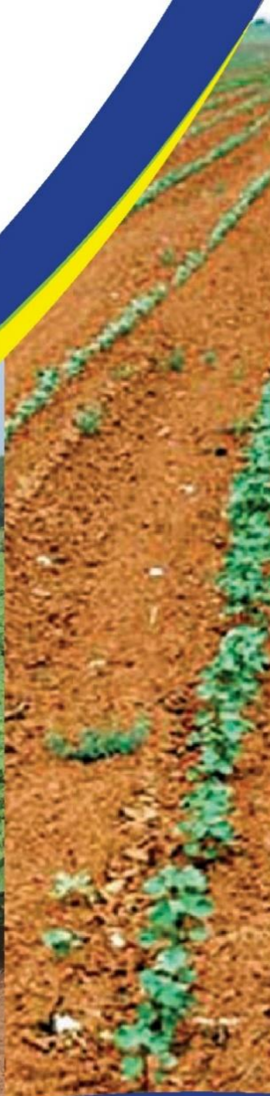
COTTON
ASSOCIATION
OF INDIA

Established 1921

ISO 9001:2015



News Relating to Cotton and Textile Sector

Date-24-09-2026

COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

(Regd. Office : Cotton Exchange Building, 2nd Floor, Cotton Green (E), Mumbai 400 033)
Tel. No. 022-20830685 / 8657442944-48 Email: cai@caionline.in Website: www.caionline.in

COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA
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Mumbai, Thursday 24th 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	14904	53000	(N.C.)
2	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	15%	20	13554	48200	(-100)
3	P / H / R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	26	17828	63400	(-200)
4	M/M(P) /SA/TL/GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 – 3.4	4%	25	15972	56800	(-300)
5	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	3.5%	26	17659	62800	(-300)
6	P/ H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	27	18081	64300	(-200)
7	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	18194	64700	(-1000)
8	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	18025	64100	(-400)
9	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	18615	66200	(-300)
10	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	4.0%	27	18165	64600	(-200)
11	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	28	18503	65800	(-200)
12	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	18643	66300	(-300)
13	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	18475	65700	(-300)
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	18756	66700	(-300)
15	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	18953	67400	(-300)
16	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	18953	67400	(-300)
17	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	30	19318	68700	(-100)
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	26011	92500	(N.C.)
22	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	26011	92500	(N.C.)
23	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	26348	93700	(-300)

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: 23-09-2026

ICE COTTON CLOSE						23 Sep 2026
CONTRACT MONTH	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHANGE	Op. Int.
Cotton (CT) - Quote: Cents/Pound - Contract Size: 50,000 Pounds.						
Oct-26	79.20	80.32	78.82	78.91	▼0.78	32
Dec-26	82.97	83.48	82.18	82.89	▲0.02	1,82,671
Mar-27	85.58	86.18	84.90	85.65	▲0.08	89,918
May-27	87.19	87.76	86.52	87.32	▲0.12	49,969
Jul-27	87.30	87.85	86.65	87.53	▲0.19	28,190
Oct-27	0.00	79.92	79.92	79.92	▲0.36	36
Dec-27	78.79	79.34	78.75	79.14	▲0.24	30,843

Cotlook Index: 23-09-2026

93.25 (-0.40)

Slight change in ICE cotton futures as traders await demand signal

Thursday, 24th Sep 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com)

Insights

ICE December 2026 cotton settled two points higher at 82.89 cents per pound after trading between 82.18 and 83.48 cents.

Volume fell to 35,528 contracts from 52,195, suggesting traders are holding back from large positions after two volatile sessions.

Export demand remains weak, China's direct buying is limited, and US harvest progress, yields and cotton quality remain key supply factors.

ICE cotton futures ended almost unchanged on Wednesday, September 23, as thin trading left the market without a clear direction after two volatile sessions. Export demand was weak and there was potential pressure from new crop supplied.

The most active December 2026 contract settled two points higher at 82.89 cents per pound. The contract traded between 82.18 and 83.48 cents per pound, a range of 130 points, and closed close to the range's midpoint. It was the second consecutive session in which prices stayed within the previous day's range. Volume fell to 35,528 contracts from 52,195 on Tuesday, suggesting traders were holding back from large positions.

December cotton had gained 227 points on Monday after last week's steep decline, before losing 55 points on Tuesday. Wednesday's marginal rise did little to establish whether the recovery would continue. The session's low of 82.18 cents and high of 83.48 cents have become the immediate levels watched for the next move.

Export demand remained a concern. The latest available US cotton sales figures showed limited new business, while China's direct buying remained weak. China's state reserve purchases offered some support to physical demand, though that had yet to produce a sustained rise in ICE futures.

Wednesday's trading showed little conviction. The December 2026 contract closed two points higher at 82.89 cents per pound, after trading between 82.18 and 83.48 cents. Volume was just 35,528 contracts. Traders are now watching those two price levels for signs of the market's next direction.

Traders were also watching Chinese President Xi Jinping's September 23–25 visit to the US for any signals on agricultural trade. Harvest progress, yields and cotton quality in the US remained important supply factors. For now, subdued export demand and uncertainty over the crop outlook left the market trading in a narrow range.

This morning (Indian Standard Time), December 2026 cotton was trading at 82.67 cents per pound (down 0.08 cent). Cash cotton was traded at 80.39 cents (up 0.02 cent), while the October 2026 contract traded at 78.91 cents (down 0.78 cent). The March 2027 contract was traded at 87.41 cents (down 0.42 cent), May 2027 at 87.04 cents (down 0.28 cent), and July 2027 at 87.25 cents (down 0.28 cent).

India seeks to strengthen physical & digital export support: Goyal

Thursday, 24th Sep 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com)

Insights
India plans to train about 1,000 local personnel in regional languages to help existing and prospective exporters at district and state levels.
Textile, man-made fibre and other sectors raised issues on FTA use, documentation, logistics, standards and testing.
A Trade Connect platform is being developed to give product- and HSN-wise tariff, FTA and procedure information.

India plans to build a district- and state-level export support network of approximately 1,000 trained local personnel with regional-language capability, Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal told industry stakeholders at a recent trade reforms workshop.

The proposed personnel will be trained and then deployed to handhold existing and prospective exporters, including through industry chambers and regional associations. For textile and man-made fibre businesses, the announcement was linked to wider industry discussions on FTA use, documentation, logistics, standards and testing infrastructure, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry said in a press release.

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) organised the workshop on Ease of Doing Business, Free Trade Agreement (FTA) opportunities and trade reforms at Bharat Mandapam. The meeting was followed by an interaction with Goyal and Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada.

