COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Established 1921

ISO 9001:2015



News Relating to Cotton and Textile Sector

Date-19-11-2026

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COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

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Mumbai, Thursday 19th November 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)	Rs. per Quintal	Rs. per Candy	Variation + (Plus) - (Minus)
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash %	Strength / GPT	2026-27	2026-27		2025-26	2025-26	
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	4%	15	15438	54900	(-200)	N.A.	N.A.	
2	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	15%	20	N.A.	N.A.		13779	49000	(-200)
3	P / H / R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	26	17716	63000	(-300)	N.A.	N.A.	
4	M/M(P) /SA/TL/GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 – 3.4	4%	25	N.A.	N.A.		N.A.	N.A.	
5	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	3.5%	26	N.A.	N.A.		N.A.	N.A.	
6	P/ H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	27	17828	63400	(-200)	N.A.	N.A.	
7	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	N.A.	N.A.		N.A.	N.A.	
8	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	17772	63200	(-300)	N.A.	N.A.	
9	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	N.A.	N.A.		N.A.	N.A.	
10	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	4.0%	27	17744	63100	(-200)	N.A.	N.A.	
11	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	28	18559	66000	(-300)	N.A.	N.A.	
12	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	18559	66000	(-300)	N.A.	N.A.	
13	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	18503	65800	(-400)	N.A.	N.A.	
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	18559	66000	(-300)	N.A.	N.A.	
15	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	18784	66800	(-400)	N.A.	N.A.	
16	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	18784	66800	(-300)	N.A.	N.A.	
17	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	30	19065	67800	(-100)	N.A.	N.A.	
18	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	30	N.A.	N.A.		N.A.	N.A.	
19	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 – 4.9	3%	31	N.A.	N.A.		N.A.	N.A.	
20	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	33	26011	92500	(N.C.)	N.A.	N.A.	
21	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	26573	94500	(N.C.)	N.A.	N.A.	
22	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	26855	95500	(-500)	N.A.	N.A.	
23	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	27108	96400	(N.C.)	N.A.	N.A.	

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 (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: 18-11-2026

ICE COTTON CLOSE					18 Nov 2026	
CONTRACT MONTH	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHANGE	Op. Int.
Cotton (CT) - Quote: Cents/Pound - Contract Size: 50,000 Pounds.						
Dec-26	77.25	77.57	74.89	74.97	▼2.35	25,818
Mar-27	81.40	81.58	78.83	78.88	▼2.52	1,48,404
May-27	82.95	83.03	80.30	80.34	▼2.57	77,105
Jul-27	83.44	83.50	80.77	80.81	▼2.57	44,995
Oct-27	77.93	77.93	76.21	76.21	▼2.06	24
Dec-27	77.55	77.56	75.53	75.60	▼1.81	41,106
Mar-28	77.75	77.75	76.43	76.43	▼1.78	2,597

Cotlook Index: 18-11-2026

89.85 (+0.55)

US cotton futures plunge 3.1% as March slips below 80 cents

Thursday, 19th Nov. 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com)

Insights

US cotton futures fell sharply on Wednesday, with the March 2027 contract down 3.1 per cent at 78.88 cents per pound, its first settlement below 80 cents since early July.

Selling pressure rose ahead of December first notice day, while a stronger dollar, weak Brazilian real and broader market losses hit sentiment.

Trading volume jumped nearly 49 per cent to 105,080 contracts.

US cotton futures witnessed a sharp decline on Wednesday, November 18, 2026, amid heavy selling pressure, a stronger US dollar and weakness across broader financial markets. The March 2027 contract plunged 2.52 cents, or 3.1 per cent, to settle at 78.88 cents per pound, compared with 81.40 cents in the previous session. It was the steepest single-day decline since May 21 and the first settlement below 80 cents since early July.

Other cotton futures contracts declined by 1.58-2.57 cents during the session. March cotton touched an intraday low of 78.83 cents, its lowest level since November 10. The contract has fallen approximately 17.5 per cent from its August 31 high of 95.59 cents. Trading volume surged by nearly 49 per cent to 105,080 contracts from 70,485 in the previous session, reflecting aggressive selling activity.

Market participants struggled to identify a single trigger behind the sharp decline. Liquidation ahead of the December contract's first notice day (FND) on November 23 contributed to selling pressure, while weakness in the Brazilian real improved the price competitiveness of Brazilian cotton in international markets. The Brazilian currency has depreciated by approximately 4 per cent over recent sessions.

A strengthening US dollar also weighed on cotton prices. The dollar briefly touched a 19-month high, supported by hawkish Federal Reserve commentary and stronger US economic data. A firmer dollar makes US cotton more expensive for overseas buyers. Weakness in equity, crude oil and precious metals markets further dampened sentiment across commodity markets.

