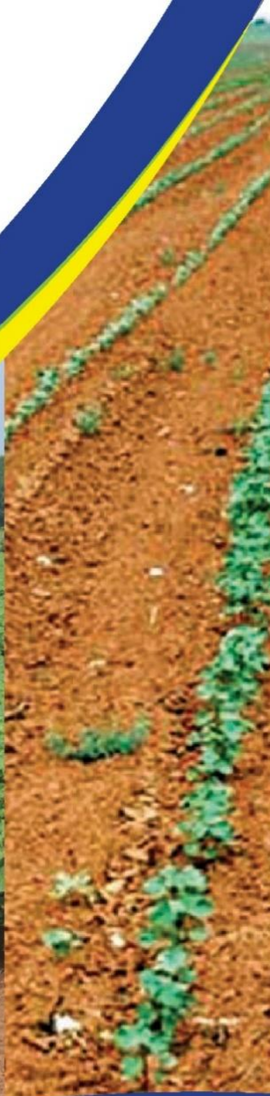
COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Established 1921

ISO 9001:2015



News Relating to Cotton and Textile Sector

Date-07-09-2026

COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

(Regd. Office : Cotton Exchange Building, 2nd Floor, Cotton Green (E), Mumbai 400 033)
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Mumbai, Monday 7th September 2026 at 3.00 P.M.

UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES

Standard Descriptions with Basic Grade & Staple in Millimetres based on Upper Half Mean Length As per CAI By-laws								Rs. per Quintal	Rs. per Candy	Variation + (Plus) - (Minus)
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash %	Strength / GPT	2025-26	2025-26	
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	4%	15	14875	52900	(-100)
2	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	15%	20	13610	48400	(-100)
3	P / H / R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	26	18165	64600	(+200)
4	M/M(P) /SA/TL/GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 – 3.4	4%	25	16675	59300	(-200)
5	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	3.5%	26	18503	65800	(-200)
6	P/ H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	27	18362	65300	(N.C.)
7	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	19150	68100	(-200)
8	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	18925	67300	(-200)
9	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	19093	67900	(-200)
10	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	4.0%	27	18362	65300	(N.C.)
11	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	28	18868	67100	(N.C.)
12	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	19459	69200	(-200)
13	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	19234	68400	(-200)
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	19375	68900	(-200)
15	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	19768	70300	(-200)
16	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	19543	69500	(-100)
17	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	30	19881	70700	(-300)
18	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	30	N.A.	N.A.	
19	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 – 4.9	3%	31	N.A.	N.A.	
20	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	33	25730	91500	(N.C.)
21	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	26067	92700	(N.C.)
22	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	26433	94000	(N.C.)
23	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	26714	95000	(N.C.)

Note		
Note:1	Official spot rates are fixed and registered by CAI on the basis of average price inclusive of spot brokerage as per respective State Dharas, and for 15 days credit from the date of passing and cash discount @ 15% per annum, except for Northern area (excluding Lower Rajasthan), in which case spot rates fixed and registered are for payment terms: 7 days from the date of pressing at Upcountry Spot Markets ex-gin, excluding Tax. These rates are for domestic transaction only	
2	P/H/R(U) ICS-202 (SG) rate is lower by Rs. 1000/ pc than Sr. no. 3	
3	Strength:Grams per tex (HVI Mode) (Prorate basis)	
	a) 1 gpt pts lower Rs 500/pc	
	b) 2 gpt pts lower Rs 1,000/pc	
	c) 3 gpt pts lower Rs 2,000/pc	
	d) 4 gpt pts lower Rs 3,000/pc	
4	Staple length : Upper Half Mean Length	
5	Gravimetric Trash Percentage	
6	Moisture by probe method maximum 9%	
7	Base Grade 'Fine' of bulk of the cotton of the staple length range of 29mm to 32mm consists of –	
	(i) Colour grade 31/3	(ii) RD 75
8	In Rates acceptable up to a maximum 5.50 Micronaire with proportionate discount @ Rs.150/- per point per candy over 4.9 Micronaire	
9	For M/M(P)/SA/TL/GUJ-Sr No. 4 are for 67 Rd	
10	For Northern Zone (P/H/R(U)-Sr. Nos. 3 and 6 are for 70 Rd	
11	For M/M(P)/SA/TL-Sr Nos. 5, 7, 8, and GUJ-Sr No.9 are for 74 Rd	
12	For R(L)-Sr. No. 10 is for 72 Rd and 11 is for 73 Rd	
13	For M/M(P) and K/TN-Sr Nos. 20 to 23 are for 70-72 Rd	

Secretary

ICE Cotton Futures: 04-09-2026

ICE COTTON CLOSE					04 Sep 2026	
CONTRACT MONTH	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHANGE	Op. Int.
Cotton (CT) - Quote: Cents/Pound - Contract Size: 50,000 Pounds.						
Oct-26	83.31	84.00	82.33	82.42	▼0.94	181
Dec-26	86.50	87.69	85.68	86.33	▼0.12	1,88,822
Mar-27	88.85	89.96	88.05	88.62	▼0.18	91,099
May-27	90.26	91.34	89.47	89.97	▼0.24	44,215
Jul-27	89.86	90.69	89.01	89.47	▼0.27	23,681
Oct-27	0.00	82.15	82.15	82.15	▲0.02	17
Dec-27	79.66	80.13	79.25	79.68	▲0.14	29,610

Cotlook Index: 04-09-2026
96.00 (-2.25)

Raw Cotton Prices Stay Firm

Saturday 5th Sep 2026, Yash Chouhan, (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)
Raw Cotton Prices Remain Firm Despite Initial Arrivals of New Crop

Despite volatility in the global market, raw cotton prices remain firm alongside the initial arrivals of the new Kharif season crop in several parts of the country. Arrivals of the new crop have commenced in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, and parts of Gujarat.

The central government has fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for medium-staple cotton at ₹8,267 per quintal and for long-staple cotton at ₹8,667 per quintal for the 2026-27 marketing season.

