a little higher than in China, importing from India is much easier and more convenient for us due to logistics, proximity and business accessibility.

I am quite happy with the exhibition. I found many new sourcing options, met several potential suppliers, and discovered a wide range of products and innovations. I believe Bharat Tex has strong potential to become one of the world's leading textile sourcing events in the coming years.

- Dhan Pd Lamichhane, MD, Exclusive Crafts, Nepal

Bharat Tex was an excellent platform for overseas buyers, who are looking for quality manufacturers and suppliers from India. It's wss better organized and impressive than previous years.

- Ramprakash Ojha, General Manager, Mastex Co., Ltd., Thailand

It was great & fantastic knowledge session. Bharat tex support was very good & excellent.
As per my observation, it will be more if you arrange more technical season like we attend Brazil cotton.

- Md. Abdul Basit, MD, Akij Textile Mills ltd, Bangladesh

It was a valuable experience, and I had the opportunity to connect with several promising suppliers and explore new business opportunities. I'm also pleased to share that I finalized an order and received my first proforma invoice during the visit, making the trip a successful start to what I hope will become long-term partnerships.

I look forward to returning to India in the future and attending Bharat Tex again.

- Idris Borwis, Majal Alaqmisha LLC, CEO, Libya

It was a pleasure visiting Bharat Tex 2026, and we truly appreciate the opportunity to meet with Indian manufacturers and exporters and explore potential business opportunities.

The exhibition was very well organised and provided valuable insights into the capabilities and product offerings of the Indian textile industry.

We look forward to staying connected with MATEXIL and exploring opportunities for further cooperation and sourcing from India.

- Rakesh Katiyar, Director, ARSA Suppliers (Pty)Ltd., South Africa

India–UK CETA Comes into Effect

The India-UK (United Kingdom) Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) is a modern, comprehensive and landmark trade agreement. It seeks to deepen economic integration between India and the UK through enhanced market access, trade liberalisation and tariff concessions. India will benefit from one of the most ambitious services commitments ever offered by the UK under a Free Trade Agreement . By granting zero-duty access on nearly 99% of India's exports, covering almost 100% of the trade value, the CETA is expected to strengthen India's export competitiveness. The agreement is also expected to expand bilateral trade, attract investment and create new opportunities for businesses.

Beyond its economic and commercial significance, the CETA has been designed as an inclusive and future-oriented agreement. It seeks to ensure the benefits of trade reach every section of the society. More than a trade agreement, the CETA lays the foundation for a resilient, innovation-driven and people-centric economic partnership.

India- UK Bilateral Trade

India and the UK share a strong and expanding economic partnership. In 2025, India recorded a GDP of USD 3.96 trillion, while the UK economy stood at USD 3.84 trillion, reflecting the significance of both economies in global trade.

Merchandise trade between the two countries reached USD 25.12 billion in 2025- 26, with India's exports to UK valued at USD 13.44 billion and imports at USD 11.68 billion, resulting in a trade surplus of USD 1.76 billion.

How CETA Benefits Key Stakeholders

- Labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, leather, footwear, gems and jewellery, handicrafts, food processing, auto components, plastics, and organic chemicals are poised to witness higher exports. This is likely to boost employment generation.
- The agreement places strong emphasis on inclusive and future-ready growth. It expands opportunities for women, youth, MSMEs, businesses, and professionals. Dedicated

provisions promote greater participation of women and under-represented groups in trade, innovation, and entrepreneurship. It also reinforces commitments to internationally recognised labour rights, gender equality, and fair working conditions.

- Improved access to the UK services market, mobility provisions, and recognition of professional qualifications create new opportunities. These opportunities benefit skilled Indian professionals and young talent.
- Small and Medium Enterprises stand to gain from simplified customs procedures, paperless trade, and digital systems. These measures reduce compliance costs and improve market access. Indian MSMEs will also benefit from duty-free access to 99% of Indian exports entering the UK. It includes textiles, leather, jewellery, footwear, and food products- saving 4-16% in tariffs.
- Businesses benefit from streamlined trade facilitation measures, digital cooperation, and stronger integration into global value chains. This enhances ease of doing business and supports sustained economic growth. The agreement further promotes digital trade facilitation and electronic certification. It leverages established mechanisms such as the Single Window and Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) frameworks.

Sectoral Gains from the India–UK CETA

The India-UK CETA is poised to deliver significant gains across key sectors of the Indian economy through enhanced market access, tariff concessions, and improved trade facilitation.

Textile Products

Sector Overview	The UK imports textiles and clothing worth USD 28.8 billion while India's global textile exports stand at ~USD 37 billion India exports USD 1.79 billion to the UK and holds a 6.1% market share India is also the 4th largest supplier of textiles to the UK
Key Provisions under CETA	Zero-duty access on 1,143 tariff lines Elimination of tariff disadvantage vis-à-vis Bangladesh, Pakistan and Cambodia
Key Beneficiaries	Ready-Made Garments (RMG), home textiles, carpets, handicrafts
Key Product Categories	Products that stand to gain include women's cotton dresses, cotton shirts/blouses, terry cotton toilet and kitchen linen, artificial fibre dresses, knitted cotton dresses, men's cotton formal shirts, cotton T-shirts and vests, mattresses, cushions and bedding products
Opportunities under CETA	Enhanced competitiveness of Indian textiles and apparel in the UK

Towards a Stronger India–UK Economic Partnership

The India-UK CETA marks a new chapter in the bilateral economic relationship. It combines greater market access with opportunities for trade, investment, innovation, and professional mobility. The agreement is expected to strengthen India's global competitiveness while supporting inclusive and sustainable growth. The agreement lays the foundation for a resilient and future ready India-UK partnership.

Source: ***Press Information Bureau (PIB)***

India–European Union Free Trade Agreement (FTA): Rules of Origin

The India–European Union Free Trade Agreement (FTA) was signed on 27 January 2026. However, the Agreement has not yet come into force. It is currently awaiting the consent of the European Parliament, conclusion by the Council, and ratification/notification by India.

The Rules of Origin under the Agreement are contained in Chapter 3 – Rules of Origin and Annex II – Product-Specific Rules (PSR). These provisions determine whether a product qualifies as originating and is therefore eligible for preferential tariff treatment under the FTA.

Origin Criteria

A product will qualify as originating under the Agreement if it is:

- Wholly obtained in India or the European Union; or
- Produced using non-originating materials, provided that such materials satisfy the Product-Specific Rules (PSR) specified in Annex II.

Depending on the product, the PSR may require:

- A change in tariff classification;
- Compliance with a prescribed value content threshold; or
- Completion of a specified manufacturing or processing operation.

Rules for Textiles

For textile products covered under HS Chapters 50–63, the Agreement provides sector-specific tolerance provisions rather than a single uniform rule.

In general, up to 10% by weight of non-originating basic textile materials is permitted. For certain specified product categories, this limit increases to 20% or 30% by weight. In addition, a separate textile de minimis provision applies alongside the general value-based tolerance.

Cumulation

The Agreement also provides for bilateral cumulation. This means that materials originating in the European Union may be treated as originating in India when they are further processed or incorporated into a product, and vice versa. This allows eligible inputs from the partner country to be counted as originating under the Agreement.

De Minimis Provision

The Agreement also provides for bilateral cumulation. This means that materials originating in the European Union may be treated as originating in India when they are further processed or incorporated into a product, and vice versa. This allows eligible inputs from the partner country to be counted as originating under the Agreement.

Proof of Origin

The detailed provisions relating to proof of origin will be notified once the Agreement enters into force. It is expected that the Agreement will follow the European Union's standard model of self-certification, based on a statement on invoice or importer's knowledge, along with a Certificate of Origin route.

Conclusion and Way Forward

Although the India–EU FTA is yet to become operational, exporters should begin understanding its Rules of Origin and the product-specific requirements applicable to their exports. Familiarity with these provisions will help businesses prepare for compliance and enable them to avail the preferential tariff benefits under the Agreement once it enters into force. ■

MATEXIL
MANMADE AND TECHNICAL TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL
(Formerly SRTEPC)

Quick Estimate - June 2026

As per Quick Estimates Exports during April–July 2026-27, the Exports of Man-made Yarn/Fabrics/Made-ups etc. were US$ 1,179.39 mn. as compared to US$ 1,166.80 mn. during the same period previous year, showing a growth of 1.08%.

In July 2026, exports were US$ 383.96 million as compared to US$ 373.41 million in July 2025, showing a growth of 2.83%.

Exports of Cotton Yarn/Fabrics/Made-ups, Handloom Products during April–July 2026-27 were US$ 2,965.94 mn. as compared to US$ 2,859.93 mn. during the same period previous year, registering a growth of 3.71%.
In July 2026, exports stood at US$ 1,012.38 million as against US$ 930.31 million in July 2025, reflecting a growth of 8.82%.

Exports of RMG of all Textiles during April–July 2026-27 were US$ 3,670.95 mn. as compared to US$ 4,192.52 mn. during the same period previous year, showing a decline of 12.44%.
In July 2026, exports were US$ 1,162.33 million as against US$ 1,309.74 million in July 2025, indicating a decline of 11.25%.

TRADE: EXPORT

Sl. No.	Commodity	Jun'25 (US$ Mn)	Apr–Jun'25 (US$ Mn)	Jun'26 (US$ Mn)	Apr–Jun'26 (US$ Mn)	% Change (Jun'26 over Jun'25)	% Change (Apr–Jun'26 over Apr–Jun'25)
1	Man-made Yarn/Fabrics/Made-ups, etc.	373.41	1,166.80	383.96	1,179.39	**2.83%**	**1.08%**
2	Cotton Yarn/Fabrics/Made-ups, Handloom Products, etc.	930.31	2,859.93	1,012.38	2,965.94	**8.82%**	**3.71%**
3	RMG of All Textiles	1,309.74	4,192.52	1,162.33	3,670.95	**−11.25%**	**−12.44%**

(SOURCE: DGCI&S Quick Estimates)

Export Performance Review: Manmade Fiber Textiles

Overview

Exports of Man-made Fibre (MMF) Textiles from India stood at US$ 506.55 Mn. in May 2026 as against exports of US$ 506.49 Mn. in May 2025, registered a growth of 0.01% in US dollar terms. However, in INR terms, exports recorded a higher growth of 12% during the same period.

