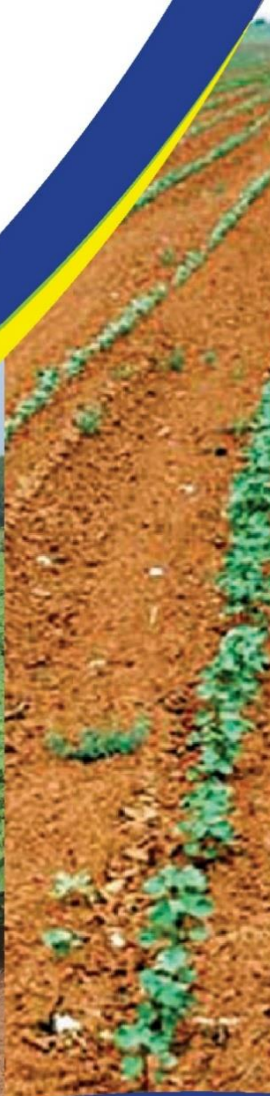
COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Established 1921

ISO 9001:2015



News Relating to Cotton and Textile Sector

Date-26-08-2026

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

Mumbai, Wednesday 26th August 2026 at 3.00 P.M.

UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES

Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash %	Strength / GPT	Rs. per Quintal 2025-26	Rs. per Candy 2025-26	Variation + (Plus) - (Minus)
Standard Descriptions with Basic Grade & Staple in Millimetres based on Upper Half Mean Length As per CAI By-laws										
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	4%	15	14960	53200	(N.C.)
2	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	15%	20	13751	48900	(-200)
3	M/M(P)	ICS-104	Fine	23mm	4.5 - 7.0	4%	22	15325	54500	(N.C.)
4	P / H / R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	26	17884	63600	(-500)
5	M/M(P) /SA/TL/GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 – 3.4	4%	25	15466	55000	(-100)
6	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	3.5%	26	17800	63300	(N.C.)
7	P/ H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	27	18531	65900	(-500)
8	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	19206	68300	(N.C.)
9	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	18981	67500	(N.C.)
10	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	19122	68000	(-200)
11	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	4.0%	27	18587	66100	(-200)
12	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	28	19178	68200	(-200)
13	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	19543	69500	(N.C.)
14	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	19262	68500	(N.C.)
15	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	19403	69000	(-200)
16	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	19853	70600	(N.C.)
17	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	19543	69500	(N.C.)
18	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	30	20106	71500	(N.C.)
19	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	30	N.A.	N.A.	
20	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 – 4.9	3%	31	N.A.	N.A.	
21	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	33	25786	91700	(N.C.)
22	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	25870	92000	(N.C.)
23	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	26376	93800	(N.C.)
24	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	26489	94200	(N.C.)

Note	
Note:1	Official spot rates are fixed and registered by CAI on the basis of average price inclusive of spot brokerage as per respective State Dharas, and for 15 days credit from the date of passing and cash discount @ 15% per annum, except for Northern area (excluding Lower Rajasthan), in which case spot rates fixed and registered are for payment terms: 7 days from the date of pressing at Upcountry Spot Markets ex-gin, excluding Tax. These rates are for domestic transaction only
2	P/H/R(U) ICS-202 (SG) rate is lower by Rs. 1000/ pc than Sr. no. 4
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. 5 are for 67 Rd
10	For Northern Zone (P/H/R(U)-Sr. Nos. 4 and 7 are for 70 Rd
11	For M/M(P)/SA/TL-Sr Nos. 6, 8, 9, and GUJ-Sr No.10 are for 74 Rd
12	For R(L)-Sr. No. 11 is for 72 Rd and 12 is for 73 Rd
13	For M/M(P) and K/TN-Sr Nos. 21 to 24 are for 70-72 Rd

Secretary

ICE Cotton Futures: 25-08-2026

ICE COTTON CLOSE					25 Aug 2026	
CONTRACT MONTH	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHANGE	Op. Int.
Cotton (CT) - Quote: Cents/Pound - Contract Size: 50,000 Pounds.						
Oct-26	86.46	87.16	86.05	87.08	▼0.40	167
Dec-26	88.69	88.70	87.05	88.34	▼0.49	2,00,134
Mar-27	90.69	90.69	88.94	90.23	▼0.46	87,234
May-27	91.50	91.58	90.10	91.32	▼0.41	36,863
Jul-27	90.61	90.61	89.44	90.56	▼0.27	21,162
Oct-27	0.00	84.27	84.27	84.27	▼0.28	28
Dec-27	79.83	80.44	79.82	80.07	▼0.36	28,475

Cotlook Index: 25-08-2026

98.20 (UC)

ICE cotton declines after 8-day rally on slower demand
Wed. 26th Aug 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com/news)

Insights
ICE cotton futures declined after an eight-session rise, with December 2026 settling at 88.34 cents, down 0.49 cent.
Cheaper Brazilian and Australian cotton, slower US buying and a 3 per cent weekly fall in crude oil pressured the market.
Support came from weak US crop ratings and China's 27th sold-out State Reserve auction, with cumulative sales at 216,580 tonnes.

ICE cotton futures declined yesterday after a sharp rise over the previous eight consecutive sessions. Recent sharp rise discouraged buying of US cotton as Brazilian and Australian cotton was available at cheaper rates. Easing crude oil prices put additional pressure on the ICE cotton. Although the market continued to find support from concerns regarding US dry weather and exceptionally strong buying of cotton from Chinese reserves.

The most active December 2026 contract settled at 88.34 cents, down 0.49 cent. The contract erased almost completely gains of 48 points on Monday. October 2026 through July 2028 contracts closed 27-46 points lower.