Technical indicators turned bearish as the March contract broke below its 200-day moving average of 80.75 cents, settling 187 points beneath that level. Prices closed near the session's low, indicating limited buying support. Meanwhile, open interest in the December contract declined by 8,695 contracts to 25,818 ahead of FND. Certificated cotton stocks remained unchanged at 84,978 bales.

Total futures open interest dropped by 10,078 contracts to 340,663, approximately 61,600 below the record high recorded on October 21. Options trading volume stood at 19,222 contracts. The December/March spread narrowed to a 391-point premium for March from 408 points in the previous session.

The near-term market outlook remains weak, with the March contract's break below 80 cents and its 200-day moving average signalling further downside risks. Traders will monitor Thursday's USDA weekly export sales report, December contract liquidation ahead of FND, movements in the US dollar and Brazilian real, and the March contract's recent low of 78.83 cents for indications of the next price direction.

India's Import Duties Nearly Three Times Higher Than China and Vietnam: FED Report

Thursday, 19th Nov. 2026, (Source: https://textilevaluechain.in/)

India's average import duty on non-agricultural goods stands at 10.8%, compared with 3.5% in Vietnam and 3.7% in China, as high tariffs increase manufacturing input costs and affect export competitiveness.

India's Import Tariffs Exceed Those of Key Manufacturing Competitors

India's average effective import duty on non-agricultural goods is 10.8%, significantly higher than Vietnam's 3.5% and China's 3.7%, according to the FED report on industrial tariff policy. The report states that higher duties on imported raw materials, components and machinery are increasing costs for Indian factories compared with manufacturing competitors.

The report also highlights a link between tariff levels and export performance. Countries with lower average tariffs export 13 times more per capita than those with higher tariffs. In India, the average tariff on manufacturing inputs is estimated at 6.8%, compared with 3.3% in China and 1.8% in Vietnam.

Manufacturing Exports Need to Grow Faster

According to the report, India needs to create 8 million additional jobs every year and achieve economic growth of more than 8%. Meeting these targets would require manufacturing export growth to increase from the current 5.4% to more than 10%, nearly double the existing rate.

The report argues that domestic demand alone will not be sufficient to achieve the required growth. Instead, expanding manufacturing exports through lower tariffs and stronger integration with global value chains would be necessary.

Increasing annual manufacturing export growth to more than 10% could generate an additional $1.8 trillion in exports over 10 years and support the creation of the required jobs, the report estimates.

Complex Tariff Structure Adds to Industry Costs

The report points to both high import duties and the complexity of India's tariff system as challenges for manufacturers. Only around a quarter of India's imports enter at an import duty of 2.5% or less, while the country has 44 different effective tariff rates.

This structure can lead to disputes, delays and uncertainty for businesses. In comparison, approximately 79% of imports into China and 81% of imports into Vietnam attract duties of 2.5% or less.

The impact of these input costs is particularly significant in electronics, engineering goods and apparel, which together represent $10.5 trillion in global trade.

According to the report, Indian products in these three sectors cost 5-15% more to manufacture than comparable goods from China and Vietnam. Imported input costs account for 60-77% of this cost difference.

The report further estimates that matching Vietnam's export share in these three sectors could generate approximately 5.3 million additional direct jobs in India.

FED Recommends Simplifying and Reducing Import Duties
To address these challenges, the report proposes a phased reduction in import tariff rates, with the eventual introduction of a three-rate structure of 0%, 5% and 7.5%, including cess.
It also recommends allowing more than 60% of imports to enter India without customs duties.

Mobile Phone Industry Cited as an Example
The report points to the growth of India's mobile phone industry following reductions in import duties across its value chain.

Mobile phone exports increased nearly sevenfold, from $4.4 billion in 2022 to $29.4 billion in 2026. Employment in the sector also more than tripled during the same period.
The report cites this development while highlighting the relationship between import tariff reductions, manufacturing exports and employment growth.

Drought Cuts Cotton Production by Up to 75% in Maharashtra's Ambad; Market Arrivals Decline Sharply

Thursday, 19th Nov. 2026, by Yash Chouhan, (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

Drought Hits Ambad Taluka: Cotton Production Plummets by Up to 75%; Market Arrivals Decline

Ambad, Maharashtra: Drought conditions in the Ambad taluka of Jalna district, Maharashtra, have intensified the financial hardships faced by cotton farmers. Due to a lack of rainfall this year, cotton production has dropped by more than 50 percent, with some areas experiencing a decline of up to 75 percent. This has directly impacted cotton arrivals at the Ambad Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC). In previous years, an average of 40 trucks of cotton would arrive at the market daily during this season; this year, that number has fallen to just 7–8 trucks.

Farmers had sown cotton despite the deficient rainfall. While there was some rain in July, the monsoon weakened significantly after August. The lack of adequate rainfall stunted the growth of the cotton plants, depriving the crop of essential moisture. The drought has also affected the availability of drinking water; currently, 38 water tankers have been deployed to supply water to various villages across the taluka.