Exports of Indian Man-made Fibre (MMF) Textiles reached US$ 999.48 Mn. during Apr – May 2026 as against exports of US$ 986.35 Mn. during Apr – May 2025, showed a growth of 1.33% in US dollar terms. However, in INR the exports of MMF Textiles have grown by 12% during the same period.

Man-made Fibres Exports

Polyester Staple Fibre (PSF) was the largest exported Man-made Fibre from India representing 49% share of the India'sMan-made Fibre exports,followed by Viscose StapleFibre (VSF) having42% share duringApr – May 2026.

MMF Filament Yarns / Spun Yarns Exports

Polyester Filament Yarns (PFY) was the largest exported MMF Yarns from India representing 44% share of the India'sMMF Yarn's exports,followed by Poly- Cotton (PC) Spun Yarn (11%) and Viscose Spun Yarn (7%) during Apr – May 2026.

MMF Fabrics Exports

- During Apr – May 2026, MMF Fabrics were the largest exported commodity, representing 37% of the exports share, followed by MMF Made-ups32%.
- PFY Woven Fabrics was the largestexported MMF Fabricsfrom India, representing 22% of the MMF Fabric's exports share, followed by PV Fabrics (12%), Nonwovens (12%) and Weft Knitted Fabrics (8%) during Apr – May 2026.

Leading Markets

- USA was the leading market for Indian MMF Textiles during Apr – May 2026, have registered for 16% share of Indian MMF Textiles exports, followed by Turkey (7%), Bangladesh (6%), and UAE (4%).

Emerging Markets

- Nigeria, China, Malaysia, Chile, Kenya, Poland, Oman, Nepal, France and South Africa were the emerging markets for Indian MMF Textiles during Apr – May 2026 as compared to Apr – May 2025.

Export Performance Review: Technical Textiles

Overview

Exports of Technical Textiles from India were US$ 548.92 Mn. during Apr - May 2026 as against exports of US$ 565.23 Mn. during Apr - May 2025, registering a decline of 2.9%. However, in INR, exports have grown by 7.7% during the same period.

Exports of Indian TechnicalTextiles were US$ 284.46 Mn. in May 2026as against exportsof US$ 295.02 Mn. in May 2025, registering a decline of 3.6%. However, in INR, exports have grownby 8.2% duringthe same period.

Technical Textiles Exports

- Technical Textiles articles such as FIBC bags, Coated Fabrics, Nonwovens, Glass Fibers, Ropes & Cords and Filters were the largest exported commodities from India during Apr - May 2026, representing 67.3% of the exports share.

Fastest Growing Segments

- Clothtech was the fastestgrowing segment duringApr - May 2026 as compared to Apr - May 2025, with a growth rate of 28.9%, followed by Geotech (13.9%), Oekotech (13.5%) and Buildtech (5.1%) segment during Apr - May 2026 as compared to Apr - May 2025.
- FIBC bags were the largest exportedproducts from India, representing 29.5% exports share in Apr - May 2026, followed by Coated & Laminated Fabrics (13.1%), Nonwovens (9.7%) and Glass Fibers (6.6%).

Leading Export Markets

- USA was the largest market of Technical Textiles representing 27.4% share of the India's exports,followed by Germany(5.3%) and UK (5%) duringApr - May 2026.
- Exports of Technical Textilesto Poland and Italy grew by more than 10% during Apr - May 2026 as compared to Apr - May 2025.

Emerging Export Markets

Greece, Brazil, Kenya, Oman, Sri Lanka, China, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Sweden and Chile were emerging export Markets for Indian TechnicalTextiles during Apr - May 2026as compared to Apr - May 2025. ■

Policy Amendments & Notifications

The Government has announced some policy changes and notifications recently that are important for exporters of Manmade Fiber Textiles and Technical Textiles. The key policy amendments related to exporters in these sectors are as follows:

1. Amendment in applicability of Quality Control Orders (QCOs)/BIS requirements on imports by Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Units and Developers

DGFT (Directorate General of Foreign Trade) has issued Notification No. 20/2026-27 dated 02nd June, 2026 amending Para 2.03A(iii) of FTP 2023 regarding applicability of Quality Control Orders (QCOs) on imports by SEZ Units and Developers.

Under the revised provision, exemption from QCOs/BIS requirements has been extended to imports of all permissible goods, including raw materials, components, consumables, spares and capital goods required for authorised operations within SEZs.

However, any clearance of such goods or products manufactured therefrom into the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) will be subject to compliance with applicable QCOs/BIS requirements at the time of such clearance.

2. Applicability of Quality Control Orders (QCOs)/BIS requirements on imports by Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Units and Developers- Amendment in Para 2.03(A)(iii) of FTP 2023

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), vide Notification No. 20/2026-27 dated 02 June 2026, has amended Para 2.03A(iii) of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), 2023 regarding the applicability of Quality Control Orders (QCOs)/BIS requirements on imports by SEZ Units and SEZ Developers.

As per the amendment, exemption from mandatory QCOs/BIS requirements shall be available for the import of all permissible goods required for authorised operations in SEZs. However, any clearance of such goods, or goods manufactured or processed therefrom, into the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) shall be subject to compliance with the applicable QCOs, BIS requirements and other applicable laws at the time of such clearance.

3. Extension of Eligibility Period under RELIEF Scheme (Component II)

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), vide Notification No. 21/2026-27 dated 29 June 2026, has extended the eligibility period under Component II of the Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation (RELIEF) under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM).

As per the notification, the eligibility period for shipments meant for delivery or transshipment under the intervention has been extended up to 30th September 2026. The extension aims to support Indian exporters and facilitate trade resilience in view of the continuing logistics challenges arising from the West Asia crisis.

All other provisions of Notification No. 65/2025-26 dated 19 March 2026 shall remain unchanged.

4. Amendment to Guidelines for Market Access Support under Export Promotion Mission (EPM) — Niryat Disha

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), vide Trade Notice No. 08/2026-27 dated 01 July 2026, has amended the guidelines for Market Access Support under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) – Niryat Disha.

As per the amendments, the minimum delegation size for Buyer-Seller Meets (BSMs) has been reduced from 50 participants to 25 participants. Further, in case of cancellation of an event or withdrawal from participation, any advance grant released must be refunded within 15 days, failing which the amount shall be recoverable along with simple interest at 10% per annum.

All other provisions of Trade Notice No. 19/2025-26 dated 31 December 2025 shall remain unchanged.

5. Amendments to the Guidelines for Trade Regulations, Accreditation and Compliance Enablement under Export Promotion Mission (EPM) - Niryat Disha

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), vide Trade Notice No. 09/2026-27 dated 01 July 2026, has amended the guidelines for Trade Regulations, Accreditation and Compliance Enablement (TRACE) under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) – Niryat Disha.

The key amendments are as follows:

- The Positive List and Priority Positive List have been replaced with a single List of Eligible Testing, Inspections and Certifications, which has been expanded to 462 entries.
- Financial assistance for MSMEs has been revised. Micro and Small Enterprises will be eligible for assistance up to 95% of the actual cost, while Medium Enterprises will be eligible for assistance up to 80% of the actual cost. The maximum reimbursement has been increased to ₹50 lakh per IEC per financial year, with higher assistance considered on a case-to-case basis.
- Approved financial assistance will now be disbursed in two instalments—the first upon successful completion of certification and the second after submission of evidence of exports linked to the certification.
- The reimbursement process has been revised to provide for two-stage claim filing (RC-1 and RC-2).
- Provisions relating to governance and recovery of assistance have also been updated.

All other provisions of Trade Notice No. 26/2025-26 dated 20 February 2026 shall remain unchanged.

6. Launch of Global Outreach for Branding, Labelling and Export Packaging under Export Promotion Mission (EPM) – Niryat Disha

DGFT has implemented the Global Outreach for Branding, Labelling and Export Packaging initiative under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) – Niryat Disha with immediate effect.

The initiative aims to strengthen 'Brand India' globally through a Unified Brand India Framework, sector-specific branding, international marketing, branding, labelling, export packaging and promotional campaigns in collaboration with State/District Authorities, Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) and industry bodies.

The initiative seeks to expand and sustain global markets for Indian goods and services, develop world-class Indian brands and enable exporters to capture greater value and move up the value chain. The initiative will be implemented through periodic identification of goods and services, export sectors, product categories and markets for undertaking branding, labelling, packaging and promotional campaigns.

7. Clarifications on Interest Subvention Support for Pre- and PostShipment Export Credit under Export Promotion Mission (EPM) - Niryat Protsahan

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), vide Trade Notice No. 13/2026-27 dated 14 July 2026, has issued clarifications on Interest Subvention Support for Pre- and Post-Shipment Export Credit under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) – Niryat Protsahan.

The key clarifications are as follows:

1. Additional Claims: Banks may submit additional claims for eligible export credit disbursed on or after 02 January 2026, where UIN was generated on or before 31 May 2026, by 31 July 2026.
2. UIN Generation: The relaxation of UIN generation up to 31 May 2026 applies only to FY 2025-26 disbursements. For FY 2026-27 onwards, UIN must be generated within 15 days of original disbursal.
3. Claim Filing: Where UIN generation is permitted within 15 days of disbursal, claims may be filed by the last date of the following month.
4. Separate UINs: Separate UINs are required for pre-shipment and post-shipment credit. A single UIN cannot be used for both.
5. Cross-Financial Year Claims: For export credit continuing beyond 31 March 2026, a fresh/revised UIN for FY 2026-27 is required for claiming interest subvention for FY 2026-27.
6. Past Claims: Additional claims for past periods shall be filed separately through the DGFT portal and shall not be clubbed with regular monthly claims. The prescribed external auditor's certificate shall also be applicable to such additional claims.