Goyal also said integrated commerce and industry offices are envisaged in major cities so that businesses can access multiple departments and agencies through a common point, instead of separate departmental offices being set up in every location. Officials were asked to examine suggestions made by industry representatives, and the ministry described the meeting as the first interaction of this kind with a regional industry association.

The Trade Connect platform under development is intended to give exporters product-wise and HSN-code-wise information, including destination-country tariffs, FTA opportunities and procedures for using FTA benefits. The platform is also planned to use digital and AI-enabled tools to help businesses identify potential export opportunities and infrastructure gaps, added the release.

A dedicated FTA and trade facilitation session covered opportunities and obligations under India's trade agreements, along with digitalisation, documentation and simplification of trade-related processes. Industry representatives sought stronger interoperability between government systems and foreign trade platforms, including digital transmission and verification of Certificates of Origin under FTAs.

The proposal to extend electronic processes to other FTA partners was noted for examination. Industry also called for further integration across the export cycle involving the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Customs, banks and other stakeholders.

Representatives from pharmaceuticals, textiles, man-made fibres, copper, automotive and engineering, air-conditioners and logistics, as well as MSMEs and women entrepreneurs, raised issues related to export competitiveness, trade documentation, regulatory processes, FTA utilisation, logistics, domestic supply chains, standards and testing infrastructure, and regulatory certainty.

The interaction also took up logistics and trade-process bottlenecks, including documentation backlogs and concerns over sea-freight costs. Sector-specific concerns included rules of origin and imports, export quality and regulatory procedures, import competition, testing and certification infrastructure, and regulatory certainty for MSMEs.

DPIIT presentations covered Startup India, Intellectual Property Rights, investment facilitation, the National Single Window System, industrial infrastructure and reforms linked to the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation. The ministry said the presentations highlighted simplification and rationalisation of regulatory processes, digitalisation, reduction of compliance burden and improvements in approval and service delivery systems.

The roller chain and industrial components manufacturing sector told the meeting that policy measures including Quality Control Orders, Minimum Import Price provisions and higher import duties had strengthened domestic manufacturing, the ministry said. Industry representatives from the sector cited a 15-fold expansion, new investments of about ₹500 crore (~$52.2 million) and around 5,000 new jobs.

The ministry said the importance of quality and international standards was also emphasised. Industry associations and Export Promotion Councils were encouraged to support awareness and compliance with destination-market standards and to help identify fraudulent, substandard or non-compliant manufacturing for regulatory action.

India leads global growth outlook; FY27 forecast at 6.7%: WEF survey
Thursday, 24th Sep 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com)

Insights
India's FY27 growth forecast rose to 6.7 per cent, the highest in the WEF survey, backed by resilient domestic demand.
For apparel sourcing and retail, India and South-East Asia remain brighter demand markets, with real incomes expected to rise.
Trade teams face geopolitical risk, fragmentation and likely US and Europe tariff increases, though most economists expect global trade volumes to grow.

India retains the strongest growth outlook among the world economies covered in the latest chief economists' survey, with the country's fiscal year 2026-27 growth forecast raised to 6.7 per cent, according to the latest World Economic Forum's *Chief Economists' Outlook*. The report links the upgrade to continued resilience in domestic demand, while noting that higher energy prices remain a drag on the outlook.

The survey found that 98 per cent expected India to record moderate or stronger growth over the next 12 months, including 74 per cent anticipating strong or very strong expansion. South-East Asia followed closely on the latter measure at 73 per cent, ahead of Central Asia at 44 per cent.

The World Economic Forum (WEF) in a press release said the September 2026 edition of the Chief Economists' Outlook was based on consultations and surveys with chief economists from the public and private sectors, conducted from August 4 to 20, 2026. Globally, 56 per cent expect the outlook over the next year to be stable or better, a reversal from May, when 89 per cent expected conditions to deteriorate.

On India's labour market, the WEF report said 70 per cent expect unemployment to remain unchanged over the next 12 months, while 17 per cent expect an increase and 13 per cent expect a decline. The report said the unemployment rate among people aged 15 and above fell to 5 per cent in August from 5.1 per cent in July, while labour force participation rose to 55.6 per cent from 55.4 per cent over the same period.

Inflation expectations for India have eased since May. It said 55 per cent of chief economists expect moderate inflation over the next 12 months and 45 per cent expect high inflation, compared with 61 per cent expecting high or very high inflation in May. Consumer price inflation rose to 4.8 per cent year-on-year (YoY) in August, above the 4 per cent medium-term target but within the 2-6 per cent tolerance range.

The report added that 67 per cent of respondents expect monetary policy to remain unchanged, while 24 per cent expect tightening; the policy rate was kept at 5.25 per cent in August. Equity market performance has been weaker, with the WEF report noting that the Nifty 50 was down 7.9 per cent since the start of the year as of August 19.

For the global economy, 69 per cent of respondents view fiscal support as the main factor behind resilience since 2020, but only 28 per cent expect it to play the same role over the next 12 months. Respondents instead pointed to flexible supply chains, technological innovation and energy-market adaptation as important sources of resilience, with the US and China seen as the best placed to withstand shocks.

Ninety-seven per cent of respondents identify geopolitical conflicts as a likely source of uncertainty over the next year, 58 per cent expect asset-price corrections, and only one-quarter expect the global economy to become more resilient. It also found that 77 per cent expect geoeconomic fragmentation to rise, while 55 per cent expect tariff increases in the US and 43 per cent in Europe. Two-thirds of respondents expect global trade volumes to increase, and 83 per cent expect Chinese exports to markets outside the US to rise.

Regional assessments remain uneven. The WEF report said India, South-East Asia, Central Asia and the US receive the strongest growth assessments, while China’s outlook has weakened, with about one in three economists expecting weak growth. Europe remains the weakest region in the survey, with 61 per cent expecting weak or very weak growth. The US is viewed as the most favourable business environment for multinational companies, followed by South-East Asia and Europe; India has moved to fourth place and China remains fifth.

The survey also found broad expectations of increased artificial intelligence (AI) adoption. It said 97 per cent of respondents expect AI adoption to rise over the next 12 months and 69 per cent expect meaningful productivity gains. Around 78 per cent expect data-centre investment to account for a significant share of global growth, but 79 per cent expect such expansion to face significant local-community pushback. It also found that 61 per cent do not expect data-centre investment to generate a significant share of global job creation, while majorities expect data-centre expansion to raise electricity prices, at 78 per cent, and water prices, at 58 per cent.