Decline in Cotton Production Impacts Agricultural Laborers
The reduced cotton yield has led to a drop in demand for labor for harvesting (picking). In a typical year, there is a high demand for laborers to pick cotton, but this season, most farmers are doing the work themselves. Even with a wage rate of 10 rupees per kilogram, very few laborers are finding work, creating an employment crisis for agricultural workers in rural areas.

Farmers Withhold Cotton Despite Price of 9,500 Rupees per Quintal

Due to low production, farmers have limited stocks of cotton available for sale. Many are storing their produce at home, hoping for better prices. Only those facing severe financial distress are bringing their cotton to the market to meet their immediate needs. Currently, the market price for cotton is reported to be around 9,500 rupees per quintal. Significant Decline in APMC Revenue Expected

The reduced arrival of cotton is expected to impact the revenue of the Ambad Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC). In previous years, the APMC used to earn approximately ₹80 lakh annually from the cotton trade. This year, that figure is projected to drop to just ₹15–20 lakh.

According to Kalyan Chothe, Secretary of the APMC, the decline in cotton arrivals is adversely affecting the market committee's financial position. Meanwhile, farmers have demanded greater financial assistance from the state government to compensate for losses caused by the drought. They argue that the proposed aid of ₹5,000 is insufficient given the extent of their crop losses.

Indian Cotton Market: MSP Procurement Begins as Cotton Arrivals Decline 45%

Thursday, 19th Nov. 2026, by Yash Chouhan, (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

Indian Cotton Market: Procurement at MSP Begins; Arrivals Drop by 45%

The 2026-27 cotton marketing season in India has commenced amidst low arrivals and weak demand. By mid-November, cotton arrivals across the country are estimated at approximately 3 million (30 lakh) bales—a decline of nearly 45 percent compared to the same period last year. Arrivals at agricultural produce markets (mandis) remain sluggish as farmers hold out for better prices, compounded by concerns over lower production this year.

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has initiated cotton procurement at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for the new season. A total of 572 procurement centers have been established nationwide, an increase from the approximately 500 centers that operated during the previous season. In Telangana, nearly 7,500 quintals of cotton have been procured under the government scheme so far. The commencement of MSP-based procurement is expected to provide relief to farmers should market prices decline.

Prices in the International Market Remain Within a Narrow Range

In the international market, ICE cotton futures have recovered following a recent dip and are currently trading in the range of 81 to 83 cents per pound. However, the upside for prices remains limited due to weak global demand. On November 18, cotton prices in the Indian spot market also remained largely stable. In some markets across North India, prices saw a slight softening due to subdued buying by textile mills.

Weak Demand from Textile Mills Remains a Concern

Spinning mills are exercising caution in their procurement due to sluggish domestic demand for yarn and fabric, high interest rates, and a slowdown in export orders. Most mills are purchasing only what is required for immediate needs, avoiding the accumulation of large stocks.

Globally, cotton production for the 2026-27 season is projected at approximately 117.5 million bales, while mill consumption is estimated at around 122.7 million bales. Weak consumption continues to exert pressure on prices in the international market as well.

As for the future outlook, the Indian cotton market may find support from lower arrivals and procurement by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). However, the likelihood of a significant price surge remains limited for now, due to weak demand from textile mills and a sluggish international market. In the coming days, the arrival of the new crop and demand from the textile industry will play a crucial role in determining the direction of cotton prices.

Bumper Cotton Arrivals at Khargone Mandi; 20,500 Quintals Received, Model Price Reaches ₹9,030

Thursday, 19th Nov. 2026, by Yash Chouhan, (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)



Bumper Arrival of Cotton at Khargone Mandi; 20,500 Quintals Arrive

Khargone, Madhya Pradesh: The arrival of cotton at the Agricultural Produce Market (Mandi) in Khargone, Madhya Pradesh, continues to rise. On Wednesday, approximately 20,500 quintals of cotton reached the Mandi, transported via 1,050 vehicles and 58 bullock carts. Due to the heavy influx, the auction process could not be completed by late evening, leaving about 400 vehicles still waiting to sell their cotton.

Mandi Secretary Sumatilal Chauhan stated that by 8:00 PM on Wednesday, an additional 300 vehicles had arrived at the Mandi. Consequently, a high volume of cotton arrivals is expected to continue on Thursday as well.

On Wednesday, the 'model' (most frequent) price for cotton was recorded at ₹9,030 per quintal. The minimum price stood at ₹8,100, while the maximum price reached ₹9,245 per quintal. On Tuesday, the model price for cotton was ₹9,000 per quintal, marking an increase of ₹30 per quintal in a single day.

In addition to cotton, the Mandi also recorded arrivals of maize and soybeans. On Wednesday, maize prices ranged between ₹2,500 and ₹3,001 per quintal, with a model price of ₹2,800 per quintal. The model price for soybeans was recorded at ₹7,435 per quintal.