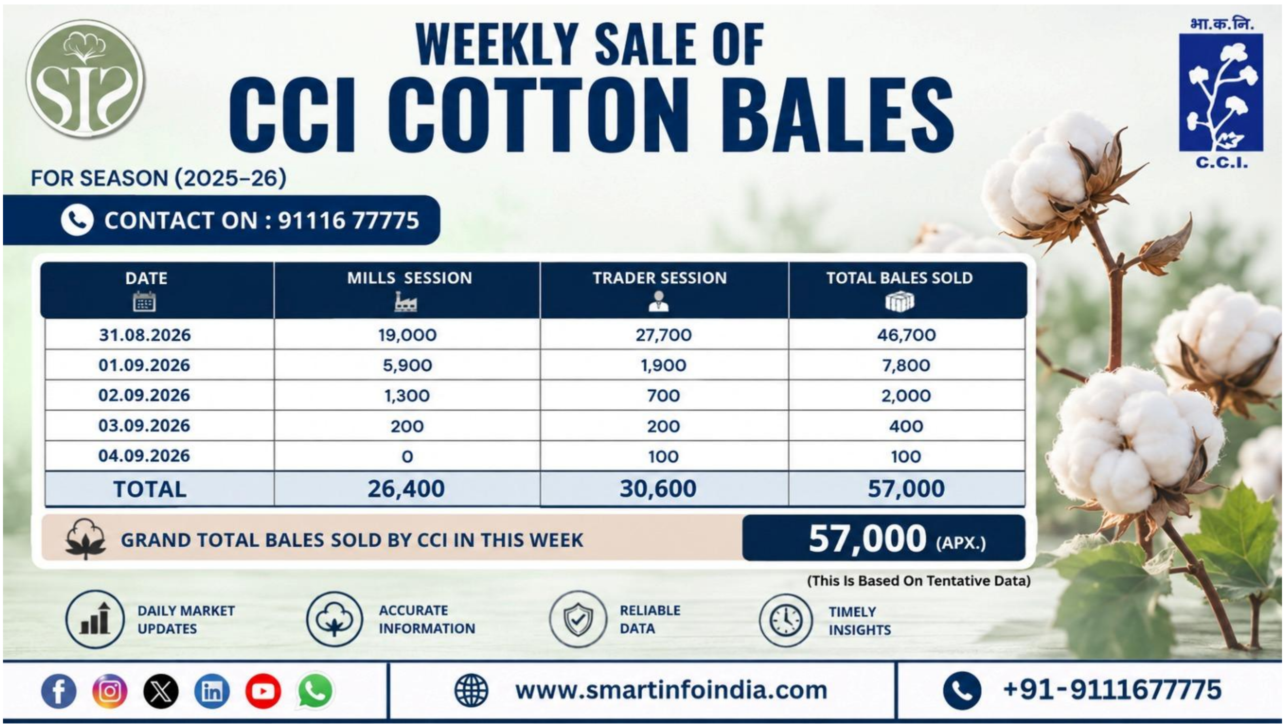
According to Ramanuj Das Boob, a sourcing agent based in Raichur, raw cotton prices in markets such as Raichur, Bellary, Adoni, and Yemmiganur range between ₹9,200 and ₹9,500 per quintal, depending on moisture content. These rates are above the MSP.
Boob stated that, given current international price trends, raw cotton prices are likely to remain above the MSP.

ICE cotton futures are hovering around 87 cents per pound, down from approximately 93 cents on Tuesday. Following the decline in ICE prices, multinational companies (MNCs) in India have had to lower their procurement prices by about ₹2,000 per candy (356 kg). Meanwhile, the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has maintained its price levels.
According to Boob, despite the lower prices offered by MNCs, there are few takers. Mills are also cautious about purchasing due to weak demand for yarn and are closely monitoring market trends.

Anand Popat from Rajkot noted that limited arrivals have also begun in parts of Gujarat, with prices hovering around ₹1,900–2,000 per *maund* (20 kg). Arrivals are delayed by over a month due to late sowing and are expected to pick up pace from the beginning of November. Currently, the arrival of the new crop is around 50,000 bales per week, a figure that could rise to approximately 1 lakh bales per week over the next two weeks.

According to Ministry of Agriculture data from September 4, cotton has been sown across 109.17 lakh hectares in the country, compared to 109.87 lakh hectares during the same period last year.

CCI Raises Cotton Selling Price by ₹300
Saturday 5th Sep 2026, Yash Chouhan, (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)



DATE	MILLS SESSION	TRADER SESSION	TOTAL BALES SOLD
31.08.2026	19,000	27,700	46,700
01.09.2026	5,900	1,900	7,800
02.09.2026	1,300	700	2,000
03.09.2026	200	200	400
04.09.2026	0	100	100
TOTAL	26,400	30,600	57,000

CCI HIKES COTTON SELLING PRICE BY ₹300/CANDY | MILL & TRADER DEMAND REMAINS FIRM

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) raised its cotton selling price by ₹300 per candy (North zone remain unchanged) during the week ending September 04, 2026, signaling firm buying interest from domestic textile mills and cotton traders.

CCI sold around 57,000 bales of cotton from the 2025–26 crop during the week, with auction activity heavily concentrated at the beginning of the week.

📊 Day-Wise CCI Auction Performance
August 31, 2026 (Monday)

CCI recorded its strongest sale of the week, selling 46,700 bales. Mills purchased 19,000 bales, while traders bought 27,700 bales.
September 01, 2026 (Tuesday)

CCI sold 7,800 bales, including 5,900 bales to mills and 1,900 bales to traders.
September 02, 2026 (Wednesday)

A total of 2,000 bales were sold, with mills purchasing 1,300 bales and traders 700 bales.
September 03, 2026 (Thursday)

CCI sold 400 bales, equally split between mills and traders at 200 bales each.
September 04, 2026 (Friday)

The week concluded with 100 bales sold, purchased entirely by traders.
Following the latest auctions, CCI's cumulative cotton sales for the 2025–26 season reached approximately 94.25 lakh bales.

The rupee strengthened by 10 paise against the dollar to open at 94.39.
Monday 7th Sep 2026, Yash Chouhan, (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

The rupee had closed at 94.49 on Friday, whereas today it opened at 94.39 per dollar, marking a gain of 10 paise.

The BSE Sensex fell by 105.47 points or 0.14% to 76,409.96, while the NSE Nifty is trading at 23,850.90, down by 46.80 points or 0.20%.

India's Cotton Yarn Prices Surge 60%, Apparel Exporters Call for Export Curbs
Thursday 3rd Sep 2026, (Source: www.kohantextilejournal.com)

Indian apparel exporters are urging the government to consider regulating cotton yarn exports as a sharp rise in yarn prices puts growing pressure on garment manufacturers and threatens their competitiveness in international markets.

Cotton yarn prices in India have climbed by around 60% since the beginning of 2026, rising from approximately INR 250 per kg to nearly INR 400 per kg, according to the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC).

AEPC Chairman A. Sakthivel has called on Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal to consider measures to regulate exports of cotton yarn, particularly 20s count and above, amid concerns over limited cotton availability, reduced market arrivals and speculative stockholding.

Why Cotton Yarn Prices Are Rising in India

The industry says cotton mills are increasingly dependent on Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) auctions as supplies available from ginners tighten. At the same time, higher fuel and other input costs are adding further pressure on garment production costs.

Another factor influencing the market is growing demand for Indian cotton and cotton yarn from major apparel-producing countries including Bangladesh and Vietnam. AEPC linked part of this demand to US restrictions on the use of Chinese cotton under the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA).

Higher Costs Challenge India's Apparel Exporters

The price increase comes at a sensitive time for India's apparel industry. Exporters see new opportunities emerging through trade agreements with markets including the UK and New Zealand, but higher domestic manufacturing costs could make it more difficult for Indian suppliers to compete.

AEPC also highlighted the economic advantage of exporting finished garments rather than lower-value raw materials. According to the council, raw cotton generates around INR 275 per kg, yarn approximately INR 325 per kg, while finished garments can achieve a value of between INR 800 and INR 1,200 per kg after value addition.Balancing Yarn Exports with Domestic Manufacturing

The debate now centres on how India can balance cotton and yarn exports with the raw material needs of its domestic apparel manufacturing industry.

Ashnoor Textile Mills FY26 Profit Falls 47% Amid US Tariff Impact

Saturday 5th Sep 2026, (Source: www.apparelresources.com)

Ashnoor Textile Mills reported a 46.85% decline in net profit after tax (PAT) for the financial year ended March 31. The textile manufacturer attributed the decline primarily to unprecedented tariff-related disruptions affecting its exports to the United States, its principal export market. Operating income contracted by 36.34% to Rs 113.61 crore (US $12.02 million).

Despite the challenging external environment, the company maintained adequate liquidity and exercised disciplined cost control during the year. The Board of Directors did not recommend a dividend for FY26, choosing instead to retain earnings to support future growth and strengthen the company's ability to navigate continued trade volatility.

