



Handloom Export

E-Newsletter



June 2026

INDIA'S LARGEST GLOBAL TEXTILE EVENT IS BACK!



Handloom Export Promotion Council

(Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India)

“Inviting all to the 3rd Edition of Bharat Tex”



India's largest
Global Textile event
returns

14th - 17th July Bharat Mandpaam
New Delhi

Organised by

**BHARAT TEX
TRADE FEDERATION**

Supported by



Inspired by

INSPIRED BY THE
FARM TO
FACTORY TO
FASHION TO
FOREIGN
**5F
VISION**



INSPIRED BY THE
**5F
VISION**
FARM TO
FIBRE TO
FACTORY TO
FASHION TO
FOREIGN

5500+
EXHIBITORS

120000+
TRADE VISITORS

7000+
OVERSEAS BUYERS

2.2 MILLION
SQFT. AREA

“Weave your network
with 40 Knowledge
Sessions”



&
MORE!

Global and Indian industry leaders, B2G and B2B meetings,
latest textile innovations, strategic partnerships & more!



For more information write us to
bharat-tex@hepcindia.com; fairs@hepcindia.com
or visit www.bharat-texindia.com

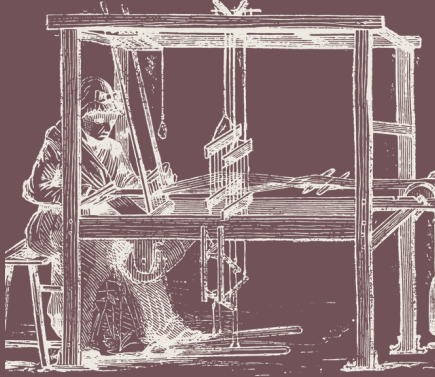




The Handloom Export Promotion Council

HANDLOOM EXPORT

Newsletter of Handloom Export Promotion Council, June 2026



Chairman : V. Lakshmi Narasimhan @ Ramesh
Vice Chairman : Rakesh Jain
Editor : N. Sreedhar, Executive Director
Editorial Team : Dr. M.Sundar, Joint Director
S. Sudhalakshmi
P. Sangeetha

Published by Head Office:

The Handloom Export Promotion Council

(Under the aegis of Development Commissioner of Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India),

No.34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600034, India.

Tel: +91-44-28278879/28276043

E-mail: hepc@hepcindia.com | Website: www.hepcindia.com

Ministry of Textiles, Website: www.ministryoftextiles.gov.in

Regional Office:

1004, 10 Floor, Padma Tower - 1

No.5, Rajendra Place, New Delhi - 110008.

Tel: +91-11-25826965

Email: hepcrond@hepcindia.com

Liasion Office

Karur Office

Premises of The Karur Textile Manufacturer
Exporters' Association, No.29-C 1,Pugalur Road,
Karur – 639 001

Contact No: +919500438726

Guwahati Office

WSC Building, IIHT Guwahati Campus
Jawahar Nagar, Khanapara
Guwahati-781022

The Handloom Export Promotion Council

Executive Committee Members

Chairman : **Shri V. Lakshmi Narasimhan @ Ramesh**

M/s. Sri Laxmi Export
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Vice Chairman : **Shri Rakesh Jain**

M/s. Tex India
Panipat, Haryana

Member : **Shri Lalit Kumar Goel**

M/s. Riviera Home
Furnishings Pvt. Ltd.
Panipat, Haryana

Member : **Shri P.Gopalakrishnan**

M/s. Metro Fabrics
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Dr. K.N.Prabhu**

M/s. Paradigm International
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri K.A. Sadasivam**

M/s. Sree Baba fabrics
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri T.V.Chandrasekaran**

M/s. Rakhava Impex
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri A.M. Ravi**

M/s. Melvin International
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri S. Sukumar**

M/s. Sarathy Export Fabrics
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri N. Balusamy**

M/s. Airwill Home
Collections Pvt. Ltd
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri Vadivel**

Kanagasabapathi
M/s. VKS Fabrics
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri K.M Saleem**

M/s. K.A.S.Zainuladin
Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri S Venkatesh**

M/s. The Standard Textiles
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri Amit Kumar Goel**

M/s. Luxury Home
Furnishings
Panipat, Haryana

Member : **Shri Vinod Dhamija**

M/s. Sahil International (PNP)
Panipat, Haryana

Member : **Shri S Jagadees**

M/s. Sri Jothi Impex
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri Ramesh Verma**

M/s. Diamond Exports
Panipat, Haryana

Member : **Shri Ashok Gupta**

M/s. ABC Industries
Jaipur, Rajasthan

Member : **Shri V. Vasanth Kumar**

M/s. American Textile Company
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri Suresh Tayal**

M/s. Ess Kay Enterprises
Panipat, Haryana

Member : **Smt. Ruchi Gupta**

M/s. Ila Home Fashions
Panipat, Haryana

Member : **Shri P. Arjuna**

M/s. Shri Pranav Textile
Creations Private Limited
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shir Aseem Pahwa**

M/s. Ciel Home Décors
Panipat, Haryana

Member : **Shri Kunal Jain**

M/s. RKD Furnishings Pvt Ltd
Panipat, Haryana

Member : **Smt. Rajaranjani**

Chakkaravarthy
M/s. Saadhya Exports
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri K Yokesh**

M/s. Azlon Arts
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Member : **Shri Adeesh Kumar Jain**

M/s. ANK Exports
Panipat, Haryana

Member : **Shri R. Stiffenbabu**

M/s Homelines Textiles
Karur, Tamil Nadu

Chairman's Column

As per DGCIS data, handloom exports during April–February 2026 reached Rs. 1,223.05 crore (USD 139.12 million), registering a positive growth of 15.16% in rupee terms and 10.51% in dollar terms over the corresponding period of the previous year. Though the handloom export trend is in positive line, the growth ratio is still the worrying concern.