The total arrival of all agricultural commodities at the Mandi on Wednesday reached 34,950 quintals, which included 11,000 quintals of maize and 2,250 quintals of soybeans. The consistently high

volume of arrivals is impacting the auction process at the Mandi. Meanwhile, a slight increase has been observed in the model price of cotton.

Cotton Prices Reach ₹8,830 per Quintal at Julurupadu Market, but Farmers Struggle with Lack of Facilities

Thursday, 19th Nov. 2026, by Yash Chouhan, (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)



Cotton Prices Reach ₹8,830 per Quintal at Julurupadu Market; Farmers Face Hardships Due to Lack of Facilities

Julurupadu, Telangana: The sub-market yard at the Julurupadu mandal headquarters in Telangana is currently witnessing a massive influx of cotton. Attracted by the prospect of good prices, farmers from the Bhadradri and Khammam districts, as well as from the neighboring state of Andhra Pradesh, are arriving in large numbers to sell their produce. On Wednesday, the initial bid for cotton reached ₹8,830 per quintal—a figure higher than the government-mandated Minimum Support Price (MSP) of ₹8,667 per quintal.

The favorable prices have generated enthusiasm among farmers, who are eager to sell their harvest. Traders purchased the cotton based on its quality, with approximately 10,000 quintals procured on Wednesday alone. Market staff noted that the sub-market yard has been experiencing a heavy, continuous inflow of cotton for the past three days.

The surge in the number of farmers and vehicles has led to long queues within the market premises. The congestion has spilled over onto the main road, disrupting traffic. Farmers are forced to endure long wait times to sell their produce, causing them significant inconvenience.
While farmers acknowledge that current cotton prices are good, they suggest that increasing the Minimum Support Price (MSP) to ₹10,000 per quintal would provide them with better economic returns relative to their production costs.

Farmers Distressed by Lack of Basic Amenities

Despite the heavy arrival of cotton, farmers are struggling due to a lack of essential infrastructure. According to the farmers, the sub-market yard lacks adequate sheds for storing cotton. Furthermore, there are no proper arrangements to provide shelter from the sun and rain, nor is there access to drinking water. Due to the lack of these facilities, farmers are facing significant difficulties while selling their produce. They have urged the administration and the relevant market authorities to promptly provide adequate sheds, drinking water, and other essential amenities at the mandi (market yard) so that they do not encounter any

Maharashtra Cabinet Approves University Law Amendments, Textile Policy Changes and New Courts in Palghar

Wednesday, 18th Nov. 2026, (Source: https://textilevaluechain.in/)



Key decisions include amendments to the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, revised textile zone classifications, new judicial infrastructure in Palghar and rewards for information leading to the recovery of weapons looted by Maoists.

The Maharashtra Cabinet, chaired by **Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis,** approved four proposals on November 17, 2026. The decisions cover changes to the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016, amendments to the State's Integrated and Sustainable Textile Policy, 2023–28, the establishment of new courts in Palghar and a cash reward scheme for information leading to the recovery of weapons looted by Maoists from security forces.

Amendments to the Maharashtra Public Universities Act

The Cabinet approved a draft ordinance to amend Sections 13(12) and 100(5)(a) of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016. The proposed changes are intended to address developments in higher education and support the implementation of the National Education Policy, 2020.

Under the amendments, the Chancellor of a State university will have the authority to remove a Pro-Vice-Chancellor based on the recommendation of the concerned Vice-Chancellor.

The changes will also permit university construction and development projects to be carried out through the Public Works Department, under the supervision of the university's Management Council.

Palghar Reclassified Under Zone 1 in Textile Policy

The Cabinet approved amendments to the Integrated and Sustainable Textile Policy, 2023–28, including the reclassification of Palghar district under Zone 1 in recognition of its tribal district status. The revised policy abolishes Zone 4 and redistributes districts across the remaining three zones.

The amendments also clarify the criteria for recognising the expansion of textile projects. The installation of additional machinery worth 10% or more of the machinery book value recorded in the previous financial year will qualify as expansion.

Eligible projects that received loan approvals or made advance payments for machinery before June 1, 2023, but began production during the new policy period, will have the option to claim benefits under either the 2018–23 or the 2023–28 policy.

Two New Courts and Government Pleader's Office in Palghar
The Cabinet also approved the establishment of a Principal District and Sessions Court and a Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court in Palghar, along with a District Government Pleader's Office.
The decision follows approval from the Bombay High Court committee responsible for establishing new courts. The move is intended to support the creation of a separate judicial district for Palghar, which was carved out of Thane district in August 2014.
A total of 100 new posts will be created across the two courts and the government pleader's office. The proposal also includes the transfer of 29 existing posts and the engagement of outsourced personnel for 43 positions.