The decline in profitability was broad-based. Operating income fell from Rs 178.48 crore (US $18.89 million) in FY25 to Rs 113.61 crore (US $12.02 million) in FY26. Other income also declined by nearly half, falling from Rs 5.70 crore (US $0.60 million) to Rs 2.79 crore (US $0.30 million). As a result, total income stood at Rs 116.40 crore (US $12.32 million), compared with Rs 184.17 crore (US $19.49 million) in the previous financial year.

Profit before tax declined by 47.46% to Rs 10.77 crore (US $1.14 million) from Rs 20.50 crore (US $2.17 million) in FY25. Net profit after tax stood at Rs 8.48 crore (US $0.90 million), compared with Rs 15.96 crore (US $1.69 million) a year earlier.

Export realisations on a Free On Board (FOB) basis declined to Rs 81.70 crore (US $8.65 million) from Rs 90.29 crore (US $9.56 million) in FY25. However, the company's net foreign exchange earnings remained relatively robust at Rs 79.75 crore (US $8.44 million), supported by lower foreign currency expenditure on stores, spares and travel.

Despite the sharp fall in revenue, the company managed to marginally improve its operating profit ratio to 14.79%, compared with 13.55% in the previous year. This indicates that disciplined expense management and lower variable costs helped cushion the impact of reduced production and sales volumes. The improvement also suggests that the company was able to maintain operating efficiency despite the challenging export environment.

Looking ahead, management expects FY27 to be comparatively better as the market absorbs the initial impact of tariff-related disruptions.

The company anticipates a gradual normalisation of export flows and a recovery in operating margins, supported by its established export capabilities and strong financial position. However, the pace of recovery will depend largely on developments in US trade policies and the broader global demand environment.

GeM, Textiles Committee Sign MoU to Promote Recycled and Upcycled Textile Procurement

Saturday 5th Sep 2026, (Source: www.apparelresources.com)

The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) and the Textiles Committee (TC), Ministry of Textiles, have signed an MoU to promote recycled and upcycled products made from pre- and post-consumer textile waste, scrap and second-hand clothes through government procurement.

The partnership aims to create a 'Waste-to-Value-to-Market' ecosystem, enabling textile waste to be converted into value-added products and sold to government buyers through GeM.

Under the agreement, the Textiles Committee will identify, verify and certify eligible producers, while supporting capacity building, market research and the development of technical specifications. GeM will create dedicated categories for recycled and upcycled textile products, facilitate seller onboarding and connect them with government buyers.

The initiative will use a hub-and-spoke model to support last-mile recyclers, upcyclers, artisans, MSMEs and local enterprises. It will also focus on increasing participation of women-led businesses and circular-economy enterprises.

GeM CEO Mihir Kumar noted that the partnership would connect certification, standardisation and market access to create reliable demand for products made from textile waste. He added that government procurement could accelerate the adoption of such products across offices, institutions, gifting and other public-use requirements.

The initiative is expected to support resource conservation, sustainable livelihoods and India's transition towards a circular and resource-efficient textile economy.

Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan reviews action plan for strengthening KVKs through greater State participation

Monday 7th Sep 2026, (Source: www.pib.gov.in)

Focus on upgradation of 300 KVKs by March 2027 and establishment of Incubation-cum-Skill Centres in all KVKs by December 2028

Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, today chaired a meeting in New Delhi to review the Action Plan for strengthening Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) through enhanced participation of States. The deliberations focused on the implementation of key recommendations concerning KVKs emerging from the 5th Chief Secretaries' Conference 2025, and on measures to accelerate their implementation. Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Bhagirath Choudhary, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Dr. Mangi Lal Jat, and senior officials of the Ministry were present.

Discussions focused on the action point of upgrading the infrastructure and logistics of 300 prioritized KVKs by March 2027. Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan emphasized the need for active participation and timely support from State Governments to achieve the target within the stipulated timeframe. The Secretary, DARE, has engaged with the Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories to mobilize financial and institutional support for the upgradation of prioritized KVKs. Several States have initiated the process through their respective State Agricultural Universities. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa and Chhattisgarh have **received** Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) **from Universities/KVKs**, while other States are at various stages of preparation and implementation.

Also covered the action point of establishing Incubation-cum-Skill Centres in all KVKs by December 2028. Under the initiative, KVKs are being mapped with agro-based enterprises, technical partner institutions and district-specific agricultural opportunities. KVK-wise incubation plans are being developed for submission to States and Union Territories for funding and implementation support.

Further detailed discussions **on** reforms concerning KVK personnel. The proposed reforms relating to pay, allowances and promotion of KVK staff have received approval from the Department of Expenditure (DoE). The role of State Governments in providing NPS contributions and retirement benefits for KVK staff, as applicable, was also emphasized. States were urged to undertake timely recruitment against vacancies to ensure adequate manpower for the effective functioning of KVKs and delivery of their mandated activities.

Attention was also drawn to the importance of ensuring timely release of funds to KVKs, particularly for seasonal agricultural programmes, so that planned activities are implemented within the appropriate agricultural window. Under the Cluster Frontline Demonstrations (CFLD) on Pulses and Oilseeds programme for 2026–27, activities are being implemented across 24 States through 353 KVKs/districts, with a target area of 12,349 hectares. An area of 9,750 hectares, has already been achieved. Issues relating to fund-flow mapping and delays in the release of funds in some States were discussed. States were requested to facilitate the smooth and timely flow of funds up to ATARI and KVK levels, ensure timely availability of recommended quality seeds and varieties, and strengthen coordination during the planning and execution of demonstrations.

Review also highlighted the role of KVKs in supporting the Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PM DDKY). States were requested to provide adequate funding support to KVKs for implementing their mandated activities as well as district-specific action plans under PM DDKY. It was further emphasized that activities undertaken by KVKs at the district level, in addition to capacity-building programmes, should be captured and uploaded on the designated portal to facilitate comprehensive monitoring, reporting and assessment of outcomes.

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan emphasized that the transformation of KVKs requires strong Centre-State convergence, timely financial support, modern infrastructure, adequate manpower and effective implementation of district-specific action plans. He stressed the importance of ensuring that KVKs are equipped with the necessary infrastructure, human resources and institutional support to effectively serve the farming community and respond to emerging challenges in agriculture.

Strengthened KVKs will play a crucial role in taking scientific knowledge, modern agricultural technologies, improved varieties, skills, innovation and entrepreneurship opportunities closer to farmers and rural communities. The deliberations underscored the need for States and Union Territories to accelerate implementation of the agreed action points and strengthen convergence with the Centre and other stakeholders so that KVKs emerge as effective platforms for agricultural technology dissemination, skill development, innovation and rural entrepreneurship, thereby contributing to a developed and prosperous agricultural sector.

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9th & 10th September 2026

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11th September 2026

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CAI & NCDEX Sign Letter of Engagement to Strengthen Cotton Future Market in India

MUMBAI, SEPT. 06—

The Cotton Association of India (CAI) and the National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX) have signed a Letter of Engagement, marking an important step towards developing and strengthening the cotton futures market in India.

The Letter was signed by Mr. Vikas Goel, Managing Director & CEO, NCDEX, and Mr. Vinay N. Kotak, President, CAI, in the presence of Mr. Lalit Kumar Gupta, CMD, Cotton Corporation of India, members of the NCDEX Board, and members of the CAI Board and Committees.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Vinay N. Kotak said, "For CAI, this association with NCDEX represents a return to our historic roots while firmly looking towards the future. CAI brings rich legacy and deep domain knowledge in cotton futures, while NCDEX brings technology, institutional strength and commodity derivatives expertise. Together, we are confident of creating a liquid, transparent and user-friendly cotton futures market serving the entire cotton and textile value chain."