Volume was 40,067 contracts, compared with 51,575 contracts on Monday. The lower volume on the correction suggests that Tuesday's decline did not have the same conviction as the previous rally. Open interest remained one of the strongest features.

The cash market is beginning to show resistance at current price levels. Buying has slowed, particularly for US growths, as mills are reluctant to chase cotton after the sharp rise. Brazilian and Australian cotton are currently available at considerably cheaper levels, although the quantities being offered remain relatively small. This could become increasingly important because the futures market has moved much faster than physical demand.

Crude oil also came under pressure, falling around 3 per cent during the week. Lower energy prices reduce the production cost of polyester and other synthetic fibres, creating some competition for cotton and adding a modest bearish influence on the fibre market.

At the same time, the US cotton crop story continues to deteriorate. USDA's latest crop-progress data showed US cotton rated only 37 per cent good/excellent, down from 38 per cent the previous week and far below 54 per cent a year ago. Cotton setting bolls reached 81 per cent of the crop, while 20 per cent of the crop had bolls opening.

China's State Reserve auction remained exceptionally strong. Tuesday marked the 27th consecutive sold-out auction. Around 8,035 tonnes were sold. The cumulative volume over 27 days has now reached 216,580 tonnes. The average daily selling volume is approximately 8,021 tonnes, showing that the reserve programme continues to clear its offered cotton at a very strong pace.

The continued 100 per cent auction clearance is supportive because it indicates that Chinese spinning mills are willing to absorb substantial quantities even at higher prices. However, the important question is whether this buying represents genuine additional consumption or simply replacement of inventories being released from the reserve. Outside China, many mills remain cautious because cotton prices have risen sharply.

Overall, Tuesday's decline looks more like a technical correction and profit-taking session than a confirmed bearish reversal. The market remains supported by deteriorating US crop conditions, Texas weather concerns, strong Chinese reserve-auction demand and exceptionally high open interest.

The immediate technical picture is now important. Tuesday's low of 87.05 cents is the key short-term support, followed by the 86.00 cents area. On the upside, 88.70 cents is Tuesday's high and 89.45 cents remains the contract high. A sustained move above 89.45 cents would reopen the way towards the psychological 90.00 cents level. A break below 87.05 cents could trigger a deeper correction towards 86 cents and potentially 85.25 cents.

This morning (Indian Standard Time), ICE cotton for December 2026 was traded at 88.48 cents per pound (up 0.14 cent), cash cotton at 83.33 cents (Unchanged), the October 2026 at 87.08 cents (Unchanged), the March 2027 contract at 90.31 cents (up 0.08 cent), the May 2027 contract at 91.41 cents (up 0.09 cent), and the July 2027 contract at 90.61 cents (up 0.05 cent). A few contracts remained at their previous closing levels, with no trading recorded so far today.

India Textile Sector Recovery Gains Strength

Wed. 26th Aug 2026, Yash Chouhan (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

Strong Recovery in India's Textile Sector; Cotton Prices Pose a Challenge

India's textile sector is moving towards a strong recovery. According to a report by 360 ONE Capital, improved domestic raw material availability and greater sourcing flexibility are expected to support the industry's margins and spreads. However, the sustainability of this recovery will depend on how effectively the increased cost of cotton is passed on through yarn prices.

The report indicates that the recent period has been favorable for cotton spinning. Strong demand, better capacity utilization, and improved yarn spreads have benefited the industry. The supply-demand balance has also improved due to capacity closures and limited additions to new capacity.

Increased demand from China has been a significant positive factor for the Indian yarn industry. Higher cotton prices in China have made importing Indian yarn economically attractive. Consequently, monthly exports of Indian yarn have risen from approximately 95–97 million kilograms to around 110 million kilograms.

However, a sharp rise in cotton prices during the second quarter has increased risks for spinning margins. If yarn prices do not rise in tandem with the increased cost of raw materials, the recent improvement in spreads could come under pressure.

There are also signs of improvement in downstream segments. Garment companies are benefiting from better orders, while the home textile industry is seeing strong demand from the US.

According to government data, India's textile and apparel exports stood at ₹3,25,339 crore in 2025–26, marking a 1.8 percent increase over the ₹3,19,573.2 crore recorded in 2024–25.

MP Cotton Season Opens at ₹9,101

Wed. 26th Aug 2026, Yash Chouhan (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

Impressive Start to the 2026-27 Cotton Season in Madhya Pradesh: Cotton Purchased at ₹9,101 in Susari

Today, on August 26, 2026, the procurement for the new 2026-27 cotton season was inaugurated by 'Shri Jayesh Cot' in Susari village, located in the Kukshi tehsil of Madhya Pradesh's Nimar region.

Speaking to Smart Info Services, Mr. Bakul Eran, a cotton broker from Indore, stated that the new cotton season in Susari kicked off with an impressive inaugural price of ₹9,101 per quintal. Arrivals of over 1,500 quintals of new cotton were recorded on the very first day, signaling a strong start to the season. (SIS)

To mark the occasion, Mr. Raju Patidar, the owner of the ginning factory, inaugurated the procurement by performing a ritualistic worship (puja) of the farmers and the weighing equipment. The inaugural price for the cotton was set at ₹9,101 per quintal.

Arrivals of new cotton totaled over 1,500 quintals today.

Attendees at the event included Mr. Bakul Eran (broker from Indore), Mr. Nitin Goyal (of Shriram Oil Mill), and others.

