

# Communion

Publication for Textile & Apparel Industry

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## **BHARAT TEX 2025: REVOLUTIONIZING FASHION, SUSTAINABILITY, AND INNOVATION**

India may gain in US  
textile market after  
tariff hike on  
Chinese goods

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amendments  
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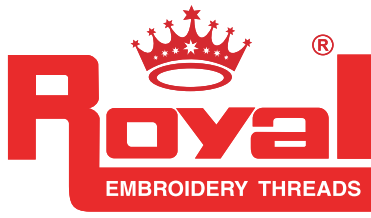
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# Editorial

The Indian textile sector is one of the fastest-growing in the world, accounting for 4.5% of the global textile trade—a ratio that is expected to increase in the coming years, with the United States and European Union accounting for 47 per cent of India's textile and apparel exports. Despite growing competition from other suppliers in the international market, such as China, Vietnam,

**WHAT DOES THE  
9 LAKH CRORE  
EXPORT TARGET  
MEAN FOR THE  
TEXTILE SECTOR?**

Germany, and many others, the Indian textile market still holds a strong position globally. It is the sixth-largest exporter of textiles globally, contributing 8.21

percent to country's total export in 2023-2024. In the recently concluded Bharat Tex at Delhi's Pragati Maidan, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi announced that the government aims to triple the exports of the textile sector by 2030 to \$9 billion. This initiative aims to position India as one of the world's leading textile exporters while driving economic growth and expanding manufacturing across the country. Additionally, with Bangladesh's textile factories facing shutdowns, Indian exporters have a unique opportunity to strengthen their foothold in European and U.S. markets, traditionally dominated by Bangladeshi suppliers.

The current export sector at 3.5 lakh crore rupees, is aiming to increase this ratio, targeting the major markets like US, EU, UK and Africa, while competing from the market suppliers from China, Vietnam and Bangladesh.

In the recently announced annual budget for the 2025-26, an increase in the allocation for the textile sector by 19% at ₹ 5272Cr. Of this 500Cr has been allotted for the National Cotton Technology Mission. In a five-year period, this mission aims to increase cotton productivity especially of extra-long staple varieties. The government has increased other initiatives for the textile sector, to increase the support for the growth. This has been done to reach the target of \$9 billion exports by 2030, and also to be able to meet with high orders due to shifts of orders from Bangladesh. Other schemes like the PLI, PM MITRA parks have also seen an increase in the investments.

With these investments in the sector, there are certain challenges that the sector still faces. Expensive raw materials, that creates a problem for all the small scale enterprises. Expensive Fibre, that constitutes 60-70% of manufacturing cost, making the textiles costly for domestic markets and also in the international markets. There are a lot of Structural concerns, the highly fragmented industry with large number of MSME players; Lack of product diversification; Inefficient productivity compared to its competitors like China, Bangladesh, Vietnam, etc all are the certain challenges that the Indian textile sector faces currently.

With multiple new schemes and investments made in the textile sector to increase the productivity and with the government giving provisions to every exporter the target of textile exports reaching \$9 billion would well be fulfilled by 2030.

Editor 



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## Bharat Tex 2025: Celebrating sustainability and charting a course for responsible growth

The recent Bharat Tex 2025 concluded with a resounding call for sustainability in the Indian textile industry. The Sustainability Fashion Awards by CITI, held during the closing ceremony, served as a powerful platform to acknowledge those leading the charge towards ethical and environmentally conscious practices. The awards, themed “Innovation Meets Responsibility,” underscored the industry’s growing commitment to a greener future.

Yogesh Kansal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, emphasized the event’s alignment with the Prime Minister’s vision for the industry. “This year’s theme, ‘Innovation Meets Responsibility,’ resonates deeply with the industry’s commitment to both progress and ethical practices,” Kansal stated, stressing the importance of respecting India’s rich heritage and connection to nature. “Recognizing leaders in sustainability will inspire others to embrace the challenges and opportunities this paradigm shift presents.”

Kansal acknowledged the challenges faced by MSMEs, but also highlighted the immense opportunities that sustainability unlocks. He envisioned India as a global leader in sustainable textile production, leveraging its strengths across the value chain. “India is poised to recognize its potential as a leading manufacturer that balances scale with sustainability, diversity, and responsible practices,” he declared.

Rakesh Mehra, Chairman, CITI, echoed this sentiment. “We are looking at sustainability as something which is very important in the days to come,” he affirmed, emphasizing the importance of circularity, sustainability, and traceability. Mehra also acknowledged the contributions of industry veterans, stating, Pabitra Margherita, Minister of State for Textiles, reiterated the Prime Minister’s target to triple the size of the textile industry by 2030. “You are the stakeholders,” she said. “We are on this journey to make our textile industry of India, come to India.” Margherita highlighted the importance of responsible practices. “Consumers,

governments, and businesses are looking for responsible and ethical practices. And we must not only meet this expectation, but lead this transformation.” She

emphasized that circularity and sustainability are integral to Indian culture. “Circularity is sustainability is an integral part of our Indian culture and heritage that we have been practicing for centuries,” she declared. Prajakta Verma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, discussed the growing recognition of sustainability within the sector.



“Sustainability is now getting universally recognized in the industry,” she observed. Verma highlighted the evolution of the Sustainability Pavilion at Bharat Tex, expanding its focus beyond waste and recycling to include natural dyes and other innovations. She emphasized the importance of collaboration in driving innovation. “Sustainability and circularity will require constant thinking, rethinking, and constant innovation, which cannot happen without collaboration,” she stated. Mukesh Gulati, Ex VP-FMC, discussed the importance of recognizing industry associations for their work in promoting sustainability. “This is the first time that we have partnered with a sector specific organization called CITI to make sure that those who have done tremendously good work in this area are recognized for their work,” Gulati said. He acknowledged the textile industry’s significant contribution to carbon emissions and the corresponding responsibility to address the issue. “Our responsibility is certainly far more than the other sectors that are there,” he emphasized.

The Sustainability Fashion Awards by CITI at Bharat Tex 2025 served as both a celebration of achievements and a call to action. The event underscored the Indian textile industry’s commitment to a sustainable future and highlighted India’s potential to become a global leader in responsible textile production. It reinforced the crucial message that innovation and responsibility must be intertwined as the industry forges its path towards future growth.

# Bharat Tex 2025: Revolutionizing Fashion, Sustainability, and Innovation

**B**harat Tex 2025, India's largest global textile event, was successfully organized from February 14 to 17, 2025, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The event featured over 5,000 exhibitors, providing a comprehensive showcase of India's textile ecosystem. More than 1,20,000 trade visitors, from 120+ countries including global CEOs, policymakers, and industry leaders, attended the event. The show was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

Bharat Tex 2025 served as a platform to accelerate the government's "Farm to Fibre, Fabric, Fashion, and Foreign Markets" vision. India's textile exports have already reached Rs. 3 lakh crore, and the goal is to triple this to Rs. 9 lakh crore by 2030 by strengthening domestic manufacturing and expanding global reach. The event demonstrated India's leadership in the textile sector and its commitment to innovation, sustainability, and global collaboration.

India is the sixth-largest exporter of textiles globally, contributing 8.21% to the country's total exports in 2023-24. The sector holds a 4.5% share in global trade, with the United States and European Union accounting for 47% of India's textile and apparel exports.

From an employment perspective, the textile industry provides direct employment to over 45 million people and supports the livelihoods of over 100 million individuals indirectly, including a large proportion of women and rural workers. It aligns with key government initiatives such as Make in India, Skill India, Women Empowerment, and Rural Youth Employment, reinforcing its role in inclusive economic development.

The government's focus on increasing textile manufacturing, modernizing infrastructure, fostering innovation, and upgrading technology has strengthened India's position as a global textile hub. Bharat Tex 2025 provided a platform to showcase these advancements while promoting sustainable and high-value textile production. Bharat Tex 2024 set the stage for India's emergence as a global textile powerhouse, bringing together exhibitors, overseas buyers, and visitors from across the world. Bharat Tex 2024 featured 50+ knowledge sessions, fostering discussions on global trade, innovation, and industry transformation. The event played a pivotal role in

reinforcing India's position as a key player in the global textile supply chain. Its success laid a strong foundation for Bharat Tex 2025, which scaled new heights in exhibitor participation, international collaboration, and industry impact. Embodied in a vibrant tapestry of timeless craftsmanship and pioneering innovation, the Indian textile industry stands at the threshold of a resplendent future. With each passing year, it continues to evolve—leveraging cutting-edge technology, embracing sustainability, and setting global trends.

As it forges ahead, the industry is not only preserving its rich heritage but also redefining excellence through research-driven advancements and digital integration. With a strong commitment to sustainability and a vision for global leadership, India's textile sector is poised to shape the future of fashion, technical textiles, and intelligent manufacturing, reinforcing its position as a key driver of economic growth and innovation on the world stage.



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## Birla Cellulose partners to advance textile manufacturing

**B**irla Cellulose has entered into a Joint Development Agreement (JDA) with LNJ Bhilwara Group and Indian textile manufacturer RSWM to explore the potential of graphene in textile applications.

Under this collaboration:

- TACC Limited will supply graphene derivatives to Birla Cellulose



- Birla Cellulose will integrate TACC's graphene derivatives into the production of viscose fibres.
- RSWM Limited will use these graphene-enhanced viscose fibres for textile manufacturing

This collaboration is set to evaluate textile innovation, integrating graphene's remarkable properties into fabrics, enhancing durability, performance, and sustainability.

TACC Limited is a leader in advanced materials, specializing in synthetic graphite and graphene derivatives, with a focus on green technologies and sustainability.

RSWM, a key player in yarn and fabric manufacturing, has a vast export network spanning 70 countries, supplying high-quality textile products worldwide.

Birla Cellulose, known for sustainable man-made cellulosic

fibres (MMCF), operates five research centres globally. Its fibres are derived from renewable wood and produced through an environmentally conscious closed-loop process that minimizes carbon emissions and conserves resources. Through this collaboration, the companies aim to develop textiles that incorporate graphene's unique properties, improving durability, performance, and sustainability.

## 04 Start-Ups in the field of Technical Textiles

**T**he 10th Empowered Programme Committee (EPC) meeting under the National Technical Textiles Mission, approved 04 Start-Ups with a grant of approx. INR 50 Lakhs, each, under the 'Grant for Research & Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles (GREAT)' scheme. The approved Start-Up projects are focused on key strategic areas of Medical Textiles, Industrial Textiles and Protective Textiles.

The committee has also approved a grant of approx. INR 6.5 Cr. to 03 Education Institutes to introduce courses in Technical Textiles under the 'General Guidelines for Enabling of Academic Institutes in Technical Textiles'. IIT Indore and NIT Patna are amongst the list of approved institutes. The new institutes will introduce courses in Geotextiles, Geosynthetics, Protective Textiles, Sports Textiles etc. in their course curriculum.

Further, 12 Skill Development Courses across Medical textiles, Protective Textiles, Mobile Textiles and Agriculture Textiles have also been approved by the committee. The courses were developed by 03 Textile Research Associations (SITRA, NITRA and SASMIRA) and intend to providing training to all focus groups of the technical textiles value chain.







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## RSWM Limited introduces Panchtatva-inspired textile innovations

**R**SWM Limited, the leading company of the LNJ Bhilwara Group, proudly introduced its Panchtatva-inspired textile innovations at Bharat Tex 2025. The Panchtatva initiative received appreciation from Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles.

Inspired by the ancient Indian philosophy of 'Panchtatva'—the five elements of Fire, Earth, Water, Air, and Space—RSWM's textile innovations align with the government's vision for a sustainable future. At Bharat Tex 2025, the company showcased cutting-edge products and eco-friendly solutions that merge tradition with modern technology, contributing to responsible textile manufacturing.

Fire-themed fabrics featured advanced fire-resistant, UV-protective, and heat-regulating materials. Earth-inspired textiles included organic cotton, hemp, jute, and biodegradable polyester, combining durability with environmental consciousness. Water-based products offered moisture-wicking, quick-drying, and water-repellent properties. Air-focused innovations highlighted breathable, odor-resistant yarns, mesh knits, and lightweight denim. Space-driven advancements showcased futuristic textiles made from high-tech fibers, graphene-enhanced fabrics, and adaptive materials.

Mr. Riju Jhunjhunwala, Chairman & Managing Director of RSWM Limited, expressed his delight at hosting Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles Shri Giriraj Singh. He stated, "His insights and vision for the industry are truly inspiring. At RSWM, sustainability is not just a goal but a way of life. Our 'Panchtatva' initiative showcases our diverse innovations, blending India's rich heritage with the future of responsible textile manufacturing. By aligning with government initiatives and advancing sustainable production, we are working towards a greener future."

Mr. Rajeev Gupta, Joint Managing Director of RSWM Limited, emphasized the importance of combining innovation with sustainability. He said, "Through the 'Panchtatva' initiative, we have redefined textiles by incorporating eco-friendly materials and advanced technology, reinforcing our commitment to circularity and resource efficiency. Bharat Tex 2025 provided an excellent platform to highlight our capabilities and engage in meaningful discussions with industry stakeholders on building a sustainable future."

## IIT Guwahati develops water-repellent, conductive textile

**R**esearchers at IIT Guwahati have created a new type of textile that is both water-resistant and conductive, designed to convert electricity and sunlight into heat. This innovative material aims to provide warmth in cold weather, helping to reduce the health risks associated with prolonged exposure to low temperatures, such as blood clots, respiratory problems, and weakened immunity. The solution developed by the IIT Guwahati team involves applying ultra-thin silver nanowires to cotton fabric. These nanowires, which are much thinner than a human hair, make the fabric electrically conductive, allowing it to generate heat while remaining soft and flexible. Professor Uttam Manna from the Department of Chemistry at IIT Guwahati emphasized the textile's features, including its ability to self-clean, breathe, and remain flexible. He also noted that the textile is scalable and durable, providing long-lasting performance for various controlled heating applications. >>16

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# TechnoSport invests in state-of-the-art tricot machines

**T**echnoSport, a leading Indian activewear brand, has introduced high-performance warp knitting technology at its newly opened mega factory in Perundurai. The company has invested in state-of-the-art HKS 3-M tricot machines from Karl Mayer, further enhancing its capacity to produce high-quality, sustainable, and affordable sportswear.

TechnoSport has successfully launched its DuraCool+ product line using the HKS 3-M machines and building on this success, the brand plans to introduce all-day pants that combine the durability of woven trousers with the comfort and flexibility of knits. This initiative aligns with TechnoSport's commitment to offering premium sportswear while prioritising sustainability and global market expansion.

To mark this significant step, TechnoSport, Karl Mayer, and A.T.E. jointly hosted an open house event at the Perundurai Mega Factory in mid-February 2025. The event attracted over 100 industry professionals from Tirupur, Erode, Coimbatore, and other regions, providing them with insights into the potential of warp knitting technology in activewear production.

Attendees witnessed live demonstrations of three HKS 3-M machines in action, producing specialised warp-knitted fabrics for sportswear. The machines operated at speeds of up to 2800 rpm, showcasing their efficiency and quality output. A DS-Warper was also on display, demonstrating the streamlined fabric preparation process. In addition to these demonstrations, expert speakers shared valuable knowledge. Navin Agrawal, Senior Vice President at A.T.E. Enterprises, opened the

event, followed by Mark Smith, Deputy Vice President Sales at Karl Mayer, who presented the advantages of warp knitting technology. Product developer Franziska Guth and the A.T.E. sales team further engaged attendees with fabric samples and finished garments. Reflecting on the event, TechnoSport co-founder Sunil Jhunjhunwala expressed his enthusiasm for the partnership: "We are very proud to partner with Karl Mayer and bring such technology to India. Given the growing demand for synthetic materials in both domestic and export markets, we expect interest in warp knitting technology to gain significant momentum in the next few years. By partnering with A.T.E. and Karl Mayer and hosting such events, we hope to further solidify that interest."

Mark Smith echoed this sentiment, highlighting the importance of expanding warp knitting capabilities in India. He extended his gratitude to the TechnoSport team for their support in making the open house event a success and praised A.T.E. Coimbatore for their organisational efforts.

TechnoSport's adoption of cutting-edge warp knitting technology underscores its ambition to set new standards in activewear manufacturing. As the company continues to expand its market reach, it remains committed to producing high-quality, innovative, and sustainable sportswear for all.

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To prevent the silver nanowires from tarnishing, the researchers added a water-repellent coating to the fabric. This coating, inspired by the natural texture of a lotus leaf, repels water, ensuring that the textile stays dry. This makes the material durable and effective at generating heat even in damp conditions. The coating also protects the fabric from sweat, rain, and spills, making it suitable for both outdoor and everyday use. The research is detailed in their paper published in the journal Nano-Micro-Small. The textile can be powered by a small rechargeable battery or solar energy, and it can maintain a temperature range of 40°C to 60°C for more than 10 hours. The researchers tested the fabric in wearable knee and elbow bands, proving its potential to provide continuous warmth for people working in cold environments or for therapeutic heat applications such as treating arthritis.



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# Colorjet Chairman & Textile Minister Discuss Sustainability

At recently concluded exhibition Bharat Tex 2025, one of India's most significant textile industry events, Mr.M.S. Dadu, Chairman of ColorJet Group, had a meeting with Hon'ble Union Minister of Textile Minister, Shri Giriraj Singh to discuss the sustainable future of textile printing and India's leadership in manufacturing technology under the 'Make in India' initiative. M.S. Dadu Chairman of ColorJet met Shri Giriraj Singh, Minister of Textiles highlighted ColorJet's commitment to sustainable and eco-friendly textile printing solutions, emphasizing the company's latest innovations in digital textile printing that reduce water and energy consumption. He also reiterated ColorJet's role in supporting India's textile industry with advanced indigenous technology, aligning with the government's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat. Hon'ble Minister Shri Giriraj Singh emphasized the value of sustainable solutions in textiles and the need for development in India. He admired ColorJet as India-origin company delivering Sustainable digital printing technology and appreciated Color Jet's` contributions to the industry. The discussion also focused on India's growing potential as

a global textile hub, and export to other leading nations like Europe, Indonesia, and more. Today Digital printing technology contributes to meeting modernized designs and



patterns along with the increased production capacity while minimizing environmental impact. ColorJet delivering excellence for three decades continues to drive advancements that support both sustainability and cutting-edge technology, reinforcing India's position as a global powerhouse in textile production.



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## Direct Tariff on 09 HS codes of Synthetic knitted fabrics: An encouraging move by the Govt.

**N**ITMA commends the government's move to impose BCD of "20% or Rs 115 pkg, whichever is higher" on knitted fabrics falling under chapter 60 on 9 HS codes. However, these 9 HS codes are accounting for only 35% of the total imports of fabrics & remaining 65% of the imports are still left unchecked.

The move by the government is recognition of the fact that these fabrics are being smuggled into the country at under-invoiced values & by misdeclaration of HS codes to evade the MIP of \$3.50 imposed previously by the government.