Recalling CAI's historic role, Mr. Kotak noted that CAI had permanent recognition under the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, and was the first exchange permitted to resume cotton futures trading when futures were re-introduced in 1998, following the Government's ban in 1966. CAI subsequently generated substantial volumes in cotton futures before exiting the segment with the emergence of multi-commodity exchanges.

He emphasised that futures perform three vital functions—price discovery, hedging and risk management, and providing liquidity. "India is one of the world's largest producers and consumers of cotton, yet Indian market participants often look towards international markets for hedging. We should aspire to become Atmanirbhar in futures," he said.

Mr. Kotak stressed that the success of the cotton futures contract would depend on active participation across the entire value chain. "The exchange provides the platform, but liquidity is a collective responsibility of market participants. We must take the first step and actively participate in the market," he added.

Concluding, Mr. Kotak said, "Let today's signing mark the beginning of a new chapter in India's cotton futures market, with the Government, the exchange and market participants working together to make India truly Atmanirbhar in cotton futures. One of our key objectives is to support the Government's vision of Atmanirbhar futures price discovery and hedging facilities for cotton, enabling better price discovery and higher income for farmers, while providing

Continued on Next Page

Tecoya Trend - 07.09.2026

CAI & NCDEX Sign Letter of Engagement to Strengthen Cotton Future Market

Continued from Page 1 Col 2

textile product exporters with an effective risk mitigation tool to hedge their cotton raw material requirements and contributing to the Government's goal of achieving US$100 billion in textile exports by 2030".

Joining him, Mr. Vikas Goel, MD and CEO, NCDEX, said, "Cotton is central to India's agricultural economy, yet our derivatives market has never fully reflected the country's scale of production. This partnership with CAI is a deliberate step to change that. CAI's deep membership base and on-ground expertise will be invaluable as we work together on market development and open up new possibilities for India's cotton Value chain participants. Not only it will help NCDEX strengthen our Cotton Complex offering and build trade practices that align with global standards, it will also give the entire value chain, from growers to exporters, a transparent, reliable way to manage price risk, and build a price benchmark that truly reflects India's standing as one of the world's largest cotton producers."

CAI expresses its appreciation to NCDEX and all stakeholders for their support and cooperation and looks forward to a long and productive partnership in strengthening India's cotton futures market.

Tecoya Trend - 07.09.2026

Bharat Tex Trade Federation and Première Vision SA Sign Strategic MoU to Strengthen India-France Textile and Fashion Collaboration

NEW DELHI, SEPT. 06—

The Bharat Tex Trade Federation (BTTF) and Première Vision SA, one of the world's leading international platforms for creative fashion, textiles, and sourcing, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 2nd September, 2026 at the Premiere Vision (Paris) exhibition to establish a multi-year institutional partnership aimed at strengthening India's engagement with the global fashion and textile ecosystem.

The MoU was signed by Dr. A. Sakthivel, Core Committee Member, BTTF and Chairman, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC), and Ms. Florence Rousson, CEO – Fashion Division, Première Vision SA.

The signing ceremony took place in the august presence of Ms. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, and Dr. M. Beena, Development Commissioner (Handlooms). The occasion was witnessed by prominent industry captains from India, leading designers, EPC Officials, Indian Embassy officials, BTTF leadership among others.

The MoU builds upon the Letter of Intent (LoI) signed on 14th July 2026 at Bharat Tex 2026, New Delhi, in the presence of the Union Minister of Textiles Sh Giriraj Singh, translating the vision into sustained collaboration across trade, sourcing, design, sustainability and heritage.

Connecting Indian Textiles with the Global Fashion Ecosystem

Première Vision has been an international benchmark for fashion industry for over five decades. This partnership provides a major avenue for Indian textile manufacturers, exporters, designers and artisans to connect with international buyers, fashion houses and premium sourcing networks.

A core strategic objective is facilitating India's movement beyond volume-driven exports toward high-value, design-led and premium segments. Première Vision's trend intelligence platforms will support the Indian enterprises align with global market demands and build relationships with buyers seeking sustainable, high-quality sourcing solutions.

Stronger Market Access Amid India-EU Trade Momentum

The partnership comes at an important juncture following the conclusion of negotiations for the India-EU Free Trade Agreement in January 2026. The agreement provided preferential

Continued on Next Page

Tecoya Trend - 07.09.2026

Strategic Partnership to Create Global Opportunities for Indian Textiles in Premium Fashion

Continued from Page 1 Col 6

market access on 96.8% of tariff lines covering 99.5% of India's exports, with 90.7% of exports by trade value expected to become duty-free upon coming into force.

For the textile and apparel sector, the opportunity is particularly significant. The EU's global textile and apparel imports stood at approximately US$292.8 billion in 2025, while India's textile and apparel exports to the EU are currently around US$10.4 billion.

The India-EU FTA's proposed zero-duty access across textile and clothing tariff lines is therefore expected to create significant opportunities for Indian exporters across garments, textiles, yarns and home textiles, while enhancing India's competitiveness in the European market.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, stated: "Bharat Tex, envisioned under the 5F Vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has emerged as the world's largest integrated textiles event, with a strong focus on trade, sustainability and investment. This partnership with Première Vision is a natural progression, creating new opportunities to showcase India's luxury textiles and rich heritage to Europe and the world, while benefiting artisans, weavers, designers, women entrepreneurs and MSMEs across the country.".

Dr. A. Sakthivel, Core Committee Member of BTTF, stated: "This partnership with Première Vision will connect Indian textiles more closely with global markets while showcasing our rich heritage and advancing sustainability, reinforcing India's position as a competitive and responsible textile hub."

Ms. Florence Rousson, CEO of Première Vision's Fashion Division, added: "We are delighted to partner with BTTF to foster creativity, innovation and responsible sourcing, while creating new opportunities for Indian and French stakeholders across the textile value chain."

Key Areas of Collaboration

Under the MoU, which will be overseen by a Joint Steering Committee, both organizations will collaborate on:

* Delegation & Knowledge Session: Reciprocal participation of exhibitors, delegations, speakers and experts across both trade shows, supported by joint export promotion and buyer-seller meets.

* Export Promotion & Market Linkages: Joint export promotion initiatives to enhance the market access, including buyer-seller meets and reverse buyer-seller meets, exchange of market intelligence and cooperation benefitting both parties.

* Sustainability: Promote circularity, traceability and responsible production, and shall cooperate on promoting sustainability initiatives at their respective events.

* Heritage & Craftsmanship: Establish an Eternal Crafts Collaboration for showcasing Indian and French heritage and textiles to the international luxury and creative fashion community. It shall include "A Living Thread" showcasing in January 2027 representing artisan and ateliers showcasing Indian hand embroidery, handloom and allied heritage techniques together with French textiles heritage.

By bringing together India's manufacturing capabilities, diverse textile ecosystem and rich craft traditions with Première Vision's global fashion and sourcing network for premium and luxury segments, the partnership marks an important step towards enabling Indian enterprises to access higher-value international markets and strengthening India's position as a sustainable, innovative and high-value sourcing destination for the global fashion industry.