During the event, a consignment of cotton was sold to Shriram Oil Mill, Indore (represented by Mr. Nitin Goyal) by broker Mr. Laxman Kumar Agarwal (associated with Bakul Eran), Indore. The delivery terms are set for 'spot' (within 2–3 days). (SIS)

Bangladesh eases import rules under new 2026-2029 policy

Wed. 26th Aug 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com/news)

Insights

Bangladesh's new Import Policy Order 2026–2029 removes the value ceiling on imports made through sales or purchase contracts alongside letters of credit, offering businesses greater payment flexibility.

The policy also introduces free trade zones and central bonded warehouses, expands raw-material import facilities for exporters and simplifies provisions for NRB investors.

Bangladesh has moved to make its import regime more flexible by allowing industrial and commercial importers to bring in goods through sales or purchase contracts without a value ceiling, alongside traditional letters of credit (LCs), under the newly issued Import Policy Order 2026–2029.

The Ministry of Commerce issued the new policy through a gazette notification on August 24, replacing the 2021-2024 order, which expired in June 2024 but remained in effect provisionally. The revised framework aims to modernise import procedures, facilitate trade, support exports, attract investment and improve access to industrial raw materials, as per local media reports.

The removal of the value ceiling is one of the most significant changes. Under the previous policy, commercial importers could import goods without LCs against payment from Bangladesh up to $500,000 annually, subject to conditions and separate limits for certain products.

The new policy allows greater use of direct contracts and alternative international payment mechanisms.

The change could reduce banking procedures and give importers greater flexibility in dealing directly with overseas suppliers. However, increased non-LC transactions will require stronger monitoring of import pricing, foreign-exchange flows and risks related to over- and under-invoicing.

The new policy also provides for the establishment of Free Trade Zones (FTZs) and Central Bonded Warehouses, with the government seeking to strengthen Bangladesh's position as a regional trade, logistics and re-export hub. Goods brought into such zones may be imported through LCs, sales contracts, telegraphic transfers, free-of-cost arrangements or other mechanisms permitted by Bangladesh Bank, irrespective of import value.

Central bonded warehouses are expected to improve the storage and supply of raw materials for export-oriented industries. Existing bonded and back-to-back LC facilities will continue for 100 per cent export-oriented sectors, including readymade garments, specialised textiles, hosiery, leather and leather goods, shipbuilding and furniture.

The policy also expands facilities for export-oriented manufacturers to import raw materials and production inputs on a free-of-cost basis, supporting efforts to diversify exports and increase shipments of higher-value products.

For the apparel sector, the policy retains minimum net value-addition requirements. Woven and knit garments priced up to $60 per dozen will require 30 per cent value addition, up from 20 per cent under the previous order, while garments priced above $60 will require 10 per cent. Children's wear will require 15 per cent, while several other categories, including footwear, leather goods, furniture and aluminium foil, will require 20 per cent.

The policy also sets conditions for imported fabrics used under bonded facilities. Except for grey or greige cloth, imported fabric must arrive in continuous rolls of at least 18.29 metres to qualify for duty-free bonded import. Cut or scrap pieces will not qualify.

The government has further simplified import facilities for Non-Resident Bangladeshis (NRBs) by defining the term for the first time in the import policy. Approved industrial enterprises owned by NRBs will have easier access to capital machinery, spare parts and raw materials, while modern international payment methods may be used in accordance with Bangladesh Bank's foreign-exchange regulations.

The policy also seeks to reduce disputes arising from differences between product descriptions and Harmonized System (HS) codes. The approach is intended to minimise delays and difficulties for importers caused by discrepancies in classification and descriptions.

International trade agreements have been incorporated into the new framework as well. The policy provides for co-ordination with free trade agreements (FTAs), comprehensive economic partnership agreements (CEPAs), economic partnership agreements (EPAs), regional agreements and other bilateral or unilateral arrangements. Importers seeking preferential tariff treatment will be required to submit certificates of origin and other documentation specified under the relevant agreements.

The framework also incorporates the Invest Bangladesh Act 2026, under which the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority, Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority and Public-Private Partnership Authority have been brought together under a unified structure.

Despite the broader liberalisation, the policy retains restrictions on a range of products, including certain substandard or reconditioned goods, specified hazardous chemicals and materials covered by international environmental conventions. Imports from Israel and goods carried by Israeli-flagged vessels also remain prohibited.

Overall, the 2026–2029 order shifts Bangladesh further away from a predominantly LC-dependent import system towards a more flexible, contract-based framework.

The government is seeking to combine easier import financing with stronger investment facilities, export-oriented raw-material access and expanded trade infrastructure, while effective oversight will remain important as alternative payment mechanisms become more widely used.

US' LYCRA Company unveils Lifestyle District at Intertextile China

Wed. 26th Aug 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com/news)

Insights
The LYCRA Company has opened a 356-square-metre Lifestyle District within its 895-square-metre pavilion at Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics Autumn Edition in China.
The space brings 19 co-exhibitors and named partners into fibre, fabric and garment co-creation.
Displays cover COOLMAX, LYCRA and THERMOLITE applications for performance apparel, workwear, denim and everyday essentials.

The LYCRA Company, a global leader in fiber and technology solutions for the apparel industry, is reimagining the trade show experience at Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics Autumn Edition, which opened today in China. Building on the success of last year's ALL IN concept, the company has expanded its co-creation vision into a 356-square-meter Lifestyle District featuring partners Jingzili New Material, JYT Textile, Lianxingfa Knitting, and Trend Textile. The district is part of a larger 895-square-meter pavilion showcasing a total of 19 co-exhibitors. Together, they demonstrate how innovations in fiber, fabric, and garments can be combined to create compelling solutions for both work and play.