Mr. Sidharth Khanna, President of NITMA, while truly applauding the Govt. for taking these active steps to curb the under-invoiced imports of synthetic fabrics & establish a fair competition, humbly appeals to the:

- Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Textiles: To impose BCD on All HS codes falling under chapter 60 of Synthetic Knitted Fabrics as currently only 35% of the total imports are being covered under the 9 HS codes. Furthermore, importers have been jumping HS codes to evade the scope of MIP in the past & will now do so to evade BCD also. This can be easily seen from the fact that total imports of fabric under chapter 60 are increasing despite imposition of MIP, just that imports under MIP codes decreases which is more than compensated by the increase in non-MIP HS codes. So, this 35% volume will be immediately shifted to remaining HS codes.
- Directorate of Revenue Intelligence & Port Authorities: To enhance surveillance at all Indian ports to prevent

misdeclaration of container HS codes, prices and even weights.

- Enforcement Directorate & CBI: To initiate a comprehensive investigation campaign into the instances of under-invoiced Imports of Synthetic Knitted Fabric (under Chapter 60) & the guilty parties must be brought to justice. All the customs data is available on record & any consignment cleared at less than \$3.50 in the past 12 months

must be scrutinized & heavy penalties should be imposed on all consignments of knitted fabrics that have been invoiced at the less than USD 3.50 in the past 12 months under chapter 60 to deter any other party from playing with the livelihood of millions of textile workers.

In conclusion, Mr. Khanna expresses his appreciation of the Union Budget 2025-2026, with overall budget allocation hiked significantly by approx. 58 % for fiscal 2025-26, primarily due to enhanced

allocation of Rs. 1,148 crore under the PLI scheme coupled with sharp focus on MSMEs & a 5 Year Cotton Mission with a budget of Rs. 500 crore to increase cotton productivity, especially for extra-long staple varieties & several other positive announcements in the budget. He also mentions that with no income tax payable upto Rs.12 lacs will cause a rise in disposable income within the middle and lower classes leading to an increase in consumer spending on apparel. This is expected to have a positive impact on the entire textile value chain. However, he strongly recommends the imposition of new BCD on all HS codes falling under chapter 60.

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## Gartex Texprocess India Returns to Showcase Transformative Innovations

The 12th edition of Gartex Texprocess India, a flagship event for garment and textile machinery & innovations, is set to return from May 22-24, 2025, at Jio World Convention Centre, Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai. This highly anticipated exhibition will attract 125+ exhibitors, 300+ brands, and over 10,000 visitors, offering industry leaders a platform to spotlight the latest innovations in automation, sustainability, and manufacturing technologies.

With India's textile and garment sector undergoing a transformative shift towards domestic production, Gartex Texprocess India stands as a leading hub for participants to discover emerging advancements, explore new business models, and form key partnerships. The event is a gateway to the entire textile value chain, aligning with the Indian government's initiative to position India as a global manufacturing hub.

Booming Innovations at the Show Floor Key innovations on display will span across Garmenting & Apparel Technology, Digital Textile Printing Solutions, Automation and Software, Knitting Machinery, Embroidery Machinery, Processing & Finishing machines, Denim Fabrics & Manufacturing Value Chain, among others. These technologies & innovations will showcase the industry's commitment to enhancing sustainability, operational efficiency, and customized production capabilities. Attendees will gain valuable market insights, while exhibitors will have an ideal platform to showcase their latest products to a targeted and highly engaged audience.

Additionally, the show incorporates Denim Show as a dedicated platform, with featured zones such as Screen Print India and Fabrics & Trims Show, providing a comprehensive showcase of innovations across diverse industry segments.

Gartex Texprocess India has gained a reputation as a breeding ground for innovations in the textile and garment manufacturing industry. Each edition features breakthrough products and technologies that drive the industry forward. This year, the show will feature a robust lineup of industry leaders from several prominent brands, including Balaji Sewing Machine, HSW International, Bharti Creations, Skyscreen International, Behariji Enterprises, Yamuna Machines, and Sky Enterprises to name a few.

Mr. Gaurav Juneja, Director, MEX Exhibitions Pvt. Ltd., stated, "With the rapid growth of the garment and textile industry, there is a pressing need for a platform that brings together businesses of all scales to showcase innovations, build brand visibility, and foster meaningful relationships. Gartex Texprocess India serves as this strategic hub, empowering industry players to connect, collaborate, and stay competitive amidst evolving market demands. This edition will highlight the latest advancements, particularly in automation and sustainability, to help businesses thrive in this booming sector." Gartex Texprocess India, with eleven successful editions to its credit, has cemented its position as the premier platform for the textile and garment manufacturing industry, and the upcoming edition is poised to elevate this excellence further. Attendees can connect with industry-leading suppliers and witness live demonstrations. Meanwhile, the exhibitors will benefit from unmatched brand visibility, access to a targeted audience, and the chance to build valuable business relationships, driving their market reach. An essential hub for textile and garment industry professionals, Gartex Texprocess India, offers unparalleled opportunities to stay updated on the latest trends and advancements.



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# Aarti Vijay Gupta and Liva Reviva Redefine Sustainable Luxury

Renowned designer Aarti Vijay Gupta once again pushed the boundaries of sustainable fashion at London Fashion Week, unveiling her latest collection, Kalighat Stories, for FW25 in collaboration with Liva's sustainable fabrics. Rooted in heritage yet executed with a contemporary touch, the collection honored India's artistic traditions through Gupta's signature modern lens while embracing innovation in both design and fabric.

Crafted using Liva Reviva Fabrics, made from up to 30% recycled textile waste blended with FSC-certified wood pulp, the collection championed eco-conscious luxury without compromising fluidity or versatility. The lightweight and breathable nature of the fabric allowed Gupta to bring intricate artistry to life, inspired by India's rich cultural heritage, all while reinforcing the importance of responsible fashion.

For Kalighat Stories, Gupta worked closely with artisans from Kolkata's famed Kalighat and Patua traditions, transforming age-old storytelling into modern fashion. Midnapore's renowned scroll paintings were integrated alongside "Patua Feet" a vivid artistic depiction of music,

mythology, and daily life. The designs merged tradition with contemporary aesthetics, showcasing a seamless blend of history and modernity.

The runway featured 35 distinct looks across menswear and womenswear, presenting a diverse range of styles. Flowing drapes and structured layering highlighted the versatility of Liva's sustainable fabrics while earthy hues and muted pastels formed the base for intricate prints with handcrafted details adding depth to each piece.

Commenting on the collaboration, Mr. Sree Charan, VP Marketing, Global Head – Brands, Birla Cellulose, Aditya Birla Group, said, "We are proud to partner with Aarti Vijay Gupta in this journey towards sustainable fashion. Her ability to integrate traditional art forms with contemporary design using Liva's sustainable fabrics perfectly embodies our commitment to responsible fashion. Together, we continue to redefine luxury in a way that is both innovative and environmentally conscious."

Designer Aarti Vijay Gupta shared her vision for the collection, "Traditional artists are often overshadowed in the global fashion conversation, so >>22

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bringing their work to an international stage is incredibly special to me. With this collection, I wanted to reframe the narrative around Indian art by using the old to create something new. Working with Liva Reviva, a sustainable fabric, provided the perfect canvas to honour these traditions while embracing innovation. This is the future of fashion where heritage and sustainability come together

with purpose.”

Liva’s collaboration with Aarti Vijay Gupta aligns with its mission to drive change in the fashion industry through conscious design and advanced fabrics that minimize waste. By supporting designers in merging artistry with sustainability, Liva continues to shape a future where fashion is both meaningful and responsible.



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## UP set to play vital role in India's textile export ambitions

Uttar Pradesh is set to contribute significantly to the Union govt's target of achieving textile exports worth Rs 9 lakh crore by 2030, according to an official spokesperson.

"PM Narendra Modi has expressed confidence that India will be able to export textiles worth Rs 9 lakh crore by 2030. If this happens, UP, owing to its rich textile heritage and skilled workforce, will play a crucial role in this achievement," the official said.

The spokesperson highlighted UP's strong textile manufacturing heritage, particularly referencing Kanpur. "Once known as the Manchester of the East, Kanpur remains a significant textile hub," they said, adding, "likewise, Varanasi and Mubarakpur are globally renowned for their silk sarees while Bhadohi and Mirzapur are famous for their carpets."

The official noted Gautam Buddha Nagar's emergence as a readymade garment centre and Lucknow's internationally acclaimed chikankari embroidery.

"Recognising the potential of these traditional industries, the state govt has launched several initiatives to boost textile manufacturing and enhance artisans' skills. Many

districts have been included under the ODOP scheme, promoting their unique textile crafts," the spokesperson said.

Detailing governmental initiatives, they stated: "Flatted factories have been established in Gorakhpur and other districts. The govt aims to establish Common Facility Centres in GB Nagar, Lucknow, Mirzapur and Bhadohi by 2025 under the ODOP scheme. These centres will provide comprehensive facilities for local textile industries."

The spokesperson continued: "Under the PM MITRA Yojana, a Mega Textile Park is being developed on 1,000 acres along the Lucknow-Hardoi border. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath believes that Uttar Pradesh holds vast potential for employment generation in the textile sector, further strengthening the state's role in India's export growth."

The YEIDA launched major projects, including a 118-acre Apparel Park in Sector 29. Similarly, the Gorakhpur Industrial Development Authority (GIDA) established 80 flatted factory units and a garment park. Building on this vision, the state govt invited proposals last year for new textile and apparel parks.

>>24







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## Tamil Nadu government to release textile policy soon

Tamil Nadu government will release an “enriched textile policy”, Minister for Handlooms and Textiles R. Gandhi told the media in India

Inaugurating a five-day Entrepreneurship Development programme for entrepreneurs in technical textiles, he said the government had received 100 applications for mini textile parks and approved 17 so far. Of these, 10 were in Karur. The State government removed the market cess for cotton in 2021 and relaxed the norms for mini textile parks to attract investments. For the entrepreneurship training, the Central government gave Rs. 10,000 for each candidate and the State government gave Rs. 5,000 each.

Further, the government will release Rs. 10 crore this year as interest subsidy for the spinning mills to modernise.

There will also be benefits for powerloom units in measures

to be announced soon, he said.

Senthil Balaji, Minister for Electricity, added that the State government had increased the free electricity units for handloom and power loom units.

A. Sakthivel, the honorary chairman of Tiruppur Exporters Association, said cotton garment production has reached a saturation and the global market size for technical textiles was \$ 500 billion. The Central and State governments were offering entrepreneurship development programme to encourage more people to get into technical textiles.

According to T. Rajkumar, former chairman of the Southern India Mills Association, an announcement regarding all the approvals granted for the PM MITRA park at Virudhunagar is expected from the Central government soon and this park will come up on 1,000 acres.

## US tariff war may impact India's textile exports

The tariff war initiated by the US is likely to disrupt global supply chains and impact India's exports, particularly in sectors such as textiles, pharmaceuticals, and auto components, according to a Crisil report. The evolving trade tensions and increasing protectionism by the US could create headwinds for India's export sector, posing a fresh challenge to economic stability, the rating agency said.

The report highlights that India's merchandise trade surplus with the US has been steadily increasing, reaching \$33.6 billion in 2023, making it vulnerable to retaliatory tariff actions. “India now faces potential challenges from US protectionist policies, which could result in higher duties on key export sectors,” Crisil's India Outlook stated.

The tariff war is also expected to increase competitive pressure on domestic manufacturers, as higher tariffs on Chinese goods may lead to an influx of cheaper Chinese imports into India. This could disrupt Indian businesses, particularly in industries that directly compete with Chinese products. The Indian rupee is expected to remain volatile as trade uncertainties and geopolitical risks weigh on capital flows. According to Crisil, the rupee is projected to settle at 88 <<23

Efforts are being made to establish at least five apparel and garmenting parks within a 50 km radius of Jewar Airport in Gautam Buddha Nagar and along expressways being developed by UPEIDA. Additionally, there are plans to develop the Purvanchal region as a hub of readymade garments sector. In Gorakhpur, readymade garments have been included under the ODOP scheme, following terracotta.

per US dollar by March 2026.

“India's current account deficit (CAD) is expected to rise mildly to 1.3 percent of GDP in fiscal 2026,” the report stated, adding that higher goods imports and subdued export growth could put further pressure on the currency. However, it noted that a strong services trade surplus and steady remittance flows would help contain the deficit.

The report also warned that capital outflows from emerging markets, including India, have intensified amid rising US protectionism. “With the rupee coming under pressure in fiscal 2025, we compare the hit with one of the previous prominent periods of rupee depreciation during fiscal 2014,” Crisil noted. Despite global trade uncertainties, India's economic growth is expected to remain at 6.5 percent in fiscal 2026, supported by domestic consumption and stable infrastructure investments.

“In fiscal 2026, growth will be supported by easing monetary policy and government measures to boost private consumption. The budgeted 10.1 percent increase in government capital expenditure (capex) will also be supportive,” the report stated. However, >>25

A flatted factory complex has also been set up in the GIDA area to house textile units. Furthermore, an Integrated Textile and Apparel Industrial Park is being developed in Agra.

The Central govt has also announced a Cotton Mission in the general budget to promote this sector. Additionally, Rs 500 crore has been allocated for the National Cotton Technology Mission. Currently, India ranks sixth in the world for textile exports.



## India Eyes Tariff-Free Textile Trade as US Plans Reciprocal Duties

As the United States prepares to impose reciprocal tariffs on imports starting April 2, India's textile and apparel industry is pushing for a "zero for zero" tariff agreement. This proposal aims to eliminate duties on most textile products while ensuring protection for strategic sectors. The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) views the US tariff move as an opportunity to boost Indian exports. "We are looking forward to this shift as the US seeks new trade partners," said Chandrima Chatterjee, Secretary General of CITI. The industry has communicated its proposal for zero-duty textile trade to the Indian government during recent consultations. Currently, the US imposes tariffs ranging from 2.5 per cent to 7.4 per cent on Indian apparel, while India levies 5 per cent to 12 per cent duties on US imports. According to the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC), reduced tariffs could propel India's textile and apparel exports

to the US from USD 10.8 billion in 2024 to USD 16 billion within three years. "India has only a 6 per cent share in US apparel imports. Even a 4 per cent increase could generate an additional Rs 25,000 crore," said Prabhu Damodaran, Convenor of the Indian Textpreneurs Federation. India is currently the third-largest textile supplier to the US, trailing China and Vietnam. With US imports from China declining at a 9.4 per cent CAGR over the past five years, India's growing exports—up by 9.1 per cent annually—suggest a potential market shift. Given China's retaliatory tariffs on US cotton, India could capitalize by lowering duties on American cotton imports, reciprocating with preferential treatment for Indian apparel. The US remains India's top apparel export market, accounting for 35 per cent of shipments. In 2024, exports to the US grew 11.2 per cent to USD 5.2 billion, reinforcing India's case for a trade-friendly tariff policy.

<<24  
it warned that the risks to growth remain tilted to the downside, given the escalating tariff war and its potential impact on trade and investments. The report underscored that government capex remains a crucial driver of economic stability, with the Centre budgeting 3.1 percent of GDP for infrastructure investments. "Although the government is

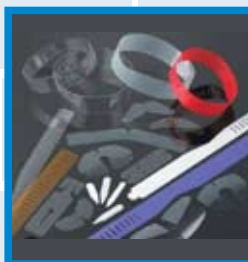
normalising capex growth after an extraordinary push post-pandemic, it will remain growth-supportive due to multiplier effects," Crisil said. As India steers through the global economic turbulence, the report emphasised that the strength of domestic demand, investment momentum, and monetary policy interventions will be critical in determining its growth trajectory in fiscal 2026.

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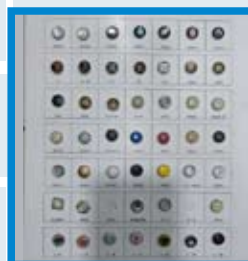
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# India may gain in US textile market after tariff hike on Chinese goods

India is likely to gain some advantage in the US market after 10 per cent tariff hike announcement against China. Trump administration had also announced to hike tariff by 25 per cent on goods imports from Mexico and Canada, but their imposition is now postponed by 30 days after both nations agreed to combat illegal immigration and drug trafficking from their nations.

At present, China holds around 25 per cent market in textiles and apparel imports by the US. The country has supplied 24.23 per cent textile and apparel in terms of value out of the total imports of \$99.125 billion by the US during January-November 2024, as per the latest trade data released by the Office of Textiles and Apparel (OTEXA).

Post imposition of 10 per cent tariff, Chinese textiles and apparel will become costlier for the US consumers. It will lead to slow down of imports from China, and the gap may be filled by other suppliers like India and other textile exporting nations.

Bangladesh, the second-largest supplier of garments after China, has not yet fully recovered from the August 2024 political upheaval. In such a scenario, India may be in a strong position to take a large share of the gap created by imposition of tariff on China. However, India would not be able to take full advantage as it has certain limitations, like not being able to produce on large-scale like China, in supplying goods to the world's largest economy. In addition, it also faces competition from other exporting nations which may also try to take a higher share in the US market. Indian textile veterans are optimistic to get advantage from the latest development. N Thirukkumaran, General Secretary, Tiruppur Exporters Association (TEA) said, "Tariff is not good for businesses and economies. India might benefit temporarily

from the tariff imposed by the US on China. However, there is also a risk that tariff could also be imposed on India. So rather than the temporary benefits, we should aim to look at building competitiveness that would benefit in the long run."

Sanjay K Jain, Chairman ICC Textiles Committee & Managing Director, TT Ltd said, "The impact of tariff hike will be positive on India. China is a major competitor of India in the market of the US. We should pursue this opportunity strongly to take maximum benefit of the current happening."

Ashish Gujarati, Past President of South Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) and President of Surat based Pandesara Weavers Co-operative Society Ltd said, "The tariff hike on China will give advantage to our industry. If we pursue the opportunity, we can increase shipment of garment and home textiles in the US market." He said that India exports around 29 per cent textiles to the US. "It is more important market for us. We export not more than 5 per cent textiles in any other market. We can strengthen our position in the US market."

Rahul Mehta, Chief Mentor, The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) said, "High tariff imposition is a double-edged sword at best of times. Whilst on paper it provides protection to the domestic industry, it also increases the costs of production for the users of such imports. In the case of imports of finished goods into the US, we will also need to take into account the increased prices to US consumers." "What will be the social, economic, and political fallout of that? Additionally, what will be the cost of production if such industries are shifted to the US? Both these factors will need to be considered before across the board tariff increases are introduced. Personally, I am of the belief that it will not be in US interest to go in for a massive increase in tariffs," he stated

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## Usha Yarns achieves Belleo Certification for excellence in recycled yarns

Usha Yarns Ltd, a leader in sustainable textile production, has been awarded the prestigious Belleo certification for its exceptional quality of recycled yarns, produced using Saurer BD semi-automatic rotor spinning machines. This achievement underscores the company's commitment to innovation, sustainability, and technological excellence in the textile sector. Under the leadership of Mr. Anurag Gupta, Managing Director of Usha Yarns, the company has set industry benchmarks in recycled rotor spinning, leveraging extensive research and development collaborations with Saurer over the past decade. These advancements have not only strengthened Usha Yarns' position in the market but have also contributed to the evolution of high-quality recycled yarns in India and globally. Highlighting the efficiency of Saurer BD machines, Mr. Gupta stated, "High productivity, high take-up speeds, and exceptional spinning stability prove the outstanding performance of Saurer BD."