PM says India demonstrating its strength amidst global turmoil, hits out at naysayers

NEW DELHI, SEPT. 06-(PTI)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday asserted that India is not only growing at 7.8 per cent but also creating employment opportunities despite wars and disruptions, demonstrating the country's strength, and said that those responsible for pushing the economy into the "fragile five" cannot digest it.

Addressing the centenary celebrations of the Delhi University's Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), PM Modi also said that those who once spread terror have been silenced and if today Pakistan commits any misdeed, the Indian Army strikes back on their own soil.

He said from Jammu and Kashmir to the Northeast, there is peace and Naxalism has been dismantled.

Recalling that the country was struggling on every front in 2013, when he last addressed SRCC students as Gujarat chief minister, Modi said corruption, terrorism and inflation were unchecked, but India is now far more secure economically and socially.

However, some people's frustration is increasing after seeing this, he said. "For such people, I had given a homoeopathy dose from the Red Fort (during Independence Day address)... 'dimagi Naxal'.

"When I said 'dimagi Naxal', all such people came to the forefront and started criticising me. People who were promoting dimagi Naxalism, their true colour can be witnessed by the people," he said.

The prime minister said the world was at that time worried about India's policy paralysis, but today they are talking about India's policy dynamism.

Modi said that in other words, India is not only growing, but also creating employment opportunities. "They once called us the 'Fragile Five'. Today, they are talking about India as the fastest-growing major economy," he said

He recalled that his address at SRCC in 2013 had made a "wave" and even today, 13-14 years later, its impact remains intact.

"In 2013, when I came to SRCC, I presented a vision. Whatever I said back then was my conviction... I gave the example of a glass filled with water. Some people see the glass as half full... It was a time when the country was lacking hope. So I said, 'I see the glass as fully filled'," he said.

"Those who saw the glass as half empty in 2013, when I had visited the SRCC, still chose to see it the same way today.

"India's 7.8 per cent growth has also come at a time when the war in West Asia is ongoing and when disruptions related to trade have persisted. Achieving such growth during that time demonstrates India's strength," he said, referring to GDP growth rate for April-June quarter.

"We all know that those responsible for pushing India into the 'fragile five' cannot digest the numbers of India's growth," he said in a veiled attack at the Congress and its allies that have questioned the credibility of the growth figures.

The prime minister said in the past six years, the country has faced many challenges, be it COVID or the conflicts in West Asia, and every time, it was said that PM Modi would not be able to survive these challenges.

"But India has such immense capability that the wishes of those who want to see India fail are repeatedly being left unfulfilled," he said.

Referring to his 2013 visit to SRCC, just before becoming the prime minister of India, Modi said that 13 years ago, the seniors of the present generation of students could not dream of doing many things, but today, the current generation is dreaming big because India has created the ecosystem to achieve those dreams.

"I am happy that you are all ambitious. Ambition comes from the environment around you. Today, you talk about start-ups, becoming entrepreneurs and bringing innovation to agriculture," he said.

Outside the campus, the prime minister said, the students will find two types of people--"those who positively transform the power of society into the power of the nation and the others who turn into angry uncles (naraz fufa) as soon as any work begins".

He said such "negative people's favourite activity is to oppose every task and they have just one dialogue - 'What is the need for this' ". The prime minister said in 2013, when he talked about 'Make in India', people in that ecosystem thought it was not possible, and they still mock 'Make in India'.

"But now, you are witnessing the brand value of Make in India. Today, every person has a smartphone. Made in India smartphones are reaching every corner of the world. In 2014, India used to import mobile phones. Today, India is exporting mobile phones worth more than Rs 2.5 lakh crore," he said.

Tecoya Trend - 07.09.2026

Goyal inaugurates Skill Centre in north Mumbai; says no job-seeker will be left without support

MUMBAI, SEPT. 06-(PTI)

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Saturday said no person in north Mumbai who wants to work will be left without support, as he inaugurated the second Skill Centre in his constituency at Thakur Village in Kandivali East.

"No person in north Mumbai who wants to work should be left without support," Goyal said, adding that six skill and development centres are being planned across north Mumbai.

These will connect youth and job-seekers with skills, companies and employment opportunities, the senior BJP leader and Mumbai North Lok Sabha MP added.

The programme also witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding between Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) for the Skill Centre initiative.

Goyal said the centre will be operated with the support of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and will provide youth with skills aligned with industry requirements.

The centres would create links between people seeking employment and companies, while industry associations would be connected with them so that training could match employment requirements.

One centre is already operational, while the second has now been inaugurated at Thakur Village. Other centres are planned in Shimpoli, Dahisar and Malad, while discussions are underway with Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) for the sixth centre.

"The initiative will create a pathway for youth from skill development to opportunities and from opportunities to employment. It will also help people access opportunities closer to their homes. The centres will support people who want to improve their existing skills, learn new ones or upgrade their capabilities to expand their employment opportunities," Goyal said.

Goyal said young people are the strength of the country and their skills, energy and enterprise would contribute to India's journey towards becoming a developed nation.

"Youth should be supported with education, employment opportunities and the ability to start and run businesses," he asserted.

Referring to Janmashtami and Teachers' Day, both of which were celebrated on Saturday, Goyal said the occasions underline the importance of learning, values and dedication.

He said Dahi Handi celebrations demonstrate teamwork, courage and determination, and the same spirit should be encouraged through education, skilling and employment.

Goyal also spoke about development works planned for north Mumbai, including housing, civic facilities and urban development.

He said north Mumbai has tourism potential and that Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat is expected to visit the Kanheri Caves after Ganesh Chaturthi.

Discussions are also underway on the revitalisation of Sanjay Gandhi National Park along with measures to attract visitors, he said.

On infrastructure, Goyal said the coastal road project is progressing and would improve connectivity in north Mumbai.

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The Economic Times – 05.09.2026

Eco Growth & Quality of Life Must go Hand in Hand: Goyal

Commerce & industry minister urges India Inc to expand social-impact programmes

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Real inclusion is the only way to achieve Viksit Bharat by 2047, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal said on Friday, calling for a scale-up of social-impact programmes to ensure all people can be covered.

Speaking at the TOI Social Impact Summit in Mumbai, Goyal noted that companies are increasingly spending beyond the mandated 2% of their profits on corporate social responsibility (CSR).

"A society cannot develop just if the focus is on the economic aspects of society or economic growth. It has to be juxtaposed with the quality of life that is being provided to the people of India," the minister said, adding that government schemes on healthcare, housing, sanitation and power supply are aimed at economic growth as well as better quality of life for citizens.

And "we are seeing the results of it," he said. "When you give 40 million people a good, proper home, you are not just giving him a home, you are giving his children good upbringing, you are giving him dignity."

Goyal cited the government's health insurance initiative, which helped people avoid situations where hospital bills forced them to sell jewellery, assets or take loans. Similarly, building toilets provided dignity to women besides addressing health concerns due to open defecation, he said.