"The apparel industry is built on creativity, and great ideas emerge when people with different perspectives come together," said Jason Wang, vice president, Asia, The LYCRA Company. "This year, we wanted to create an environment that sparks curiosity, encourages new thinking, and showcases what's possible when innovation moves beyond individual products to become part of a broader experience. Intertextile provides an ideal setting to share that vision and inspire what's next for our industry."

Across the pavilion, LYCRA, COOLMAX, and THERMOLITE brand innovations are showcased through commercial apparel applications that demonstrate how performance, comfort, and sustainability can help address evolving consumer and industry needs.

New for wovens, COOLMAX CloakFX fiber helps mask the appearance of sweat on fabric, delivers wet and dry fabric opacity, or anti-see-through performance, while also providing moisture management. Made with 100% recycled PET and certified under the Global Recycled Standard, it helps reduce reliance on virgin raw materials.

LYCRA FiT400 fiber for both wovens and knits is being previewed at Intertextile. The knits version has been refreshed and is now available in three performance tiers: Essential, Expanded, and Elevated, allowing brands to select the level of functionality and sustainability that best suits their needs. It also delivers non-spandex stretch and cooling benefits that last the life of the garment. The woven version creates fabrics that offer traditional aesthetics with durable, low-to-moderate mechanical stretch for all-day comfort.

RENEWABLE LYCRA fiber is made with 70% renewable content derived in part from field corn grown in the American Midwest. It delivers the same performance as traditional LYCRA fiber while also supporting efforts to reduce garment carbon footprints.

Ebru Ozaydin, product category director, denim & ready-to-wear, The LYCRA Company, will present "Designed for Real Life: How Performance Wovens Are Reshaping the Everyday Wardrobe" on Wednesday, Aug. 26, at 10 a.m. China Standard Time at Stage H4.1-A149. The session will explore COOLMAX CloakFX fiber and other innovations designed for workwear, performance fabrics, and everyday apparel applications.

Visitors can explore The LYCRA Company's Lifestyle District and pavilion at Hall 4.1-E56 throughout the Intertextile exhibition. Applications on display span performance apparel, workwear, denim, and everyday essentials, illustrating how ingredient-brand technologies are being translated into commercially relevant products that meet consumer needs.

36th Annual Conference of Vice Chancellors of Agricultural Universities Commences in New Delhi

Tue. 25th Aug 2026, (Source: www.pib.gov.in)

Agricultural Education Must Be Measured by Its Impact on Farmers, Not by Degrees Awarded: Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Research Must Move from Laboratories to Fields and Deliver Solutions to Farmers: Shri Chouhan

Prepare Youth Not Just for Jobs, but to Become Entrepreneurs, Innovators and Job Creators: Union Agriculture Minister

Every Conference Must Deliver Clear Resolutions, Action Plans and Measurable Outcomes: Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan

The 36th Annual Conference of Vice Chancellors of Agricultural Universities was inaugurated today in New Delhi by Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development. Organised on the theme "Reimagining Agricultural Higher Education for ViksitBharat@2047," the two-day Conference, (25–26 August 2026), brings together Vice Chancellors of Agricultural Universities, senior officials of DARE and ICAR, Deputy Directors General, Additional Directors General and senior scientists to deliberate on reforms and priorities for a future-ready agricultural education system.

The inaugural session was also graced by Shri Bhagirath Choudhary and Shri Ram Nath Thakur, Union Ministers of State for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, and Dr M. L. Jat, Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR, along with senior officials and dignitaries.

Addressing the Conference, Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan emphasised that the success of agricultural education must be measured not by the number of degrees awarded, but by the knowledge and skills created and the tangible change brought to farmers' lives. He called for reimagining agricultural education to make it practical, technology-driven and closely aligned with farmers' needs. He stressed that research must move from laboratories to fields through stronger collaboration among agricultural universities, ICAR, KVKs, FPOs, industry and farmers. He urged universities to set clear goals, develop actionable roadmaps and measure outcomes, so that every conference leads to concrete decisions and contributes to building a modern, resilient and prosperous agricultural sector for Viksit Bharat.

Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Bhagirath Choudhary emphasised that a developed India requires a strong and prosperous agriculture sector and empowered farmers. He said India's journey from food scarcity to self-sufficiency reflects the collective contribution of farmers, scientists, teachers and institutions, and the next priority must be to make agriculture technology-driven, innovative and future-ready. He stressed the need to attract youth to agriculture by creating opportunities in modern technologies, research, entrepreneurship and agribusiness, while urging agricultural universities to align education and research with farmers' needs. He expressed confidence that the deliberations of the Vice-Chancellors' Conference would strengthen agricultural education, foster innovation and contribute to building a resilient, sustainable and prosperous agricultural sector in line with the vision of Viksit Bharat.

Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Ram Nath Thakur emphasised that strengthening agriculture and empowering farmers are fundamental to achieving the vision of a Viksit Bharat. He highlighted the need to modernise agricultural education, promote innovation and equip youth with the knowledge and skills required to address emerging challenges. He stressed that research and education must remain closely connected to farmers' needs and translate into practical, field-level solutions. He called upon agricultural universities and institutions to foster a culture of innovation, entrepreneurship and excellence, with a strong focus on sustainable and technology-driven agriculture. He expressed confidence that collective efforts in education, research and innovation would accelerate agricultural transformation and contribute to enhancing farmers' incomes and livelihoods.

Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR Dr M.L. Jat, emphasised that achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat requires a fundamental transformation of agricultural higher education—from traditional models to a future-ready, skill-driven and innovation-led ecosystem. He stressed the need to strengthen industry–academia partnerships, promote demand-driven research, ensure robust accreditation and leverage data-driven decision-making. He highlighted that the seamless integration

of education, research and extension is essential to translate scientific knowledge into field-level solutions and tangible benefits for farmers. "The objective of future agricultural education should go beyond awarding degrees to creating skilled, innovative and globally competitive human capital aligned with national priorities and the evolving needs of Indian agriculture," he added.

The Conference is structured around five sessions covering 14 agenda items, focusing on student-centric reforms, higher education, faculty development, institutional strengthening, quality enhancement, academic reforms, research, innovation and institutional excellence.The deliberations on student-centric reforms and agricultural higher education covered the Action Taken Report of the previous Vice Chancellors' Conference, admission systems, research fellowships and the state/category-wise 40% restriction in seat allotment.

Discussions also addressed timely ICAR-AIQ counselling and verification, separate Ph.D. counselling for Veterinary Sciences, and UG eligibility for agriculture-qualified and Hindi-medium students to make agricultural education more accessible and inclusive.

The Conference also reviewed measures to align JRF/SRF research with national priorities, strengthen accreditation and quality assurance, and improve financial management, accountability and performance-based funding. Emphasis was placed on stronger industry–academia linkages, apprenticeships and internships, curriculum revision, and promotion of dual, twinning and joint degree programmes and academic exchange.

Under faculty development and institutional strengthening, the participants deliberated on equivalency of degrees in agriculture and allied sciences, identification of training needs, development of training modules and expert/domain mapping. The proposed induction of Professors of Practice in Agricultural Universities was also discussed to bring professional expertise and practical knowledge into the academic ecosystem.

The Conference further considered the development of a comprehensive agricultural education data ecosystem for evidence-based planning, monitoring and decision-making. Strengthening Rural

Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) was highlighted as an important avenue for connecting students with rural realities and supporting rural transformation. Discussions also covered Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Impact Assessment (MELIA) and greater participation of Agricultural Universities in Agriunifest and Agrisports2026 to promote holistic student development.

Deliberations on academic reforms, research, innovation and institutional excellence included common agenda items of the Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA), uniform implementation of the UGC Ph.D. Regulations, 2016, and promotion of Technology Readiness Level (TRL) among State Agricultural Universities to accelerate the translation of research into practical technologies and innovations. The Conference also discussed NIRF rating parameters for Agriculture and Allied sectors and mechanisms for sharing expertise through Professors of Practice.

The discussions collectively underscored the need for Agricultural Universities to evolve into dynamic, technology-enabled and outcome-oriented ecosystems integrating education, research, innovation, industry and rural engagement. Stronger academic partnerships, quality assurance, data-driven governance and research aligned with national priorities were identified as critical to building globally competitive institutions.

Earlier, Dr Yashpal Malik, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Education), ICAR, delivered the welcome and context-setting address. The inaugural session also featured the presentation and discussion on the Action Taken Report of the previous Conference and a review of progress on earlier decisions.

REGISTER Now

COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Established 1921

ISO 9001:2015

Cotton Association of India

cordially invites you to

Cotton India 2026-27

COTTON INDIA 2026-27

STRENGTHENING INDIA'S COTTON

5F VISION

Farm • Fibre • Factory • Fashion • Foreign

on Thursday & Friday

29th & 30th October 2026

VENUE

Hotel Sahara Star,

Sapphire Ballroom,

Opp. Domestic Airport, Vile Parle (East),

Mumbai 400 099

Register Now: https://caionline.in/conference/

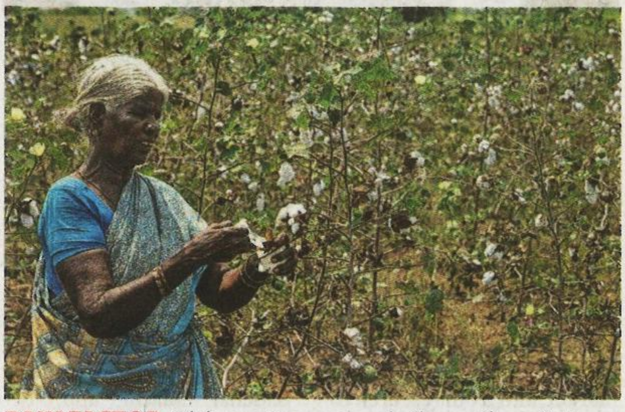
businessline – 26.08.2026

Cotton acreage holds steady at 108 lh

Vishwanath Kulkarni
Bengaluru

As the kharif sowing season nears closure, cotton acreage is largely on par with last year at 108.45 lakh hectares (lh) as of August 21, against 108.73 lh a year ago.

Higher acreage in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh have offset declines in Maharashtra and Rajasthan. However, stakeholders said rain in September will be crucial for boosting yields.



RAIN FACTOR. Higher cotton acreage in the southern States, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh has offset declines in Maharashtra and Rajasthan. September rain, however, holds the key for yields

Maharashtra, the largest cotton-growing State, saw acreage marginally decline to 38.22 lh from 38.37 lh a year ago. In Rajasthan, the area fell nearly 6 per cent to 5.38 lh from 5.71 lh.

The decline was offset by gains elsewhere. Telangana's cotton area rose 7.28 per cent to 19.5 lh from 18.18 lh, while Karnataka recorded a 1.84 per cent increase to 7.76 lh from 7.62 lh.

In Andhra Pradesh, acreage increased 2.26 per cent to 3.85 lh from 3.78 lh. Madhya Pradesh recorded a 2.28 per cent rise to 5.84 lh from 5.71 lh, while Gujarat's area increased 3.23 per cent to 21.35 lh from 20.68 lh.