The current global trade environment presents a mix of opportunities and challenges. Geopolitical developments, particularly in the Middle East have impacted logistics, supply chains, and market access. Adding with, evolving trade measures such as the United States' actions under Section 301, underscores the need for greater market diversification and stronger supply chain resilience.

In response to these challenges, the Government of India has introduced timely support measures. The RELIEF (Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation) initiative under the Export Promotion Mission, provides enhanced export credit coverage, freight and insurance relief, and risk mitigation support, helping exporters sustain operations in a volatile environment. On the policy front, several facilitation measures have been undertaken to improve ease of doing business.

These include the DGFT's digital module for EPCG scrips, extension of the EODC drive, and the continuation of RoSCTL and RoDTEP schemes, all of which contribute to strengthening export competitiveness.

Additionally, the rollback of certain U.S. tariffs offers an opportunity for exporters to reconnect with buyers and improve market positioning.

Key milestones have been the signing of the India–EU and India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreements, while trade negotiations with USA, Canada, Israel etc. are presently under progress. These developments are expected to strengthen market access, enhance investment flows, and create new export opportunities for Indian industries, including the textile and handloom sector.

As we move forward, it is important for the sector to align with emerging global trends such as sustainability, transparency, and digital trade. Strengthening branding, improving quality standards, focusing luxury brands and leveraging India's rich handloom heritage will be key to enhance the handloom export.

The increase in raw material costs is being experienced across all major exporting countries. In this challenging global environment, Indian exporters can leverage their cost competitiveness, product strength, and market diversification to enhance their position in the international market and capitalize on emerging export opportunities.

Exporters are encouraged to continue sharing their feedback and suggestions. A collaborative and forward-looking approach will be essential to navigate current challenges and build a stronger future.

I take this opportunity to assume charge as Chairman and look forward to working closely with all stakeholders for the continued growth of the handloom sector. I also acknowledge the contributions of my predecessor and seek your continued support and cooperation in strengthening our global presence.

With warm regards,



Lakshmi Narasimhan @ Ramesh

Diamond Jubilee Chairman





7th Cross Functional Team Meeting (CFTM)

The 7th Cross-Functional Team Meeting (CFTM) was convened on 10 April 2026 at Chennai by the Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) as part of the Ministry of Textiles' initiative to strengthen coordination and convergence among various textile sector institutions at the state level. The meeting served as a collaborative platform for reviewing progress, addressing inter-departmental issues, and aligning ongoing efforts to support the growth and development of the handloom sector.

The session began with a review of action taken on key points from the previous meeting, followed by a broad overview of developments across participating organizations. Discussions emphasized the importance of improved information sharing, enhanced utilization of infrastructure, and stronger institutional linkages to address operational challenges and optimize outcomes. Participants also highlighted the need for greater synergy in areas such as market access, design support, technology adoption, and capacity building. A key takeaway from the meeting was the continued positive outlook for the handloom export sector, supported by coordinated promotional efforts, policy support, and stakeholder engagement. The forum further underscored the significance of joint outreach programmes, awareness initiatives, and cluster-level interventions to ensure inclusive growth and wider dissemination of government schemes and services.

The meeting brought together representatives from major textile-related organizations and institutions, including:

- ❁ Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC)
- ❁ Weavers Service Centre (WSC) - Chennai
- ❁ Weavers Service Centre (WSC) - Kanchipuram
- ❁ Weavers Service Centre (WSC)- Salem
- ❁ National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Chennai
- ❁ Indian Institute of Handloom Technology (IIHT), Salem
- ❁ Textiles Committee (TC), Chennai
- ❁ Central Silk Board (CSB), Kancheepuram
- ❁ National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) - Coimbatore
- ❁ National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) - Kanchipuram
- ❁ Integrated Textile and Apparel Development Centre (ITADC), Erode
- ❁ Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Chennai

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to strengthening inter-agency collaboration and continuing joint efforts to enhance efficiency, innovation, and export competitiveness in the handloom sector. It was also decided that the next CFTM will be hosted by Central Silk Board/National Handloom Development Corporation as per the rotational schedule among participating organizations.



Visit of Additional Secretary

23 April 2026 | Panipat

The visit of Smt. Arti Kanwar, IAS, Additional Secretary (Textiles), to Panipat on 23 April 2026 provided an important opportunity to review key developments in the region's textile sector and engage directly with stakeholders. The visit was coordinated by the Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) under the guidance of Shri Lalit Goel, Ex-Chairman, and Shri Rakesh Jain, Vice Chairman. During the visit, the Additional Secretary toured major textile facilities, including the Atal Recycling Centre, the Weavers Service Centre, and the Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP).

She also interacted with industry representatives at leading export units such as H.R. Overseas and Heritage Overseas. These interactions provided valuable insights into production practices, sustainability measures, and export-oriented operations in the cluster. The visit highlighted the importance of infrastructure, sustainability initiatives, and industry collaboration in strengthening the competitiveness of the textile sector. It also facilitated constructive dialogue between government officials and industry stakeholders, reinforcing the commitment to support growth, innovation, and global outreach for Indian textiles.



RENEWAL OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP WITH HEPC FOR THE YEAR 2026-27

We would like to draw your attention to the Trade Notice No.35/2021-22 dated 24 February 2022 by Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) regarding Electronic filing of Registration Cum Membership Certificate (RCMC) through the common digital platform of DGFT w.e.f. 01.04.2022. As you are aware, renewal of your Membership/RTE for the year 2026-27 falls due on 1st April 2026. In this regard, we have already issued a circular dt. 10th March 2026 to all members of Council. Those who have not renewed their membership is requested to renew the Registration cum Membership certificate through the link <https://www.dgft.gov.in/> Please refer Council's circular for more details.





Support for Exporters Gulf & West Asia Disruptions

(Resilience & Logistics Intervention For Export Facilitation)

In response to the ongoing geopolitical tensions and disruptions in the Gulf and West Asia maritime corridor, the Government of India, through the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), has introduced a time-bound support initiative titled RELIEF (Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation) under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM).