Headquartered in Mohali, Punjab, Usha Yarns specializes in converting pre-consumer garment waste and recycled PET bottles into premium pre-dyed recycled yarns. With a production capacity of 50 tonnes per day, the company manufactures yarns in Ne 20, Ne 24, and Ne 28 counts, catering to global sustainability-focused markets. The Belleo certification not only reinforces Usha Yarns' dedication to delivering eco-friendly, high-quality yarns but also highlights the advanced capabilities

of Saurer's BD machines in ensuring consistent yarn quality, productivity, and sustainability. As a key player in the circular textile economy, Usha Yarns continues to push the boundaries of sustainable manufacturing. Saurer Group, recognizing the company's pioneering efforts, takes pride in partnering with forward-thinking textile enterprises to support their journey toward a more sustainable future.



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# CITI Sustainability Awards 2024-25

The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) hosted the prestigious CITI Sustainability Awards 2024-25, recognizing and applauding outstanding achievements in sustainability within the Indian textile industry. The event, held on 17th February 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, witnessed the presence of Shri Pabitra Margherita, Hon'ble Minister of State for Textiles, who delivered the inaugural address and presented the awards to the deserving winners. In his address, Shri Margherita emphasized the crucial role of sustainability in the textile industry and commended the efforts of organizations and individuals for their exemplary contributions. He remarked, "CITI holds a distinctive position, and its leadership has consistently provided unwavering support to the Ministry of Textiles. I am confident that CITI will persist in serving the needs of India and the wider world, enhancing our competitiveness. I hold the highest regard for the remarkable initiatives undertaken by CITI. The organization

will undoubtedly inspire the youth in the industry to chart a roadmap for the country's growth."

A key highlight of the evening was Pabitra Margherita's participation as the showstopper in a showcase of India's sustainable heritage weaves at Bharat Tex 2025, also held at Bharat Mandapam. The fashion sequence, titled 'Earthloom – Threads of Heritage', was curated by renowned designer Daniel Syiem from Shillong and presented by Aalekh Foundation in collaboration with CITI. The showcase celebrated India's finest sustainable textiles, reimaged for the global stage.

Sharing his experience on his X timeline, Shri Margherita wrote, "It was indeed a proud moment to wear our identity, the Eri silk, at the show and present it to a diverse audience." The Minister also lauded the fashion show, acknowledging CITI and Aalekh Foundation's efforts in celebrating India's rich textile traditions.

## Emerging Asian Economies at Risk as US Mulls Trade Tariffs

Nomura has recently highlighted the potential vulnerability of emerging Asian economies, particularly India and Thailand, to reciprocal tariffs from the United States. The financial research firm warns that these tariffs could be imposed based on multiple factors, including tariff rates, value-added tax (VAT), and non-tariff barriers.

According to Sonal Varma, Chief Economist for Asia ex-Japan and India, Nomura, emerging Asian economies face higher relative tariff rates on US exports.

The sectors most likely to be impacted include animals, vegetables, food products, textiles, clothing, footwear, and transportation equipment. Agricultural products and transportation sectors are expected to be particularly sensitive to potential trade restrictions.

US President Donald Trump has been vocal about his intention to implement reciprocal tariffs, emphasizing a strategy of protecting domestic manufacturing.

During a recent address to Congress, he stated unequivocally that products not manufactured in America would face significant tariffs, positioning this as a response to decades of what he perceives as unfair trade practices by other countries.

The complexity of potential trade barriers extends beyond traditional tariffs. Non-tariff barriers, which are more challenging to quantify, encompass import policies, sanitary measures, technical trade barriers, export subsidies, and intellectual property protection concerns.

A 2024 United States Trade Representative (USTR) report

identified several Asian countries, including China, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Taiwan, and Thailand, as having heightened non-tariff barriers.

Nomura's analysis suggests that the risk is not limited to direct trade. Countries like Vietnam, Malaysia, and Thailand could be vulnerable if their exports containing Chinese value-added are perceived as circumventing existing tariffs. The research firm utilised the World Trade Organisation's Integrated Trade Intelligence Portal to objectively assess these non-tariff barriers, finding China and India to have the most significant impediments.

In terms of direct economic exposure, Vietnam appears most at risk, with 25.1 per cent of its gross domestic product tied to US exports in 2024.

Other significantly exposed countries include Taiwan (14 per cent), Thailand (10.4 per cent), Malaysia (10.3 per cent), and Hong Kong (9.5 per cent).

India's exports to the US, representing 2.2 per cent of its GDP, could also be potentially impacted by universal tariff implementation.

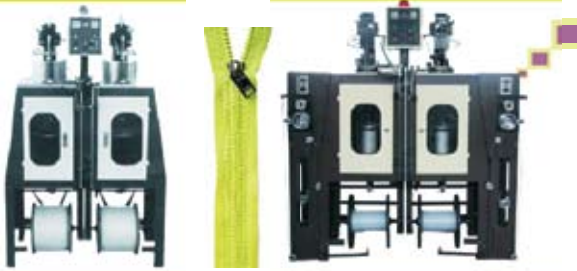
Interestingly, Nomura noted that Singapore, with its low trade and non-trade barriers and a trade deficit with the US, seems least exposed to potential reciprocal tax measures.

Developed Asian economies like Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan, which maintain trade surpluses with the US, may face increased scrutiny through sanitary and phytosanitary measures.



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## Government Committed to Reducing Regulatory Burdens

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman reaffirmed the government's commitment to reducing regulatory hurdles and promoting trust-based governance to enhance India's business environment.

Speaking at a post-budget webinar on 'MSMEs as Engine of Growth, Manufacturing, Exports, Regulatory, Investment and EoDB Reforms', Sitharaman highlighted steps to transform India into a seamless, export-friendly economy. She emphasized that eliminating unnecessary regulatory bottlenecks in the manufacturing sector would attract both domestic and foreign investments, further boosting economic growth.

"Our government remains steadfast in reducing regulatory burdens and enhancing trust-based governance to improve the ease of doing business.

Through budget announcements, we are taking various steps to make India a seamless, export-friendly economy, where businesses can focus on innovation and expansion rather than paperwork and penalties," she stated.

## India's Economy Projected for 7.6% Growth in Q4FY25

India's economy is projected to experience a significant boost in Q4FY25, driven by sustained government spending and capital expenditure (capex), along with increased consumption spurred by the Maha Kumbh and the wedding season, according to a report by Union Bank of India.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has continued to support growth with rate cuts, liquidity provisions, and regulatory adjustments, including the reversal of macroprudential tightening. These measures, combined with the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) scheme, are set to spur credit growth in the coming months. However, the report pointed out key risks including ongoing tariff wars and escalating geopolitical tensions, which could dampen the economic recovery.

India's economic growth registered a rate of 6.2 per cent in Q3FY25. Signs of recovery are beginning to emerge, with the report projecting a 7.6 per cent growth in Q4FY25, suggesting a potential turnaround in the months ahead. "India's GDP grew by 6.2 per cent in Q3FY25 after a 7-quarter low of 5.6 per cent (revised upwards from 5.4 per cent) in Q2FY25. The yearly FY25 is revised from 6.4 per cent to 6.5 per cent, thereby we expecting a 7.6 per cent growth in Q4FY25 to achieve the same," the report adds. The Gross Value Added (GVA), which is a measure of the

In her Union Budget 2025-26 speech, Sitharaman had announced the formation of a high-level committee dedicated to regulatory reforms.

The committee will conduct a comprehensive review of non-financial sector regulations, certifications, licences, and permissions. It is expected to present recommendations within a year to streamline compliance processes and promote ease of doing business.

"The objective is to strengthen trust-based economic governance and take transformational measures to enhance ease of doing business, particularly in inspections and compliance matters," she reiterated.

The government's continued focus on regulatory simplification aligns with its broader economic agenda of fostering a robust, competitive, and investment-friendly ecosystem.

With these reforms, India aims to position itself as a reliable global manufacturing hub, facilitating sustainable growth and innovation-driven development.

total value created by businesses, grew by 6.2 per cent in Q3FY25 from 5.8 per cent in Q2FY25, due to robust growth in agriculture and industry, especially manufacturing activities during the quarter.

The weak GDP numbers compared to previous years can be gauged from the consumption in the economy and the latest stock market performance.

Despite the deceleration in growth, the government's fiscal spending, along with a resurgence in consumption fuelled by seasonal factors, is expected to boost the economy in the coming months.

In addition, despite the uncertain global outlook, India's economic momentum is expected to sustain, driven by strong rural demand and a revival in urban consumption, as highlighted by Chief Economic Adviser Anantha Nageswaran.

The report also mentioned that Reserve Bank of India has taken steps to support growth through liquidity injections and an accommodative monetary policy. In February 2025, the RBI cut interest rates by 25 basis points, aiming to revive investment and consumption.

Additionally, the central bank has been actively managing liquidity through Open Market Operations (OMOs) and implementing regulatory leeways to encourage credit growth, particularly for MSMEs and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).

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## India On Track to Achieve 6.5% GDP Growth in FY25

India's Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran has expressed confidence that the country's economy will achieve the projected 6.5 percent GDP growth in FY25, despite concerns over the required acceleration in the fourth quarter.

He explained that a 7.6 percent year-on-year GDP growth in Q4—needed to meet the annual target—is not unrealistic, given key economic trends.

The CEA highlighted three major factors supporting this optimistic projection. The first key driver is India's "good export performance," as Nageswaran observed. Excluding petroleum, gems and jewelry, merchandise exports have been growing at an impressive 10 percent rate.

This steady rise, despite global economic uncertainties, indicates strong external demand and competitiveness in India's non-traditional export sectors.

Another crucial factor is the government's capital expenditure. According to financial accounts released, the Union Government's capex up to January has remained largely in line with the previous financial year, with nearly 75 percent of the allocated amount already spent.

The CEA acknowledged that while there was a slow start due to elections, capex has picked up significantly.

"So the government capex after the initial slow start

because of elections has really picked up steam, in the fiscal third quarter, coming into the fourth quarter," the CEA said. This increased government spending is expected to provide a further boost to economic activity.

A likely unique contributor to economic growth this year can be the "huge spending" associated with the Mahakumbh. With an estimated 50–60 crore visitors participating in the religious gathering, significant additional expenditure has taken place, particularly in sectors like travel, hospitality, and local businesses.

This surge in consumer spending is expected to meaningfully contribute to GDP growth from the expenditure side, the CEA observed.

Given these factors, the CEA argued that the implied 7.6 percent Q4 GDP growth is well within reach. "In that sense the implied GDP growth number of 7.6 percent doesn't look unrealistic," Nageswaran said.

While India's GDP growth in the October-December quarter stood at 6.2 percent—lower than the previous three years—it still outperformed peer economies.

Also, growth across sectors has remained broad-based. "In general all the three sectors of the economy are doing well, there is no lopsided dependence on any one sector,"

Nageswaran observed.

## South India Outpaces National Economic Growth

India's Chief Economic Advisor, Dr. V Anantha Nageswaran, revealed that South India is leading the country's economic progress with a GDP growth rate of 6.3 per cent, significantly higher than the 5 per cent growth rate observed in the rest of India.

The announcement came during his address at the Mystic South Global Linkages Summit 2025, organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry's Southern Region.

The southern region's economic prominence is particularly evident in its manufacturing sector, with Tamil Nadu contributing 20.4 per cent to South India's manufacturing GDP, primarily driven by automotive, textiles, and electronics industries.

The region also demonstrates stronger workforce participation, with Andhra Pradesh and Telangana notably achieving over 50 per cent women's participation in the workforce, making them the only Indian states to reach this milestone.

A newly released report titled '2047 Southern Odyssey: Powering Ahead to a USD 10-Trillion Economy' underscores the region's economic significance, noting that

South India contributed 31 per cent to India's overall GDP in 2023-24.

Tamil Nadu and Karnataka emerged as the top performers, followed by Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The per capita income in the southern region has grown at 5 per cent annually, surpassing the national average of 4.2 per cent.

During the summit, Dr. Nageswaran emphasised the importance of industry-academia collaboration and urged businesses to view research and development as an investment rather than an expense, focusing on long-term strategic competitiveness.

R Mukundan, CII Vice President and CEO of Tata Chemicals, highlighted the role of public-private partnerships in driving development across infrastructure, manufacturing, and renewable energy sectors.

He emphasised that as India targets a USD 30-trillion economy and Tamil Nadu aims for a USD 40,000 per capita income, the development of smart industrial zones, export logistics, and social infrastructure will be crucial for sustainable growth.



# Moody's Lowers India's GDP Growth Forecast to 6.4% for 2025

In a significant economic forecast released, Moody's Analytics has predicted a continued deceleration in India's economic growth trajectory.

The renowned credit rating agency anticipates India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate to moderate to 6.4 percent in 2025, down from 6.6 percent in 2024, citing new U.S. tariffs and dampened global demand as primary factors affecting the nation's export performance. The forecast, detailed in their report 'Asia-Pacific Outlook: Chaos Ahead,' indicates broader economic challenges across the Asia-Pacific region. The analysis suggests that regional growth will face headwinds from trade tensions, policy adjustments, and uneven recovery patterns. This slowdown trend extends to China, where GDP growth is projected to decline from 5 percent in 2024 to 4.2 percent in 2025, further decreasing to 3.9 percent in 2026.

Earlier concerns about India's economic outlook were raised in Moody's January report, which highlighted several risk factors including a weakening rupee,

diminishing foreign investment, and unstable inflation. Associate Economist Aditi Raman emphasised the necessity for policy adjustments in both fiscal and monetary domains to achieve the projected 6.4 percent growth rate. In response to these economic challenges, Indian authorities have implemented significant policy measures. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced substantial income tax reforms in the Budget, effectively eliminating tax obligations for incomes up to Rs 12 lakh.

Subsequently, the Reserve Bank of India enacted monetary policy changes, reducing the repo rate from 6.5 percent to 6.25 percent during its Monetary Policy Committee meeting.

The latest projections from Moody's Analytics suggest India's GDP growth will stabilise at 6.4 percent for both fiscal years 2025 and 2026, reflecting a gradual moderation from current levels while maintaining relatively robust growth compared to other major economies in the region.

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# Corporate India Eyes 7-8 % Revenue Growth in Q4FY25

Corporate India is projected to achieve 7-8 per cent year-over-year revenue growth in Q4FY25, driven by strengthening rural demand and increased government expenditure, according to a recent ICRA report.

The operating profit margins are expected to stabilise between 18.2-18.4 per cent, bolstered by improved consumer sentiment and rising demand.

Following the Reserve Bank of India's 25 basis points reduction in repo rate, companies are anticipated to benefit from lower borrowing costs, with the interest coverage ratio potentially expanding to 4.6-4.7 times from 4.5 times in the previous quarter.

ICRA's Senior Vice President and Co-Group Head of Corporate Ratings, Kinjal Shah, expressed optimism about rural demand prospects for the first half of calendar year 2025. This positive outlook is attributed to strong kharif crop yields and favourable conditions for the ongoing rabi season.

Urban demand, which has remained subdued, is expected to recover due to income tax relief measures announced in the Union Budget 2025, monetary easing policies, and anticipated moderation in food inflation.

The report highlighted several key factors requiring close monitoring, including global economic and political developments, currency exchange fluctuations, the impact of new U.S. presidential policies, government spending patterns, and domestic urban demand revival.

While private capital expenditure is expected to remain measured due to geopolitical uncertainties and subdued export outlook, specific sectors such as electronics, semiconductors, and electric vehicles are likely to see

increased investments, aligned with the government's production-linked incentive programs.

An analysis of 601 listed companies' third-quarter performance revealed a 6.8 per cent year-over-year revenue growth, primarily driven by consumption-oriented sectors including consumer durables, FMCG, retail, hospitality, and airlines. However, commodity-oriented sectors, particularly iron and steel, experienced declines due to weak global demand and competition from Chinese imports. Sequential revenue growth remained modest at 3.5 per cent, reflecting continued urban demand slowdown despite some festive season recovery.

Corporate India's operating profit margins showed improvement in Q3, increasing by 31 basis points year-over-year to 18.1 per cent, supported by revenue growth and moderating input costs.

Sectors such as metals and mining, fertilisers, pharmaceuticals, power, hospitality, oil and gas, and chemicals demonstrated margin improvements due to enhanced product mix and operating leverage benefits. However, sectors like cement and tires experienced margin contractions due to urban demand slowdown and elevated input costs. While input costs have recently moderated, they remain above historical levels, keeping operating profit margins below the peak of 19 per cent observed in FY2022.

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# Tiruppur's knitwear exports to surpass Rs 40,000 crore in FY25

**K**nitwear exports from Tiruppur are projected to surpass Rs 40,000 crore in FY25, alongside Rs 27,000 crore in domestic sales, says A Satkthivel, Vice President, Apparel Export Promotion Council and Founder, Tiruppur Exporters Association (TEA).

Accounting for 54 per cent of India's knitwear exports, Tiruppur continue to capitalize on shifting global trade dynamics despite past challenges from COVID-19, demonetization, GST, and global economic slowdowns, adds Sakthivel. The US-China trade war and unrest in Bangladesh are creating new opportunities for Tiruppur's exporters, he states further.

The expiration of Bangladesh's EU FTA in 2027 further enhances Tiruppur's prospects. Currently, Tiruppur exports 35 per cent of its production to the EU, 35 per cent to the US, and 10 per cent to the Middle East and Canada.

Bangladesh's FTA advantage allows them to supply goods 10.5 per cent cheaper than India.

India's ongoing FTAs with the UK and EU, and those signed with Australia and the UAE, will benefit Tiruppur. If the UK and EU negotiations succeed and Bangladesh's EU FTA expires, India's growth is likely to reach 35-40 per cent annually, affirms Sakthivel.

Currently ranked sixth in global garment exports with a 3.9 per cent market share, India trails Bangladesh's 12 per cent. Its key competitors include Vietnam, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, and Taiwan. China dominates with a 36 per cent share, plus indirect exports, according to Kumar Duraisamy, Joint Secretary, TEA.

Tiruppur's focus on adapting to global trade shifts and securing advantageous FTAs positions it for substantial future growth in the competitive apparel export market.