Cash Rewards for Information on Maoist-looted Weapons
The State government approved a cash reward scheme for individuals providing information that helps authorities recover weapons looted by Maoists from security forces.
The reward amount will depend on the type and number of weapons recovered. The scheme provides for rewards of up to approximately ₹1.5 lakh for individual weapons, with a sanctioning framework extending up to ₹1 crore.
The four approvals cover changes in higher education administration, textile industry incentives, judicial infrastructure and security-related recovery efforts in Maharashtra.

AEPC Organises Pan-India seminar on FTA utilisation for apparel exporters in Chennai
Wednesday, 18th Nov. 2026, (Source: www.apparelviews.com)



The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) organised a Pan-India Seminar on "Unlocking Growth Opportunities: FTA Utilisation for Apparel Exporters" on November 16, 2026, at Hotel Le Royal Meridien, Chennai. The seminar brought together industry stakeholders to discuss emerging opportunities under India's expanding Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and ways to strengthen India's global apparel trade.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. A. Sakthivel, Chairman, AEPC, expressed confidence in the growth prospects of the Indian apparel industry, stating, "There is no looking back for our industry. The coming decade belongs to us." He highlighted that India's existing and upcoming FTAs offer access to markets representing nearly 70% of global GDP, creating significant opportunities for exporters.

He encouraged exporters to actively participate in AEPC's international trade promotion initiatives, including the upcoming Buyer-Seller Meets in London (January 25–26, 2027) and Copenhagen (January 28–29, 2027). He also urged members to participate in Bharat Tex '27, scheduled from

February 17–20, 2027, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, highlighting its potential to connect Indian manufacturers with global buyers.

The Chairman also highlighted the industry's workforce challenges and informed participants about AEPC's proposal to the Government for affordable housing support for apparel workers. Under the proposed model, 50% of the project cost would be provided as Government subsidy, while the remaining amount would be financed through loans at concessional interest rates.

Smt. Rajalakshmi Devaraj, Additional DGFT, Government of India, delivered a special address highlighting India's textile export performance and the opportunities emerging for exporters. The presentation covered Tamil Nadu's textile export landscape, including product-category and district-wise performance, with Tiruppur accounting for over 53% of the state's textile exports in 2025-26. It also outlined the Government's Export Promotion Mission, particularly its two components, NIRYAT PROTSAHAN, aimed at improving access to affordable trade finance for MSMEs, and NIRYAT DISHA, focused on market access, quality compliance, trade intelligence, logistics and overseas warehousing. The presentation further highlighted the potential tariff benefits under various FTAs, with duties on several textile and apparel products reducing to zero in partner markets, subject to applicable conditions.

A detailed technical presentation by Dr. Sanjay Kumar Mangla, Associate Professor, Economics and International Trade, Symbiosis Institute of Management Studies (SIMS), focused on unlocking market access through effective FTA utilisation. He discussed India's expanding FTA network, which offers access to over 1.75 billion consumers, and highlighted opportunities across major markets, including the UK, European Union, Australia, UAE and EFTA countries. The presentation covered preferential tariff benefits, Rules of Origin (RoO), Qualifying Value Content (QVC), documentation requirements and product-wise export opportunities. It also examined India's competitiveness vis-à-vis countries such as Bangladesh and Vietnam, emphasising that effective utilisation of FTAs is crucial to translating market access into export growth.



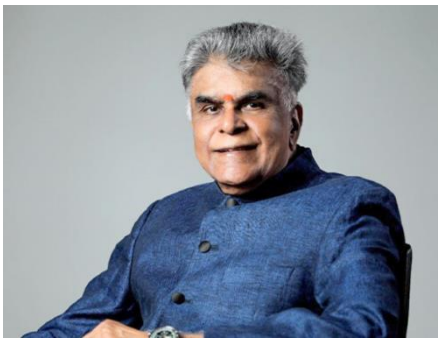
Mr. Gautham Jain from BTTF team made a presentation on Bharat Tex 2027, highlighting the event's growing international significance and its role in bringing the entire textile value chain under one roof. Scheduled at Bharat Mandapam from February 17–20, 2027, the event is expected to feature over 2,000 exhibitors, 7,000 overseas buyers and 35,000 B2B meetings. The presentation also highlighted opportunities for business networking, buyer-seller engagement, knowledge exchange and showcasing India's capabilities across textiles, apparel, fashion and sustainability.

An interactive Q&A session provided exporters an opportunity to discuss FTA-related developments and market expansion. The seminar concluded with a vote of thanks by Shri C.Eswarasundar, General Manager (SR), AEPC, followed by networking and dinner.

Through such initiatives, AEPC continues to facilitate greater awareness and effective utilisation of FTAs, enabling Indian apparel exporters to explore new markets, enhance competitiveness and expand India's global presence.

AEPC Proposes Affordable Housing Scheme for Garment Workers
Thursday, 19th Nov. 2026, (Source: www.apparelviews.com)

The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) has proposed to the government a scheme for development of affordable housing for workers in the garment industry.
A. Sakthivel, the Council chairman, told participants at a seminar on "Unlocking Growth Opportunities: FTA Utilisation for Apparel Exporters" organised in Chennai on Monday, that the Council suggested 50% of the project cost can be provided as subsidy by the government and the remaining can be met through bank loans at concessional interest rates.