Special Article- Beyond Better Fibers: Why Demand-Driven Supply Chains Will Define the Next Era of Sustainable Textiles

- by Ms. Haritha G K, Proprietor, Pamban Eco-Exports (Peex)

Beyond Better Fibers: The Next Phase of Sustainability

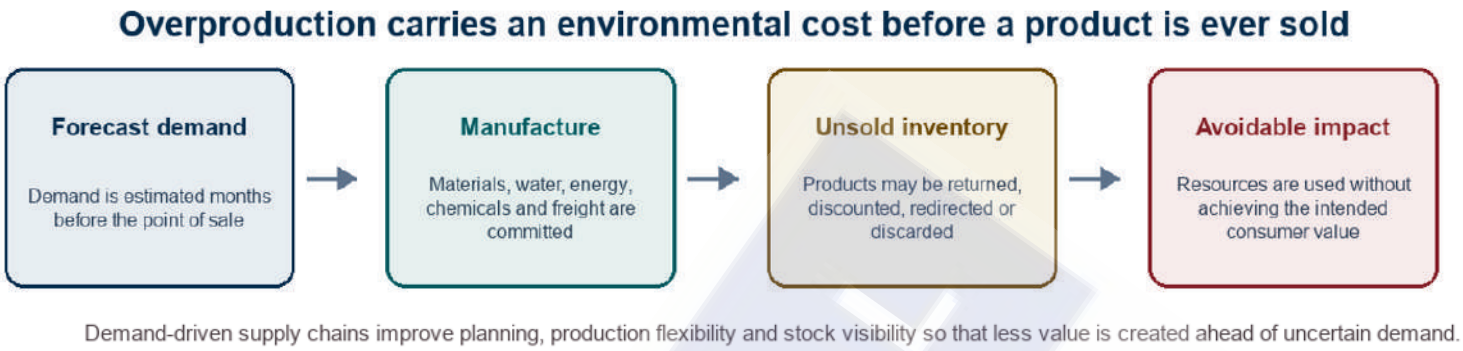
For more than a decade, sustainability in textiles has been defined largely by the materials we use. From my experience working with textile manufacturers and international buyers, I have seen sustainability conversations consistently focus on organic cotton, recycled fibers, certified supply chains and lower-impact manufacturing. These have rightly become central to sourcing decisions. They have improved transparency and pushed the industry in a better direction. Yet sustainability is entering a new phase, one in which material innovation alone is not enough.

Textile businesses now operate with uncertain demand, shorter buying cycles, frequent forecast revisions and more stringent regulation. Inventory risk is no longer only an operational issue; it is becoming an environmental, commercial and regulatory concern. This raises a difficult but necessary question: can the industry claim to be sustainable if products continue to be manufactured far ahead of uncertain demand? The next advantage may not come from another better Fiber. It may come from producing the right products, in the right quantities, at the right time.

Sustainability Is Advancing - But So Is Production

Textile Exchange's Materials Market Report 2025 captures the contradiction. Global Fiber production increased from 125 million tonnes in 2023 to 132 million tonnes in 2024, and is projected to reach around 169 million tonnes in 2030 if current trends continue. Polyester represented 59% of total output, with 88% still fossil-based. Recycled Fibers accounted for 7.6% of the market, while less than 1% of all Fiber output came from pre- and post-consumer recycled textiles (Textile Exchange, 2025).

The implication is straightforward. The industry is improving the materials it uses, but total production is still rising faster than circular feedstock. A responsibly sourced fabric still consumes water, energy, chemicals and freight capacity if it is made without confirmed demand or never reaches its intended consumer. Sustainability must therefore be judged not only by what we produce, but also by how intelligently we plan and produce it.



Source: Author analysis. Global Fiber production and circularity data: Textile Exchange, Materials Market Report 2025.

The Real Cost of Producing Ahead of Demand

Every unnecessary production cycle consumes resources regardless of whether the final product is sold. Unsold inventory is therefore not merely a commercial loss; it is an environmental cost that has already been incurred. The European Environment Agency estimates that the EU generated about 6.94 million tonnes of textile waste in 2022, equivalent to 16 kg per person. The European Commission also estimates that 4-9% of unsold textiles in Europe are destroyed before ever being worn. These figures are a reminder that reducing waste at the point of design and order planning can matter as much as improving Fiber choice (EEA, 2025; European Commission, 2026).

Demand-driven supply chains are not a call to manufacture everything at the last minute. They are a call to improve planning accuracy, production flexibility and visibility across spinning, weaving, processing, logistics and sourcing. Faster sampling, smaller and better-managed order commitments, controlled replenishment, accurate product data and reliable quality are operational capabilities. They are also sustainability capabilities because they reduce the chance that value is created ahead of demand and becomes waste later.

European Policy Is Redefining Sustainability

European policy reinforces this shift. The Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) is a framework for future product requirements on durability, reparability, recycled content, recyclability, environmental performance and product information. Textiles and apparel are a first-priority product group under the Commission's 2025-2030 Ecodesign Working Plan, with 2027 as the indicative timetable for adoption of textile/apparel measures. The Digital Product Passport will make product information usable through the value chain for products covered by adopted ESPR measures; the exact textile data fields will be set through product-specific rules.

The rules on unsold products are equally significant. From 19 July 2026, large operators may not destroy in-scope unsold consumer apparel, clothing accessories and footwear, except under defined derogations. The common disclosure format for discarded unsold consumer products was adopted in February 2026; disclosure is annual, not a one-time report. Medium-sized enterprises enter the main prohibition and disclosure rules in 2030. The policy signal is clear: overproduction, poor stock visibility and avoidable disposal are becoming measurable business risks.

Textile extended producer responsibility (EPR) takes the logic one step further. Directive (EU) 2025/1892 requires Member States to transpose the revised Waste Framework Directive by 17 June 2027 and establish textile and footwear EPR schemes by 17 April 2028 at the latest. In these schemes, producers will fund the management of in-scope used and waste textiles.

The Directive also connects financial contributions to the most relevant ecodesign requirements once those requirements are adopted. The direct legal obligation may sit with the EU producer, importer or brand rather than the overseas factory, but the commercial consequences travel upstream. Buyers will increasingly ask whether product design, material information and supplier data make end-of-life management easier or more expensive.

Why Demand-Driven Supply Chains Matter

Historically, textile supply chains have been forecast-led. Brands estimated sales months in advance, mills secured yarn, fabrics were produced and inventories were built around expected demand. That model can support efficiency in stable markets, but it is strained by shorter collections, changing consumer preferences and cautious buying. Buyers increasingly need flexibility without compromising quality, consistency or delivery performance.

This is why the best sustainability offer is no longer a generic claim that a supplier is green. Buyers want fewer surprises: no unsupported material claims, no late composition corrections, no missing transaction records, no products that are difficult to redirect, and no production plan that leaves excess stock with no viable next step. Suppliers who provide controlled product specifications, credible chain-of-custody evidence, responsive sampling and realistic order options reduce risk for sourcing, compliance, design and finance teams together.

This change does not mean that every buyer will use the same questionnaire or adopt the same technology at the same speed. Some will be preparing Digital Product Passport pilots; others will be focused on recycled-content claims, excess stock, EPR exposure or customer-facing transparency. The common direction is toward information that can be checked and reused. A supplier should therefore be able to explain, in plain language, what the product is made of, what evidence supports the claim, which limitations apply and what documents can be supplied at sample approval and shipment. That is a more useful commercial conversation than a generic sustainability presentation.

What This Means for Indian Textile Manufacturers

India has many strengths for this transition: a diversified raw-material base, deep spinning and weaving capability, integrated production, and growing sustainable-manufacturing investment. Future competitiveness, however, will depend not only on scale or manufacturing excellence. It will depend on operational operational responsiveness: the ability to adapt to demand changes, maintain quality across production runs, support traceability and communicate a claim that can be substantiated at product and shipment level.

A practical starting point is a product truth file for each export style or fabric: Fiber composition, construction, relevant processing details, certificates and their scope, test evidence, care information and the precise claim approved for use. For recycled, organic or responsible-source products, the file should identify the evidence route rather than only the marketing phrase. This does not require a costly technology platform. It requires disciplined specifications, valid documents and clear ownership across merchandising, sourcing, quality and documentation.

Certificates remain valuable where they are relevant and in scope, but they should begin the explanation rather than end it. A buyer may need the certificate, a transaction record, the product specification, a test report and confirmation that the claim is reflected accurately in labels or sales material. When those elements are maintained together, the exporter can respond quickly to a sourcing or compliance query. When they are scattered across teams or suppliers, even a strong product can become difficult for a buyer to use. In the coming market, information reliability will be part of product reliability.

The strongest supplier relationships will also treat order planning as part of the sustainability discussion. Phased commitments, flexible capacity, fabric reservation, transparent MOQ structures, product labelling and stock-reallocation options can reduce avoidable waste while improving buyer confidence. That moves the exporter from a transactional vendor role to a partner who helps turn sustainability ambition into a manageable supply-chain process.

Sustainability Needs Operational Excellence

A clear pattern I have observed across the industry is that the next chapter of sustainable textiles will not be defined by a single breakthrough fiber or certification alone. Those foundations remain essential. But sustainability is increasingly a question of operational excellence: producing closer to real demand, improving resource use,

making product information dependable and enabling faster, better-informed decisions across the value chain.

The conversation is shifting from 'What Fiber should we use?' to 'How should we plan, source and manufacture more responsibly?' Demand-driven supply chains do not replace sustainable Fibers; they maximize their value. In a market shaped by volatile demand and lifecycle regulation, the businesses that combine responsible materials with responsive operations will define the next era of sustainable competitiveness.

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Author

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MANMADE AND TECHNICAL TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL (Formerly SRTEPC)

FAQ on Deferred Duty Payment for AEOs

Q WHAT IS DEFERRED DUTY PAYMENT?