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## Indian Textile Sector on Steady Growth Path

Despite domestic cotton prices remaining higher than international prices, the Indian textile sector is witnessing an improvement in demand, according to a recent report by Systematix Institutional Equities Research.

The report highlights key global and domestic factors that are shaping the industry's outlook.

The demand scenario appears strong, driven by multiple factors, including normalising inventories at global retailers, a potential tariff hike by the US on Chinese imports, rising labour costs in Vietnam, and ongoing political instability in Bangladesh. These factors position Indian textile manufacturers favourably in the global market. However, the report raises concerns about the capacity constraints of Indian garment manufacturers, which may limit their ability to fully capitalize on the rising demand. Despite this challenge, Indian textile companies are expected to improve profitability in the coming quarters, aided by stable cotton prices, favorable foreign exchange rates, and enhanced operational efficiency.

Indian textile firms reported a healthy year-on-year (YoY) performance, with an 11 per cent revenue increase, 11 per cent EBITDA growth, and a notable 28 per cent rise in profit after tax (PAT).

The decline in cotton prices by 10 per cent YoY and stable

yarn prices contributed to gross margin expansion for spinners. The Union Budget 2025-26 aims to strengthen the textile sector with initiatives focused on cotton productivity, duty restructuring on fabrics, and incentives for domestic manufacturing.

The government's allocation for the textile sector increased to Rs 52.7 billion from Rs 44.2 billion in the previous budget, further supporting growth through the Productivity Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme and sustainability initiatives.

Meanwhile, the Cotton Association of India (CAI) revised its cotton production forecast for the 2024-25 season downward by 7.8 per cent to 30.17 million bales, while the ICAR-Central Institute of Cotton Research (CICR) estimates a higher production of 32.0 million bales.

Although international cotton prices have declined to USD 0.67-0.68 per pound, Indian cotton prices have firmed up to Rs 54,000-55,000 per candy.

The expected stable cotton crop is likely to keep prices within a predictable range, ensuring cost stability for textile manufacturers.

With an improving demand outlook and supportive policy measures, the Indian textile industry is poised for steady growth in the coming quarters.

## PM Modi Sets Rs 9 Lakh Cr Textile Exports Target By 2030

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called upon banks to increase credit accessibility for the textile industry to meet escalating domestic and international demand, while encouraging industry representatives to facilitate foreign investment opportunities in India's textile sector.

Addressing the Bharat Tex business summit, Modi highlighted industry feedback regarding unprecedented demand levels that currently exceed production capacity. He noted that establishing a factory capable of employing 2,000 people requires an average investment of Rs 75-80 crore, emphasising the need for banks to be more responsive to the sector's financial requirements.

The Prime Minister's appeal comes at a strategic time when the textile industry has reported significant interest from global buyers seeking to diversify their sourcing beyond China, coupled with developments in Bangladesh that have created new opportunities for Indian manufacturers.

Industry representatives have conveyed to the textile ministry that numerous international companies are actively exploring enhanced sourcing arrangements with India. Modi emphasised the potential role of industry

leaders as investment ambassadors, suggesting that their endorsement of India as an investment destination would carry more weight than government initiatives alone.

He also outlined the government's comprehensive approach to strengthening domestic manufacturing, particularly in the textile sector, through policy reforms and budget allocations aimed at improving credit access and revising MSME definitions. Reflecting on the progress since last year's Bharat Tex event, the Prime Minister referenced his "farm, fibre, fabric, fashion and foreign" vision, which has evolved into a national mission fostering growth across the textile value chain. He noted that India's textile and apparel exports grew by 7 percent last year, though he challenged the industry to aim for more ambitious growth targets of 17 percent. The government has set an export target of Rs 9 lakh crore by 2030 for the textile and apparel sector, up from the current Rs 3 lakh crore.

Modi expressed optimism about achieving this goal ahead of schedule, indicating strong confidence in the sector's growth trajectory and India's expanding role in global textile trade.

# Ind-Ra Report Claims Strong Growth for India's Garment Exports In FY26

India's readymade garment exports are expected to show significant improvement in fiscal year 2025-2026, according to a new outlook report released by India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra).

The positive forecast is attributed to increasing demand from key importing nations, including the United States, United Kingdom, and European Union, with restocking activities showing momentum since the third quarter of the current financial year.

The report highlights India's growing market share in global textile exports, driven by importers adopting a China-Plus-One sourcing strategy and ongoing geopolitical challenges in competing export nations, particularly Bangladesh.

Political instability in Bangladesh, coupled with increased U.S. tariffs on other exporting countries, is expected to redirect more textile orders toward India, though the report emphasises that adequate infrastructure and production capacity will be crucial for capitalising on these opportunities.

Looking ahead to FY26, Ind-Ra anticipates enhanced

government support measures to strengthen India's textile infrastructure, focusing on downstream capacity investments and global market competitiveness.

The report specifically notes that integrated downstream players are better positioned than upstream operators to secure additional orders in the evolving market landscape. On the domestic front, Indian textile and apparel demand is projected to maintain robust growth of 9-10 per cent year-on-year in 2025-2026, supported by an expected 7 per cent annual increase in private final consumption expenditure. The outlook concludes with a positive note on profitability, suggesting that EBITDA margins could see year-on-year improvement in FY26, driven by better gross margins, increased capacity utilisation, and anticipated stability in raw material prices.

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# India Eyes \$6 Billion Boost in Textile Exports with US Trade Deal

India's textile industry is optimistic about a potential zero-for-zero trade agreement with the United States, which could increase exports by USD 6 billion within three years. The Confederation of Indian Textile Industries (CITI) believes such a deal could propel India's textile and apparel exports to the US from USD 10.8 billion in FY24 to USD 16 billion. The US remains a crucial market for Indian textiles, contributing 28.5 per cent of total exports between January and November 2024. While imports from China have declined at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 9.4 per cent over the last five years, India's exports to the US have grown at a CAGR of 9.1 per cent. However, the

If implemented, the trade deal could strengthen India's position as a leading textile supplier, leveraging the shifting global trade dynamics in its favour.

biggest beneficiaries of US firms diversifying away from China have been Vietnam and Bangladesh, which enjoy preferential trade agreements with duty concessions. Vietnam's share in US textile imports grew by 7.8 per cent, while Bangladesh saw a 3 per cent increase. A zero-duty structure for Indian textile products would enhance competitiveness against Vietnam and Bangladesh, ensuring a level playing field. The industry body also highlighted the importance of securing safeguards for sensitive products and a duty-free access mechanism for US cotton imports, which India relies on heavily.

## New State Garment Policy 2025-30 Aims to Make Karnataka Textile Hub

Karnataka is positioning itself to become India's premier textile and apparel hub with its upcoming Textile and Garment Policy 2025-30.

Textiles Commissioner K Jyothi, speaking at Invest Karnataka 2025 GIM, revealed that the policy will be implemented within months, offering enhanced incentives for investors and expanding into technical textiles.

The policy, currently in its draft stage, has been developed through extensive stakeholder consultation, including discussions at the taluk level.

Two technical textile units are already in development, signalling the state's commitment to modernizing its textile sector. Drawing inspiration from China's specialised manufacturing zones, India is exploring a model similar to Datang, China's 'sock city,' which produces 1.35 billion

pairs of socks annually and employs 160,000 workers. However, transaction advisor Sanjay Arora emphasised that India will adapt rather than directly copy this approach. Arora highlighted the evolution of India's fashion industry, noting that consumer buying patterns have shifted from festival-focused to seasonal purchasing. He projects that India's domestic textile turnover will grow from the current USD 184 billion to USD 350 billion by 2030, with exports expected to increase from USD 37 billion to USD 100 billion. The state's vision includes protecting traditional handloom weavers, with plans to establish a dedicated artisan zone within the PM Mitra textile park in Kalaburagi. Recent developments include the signing of multiple memorandums of understanding (MoUs) worth Rs 150 crore. Big Bags International Ltd., >>39

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# India Targets USD 10 Bn in Technical Textiles Exports Under National Mission

The Government of India has announced an ambitious target to achieve USD 10 billion in technical textiles exports under its National Technical Textiles Mission, according to Minister of State for Textiles Pabitra Margherita's statement in the Rajya Sabha.

The initiative, launched in 2020-21 and recently extended through 2025-26, represents a strategic effort to establish India as a global leader in this specialised sector.

The mission, supported by a substantial financial outlay of Rs 1,480 crore, aims to significantly expand India's current technical textile exports, which presently range between USD 2 billion and USD 3 billion.

Technical textiles, distinguished by their specialised applications in high-end industries, serve as advanced alternatives to traditional materials across various sectors including infrastructure, healthcare, and industrial applications. The government has structured the mission around four key components, with research, innovation, and development receiving the largest allocation of Rs 1,000 crore. Additional focus areas include promotion and market development (Rs 50 crore), export promotion (Rs 10 crore), and education, training, and skill development (Rs 400 crore). This comprehensive approach emphasises indigenous development of >>40

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based in Mangaluru, has committed Rs 100 crore for technical textile manufacturing, though its proprietor Rekha R Kamath was absent during the MoU signing. Tumakhane Sanjeeva Shetty Exports of Koppa in Chikkamagaluru district has pledged Rs 14.5 crore for garment production. Jain Polyventures of Davanagere, led by Komal Jain, has signed an MoU worth Rs 10 crore for establishing a poly-woven socks printing unit.

Additionally, Dr Sharana Bhoopal Reddy of Basaveshwara Textile Industries from Wadagere taluk in Yadgir district has committed Rs 6 crore for setting up rapier weaving units. The initiative has also attracted young entrepreneurs, including Pushpa D K and Nutan K Shivanananda from Davanagere and Shankar Gouda from Yadgir, who were among the MoU signatories, demonstrating a bright future for Karnataka's textile industry.



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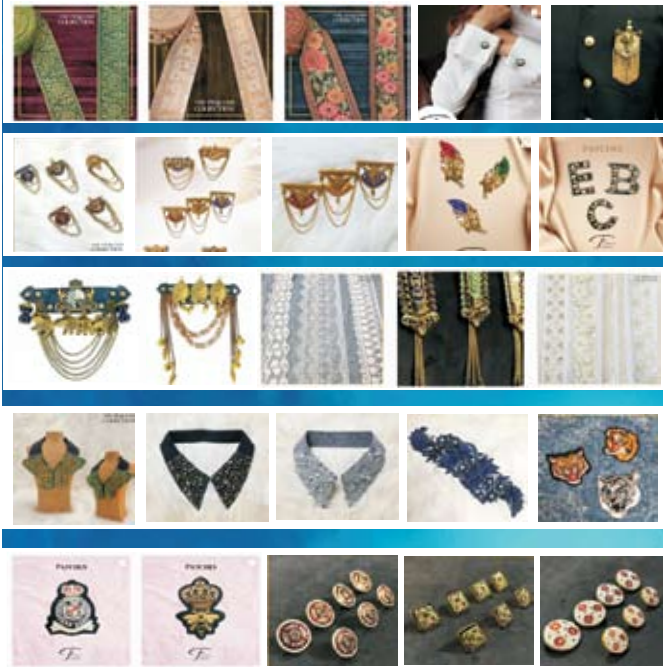
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## CCI to identify districts in each state for cotton productivity trials

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has been asked to identify one district in each state for conducting cotton productivity trials, Union Minister Giriraj Singh said. Speaking to reporters here, the textiles minister said the government is intensifying efforts to boost cotton productivity by adopting global best practices, to increase the per hectare yield, as countries including Brazil, China, Australia and Russia produce 2,000 to 2,200 kg per hectare whereas India's average production is 450-500 kg per hectare. "I have told CCI to identify districts across states for cotton trial production. Now we will take Akola model to saturation mode," Singh said.

Moreover, he shared plans to take India's textiles market size to USD 350 billion by 2030 from USD 176 billion at present.

"The country's textile sector is the biggest employment creator after agriculture. We have set a target to take it

(number of textile jobs) to 6 crore from 4.5 crore at present. The textile sector has got an allocation of Rs 5,300 crore in the Budget. In the coming days we will increase job creation and exports from the textiles sector. At present the domestic market size is USD 176 billion. We will increase this to USD 350 billion," said the minister.

Talking about the mega textile exhibition Bharat Tex to be held this month, he said, around 6,000 foreign exhibitors from 126 nations will participate in the event this time, doubling from 3,000 last year.

The minister also exuded confidence that Carbon fibre, a technical textile used in missiles, drones, etc., will be produced in India by 2026.

Union Budget 2025-26 proposes a five-year Cotton Mission to increase cotton productivity especially of extra-long staple varieties. It allocated Rs 500 crore for the National Cotton Technology Mission.

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machinery and specialty fibers while promoting awareness and expertise in the sector. Minister Margherita, in his written parliamentary response, characterised technical textiles as a sunrise sector with substantial growth potential. He emphasised its versatile applications across critical sectors such as roads, railways, construction, agriculture, medical industry, hygiene, automobile, defense, space, and industrial safety.

The minister further highlighted that the expansion of

technical textiles would play a pivotal role in advancing the nation's infrastructure, agriculture, healthcare, and industrial development.

The mission's strategic focus on enhancing exports while developing domestic capabilities reflects the government's commitment to positioning India as a significant player in the global technical textiles market.

This initiative aligns with broader national objectives of industrial modernisation and export growth in specialised manufacturing sectors.



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# Asia Pacific's cotton yarn market to grow at CAGR of 0.5% from 2024-35

**D**riven by increasing demand, the cotton yarn market in Asia-Pacific is poised to grow at a CAGR of 0.5 per cent from 2024-2035, reaching a volume of 19 million metric tons by 2035.

As per a report by IndexBox, the value of this market is expected to grow at a CAGR of +1.3 per cent over the same period, reaching \$72.7 billion by 2035.

In 2024, Asia-Pacific's cotton yarn consumption stabilized at approximately 18 million metric tons, with a market value of \$62.8 billion, remaining relatively unchanged from the previous year. The top three consuming nations in 2024 included China (7.4 million metric tons), India (4.7 million metric tons), and Pakistan (3.4 million metric tons).

Together, these three nations accounted for 88 per cent of world's total consumption. India experienced the most significant growth in consumption of cotton yarn from 2013 - 2024, with a CAGR of +8.5 per cent, while growth in China and Pakistan was more moderate.

In terms of market value, China led with \$30.4 billion, followed by India (\$15.2 billion) and Pakistan. India also

achieved the highest average annual value growth rate of +8.0 per cent from 2013- 2024.

Production of cotton yarn in the Asia-Pacific region remained stable at 18 million metric tons in 2024, with an estimated export value of \$61.7 billion. The leading producers were China (6.2 million metric tons), India (5.8 million metric tons), and Pakistan (3.7 million metric tons), collectively accounting for 87 per cent of total production. China was the largest importer of cotton yarn in 2024, with 1.5 million metric tons, representing 59 per cent of total imports. South Korea and Bangladesh followed, accounting for 28 per cent combined. In terms of import value, China also led with \$3.5 billion.

India and Vietnam were the top exporters in 2024, each exporting approximately 1 million metric tons, representing 37 per cent and 34 per cent of total exports, respectively. In terms of export value, India with an export value of \$3.4 billion, Vietnam with \$2.8 billion, and China with \$1.1 billion worth of exports dominated, accounting for 83 per cent of total export value.



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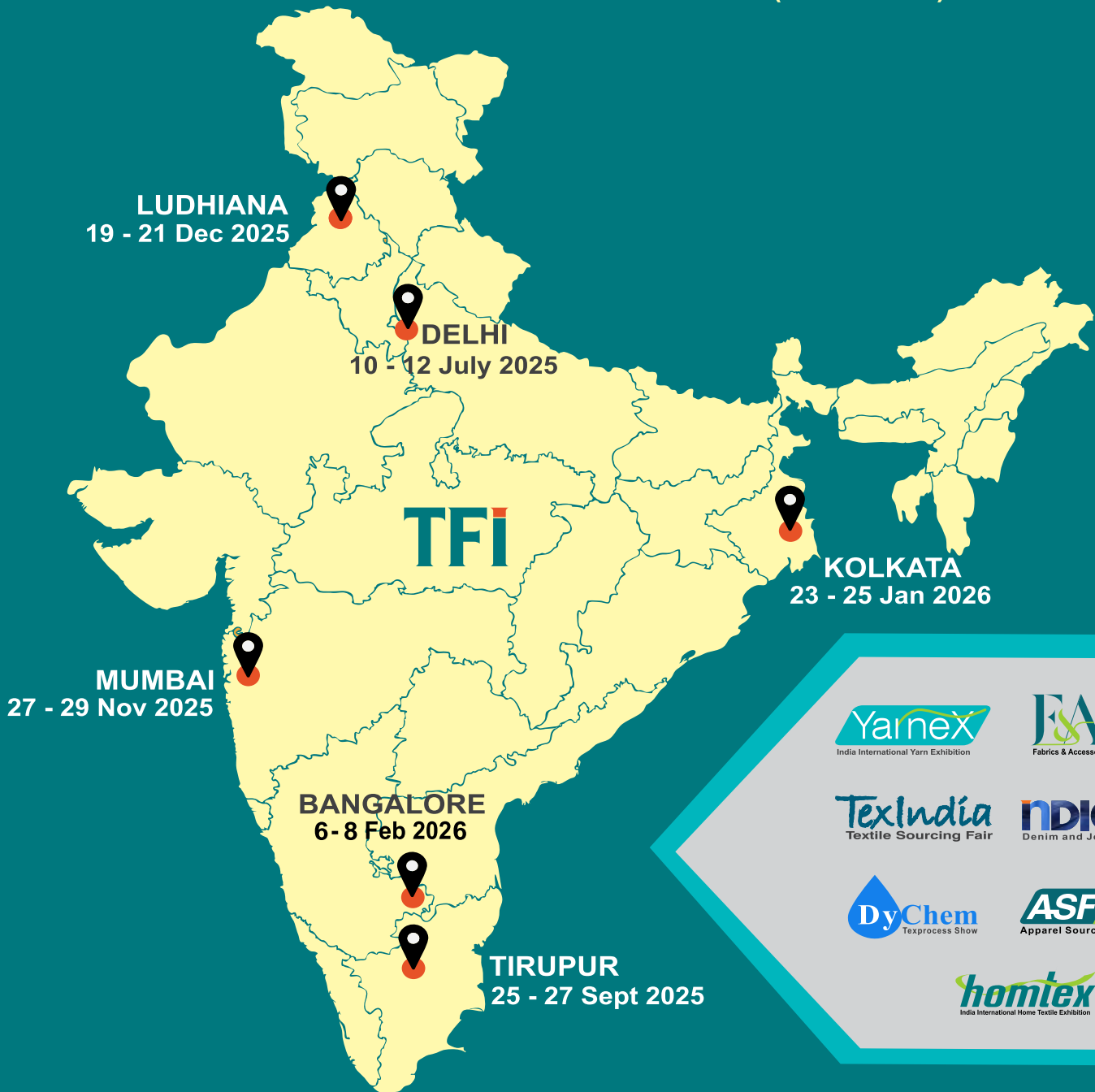


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# Bangladesh: Jeanologia strengthens leadership in denim production

**J**eanologia, a global leader in the development of sustainable technologies for the textile industry, is reinforcing Bangladesh's position as the world's leading denim manufacturer by offering cutting-edge solutions that transform the industry from fabric treatment to garment finishing. At the recent Dhaka International Textile & Garment Machinery Exhibition (DTG), Jeanologia showcased its integrated ecosystem of technologies designed to drive automation, efficiency, and sustainability across the entire denim production process.