The existing and upcoming Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) offer access to markets representing nearly 70 % of global GDP, creating significant opportunities for exporters. The growth prospects for the Indian apparel industry, are thus, high, he added.

Rajalakshmi Devaraj, Additional Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), highlighted India's textile export performance and the opportunities emerging for exporters. The presentation outlined the government's Export Promotion Mission, particularly its two components, Niryat Protsahan, aimed at improving access to affordable trade finance for MSMEs, and Niryat Disha, focused on market access, quality compliance, trade intelligence, logistics and overseas warehousing.

The seminar brought together stakeholders to discuss the emerging opportunities under India's expanding FTAs and ways to strengthen India's global apparel trade, a press release from the AEPC said.

COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Established 1921

ISO 9001:2015

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CAI Laboratory locations :

(Recognised by BIS)

- **Maharashtra :** Mumbai; Akola; Aurangabad; Jalgaon; Nagpur
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Indian Cotton Statistics



Publications

Represented on various International Cotton Fora i.e. ICAC, ICA, CICCA, ACSA, ITMF and several other International Cotton Associations

businessline – 19.11.2026

No trade deal till US 'puts in place a new tariff plan'

HAZY. Top official says clarity needed on levies post US SC nixing tariffs, and Sec 301 probe

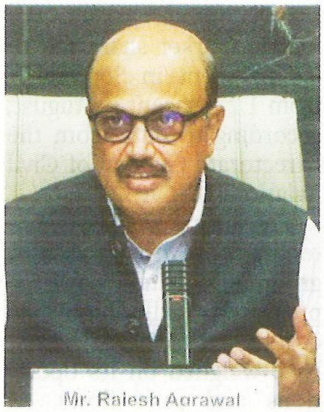
Amiti Sen
New Delhi

The long-in-the-works India-US trade deal cannot be signed till Washington puts in place a new tariff architecture following the US Supreme Court dismantling reciprocal and emergency tariffs as comparative advantages offered to different countries need to be clear, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said on Wednesday.

The outcome of the ongoing Section 301 investigations, which could lead to additional tariffs, also needs to be known as every country would want a trade deal that provides certainty on these probes, he said.

"The challenge that you need to appreciate is that the deal (framework for the first tranche of the bilateral trade agreement) was announced (in February) in the background of executive tariffs that were existing at that point of time. Those tariffs have been struck down by the Supreme Court there. Now, a new tariff architecture is being created by the US," Agrawal said at a Ficci event.

> The deal cannot be signed until the new tariff architecture is in place, as this would determine the comparative advantages available to different countries
>
> **RAJESH AGRAWAL**
> Commerce Secretary


Mr. Rajesh Agrawal

FINAL STAGES

While the legal agreement has been negotiated and is in the final stages, and both sides want to conclude negotiations as quickly as possible, it cannot be signed until the new tariff architecture is in place, as this would determine the comparative advantages available to different countries. "Until the tariff architecture comes back in place, signing of a deal, I think, will take some time," he said.

Agrawal also pointed to the implications of the ongoing investigations under Section 301 of the US Trade Act of 1974, whose findings are expected in a few weeks or months. "Every country will like to have a deal which gives them certainty around all the investigations that are going on. You cannot have a deal till there are uncertainties around multiple investigations that are going on," he said.

The Section 301 probes, including one into excess capacity under which India and several competing countries are being investigated, could result in penal duties and shape the new US tariff architecture, officials had earlier explained.

RECIPROCAL TARIFF

The India-US interim trade framework was announced on February 7, 2026, with Washington agreeing to lower its reciprocal tariff on Indian goods to 18 per cent from 25 per cent and roll back another 25 per cent penalty tariff imposed over New Delhi's purchase of Russian oil.

However, later that month, the US Supreme Court struck down the reciprocal tariffs and those imposed under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

"At present, most Indian goods are charged additional tariffs of just 10 per cent that were imposed following the Section 301 investigations on forced labour. It is just not possible for India to accept higher tariffs of 18 per cent under the deal while lowering its own tariffs on American goods. So, one has to wait for investigations to be over and final tariffs to emerge to get the whole picture," another official said.

businessline – 19.11.2026

Cyclone Akvan slows to a crawl, downgraded

Vinson Kurian
Thiruvananthapuram

Cyclone Akvan is in no hurry to reach the coast as it crawled north-northwestwards at 3 km/hr over central parts of the South and adjoining West-Central Bay of Bengal, a far cry from the double-digit speeds more commonly associated with moving cyclones, while it used the overnight hours to strengthen into a Severe Cyclone on Wednesday morning.

While Akvan has gained strength over the open sea, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has significantly scaled back its forecast of how powerful it will be at landfall by Friday noon.