CONDITION EXCELLENT

"Crop condition is excellent as of date," said Atul S Ganatra, Chairman, Crop Committee, Cotton Association of India (CAI), the apex trade body.

The next 30 days will be crucial for the crop, and a clearer assessment of the crop size will have to wait until the end of September, he said.

Ganatra said the crop in the northern States was also in good condition, while continuous rain in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana had benefited the crop.

"Overall, the crop conditions are good. There's a need for another round of rain in the next 10-15 days, especially in Gujarat, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, to get very good yields," he said.

Ramanuj Das Boob, a sourcing agent in Raichur, said the overall crop appeared better than last year. However, Karnataka needs some more rain to support the crop, he said.

Sowing is almost complete, though some areas may see resowing, Das Boob said.

Rain clouds converge over Himachal, U.P., M.P.

Vinson Kurian
Thiruvananthapuram

Satellite pictures on Tuesday showed heavy clouds over Almora, Haldwani, Sambhal (Himachal Pradesh), Gwalior, Mainpuri, Bhind, Fatehpur, Banda, Lucknow, Jhansi and Agra (Uttar Pradesh), Udaipur, Kota and Gangapur city (Rajasthan), Dhanbad (Jharkhand), Siuri and Bankura (West Bengal), Mandsaur, Bhopal, Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Chennai, Madurai and Cuddalore (Tamil Nadu), coastal Karnataka and Kerala.

LATE-SEASON BURST

More rain is forecast across several regions over the next couple of days. But the bigger question is whether this late-season burst can make a meaningful dent in the accumulated monsoon deficit, which stood at 13 per cent on Monday.

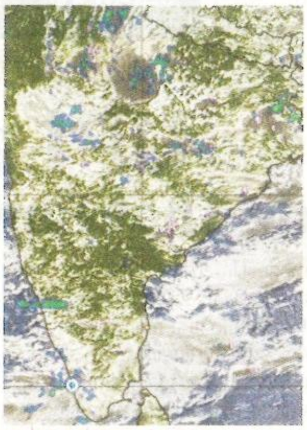
That makes September particularly intriguing in an El Nino year. In 1997, India recorded near-normal rainfall despite a strong El Nino.

But the east Pacific warming phenomenon generally acts as a negative forcing on the monsoon, with its suppressing influence tending to strengthen in the latter half of the season.

CONTRASTING YEARS

The impact of El Nino, however, has repeatedly been modified by competing forces, including the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO), the strength and configuration of the monsoon circulation, and the timing and intensity of El Nino itself.

Since 1997, El Niño years have produced rainfall departures ranging from +0.2 per cent in 1997, when a strong El Nino failed to derail the monsoon, to -20.9 per cent in 2002, -12.7 per cent in 2015 and -5.3 per cent in 2023.



READY TO POUR. Heavy rain clouds rose over parts of N-W India, East India and South India on Tuesday

This year, El Nino became established in July, but the rainfall deficit had already begun widening in June.

July managed to scrape through, while August has so far slipped into a double-digit deficit.

CRUCIAL SEPTEMBER

That leaves September as the last substantial window for the monsoon to repair some of the damage. But it is also when the monsoon begins retreating from North-West India. The season is therefore running out of time just as El Nino's suppressing influence tends to become more pronounced.

The IMD has said the inverse relationship between El Nino and the Indian monsoon is stronger during the latter half of the season, particularly in September.

The question, then, is not whether September can bring rain, but whether it can deliver enough, in the right places and with sufficient persistence, to alter the arithmetic of a season already carrying a deficit.

businessline – 26.08.2026

Karnataka to take up cloud seeding to address rainfall deficit

Our Bureau
Bengaluru

Faced with a weak monsoon, the Karnataka government plans to undertake cloud seeding over the next 60 days to enhance rainfall and address the deficit across the State.

The State is setting up three panels, including a technical committee and a monitoring, field operations and evaluation committee — comprising government officials and experts from IITs, IISc and the India Meteorological Department — to oversee the exercise.

The operation is expected to begin within two days, Karnataka Minister for Water Resources, Major and Medium Irrigation N Cheluvarayaswamy said on Tuesday. "Cloud seeding has been undertaken three times in the State so far, with a success rate of 18-20 per cent. If we achieve a 30 per cent success rate, the project will be worthwhile," he said.

The State has recorded a cumulative rainfall deficit of 22% this monsoon

PROJECT DETAILS

The 60-day cloud-seeding operation, involving about 200 flying hours, is estimated to cost ₹27 crore. The Water Resources Department will undertake the operation across the State's four revenue divisions, subject to the availability of suitable clouds.

Rainfall is expected within a 15-km radius of the cloud-seeding location. September is considered the most suitable period as dense clouds are expected to be more prevalent, while cloud cover is likely to decline in October.

According to IMD data, Karnataka recorded a cumulative rainfall deficit of 22 per cent this monsoon. The State has received 497.8 mm of rainfall against the normal 636.6 mm. North interior Karnataka recorded a 15 per cent deficit, with 269.5 mm of rainfall against the normal 318.1 mm.

WATER SHORTAGES

In south interior Karnataka, the rainfall deficit stands at 23 per cent, with the region receiving 385.9 mm against the normal 502.6 mm.

Coastal Karnataka has also recorded a 23 per cent deficit, receiving 2,038.2 mm against the normal 2,663 mm.

The cloud-seeding plan comes amid concerns that the persistent rainfall deficit could lead to water shortages in the coming months.

businessline – 26.08.2026

Rupee makes strong recovery; outlook weak

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl.research bureau

The rupee made a sharp recovery in the final trading hours of Tuesday after having been stable for a week. The domestic currency closed at 95.41 on Tuesday, compared with 95.68 a week ago.