**G2 Dynamic:** The revolution in fabric finishing The journey to truly sustainable fashion begins with fabric. Jeanologia's G2 Dynamic technology is revolutionizing fabric treatment and garment finishing by replacing highly polluting conventional processes with an eco-efficient ozone-based alternative. This solution significantly reduces the environmental impact of denim manufacturing by cutting water and chemical consumption by up to 95% and energy use by 80%.

By implementing G2 Dynamic, Bangladesh's textile industry can boost its competitiveness and sustainability, ensuring it remains at the forefront of global denim production.

**Automated, digital, and sustainable garment finishing** Beyond fabric treatment, Jeanologia provides advanced garment finishing solutions that integrate automation, digitalization, and sustainability. These include Laser technology, a fully digital and automated system that replaces traditional manual and chemical-intensive processes, increasing precision and creativity while

reducing environmental impact; G2 Indra, based on Airwash technology, this eco-efficient solution achieves authentic vintage and aged denim looks without using water or chemicals, reducing environmental impact while maintaining fabric integrity; e-Flow, a nanobubble technology that applies chemicals using minimal water, drastically reducing waste, and improving fabric performance; and H2 Zero, a water recycling system that enables zero discharge in the finishing process, making garment production more sustainable and resource-efficient.

By combining these solutions, Jeanologia is providing Bangladesh's denim industry with vertical, integrated technologies that enhance efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and secure its position as a leader in sustainable denim production.

"Our goal is to transform the denim industry by offering an end-to-end solution that enables a more responsible, automated, and sustainable production model. Bangladesh plays a key role in this transformation, and our technologies support the country's leadership in the global market," said Jean Pierre Inchauspe, Jeanologia's Business Director in Asia.

With over 20 years of presence in Bangladesh, Jeanologia continues to be a strategic partner for the country's leading manufacturers, supporting them in their transition toward a more eco-efficient and competitive industry. By integrating its fabric-to-garment finishing solutions, the company is accelerating the shift towards a new era of digital and sustainable denim production.

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# Pakistan: Govt recognises 'critical role' of textile industry

Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb assured the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) that the government “recognises the critical role of the textile industry in Pakistan’s economy and remains dedicated to addressing its concerns”, a statement from the Finance Division said.

A delegation from the APTMA met the finance czar at the Finance Division, where Aurangzeb “reiterated the government’s unwavering commitment to resolving critical issues related to taxation, energy, and financing, as part of its efforts to ensure the long-term viability and future growth of Pakistan’s industrial sector”.

“The finance minister assured the delegation that the government recognises the critical role of the textile industry in Pakistan’s economy and remains dedicated to addressing its concerns,” the statement read.

He further emphasised that addressing the core challenges faced by the industry was key to creating a conducive environment for industrial development, fostering economic stability, and supporting the nation’s overall growth trajectory.

Meanwhile, the APTMA delegation, led by its chairman

Kamran Arshad, provided a presentation on different issues facing the textile sector related to energy, taxation and financing.

“The presentation also touched on various recommendations and proposals for the long-term viability and growth of the sector.”

According to the Finance Division, the delegation expressed their appreciation for the expedited disbursement of tax refunds and requested further support for the clearance of outstanding dues.

“The government values this consultative approach and will continue to engage with key sectors to ensure their concerns are addressed effectively in the upcoming budget,” Aurangzeb maintained.

The minister assured the APTMA leadership that the government would give a “thorough and thoughtful analysis of their recommendations”, incorporating viable suggestions into the federal budget.

The meeting was attended by senior officials, including the Chairman of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), the Secretary of the Commerce Division, and other senior officers from the Finance Division and the FBR.

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## Pakistan: EFS amendments spark concerns among textile exporters

The Pakistan Textile Council (PTC), a not-for-profit research and advocacy platform, has voiced concerns over the proposed amendments to the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS) introduced by the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR). The textile council, in a letter addressed to Secretary Export Policy (FBR), highlighted that any modifications that fail to safeguard the interests of the industry could negatively impact Pakistan's exports.

"The EFS, introduced in 2021, has played a crucial role in enhancing the competitiveness of the textile sector by simplifying processes and ensuring smooth export operations," read a statement.

"However, the proposed amendments outlined in S.R.O. 204 (1)/2025, if implemented without due consideration, may create operational inefficiencies and burden exporters with unnecessary compliance requirements," it said.

PTC said that amendments must be targeted and focused on increasing efficiency rather than disrupting established processes. "One of the key concerns raised by PTC pertains to the processing timeline for determining production capacity and input-output ratios," read the statement.

Under the proposed amendments, the Input Output Coefficient Organization (IOCO) will have 60 days to process applications, with exporters allowed only a provisional acquisition of 25% of their declared input goods.

"This extended timeframe creates significant uncertainty for manufacturers operating under strict schedules," PTC said as it recommended reducing the processing time to 30 days and increasing provisional approval to 50%.

"Another pressing issue is the proposed extension of monitoring timelines for pending cases under the Chief Collector (Exports & IOCO) to 60 days, which could further slowdown approvals and disrupt supply chains."

PTC called for maintaining the 30-day timeline to strike a balance between regulatory oversight and operational efficiency, allowing exporters to fulfill commitments without unnecessary bottlenecks.

Moreover, PTC also expressed concerns over amendments requiring annual authorization of input goods based on IOCO assessments.

PTC noted that the amendment would make future authorizations contingent upon the Regulatory Collector's discretion. "This measure introduces uncertainty and potential bureaucratic obstacles. Instead, PTC suggests an automatic authorization process upon submission of

reconciliation statements, with any discrepancies addressed through audits, thereby reducing unnecessary delays while maintaining compliance. It highlighted that the proposed reduction in the input utilization period from 60 months to 09 months is an impractical change that could lead to frequent procurement disruptions and increased costs for exporters. "PTC strongly recommends that the utilization period must be at least 24 months with an additional 06-month extension granted by the regulatory authority, while further extensions should require FBR committee approval as recommended by FBR.

"This would ensure more predictable and stable production cycles," it said. The council further highlighted that the textile industry is also concerned about the proposed limitation on B-grade or rejected goods, which would restrict their proportion to just 5% of total production.

"Given that manufacturing variances naturally occur, PTC urges FBR to increase this threshold to 10%, aligning with industry standards and preventing undue financial losses," it said. Another critical amendment under review is the elimination of the carry-forward provision for unutilized input goods. "Removing this flexibility would force exporters to consume input materials faster than their production cycles allow, leading to inefficiencies and financial burdens," it said.

PTC was of the view that the carry-forward provision should remain in place, allowing unutilized goods to be carried into next year upon submission of reconciliation statements. Additionally, the FBR has proposed reducing the timeframe for uploading domestic acquisitions with zero-rated sales tax from 30 days to just 7 days.

PTC warned that this drastic reduction could create administrative inefficiencies and expose exporters to penalties for minor delays.

"Therefore, it strongly recommends restoring the original 30-day deadline to provide businesses with a practical and manageable compliance window."

PTC said it would be ideal to restore EFS in its original form when local purchases were also covered under EFS.

"The proposed amendments, if implemented without the suggested modifications, risk reducing the ease of doing business and making Pakistani products less competitive internationally," PTC warned, as it called upon the FBR to engage in dialogue with industry representatives in this regard.

# Pakistan: Textile exports up by 10.6% in 7 months

Textile exports witnessed an increase of 10.60 percent during the first seven months of the current financial year (2024-25) as compared to the corresponding period of last year, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported.

The textile exports from the country were recorded at US \$10,770.472 million during July-January (2024-25) against the exports of US \$ 9,738.542 million during July-January (2023-24). The textile commodities that contributed in trade growth included cotton cloth the export of which increased by 3.99 percent to \$ 1,129.728 million from \$ 1,086.396 million while the export of knitwear surged by 18.16 percent to \$ 3,033.951 million from \$ 2,567.576 million.

The other commodities that witnessed growth in trade included bed wear, the export of which rose by 14.71 percent to \$ 1,868.894 million from \$ 1,629.185 million, towels by 6 percent to \$ 631.973 million from \$ 596.203 million, tents, canvas, and tarpaulin up by 18.91 percent to \$ 83.539 million this year compared to the exports of \$ 70.256 million last year. Similarly, the export of readymade garments grew by 21.90 percent to \$ 2,441.304 million from \$ 2,002.662 million, art, silk and synthetic textile rose by 12.91 percent to \$ 236.799 million from \$209.722 million, made up articles (excl. towels

and bed wear) increased by 10.98 percent to \$460.331 million from \$414.788 million while the export of other textile materials went up by 4.55 percent to \$ 432.758 million from \$ 413.924 million. The textile commodities that witnessed negative trade growth included raw cotton the exports of which declined by 98.90 percent to \$0.616 million from \$55.752 million. Likewise, the exports of cotton yarn declined by 35.77 percent to \$430.230 million from \$669.825 million whereas the export of cotton carded or combed dipped by 98 percent from 0.595 million to 0.006 million during the period under review. The exports of yarn other than cotton yarn also declined by 6.07 percent to \$20.343 million from \$21.658 million. Meanwhile, year-on-year basis, the textile exports witnessed an increase of 15.85 percent during January 2025 as compared to the same month of last year. The textile exports from the country during January 2025 were recorded at US \$ 1,685.908 million against the exports of US \$1,455.296 million in January 2024.

On a month-on-month basis, the textile exports from the country witnessed an increase of 14.12 percent during January 2024 as compared to the exports of \$ 1,477.300 million recorded in December 2024, according to the data.

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## Vietnam: Garment makers rake in US\$5.634 billion from exports in two months

With projections of \$44 billion in export revenue by 2025, the industry adapts to retain global competitiveness. The textile and garment industry of Vietnam is on the rise, projecting to generate around \$44 billion from exports by 2024, according to the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS). This figure indicates nearly 11% growth compared to 2023, solidifying Vietnam's position as the second-largest textile exporter globally, trailing only China.

Vietnam's exports have shown strong performance right from the start of the year, with textile goods earning \$3.19 billion, which is 1.8% higher than the same period last year. The ambitious goal for 2025 sees exports climbing to between \$47 and \$48 billion, continuing to secure Vietnam's status among the world's top textile exporters. Market analysis reveals the enduring strength of traditional markets for Vietnam's textile products, which include the USA, Europe, Japan, and South Korea. For example, the USA remains Vietnam's biggest market, with textile exports amounting to \$1.4 billion just within the first month of 2025, reflecting a 6% increase from the previous year. Notably, Vietnam's market share of textile exports to the USA has surged from 10% in 2018 to nearly 20% by 2024.

This growth, marked by increased demand even after the holiday seasons and low purchasing power periods, shows stabilization within the industry's growth momentum. Industry leaders, like Pham Tien Lam, CEO of Duc Giang Corporation, reported notable financial results, affirming the company's revenue reached \$2.396 trillion, demonstrating substantial gains over the previous year.

Despite the successes, industry experts highlight challenges looming on the horizon. Rising shipping costs, fluctuated market conditions, and heightened international competitiveness pose potential obstacles to maintaining this momentum. Cao Huu Hieu, General Director of the Vietnam Textile Group (Vinatex), expressed concerns about the pressures stemming from the competitive environment, particularly as rival countries such as Bangladesh and India show signs of economic strain.

To counter these challenges, businesses must employ strategic solutions, such as enhancing production processes and investing in the workforce. Many companies, including Phong Phu Corporation, are focusing on modern equipment, automation technology, and product innovation to remain agiler and more effective within the industry.

Industry stakeholders anticipate continued upward trends throughout 2025, even as potential roadblocks appear on the horizon. Notably, with the economic recovery in primary markets like the USA and the EU, consumers' increased purchasing power is expected to reflect positively on Vietnam's textile exports. This projected growth, alongside Vietnam's preference for simplified production cycles and superior quality, positions Vietnam favorably to capture additional market share.

VITAS President Vu Duc Giang underscored the pivotal role of Free Trade Agreements (FTS) like the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) as key drivers of the industry's expansion, facilitating access to new markets such as Canada and Australia. This strategic positioning will allow entrepreneurs and organizations to capitalize on



projected trends and shifts within the global textile industry. Agronomic changes and enhanced maritime communication will also be significant contributors to maintaining trade flows. Industry leaders highlight the need for adaptive strategies aimed at embracing tighter market tolerances and changes stemming from increased consumer demand. For companies to thrive, Hieu stated, achieving operational excellence is non-negotiable. Emphasizing productivity improvements, labor competencies, and applied technology will be indispensable as firms navigate the intricacies of contemporary textile production. Advocates for this position contend increasing efficiency can bolster profitability—crucial when faced with surging raw material costs and higher transportation fees. With the prospect of substantial advancements and potential hurdles looming, the textile and garment industry of Vietnam remains adaptable and resilient. Its leaders reflect optimism about burgeoning opportunities throughout 2025, determined to sustain this growth and secure its competitive edge globally. Indeed, the narrative of Vietnam’s textile industry not only tells of the present achievements and historical significance but also opens new conversations about the future of global fashion and textile production.

## Pakistan: Textile industry to get major govt backing

Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, reaffirmed the government’s commitment to resolving key issues in the textile sector. He assured industry leaders that concerns related to taxation, energy, and financing would be addressed to ensure sustainable growth. During a meeting with the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA), senior officials from the Finance Division and Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) pledged to support the sector. Aurangzeb emphasized the importance of the textile industry in Pakistan’s economy and promised policy improvements. The finance minister assured that the government would analyze APTMA’s recommendations and incorporate viable proposals into the federal budget. He stressed that ongoing consultation with industry stakeholders is crucial for economic stability and growth. APTMA representatives, led by Chairman Kamran Arshad, presented key challenges and requested further assistance in clearing outstanding tax refunds. They appreciated the government’s efforts and urged continued support for long-term industrial development.



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## Vietnam: Sees no significant impacts from US's new trade policies: official

Vietnam has not seen significant impacts from the US's new trade policies, as its exports are not in direct competition with American companies in their domestic market, according to Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry Nguyen Sinh Nhat Tan.

In contrast, Vietnam's exports allow US consumers to access more affordable goods, he noted at the government's press conference. Vietnam has closely followed the US's policies since the presidential election, to actively prepare for possible changes in trade. The Southeast Asian country is expected to be affected by several of the new US tariffs, but not as severely as many other nations, said the deputy minister. "The Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT) has worked with other ministries and sectors to compile a report for the Government, which will hold a meeting in March 2025 to discuss specific responses," said Tan.

Through the US embassy in Vietnam and the Vietnamese embassy in the US, the MoIT has conveyed a message on Vietnam's willingness to maintain and develop harmonious, sustainable and mutually beneficial trade and economic

relations with the US, while stressing that Vietnam does not have any policy that can cause adverse impacts on US workers or national security.

The Vietnamese trade and industry minister to hold a meeting with the US trade representative to discuss enhancing the positive relations between the two countries. "The MoIT views the Vietnamese and US economies as complementary to one another," said the deputy minister. The two countries have established a policy dialogue mechanism under the US-Vietnam Trade and Investment Framework Agreement.

The Vietnamese Government has also proactively tasked its departments with reviewing and addressing the concerns of the US based on fair and reciprocal trade, in alignment with legal regulations and the balanced interests of both sides, Tan added. Authorities will also facilitate investments from the US for emerging key industries in Vietnam, especially in the energy sector. This will be the basis for increasing imports of liquefied natural gas (LNG), fuels, machinery and technology from the US to improve two-way trade balance.

## Vietnam: Foreign financiers regard as high-quality investment destination

Vietnam is regarded as a high-quality investment base with a long-term vision suitable for foreign investors thanks to its great efforts to accelerate institutional reforms, according to insiders.

Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh held meetings with many leading corporations from China, the United States, Europe, and Japan, including Warburg Pincus, Meta, Ford, Amkor, Boeing, Marubeni, Sumitomo, Hitachi, Nippon Koei, Toyota, AEON, DeepC, Bosch, Heineken, and Bayer.

The meetings took place at a time when the Government of Vietnam expects to attract further foreign investment, especially in emerging industries such as semiconductors and artificial intelligence (AI) in a bid to accelerate economic growth to over 8% this year and towards the goal of achieving double-digit growth in the coming years.

At these meetings, the Government leader called on financiers to increase investment in Vietnam, especially in the spheres of high-tech industries, big data, AI, as well as hydrogen, new energy, infrastructure, biotechnology, aviation, and electronics. The PM emphasised that Vietnam is making comprehensive and inclusive innovations, especially in institutional reforms, aiming to create the best possible conditions for businesses to operate in safe and effective

manner. US Deputy Ambassador to Vietnam Courtney Beale highlighted the long-term partnership in semiconductor manufacturing between the US and Vietnam, especially in the assembly, testing, and packaging stages. He stressed that US firms view the country as an "important market" and are therefore ready to co-operate and support development in multiple fields.

Meanwhile, Julien Guerrier, head of the EU Delegation to Vietnam, described the Vietnamese Government's recent reforms as "extremely decisive and impressive", adding that European businesses have always placed high trust in the country's potential and are ready to support Vietnam in its efforts to attract more investors.

However, industry insiders have pointed out that the country must continue to simplify administrative procedures as it strives to create the optimal conditions for foreign businesses and make drastic institutional reforms to further attract high-quality FDI inflows and create breakthroughs in the coming period.

According to the Foreign Investment Agency under the Ministry of Finance, foreign direct investment (FDI) in Vietnam surpassed US\$6.9 billion in the first two months of the year, marking a 35.5% year-on-year rise.



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## Vietnam: Textile and garment sector sees export growth

The domestic textiles and garment industry is witnessing a surge in export orders in 2025, driven by a positive economic outlook and competitive advantages, positioning the country as a key player in the global market. Accordingly, Vietnam posted \$3.19 billion in textiles and garments industry exports in January – a 1.8 per cent increase from the same period last year – driven by robust demand from major markets such as the United States, EU, and Japan.

Orders have already been booked through Q2, with some extending into Q3.

“Our company has secured significant orders for Q2 of 2025, setting a strong pace for the year,” said Than Duc Viet, general director of Garment 10 Corporation.

Garment 10 is actively expanding its reach in both domestic and export markets, targeting traditional markets in the US, EU, and Japan while exploring opportunities in South Korea, China, and other Asian nations. The company underscored the sector’s potential in 2024 by posting \$187.9 million in total revenue and \$5.26 million in pre-tax profit, up 10 per cent and 7 per cent on-year, respectively.