In a major departure from the earlier projections, the weather agency now expects Akvan to make landfall as a severe cyclone, as against a very severe cyclone.



NO LONGER VERY SEVERE. The downgrade in intensity, however, comes with no let-up in the rainfall and wind warnings for Andhra Pradesh RAO GN

STORM INTENSITY

The downgrade in intensity, however, comes with no let-up in the rainfall and wind warnings for the Andhra Pradesh coast, which remains squarely in the storm's firing line. The wind conditions are also expected to deteriorate sharply. These could gather considerable force on Thursday and Friday, reaching 100-110 km/hr, with gusts touching 120 km/hr.

NEAR-MISS FOR TN

For Tamil Nadu, however, Akvan could turn out to be something of a near-miss in terms of assured rainfall.

Located nearly 600 km from Chennai on Wednesday morning, the cyclone appeared better positioned to deliver its rain bounty to the Andhra Pradesh coast and adjoining parts of Odisha.

NO POTENTIAL

The US Climate Prediction Center appears, at least for now, to be drawing down the curtains on the prospects of fresh cyclogenesis over the Bay, with its model forecasts showing no potential area of cyclone formation until December 8. Uncertainty over the arrival and influence of the passing Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) waves appears to be weighing on the outlook.

The European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), however, hinted at a possible area of activity over the southern Andaman Sea during the week ending December 7, persisting until December 14, before shifting westwards to a location east of Sri Lanka.

businessline – 19.11.2026

CCI begins 2026-27 MSP purchase of cotton from Telangana

Vishwanath Kulkarni
Bengaluru

The state-run Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has started procurement operations of the fibre crop at minimum support price (MSP) for the 2026-27 marketing season from Telangana.

"We have procured around 7,500 quintals of cotton at MSP from around 18 centres in Telangana in this season till Tuesday," Lalit Kumar Gupta, Chairman and Managing Director, CCI, told *businessline*.

"We are keeping a watch on the market and are fully geared up to intervene wherever prices dip below the support price levels," Gupta said.

In fact, the CCI has opened more centres this year to carry out the market intervention.

The CCI has set up about 600 centres across the country against last year's 572 centres.

MARKET STEADY

The Centre has declared a MSP of ₹8,267 per quintal for the medium staple and ₹8,667 for the long staple cotton.

The cotton market is ruling rather steady, as factors such as likely lower domestic crop, the extension of duty-free imports and volatile global prices are weighing on the prices, according to the trade.

The market arrivals of cotton are yet to pick up post-Diwali as farmers, anticipating higher prices, are seen holding back their stocks.



SUPPLY CRUNCH. Market arrivals of cotton are yet to pick up post-Diwali as farmers, anticipating higher prices, are seen holding back their stocks REUTERS

Moreover, the Indian cotton crop for the 2026-27 season is estimated lower on decline in acreage and drought, triggered by El Nino conditions. The dry weather conditions impacted yields and the quality of the fibre crop.

LOWER CROP

Trade body Cotton Association of India (CAI) has projected a crop of 280 lakh bales of 170 kg each for 2026-27, about 14 per cent lower than last year's 325.69 lakh bales. Overall consumption is projected to be flat at 365 lakh bales for the year.

A lower crop is seen supporting the cotton prices even as demand is rather slow with consumers having an option to import the fibre crop at zero duty till the year-end. In such a scenario, there's likely to limited scope for the CCI to carry out the MSP operations this year. CCI had procured over 1.04 crore bales during 2025-26 season, of which the unsold stocks are estimated at around 4 lakh bales.

"Indian cotton prices appear well-supported at current levels, with limited downside expected in the near term. Gradual price appreciation remains possible, depending on mill demand, farmers' selling behaviour and the pace of *kapas* arrivals," according to Anand Popat of Cotyarn TradeLink.

FARMERS HOLD BACK

Ramanuj Das Boob, a sourcing agent in Raichur, said all-India arrivals as of November 15 stood at 30 lakh bales of 170 kg each against 55 lakh bales during the same period a year ago.

Kapas prices are ruling between ₹9,100 and ₹9,500 per quintal and the recent increase in cottonseed prices is supporting the cotton prices.

Farmers are holding back expecting higher prices of ₹10,000 per quintal, ginners are not keen to sell as the costing is high at these rates, he said.

The Economic Times – 19.11.2026

New Textile Census to See 15 Segments Stitched Together

Anoushka Sawhney &
Kirtika Suneja

New Delhi: The government has started work on a proposed Integrated Textile Census that will, for the first time, create a database covering all segments of the country's textile value chain, including powerloom, handloom and handicrafts, officials told **ET.**

The census would cover household- and establishment-based handloom, powerloom and handicraft production units under a common statistical framework, with harmonised concepts, a unified digital platform and a single field operation, the officials said, requesting anonymity. The previous census conducted by the textiles ministry—the Fourth All-India Handloom Census (2019-20) — covered only the handloom sector. In the proposed census, the reference period for data on production, sales, expenditure and employment would be FY26, while stocks of machinery, looms and tools would be recorded as on the date of the survey, the officials said. "Stakeholder consultations are going on for a comprehensive census. Industry is giving inputs," said an official.