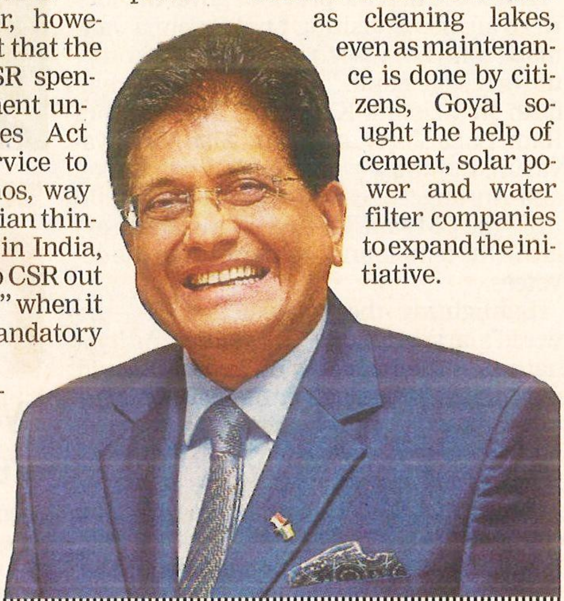
The minister, however, said he felt that the mandatory CSR spending requirement under Companies Act was a "disservice to the Indian ethos, way of life, and Indian thinking, because in India, people don't do CSR out of compulsion" when it was made mandatory in 2014.

"Every person in India voluntarily wants to give back to society, small or big, immaterial," he reasoned. "The moment we bring it into the garb of compulsion, we change that connection, that motivation to a compulsion. But-...hopefully, it has brought more funds into CSR."

There are limitless possibilities to have social impact and to be change makers when foundations, multinational firms and startups work together, Goyal said.

He gave the example of individuals having cleaned up Juhu beach better than any government project and the initiative taken in his constituency to build sewa kendras, toilet complexes which offered shower, soap, laundry and RO water at ₹1 a litre.

Stressing the need to work with the private sector on initiatives such as cleaning lakes, even as maintenance is done by citizens, Goyal sought the help of cement, solar power and water filter companies to expand the initiative.



The Economic Times – 05.09.2026

New FTAs Open Big Export Gains Across Key Sectors

Electronics, agri and gems & jewellery among sectors with biggest opportunities

Kirtika Suneja

New Delhi: Eight new free trade agreements (FTAs) signed in the last five years have opened up duty-free market access of $982 billion in electronics, $631 billion in agriculture, and $442 billion in gems and jewellery for Indian exporters, according to an analysis by the commerce and industry ministry.

Engineering goods, chemicals and pharmaceuticals are the other manufacturing sectors where the market opportunity is high. Two of the trade deals, with New Zealand and the EU, are yet to be operational.

The analysis covered trade pacts with the UK, UAE, Oman, Australia, European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and Mauritius. EFTA comprises Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

The analysis showed the EU's imported $6.62 trillion worth of goods in 2024, but India's share was only a meagre 1.23%. The India-EU FTA is expected to come into force next year.

Similarly, the UK's merchandise imports from the world were $815.6 billion but India's share was only 1.88%. The engineering goods sector offers a whopping $3 trillion opportunity while labour-intensive sectors such as marine and leather each have a $70 billion-plus market opportunity in these new markets.

Officials said strong growth across manufacturing, engineering goods, electronics, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, food products and consumer goods has enabled exporters to capitalise on opportunities created by trade deals and expanding domestic competitiveness. "A key feature of the current export performance is the diversification of markets beyond traditional destinations," said an official. "It helps export resilience by reducing dependence on a limited set of destinations and increasing India's participation across multiple regional value chains." The new trade pacts provide 100% duty-free market access to most Indian products of labour intensive sectors, leading to trade expansion. Consider this: India's goods exports to the UAE rose to $37.3 billion in FY26, from $28 billion in FY22, buoyed by higher silk, machinery and carpet shipments.

Strong growth in key sectors helps exporters tap trade-deal gains and leverage domestic competitiveness, officials said

The India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement came into effect May 1, 2022, while to EFTA, the outbound shipments were stable at around $1.7 billion.

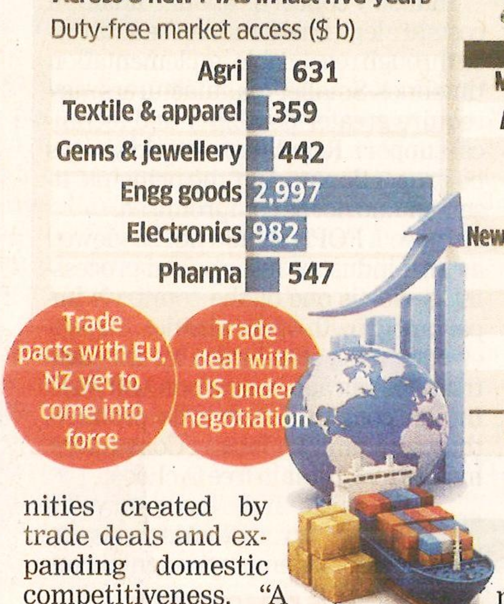
However, exports to Australia fell to $7.3 billion in 2025-26 from $8.3 billion in FY22 though food products and pharmaceutical exports have grown. The India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement entered into force on December 29, 2022.

India's trade deficit with Australia reduced to $6.5 billion last fiscal from $8.5 billion in FY22, per official data. With Mauritius, India's goods trade surplus shrank to $374.66 million from $643 million in the same period.

"One needs to see the quality of trade imbalance," the official said, adding that lot a lot of time, raw material imports are used for manufacturing and exports.

Opportunity Galore

Across 8 new FTAs in last five years



	Significant rise in exports to these countries — Export ($ b)		India runs a trade surplus with most — Trade balance ($ b)	
	2021-22	2025-26	2021-22	2025-26
Mauritius	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.4
Australia	8.3	7.3	-8.5	-6.5
EFTA	1.7	1.7	-23.7	-23.2
UK	10.5	13.4	3.4	1.8
New Zealand	0.5	0.6	0.1	(-0.02)
EU	65.0	72.4	13.6	6.3
US	76.2	87.3	32.9	33.8
Oman	3.1	4.0	-3.7	-3.1
UAE	28.0	37.3	-16.7	-26.5

Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

businessline - 07.09.2026

Strong prices expected for most kharif crops

Prabhudatta Mishra
New Delhi

With the kharif crops set to arrive in the mandis in about 10 days, farmers in top-producing States are expected to receive favourable market prices. The only notable concerns are bajra (pear millet) and moong (green gram), which are lagging behind at 31 per cent and 13 per cent below their MSPs.

Nine out of 14 kharif crops for which MSPs have been announced, including maize, jowar, tur, urad and soybean, were sold on average either at par with their respective MSP (of the 2026-27 season) or higher on September 4, according to Agmarknet data.

In the case of paddy, the key kharif crop in which market rates are influenced by government procurement, currently the average price in Uttar Pradesh is ₹1,965/quintal, the data show.

Despite reports of some likely productivity losses due to the impact of El Nino, the mandi prices of bajra, paddy, moong, groundnut and soybean are ruling in negative, ranging from 0.6 per cent to 31 per cent over their next season's MSP. Maize, jowar, tur and urad are over their MSP by up to 11 per cent.

Mandi prices ahead of kharif crops arrival (₹/quintal)

	Avg price**	MSP*	% change
Maize	2,684	2,410	11.4
Jowar	4,381	4,023	8.9
Tur	8,475	8,450	0.3
Urad	8,210	8,200	0.1
Soybean	5,674	5,708	-0.6
Groundnut	6,900^	7,517	-8.2
Moong	7,662	8,780	-12.7
Paddy	1,965	2,461	-20.2
Bajra	1,998	2,900	-31.1

*for 2026-27 season; ** in top-producing State on Sept 4, 2026; ^in Rajasthan

HIGHER PRICES

"There is no problem with paddy as the government has been procuring 40 per cent of production. Once the purchase starts (which varies from State to State), mandi prices, too, pick up. This time, soybean prices are higher compared to last year, despite strong import of its oil. The groundnut crop in Gujarat also looks good this year and its prices are also expected to move up," said a former Additional Secretary in the Agriculture Ministry.