It is a mechanism for delinking duty payment and Customs clearance. It is based on the principle 'Clear first-Pay later'. The aim is to have a seamless wharf-to-warehouse transit in order to facilitate just-in-time manufacturing. As a part of the ease of doing business focus of the Government of India, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has rolled out the AEO (AUTHORIZED ECONOMIC OPERATOR) programme. It is a trade facilitation move wherein benefits are extended to the entities that have demonstrated strong internal control systems and a willingness to comply with the laws administered by the CBIC. Under the aegis of the flagship AEO scheme, the GoI has notified the Deferred Payment of Import Duty Rules, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the Rules) vide Notification No 134/2016-Customs (NT) and 135/2016-Customs (NT), both dated 02 Nov 2016.

Q WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO AVAIL OF THIS SCHEME?

This benefit is currently being extended to importers holding AEO T-2 or T-3 status.

Q Where do I get registered?

Every importer certified as AEO-T2/AEO-T3 must have the ICEGATE Login to avail the benefits envisaged in the Duty Deferment Scheme. A nodal person needs to be appointed by the AEO to authenticate all the customs-related transactions on behalf of the AEO. The contact details of the AEO nodal person shall also be provided during registration for the ICEGATE login to ensure that the information reaches them in time at their registered email and mobile for authentication.

Any change in these details should be updated immediately. Caution needs to be exercised in the course of this process to ensure that the benefit does not get misused.

Q Once registered, what is the process to avail the benefit of deferred duty?

The eligible importer, who intends to make a deferred payment, or his authorised representative, shall indicate the same using the flag "D" in the Payment Method column of each Bill of Entry filed. In his/her ICEGATE Login, the AEO Nodal person will be able to acknowledge such intent of availing the facility of deferred duty payment by authenticating using a one-time password (OTP) sent to their registered e-mail address. The Nodal person would be able to authenticate multiple Bills of Entry at one go. Only on such authentication by the AEO, customs clearance would be provided for the consignment under the deferred payment of duty Rules.

Q What are the due dates for payment of duty?

BE assessed from 1st – 15th day of any month: 16th of the month BE assessed from 16th – last day of the month, except March: 1 st day of the following month BE assessed from 16th -31st March: 31st March

Q What will be the due date when the due date falls on a holiday?

It would be the next day following the holiday.

FAQ on Deferred Duty Payment for AEOs

Q What happens if I do not pay duty on or before the due date?

Dual consequences shall arise if the duty is not paid within the time limits specified. Firstly, interest will become due on the duty; Secondly, this shall also be counted as a default in terms of the Rules. If a subsequent default in payment occurs, the AEO shall automatically revert to transaction-wise payment and will need to pay the duty in the bank before taking clearance of his goods. That is, the importer shall not be allowed to clear the next consignment without payment of duty.

Q How does the default and suspension mechanism work?

A default is counted for each due date where duty is not paid on time, irrespective of the number of BEs linked to that due date. When a new BE is filed, the system automatically checks defaults in the preceding 90 days (from the date of filing of the current BE). If two or more defaults are detected within these 90 days, the deferred duty facility is suspended, and duty has to be filed in transaction mode for the current BE.

Q How does the restoration of deferred duty facility work?

Once the defaults within the 90-day lookback are reduced to less than two, and all previous dues with interest are paid and closed in the system, the facility is automatically restored. In other words, the suspension would be automatically revoked after ninety days of the last but one default, if all the dues have been paid by the AEO.

Q Is it compulsory to pay only on a deferred basis for all my consignments? Can I clear any consignments by paying duty for each transaction?

Importers eligible for this scheme have the flexibility to pay transaction-wise (i.e. BE-wise) for any consignments, as well as on a consolidated basis for sets of BEs at any time during the specified period. Duty can be paid even before the due date at their convenience. For example, for 10 BEs filed during the period 01-10-2025 to 15-10-2025, the importer may pay duty for #1, 2, 5, 7 on 10-10-2025; for BE 3 at the time of clearance itself and for BE 4, 6, 8, 9, 10 on 16-10-2025.

Q Will a consolidated challan be generated for payment?

No. To ensure flexibility, challans continue to be generated BE-wise, with the option to select multiple challans for consolidated duty payment.

Q Can the Bills of Entry (BE) be sorted port-wise?

Yes, the AEO can select BE port-wise and then authenticate the BEs either separately or in groups for availing of the Deferred Duty facility.

Q How to handle the situation where a re-assessment is sought for the be?

When the BE is under reassessment, the Challan will not be available for payment, and there is a possibility that the reassessment will not be completed by the due date of payment. In such a case, the system will consider it as a Default. Hence, where reassessment is sought, the importer must first pay the existing assessed duty before reassessment

to avoid automatic suspension of the deferred duty facility. If the final duty assessed is lower than the duty already paid, the importer may apply for a refund. If the Importer paid the duty before re-assessment, and the duty increases after assessment, a differential duty challan will be generated. The payment for this differential duty challan has to be made before its due date (which can be different from the due date of the original challan).

Q How to handle the situation where an amendment is sought for the be?

Where an amendment to BE is sought, the Challan will not be available for payment, and there is a possibility that the amendment process will not be completed by the due date of payment. In such a case, the system will consider it as a Default. Hence, where an amendment is sought, the Importer must first pay the existing assessed duty before submitting the amendment request to avoid automatic suspension of the deferred duty facility. If the Importer paid the duty prior to carrying out the amendment, and the duty increases after the amendment, a differential duty challan will be generated, and this will not be considered a default.

Q What to do if you have already made the payment, and the payment date is not updated in the customs systems and is shown as a default?

The AEO may contact the Alternate/System Manager (SM/ASM) of the concerned port. After verifying the payment details, the SM/ASM may close the default BoE in the ICES under the "Arrears of Revenue" option in the 'ICLK' role. However, this will not automatically reinstate the Deferred Duty facility if it has been suspended due to delayed payment.

Source: *AEO Indian Customs*

Q What to do if you are seeing multiple BES with the same number and amount reflecting in the ICEGATE portal?

You may contact the ICEGATE helpdesk to resolve the issue

Q What to do if there has been an ICEGATE system error while making the payment?

In this case, the AEO may approach the DG Systems with details of the issue, screenshots and any proof about the contentions, for verifying the issue. If the issue is proven to be from the part of the Systems, the DG Systems may take suitable action on the issue.

Q What to do if the challan is not reflecting for payment?

Check if any amendment or reassessment is pending. If not, approach the DG Systems with details of the issue for taking suitable actions.

Q Who can I contact for further support?

ICEGATE helpdesk (1800-3010-1000 / icegate.helpdesk@icegate.gov.in) or the AEO Program Manager (011 – 23310013 / diccbec.dor@gov.in) may be contacted for further queries or support. ■

FAQ on Trade Regulations, Accreditation & Compliance Enablement (TRACE) under Export Promotion Mission (EPM) – NIRYAT DISHA

Q What is TRACE?

TRACE stands for Trade Regulations, Accreditation & Compliance Enablement – an intervention implemented under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) – NIRYAT DISHA.

Q When did TRACE come into effect?

It is implemented prospectively with immediate effect through the Trade Notice dated 20 February 2026, and eligibility applies only to eligible activities undertaken on or after 20th February 2026.

Q What does the TRACE intervention seek to achieve?

It seeks to strengthen India's quality and technical compliance ecosystem and to facilitate MSMEs (involved in international value chains) in meeting importing-country regulatory requirements.

Q What is the objective of the initiative?

To provide support to MSMEs to meet internationally recognised quality, safety, and technical requirements arising from compliance and quality related certificates and other mandatory or voluntary conformity-assessment requirements applicable in overseas markets.

Q Is the support linked to export performance?

No. Assistance is directed towards enhancing the capacity of eligible MSMEs to demonstrate conformity with applicable standards, upgrade product quality, and comply with legitimate regulatory requirements of importing countries, without conferring any entitlement linked to export performance.

Q What type of support is provided under TRACE for MSMEs?

Support is limited to partial reimbursement of eligible expenditure incurred towards testing, inspection, certification, audits, traceability systems, and other conformity-assessment requirements that are mandated for market access, or necessary to demonstrate compliance with internationally recognised standards.

Q On what basis is TRACE being operationalised?

It is operationalised on a pilot basis, for feedback, institutional learning, and data-driven refinements.

Q How can stakeholders submit feedback on the guidelines?

Stakeholders may submit comments and suggestions on the Guidelines within 30 days from the date of issuance of the Trade Notice, through email at epm-dgft@gov.in (in accordance with Paragraph 1.07A of the Foreign Trade Policy 2023).

Eligibility and Coverage

Q Who is eligible for support under TRACE?

All MSMEs involved in international value chains holding an active Importer–Exporter Code (IEC) – not listed in the Denied Entity List – and a valid MSME Udyam Registration Number.

Q What categories of costs are covered?

Two categories: (i) one-time costs, being certification-related prerequisites essential for market access, including inspections, audits, factory or facility assessments and market-specific licensing requirements; and (ii) recurring costs, being costs

associated with ongoing export compliance, including certifications arising from quality and compliance related issues, specific health or safety certificates, and buyer-mandated voluntary certifications.

Q Are the certifications eligible for support fixed?

No. The Positive List and Priority Positive List are dynamic and shall be periodically reviewed for inclusion or exclusion of certifications, based on stakeholder consultations, monitoring of international standards notifications, and trade facilitation considerations.

Q From which date is eligibility effective?

Eligibility is prospective and applies only in respect of certifications, testing, inspections, or other eligible activities undertaken on or after 20th February 2026.

Nature and Extent of Assistance

Q How is the assistance amount calculated?

As partial reimbursement of the actual cost (net of applicable taxes) or the notified cost, whichever is lower.

Q Does the level of assistance vary by MSME size?

No. The level of assistance is uniform across all MSMEs (involved in international value chains), irrespective of classification as Micro, Small, or Medium enterprises.

Q What is the maximum reimbursement available?

The maximum cumulative reimbursement admissible is Rs. 25 lakh per IEC per financial year.

Q What is the reimbursement rate for items on the Positive List (Annexure-V)?

Up to 60% of the actual cost net of taxes, duties, cess etc., or the notified ceiling, whichever is lower.