Most chief economists expect real incomes to fall or stagnate in most regions, except South-East Asia and India, where more than 60 per cent expect increases. The most likely policy responses, according to respondents, are tax reductions on essential goods at 60 per cent, consumption subsidies at 54 per cent and price caps at 50 per cent, compared with 36 per cent expecting tax reductions for low-income households and 26 per cent expecting targeted cash transfers.

Maharashtra Drought Relief Begins

Thursday, 24th Sep 2026, Yash Chouhan, (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

Drought-like conditions raise concerns in Maharashtra; immediate relief announced for farmers.

Drought-like conditions have emerged in several parts of Maharashtra due to a weak monsoon and a prolonged rainfall deficit. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has stated that the state government will provide immediate relief to affected farmers without waiting for financial assistance from the Centre. He announced that the first notification regarding drought-mitigation measures would be issued by Saturday.

Speaking to reporters after a cabinet meeting, the Chief Minister said that the process of conducting damage assessments (*panchanamas*) would begin on September 23. Although this process was originally scheduled to start on October 5, it has been advanced due to the severity of the damage. Soybean, maize, and cotton crops have suffered significant damage in the current situation. Additionally, the paddy crop in the Konkan region has also been affected.

Cabinet sub-committee formed for relief

To provide relief to farmers and make swift decisions based on the situation, the government has constituted a cabinet sub-committee headed by Revenue Minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule. The committee has been granted powers equivalent to the cabinet, and Chief Secretary Rajesh Agrawal will serve as its secretary. The committee will review reports received from affected areas on a weekly basis; however, major policy decisions will be taken at the state cabinet level.

Chief Minister and ministers to visit affected areas

Fadnavis stated that he would visit the affected areas starting September 23. Ministers and public representatives will also visit these regions to interact with farmers and assess the situation on the ground. The subsequent relief process will be determined based on the damage assessments and crop loss surveys.

The state government will prepare a separate proposal under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) norms to seek financial assistance from the Centre; this implies that central aid has not yet been approved. The government has emphasized prioritizing the supply of drinking water and cattle fodder. Plans are being formulated to arrange for water and fodder for the next 7 to 8 months in coordination with local bodies.

East, Central India May Get More Rain

Thursday, 24th Sep 2026, Yash Chouhan, (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

Higher rainfall likely in East and Central India during the final phase of the monsoon; El Niño projected to persist until 2027

New Delhi: Rainfall activity is expected to intensify in East and Central India during the final phase of the monsoon's withdrawal. According to a report by Dolat Capital, as the monsoon withdraws from Northwest India, the final weeks could bring increased rainfall to the eastern and central regions. The report also forecasts a strengthening of El Niño and predicts it will persist until 2027.

According to the report, the most significant improvement in rainfall conditions has been observed in East and Northeast India, where the rainfall deficit narrowed from 29% last week to 27%. The Southern Peninsula also saw improvement, with the deficit dropping from 28% to 26%. The rainfall deficit in Central India remained stable at around 6%, while in Northwest India, it rose from 9% to 10%. At the all-India level, the rainfall deficit held steady at 15%.

Meanwhile, a low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal is moving towards the east coast. It is likely to intensify further before making landfall, potentially sustaining rainfall activity across East and Central India.

In the agricultural sector, total sowing of Kharif crops reached 1,103.9 lakh hectares by September 18. The total deficit compared to the same period last year narrowed to 15.1 lakh hectares, down from the 16 lakh hectare deficit recorded the previous week.

For the first time this season, the acreage under oilseeds exceeded last year's figures, while pulse sowing remained largely stable. Rice sowing continues to lag; the area covered stood at 429.3 lakh hectares, compared to 445.9 lakh hectares last year, narrowing the deficit from 17.0 lakh hectares to 16.6 lakh hectares. The cotton acreage stood at 109.6 lakh hectares, compared to 110.6 lakh hectares the previous year, marking a reduction of 1 lakh hectares in sowing.

There were no significant changes in the acreage for sugarcane, jute, and mesta. Water levels in reservoirs across central and western India remained above the 10-year average, whereas the southern peninsula lagged in both sowing progress and reservoir levels.

According to Dolat Capital, El Niño has intensified significantly and could emerge as one of the strongest events on record; the report projects it to persist until 2027.

The rupee opened at 95.83 against the dollar, down by 9 paise.

Thursday, 24th Sep 2026, Yash Chouhan, (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

The rupee had closed at 95.74 on Wednesday, whereas today it opened at 95.83 per dollar, a decline of 9 paise.

Amid weak global cues, Indian markets opened lower, with the Nifty slipping below the 23,300 mark. The Sensex fell 573.95 points (0.77%) to 74,254.30, while the Nifty dropped 202.90 points (0.87%) to 23,243.90.

Bangladesh introduces Taka settlement framework for cross-border trade

Thursday, 24th Sep 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com)

Insights

Bangladesh Bank has opened a Taka settlement route for eligible cross-border trade through Non-Resident Taka vostro accounts at authorised dealer banks.

Letters of credit and contracts will stay in admissible currencies, with invoice values converted into Taka at prevailing rates.

Eligible exporters retain foreign currency facilities for input imports and Export Development Fund loan repayment.

Bangladesh Bank (BB) has introduced a framework allowing eligible cross-border trade transactions to be settled in Taka through Non-Resident Taka (NRT) vostro accounts maintained by authorised dealer (AD) banks for correspondent banks in trading partner countries.

The new arrangement allows AD banks to open and maintain Taka vostro accounts in the names of correspondent banks in Bangladesh's trading partner countries without initial deposits, against payments to be received for admissible imports. Balances in these accounts can subsequently be used to settle export payments from Bangladesh and other permitted transactions, as reported by local media.

The framework provides an additional channel for bilateral trade settlement in Taka and could diversify payment mechanisms for Bangladesh's international trade. The arrangement may be relevant to exporters and importers seeking alternative settlement options with suitable trading partners.

Under the new system, letters of credit, contracts and invoices will continue to be denominated in freely convertible or otherwise admissible currencies. The invoiced amounts will be converted into Taka at the prevailing exchange rate for settlement through the vostro accounts.

For import transactions, Taka vostro accounts may be credited with payments made by importers, while export payments may be made to Bangladeshi exporters from the accounts. Bangladesh Bank has also permitted advance payments for eligible imports and exports through the arrangement, subject to prevailing foreign exchange regulations.

Exporters receiving proceeds in Taka will remain eligible for foreign currency retention facilities, where applicable. These facilities can be used to meet obligations such as payments for imported inputs and repayment of loans obtained from the Export Development Fund (EDF).