TNG Investment and Trading JSC revealed that many of its factories have locked in orders through Q2, with 46 per cent of exports headed to the US and 13 per cent to the EU. Song Hong Garment JSC directs over 70 per cent of its exports to the US and plans to expand production capacity by 25 per cent in 2025.

Meanwhile, Thanh Cong Textile Investment Trading JSC has successfully filled its Q1 orders and is actively fulfilling contracts for Q2. The company plans to develop a strategic business plan aimed at enhancing value for shareholders and investors, with primary export markets in Asia accounting for 68 per cent of its exports, followed by the

Americas at 27.4 per cent and Europe at 4.2 per cent in 2025. State conglomerate Vietnam National Textile and Garment Group reported that several subsidiaries have already received orders through Q3 of this year, with additional negotiations underway. To meet rising Spring-Summer demand, many companies have ramped up production schedules to ensure timely order fulfilment, sustaining the recovery momentum that began in late 2024. However, challenges remain. According to SSI Research, the industry is expected to return to a compound annual growth rate of 13–15 per cent in 2025 – similar to 2015–2019. Rising shipping costs are also a concern, with freight rates increasing by 3 per cent for Asia-to-US West Coast routes and 1 per cent for Asia-to-US East Coast routes, according to Eimskip, Iceland’s leading shipping and logistics company. Transportation expenses are projected to rise by 10–15 per cent on-year, which may pressure profit margins despite a forecast 15 per cent revenue growth. In 2024, Vietnam surpassed Bangladesh to become the world’s second-largest textiles and apparel exporter, trailing only China, with total export revenues reaching \$44 billion.

SSI Research notes that Vietnam’s textile and apparel industry maintains a competitive edge thanks to tariffs 10–20 per cent lower than China’s and significantly cheaper labour costs—less than half of China’s, which rose 40 per cent from 2019 to 2023.

Vietnam’s textile and apparel industry is poised for continued expansion in 2025, leveraging cost advantages, rapid production turnaround, and strong global demand while proactively managing rising logistics costs and adapting to shifting trade dynamics to solidify its position in the competitive international market.



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# Japan: AGC Chemicals and DRYFIBER launch innovative repellent

**A**GC Chemicals Americas, Inc. (AGCCA) and DRYFIBER, LLC have announced the development of the industry’s first non-fluorinated oil and water repellent for nonwoven fabrics and technical textiles. AGCCA will manufacture the repellent, while DRYFIBER will market it to the textile industry.

This innovative coating technology, based on polymer chemistry developed at Cornell University, forms a microscopically rough texture on textiles, creating a chemical barrier that repels oil-based stains and fluids, causing them to bead up for easy cleaning.

Designed as a high-performance, sustainable alternative to fluorinated repellents, this non-fluorinated coating is ideal for industrial fabrics, upholstery and automotive textiles, medical textiles, and filtration products. The coating can be applied via dipping or industrial spray-coating, ensuring versatility across applications.

Tim Johnson, FibraLAST Business Manager, AGCCA, highlighted the innovation’s significance, “This patented

technology addresses a critical industry need for non-fluorinated repellents with exceptional performance.

Together, we’re setting a new standard for stain resistance and leading the transition to a more environmentally friendly future.”

Greg Lucci, Founding Partner, DRYFIBER, underscored the technology’s potential beyond technical textiles, “DRYFIBER is proud to collaborate with AGCCA in bringing groundbreaking technologies to the nonwoven fabrics and technical textiles market. Additionally, this innovation extends its impact across industries demanding high-performance, sustainable solutions—including fashion and apparel.”

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## Vietnam: Emerges as key hub for int'l textile manufacturers

Vietnam's strategic location, commitment to sustainability, and innovation have made it an attractive destination for international textile producers seeking to diversify global supply chains.

This trend was highlighted at industry seminars during the Vietnam International Trade Fair for Apparel, Textiles and Textile Technologies 2025 (VIATT 2025) in Ho Chi Minh City. Experts noted that Vietnam's textile industry enters 2025 with momentum from key milestones achieved in 2024. The country is expected to surpass Bangladesh as the world's second-largest garment exporter after China.

Vietnam's textile sector, comprising around 7,000 companies and over 3 million workers, dedicates 80% of its production capacity to exports and 20% to domestic consumption. The industry's growth is supported by a well-developed logistics network, a skilled workforce, and a stable political environment.

Sustainability and technological advancement are driving the sector's future. Many local companies have adopted eco-friendly materials like organic cotton, recycled polyester, and Tencel, while global brands manufacturing in Vietnam have committed to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. Advanced technologies are also reshaping design and production, with investors focusing on optimising capacity, streamlining supply chains, and enhancing product quality to stay competitive.

Vietnam's home textile market is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 2.4% from 2024 to 2032, fueled by rising demand for modern home textiles, e-commerce expansion, and favourable government policies. Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade Phan Thi Thang underscored the sector's strong development and its vital role in Vietnam's economic growth. In 2024, textile and garment exports reached nearly US\$44 billion, up 11.26% from 2023, accounting for 12% to 16% of the nation's total export revenue.

With the support of 17 next-generation free trade agreements (FTAs), the industry aims to achieve an export target of US\$48 billion in 2025. Plans include developing large-scale, fully integrated production chains, investing in automation, embracing digital transformation, and adopting real-time management and eco-friendly practices. International trade agreements like the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-

Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), and the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA) will drive further growth. Many manufacturers from Asia and Europe, including China, have already expanded their presence in Vietnam.

Foreign companies are actively seeking reliable local partners to strengthen trade ties and meet diverse market demands. This collaboration enhances Vietnamese manufacturers' ability to meet FTA origin requirements, product value, and alignment with global sustainability trends.

Wendy Wen, Managing Director of Messe Frankfurt Hong Kong, said VIATT 2025 will showcase innovative digital solutions to boost efficiency and tailor products to market needs. The event will also feature a "Sustainable Production Zone," providing a platform for eco-friendly service providers to share expertise and present cutting-edge innovations aimed at enhancing production efficiency and meeting new market demands.

### Vietnam: Swedish firm eyes \$1bn green investment in textile industry

Syre Group, a Sweden-based textile scrap recycler, plans to launch a high-tech polyester fiber recycling facility in Binh Dinh Province, south-central Vietnam, with an investment of up to US\$1 billion.

Minister of Industry and Trade Nguyen Hong Dien met with Binh Dinh provincial officials to discuss a groundbreaking proposal by Syre Group, a Swedish textile impact company focused on hyperscale textile-to-textile recycling, starting with polyester.

Syre Group aims to establish a recycling facility in Nhon Hoi A Industrial Park, part of the Nhon Hoi Economic Zone, with an investment estimated to range between \$700 million and \$1 billion.

The proposed plant would process 250,000 metric tons of textile waste annually, converting polyester waste into raw materials for the garment and other industries.

During the meeting, Syre Group's senior operations director Tim King affirmed the company's commitment to utilizing cutting-edge recycling technology while complying with global environmental standards.

King emphasized that the project would incorporate

advanced techniques to meet world-class sustainability benchmarks while ensuring full compliance with Vietnam’s environmental regulations.

He noted that the factory would require approximately 300,000-400,000 metric tons of raw materials per year. However, a survey conducted by the group found that domestic sources could supply only 40,000-60,000 metric tons, necessitating imports to meet demand.

King proposed the government provide instructions related to importing recycled materials as well as carrying out environmental impact assessments. He also suggested that the government adopt policies to support the company’s textile waste recycling project.

- Qu□ng cáo -A representative of the ministry’s Import-Export Department expressed support for the project but stated that used clothing and fabric are on the list of goods prohibited from export and import.

Scrap fabric is also considered waste material from the production process, so its import must comply with regulations on the list of scrap materials allowed to be imported from abroad for production purposes. Therefore, it is necessary to consult with relevant authorities on the matter. King therefore urged the ministry to issue clear policies and guidelines for collecting and processing used

garments domestically to ensure a stable supply of recyclable materials for the project.

He emphasized that Syre Group aims to prioritize domestic sources of used clothing for its operations, fostering a circular economy within Vietnam.

Chairman of the Binh Dinh administration Pham Anh Tuan underscored the project’s potential to position Vietnam as a global leader in sustainable textile manufacturing. He urged the ministry to consider and issue concrete instructions on the import of fabric scraps for production. Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade Truong Thanh Hoai affirmed support for Syre Group’s initiative but stressed the importance of securing government approvals, including a special resolution for the project.

Minister Dien also backed the initiative, requesting that the project’s technologies be clean, safe for the environment, and meet all wastewater and waste treatment requirements. He asked the group to provide detailed evidence of its technological superiority and socio-economic benefits to ensure the project aligns with Vietnam’s sustainability goals. He further encouraged the firm to collaborate with local enterprises to establish a closed-loop production chain, fostering localization and long-term industry growth.



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## China: Kyrgyzstan to set up textile-RMG testing lab in pact with Chinese firm

**K**yrgyzstan will open a testing laboratory for textile and apparel, according to the country's ministry of economy and commerce.

The laboratory will offer testing for compliance with international and national quality standards; issue certificates confirming safety for consumer health and environment; provide consulting services on product quality and safety; assist in the introduction of international certification standards at enterprises.

The ministry recently signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Kyrgyz company KyrgSert and China's Xinjiang Tianyu Engineering Testing in this regard. The MoU aims at cultivating long-term, effective and mutually-beneficial cooperation.

The laboratory will open up new opportunities for the textile and clothing industry of Kyrgyzstan, raise the competitiveness of domestic products in the world market and increase exports, a release from the ministry said.

## Thailand: Indorama Ventures plans strategic growth

**I**ndorama Ventures Public Company Limited (IVL), a global sustainable chemical producer, is preparing for a new era of growth under its IVL 2.0 strategy. The company has announced a shift towards strategic partnerships with industry leaders, positioning itself to capitalise on expansion and consolidation opportunities in the evolving global chemical markets.

At the company's annual Capital Markets Day in Bangkok, Alok Lohia, Group CEO of Indorama Ventures,

highlighted the company's progress under the three-year IVL 2.0

optimisation plan. He explained how macroeconomic forces, such as China's push for manufacturing self-sufficiency, the impact of Peak Oil, and India's rapid economic expansion, are reshaping the industry. Indorama Ventures, having improved its performance

in 2024, aims to restore its historical growth trajectory despite ongoing market challenges.

"Today, Indorama Ventures is a fitter company than we were when we announced our IVL 2.0 strategy a year ago, and we are now able to compete with the best. Our plan is designed not only to help us re-tool and re-skill to navigate the current downturn but also to restore our historical growth trajectory," said Lohia.

The company has taken decisive steps to optimise its business processes, enhance operational efficiency, and drive sustainable earnings growth. Despite improving performance across all segments in 2024, continued industry pressures meant IVL did not fully meet its deleveraging and cash conversion targets. Consequently, additional management actions are being taken to sustain progress towards its objectives.

Indorama Ventures is now shifting from a mergers and acquisitions-led model to a new expansion strategy focused on collaborative partnerships. Several projects are already in the pipeline, with the company aiming to consolidate its position in high-growth markets, including India. In February, Indorama Ventures acquired a 24.9% minority stake in EPL Limited, an Indian specialty packaging company and the largest global manufacturer of laminated tubes. This move aligns with IVL 2.0's objectives and

strengthens the company's presence in India.

Additionally, Indorama Ventures is planning to spin off its Indovinya downstream chemicals segment and its Indovida packaging unit. These entities will operate as independent high-growth businesses, maximising their

potential within their respective industries.

With over 30 years of expansion and 50 acquisitions, Indorama Ventures has established an extensive global footprint. The company's new approach will leverage its existing platform, processes, and digital enterprise systems to drive further growth. Lohia reiterated the company's commitment to financial discipline, maintaining a strong balance sheet, and securing dominant positions in key markets through strategic partnerships.

"We have already switched from our previous M&A-led mindset to new settings under IVL 2.0 that suit the changed business landscape. Now, our growth will come from building close-knit, complementary partnerships with major peer companies, leveraging the 'network effect' to take advantage of our mutual scale," Lohia added.





## Philippines: TexRev Project to turn textile waste into yarns

The Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Textile Research Institute (DOST-PTRI) has partnered with Bayo Manila Inc. under the DOST CRADLE Program to launch the Textile Revitalized (TexRev) Project. This initiative seeks to reshape the Philippine textile industry by turning post-industrial fabric waste into sustainable yarns.

The TexRev process starts with collecting and sorting fabric waste based on color and material type. The fabric is then cut, shredded into fibers, and tested for quality. After impurities are removed through carding, the fibers are spun into yarns and blended with new materials to improve strength and durability. These yarns are later woven into fabric and undergo finishing treatments like dyeing, water resistance, and antimicrobial coatings, making them suitable for both fashion and home textiles. "Through our commitment to the UN Global Compact and collaboration with PTRI, we are proving that a Filipino fashion brand can lead the way in circular fashion, making a difference locally and globally. We firmly believe that the future of fashion is circular," said Anna Losanta Marie A. Lagon, Co-CEO of Bayo Manila, Inc., during the 2025 National Textile Convention (TELACon). Currently, the project focuses on supplying garment manufacturers with a sustainable alternative to conventional textiles. By reusing waste materials in production, TexRev helps businesses reduce their environmental impact while maintaining product quality.

## UAE: Bcomp, SFG Composites to introduce flax fibre composites

Bcomp has announced a strategic partnership with Dubai-based SFG Composites to introduce flax fibre composites as a sustainable alternative for the automotive industry. This collaboration aims to provide manufacturers with a high-performance, lightweight, and eco-friendly material that can replace traditional plastic, glass, and carbon fibre components. The initiative supports the automotive sector's transition towards more sustainable vehicle production. Bcomp's ampliTex and powerRibs flax fibre technologies offer exceptional strength-to-weight ratio, superior vibration damping, and significant CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, making them ideal for interior and structural applications. These bio-based materials not only enhance mechanical performance but also open new possibilities in automotive interior aesthetics, offering improved cosmetic options and durability. Leading automotive brands such as BMW, Cupra, and Volvo have already adopted Bcomp's natural fibre composites. "Automakers are striving to reduce their environmental footprint without compromising performance," said Johann Wacht, Manager of Business Development and Strategic Customer Relationships at Bcomp. "Through our collaboration with SFG Composites, we can expand the use of natural fibre composites, providing a lightweight, high-performance solution that meets modern mobility needs."

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# Wet-spun route to new functionality

A new kind of fabric developed by researchers at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada, can heat up when exposed to the sun as a result of nanoparticles embedded its fibres. Wearable heated clothing typically relies on metals or ceramic heating elements to heat up and an external power source, which could pose safety risks for users.

By contrast, the new fabric incorporates conductive polymer nanoparticles that can heat up to 30 degrees Celsius when exposed to sunlight. The design requires no external power and can also change colour to visually monitor temperature fluctuations. "The magic behind the temperature-sensitive colour change lies in the combination of nanoparticles embedded in the polymer fibres," said Yuning Li, a professor at Waterloo's Department of Chemical Engineering.

The fibre is created using a scalable wet-spinning process, combining polyaniline and polydopamine nanoparticles to enhance light absorption and improve photothermal conversion. Thermoplastic polyurethane serves as the spinning

matrix, while thermochromic dyes enable the reversible colour-changing feature. The resulting fibre can be woven into fabric for wearable applications. In addition to its temperature-changing capability, the new fabric can stretch out by as much as five times its original shape and withstand as much as two-dozen washings while still maintaining its function and appearance. Its reversible colour-changing ability provides a built-in temperature monitoring feature to ensure the wearer's safety and convenience. "We prioritised durability, ensuring the fabric could withstand repeated use and environmental exposure while maintaining its innovative properties," said Li. The Waterloo team is exploring more cost-effective alternatives to polydopamine to make the smart fabric technology more accessible. Future developments will focus on scaling the production process and reducing costs without compromising on the fabric's properties.

Potential applications include aids for cold rescue situations and solar-powered pet clothing.

# Fulgar extends scope of sustainable innovations

Fulgar, a global leader in innovative man-made yarns, is reinforcing its commitment to a responsible textile supply chain. At Performance Days in Munich, the company is showcasing its cutting-edge solutions beyond fabrics, collaborating with Nyguard, a specialist in zippers, to introduce Q-Cycle technology for a more circular apparel accessories sector. Q-Cycle production replaces 100% of raw materials with pyrolysis oil derived from recycled end-of-life tyres, adhering to the mass balance principle. The high-performance solution meets the demands of the fashion-tech industry, ensuring durability, quality, and a reduced environmental footprint. Certified by international standards such as RCS by Textile Exchange, ISCC PLUS, LCA, and Oeko-TEX STD CLASS I Appendix 6, Q-Cycle guarantees sustainability and consumer

safety, the company says. Nyguard has leveraged Q-Cycle to develop the first zippers entirely made from recycled high-pollution materials. Daniela Antunes, Marketing Manager at Fulgar, highlights the industry's challenge in achieving circularity: "The process begins with using waste materials and extends to designing products that facilitate garment and accessory recycling. Our collaboration with Nyguard is a significant step toward a more sustainable future for the entire textile industry." At Performance Days (booth H17), Fulgar and Nyguard present their latest innovations, offering brands and industry professionals an opportunity to explore sustainable solutions that integrate high performance with environmental responsibility.

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# Driving the adoption of next gen materials

Next-generation materials including textile-to-textile recycled polyester and lab-grown cotton could represent 8% of the total fibre market by 2030 – equivalent to approximately 13 million tons, according to a new report from Fashion for Good and the Boston Consulting Group. Although a vast improvement from just 1% of the fibre market today, this growth may still fall short of industry demand due to mounting regulatory pressures, climate-related supply chain disruptions and evolving consumer preferences, the report’s authors observe. Materials account for 92% of the industry’s total emissions through their extraction, processing and production, as well as around 30% of cost of goods sold (COGS). Next-generation materials present the opportunity to transform the industry’s environmental impact. Many brands, however, lack guidance and are unprepared for a material transition and how to drive adoption to unlock the benefits of these new materials. “The fashion industry stands at a critical juncture where next-generation materials are no longer just an opportunity but a business imperative,” said Katrin Ley, managing director at Fashion for Good. “The opportunity is there, but requires individual and collective action across demand, cost, and capital levers to bend the adoption curve.” The scaling of next-generation materials is hindered by financial, technical and operational obstacles. The report, *Scaling Next-Gen Materials in Fashion: An Executive Guide*, provides a strategic plan to enable industry leaders to navigate

these challenges. It emphasises the need for both individual brand action and industry-wide collaboration, identifying three primary levers for scaling next-gen materials and reducing the cost of transition. Firstly, consistent demand signals stabilise markets and demand pooling and transition financing can overcome adoption barriers. Secondly, cost engineering and process optimisation across the supply chain will unlock economies of scale, driving affordability and adoption. Finally, strategic financing aligned with each phase of the adoption curve will ensure sustained growth and scaling potential. Successful implementation necessitates the integration of next-gen materials into core business strategies, aligning with financial goals to secure resources and drive accountability, the report’s authors say. This requires a comprehensive understanding of the current material mix, supply chain and external ecosystem to mitigate risks and capitalise on opportunities for long-term resilience. “Scaling next-generation materials isn’t just about sustainability – it’s about staying relevant in a changing market,” says Sebastian Boger, of BCG’s Fashion and Luxury sector. “But these materials won’t scale on their own and industry-wide action is key. The transition to next-generation materials is both a challenge and an opportunity for the fashion industry and brands that act now to embed these materials into their core operations will win the next era of fashion.”