This initiative aims to safeguard Indian exporters from challenges such as rising freight costs, increased insurance premiums, and heightened risks associated with war and political instability in the region.

Coverage of RELIEF Scheme

The RELIEF measures apply to shipments (FCL, LCL, and Reefer cargo) destined for or transiting through the following countries: UAE, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, Iraq, Iran, Yemen, Egypt and Jordan (*Back-to-town cargo is not eligible under this scheme*).

In response to the ongoing geopolitical tensions and disruptions in the Gulf and West Asia maritime corridor, the Government of India, through the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), has introduced a time-bound support initiative titled RELIEF (Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation) under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM).




Relief	Key Features
Component I-Export Credit Support for ECGC's already insured exporters.	Meant for ECGC existing customers Period of shipment covered (14.2.2026 to 15.3.2026) Cover to be provided up to 100% at the existing premium rates The Government shall reimburse to ECGC for the amount which ECGC shall pay to its Policyholders in excess of that is ordinarily payable under ECGC's existing cover.
Component II -Encourage and facilitate ECGC coverage for Export Credit Support for upcoming exports in the region.	To encourage exporters to opt for ECGC Policy excluding energy shipments. Period of shipment covered (16.3.2026 to 15.6.2026) Cover to be provided up to 95% at the existing premium rates. The Government shall reimburse to ECGC for the amount which ECGC shall pay to its Policyholders in excess of that is ordinarily payable under ECGC's existing cover.
Component III -Reimbursement support for extraordinary freight and insurance surcharge borne by eligible non ECGC-insured MSME exporters.	Meant for non-ECGC customers and to MSMEs Period of shipment covered (14.2.2026 to 15.3.2026). In respect of CIF contracts, reimbursement shall be provided to exporters up to 50% of additional freight and insurance. In respect of FOB contracts, reimbursement shall be provided to exporters up to 50% of the reduction between the contracted FOB value and the realized export proceeds includes (A) War Risk Surcharge (WRS)/Emergency Conflict Surcharge (ECS) or similar levies; (B) Additional War Risk Premium (AWRP); (C) Additional conflict-related shipping charges linked to maritime route disruptions; and, (D) Additional insurance premiums applicable to cargo shipments. There is an overall ceiling of Rs.50 Lakh per exporter.

Members are encouraged to review the scheme and leverage the available benefits.

DGFT activates Online Module for Post Export EPCG Scrips




The Directorate General of Foreign Trade, under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, has issued Trade Notice No. 02/2026-27 dated 21 April 2026, introducing an online module for issuance, re-issuance, and extension of validity of Post Export EPCG Duty Credit Scrips. This move addresses challenges faced by exporters in utilizing manually issued EPCG scrips and aims to streamline processes through digitization.

Key Highlights

-  The newly launched module on the DGFT portal enables electronic issuance of EPCG scrips, replacing manual/offline systems.
-  The system facilitates direct data exchange between DGFT and Indian Customs Electronic Gateway(ICEGATE), ensuring faster transmission and utilization of scrips.
-  Regional Authorities will examine applications online and issue scrips digitally, which will be automatically transmitted to ICEGATE.

Coverage of Key Scenarios

The module has been designed to handle multiple situations, including

-  Closure of pending Post Export EPCG authorisations and generation of scrips
-  Revalidation or retransmission of already issued but unutilized/expired scrips
-  Conversion of manually issued scrips into electronic format

Exporters can submit applications or raise service requests directly through the DGFT portal for necessary action.

This reform marks a significant step towards enhancing ease of doing business and strengthening export facilitation mechanisms

Relief	Key Features
Component I-Export Credit Support for ECGC's already insured exporters.	Meant for ECGC existing customers Period of shipment covered (14.2.2026 to 15.3.2026) Cover to be provided up to 100% at the existing premium rates The Government shall reimburse to ECGC for the amount which ECGC shall pay to its Policyholders in excess of that is ordinarily payable under ECGC's existing cover.
Component II -Encourage and facilitate ECGC coverage for Export Credit Support for upcoming exports in the region.	To encourage exporters to opt for ECGC Policy excluding energy shipments. Period of shipment covered (16.3.2026 to 15.6.2026) Cover to be provided up to 95% at the existing premium rates. The Government shall reimburse to ECGC for the amount which ECGC shall pay to its Policyholders in excess of that is ordinarily payable under ECGC's existing cover.
Component III -Reimbursement support for extraordinary freight and insurance surcharge borne by eligible non ECGC-insured MSME exporters.	<p>Meant for non-ECGC customers and to MSMEs Period of shipment covered (14.2.2026 to 15.3.2026).</p> <p>In respect of CIF contracts, reimbursement shall be provided to exporters up to 50% of additional freight and insurance.</p> <p>In respect of FOB contracts, reimbursement shall be provided to exporters up to 50% of the reduction between the contracted FOB value and the realized export proceeds includes</p> <p>(A) War Risk Surcharge (WRS)/Emergency Conflict Surcharge (ECS) or similar levies; (B) Additional War Risk Premium (AWRP); (C) Additional conflict-related shipping charges linked to maritime route disruptions; and, (D) Additional insurance premiums applicable to cargo shipments.</p> <p>There is an overall ceiling of Rs.50 Lakh per exporter.</p>

Members are encouraged to review the scheme and leverage the available benefits.

USA Reciprocal Duty Refund

(Advisory for Exporters)



In a significant development, the Supreme Court of the United States has struck down the reciprocal tariffs imposed under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, declaring them invalid due to lack of proper legal authority. Consequently, duties collected are to be refunded from 20 April 2026 through the CAPE system (Consolidated Administration and Processing of Entries) of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Key Highlights

- ✿ Claims to be filed by U.S. importers with shipment details, tariff lines, and proof of duty payment
- ✿ Refunds, along with applicable interest, are expected within 60–90 days

Tariff Timeline on Indian Goods

- ✿ 2 April 2025: 10%
- ✿ 7 August 2025: Increased to 25%
- ✿ 28 August 2025: Increased to 50%
- ✿ 6 February 2026: Reduced to 18% (post bilateral discussions)
- ✿ 20 February 2026: Reduced to 10% following court ruling

Advisory to Exporters: Members are advised to proactively engage with U.S. buyers/importers. This development presents an opportunity for exporters to recover cost disadvantages and strengthen trade partnerships through timely engagement with buyers.