Surplus balances in Taka vostro accounts may also be used for permitted investments in Bangladesh, including foreign direct investment, foreign portfolio investment, alternative investment funds and open-end mutual funds, subject to existing regulations. The balances may also be used for lending to resident entities with the necessary approvals or for permitted outward remittances.

Previously, AD banks could open Taka vostro accounts in the names of their overseas branches and correspondent banks against inward remittances in freely convertible currencies. The new framework expands the mechanism by allowing accounts to be maintained for correspondent banks in Bangladesh's trading partner countries against payments for admissible imports.

Bangladesh Bank said the new arrangement will continue to operate within existing documentation, reporting and compliance requirements.

US-China trade truce extended till January 10, 2027

Thursday, 24th Sep 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com)

Insights US and China extended their bilateral trade truce to January 10, 2027, keeping negotiations open on tariffs, critical minerals and market access. The rollover keeps the Busan framework in place but does not create a new trade deal or remove tariffs or restrictions. Apparel importers and sourcing teams face tariff uncertainty, with a broader package possible by January or another rollover.

The United States and China have extended their bilateral trade truce from November 10, 2026, to January 10, 2027, US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said, keeping negotiations open on tariffs, critical minerals, agriculture, technology and market access.

The extension comes ahead of US President Donald Trump's meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping, who is currently on a state visit to the US.

The extension continues the negotiating framework but does not create a new trade agreement or remove tariffs and restrictions still in place between the two economies.

The two countries have agreed to extend the truce by two months and work on a broader deal, Bessent said in an interview. Bessent announced the extension after an unscheduled Washington meeting with Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng, with Bessent saying a larger economic package could be agreed by January or the current arrangement could be rolled over again.

The arrangement, known as the Busan Agreement, was reached in October 2025 on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders' Summit in Busan, South Korea. Under that framework, Washington reduced its overall tariff on Chinese imports to 47 per cent from around 57 per cent, while Beijing agreed to restore rare-earth supplies, suspend additional critical-mineral export restrictions to the US, buy 25 million tonnes of US soybeans and raise purchases of other US agricultural products.

The truce followed a tariff escalation that began in April 2025 and talks in Geneva in May 2025. Under those Geneva understandings, the US suspended 24 percentage points of a 34 per cent reciprocal tariff on Chinese goods while retaining 10 per cent at that time, and China made a corresponding reduction while suspending or removing several non-tariff countermeasures. The later Trump-Xi meeting in South Korea covered tariffs, rare-earth exports, agricultural purchases, semiconductor-related measures and shipping.

Under US implementation documents, November 10, 2026, was the expiry date for the US suspension of heightened reciprocal tariffs and for 178 exclusions from Section 301 tariffs. The US also suspended for one year measures linked to its Section 301 investigation into China's maritime, logistics and shipbuilding sectors, while China suspended tariffs on a range of US agricultural goods and extended its market-based tariff exclusion process; some Chinese measures were due to run until December 31, 2026. The legal setting changed after the US Supreme Court invalidated the administration's use of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act for its tariff programme, after which the Trump administration announced a temporary 10 per cent import surcharge under Section 122 of the Trade Act.

Cotton arrivals rise, but buyers hold back as prices soften

Tuesday, 22nd Sep 2026, (Source: www.textile.economictimes.indiatimes.com)

Cotton arrivals are rising across India as the 2026 kharif harvest gathers pace, but weak yarn demand and softer global futures are keeping buyers cautious. Prices have begun to ease after CCI cut auction rates, while acreage data suggests a slightly smaller crop base than last year.

India's cotton market is entering the new arrival season with a familiar tension: more crop is reaching mandis, but buying interest is not keeping pace. As supplies from the 2026 kharif harvest improve across several states, trade participants are watching global cues closely and waiting for clearer price direction before committing fresh purchases.

The Hindu BusinessLine reported that daily raw cotton arrivals have climbed to about 30,000 bales of 170 kg each across major producing regions. Traders expect the flow to intensify from early October, when the harvest gathers momentum in more districts and more ginning units begin operating at full pace.

Arrivals are building, but unevenly across states

Market sources said the current inflow is spread across Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and northern India. Atul S Ganatra, CMD of Radhalakshmi Group, said daily arrivals are around 30,000 bales and are likely to rise from the first week of October. He estimated that North India is contributing roughly 8,000 bales a day, while Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are each bringing in about 4,000 bales, Madhya Pradesh about 5,000 bales and Gujarat around 4,000 bales.

In Maharashtra, arrivals have started from the Khandesh belt, signalling that the broader harvest cycle is beginning to widen. Even so, the season is still in its early phase and the market has not yet seen the kind of large-scale supply pressure that typically emerges once more centres start moving cotton simultaneously.

Weak yarn demand is pulling sentiment lower

The bigger concern for the trade is not supply, but demand. Ganatra said buying has slowed because the yarn market remains weak, and export demand for yarn is also soft. He linked that caution to ICE cotton futures, which have moved down from 93 cents per pound a few days earlier to 83 cents per pound.

That decline has filtered through the value chain. When international futures soften, spinners and traders become more conservative about raw cotton purchases, especially if yarn realisations are not improving at the same pace. Ganatra said raw cotton prices are still above the minimum support price, helped by stronger seed prices, but the market is not seeing aggressive buying interest.

Ramanuj Das Boob, a sourcing agent in Raichur, said buyers are staying on the sidelines. “There are no buyers. They are not keen to enter the market now and prefer to wait and watch,” he said. The comment captures the mood in a market where caution has replaced urgency, even as new crop supplies begin to arrive in greater volume.

Domestic prices remain firm, but pressure is visible

Spot prices are still elevated by historical standards, though they have started to ease in some centres. In Raichur, raw cotton was quoted on Friday at ₹9,300 to ₹9,500 per quintal. In Adoni, prices were in the ₹9,200 to ₹9,500 range. Maharashtra was trading lower at around ₹8,600 per quintal, a level traders attributed to higher moisture content in the crop.

That moisture factor matters because it affects both quality and the willingness of mills to pay up. In a market where yarn demand is already subdued, quality-related discounts can widen the gap between seller expectations and buyer bids. The result is a slower spot market, even though arrivals are improving.

CCI cuts auction rates, but trade response stays muted

The Cotton Corporation of India has tried to adjust to the softer tone. According to the report, the state-run agency reduced auction prices by ₹1,600 per candy of 356 kg this week, bringing rates to about ₹67,000. The move followed the easing trend in ICE futures and was meant to keep its offerings aligned with market conditions.