Maize price, which is ruling higher, is likely to fall once the crop arrives as its demand will compete with other animal feed like soymeal and DDGS, he added.

"Going by the historical data and El Nino impact in the previous years, there seems to be definite production loss this season. The market is already sensitive to it, which is factored in present prices. The sudden drop in soybean is surprising, which should not hold for long as cartelisation seems to be the reason for it," said SK Singh, a former additional MD of Nafed.

Overall, major crops should see prices aligned with their MSP for their FAQ grade, except moong where stock disposal by government agencies may keep prices below MSP, he added.

In the current year, the sowing area under maize is lower by 3 per cent at 91 lakh hectares (lh) from the year-ago level. Similarly, paddy acreage, too, trails by 4 per cent at 421.82 lh. The area under soybean and groundnut is lower by 1 lh from the year-ago number, official data as of September 4 show.

businessline - 05.09.2026

Govt set to assess UK FTA rollout, exporters to flag trade hurdles

TAKING STOCK. Early review to focus on utilisation of tariff concessions and compliance-related issues

Amiti Sen
New Delhi

The Commerce Ministry is set to hold a stakeholder meeting next week to take stock of how the India–UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) has played out so far, nearly two months after the pact came into force.

Exporters are expected to use the forum to flag early hurdles in availing tariff concessions, while also highlighting the gains they've seen since the agreement kicked in.

"The stakeholder meeting will be chaired by senior officials in the Commerce Department and will assess the successes achieved under the agreement since its July 15 implementation, along with the problems being faced by exporters and other issues requiring resolution," said a source tracking the matter.

ZERO-DUTY ACCESS

The India-UK CETA offers zero-duty access to nearly 99 per cent of India's exports, covering labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, leather goods, gems & jewellery, processed food, chemicals and engineering goods — opening up significant room for expansion in the UK market. However, realising this potential hinges on exporters' ability to meet rules of origin criteria and comply with various regulatory requirements on the UK side.

Ahead of the meeting, exporters have been asked to share feedback on two broad fronts: whether the tariff concessions are actually translating into higher order volumes and improved competitiveness in the UK market, and what procedural or compliance-related bottlenecks may be limiting fuller utilisation of the agreement.

"While CETA opens up greater access for Indian exporters across a range of product categories through tariff cuts, industry players are expected to press for more clarity on rules of origin, documentation and certification norms. These issues tend to disproportionately affect smaller exporters, who often lack the compliance infrastructure of larger firms to navigate these requirements smoothly," the source said.

BOOST TO EXPORTS

- The India-UK CETA offers zero-duty access to nearly 99 per cent of India's exports, covering labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, leather goods, gems and jewellery, processed food, chemicals and engineering goods
- India's total goods trade with the UK stood at $25.12 billion in FY26

TRADE DATA

India's total goods trade with the UK stood at $25.12 billion in FY26 comprising exports of $13.44 billion and imports of $11.68 billion, according to Indian Trade Ministry data.

According to the UK government, the pact is expected to increase bilateral trade by over £25 billion ($32.75 billion) annually over the long term and contribute nearly £5 billion ($6.55 billion) annually to both UK GDP and Indian GDP.

Sources indicated that outcomes from the meeting could be inputs for future discussions between the two governments aimed at ironing out implementation glitches and ensuring the agreement delivers on its intended trade gains.

businessline - 05.09.2026

Fadnavis pitches Mumbai-Antwerp corridor as India-Belgium bilateral trade turns surplus

Amit Vijay Mohile
Mumbai

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday proposed a Mumbai–Antwerp corridor and a team to fast-track Belgian investments, while Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said all 27 EU members support bringing the India-EU trade pact into force quickly. They were speaking at a reception for Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever and his trade delegation as the two countries seek to deepen commercial ties and double bilateral trade within five years.

FOSTERING TIES. Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever, flanked by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal (right) and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, at the India-Belgium high-level dialogue on the India–EU Free Trade Agreement in Mumbai on Friday PTI

PROJECT PIPELINE

Fadnavis said Maharashtra wanted to turn the newly-launched India-Belgium Investment Fast-Track Mechanism into projects. "My government will nominate a team to work with our Belgian counterparts and industry," he said.

"Let us create a new economic corridor from Mumbai to Antwerp, from Maharashtra to Belgium and from India to Europe, a corridor of trade, technology, talent and trust," Fadnavis said.

De Wever said the Port of Antwerp-Bruges would return to India in February 2027 with logistics, chemicals and energy companies. "We are not coming to discuss what we might do," the Belgian Prime Minister said. "We are coming to agree on what we are doing."

EU UNITY

Goyal then pointed to the political backing for the India-EU Free Trade Agreement. "There has not been one murmur of dissent on the India-EU FTA," he said.

"Every one of the 27 countries is on board, supportive and desirous of completing the formalities and entering into force at the very earliest. Such unanimous support, given the European context, is very rare."

Goyal said the pact, covering two billion consumers and roughly a quarter of global GDP, could expand India-Belgium ties beyond diamonds. "The Port of Antwerp-Bruges offers Indian exporters an unmatched gateway into the industrial and consumer heartlands of Europe," he said.

TRADE MATH

Bilateral merchandise trade rose less than 1 per cent to $13.01 billion in FY26. India's exports to Belgium rose 4.4 per cent to $6.60 billion, while imports declined 2.8 per cent to $6.41 billion. The resulting $190-million surplus reversed a roughly $270-million deficit in FY25.

The FTA could extend trade into chemicals, pharmaceuticals, machinery, marine products, textiles, footwear, auto parts and processed foods. Fadnavis said the current figure "dramatically understates" the potential. Reaching the governments' $26-billion target in five years would require annual growth of 15 per cent.

businessline - 05.09.2026

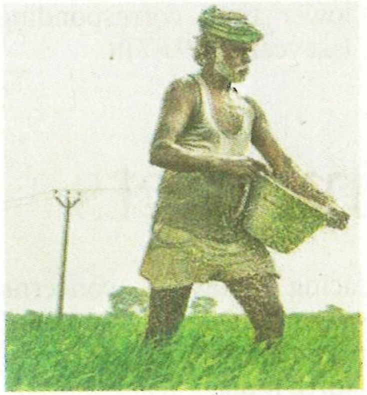
Skewed fertilizer use continues as farmers favour urea

Prabhudatta Mishra
New Delhi

Farmers have purchased 80 per cent of the estimated monthly demand of urea in the first three weeks of August against 70 per cent in diammonium phosphate (DAP), 56 per cent in complex (combination of N, P, K nutrients) and 38 per cent in Muriate of Potash (MoP).

This brings to focus the pricing policy followed by the government making urea the cheapest, even lower than edible salt.

Currently, urea is sold to farmers at ₹267/bag (of 45 kg) while DAP's MRP is not allowed to rise above ₹1,350/bag (of 50 kg) under government control. However, the prices of MAP/MoP are between ₹1,700 and ₹2,200 per bag (of 50 kg) and those of complex of various combinations are available at ₹1,500-₹2,650 per bag (of 50 kg).



Some complex fertilizers coated with zinc and other micro-nutrients cost more than ₹2,650 per bag (of 40 kg). According to latest sales data for August 1-21, urea consumption was 30.6 lakh tonnes (lt), that of DAP was 6.8 lt, MOP 1.2 lt and complex 8.5 lt.