DGFT extends Special Drive for Issuance of EODCS

(Till 31 May 2026)



In a significant development, the Supreme Court of the United States has struck down the reciprocal tariffs imposed under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, declaring them invalid due to lack of proper legal authority. Consequently, duties collected are to be refunded from 20 April 2026 through the CAPE system (Consolidated Administration and Processing of Entries) of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade, under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, has extended its special drive for expeditious issuance of Export Obligation Discharge Certificates (EODCs) under the Advance Authorisation (AA) and EPCG schemes up to 31 May 2026.

Exporters and authorisation holders are advised to actively participate by reviewing the status of their applications, submitting pending documents and clarifications promptly, and responding to deficiency notices within stipulated timelines. Engagement with Regional Authorities through facilitation meetings may also help in quicker resolution. Timely issuance of EODCs will enable closure of AA/EPCG authorisations and support subsequent actions such as redemption of bonds and release of bank guarantees, thereby reducing compliance burden. Members are encouraged to utilise this extended window to expedite pending cases and ensure smooth compliance under export promotion schemes.

ROSCTL Scheme Extended

The Ministry of Textiles has extended the Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) Scheme for exports of apparel/garments and made-ups up to 30 September 2026 or until further approval under the 16th Finance Commission cycle, whichever is earlier. The extension continues without any change in existing guidelines. Operational since March 2019, the RoSCTL Scheme provides rebate of embedded State and Central taxes and levies not covered under other mechanisms, ensuring zero-rating of exports and enhancing the global competitiveness of Indian textile products. The scheme remains particularly beneficial for MSME exporters, who form a significant share of beneficiaries.

In addition, the Government has continued the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) Scheme from 1 April 2026 to 30 September 2026 for textile products not covered under RoSCTL, including those outside Chapters 61, 62, and 63 of ITC (HS). Together, the continuation of RoSCTL and RoDTEP provides comprehensive support across the textile value chain, strengthening export competitiveness and ensuring policy stability for exporters in global markets.



RODTEP
RESTORATION

“

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, has notified the restoration of RoDTEP (Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products) rates and value caps for all eligible export products.

”

Restoration of RODTEP Rates for Exporters

As per Notification No. 66/2025-26 and subsequent corrigendum, the RoDTEP rates have been restored to the levels applicable as on 22 February 2026, with effect from 23 March 2026 to 31 March 2026. This restoration withdraws the earlier restriction of 50% benefit cap, thereby reinstating full benefits to exporters during the specified period.

Exporters are advised to take note of the revised applicability period and ensure proper claims under the restored RoDTEP rates.

South Zone Consultation Workshop on New Textile Schemes (Budget 2026-27)

The Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, organized the Regional (South Zone) Consultation Workshop on New Textile Schemes (Budget Announcements 2026-27) at Bengaluru on 21.04.2026, bringing together government officials, State representatives, and industry stakeholders on key initiatives announced in the Union Budget 2026-27.



Neelam Shami Rao highlighted the sector's key role in achieving a developed India by 2047, emphasizing value chain integration, modernization, and sustainability. Dr. M. Beena, IAS, Development Commissioner (Handlooms), noted that the new schemes will provide integrated support to weavers and artisans.

Policy measures such as modernization subsidies, Employment Linked Incentives (ELI), and infrastructure development were outlined, along with skill initiatives under Samarth 2.0 focusing on industry-oriented training.

Key schemes discussed included TEEM, NFS, NHHP, Tex-Eco Initiative, and Mahatma Gandhi Gram Swaraj Initiative (MGGSI), and Mega Textile Park.

The consultation reinforced the Government's commitment to a sustainable, inclusive, and globally competitive textile sector, aligned with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of "Farm to Foreign" and enhanced export growth.

India – New Zealand FTA Signed

PIB Posted On: 27 APR 2026



The signing of the landmark India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) on 27 April 2026 marks a significant milestone in India's expanding global trade engagement. The agreement was formally signed by Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, and Todd McClay, Minister for Trade and Investment, New Zealand, reflecting a shared commitment to deepening bilateral economic ties.

This forward-looking FTA builds upon India's broader strategy of strengthening international trade partnerships, with nine Free Trade Agreements already concluded in recent years covering 38 developed countries. The India–New Zealand FTA provides a comprehensive framework that goes beyond traditional trade in goods, encompassing areas such as enhanced market access, agricultural cooperation, investment promotion, talent mobility, and collaboration in sectors including sports and tourism.

Importantly, the agreement is designed to deliver inclusive benefits across both economies, supporting manufacturers, farmers, MSMEs, women entrepreneurs, students, and skilled professionals. By fostering stronger economic linkages and people-to-people connections, the FTA is expected to open new opportunities for growth, innovation, and global integration, further reinforcing India's position in the evolving international trade landscape.