Q What is the reimbursement rate for items on the Priority Positive List (Annexure-VI)?

Up to 75% of the cost net of taxes, duties, cess etc., or the notified ceiling, whichever is lower.

Q When are Merchant MSMEs eligible for support?

Only in respect of tariff lines notified under Annexure-VII, where exports are predominantly undertaken through aggregator-based models.

Q Are deemed exports or exports to SEZs covered?

No. Support is not admissible in respect of deemed exports (as defined under Chapter 7 of the Foreign Trade Policy) or for exports to Special Economic Zones (SEZ).

Q When is reimbursement actually admissible?

Reimbursement is admissible after the MSME has cleared and obtained the required testing, certification, or inspection outcome, and not merely upon completion of the process.

Q Do revised reimbursement rates apply retrospectively?

No. Revised reimbursement rates, as notified from time to time, apply only to testing and inspection certifications obtained on or after the date of such notification.

Q What happens if an exporter graduates out of its MSME category during the year?

Exporters graduating out of their existing MSME category during the financial year, due to an upward change in investment or turnover, continue to remain eligible for support for a period of three years from the date of such re-classification (in accordance with Ministry of MSME Notification S.O. 4926(E) dated 18.10.2022), subject to fulfilment of all other prescribed conditions.

Q Is the FY 2025-26 ceiling pro-rated?

No. For FY 2025-26, the annual ceiling on support applies in full and is not subject to pro-rata adjustment.

Submission of Claims

Q What process must eligible MSMEs follow to avail support?

Eligible MSMEs shall follow a two-stage online process for availing support under TRACE.

Q What is Stage I of the process?

Stage I is the Intent-to-Claim (IC): the eligible entity files an online Intent-to-Claim prior to obtaining certifications, test reports, and compliance documents.

Q What is Stage II of the process?

Stage II is the Reimbursement Claim (RC): after obtaining the certifications, test reports, and compliance documents, the eligible entity files the Reimbursement Claim online, tagging the relevant Intent-to-Claim(s).

Q What must be enclosed with the Reimbursement Claim?

A copy of the certificate / inspection report / test report; the invoice and proof of payment; and evidence of the mandatory or market-driven requirement.

Q What self-declaration is required?

A self-declaration confirming that no benefit has been claimed or shall be claimed for the same expenditure under any other scheme of the Central or State Government or any other third-party assistance.

Q How long is an Intent-to-Claim valid?

The Intent-to-Claim is valid for a Reimbursement Claim for a period of 2 years only.

Processing of Claims

Q How often are valid claims processed?

All valid claims are consolidated and submitted quarterly through the online system to the jurisdictional authority.

Q Where is the reimbursement disbursed?

Disbursements are made directly to the bank account specified in the IEC.

Q Which certifications may receive expedited processing?

Certifications, test reports, and compliance documents generated or validated through the Bharat Aayat Niryat Lab / Quality Setu platform may be prioritised for automated processing and expedited disbursal, subject to system-based validations and post-disbursement audit safeguards.

FAQ on Trade Regulations, Accreditation & Compliance Enablement (TRACE)

Compliance and Safeguards

Q What happens if a Reimbursement Claim is not filed within 2 years?

Where an applicant fails to submit a reimbursement application against their Intent-to-Claim within a period of 2 years, the claim automatically lapses, and such applicants are ineligible for claims for the next financial year period.

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Where an applicant fails to submit a reimbursement application against their Intent-to-Claim within a period of 2 years, the claim automatically lapses, and such applicants are ineligible for claims for the next financial year period.

Q Are applicants subject to verification?

Yes. All applicants under this initiative are subject to post-disbursement verification.

Governance Structure

Q Which body advises on and coordinates TRACE implementation?

The Sub-Committee on Export Quality and Technical Compliances, constituted for advising, recommending activities and stakeholder coordination for implementation of TRACE.

Q What does the Sub-Committee do?

It advises on regulatory, procedural, or policy-related bottlenecks impacting implementation and recommends suitable remedial measures; supports development of performance indicators, outcome metrics, and monitoring mechanisms; and provides inputs for capacity building, awareness programs, and stakeholder outreach initiatives.

Q Who chairs and convenes the Sub-Committee?

The Joint/Addl. Secretary, SPS and TBT Desk, Department of Commerce is the Chairman, and the Joint DGFT, EPM Section, DGFT is the Convenor.

Q Who is responsible for operationalising and implementing TRACE?

The Export Promotion Mission (EPM) Section, DGFT (HQ), is responsible for operationalisation and implementation of TRACE – including convening Sub-Committee meetings, operationalising online systems, disbursement of funds, and other related administrative functions.

Application Forms

Q What information does the Intent-to-Claim form capture?

Part A – Basic details (claim year, IEC number, firm name, type of exporter, MSME/Non-MSME status, type of MSME, and ITC-HS code for Merchant Exporters); Part B – Testing, certification and inspection details (sector, certification name, priority certification, certifying agency and address); and Part C – Other compliance-related information (type and nature of certification, frequency of renewal, whether accredited labs in India are adequate, and testing period).

Q What information does the Reimbursement Claim form capture?

Part A – Application reference (IEC number, application/UIN number, date of approval); Part B – Claim details; Part C – Expenditure details; Part D – Documents uploaded (proof of certification/compliance, invoices/receipts, proof of payment); and Part E – Bank details (auto-populated from IEC).

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For detailed Notification-

U.S. Investigations under Section 301 and Proposed Tariffs – Implications for India's Textile Sector

- Section 301 empowers the U.S. Government to investigate and take action against foreign trade practices deemed unfair or inconsistent with international trade agreements.

- The United States has proposed the imposition of fresh tariffs under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 on 60 Countries, including India, United Kingdom, European Union, China, Japan, Canada, Mexico, and Australia.

- The proposed action is based on findings related to alleged failure by these countries to prohibit imports of goods produced using forced labour. 54 Countries including India, could face an additional tariff of 12.5%, while a group of six economies may face a 10% tariff.

- In this context, the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) initiated two separate investigations on 11 and 12 March 2026, covering 60 economies, focusing on: Forced labour-related trade practices Excess industrial capacity. On 2 June 2026, the USTR released findings from the forced labour investigation and proposed additional tariffs on imports from these economies.

- **Key Findings by USTR** - The USTR has stated that: "The acts, policies and practices of India related to the failure to impose and effectively enforce a forced labour import prohibition are unreasonable and burden or restrict U.S. commerce." The proposed tariffs are part of a broader strategy by the U.S. administration to replace or supplement the 10% temporary tariff imposed under Section 122 (on balance-of-payments grounds), which is set to expire on 24 July 2026 and has faced legal scrutiny. The "forced labour" justification is seen as providing a more robust legal basis for sustaining or increasing tariff measures.

- Special Mechanism for Textiles & Apparel A sector-specific provision has been proposed for textiles and apparel, which may allow limited volumes of imports from selected economies to enter the U.S. at concessional tariff rates. However, details regarding eligibility, quotas, and tariff rates are yet to be finalised.

- **Likely Impact on India**
  Short-Term Impact a) Labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, garments, and carpets are likely to be significantly affected. b) Additional tariffs could increase the landed cost of Indian products in the U.S. market.

- **Sectoral Exposure**
  The U.S. accounts for approximately 28% of India's textile & apparel exports, making it India's largest export destination. Potentially impacted segments include Technical textiles, Apparel, Home textiles, and Manmade fibre (MMF) products.

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India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

India–Oman CEPA

- The India–Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) was signed on 18 December 2025 and came into effect on 1 June 2026. The Agreement provides immediate tariff elimination on all 945 textile tariff lines (covering all 6-digit HS lines under Chapters 50–63), granting zero-duty access from the existing 5% MFN rate and ensuring full market access for Indian textile exports. India has offered concessions on 1,924 tariff lines, with 1,923 lines receiving immediate tariff elimination, while only HS 63090000 (worn clothing) remains excluded. The Agreement also contains provisions on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Geographical Indications (GI), which are expected to enhance the visibility and marketability of India's textile heritage, including 104 GI-tagged handloom products and 214 GI-tagged handicraft products, thereby strengthening their export potential in Oman. Key segments positioned for growth include readymade garments, made-ups, MMF textiles, and jute products.

Oman's Textile Market

- Oman's global textile imports were valued at US$ 0.35 billion in 2025. The country's textile import basket is primarily composed of apparel (39%), followed by fabrics (21%) and made-ups (17%).

India–Oman Bilateral Trade

- India's textile exports to Oman stood at US$ 95.1 million during 2025–26. The export basket is dominated by readymade garments (48%), followed by manmade textiles (38%), cotton textiles (8%), and handicrafts (3.4%).

Top Exporting States/UTs

- The leading Indian exporters of textiles to Oman are Maharashtra (21%), Gujarat (19%), Tamil Nadu (18%), Jammu & Kashmir (16%), Karnataka (9%), and West Bengal (3%).

Major Fairs & Exhibitions

- Important trade events in Oman include the Omani–Turkish International Forum & Exhibition, held in Muscat from 2–4 February 2026, and the GCC Sustainable Muscat Fashion Week, organised in Muscat in September 2025.

Focus Products

- Products with export potential in the Omani market include carpets, activewear, T-shirts, outerwear, MMF blankets, home linen, curtains, men's and women's bottom wear, and jute fabrics.

Major Retailers

- Major retail chains in Oman include Lulu Muscat Hypermarket, Nesto Hyper Market, and Carrefour Oman.

Major Textile Design Houses

- The prominent textile design houses listed are Assain Textiles and Oman Digital Prints.

Major Fashion Technology & Design Institutes

- Key institutions include the Scientific College of Design, Muscat, the University of Technology and Applied Sciences, Muscat, and Sultan Qaboos University.

Industry Body

- The principal industry bodies are the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) and the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (PEIE), now known as Madayn.