But the price cut has not yet triggered a strong response. Buyers have remained cautious over the past few days, preferring to wait for larger new-crop supplies and possibly better opportunities later in the season. Traders said even resellers are finding it hard to move existing stocks, which suggests that the slowdown is broader than one pricing adjustment can fix.

Prices for the 2025-26 crop, which had crossed ₹70,000 per candy a few weeks ago, have now softened to around ₹66,500 to ₹67,500. New crop cotton is being offered in the range of ₹66,000 to

₹67,000, according to Boob. That narrowing band between old and new crop values usually signals a market searching for a fresh equilibrium rather than a sharp directional move.

Area trends point to a slightly smaller crop base

Supply expectations are also being shaped by acreage trends. Agriculture Ministry data showed cotton area at 109.61 lakh hectares as of September 18, marginally below 110.60 lakh hectares a year earlier. The gap is not dramatic, but it suggests that the crop base is a little smaller than last season's.

State-wise data presents a mixed picture. Telangana reported a 5.45 per cent increase in acreage, Gujarat was up 3.24 per cent and Madhya Pradesh rose 2.28 per cent. Other major states showed declines, indicating that the national total is being supported by gains in a few pockets rather than a broad-based expansion.

For the market, that means supply is likely to improve as the harvest advances, but not necessarily in a way that overwhelms prices immediately. The near-term direction will depend on how quickly arrivals accelerate, how much yarn demand recovers and whether global futures stabilise after the recent slide.

For now, the cotton trade is in a wait-and-watch phase. Farmers are bringing in the crop, traders are tracking ICE for cues, and mills are resisting fresh buying until the price spread becomes more attractive. That combination points to a market that is easing, but not yet decisively in free fall.

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The Economic Times – 24.09.2026

RATE HIKE A WORRY, TOO

Rupee Snaps 4-Day Rally on Dollar Demand

Our Bureau

Kolkata: The rupee on Wednesday snapped a four-day gaining streak to close at 95.74 to a dollar, 15 paise weaker, amid rising importer demand for the greenback ahead of the end of the second quarter. The broad-based dollar strength also weighed on the local currency.

The rupee opened the day a tad stronger at 95.56 a dollar as concerns over crude supply eased driven by reports that the Hormuz could reopen soon. However, local dollar demand put pressure on the currency.

The RBI is said to have conducted dollar-rupee sell buy swaps to absorb excess rupee-liquidity from the inter-bank system, traders said.

The Economic Times – 24.09.2026

GULF AND UKRAINE SITUATIONS ALSO FIGURE IN NY TALKS

Jaishankar Meets Rubio, Raises Concerns Over Russia Sanctions Act

US' 100% tariff threat has not gone down well in India as Red Sea blockade squeezes energy supplies further

Dipanjan Roy Chaudhury

New Delhi: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday said he had reiterated India's concerns over the Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act (SRIA) in talks with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio.

Jaishankar, following his meeting with Rubio, wrote on X that he "reiterated India's interests and concerns with regard to SRIA. Also discussed the Gulf and Ukraine situations."

ET had reported on Monday that the threat of 100% tariffs being imposed by the US for Russian oil purchases hasn't gone down too well in India, given that global energy supplies are getting further squeezed with the Red Sea blockade by the Houthis cutting off Saudi Arabian crude, on top of the Strait of Hormuz blockade due to the Iran conflict, making a bad situation worse. The issue has the potential to damage India-US ties.

US President Donald Trump signed into law the Lindsey O Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act on Friday. India has been in talks with the US over the past few months, conveying the possible adverse impact on ties if up to 100% tariffs are imposed under the legislation.

Jaishankar meets US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on the sidelines of 81st UN General Assembly in New York on Wednesday—IANS

Russia continues to be India's number one oil supplier. India imported 2.08 million barrels per day (bpd) of Russian oil in August. Moscow's share in New Delhi's crude imports was 45% in August. India will be an official partner at the Russia Energy Week exposition in Moscow next month.

ONE INDIANKILLED IN ATTACK ON COMMERCIAL VESSEL OFF OMAN COAST

An Indian national lost his life while 19 other Indian seafarers were rescued after their commercial vessel, MV Cape Dao, came under attack off the east coast of Oman.

India condemned the attack on the vessel.

Global South in Front Row of Crisis, Back Row of Decisions: EAM

New Delhi: External affairs minister S Jaishankar has called for greater solidarity among Global South countries, saying they were bearing the brunt of global crises while having limited say in decisions shaping their future.

"The Global South today may be in the front row of the global crisis, but is in the back row of decision-making," Jaishankar said at a meeting of like-minded Global South countries and friends on the sidelines of the 81st UN General Assembly in New York on Tuesday.

Jaishankar called for greater cooperation among Global South countries on energy, food security, trade, connectivity, climate action and emerging technologies.—OPB

businessline – 24.09.2026

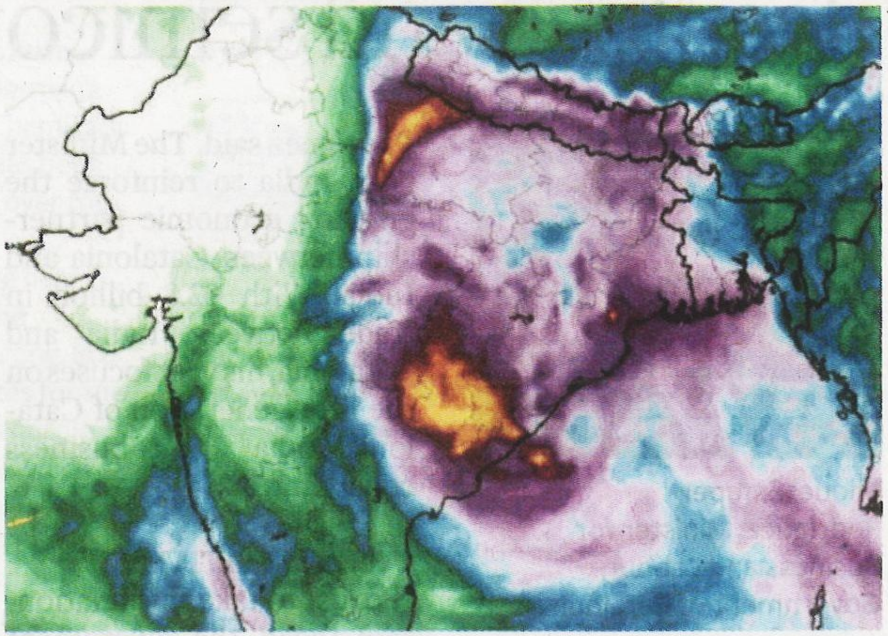
Monsoon withdrawal apace, rains to return

Vinson Kurian
Thiruvananthapuram

The South-West monsoon withdrew from most parts of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan, the whole of Delhi, and some parts of Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat on Wednesday.