Salient Features of the FTA

- ❁ The FTA eliminates duty on 100% of Indian Exports
- ❁ A USD 20 billion investment commitment over 15 years strengthens long-term economic and strategic cooperation.
- ❁ Through Agricultural Productivity Partnership, the FTA collaborates with farmers to boost productivity and integrate them in the global value chains.
- ❁ The FTA boosts MSMEs and Jobs through Zero-duty access for labour-intensive sectors including textiles, apparel, leather, footwear, gems & jewellery, engineering goods and processed foods.
- ❁ India has offered market access in 70.03% of the tariff lines while keeping 29.97 % tariff lines in exclusion, which covers 95% of New Zealand's Bilateral Trade.
- ❁ Certain products are kept in exclusion such as dairy (milk, cream, whey, yoghurt, cheese etc.), animal products (other than sheep meat), vegetable products (onions, chana, peas, corn, almonds etc.), sugar, artificial honey, Animal, vegetable or microbial fats and oils, Arms and Ammunition, Gems and Jewellery, Copper and Articles (Cathodes, Cartridges, Rods, Bars, Coils etc.), Aluminium and articles thereof (Ingots, billets, wire bars) among others.
- ❁ 30.00% of tariff lines will have immediate duty elimination, covering wood, wool, sheep meat, leather-raw hides etc.
- ❁ 35.60% of tariffs are subject to phased elimination over 3, 5, 7, and 10 years, including petroleum oil, malt extract, vegetable oils, and selected electrical and mechanical machinery, peptones etc.
- ❁ 4.37% of products face tariff reductions, such as wine, pharmaceutical drugs, polymers, aluminium, iron and steel articles etc.
- ❁ 0.06% fall under tariff rate quotas, including Mānuka honey, apples, kiwi fruit, and albumins including milk albumin.

INDIA - NEW ZEALAND FTA Signed

Expanding Markets and Opportunities

- Zero duty on 100% of goods exports**
Upon entry into force
- Fast track mechanism**
For inputs for our exports under our Foreign Trade Policy
- Tariff elimination across all Tariff lines**

Farmers, MSMEs, youth, workers, artisans, women key beneficiaries of India's growing export competitiveness

Source: Ministry of commerce and industry

INDIA NEW ZEALAND FTA

UNLOCKING NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN SERVICES SECTOR

- Market access in 118 services sectors/sub-sectors, Most Favoured Nation in 139 services sectors/sub-sectors
- Multiple entry 12-month Working Holiday visas for 1,000 young Indians yearly to promote global exposure, skill development, and international experience

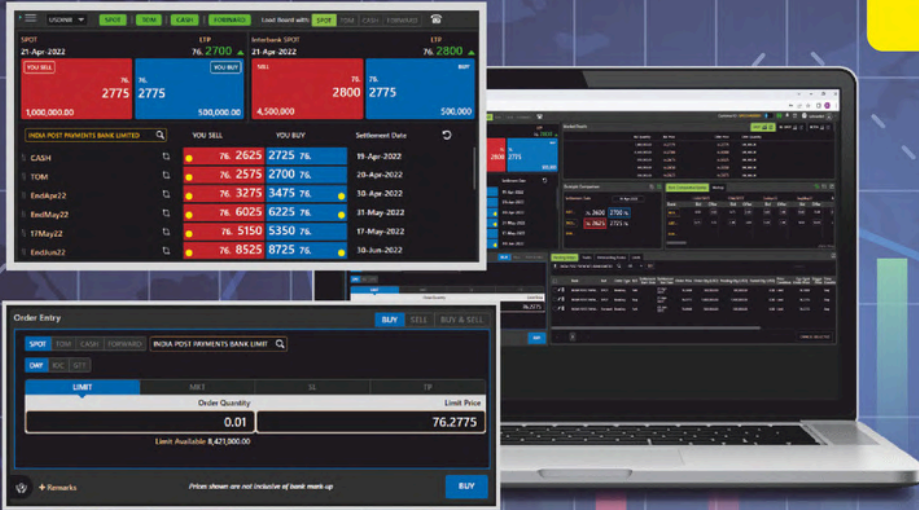
Source: Ministry of commerce and industry

ENHANCED MARKET ACCESS ACROSS SECTORS

- Agriculture
- Marine
- Textile & Clothing
- Engineering
- Leather
- Footwear
- Sports Goods
- Pharmaceuticals
- Plastics and Articles Thereof
- Gems & Jewellery
- Electronics and Electrical Machinery
- Chemical and Allied Product

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Deal Forex Online



FX-₹etail

Online Forex Dealing Platform

Authorised by RBI

- A market based solution for Importers, Exporters, MSMEs, Corporates, FPI, NRI etc.
- Web-based platform for dealing in USD / INR
- Better pricing & Full Transparency
- Real-time access to Forex Market Rates
- Savings in Forex Conversion Cost
- Buy / Sell USD with Multiple Banks
- Easy Registration Process

**Deal with ease on
BEST & TRUSTED Forex Trading Platform**

Clearcorp Dealing Systems (India) Ltd.
A wholly owned subsidiary of The Clearing Corporation of India Ltd.

www.fxretail.co.in

1800 266 2109 / 022-61546313

supportfxretail@ccilindia.co.in

‘Vishwa Sutra’ Showcases Indian Handlooms on Global Stage

In a landmark initiative, the Office of the Development Commissioner Handlooms under the Ministry of Textiles, in collaboration with the National Institute of Fashion Technology, unveiled “Vishwa Sutra – Weaves of India for the World” at the 61st Femina Miss India held in Bhubaneswar. This unique collection presented 30 Indian handloom weaves, each representing a different state, reimagined through design inspirations from 30 countries, blending traditional craftsmanship with global fashion sensibilities. Notable pairings included Odisha Ikat with Greek styles, Kanchipuram with Norwegian influences, and Banarasi with UAE-inspired silhouettes.



The collection highlighted the richness and adaptability of Indian handlooms, positioning them as globally relevant, design-forward, and rooted in heritage. It was showcased by 30 state winners during the opening round of the event. Dr. M. Beena, Development Commissioner (Handlooms), emphasized the significant role of the handloom sector in sustaining India’s cultural identity, supporting livelihoods, and enabling women-led entrepreneurship.

She highlighted the Prime Minister's vision of "Gaon to Global", underscoring the importance of connecting traditional weaves with modern design narratives and evolving market landscape. The initiative reinforces India's commitment to promoting handlooms under the "Vocal for Local to Global" vision and the Prime Minister's 5F framework – Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign, enhancing the global presence of Indian textiles.

TESTEX Launches Advanced PFAS Testing & Certification Label

TESTEX, Switzerland's leading textile testing institute and official OEKO-TEX representative, has introduced a Non-Targeted PFAS Analysis along with a new PFAS TESTED Label, aimed at improving transparency and safety in textile supply chain. PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are a group of over 10,000 synthetic chemicals widely used in textiles and coatings. Conventional testing methods typically detect only a limited number of known PFAS, leaving gaps in identifying hidden chemical risks.