Crude oil price declining over 2 per cent on Tuesday aided the rupee to recover.

Brent crude oil price currently at $89.50/barrel, is down nearly 5 per cent so far this week after gaining 6.6 per cent last week.

WEEKLY RUPEE VIEW.

However, uncertainty surrounding the Strait of Hormuz continues to pose an upside risk to oil prices.

POSITIVE FLOW

Foreign flows remained positive.

According to NSDL data, net FPI inflows stood at about $693 million over the past week, taking the cumulative inflows in August so far to around $2.4 billion.

Dollar inflows have received an additional boost from the special USD-INR swap facility linked to FCNR (B) deposits, with inflows amounting to around $65 billion ahead of August 31, the revised deadline.

Meanwhile, India's foreign exchange reserves jumped nearly $10 billion in the week ended August 14 to $716.9 billion, indicating that the RBI has been rebuilding its reserve buffer.

Geopolitical risks, however, remain elevated.

The US has broadened sanctions on Iran, targeting sectors including aviation, digital assets, gold, technology and shipping, besides several individuals and vessels.

US has also warned countries about continued business ties with Iran, adding another layer of uncertainty to global markets.

Overall, positive foreign flows, softer crude prices and a weaker dollar are providing support to the rupee. However, geopolitical uncertainty, particularly its potential impact on oil prices, and RBI using incoming dollars to build the reserves, continues to limit the scope for appreciation.

CHART

The rupee, has broken its 95.56-95.76 range on the upside on Tuesday.

Thus, the support at 95.80 has held very well. Need to see if the rise on Tuesday sustains or not. Near-term resistance is at 95.30 which can be tested this week if the currency manages to sustain higher.

A break above 95.30 can then take the rupee further higher to 94.90, the next resistance.

Failure to breach 95.30 and a downward reversal from there can take the rupee down to 95.75-95.80 again.

In case the bears gain traction and the support at 95.80 is breached, the rupee can drop to 96.20 or even to 96.50.

The dollar index, which lost 0.8 per cent last week and closed at 98.84 on Friday, has now inched higher to 99. It is likely to rise to 99.40-99.50 band, which can cap the rally. That said, a breakout of 99.50 can bring back the bullishness.

However, a decline, either from the current level of 99 or after rising to 99.40-99.50 region, might drag the dollar index to 98.50 or even to 98.

OUTLOOK

The rupee can test 95.30 in the near-term.

The price action, thereafter, will need a close watch to see if the domestic currency is extending the gains or not. The expected trading range for the week can be 95.30-95.80.

Business Standard – 26.08.2026

Govt plans BIS certificate exemption for foreign high-tech companies

KRITY AMBEY
New Delhi, 25 August

The government is planning a framework to exempt overseas companies looking to manufacture high-tech products in India from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification requirement, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said in Tokyo on Tuesday.

"We have instructed BIS and all others in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to work on a framework to support high-tech industries... (We have told them to) create a framework of exemption from BIS certification requirement for all the equipment and components they need to bring to India to promote their manufacturing in India," Goyal, who is on a four-day visit to Japan, said.

The plan follows Japanese semiconductor manufacturer Tokyo Electron's Corporate Officer and Executive Vice-President (Global Sales Division and India Business) Takeshi Okubo flagging concerns about BIS certification to Goyal on Monday.

The proposed framework is expected to help not just Japanese companies but all overseas firms looking to undertake high-tech manufacturing in India, Goyal said at a roundtable discussion on semiconductors and artificial intelligence (AI). "I believe this is a very logical step given that Tokyo Electron and other companies, which come in to make high-quality semiconductor products, are going to get high-quality products into the country," Goyal said.

Tokyo Electron has collaborated with Tata Electronics to accelerate semiconductor equipment infrastructure in India. It has set up a commercial semiconductor fabrication plant (fab) in Dholera, Gujarat, and an outsourced semiconductor assembly and test (OSAT) facility in Jagiroad, Assam.

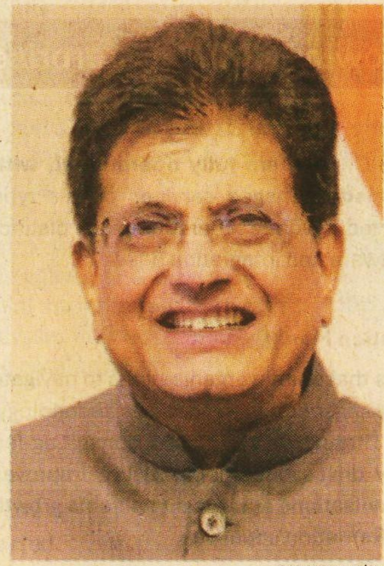


PHOTO: PTI

The Japanese firm has also partnered with other leading Indian information technology (IT) and engineering providers like HCL and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to build hardware and software capabilities.

> "WE WILL WORK ON THE FRAMEWORK AND FIND A SOLUTION FOR BULK EXEMPTION OR PRODUCT OR PROJECT-BASED EXEMPTION OR COMPANY-BASED EXEMPTION"
>
> Piyush Goyal
> Union Minister of Commerce and Industry

"We will be creating a framework which will either give company-level or industry-level exemptions. We will work on the framework as I get back to India and find a solution for bulk exemption or product- or project-based exemption or company-based exemption," Goyal said.

The minister on Monday met executives from several other Japanese firms as well. These executives flagged the need for better social infrastructure around semiconductor manufacturing facilities in Dholera and Jagiroad.