However, a remnant of the rain-bearing deep depression over the Bay of Bengal is likely to move towards the region over the next couple of days, bringing another spell of showers.

The withdrawal line now passes through Gurdaspur, Chandigarh, Muzaffarnagar, Aligarh, Dholpur, Udaipur, Deesa and Naliya. A western disturbance, in the form of a trough, runs roughly along Lucknow and Gorakhpur, while a cyclonic circulation lies over north-west Uttar Pradesh. These systems could interact with the incoming depression and trigger isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall over the region.



WET PATCH. The deep depression (in purple) could bring very heavy rain over Chhattisgarh and northwards to East Uttar Pradesh

HEAVY RAIN FORECAST

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast isolated extremely heavy rainfall over parts of the South Peninsula and Central India, particularly Telangana, Odisha and Chhattisgarh. Heavy to very heavy rainfall is also expected at several places across West India, North-West India, and East and North-East India through the weekend.

On Wednesday, the deep depression lay about 60 km south-east of Kalingapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, 140 km east-north-east of Visakhapatnam, 150 km south of Gopalpur in Odisha and 240 km south-southwest of Puri. It was expected to cross the north Andhra Pradesh-south Odisha coasts between Visakhapatnam and Gopalpur, close to Kalingapatnam, as a deep depression by Wednesday night.

The system is likely to move across Uttar Pradesh and subsequently towards Delhi-Chandigarh and Haryana before weakening by Tuesday. This could allow the monsoon withdrawal to resume.

MONSOON TRANSITION

The transition to the North-East monsoon will have to wait until anticyclonic circulations establish over both the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal and an easterly wind regime develops along their southern flanks. The South-West monsoon must withdraw completely before this transition can begin.

The North-East monsoon normally becomes established by mid-October.

businessline – 24.09.2026

Gujarat puts 63.35 lakh farmers on digital registry; links Aadhaar to land records

Our Bureau
Ahmedabad

More than 63.35 lakh farmers have already been registered under the State's Farmer Registry, which links their Aadhaar-based identity with verified land records.

This registry, being implemented under the Centre's Digital Agriculture Mission (DAM), is aimed at creating a single digital identity for farmers and simplifying their access to government agricultural schemes and services.

"With more than 63.35 lakh farmers already registered in Gujarat, the State is continuing the process of registration and integration of farmers' land records into the digital system," Jayanti S Ravi, Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue Department, stated in an official release here on Wednesday. The Farmer Registry enables eligible farmers to obtain a Unique Farmer ID.

DIGITAL ACCESS. The registry aims to create a single digital identity for farmers and simplify access to government agricultural schemes and services

SUPPORT SYSTEM

"The initiative is significant as a move towards transforming the way farmers interact with government schemes and agricultural services," Ravi added. The Farmer Registry is expected to facilitate beneficiary identification and verification for a range of agricultural programmes, including PM-Kisan, government procurement under the Price Support Scheme/Minimum Support Price, Kisan Credit Card and agricultural credit, besides various subsidy and farm assistance programmes. Gujarat's Agriculture Minister Jitubhai Vaghani said, "Once registered and approved, a farmer's identity and land records are digitally integrated, creating a trusted digital profile. This streamlines farmer applications, simplifies beneficiary identification and verification, and enhances transparency, efficiency and accuracy in the delivery of government assistance."

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Farmers can register through the 'Gujarat Farmer Registry portal', with the process involving Aadhaar authentication and verification of farmer and land details. Once the information is verified, a Unique Farmer ID is generated and linked to the farmer's land records. Farmers can also update their records through the Update Farmer Request (UFR) facility if any land survey number is missed during the initial registration. Registration is available online as well as through village-level Panchayat offices, VCEs, Gram Sevaks and Common Service Centres.

Business Standard – 24.09.2026

Farm growth post-2015 more broad-based, tech-driven: Paper

Growth averaged 4.5% since 2015, compared with 3% in earlier phases

Food for thought

Annual increase in production of major agricultural commodities (in million tonnes)

	1967-1995 (Tech-led)*	1996-2014 (Demand-led)**	2015 onwards (Sustainability-led)**
Foodgrains	4.1	3.9	8.4
Cereals	4	3.6	7.8
Pulses	0.1	0.3	0.6
Oilseeds	0.5	0.6	0.9
Cotton	0.2	1.3	-0.6
Fruits and vegetables	2.3	7.7	7.6
Fruits	0.8	2.7	2.6
Vegetables	1.5	5	5
Milk	1.5	3.9	10
Fish	0.2	0.3	0.9
Poultry meat (000 tonnes)	17.9	118.8	211.5
Eggs (bn)	0.7	2.6	6.8

Note: *cereal intensification period; **diversification period
Source: Paper Titled 'Beyond the Green Revolution: Unravelling new dynamics of India's agrifood system transformation,' Published in *The Indian Journal Of Agricultural Sciences*

SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 23 September

India's farm sector growth since 2015 has surpassed levels seen in the periods immediately after the Green Revolution, driven largely by technological innovations and a growing emphasis on sustainability, making it more broad-based than in the past, according to a new paper published in the latestedition of *The Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences (IJAS)*.

The paper said sustaining the average growth of 4.5 per cent seen since 2015 would require gradually realigning Green Revolution-era incentives, particularly input subsidies and price support, with emerging priorities such as resource conservation, climate resilience and sustainability, while enhancing agricultural productivity, food security and farmers' incomes.

The paper, written by Mangi Lal Jat, director general of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR); Pratap Singh Birthal, distinguished fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS); and Sedithippa Janarthanan Balaji, professor, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), titled 'Beyond the Green Revolution: Unravelling new dynamics of India's agrifood system transformation', divides the country's agrifood systems journey since the Green Revolution into three distinct phases. The first phase, from 1967-1995, was marked by technology-driven cereal intensification; the second, from 1996-2014, by demand-led diversification; and the third, from 2015 onwards, by sustainability-led diversification. The paper examined the pace of structural transformation of the agri-food system across these phases and identified the factors driving the transformation.

"The findings show that agricultural growth, which remained at approximately 3 per cent during the first two phases (1967-1995 and 1996-2014), accelerated to approximately 4.5 per cent in the most recent phase (2015 onwards). The composition of growth also changed markedly: cereals dominated the initial phase, horticulture and livestock gained prominence in the second phase, and since 2015, growth has become more broad-based across major commodities, fuelled by technological innovations and growing policy emphasis on sustainability and resilience," it said.