PLI -2 to Focus on Top-performing Sectors

- A second phase of the PLI programmes is being considered. Companies excluded from the earlier PLI rounds will be encouraged to apply.
- The New schemes may not be called PLI but will function with similar intent to encourage local production and import substitution.
- Extension and revision to schemes for sectors such as textiles are being examined.
- The proposed changes are likely to include a revision in the minimum investment threshold, expansion of the range of eligible products, and a reduction in the incremental turnover requirement. This official said. The idea is to make the scheme more industry friendly and effective.
- There are 14 PLI Schemes currently operational with a total approved outlay of Rs.1.91. Lakh Crore.
- A survey conducted suggests a steady expansion of domestic activity alongside continued reliance on imported inputs and technology. ■

New-Age Fibres and Their Transformative Impact on the Indian Textiles Industry

India's textiles sector is entering a new phase of transformation, driven by the rise of new-age fibres and the accelerating expansion of man-made fibres (MMF) and technical textiles. While cotton has long defined India's textile identity, the global market is now increasingly shaped by performance-oriented, sustainable, and application-specific fibres that support higher value addition, technological innovation, and export competitiveness. This transition is not merely a change in raw material preference; it represents a structural realignment of the industry toward the future.

New-age fibres include advanced MMFs such as polyester, viscose, nylon, aramid, and specialty blends, as well as emerging sustainable natural fibres and bio-based alternatives. These fibres are increasingly preferred because they offer consistency, durability, functional performance, and adaptability across apparel, home textiles, industrial use, mobility, healthcare, defence, and infrastructure applications. In global trade, MMF has become the dominant fibre category, and technical textiles rely heavily on these fibres for their performance characteristics.

Why the Shift Matters

The global textile market has moved decisively toward fibres that can deliver speed, scale, functionality, and sustainability. In contrast to conventional cotton-based production, MMF-based manufacturing supports modern consumer demand for athleisure, fast fashion, weather-resistant clothing, protective gear, and industrial fabrics. This makes MMF not only a commercial opportunity, but also a strategic necessity for India's textile sector to remain relevant in global value chains.

For India, the importance of this transition is especially significant. The country has historically remained stronger in cotton-based textiles, even though global demand is increasingly concentrated in MMF products. As a result, India has had to recalibrate its industrial and policy framework to align with current market realities. The emphasis on new-age fibres is therefore closely linked to export growth, manufacturing modernization, and technology-led competitiveness.

Impact on MMF Growth

The rise of new-age fibres is directly strengthening India's MMF ecosystem. MMF now serves as the backbone for diverse product segments such as apparel, home furnishings, sportswear, automotive textiles, filtration materials, geotextiles, and medical textiles. This diversification is important because it reduces overdependence on traditional categories and opens up high-value, high-growth markets.

Government policy has begun to reflect this strategic direction. The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for MMF and technical textiles was specifically designed to encourage domestic manufacturing in these segments and expand India's global footprint. It is expected to support integrated value chains, generate jobs, and accelerate India's shift from a largely cotton-oriented model toward a more balanced fibre ecosystem.

Technical Textiles as a Growth Engine

Technical textiles are among the most promising areas for new-age fibre development. Unlike conventional textiles, technical textiles are designed primarily for function rather than aesthetics, making them essential in sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, construction, transport, defence, and environmental protection. Their performance depends heavily on advanced fibres that provide strength, stability, resistance, and specialized end-use properties.

As India deepens its technical textiles capability, new-age fibres will play a critical role in product innovation and import substitution. From protective garments and filtration media to composites and industrial fabrics, the future of technical textiles lies in fibre innovation, process engineering, and standards-based quality manufacturing. This creates opportunities not only for large industry players, but also for startups, research institutions, and specialized MSMEs.

Sustainability and Innovation

The discussion on new-age fibres is not limited to synthetic materials alone. It also includes the rise of sustainable and alternative natural fibres such as bamboo, hemp, banana, ramie, sisal, flax, kapok, nettle, and similar materials that support eco-friendly manufacturing. These fibres are attracting attention for their renewability, lower environmental footprint, and potential use in fashion, home textiles, and technical applications.

This sustainability dimension is important because the textile industry is under growing pressure to reduce environmental impact while maintaining competitiveness. New-age fibres can help India build a future-ready textile economy that is both commercially strong and environmentally responsible. The real opportunity lies in combining fibre innovation with testing, standardization, processing technology, and market development.

Policy and Industry Implications

India's policy framework is increasingly supportive of MMF and technical textiles through incentives, research support, cluster development, and export promotion initiatives. This is significant because fibre transformation cannot happen through market demand alone; it requires coordinated intervention across raw materials, machinery, design, testing, and downstream manufacturing.

For the industry, the message is clear: the future will belong to enterprises that invest in fibre diversification, product engineering, sustainability, and scale.

- For policymakers, the task is to strengthen the ecosystem that enables innovation, supply-chain resilience, and value-added exports.
- For exporters, new-age fibres represent a route to access premium global markets and move up the value chain.

Conclusion

New-age fibres are redefining the Indian textiles industry by expanding the role of MMF and technical textiles in national growth and global trade. They are enabling a shift from volume-led manufacturing to value-led, technology-driven, and sustainability-oriented production. If India builds the right ecosystem around these fibres, the country can emerge as a stronger, more diversified, and more competitive textile power in the years ahead. ■

Seminar on "Potential to Increase Exports under FTAs"

MATEXIL successfully organised a Seminar on "Export Potential under FTAs" at Bhiwandi, Maharashtra, on 22 June 2026.

The seminar aimed to create awareness among exporters about the opportunities arising from India's Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with key partner countries such as the European Union (EU), the United Kingdom (UK), Australia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Oman, and others.

The seminar received an encouraging response from the industry, with around 150–160 participants attending the programme. It provided a valuable platform for exporters to understand the benefits of India's FTAs and explore ways to enhance their global competitiveness.

Strong Industry Participation

The seminar witnessed active participation from exporters, manufacturers, industry representatives, and government officials. The interactive sessions enabled participants to gain a better understanding of the tariff advantages, market access opportunities, and compliance requirements under various FTAs.

Address by the Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Vice Chairman

Delivering his address virtually, Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Vice Chairman, MATEXIL, spoke about the evolution of the WTO and the increasing importance of bilateral and regional trade agreements in global commerce. He explained the concept of Most Favoured Nation (MFN) duties and how FTAs provide preferential tariff benefits that enhance the competitiveness of Indian exporters.He also highlighted the growing importance of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) compliance, particularly for exports to the European Union, and encouraged exporters to align their products with evolving sustainability requirements. He further informed participants that MATEXIL would provide HS Code-wise product insights to help exporters identify products with high export potential under different FTAs.

Address by the Shri Bhadresh Dodhia, Past Chairman

Addressing the participants virtually, Shri Bhadresh Dodhia emphasised that while FTAs offer significant opportunities through improved market access and reduced tariffs, exporters must have a thorough understanding of the provisions of these agreements to maximise their benefits.

He encouraged exporters to use the coming months to strengthen their preparedness by understanding the Rules of Origin, documentation requirements, and compliance obligations. He also assured the participants of MATEXIL's continued support and handholding in helping the industry effectively leverage these agreements to boost exports.

Seminar on "Potential to Increase Exports under FTAs"

Address by Shri Harsh Haria, Member of the Committee of Administration

Shri Harsh Haria highlighted the importance of creating awareness among exporters about the opportunities available under India's expanding network of Free Trade Agreements.

Bhiwandi's Role in Expanding India's Textile Exports

Shri A. Ravi Kumar highlighted the important role that companies based in Bhiwandi can play in increasing India's textile exports. He emphasised that Bhiwandi, as a major textile manufacturing hub, should actively leverage the opportunities offered by Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) to expand its presence in international markets and contribute to the growth of the country's exports.

Expert Session on Free Trade Agreements

Shri Mihir Shah, International Trade Expert, delivered a comprehensive presentation on India's various Free Trade Agreements. He explained the key provisions of different FTAs, including tariff concessions, Rules of Origin, product-specific opportunities, and compliance requirements. He also shared practical guidance on how exporters can effectively utilise these agreements to enhance their competitiveness in international markets.

Insights from Government Officials

The seminar also featured presentations by senior Government officials.

Mr. G.K. Mishra, Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), shared valuable insights on export promotion initiatives, market access opportunities, and the role of FTAs in enhancing India's exports.

Mr. Maruti Dalvi from the District Industries Centre (DIC), Thane, spoke about the support available to exporters and highlighted the importance of complying with international standards and regulatory requirements for accessing global markets.

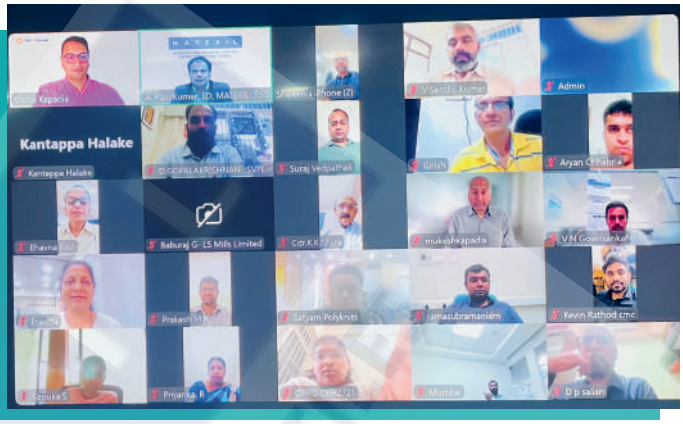
The programme was also attended by Ms. Sanya Dua, who participated as an observer on behalf of the Department of Commerce, New Delhi.

Response from the Industry

The seminar concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, during which participants sought clarifications on tariff benefits, compliance requirements, and the practical utilisation of FTAs. The enthusiastic response from the participants reflected the growing interest of the textile industry in leveraging India's FTA to expand exports and access new international markets.

The seminar reaffirmed MATEXIL's commitment to creating awareness, building exporters' capacities, and supporting the industry in making the most of the opportunities offered by India's expanding FTA network.

Webinar on How Textile Exporters Can Comply with Sustainability and Environmental Laws in the EU & UK



MATEXIL organized a Webinar on "How Textile Exporters Can Comply with Sustainability and Environmental Laws in the EU & UK" for its members on June 11 , 2026 at 3.00 p.m.