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WORLD....

## Multi-functional new sustainable yarn from Unifi

**I**ntegr8 is a new spandex-free stretch yarn being introduced to the market by Greensboro, North Carolina-headquartered Unifi. The continuous filament yarn includes Repreve post-consumer recycled plastic and is embedded with fully traceable FiberPrint technology and certified by U-Trust, along with Oeko-Tex, GRS and SCS certifications for recycled content. Combining softness with moisture management, it can elevate the performance and functionality of wovens, knits and seamless products, making it ideal for apparel, footwear and home furnishings.

In addition to an ultra-soft hand feel, spandex-free comfort stretch and moisture management, fabrics manufactured with Integr8 can benefit from evaporative cooling, UV protection and easy-care, low-wrinkle properties, depending on their construction. "Integr8 represents a breakthrough, particularly for apparel and footwear brands that have long sought the stretch of spandex without the associated environmental burden," says Unifi CEO Eddie Ingle. "With one of the industry's most comprehensive suites of performance-engineered technologies, Unifi is ideally positioned to meet the growing demand for sustainable, functional yarns."

## Ecosystem for fibre-to-fibre recycling of service textiles

**P**aris headquartered textile-to-textile recycling company Reju is partnering with Cibutex, a cooperative of Dutch textile service and rental businesses who will supply raw materials derived from post-consumer textile waste to be transformed into regenerated Reju Polyester. Reju Polyester will have a 50% lower carbon footprint than virgin polyester and will be produced at Reju's Regeneration Hub Zero in Frankfurt, Germany which will be fully operational later this year.

Cibutex aims to close the loop on service textiles production, ensuring that B2B post-use textiles are collected and transformed into valuable new raw materials.

"Reju and Cibutex are joining forces to lead the change in creating a circular ecosystem for service textiles," said Patrik Frisk, CEO of Reju. "The distinct approach of Cibutex in mobilising member companies aligns perfectly with our mission to regenerate textiles at scale."

"Our cooperative was founded on the principle of fostering a circular textile economy," added Jan Lamme, CEO at Cibutex. "Partnering with Reju will strengthen our ability to bring post-use business textiles back into the production cycle, achieving the essential traceability and quality."



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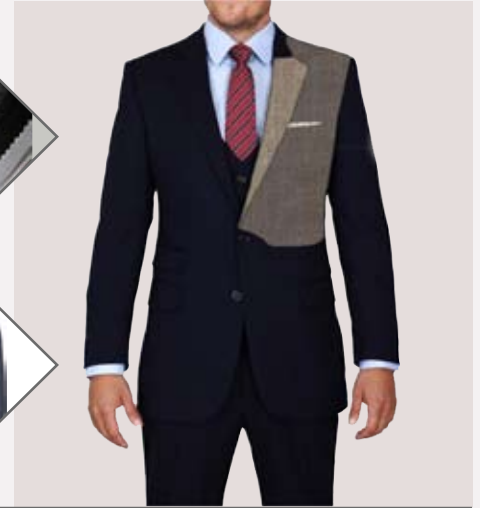
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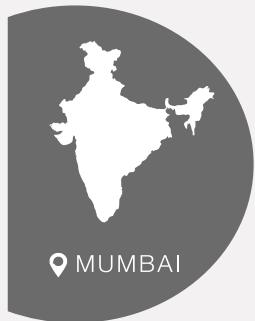
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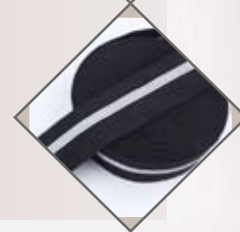
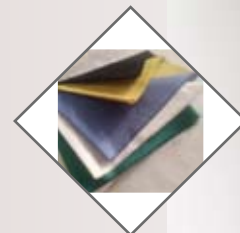
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## Wool the key to carbon neutrality for Allbirds

With a limited edition run of just 500 pairs, Allbirds carbon negative M0.ONSHOT Zero sports shoes are now available to buy for the first time at its select stores in Dubai, London, New York, Seoul and Tokyo, with each pair labelled with a unique production number.

The shoes are a testament to the work Allbirds has done over the past decade to systematically reduce the climate impact of its products, pushing beyond any of the brand's previous creations in both sustainability and design. Instead of constantly trying to reduce, however, the Allbirds design team has utilised a greater share of wool in its design to lower the style's carbon footprint.

"M0.ONSHOT Zero represents the ultimate pursuit of product purity, stripping away everything superfluous to allow the wool to be the hero," says Allbirds designer Jamie McLellan. "We needed to find ways to use more regenerative wool to help us counter other more stubborn parts of the carbon equation. As a result, we used wool to wrap the entire upper and the midsole, giving the shoe a modern and monolithic look that feels fitting for footwear of the future." The regenerative wool is exclusively sourced from New Zealand's Lake Hawea Station (LHS), a farm that sequesters more carbon than it emits due to regenerative practices like native plantings, protecting large areas of regenerating forest and new pasture species. LHS is among the leaders in the movement to return to regenerative growing techniques used for many millennia, working in harmony with nature to improve human, animal and environmental outcomes.

Allbirds began by working with The New Zealand Merino Company's ZQRX regenerative wool programme to source M0.ONSHOT's wool from Lake Hawea Station and calculated the specific farm-level carbon footprint. The organisational carbon footprint that forms the starting point for the allocation was developed independent of this project and verified by Toitū Envirocare, a New Zealand-based B Corp and carbon certification business.

Allbirds then collaborated with The New Zealand Merino Company to translate this farm footprint into a product-level wool material carbon intensity for M0.ONSHOT. This new wool carbon intensity is used to calculate the product's carbon footprint using the Allbirds Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) Tool, with modifications. The initial Allbirds LCA Tool was third-party verified against the requirements of ISO 14067, which specifies principles, requirements and guidelines for calculating the carbon footprint of a product.

The carbon footprint of M0.ONSHOT accounts for on-farm carbon sequestration, in addition to emissions, which is a deviation from standard industry practice. As a result, the calculated carbon footprint for M0.ONSHOT, unlike Allbirds' standard products, is not fully aligned to ISO 14067. However, Allbirds believes this wool carbon intensity value captures a more comprehensive model of the total emissions fluxes happening on-farm.

For brands looking for help or resources to follow suit, Allbirds has published an open-sourced, free toolkit that uncovers key innovations that made the milestone possible. It details currently leading-edge methodologies and materials including bio-based midsole foam, methane-capture bioplastic, sugarcane-derived, carbon-negative green PE packaging and more. The toolkit is available on the Allbirds website for anyone to download and hopefully implement.

## Revibat's patented process for glass wool waste

International technology group Andritz has just commissioned a neXline airlay nonwovens system for Paris-based Revibat, for the production of building insulation panels from glass wool waste that would otherwise be sent to landfills.

Revibat will now transform complex waste collected in the Paris region into valuable products via a patented process addressing two major challenges – giving a second life to glass wool insulation waste and reducing the carbon footprint across the entire production chain.

The line processes up to 1,500 kg of fibre per hour and is specifically designed to produce a unique nonwoven material.

"Our new Andritz neXline airlay system represents a major milestone in our market as it enables us to start producing building insulation panels from glass wool waste," said Revibat CEO Nicolas Brousse. "Our goal is to expand this solution across France, getting as close as possible to the waste and thereby minimising our carbon footprint.

Working with the experts at the Andritz technical centre in Cours has been a pleasure and essential for the development of this unique product."

Revibat's mission has been to find a viable solution for the recycling of the glass wool, a challenge that has until now been unsolved.

# Simplified supply chain integration focus of new Fiber Club

**T**extile-to-textile recycling innovator Circ is launching Fiber Club in partnership with Fashion for Good and Canopy.

The collaborative initiative will enable brands to validate and adopt recycled materials through a structured process spanning sampling, pilot collections and crucial long-term offtake commitments.

The inaugural fibre is Circ’s staple lyocell, with plans to incorporate more Circ materials in the future.

Often, piloting a new fibre into existing supply chains requires certain minimum volumes and investment and it can be costly and complex.

Fiber Club aims to overcome these challenges by providing brands with a platform to engage in testing and adoption simultaneously,

streamlining the suppliers engaged and reducing minimum order quantities by combining brand volumes – all resulting in reduced costs.

The initiative aims to advance Next Gen material adoption

by simplifying supply chain integration and establishing bulk pricing frameworks to make large-scale adoption more accessible and affordable for the brands.

Initial supply chain partners are Arvind, Birla Cellulose and Foshan Chicley, and brand partners are Bestseller, Eileen Fisher, Everlane and Zalando.

Of the three supply chain partners doing pilot development for these brands, Birla Cellulose will produce lyocell staple fibre from Circ’s pulp made from polycotton textile waste and Arvind and Foshan Chicley will produce fabrics. The brands will then nominate a garment manufacturer to take the fabric through to final products.

“Fiber Club represents the future of textile recycling and circularity,” says Circ CEO

Peter Majeranowski. “By collaborating with brands and streamlining supply chain integration, we’re making it easier than ever to adopt recycled and Next Gen materials at scale—starting with our Circ Lyocell.”

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## Ten recycling lines at RE&UP just the start

With a history of responsible business stretching back 118 years, Sanko Textile is a cornerstone of Istanbul-headquartered Sanko Holding, one of Turkey's strongest and best-known family enterprises.

Sanko Textile's operations span cotton and synthetic yarn production, weaving and knitting and home textiles. In 2023, it introduced a new recycling technology venture, RE&UP, to specialise in textile-to-textile recycling, turning cotton, polyester and poly-cotton fabrics into high quality, traceable raw materials ready for re-spinning.

RE&UP's collaboration with Andritz started in 2021, when Sanko ordered a mechanical recycling line – and subsequently a further nine in 2022. At over €14 million, this is the biggest single-order project in the history of the Andritz textile division in Turkey. Five lines are already in operation under the contract, with five more scheduled for delivery in 2024.

RE&UP's goal is to enable a seamless closed-loop ecosystem for end-of-life textile waste and through its feedstock-agnostic process – which is capable of processing the majority of production and post-consumer waste – it offers valuable recycled textile raw materials for the whole industry at scale. The company is already providing this as an end-to-end and scalable solution and has set a target of recycling more than one million tons of textile waste by 2030.

“RE&UP leverages the vast knowledge of our parent company Sanko in spinning recycled fibres, which requires specialised fibre and yarn engineering expertise,” says general manager Andreas Dorner. “What we can do in-house with this expertise, we will do in-house. However, to truly push boundaries, it is essential that we collaborate

with companies that also have expertise in their areas of specialisation. Andritz has expertise in the sustainable industrialisation of textile recycling technology and has demonstrated great results. We knew that by joining forces we could be an instrument for great change in the industry.”

With this project, the challenge was to ensure that the machine technology required was completely fit for purpose, and that the set-up process was as smooth as possible. Andritz provided significant support and guidance during this phase. Having successfully established the first plant in Turkey, future RE&UP hubs to recycle post-consumer goods will be established in Europe, Asia and America.

“We are working with Andritz technology to tackle this challenge together,” says Dorner. “We provide a solution that not only reduces environmental impact by diverting waste from landfill and incineration, but also puts it back into production. As we continue to establish more bases for RE&UP around the world, we will rely on Andritz for further support to ensure we can deliver on the needs of our customers globally.”

## BioProtect benefits from biobased, plastic-free binders

Ahlstrom has been nominated as a finalist in the IDEA 2025 Awards in the Nonwoven Product category for its BioProtect laundry care solution. This biodegradable and certified biobased product is based on cellulosic fibres in combination with OrganoClick's OC-BioBinder and represents years of dedicated development.

BioProtect is designed to prevent >>66



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## Nonwovenn aims for growth in oral pouch delivery sector

UK-based Nonwovenn is targeting substantial revenue growth in the oral pouch delivery market which is estimated to now be worth \$5.5 billion globally, with an annual growth rate of 30%. The company's PouchTech division has already seen its market share in this sector grow substantially and is looking to further expand its reach over the next three years. Nonwovenn has recently completed an extensive £13 million business transformation programme which has included significant self-funded investments in manufacturing, plant and equipment to enable the servicing of growing order volumes, along with an end-to-end operational efficiency programme and R&D enhancement.

Five years ago, the company made a strategic decision to refocus its supply of fabrics for tobacco-related products, focusing on modern oral nicotine pouches supporting smoking cessation and pouches used in the delivery of other stimulants such as caffeine, as well as agents like CBD and nutritional supplements.

"This transformative focus on modern oral pouch technology

reflects our commitment to sustainability, harm reduction and meeting the evolving needs of adult consumers," said Adrian Bisson, head of PouchTech. "By focusing on rapid flavour release, oral comfort and the highest standards of quality assurance, Nonwovenn is ensuring our products meet the highest standards and deliver superior customer experiences."

"To ensure our products are safe and of high quality, the materials are independently certified for food contact approval through a world-renowned testing institution. We actually set the standard for modern oral pouches, with many product manufacturers now insisting pouch fabric suppliers meet that same standard and certification."

"We are working towards positioning ourselves as the market leader in this rapidly growing sector," added Nonwovenn chairman David Lamb. "We are not just advancing modern oral alternatives but building a pathway to a broader range of products that help reflect our commitment to sustainability, health and harm reduction."

## Kornit Apollo for American Classics Apparel

American Classics Apparel, a leading wholesaler of licensed music, films and gaming apparel, is adopting the Kornit Apollo platform.

The direct-to-garment system will accelerate a shift from traditional screen printing to high-speed digital production ensuring the company can keep pace with surging customer demand and rapid growth of the e-tailer marketplace.

Headquartered in Hanceville, Alabama, American Classics has been a trusted name in licensed apparel for nearly three decades – offering iconic designs from beloved brands in music, film and television which are sold through both retail giants like Walmart and online platforms such as Amazon. With the addition of Kornit Apollo to its arsenal, on top of Kornit Atlas Max Poly production and a range of

earlier Kornit direct-to-garment systems, the company is ready to deliver faster, more efficiently and with unmatched quality. "For years, our partnership with Kornit has empowered us to integrate cutting-edge, on-demand digital production into our operations," said Greg Brown, vice president at American Classics Apparel. "Now, with skyrocketing demand for our licensed apparel and ongoing labour shortages, Kornit Apollo is arriving at the perfect moment. This platform gives us the speed, flexibility and efficiency we need to scale while maintaining the superior quality of our customers expect."

Headquartered in Israel with offices in the USA, Europe, and Asia Pacific, Kornit Digital serves customers in more than 100 countries and states worldwide.

<<64

colour runs during the laundering of clothes and is certified biobased, biodegradable to ISO14855-1 and home compostable. Manufactured using wetlaid technology, it ensures premium quality with excellent dye-catching performance, strong wet strength and high absorption capacity.

"Our high-performance solution delivers outstanding dye-catching capabilities, offering protection against colour runs with results that match industry benchmarks," says Pierre Mary, vice president of nonwovens at Ahlstrom.

"BioProtect significantly reduces environmental impact," adds Anna Brikh, product manager for consumer nonwovens. "It has also been awarded the highest OK

biobased rating of four stars by the accredited certification institute TÜV Austria."

OrganoClick's biobased, plastic-free binders are designed for the nonwoven industry and made from renewable raw materials and waste from residual food industry streams. They are available in various formulations tailored for home compostable nonwoven applications such as premium napkins, tablecloths and wet wipes.

"We are thrilled to see our biobinders being used in new applications that require durability under challenging conditions," says Märten Hellberg, CEO of OrganoClick.

"We look forward to continuing our mission of replacing plastics and making products truly sustainable from the inside out."

## Heimtextil showcase of bedwear with Devan's new sleep enhancer

**S**leep Tight is a new fabric treatment being introduced by Belgium-headquartered Devan Chemicals which has been shown in an independent clinical trial to enhance sleep quality. Its active ingredient is derived from an upcycled by-product of Australian Tea Tree oil which is activated by both inhalation and skin contact. Designed for use in textiles such as bedding and sleepwear, the technology boosts melatonin action, reduces the production of reactive oxygen species, stimulates the production of antioxidant genes and protein and stimulates collagen gene expression. It is based on microencapsulation with the biobased microcapsules breaking during sleep due to friction between the body and the textiles. The content of the biobased capsules is then released and absorbed by the skin, while the volatile components of the active ingredients are simultane-


ously inhaled. In a clinical study 33 healthy female and male subjects with sleep problems aged between 18 and 60 years used a treated pillow cover with R-Vital NTL 10015 Sleep Tight every night for 30 days. Each participant was required to fill out the Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index and a quality of life questionnaire before and after using the product.

The Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI) is a scientifically validated tool widely used to reliably assess and measure sleep quality. The results show that after 30 days sleeping on the treated pillow case, participants experienced notable improvements in several key areas. The most significant changes were seen in sleep quality, sleep latency, sleep disturbances and a reduction of daytime dysfunction. Devan's Sleep Tight technology was prominently featured at Heimtextil in Frankfurt by Devan and several of its partners, including Crispim Abreu Lda and Lameirinho, two Portuguese companies specialising in bed linen and sleepwear, as well as Naturtex from Hungary, which is a leading producer of quilts and pillows. The first production runs from these companies are already underway, ensuring the technology will be available on the market by the second quarter of 2025.

### Game-changing flame-resistant technology from Precision

**T**he partnership underscores the industry's growing demand for simplified, integrated FR solutions that reduce assembly time, lower costs, and improve mattress quality. "We partnered with Culp Home Fashions to rigorously test and commercialise the IQ FR Inlay across various ticking designs and mattress configurations, all of which meet or exceed CFR 1633 safety standards," said Scott Tesser, CEO of Precision Textiles. "Our customers seek innovative, all-in-one FR solutions, and this product delivers while maintaining superior fabric aesthetics and functionality. It's a game-changer for the bedding industry." The IQ FR Inlay yarn eliminates the need for laminated or standalone internal FR solutions, enhancing comfort, fabric aesthetics, and performance. The collaboration ensures that manufacturers have access to high-quality, performance-driven solutions that seamlessly integrate flame resistance into mattress covers. Culp Home Fashions President Tommy Bruno commented: "We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with Precision Textiles on what we believe is transformative technology for the bedding industry. Our team at Culp continues to prioritise product development and innovation, and we could not be more excited to leverage our global production platform to offer customers new products incorporating Precision Textiles' patented IQ FR Inlay technology."