The proposed census will have data on 15 segments of the textile industry, namely powerloom, handloom, handicrafts, cotton ginning and pressing, spinning, processing, knitting, garmenting, made-ups, man-made fibres, synthetic filament yarn, technical textiles, silk, jute and wool. The proposed exercise will capture information on the structure and operations of textile enterprises, including their production capacity, raw material consumption, machinery, workforce, investment, turnover and market linkages. It will cover both household-based activities and organised industrial establishments.

"There are certain sectors where only estimates are available and a comprehensive survey of this level hasn't been done earlier. Now, all industry sectors have been asked for information," said another official. The framework seeks to map employment by distinguishing between owners, unpaid family members, formal and informal workers, and others such as helpers, apprentices and interns. It will also capture gender-wise employment and monthly remuneration.



GPS-based location mapping and questions about awareness of government schemes, including production-linked incentive scheme, PM MITRA, National Technical Textiles Mission, SAMARTH, and state government textile incentives are also part of the framework. The census exercise wil also seek details of machinery that remained unused during the reference period and the reasons for it.

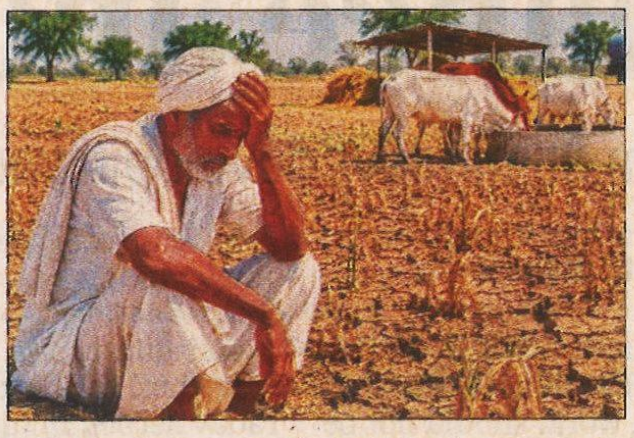
The technical textiles module will cover areas such as agrotech, meditech, geotech, buildtech, mobiltech and protective textiles.

It will capture product forms, raw materials and end-use applications, alongside details on machinery, testing, research and development, markets and sustainability.

The Economic Times – 19.11.2026

Agri-Input Cos Face Stress in Q2 on Demand Drought

Shambhavi Anand



New Delhi: India's agri-input sector came under pressure in the September quarter as deficient rainfall and drought conditions across large parts of the country weakened demand for seeds, fertilisers and crop-protection chemicals during the kharif season, dragging revenue and profits at the top eight listed companies.

Bayer CropScience reported a 19% year-on-year decline in revenue, while Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers (RCF) and Sumitomo Chemical India posted declines of 4.33% and 2.42%, respectively. UPL's revenue fell 1% year-on-year, while Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore (FACT) reported a 10.2% decline.

Net profit fell 33.7% at Coromandel International and 64% at Paradeep Phosphates. The weakness came despite a marginal 1.21% decline in kharif sowing. Uneven rainfall and prolonged dry spells affected crop activity and constrained farmers' spending on agricultural inputs. Fertiliser sales also declined during April-September, a period that typically accounts for around 60% of annual industry sales.

"Q2 reflected a challenging operating environment, with an uneven monsoon affecting sowing patterns and crop protection demand, alongside lower corn acreages," said Simon Wiebusch, vice-chairman, managing director and CEO of Bayer CropScience. However, the company's profit before tax rose by 6% to ₹211.4 crore from ₹200.3 crore in the corresponding quarter last year.

UPL also attributed weak demand to the impact of El Niño and poor crop conditions. "In many parts of the country, crops either could not be planted or they have suffered even after planting, so farmers have not used agri-inputs as much as they wanted to," Ravishankar Cheurukuri, CEO of UPL SAS, said during the company's earnings call.

The fertiliser industry faced multiple headwinds, including supply constraints, rising raw material prices and weather-related disruptions.

"Initially, we had availability issues; subsequently, prices went up. We also had monsoon challenges early on that impacted fertiliser consumption. This combination of factors has affected the industry's performance," said S Sankarasubramanian, managing director and CEO of Coromandel International.

He said consumption of phosphatic fertilisers declined by around 24% during the quarter, reflecting weak farm demand. Deficient and uneven rainfall left large parts of the country facing drought-like conditions during the kharif season, affecting crop growth and farm activity. Although kharif sowing declined by just 1.21%, prolonged dry spells and inadequate rainfall in several regions affected soil moisture and crop prospects.