The session was conducted by Mr. Vishal Kapadia, Founder, Sell in Europe (London), an expert in ESG regulations with extensive experience in guiding Indian exporters on EU compliance requirements.

The webinar was coordinated by Mr.A. Ravi Kumar, Executive Director , MATEXIL.

Objective

The webinar aimed to create awareness on:

- Emerging export opportunities under India's FTAs, particularly with the EU and UK
- The growing importance of sustainability and environmental compliance
- The need for exporters to align with ESG regulations to access developed markets.
- It was emphasized that ESG compliance is now a mandatory requirement and not optional for sustaining exports.

Key Highlights

Significant export opportunities are expected from India–EU and India–UK FTAs; however, compliance readiness will determine market access.

Overview of key EU regulations such as REACH, GPSR, and ESG-related directives, including compliance requirements and timelines.

Increasing importance of Digital Product Passport, traceability, and supply chain transparency.

Exporters must maintain robust documentation, proof of origin, and evidence-based compliance systems.

Certifications such as OEKO-TEX, GOTS, Bluesign, and GRS are becoming essential for market entry.

Important Insights

FTA Utilization Gap (Japan Example): Despite tariff benefits, lack of documentation systems and compliance readiness led to low utilization—India must avoid this.

Compliance as Competitive Advantage:

Global buyers prefer suppliers with ready evidence and verified compliance.

CBAM Risk: Carbon-intensive exporters may lose market share; future expansion may impact MMF sector.

Textile EPR: Mandatory Extended Producer Responsibility in the EU by 2028.

GSPR (Dec 2024): Requires responsible EU operator, safety documentation, and traceability for 10 years.

ESG Regulations (CSDDD, CSRD, Green Claims): Though applicable to EU companies, compliance obligations cascade to exporters through buyers.

Government Support

Exporters were informed about the DGFT TRACE Programme, under which up to 75% of compliance costs can be reimbursed under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM).

Conclusion

The webinar was well attended and appreciated by members. It reinforced that:

"In today's global trade environment, compliance is not a cost—it is a market entry requirement and a competitive advantage."

MANMADE AND TECHNICAL TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL (Formerly SRTEPC)

National News

Despite swadeshi push, anti-dumping duties against Chinese firms crawl

Domestic industry suffers from delayed anti-dumping duties on Chinese imports. Cheaper Chinese crawlers and truck cranes continue to enter India. Local manufacturers face severe impact and some have shut operations. The Directorate General of Trade Remedies recommended duties in September 2025. Final customs notification awaits finance ministry approval for implementation.

Source: The Economic Times

India, US working towards interim trade agreement: MEA

India and the United States are actively pursuing an interim trade agreement. Both nations have completed substantial work on the proposed trade deal. Certain outstanding issues require finalization before the agreement can be concluded. A delegation from the US Trade Representative visited India in June for discussions. Both countries are diligently working towards finalizing this bilateral trade accord.

Source: The Economic Times

India could face 100% tariffs under proposed US Russia sanctions bill

A Russia sanctions bill championed by the late Senator Lindsey Graham faces a tough road in Congress as Democrats and some Republicans raise concerns about new trade powers the legislation would grant President Donald Trump.Many Democrats, some Republicans, and industry trade groups are unhappy about a provision in the long-stalled bill that would let Trump impose steep tariffs on countries that purchase large amounts of Russian oil and gas, or countries that his administration deems to be facilitating sanctions evasion.

Source: The Economic Times

Technical Textiles Mission Boosts Education With 59 New Courses Across India

Technical Textiles education is receiving a major boost under the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM), as the Ministry of Textiles is implementing the "General Guidelines for Enabling of Academic Institutes in Technical Textiles Education in India: For Private and Public Institutes." The Guidelines aim to expand the reach of technical textile education by introducing specialised courses and papers covering various application areas across the country. Under these Guidelines, a total of 59 courses have been introduced at the Undergraduate (UG) and Postgraduate (PG) levels. Additionally, 47 applications from technical universities and educational institutes across India have been approved, with a cumulative grant of ₹216.60 crore to upgrade academic infrastructure through laboratory equipment and faculty training. The scheme is open to eligible education institutes in the Technical Textiles sector across the country, including those from Nabarangpur Constituency. Under NTTM, the Ministry has approved the "General Guidelines for Skill Development and Training of Candidates in Technical Textiles" for skill upgradation of industrial manpower. The said Guidelines target training of individuals across four target groups, namely — undergraduate students; unskilled persons prior to employment; upskilling/reskilling of already-employed technical manpower; and personnel employed in application areas of technical textiles.

Source: Indian-Apparel.com

India's exports from SEZs up 11.8% in 2025-26: Govt

The country's exports from special economic zones (SEZs) rose by 11.8 per cent year-on-year to Rs 16,36,192 crore (USD 185.28 billion) in 2025-26, Parliament was informed on Tuesday. The exports from these zones in 2024-25 were Rs 14,63,669 crore (USD 173.07 billion), according to the data provided by Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada in a written reply to the Lok Sabha.

Source: The Economic Times

UFlex commissions first overseas WPP bags plant in Mexico

India's largest multinational packaging and solutions company, has commissioned its first overseas WPP (woven polypropylene) bags manufacturing plant in Mexico. Established with an investment of approximately $52 million, the state-of-the-art facility, spread across 10 acres, marks a major milestone in the company's global expansion strategy and significantly strengthens its presence in the Americas. The plant, located in Altamira, Mexico, has been designed to meet the highest international standards of engineering, efficiency and sustainability. Equipped with advanced European machinery, it operates through clean, low-noise and emission-free processes in line with UFlex's global ESG commitments.

Source: Fortune India

PM Modi, UK's Andy Burnham chart ambitious roadmap to deepen trade, strategic ties

Prime Ministers Andy Burnham and Narendra Modi agreed to deepen their nations' strategic partnership. They will enhance cooperation across technology, innovation, and defense sectors. The leaders also committed to strengthening people-to-people ties between both countries. The recently operationalized trade agreement will create new opportunities for citizens. Both nations aim to elevate their comprehensive strategic partnership to new heights.

Source: The Economic Times

India-EU FTA includes separate annexure to address EU carbon tax

The India-EU free trade agreement negotiations focused on the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism. A comprehensive work plan will address concerns for small and medium enterprises regarding this mechanism. Legal scrubbing of the free trade agreement has now been completed by both sides. This pact could be signed this year and implemented starting in 2027. India and the EU will engage on taking into account carbon prices paid within India.

Source: The Economic Times

India, Canada aim to conclude CEPA trade pact by end-2026: MEA

India and Canada are working to finalize their economic partnership agreement. Negotiations for the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement are progressing well. Both nations aim to conclude these important talks by the end of 2026. This agreement seeks to liberalize trade and strengthen economic cooperation between the two countries. Prime Minister Modi plans a visit later this year to boost bilateral ties.

Source: The Economic Times

India-China border trade resumes after 6 years

Border trade between India and China resumed at Shipki-La after a long hiatus. Himachal Pradesh minister inaugurated the trade and flagged off local traders to Tibet. A modern Trade Mart was also opened, facilitating goods exchange at one location. The resumption is expected to boost local trade and employment significantly. This revival strengthens economic ties and regional development.

Source: The Times of India

Indian Air Force Chooses Surat's MANTRA for Defence Fabric Quality Tests

Surat-based Man-Made Textiles Research Association (MANTRA) has been selected by the Indian Air Force (IAF) to conduct scientific testing of fabric used in digital pattern jackets and trousers, marking a significant milestone for the city's technical textiles sector.The IAF has invited MANTRA to submit its budgetary quotation and laboratory testing details for evaluating the fabric against national and international quality standards. The assessment will cover key parameters, including fabric composition, yarn count, GSM, tensile strength, pilling resistance, drape coefficient, dimensional stability, colour fastness, air permeability, anti-bacterial activity and other performance indicators, with several tests to be conducted under NABL accreditation.

Source: Apparel Resources

Tamil Nadu Inaugurates Two New Mini Textile Parks in Karur to Boost MSMEs

Tamil Nadu has inaugurated two new mini textile parks in Karur district as part of its strategy to strengthen the State's textile manufacturing ecosystem and support micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The parks, located at Kodangipatti within the Karur Municipal Corporation limits and Uppidamangalam, were inaugurated by M. Vijay Balaji, Minister for Handlooms, Textiles and Khadi.The newly inaugurated facilities are among the eight mini textile parks sanctioned for Karur district, while two such parks are already operational in the district. Across Tamil Nadu, the Government has sanctioned 19 mini textile parks under the scheme aimed at developing modern textile infrastructure in cluster-based manufacturing locations.

Source: Apparel Resources

Textile PLI Scheme Attracts Rs 8,118 Crore Investment, Creates 33,427 Jobs

Companies approved under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles have invested Rs 8,117.64 crore and generated 33,427 new jobs as of March 31, 2026, the Centre informed Parliament. In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Pabitra Margherita, Minister of State for Textiles, said a total of 170 companies had been approved under the textile PLI scheme. "Under the PLI for Textiles, a total of 170 companies have been approved. As of March 31, 2026, investment to the tune of Rs 8,117.64 crore has been made by PLI companies and 33,427 new jobs have been generated," the minister said.

Source:Tecoya Trend Daily

International News

BGMEA, BTMA sign MoU to launch BITMA

BGMEA and BTMA have signed an MoU to showcase Bangladesh's textile and RMG sector globally in a stronger, more innovative, and eco-friendly way. The partnership highlights the industry's role as the country's leading foreign exchange earner. Bangladesh International Textile and Apparel Machinery Exhibition (BITMA) will be organized in collaboration with an internationally renowned event organizer, which will bring an unprecedented combination of automation, artificial intelligence (AI), cutting-edge technology and sustainable fashion trends.