The paper said although the Green Revolution ensured India's food security, its unintended consequences for natural resources and the environment soon became apparent.

For the period from 2015 onwards, when growth averaged more than 4.5 per cent, the paper said diversification remained an important source of agricultural growth. However, growing environmental and resource pressures associated with cereal intensification necessitated broadening the agricultural policy framework.

"Unlike the preceding phase, agricultural growth during this phase (post-2015) resulted from both accelerated growth in cereal yields and the rapid expansion of high-value agriculture, making agricultural growth more broad-based," the paper said.

Business Standard – 24.09.2026

PM may visit Canada, Belgium in Dec for signing of trade pacts

ARCHIS MOHAN
New Delhi, 23 September

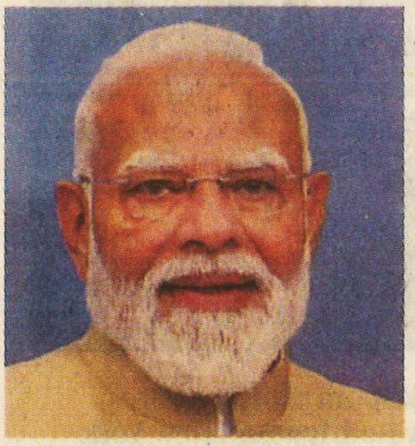
December is set to be a busy month for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and India's diplomats with at least two trade deals likely to be finalised — the India-Canada Comprehensive Economic Partnership (CEPA) and the India-European Union (EU) free trade agreement (FTA).

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) is yet to announce the PM's detailed itinerary for these visits. Sources said Modi is slated to attend the G20 Summit in Florida, and also visit Canada and Brussels, the headquarters of the 27-member EU bloc in Belgium. The PM's visit to Russia for the India-Russia annual summit is also in the works.

On Tuesday, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said Modi is expected to visit his country around December.

Addressing a press conference on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly high-level session in New York, Carney said Ottawa is making "good progress" in its trade negotiations with New Delhi.

Canada's relationship with India is "exceptionally important" on many levels, such as people-to-people contact, security, trade and economic issues, Carney said. He said Prime Minister Modi and he had committed at the G20 last year in South Africa to "look to conclude negotiations by the G20 this year."



The Ministry of External Affairs is yet to announce Prime Minister Narendra Modi's detailed itinerary for the visits

Modi is slated to attend the G20 Summit, which US President Donald Trump will host in Florida, on December 14-15. "I believe that India just confirmed that the Prime Minister will be visiting Canada around that time. The precise date isn't out, but I very much look forward to hosting him," Carney said. Indian and Canadian negotiators are slated to hold the fifth round of their trade negotiations on October 5.

The two countries are trying to diversify their trade to manage the disruptions caused by Trump's policies.

India may face fresh US tariffs (as much as 100 per cent) for its purchase of Russian oil.

India and Canada hope to increase bilateral trade to $50 billion by 2030. Last week, Canadian Minister of International Trade Maninder Sidhu was in India and met Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.

India has inked FTAs with the UK, Oman, and New Zealand over the past year. It also concluded talks with the EU.

Last week, Carney embraced the prospects of Canada becoming the EU's first associate member. He added that deeper ties with Europe would help ensure no country could control Canada's markets or undermine its sovereignty.

Briefing reporters in New Delhi, German Ambassador to India Jasper Wieck said that the India-EU FTA could get finalised by the end of 2026.

Modi's visit to Brussels in December for the signing of the pact is in the works, according to sources.

Business Standard – 24.09.2026

Chintan Shivir discusses Viksit Bharat priorities

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, 23 September

A *Chintan Shivir* of entire council of ministers of the Narendra Modi government began on Wednesday where ongoing works across the ministries and departments, future plans and next generation reforms are being deliberated.

The first day discussed how to improve coordination and government's future agenda, sources said. Reforms and priorities towards Viksit Bharat@2047 were also discussed, they added.

Chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the key focus of the two-day brainstorming session is on stocktaking, improving coordination, preparing the government's future agenda, future planning, reviewing the work underway on welfare schemes, and infrastructure projects, among others, official sources said.

The exercise of taking stock of different aspects of the government through such conclave is expected to be held next week. The Viksit Bharat exercise has been underway since 2021 and 10 sectoral groups of secretaries were formed to prepare the Vision@2047 road map.

Tecoya Trend – 24.09.2026

The LYCRA Company Strengthens India Engagement Thru Innovation & Differentiation

By Mohit Sharma

BANGALORE, SEPT. 23—

New fibre technologies, closer collaboration with textile mills and stronger product development support are at the centre of The LYCRA Company's growing engagement with India's textile and apparel value chain.

Speaking at The LYCRA Company India Summit in Bengaluru, Mr. Thiruvengadam Rajagopal, Commercial Director, South Asia, The LYCRA Company, outlined how the company is working with mills, garment manufacturers and brands to develop differentiated solutions for specific end uses and market requirements.

"We offer differentiated LYCRA fibres for different end uses and requirements, while also developing customised solutions based on specific customer needs," Mr. Rajagopal said.

This approach was reflected in the technologies showcased at the Summit, including LYCRA Fit400 fiber, a non spandex stretch and cooling solution for performance fabrics, COOLMAX CloakFX fiber, an innovative polyester fibre designed to hide sweat marks, LYCRA ADAPTIV fiber, developed to provide a customised and inclusive fit, and LYCRA Anti Slip fiber, a specialised elastane fibre designed to prevent seam slippage, puckering and waving in stretch denim and blended fabrics.

Beyond fibre innovation, Mr. Rajagopal highlighted LYCRA Labs and joint storytelling with customers and brands as important elements of the company's value proposition. LYCRA Labs provides testing and measurable data around garment and fabric performance, helping support claims relating to fit, comfort, stretch, recovery and compression.

"Storytelling needs the right value proposition and the right data to claim. This three dimensional approach of differentiated offering, unique testing methods for the products and joint storytelling is the winning strategy we believe in," Mr. Rajagopal said.

He stressed that developing a differentiated product is only the beginning, with sourcing, manufacturing capabilities, speed to market and branding determining how effectively an innovation can be commercialised.

"We need to work on sourcing and speed to market. What is the lead time and how do we bring it to market faster? Then comes manufacturing, how easily can the product be produced and what scale of quantities can be made," Mr. Rajagopal said.

Mr. Anil Choudhary, Director, Business Development, Radcco Tex, took the discussion into the Indian market, pointing to a shift in what mills and brands expect from their fibre and technology partners.