The government had estimated demand for August at 38.01 lt of urea, 9.81 lt of DAP, 3.27 lt of MOP and 15.27 lt of complex.

RATIONALISE PRICES

Industry experts said the only way to change the skewed use of fertilizers and correct soil fertility is to rationalise the retail prices of all fertilizers even if the subsidy continues.

"If you sell urea at lower than even salt purchased by common man, there is bound to be distortion. The industry has been requesting the government to start raising urea MRP in small lots and Uttar Pradesh has supported such a move," the CEO of a leading urea manufacturer said. There is no justification to continue fixing the price of an urea bag at ₹267 while the majority of farmers are purchasing at higher rates, many at about ₹300/bag, he said.

The government started a pilot on linking fertilizer sales with land records of farmers in 56 districts in 22 States (as on July 31) whereas the target is to cover 80 districts. However, a pan-India roll out will depend on the views of States as recently the Madhya Pradesh government suspended app-based slot booking after farmers protested against the rule stipulating a cap on purchases.

POSITIVE FEEDBACK

It is broadening a nationwide digital platform that tracks fertilizer from production to retail sale, adding tools to link purchases with individual farmers' land records and to monitor subsidy payments more closely, the Fertilizer Ministry said on August 30. "Feedback from pilots is majorly positive. However, there are issues like QR code not getting generated, mapping of retail shops, mapping of Agristack data and non-functioning of the app," an official said.

businessline - 05.09.2026

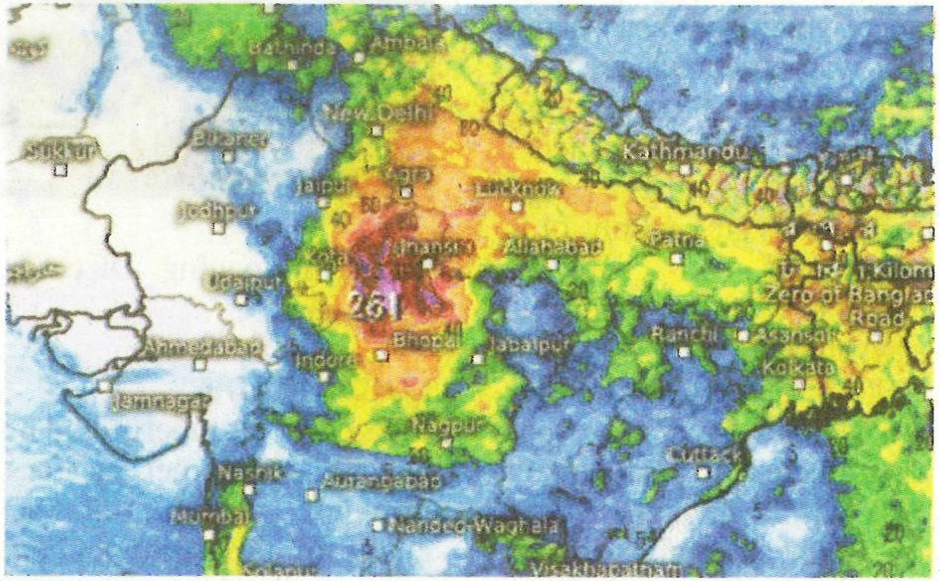
Monsoon remains active over North, East

Vinson Kurian
Thiruvananthapuram

The monsoon is likely to remain active over North-West, Central, East and North-East India through September 10, while the South Peninsula may see a modest revival, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Friday.

The weather activity is being sustained by a well-marked low-pressure area over central parts of northern Madhya Pradesh and adjoining south Uttar Pradesh, with the monsoon trough extending from Sri Ganganagar through Narnaul, the centre of the low, Daltonganj and Berhampore, before stretching eastwards towards Tripura.

However, the system's moisture supply has temporarily weakened, as the south-eastern end of the trough has moved out of the Bay of Bengal and now lies over land across Tripura, cutting off the direct inflow of fresh moisture from the Bay.



NORTHERN TILT. East Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and the adjoining Himalayan hills may receive maximum rain until Monday, according to the ECMWF WWW.METEOLOGIX.COM/IN

The well-marked low is, therefore, likely to remain nearly stationary over the next two days.

The broader weather pattern remains complex. A second trough extends from north-east Rajasthan to Manipur, passing across the low and through Bihar, north Jharkhand, the hills of West Bengal and south Assam.

A third runs from south Gujarat to Jharkhand, also crossing the low-pressure area. A western disturbance over Afghanistan is adding to the weather activity over northern India.

Together, these systems are expected to sustain widespread rain, including heavy spells in places, across parts of North-West, East, North-East and Central India through September 10.

REVIVAL IN SOUTH

The rain-deficient South Peninsula, meanwhile, is showing signs of a modest revival.

A cyclonic circulation over coastal Tamil Nadu and the adjoining south-west Bay of Bengal, along with a trough extending from south interior Karnataka to the Gulf of Mannar across Tamil Nadu, is expected to trigger scattered to widespread rain over the peninsula.

Showers and thunderstorms are likely across much of the region, with coastal Karnataka potentially emerging as the wettest pocket.

The September 4-10 outlook points to a patchy recovery in rainfall.

businessline - 05.09.2026

Cotton rules firm as new crop arrivals start in some States

RESILIENT PRICES. Volatile ICE futures keep *kapas* prices firm despite a muted demand from mills

Vishwanath Kulkarni
Bengaluru

Amidst a volatile global trend, the prices of cotton (raw or *kapas*) from the current kharif crop are ruling firm in several States where early arrivals have begun.

Arrivals have started in parts of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, among others. "Raw cotton prices are ruling above minimum support price (MSP) levels in the range of ₹9,200-9,500 per quintal, depending on the moisture content, in markets such as Raichur, Bellary, Adoni and Yemmiganur, among others," said Ramanuj Das Boob, a sourcing agent in Raichur.

DELAYED SOWING. As sowing was delayed, the arrivals were delayed by over a month and are expected to pick up from early November

MAY RULE ABOVE MSP

The Centre has announced MSP of ₹8,267 per quintal for medium staple and ₹8,667 for long staple cotton for the 2026-27 marketing season. "Looking to the current trend in international prices, the prices of raw cotton are likely to stay above the MSP levels," Das Boob added.

ICE cotton futures are hovering in around 87 cents per pound, down from around 93 cents per pound on Tuesday. The dip in ICE has forced MNCs in India to lower their quotes by ₹2,000 per candy (356 kg), while CCI has maintained its price.

"Even at reduced price offered by MNCs, there are no takers," Das Boob said.

ARRIVALS DELAYED

"Buyers are not coming because of low demand in yarn. The yarn market is dull as there are no buyers at higher prices. Buyers, especially mills, who have stocks, are preferring to wait and watch," he said.

Arrivals in small quantities have also started in parts of Gujarat and prices are hovering in the range of ₹1,900-2,000 per *maund* (20 kgs), said Anand Popat of CotYarn TradeLink in Rajkot. As sowing is delayed, the arrivals are delayed by over a month and expected to pick up from early November, Popat said.

Weekly cotton arrivals from the new crop are around 50,000 bales of 170 kg each. In another two weeks, the arrivals may touch about 1 lakh bales per week, Popat said.

RAIN, ACREAGE

Further, Popat said the cotton crop requires some rains now. Another one or two rounds of rains will boost the yields, he said. Per the Agriculture Ministry's data on September 4, cotton has been planted on 109.17 lakh hectares, marginally lower than corresponding last year's 109.87 lh.