Source: Textile Today

Turkish Sanko wants to invest $300 million in economic zone in Mirsarai

Turkish company Sanko wants to invest $300 million in the economic zone in Mirsarai, Chattogram, to build an integrated textile production facility for both the domestic and international markets. A Sanko team expressed this interest at a meeting with Commerce Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktadir at his Secretariat office in Dhaka today. Currently, the company supplies fabrics for garment manufacturing from Turkey, but it wants to expand its business in Bangladesh by setting up a factory to produce value-added fabrics.The company wants to begin operations within the next 12 to 18 months if the necessary facilities are ensured by the government, as the site has already been selected, according to a statement from the commerce ministry.

Source: The Daily Star

Brussels clarifies rules for brand packaging

The European Commission has issued updated guidance on how companies should apply new rules under the EU's Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR), days before the law starts to apply on 12th August 2026.The second-edition PPWR Frequently Asked Questions document, completed in March and updated today, spells out what brands, retailers and suppliers must do to bring transport and secondary packaging into line with the regulation.

Source: Ecotextile News

Research to explore textile materials from brewing waste

The University of A Coruña has launched a project with MIT and Inditex to explore turning hop waste from brewing into fibres and natural dyes for sustainable textiles. A new research project to turn brewing waste into bio-based textile materials has been announced by the Information and Communications Technologies Research Center (CITIC) of the University of A Coruña. CITIC says the processing of hops for brewing beer generates a "significant" amount of plant waste that, for the most part, is unused.

Source: Ecotextile News

KARL MAYER Launches World's Fastest Four-Bar Short-Stroke Tricot Machine

KARL MAYER has introduced the HKS 4-S EL, a new high-performance four-bar short-stroke tricot machine designed to combine high speed with enhanced production flexibility. With a maximum speed of 2,500 rpm, the HKS 4-S EL is currently the world's fastest four-bar short-stroke machine in the warp knitting sector. The machine offers a maximum working width of 280 inches, which can optionally be extended by an additional 10 inches. Designed for both elastic and rigid applications, the machine features a height-adjustable fabric take-up and EL pattern drive, enabling a wide range of product variations and rapid pattern changes.

Source: Textile Insights

China Becomes Major Trading Partner For Over 160 Countries And Regions

China has emerged as a major trading partner for more than 160 countries and regions, with the country continuing to diversify its import sources to meet growing consumer demand, according to a senior customs official. During the 15th Five-Year Plan period, covering 2026 to 2030, China will continue expanding imports while improving the efficiency of its trade and logistics systems. Wang Jun, Deputy Head of the General Administration of Customs, said customs authorities would improve quarantine procedures for agricultural and food products, diversify import sources, streamline customs clearance and reduce logistics costs while maintaining safety standards, according to local media reports

Source: Textile Insights

EU imposes anti-dumping tariffs on terephthalic acid from South Korea, Mexico

The European Union imposed on Monday tariffs on terephthalic acid - a raw material used to make a common sort of plastic known as PET - made in South Korea and Mexico to protect producers in Belgium, Poland and Spain.The so-called anti-dumping new duties were set at a range between 6.1% and 13.3% on the commodity made in South Korea and at 24.1% on the chemical made in Mexico, the EU Commission said in a statement on Monday.

Source: Reuters

Hormuz uncertainty pushes landed costs up to 50%, raising risk of higher consumer prices.

Disruptions around the Strait of Hormuz are rapidly turning a shipping problem into a wider cost challenge for Indian businesses, with significantly higher freight rates, war-risk charges, and rising raw material costs beginning to permeate supply chains. Logistics industry officials The Economic Times Digital spoke to say the increase in landed costs, which include item price, shipping fees, customs, taxes, and charges for insurance and risk, can vary from 35 to 50% on some trade lanes, with extreme cases exceeding 200% after the recurring tension around Hormuz.The impact differs depending on destination, cargo value, and shipping route. However, as companies increasingly include clauses allowing them to pass on exceptional logistics costs, a growing share of the burden has begun to trickle down to end consumers.

Source: The Economic Times

Researchers develop metal-free natural dye fixation

Study introduces a biopolymer-based, metal-free dye fixation process that claims to deliver tougher, longer-lasting plant-dye colours on functional textiles with far lower wastewater impacts. Researchers have developed a metal-free fixation process which claims to improve the colour fastness and environmental performance of natural plant dyes in textiles without worsening functional properties. The study, in the International Journal of Materials and Product Technology, aims to address longstanding challenges in in sustainable textile colouration.

Source: Ecotextile News

Textile Exchange Releases New Life Cycle Assessment Study To Increase Understanding of Polyester's Environmental Impact

Textile Exchange Releases New Life Cycle Assessment Study To Increase Understanding of Polyester's Environmental Impact.Textile Exchange has published its new polyester Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) study, providing robust, accurate, and credible data to strengthen the fashion, textile, and apparel industry's understanding of the impacts of different types of polyester production. The study is the second in a series of LCA studies led by Textile Exchange and addresses key gaps and limitations in the LCA data currently available for polyester. It includes what is believed to be the first known publicly available data on the environmental impacts of virgin polyethylene terephthalate (PET) production from Southeast Asia—where over half of the world's virgin PET is produced.1 The study also identifies major impact hotspots for different production processes to inform where impact reductions are most needed, adding new data on both thermomechanical and chemical recycling technologies.

Source: Textile World

US Tariffs Spark Unhappiness in Turkish Textile Sector

Turkish industrial leaders are expressing significant concern following the implementation of a new 12.5% tariff by the United States on imports from Türkiye. The measure, which was signed by U.S. President Donald Trump and became effective on July 25, is being viewed by local representatives as a major hurdle for the Turkish apparel industry. Sector leaders warn that these US import duties could fundamentally weaken their standing in the American market, which remains one of the largest global destinations for clothing.The Istanbul Chamber of Industry has characterized the decision as an injustice, noting that the Turkish textile export tariffs place domestic producers at a disadvantage compared to global rivals. Chairman Erdal Bahcivan highlighted that Türkiye does not maintain the large trade surpluses with the United States that typically trigger such measures, arguing that the decision contradicts the standard principles of reciprocal trade.

Source: Global Textile Times

List of Upcoming Events

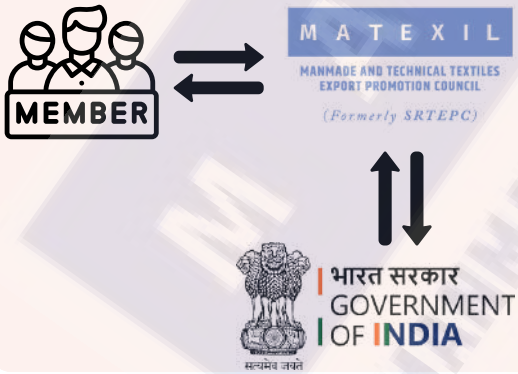
- **Dhaka International Yarn & Fabric Show (Summer) (Bangladesh) – 2nd to 5th September 2026**
- **Intertex Saudi (Saudi Arabia) – 15th to 17th September 2026**
- **Interfabric Autumn (Russia) – 29th September to 1st October 2026**
- **Vietnam International Textile & Garment Industry Exhibition (Vietnam) – 14th to 17th October 2026**
- **Egypt Fabric & Yarn Expo (Egypt) – 22nd to 25th October 2026**
- **Morocco International Yarn and Fabric Sourcing Show (Morocco) – 3rd to 5th November 2026**
- **BSM Kenya (Kenya) – 16th to 17th November 2026**
- **BSM Tanzania (Tanzania) – 19th to 20th November 2026**
- **Fast Textile (Poland) – 17th to 19th November 2026**
- **Global Sourcing Expo (Australia) – 17th to 19th November 2026**
- **NigeriaTex (Nigeria) – 24th to 26th November 2026**
- **Heimtextil (Germany) – 12th to 15th January 2027**
- **Colombiatex De Las Americas (Colombia) – 26th to 28th January 2027**

MATEXIL Services

Marketing Support

- **Provide Assistance to find Export Markets-** MATEXIL provides its members details on Export Trends – Global & India, Analysis of Global Markets, Analysis of Growing Markets, etc. The Council assist its members to find new Export Markets.
- **Participation in Leading Global Trade Shows-** MATEXIL facilitates exporters to participate in global exhibitions and BSMs in leading markets as well as in emerging markets for MMF Textiles and Technical Textiles.
- **Connecting with Reliable Buyers Across the Globe-** MATEXIL connects exporters with leading buyers and facilitate meetings to promote exports. The Council provides list of Foreign Buyers to its Members.
- **Sponsoring Delegations to Leading Global Markets-** MATEXIL organizes visits of trade delegations consisting of its Members to leading markets from time to time.
- **Organizing Reverse Buyer-Seller Meets-** MATEXIL organizes RBSM (Reverse Buyer Seller Meets) in India to facilitate B2B meetings between exporters and Foreign Buyers.
- **Publicize on India's Capability to Supply MMF Textiles & Technical Textiles-** MATEXIL takes steps to enhance the image of India as a reliable supplier of MMF Textiles and Technical Textiles.
- **Organize MMF Textiles and Technical Textiles Seminars & Workshops-** MATEXIL organizes Seminars, Workshops, Conferences, etc. on various subjects related to Exports of Man-Made Fibre Textiles and Technical Textiles.

Liaising with Government and Other Bodies



- **Support in Resolving Exports Issues-** MATEXIL takes up issues faced by its Members with Government Bodies like Customs, GST Commissionerate, RBI Bank, ECGC Ltd, Regional offices of DGFT and Textiles Commissioner etc.
- **Liaising with Government Authorities-** MATEXIL seeks inputs, suggestions on various policy matters including on Export Benefits, Indirect Taxations, Foreign Trade Policy, Customs Law, GST Laws and represents them to the Government.

Advisory Role

- **Assistance & Guidance on Exports Benefits-** MATEXIL provides assistance and guidance on export benefits like RoDTEP, RoSCTL, Duty Drawback, Brand Rate of Duty Drawbacks, GST Refunds , HS Codes etc. The Council also provides guidance on Schemes such as PLI, PM Mitra Scheme etc to its members.

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