With both the finished fabric and mattress covers incorporating the IQ FR Inlay available through multiple supply locations, mattress manufacturers worldwide can reliably access this revolutionary technology, supporting efficient production and broader industry adoption.



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# Think circular with Pontetorto's T2T system

The global textile industry is undergoing a radical transformation, and Pontetorto is once again at the forefront with its pioneering Textile to Textile (T2T) system. This new technology recycles polyester waste into high-quality, sustainable textiles, reinforcing the company's commitment to circularity and environmental responsibility.

With more than 100 billion garments produced each year, a significant portion ends up in landfills or incinerators, Pontetorto says. In Europe, textiles rank fourth in environmental impact, third in water and soil consumption, and fifth in raw material use.

Approximately 5.8 million tonnes of textiles are discarded annually - equating to 11 kilograms per person. Globally, the equivalent of a truckload of textiles is sent to waste every second. Given that many garments do not fit into reuse, repair, or resale channels, recycling remains the most viable solution for sustainable industry development.

Pontetorto is actively driving the transition towards a circular textile economy, ensuring that end-of-life

garments can be repurposed into new yarns through advanced mechanical processes. The company has been a leader in sustainability since its founding in 1952 in the Prato district, an area historically renowned for textile recycling. Today, the firm's innovation continues with its in-house circularity approach, utilising cutting-edge technology to close the loop in textile production. "Our company," explains Marco Toccafondi, General Manager of Pontetorto, "produces textile waste during the finishing process. This waste, previously destined for disposal, is now recovered, separated by colour, cleaned of impurities, and converted into new recycled fibres for weaving. All processing steps adhere to strict sustainability standards, resulting in fully recycled fabrics. This concept echoes the traditional practices of our region from sixty or seventy years ago but is now enhanced with state-of-the-art technology. By recovering textile waste from both our own production and garment makers, we not only promote sustainability but also help reduce disposal costs for manufacturers."

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# Karl Mayer sees strong demand for composites machines

**K**arl Mayer Technical Textiles has reported strong demand for its MAX GLASS ECO and TM WEFT 2 machines, launched last year. The machines have been well received in the composite and fashion sectors, with double-digit sales recorded in China and India during 2024.

The company anticipates further success in 2025, with eight new enquiries for the TM WEFT 2 machine from Chinese customers in early January. A recent installation in a traditional waterjet weaving region has demonstrated the machine's environmental benefits, reducing wastewater impact while significantly improving efficiency. Traditional warp knitting customers are also exploring its potential for new applications.

The TM WEFT 2 offers a compelling price-performance ratio, user-friendly operation, and a long service life. It is 20% more efficient than its predecessor, featuring improvements in the crankcase system and proven carbon bar technology.



Meanwhile, the MAX GLASS ECO provides a cost-effective solution for producing standard glass fibre fabrics. Key customers include manufacturers in the wind power sector, benefiting from its

high output of up to 410 metres per hour at 1800 rpm. Customisable with optional features, the machine delivers increased efficiency at a reduced amortisation period.



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## New batching device for Raschel machines

Karl Mayer is offering customers enhanced benefits and maximum delivery reliability with the launch of its new 26 B batching device for Raschel machines used in special applications. Manufactured in-house, the 26 B batching device ensures punctual production aligned with the overall machine schedule. By using proven standard components and leveraging in-house design expertise, Karl Mayer guarantees durability and continuous optimisation.

“We are now more resilient in our dealings with suppliers and can drive forward further developments to our batching device more efficiently,” explains Sascha Cron, Head of Customized Raschel Machinery Development at Karl Mayer’s Warp Knitting Business Unit. The latest solution offers significant handling improvements compared to previous models. The integration of the control system into KAMCOS 2 allows operators to enter and read settings directly on the machine’s



operator interface rather than an external display. This streamlined control minimises errors and enables remote updates of the drive controller through standard routines. The 26 B

batching device also enhances workplace safety. When used with a needle coating, a system of three light barriers and a protective grill prevents access during machine operation. For devices with conventional coatings, safety is ensured with four light barriers. Additionally, the drive concept maintains the same rotational movement for consistent fabric flow while reducing complexity.

Further innovations can be

implemented upon request. Optional features include an ejection device for handling heavy fabrics, a traversing device to ensure even selvedge build-up, and a pressure roller for

achieving perfect fabric tension from the start of a new beam.

Following successful functional tests, the 26 B batching device was made available for sale in January 2025. By mid-February, four customers had already placed orders. The device is now a standard feature for new machines and is also available as a retrofit

solution for existing machines,

including those with KAMCOS 1 and KAMCOS 2. The retrofit version for KAMCOS 1 machines includes a modern external display with touch functionality, allowing users of older machines to benefit from the improved quality and functionality. Tetsuji Yasumura from the Karl Mayer Care Solutions team welcomes inquiries regarding the replacement of existing batching devices with the new 26 B variant.

## Fulgar, Nyguard introduce sustainable zipper technology

Fulgar, a global leader in innovative man-made yarns, is strengthening its dedication to sustainable

textile solutions. At Performance Days Munich, the company is unveiling new advancements beyond fabrics by collaborating with Nyguard, a specialist in zippers, to introduce Q-Cycle technology, aiming to create a more circular and eco-friendly accessories sector.

The Q-Cycle process completely replaces raw materials with pyrolysis oil derived from recycled end-of-life tyres, following the mass balance principle. This high-performance solution meets the growing demand for durable, high-quality, and low-impact fashion-tech materials. It is certified

by RCS (Textile Exchange), ISCC PLUS, LCA, and Oeko-TEX STD CLASS I Appendix 6, ensuring both sustainability and consumer safety. Nyguard has used Q-Cycle to develop the first-ever zippers made entirely from recycled high-pollution materials. Daniela Antunes, Fulgar’s Marketing Manager, emphasized the importance of circularity in textiles: “The journey begins with waste materials and extends to designing products that support recycling in garments and accessories. Our collaboration with Nyguard is a key step toward a more sustainable textile industry.”

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## eVent Fabrics unveils innovative ultralight laminate

eVent Fabrics, a global leader in waterproof, breathable, and windproof fabric laminates, has introduced its latest innovation, stormburstLT. Designed for exceptional breathability, this ultralight laminate expands eVent's existing lineup. With this addition, eVent now offers a comprehensive range of fabric solutions for apparel, footwear, and gloves.

"Our focus with stormburstLT was to enhance breathability for high-intensity activities," said Chad Kelly, President of eVent Fabrics. "We developed this technology using a super-thin, 5-micron PFAS-free

membrane, available with either lightweight woven or knitted face and interior fabrics. This creates a versatile, windproof laminate that delivers exceptional moisture vapor transport and breathability."

eVent will market stormburstLT to brands specializing in running, cycling, Nordic skiing, hiking, skiing, and activewear. Its lightweight, packable, and versatile nature also makes it ideal for adventure travel, providing outdoor enthusiasts with a high-performance solution for dynamic environments.

## Circulose joins Canopy to protect forests in textile supply chains

Circulose has pledged to support Canopy's mission to reduce the use of Ancient and Endangered Forests in their textile supply chains, and joined solutions-driven non-profit Canopy's CanopyStyle and Pack4Good initiatives. This bold commitment underscores Circulose's dedication to protecting climate-critical forests and global biodiversity.

As part of our commitment to CanopyStyle, we enable brands to replace virgin materials with our Next Gen alternative, CIRCULOSE®, a material made out of 100% discarded textiles, helping to reduce the environmental footprint of fashion.

This announcement comes at a pivotal moment, with demand for man-made cellulosic fibre (MMCF) textiles and paper packaging surging. Over 3.4 billion trees are logged annually for packaging and fabrics. Protecting forests is one of the fastest, most cost-effective strategies for combating climate change, preserving biodiversity, and

safeguarding our shared future.

"We're thrilled to welcome Circulose into the CanopyStyle and Pack4Good initiatives," said Nicole Rycroft, Canopy's Executive Director. "Their commitment to transforming supply chains and embracing circular alternatives is a vital step forward in our collective effort to keep forests standing, species thriving, and carbon safely stored."

"Everyone has a role to play, and collaboration is key — but bold action is essential to protect natural ecosystems. A big thank you to Canopy for inspiring action and being such a strong advocate for our planet! Together, we are making a difference with CIRCULOSE®. A proven product made entirely from discarded textiles that replaces virgin materials at scale. Available globally, this validated material delivers the same look and feel, transforming yesterday's textile waste into tomorrow's fashion." — Dr. Anna Sammarco, Senior Director of Circular Business Development and Strategy, Circulose.

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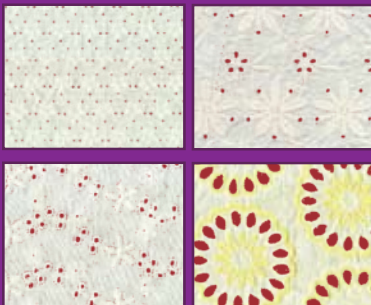
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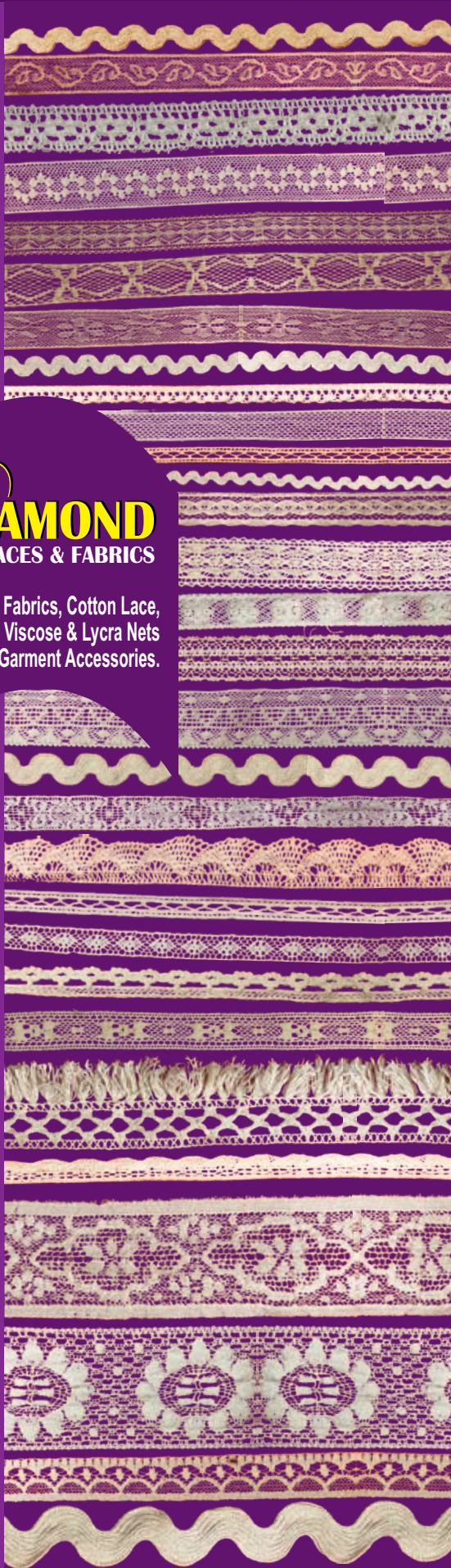


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# COMMUNION TRIBUTE

*In loving memory of Harjit Singh Bakshi (Sonu Ji)*

11th November. 1968 to 9th March. 2025



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the sudden passing of our esteemed colleague and friend, Harjit Singh Bakshi known as Sonu ji to all of us. In the year 2004, Sonu ji was appointed as Marketing Executive and subsequently as Marketing Manager in 2009. His ability to churn up the sales and make friends in the Garment Industry earned him the recognition and promotion so quickly. Over the years, Sonu ji made some very good friends all over India and also attended some important trade exhibitions in India and abroad to promote Garment Technology Expo. He was very well respected and recognized in the industry. Sonu ji's contributions to Garment Technology Expo earned him the right to be a part of the Garment Technology Expo planning team.

As a person, Sonu ji was a truly unforgettable presence. He had a rare charisma that naturally drew people towards him. He had a unique style of engaging with others, - though his witty style and ability to Sing very well. He had an innate ability to connect with people at all levels, make them feel valued. His presence and sense of humor will be profoundly missed.

As we mourn this significant loss, we extend our deepest condolences to Sonu ji's family, notably his wife, his son and his loved ones. and he will always remain in our hearts.

With our deepest sympathy,

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# Exhibition Schedule 2025-2026

## National & International

### APRIL 2025

#### **GARFAB (TX)**

4-6, April, 2025

SIECC, Sarsana, Surat

Apparel Technology, Embroidery,  
Weaving, Digital Printing etc.

### **SAIGON TEX 2025**

9-12 April, 2025

Secc, Hochiminh City Vietnam

Vietnam Saigon Textile & Garment  
Industry Expo

(Including Textile Garment Dye  
And Non Woven Industries)

### MAY 2025

#### **GARTEX TEXPROCESS INDIA**

22-24 May 2025

Venue: Jio World Convention Centre

Bandra Kurla Complex Mumbai,

India.(Integrated Expo On Garment)

Manufacturing & Textile Technolo-  
gies

### JULY 2025

#### **TEXTILE FAIRS INDIA**

July. 10-12, 2025

Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Fibers, Yarns, Fabrics, Accessories,  
Service

### **GFT-BANGKOK**

July. 23-26, 2025

BITEC, BANGKOK, THAILAND\

This is a comprehensive tradeshow  
on garment textile machinery &  
Accessories

### AUGUST 2025

#### **KNIT SHOW**

8-10, August 2025

Top Light Center, Kangeyam Road,  
Tirupur. TN

Garment -Textiles Machinery &  
Fashion Accessories.

### **GARTEX TEXPROCESS INDIA**

August. 21-23

Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan,  
New Delhi., India.

(Integrated Expo On Garment)

Manufacturing & Textile Technolo-  
gies

### OCTOBER 2025

#### **ITMA ASIA+CITME**

October 28-31

Singapore Expo, Singapore. \

Showcase your technologies at the  
leading textile technology exhibition  
driving regional growth

### NOVEMBER 2025

#### **GARMENT TECHNOLOGY EXPO**

November 7-9

Helipad Exhibition Centre,  
Gandhinagar, Guj.

Showcase your technologies at the  
leading garment technology, Mach-  
inery and accessories

### DECEMBER 2026

#### **INDIA ITME 2026**

December 4-9

India Expo Center & Mart,  
Greater Noida. UP

Showcase of Textile Machinery,  
Accessories, Auxiliary

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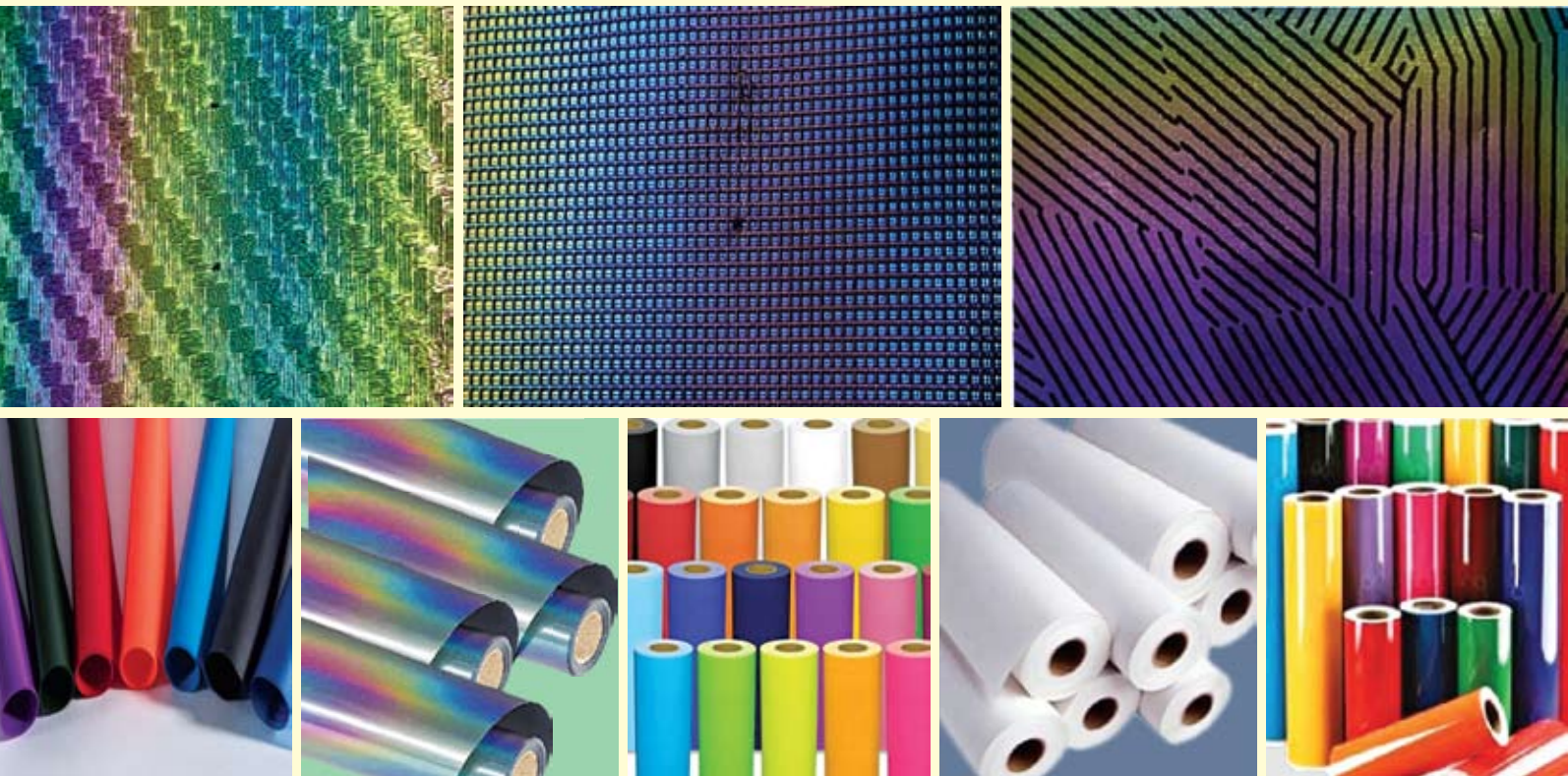


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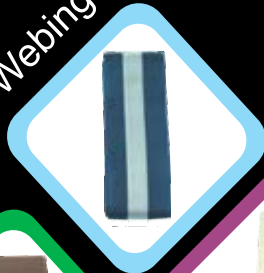
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