Source: Fibre2Fashion News Desk Release, 16 April 2026

Reviving Heritage: CCIC Introduces 'Soul Threads' Designer Collection



The Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India (CCIC), under the Ministry of Textiles, has marked a significant step in its revival journey with the launch of its inaugural heritage designer collection, "Soul Threads." The exclusive exhibition, being held from April 24 to May 10, 2026 at its flagship showroom in New Delhi, showcases a curated range of India's finest artisanal products, including sarees, designer apparel, jewellery, and home furnishings.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Mrs. Neelam Shami Rao IAS, Secretary (Textiles), The event was graced by distinguished dignitaries including Mr. Rohit Kansal IAS, Secretary, Dep of Rural Development, Dr. M. Beena IAS, Development Commissioner (Handloom), Ms. Amrit Raj IAS, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) in the presence of senior dignitaries and officials from the textile sector. The inaugural event featured a preview of the collection along with a fashion show highlighting the heritage designer range, which draws inspiration from India's rich textile traditions while incorporating contemporary design elements. Cultural performances by folk artists further added to the celebration of India's diverse heritage. "Soul Threads" aims to provide a prominent platform for designers, artisans, and cultural practitioners, while reinforcing CCIC's role in promoting and preserving India's traditional craftsmanship. The initiative reflects a renewed focus on bridging heritage with modern markets and enhancing the visibility of Indian handloom and handicraft products both domestically and globally. This growth reflects increasing global emphasis on credible sustainability standards, as companies focus on compliance, risk management, and responsible sourcing in an evolving regulatory environment.

India, Norway Move to Ease Trade Barriers Under TEPA

India and Norway have agreed to address key trade and investment bottlenecks to fully leverage the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), which came into force on 1 October 2025. During the third India–Norway Dialogue on Trade and Investment held on 16 April, both sides discussed issues such as SPS measures, certification norms, compliance costs, and Rules of Origin, and agreed to resolve them through mutually agreed mechanisms.



TEPA, signed with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), aims to strengthen economic ties and boost trade flows. In a parallel development, NICDC Logistics Data Services Ltd has signed an MoU with Maharashtra to enhance digital logistics through the Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP), improving efficiency, transparency, and data-driven decision-making.

PIB Posted On: 17 APR 2026

Advertisement



LEGAL ENTITY IDENTIFIER INDIA LIMITED
A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF THE CLEARING CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED

Think LEI?
Think LEIL

The **only** RBI authorized
LOU in India



At LEIL, we provide quick, reliable and cost-effective Legal Entity Identifier (LEIs) for all businesses - small and large. We offer seamless LEI registration and renewal process. Whether you're a financial institution, a corporation or a legal entity engaged in financial transactions, LEIL is your trusted destination for an authentic LEI code.

Why choose LEIL:



Compliance with International Standards



Service Assurance



Quick LEI Issuance and Renewal



Your trusted local issuer based in India



Data Integrity



Cost Effective



Helpdesk support in local language



Compliance Alert:

Hurry! All corporate entities with borrowings of ₹ 5 Crores and above must obtain LEI by April 30, 2025, as per RBI mandate

Apply for LEI with LEIL now! Visit www.ccilindia-lei.co.in for more details To register for legal entity identifier code, call **Toll Free 1800 210 6990** or Email: lei@ccilindia.co.in

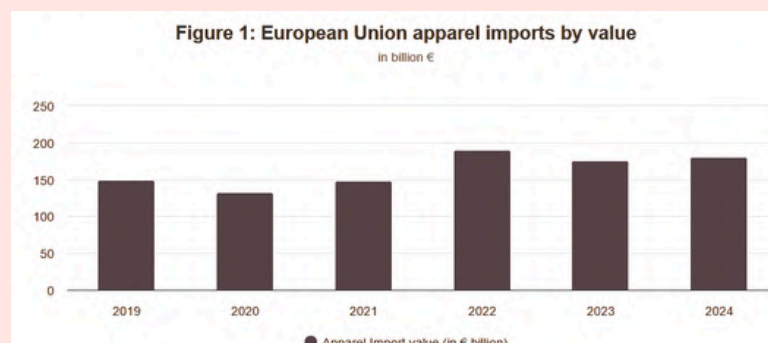
European Market Demand for Textile and Apparel

Source: Centre for the Promotion of Imports from developing countries by Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Europe continues to be one of the most important global markets for textiles and apparel, offering strong and stable demand across diverse product segments. In 2024, the European Union (EU) imported apparel worth €180.5 billion, maintaining its position as the world's largest importer, accounting for over one-third of global imports. The market has shown steady resilience, registering an average annual growth of 3.9% between 2019 and 2024, despite economic pressures and shifting consumption patterns. The demand is well-balanced across categories, with nearly equal shares of knitted/woven and non-knitted apparel, while textiles such as fabrics, yarns, and home textiles continue to play a vital role in supporting the broader value chain.

Market Characteristics and Demand Drivers

The European market is characterised by high quality expectations, product diversity, and strong compliance requirements. Buyers increasingly prefer suppliers who can offer end-to-end solutions, including design support, sourcing of raw materials, and flexible production capabilities. A defining feature of the market is its strong focus on sustainability and circularity. With policies under the EU Green Deal, the region is moving towards environmentally responsible production and consumption. Regulations related to eco-design, recycling, traceability, and corporate sustainability reporting are transforming the textile and apparel landscape.



Consumers are also driving this shift, with a growing preference for eco-friendly fabrics, organic fibres, and recycled materials, creating new opportunities for exporters aligned with sustainable practices. Compared to Europe, the US market is less diverse. It follows more traditional, less direct retail and distribution models (wholesale and private label). As a result, it is very price and volume driven. Many US buyers have offices located in production countries and source and select their own raw materials. Manufacturing is often done on a CMT (cut, make and trim) basis. This leaves little room for suppliers to add value.