"Today, mills are looking to upgrade and differentiate their product offerings, while brands are seeking new technologies and innovations that can add greater value to their products," Mr. Choudhary said.

He said Radcco's role extends beyond distribution, with the company working with customers on product requirements, trials, concept development and after sales support.

"We are not only distributing and selling LYCRA. We also provide after sales support across the value chain," Mr. Choudhary said.

This includes helping mills evaluate new technologies and develop concepts for particular applications and brand requirements.

"Innovation support is one of the key things we do in our day to day activities. LYCRA is known for innovation and differentiation, and every season, every year, multiple products are rolling out for different applications," Mr. Choudhary said.

The focus, Mr. Choudhary noted, is on staying closely engaged with mills as new technologies move from initial development and trials towards commercial production.

"Our role goes beyond supplying the product. We engage regularly with customers throughout the development process, helping them evaluate new technologies and translate product concepts into commercially viable solutions," Mr. Choudhary concluded.

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From L to R: Mr. Anil Choudhary, Director- Business Development, Radcco Tex; Mr. Rajendran, Regional Technical & Market Development Leader, The Lycra Company; Mr. Thiruvengadam Rajagopal, Commercial Director – South Asia, The LYCRA Company; Mr. Ganesh Kumar M, Business Consultant, The Lycra Company; Mr. N. Ananth Kumar, Market Development Consultant, The Lycra Company.

Tecoya Trend – 24.09.2026

Textile Exports Surge 13% in August, Apparel Declines 2.7%: CITI

By Our Staff Reporter

MUMBAI, SEPT. 23—

India's textile exports posted a strong performance in August 2026, growing 13.03% year-on-year to US$1.92 billion, even as apparel exports declined 2.74% to US$1.20 billion. The growth in textiles helped lift the country's overall textile and apparel exports by 6.39% to US$3.12 billion during the month, according to an analysis by the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI).

The improvement in textile exports was broad-based, with handicrafts, cotton textiles and man-made textiles recording healthy growth during the month. Handicrafts, excluding handmade carpets, surged 29.63% to US$197.29 million, while cotton yarn, fabrics, made-ups and handloom products rose 13.79% to US$1.12 billion. Man-made yarn, fabrics and made-ups increased 9.92% to US$446.51 million and carpet exports grew 5.38% to US$125.60 million. Jute manufactures, including floor coverings, however, declined 19.39% to US$27.60 million.

The April-August 2026 period, however, continued to reflect weakness in apparel exports. Textile exports grew 6.94% to US$8.93 billion, while apparel exports contracted 9.10% to US$6.15 billion. This pulled cumulative textile and apparel exports marginally lower by 0.24% to US$15.08 billion, against US$15.11 billion during April-August 2025.

Among textile categories, handicrafts remained the strongest performer during April-August, recording 30.29% growth to US$917.14 million. Cotton yarn, fabrics, made-ups and handloom products grew 6.73%, while man-made yarn, fabrics and made-ups rose 2.76%. Carpet exports increased 1.24%, whereas jute manufactures declined 15%.

The share of textiles and apparel in India's overall merchandise exports declined to 7.12% in August 2026 from 8.44% a year earlier. During April-August, the sector accounted for 6.98% of total exports, compared with 8.25% in the corresponding period last year.

On the import front, cotton raw and waste imports jumped 67.67% to US$213.36 million in August and increased 57.17% to US$802.34 million during April-August. Imports of textile yarn, fabrics and made-ups declined 8.12% to US$208.88 million during August and fell 2.49% to US$1.05 billion during the first five months of the fiscal.

In rupee terms, textile exports rose 23.30% to Rs. 18,312.35 crore in August, while apparel exports increased 6.11% to Rs. 11,463.85 crore. Combined textile and apparel exports consequently grew 16.06% to Rs. 29,776.20 crore. During April-August, textile exports increased 18.18% to Rs. 84,914.03 crore, while apparel exports edged up 0.50% to Rs. 58,481.98 crore, taking total T&A exports up 10.27% to Rs. 1,43,396.01 crore.

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BRICS should work together on transfer pricing as disputes burden developing nations: FM

NEW DELHI, SEPT. 23-(PTI)

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday urged BRICS nations to share their experiences on treaty interpretation and multilateral negotiations in international taxation, saying global transfer pricing disputes "disproportionately" burden developing countries. India has proposed to set up two new working groups, International Taxation and Transfer Pricing and Revenue Statistics, at a time when international tax rules are being renegotiated, Sitharaman said, addressing the BRICS heads of tax authorities meeting here.

"The rules of international taxation are being renegotiated. There are several multilateral tax issues, including the UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation, under active negotiation. The decisions made in these processes over the next few years will shape cross-border taxation for a generation.

"BRICS economies, as source jurisdictions, as large developing economies, as countries that have built significant domestic tax capacity from a low base, have a perspective on those negotiations that is essential to their fairness and their durability," Sitharaman said. Revenue Secretary Arvind Shrivastava said BRICS tax experts have spent two days reviewing the scope of work of the working group.

Tecoya Trend – 24.09.2026

After dry spell, infestation and disease affect cotton and soybean crops in Nanded

CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR, SEPT. 23- (PTI)

In a double whammy for cotton and soybean farmers in Maharashtra's Nanded district grappling with drought-like conditions, the crops are facing infestation of Yellow Mosaic and insects.

According to the administration, Nanded district has so far received 587.8 mm of rainfall against the average expected rainfall of 764.2 mm.

Though Nanded's deficit is low (23.1 per cent) compared to other neighbouring districts, crops are facing infestations, causing losses to farmers, an official said.

Cotton is a prime crop in the Marathwada region.

"The cotton crop in Nanded is currently in the flowering and pod formation phase. However, due to a lack of rain, the crops are facing severe moisture stress and drying up. Due to the temperature rise, the cotton crop is infested by insects like aphids, jassids, whitefly and thrips. The leaves are turning yellow and growth has been hampered," according to the report.

Former chief minister and Rajya Sabha MP Ashok Chavan questioned the alleged rejection of crop insurance claims by companies.

During an online meeting with State Agriculture Secretary Parimal Singh, the former CM said: "The grounds on which insurance companies are rejecting farmers' claims are questionable, especially when government machinery has already recorded the loss.

"At the same time, two farmers in the same revenue circle or villages (that received the same amount of rainfall) are getting paid for their losses in different proportions. This needs to be checked," he said.

Chavan accused insurance companies of showing a casual approach and refusing to share their loss survey reports with the district collector.

"Insurance companies are also not visiting villages. As a result, the figure of insuring crops is going down and also defaming the Government of India."

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