Key differences in buying models between USA and Europe

Europe	USA
OEM/ODM	CMT
Factory source raw materials	Nominated raw materials
Smaller order quantities	Large order quantities
Several buying moments per year, more short term manufacturing	Less buying moments per year, more long term manufacturing
Development agents	Sourcing agents
Direct business	Wholesale and private label
One stop shops	Specialised product manufacturers
Main alternative market to the USA because of increasing US-trade tariffs: higher competition	Directly affected by increasing trade tariffs
Heavy focus on social and environmental compliance	Less strict on compliance than EU

Market Structure and Trade Trends

The EU is not only a major importer but also a leading exporter of textiles and apparel, accounting for nearly 30% of global exports. A large share of trade takes place within Europe, supported by strong regional supply chains and distribution hubs such as the Netherlands and Poland. Imports from developing countries remain significant at €79.2 billion in 2024.

Though their share has slightly declined due to increased intra-European trade and nearshoring. Key sourcing countries include China, Bangladesh, Türkiye, India, and Vietnam. The EU is the region with the highest market share of imports from developing countries (in terms of value). However, China's dominance is gradually declining, with production shifting towards other competitive manufacturing countries. This trend is opening up opportunities for exporters, particularly in Asia. However, China's dominance is gradually declining, with production shifting towards other competitive manufacturing countries. This trend is opening up opportunities for exporters, particularly in Asia.

Share of total developing country exports, 2019–2024

Destination	Share of total developing country exports 2019	Share of total developing country exports 2024	5-year change
Africa	0.50%	0.30%	-0.20%
Americas	26.30%	25.20%	-1.10%
EU27, UK & EFTA	55.60%	59.20%	3.60%
Asia	14.30%	13.10%	-1.20%
Oceania	1.60%	1.70%	0.10%

Europe Emerges as a Safer Market Amid US Trade Uncertainty

In 2025, the United States of America imposed broad tariffs on global imports, including higher duties on countries like India and Bangladesh, and steep tariffs on apparel from China. These measures have increased costs and disrupted supply chains, creating uncertainty in the US market. As a result, Europe is emerging as a more stable and predictable market, with shifting global sourcing patterns and increased focus from exporters, including China, towards the European Union.

Top 10 Extra-EU exporters to the EU, 2024 value, share %, 5-year average annual growth

Exporter	Value	Share of all EU imports 2024	Change in share 2019–2024	5-year average growth
China	€23.0 bn	12.80%	-2.40%	0.40%
Bangladesh	€17.9 bn	10.00%	0.10%	4.00%
Türkiye	€9.1 bn	5.10%	-0.80%	1.00%
India	€4.1 bn	2.30%	-0.30%	1.20%
Vietnam	€3.9 bn	2.20%	0.10%	5.20%
Cambodia	€3.7 bn	2.10%	0.00%	3.40%
Pakistan	€3.3 bn	1.90%	0.30%	7.60%
Morocco	€2.7 bn	1.50%	-0.20%	1.00%
Tunisia	€2.1 bn	1.20%	-0.10%	2.30%
Myanmar	€2.1 bn	1.20%	-0.20%	0.10%

Europe: A Leading Market for Sustainable Apparel

Europe has emerged as a key market for sustainable textiles and apparel, driven by strong awareness among consumers, brands, and policymakers. Nearly half of European consumers reported purchasing sustainable clothing, reflecting a clear shift in buying behaviour. The European Union is further accelerating this transition through its ambitious Green Deal, which targets climate neutrality by 2050 and introduces regulations on eco-design, traceability, due diligence, and responsible production.

Sustainability is now shaping business models across the industry, with brands increasingly adopting recycling, upcycling, rental, and circular practices, while also expanding the use of eco-friendly materials. Demand for organic and “preferred” cotton is rising steadily, supported by certification systems such as Global Organic Textile Standard, alongside growing adoption of recycled fibres.

At the same time, transparency is becoming critical. New measures such as digital product passports and stricter disclosure norms are pushing companies to provide verifiable sustainability data. Overall, Europe offers significant opportunities for suppliers who can meet evolving requirements in sustainability, compliance, and transparency, positioning themselves competitively in a rapidly transforming market.

Key European Markets

The textile and apparel demand in Europe is concentrated in a few major economies, which together account for a significant share of imports:

- 🌸 Germany – Largest market and key distribution centre
- 🌸 France – Major volume-driven market with rising sustainability focus
- 🌸 Spain – Strong importer with high reliance on developing countries
- 🌸 Netherlands – Strategic logistics and re-export hub
- 🌸 Italy – Known for premium textiles and high-value apparel
- 🌸 Poland – Fast-growing market and emerging manufacturing hub

Eastern Europe is gaining importance due to cost advantages and expanding retail demand, making it a region to watch for future growth.

Imports from Developing Countries

Among European markets, Spain, Netherlands, and Denmark stand out with over 60% of apparel imports sourced from developing countries, while Poland has recorded strong growth, with imports rising by over 12% annually between 2019 and 2024. However, across major EU markets, the overall share of imports from developing countries is gradually declining, reflecting a growing shift towards nearshoring and regional sourcing. China remains a key supplier, though its market share has declined across most countries during this period. Despite this, China continues to rank among the top two suppliers in most EU markets, indicating its continued importance even as sourcing patterns diversify.

Product Segments with High Demand

Demand in Europe spans a wide range of textile and apparel products. Key high-volume segments include:

- 🌸 Home Textiles – Bed linen, towels, and furnishings
- 🌸 Trousers & Shorts – Leading category in apparel imports
- 🌸 Knitwear & T-shirts – Consistent demand across price segments

- ❁ Outerwear & Activewear – Growing due to lifestyle trends
- ❁ Technical & Functional Textiles – Increasing demand for performance and sustainability

Together, major apparel categories account for over **57% of imports from developing countries**, while textiles such as fabrics and sustainable materials are gaining prominence.

Emerging Trends and Opportunities

- ❁ Sustainability & Circular Economy: Growing demand for recycled fibres, organic cotton, and eco-certified textiles
- ❁ Nearshoring: Increased sourcing from nearby regions like Türkiye and Eastern Europe
- ❁ Supply Chain Diversification: Reduced reliance on China, opening opportunities for India and other Asian suppliers
- ❁ Digitalisation & Transparency: Adoption of digital product passports and stricter compliance norms
- ❁ Changing Consumer Behaviour: Preference for quality, durability, and sustainable fashion

The European textile and apparel market remains robust, dynamic, and opportunity-driven, supported by strong demand, evolving consumer preferences, and progressive regulatory frameworks. While compliance and sustainability requirements pose challenges, they also create avenues for value addition and long-term partnerships. For exporting countries like India, the ongoing shift in global sourcing, coupled with increasing demand for sustainable and high-quality textiles and apparel, presents a significant opportunity to strengthen their presence in the European market and move up the value chain.

Indian AEO Programme

AEO is a programme (Authorised Economic Operator) under the aegis of the World Customs Organization (WCO) SAFE Framework of Standards to secure and facilitate Global Trade. The programme aims to enhance international supply chain security and facilitate movement of legitimate goods. AEO encompasses various players in the international supply chain. Under this programme



An entity engaged in international trade is approved by Customs as compliant with supply chain security standards and granted AEO status & certain benefits. India's AEO Programme is in sync with the commitments made under Article 7.7 of WTO TFA. AEO is a voluntary compliance programme.

It enables Indian Customs to enhance and streamline cargo security through close cooperation with the principle stakeholders of the international supply chain viz. importers, exporters, logistics providers, custodians or terminal operators, custom brokers and warehouse operators. The vision is to have 3500 AEOs in foreseeable future. For which, the process for AEO accreditation for AEO T1 has been completely decentralized. Earlier, the AEO T1 applications were processed by AEO Headquarter assisted by 5 AEO Regional Units. But now, the same process & accredited by Custom Zones spread across the country.

Benefits



Self-declaration of SION under Para 4.07A of FTP 2015-20 for AEO Exporters in cases where SION is not notified.



Inclusion of Direct Port Delivery of imports to ensure just-in-time inventory management by manufacturers – clearance from wharf to warehouse for AEO T1, T2 and T3.



Inclusion of Direct Port Entry for factory stuffed containers meant for export by AEOs for AEO T1, T2 AND T3.



Provision of Deferred Payment of duties – delinking duty payment and Customs clearance for AEO T2 and AEO T3



Benefits of Mutual Recognition Agreements with other Customs Administrations for AEO T2 and AEO T3.



Fast tracking of adjudications and refunds including IGST refunds and disbursement of drawback

Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)

Mutual Recognition Agreements are the international face and connecting link of the domestic AEO Programme of various countries. It acts as an equalizer that harmonize the minor difference to allow for seamless facilitation in terms of benefits and processes for movement of goods across borders for the domestic AEO accredited entities. Mutual Recognition of AEOs is a key element of the WCO SAFE Framework to strengthen end-to-end security of supply chains and to multiply benefits for traders at a global level.

By mutual recognition of AEO's two customs administrations agree to:

- Recognise the AEO authorisation issued under the other countries programme and
- Provide reciprocal benefits to AEO's of the other countries AEO entity.

Indian Customs has collaborated with several foreign customs administrations to align with their Authorized Economic Operator Programmes, which effectively allows Indian Customs to internationalize the core principles of the program and provide benefits to Indian trade at the international level. Indian Customs has signed two Mutual Recognition Agreements with the Customs Administrations of South Korea and Hong Kong. Couple of MRAs are in final stages of conclusion, they include MRA(s) with United States of America and Taiwan. Apart from this, India is constantly looking for partners abroad to enhance its MRA partners so as to contribute positively to the global trade.

To that effect, Indian Customs is already in process of discussions with UAE, Uganda and Philippines, to finalize the draft Joint Action Plan (JAP). JAP acts the broad framework of timeline and actions that needs to be completed in phased manner to conclude an MRA. Indian Customs has already conveyed the draft JAP to these three Customs Administration for their comments. Lastly, Indian Customs has also taken up a proactive approach to MRA and hence sent 'Expression of Interest' to major South East Asian Country with which India has gradually increasing trade relations.





Trade Connect Services



Get Certificate of Origin

Apply for Preferential access to international markets



Explore Free Trade Agreements

Leverage preferential access for Indian goods to find new avenues for growth.



Find Insights on your Product

Learn all about global demand, standards and opportunities for your product



Explore New Markets

Country guide brings in-depth information on tariffs, standards and opportunities in key markets for Indian products



Trade Events Worldwide

Learn all about the trade events across world



Learn on EXIM Paathshaala

Learn how to export from India to the world



Ask an Expert

Connect with international trade experts to get answers to queries



Discover E-Commerce platforms

Discover online marketplaces to export your products to consumers around the world.



Source from India

India makes for the world! Find and source from Indian exporters with proven track record.



Find Buyer

Discover global buyers and explore international trade opportunities across diverse product categories

1770643

Registered Users

1586463

Certificate of Origin Issued

7110

Foreign Buyer Information Available

282

Trade Events to choose from

“The Trade Connect ePlatform is a digital initiative launched by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to support Indian exporters, especially MSMEs, startups, and new exporters, by providing a single-window platform for international trade assistance. Trade Connect brings together all important stakeholders including Indian Mission Abroad, Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards, Industrial Associations and other institutions on a unified digital platform to handhold Indian exporters”

Visit www.trade-gov-in.com to know more.



INDIA HANDLOOM

COMFORT | STYLE | FASHION



Handloom Export Promotion Council

(Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India)

Address: 34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai - 600034, India

Telephone: +91-44-28278879 / 6043

Email: hepc@hepcindia.com; policy@hepcindia.com

Website: www.hepcindia.com

#MyHandloomMyPride

#Vocal4Local