They also asked Goyal to ease regulatory compliance processes in India. "We assure you that places like Dholera, Jagiroad and other areas where you are setting up operations will have reliable electricity, ultra-pure water, clean infrastructure, waste treatment facility, and high-quality logistics along with social infrastructure to make your journey in India faster and much more exciting," Goyal said.

Japan is among India's top five foreign direct investment (FDI) sources. According to the latest data available with the Department of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), India has received cumulative FDI worth $48.14 billion from Japan as of March 2026 since 2000.

Business Standard – 26.08.2026

Agri varsities should focus on employability of students: Chouhan

Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Tuesday said that agriculture universities and colleges should focus on ensuring the employability of their students and also regulating the new private agricultural universities. His comments came while addressing the 36th Annual Conference of Vice Chancellors of Agricultural Universities. Data shared at the conference showed that 2.5 million students passed out of agriculture universities in the past 10 years, but around 0.8 million did not get employed. 1.7 million were employed. "That's why every university should have a clear figure on the students who passed and where they went... if they keep on searching for jobs, the education is wasted," Chouhan said.

BS REPORTER

Business Standard – 26.08.2026

RBI'S AUGUST BULLETIN

Monsoon revival 'partly mitigates' agri sector risks

MANOJIT SAHA
Mumbai, 25 August

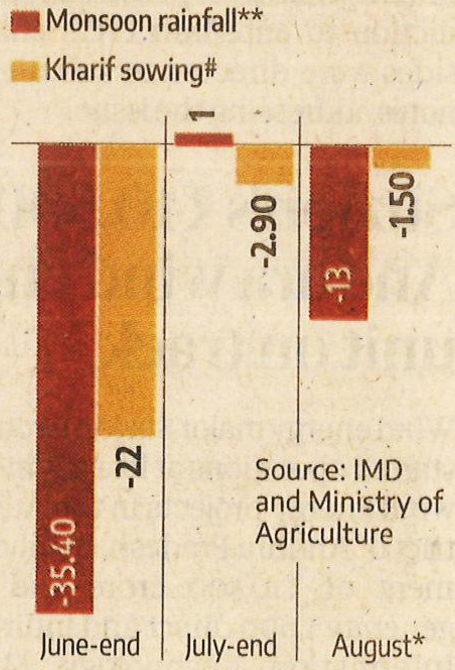
The recovery in southwest monsoon in July helped kharif sowing to reach closer to normal levels, partly easing some of the risks to the farm sector, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) officials said in an article on the 'State of the economy' in the central bank's August bulletin. About half of India's working population depends on agriculture and allied activities.

RBI officials emphasised that the rise in the consumer price index (CPI) based inflation, above the central bank's 4 per cent target, to 4.45 per cent in July from 4.38 per cent in June was mainly due to supply-side pressures. While this uptick was fuelled by food and beverage prices, core inflation, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, remained unchanged, reaffirming "the lower pass-through of cost pressures".

The article said the domestic economy showed notable resilience to the ongoing global headwinds, marked by buoyant domestic demand and rising manufacturing and services activity. Central bank officials also highlighted that financial conditions are characterised by high credit growth, comfortable liquidity and softening G-sec yields, backed by a rebound in capital inflows.

Turn to Page 13

Making a recovery



*until August 24, 2026
** deficit/surplus (% of normal)
# % chg in area under crops, Y-o-Y
Note: Kharif sowing data for August is as of August 21, 2026

PAGE 4
- NRI deposit inflows fall 23% to $2.78 bn in Q1FY27
- Banks vie for deposits to keep up with credit growth: EAC-PM
- ₹2 trn credit card spending a month becomes new normal

Business Standard – 26.08.2026

RBI's August bulletin: Monsoon revival 'partly mitigates' agri sector risks

The article written by RBI officials with guidance provided by Deputy Governor Poonam Gupta, does not represent the central bank's views.

Forecasts by different agencies indicated that gross domestic product (GDP) growth is likely to have eased to a four-quarter low of around 7.2 per cent in the June quarter, from the 7.8 per cent seen in the March quarter of FY26, Business Standard reported on Tuesday. Southwest monsoon picked up in July after recording a deficit in June, resulting in all-India reservoir storage staying close to its decadal average and higher than the level during preceding El Niño year of 2023.

IMD data showed that the southwest monsoon, which was in deficit by 35.4 per cent by end of June, recorded a surplus of 1 per cent by end of July due to strong recovery in rains.

"The temporal progress of kharif sowing in the current year has been better vis-à-vis 2023," according to the article. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has a below normal forecast of rainfall at the all-India level for the second half of the season (August and September). Backed by a high stock of public foodgrains, the government has also announced an open market sale scheme for the current financial year to augment supply, it said.

Commenting that the Indian economy continued to display strength notwithstanding global headwinds, the report said domestic demand remained buoyant, as reflected by several indicators, including vehicle and tractor sales.

"India's robust macroeconomic fundamentals continue to provide cushion to the domestic economy," the article said, while observing that June quarter momentum continued in July with most of the high-frequency indicators reflecting sustained manufacturing and services activity, and double-digit expansion in merchandise exports and imports.

It highlighted that petroleum product consumption growth returned to positive territory, after three straight months of contraction, while industrial production strengthened sharply in June, recording its strongest growth in nearly two years, supported by a broad-based acceleration in manufacturing. "The services sector also exhibited resilience," it said.

The total flow of financial resources to the commercial sector increased in 2026-27 (FY27) so far (up to July 31), driven by a pickup in non-food bank credit and rise in foreign direct investment (FDI) to India. Fresh deposit and lending rates have hardened in the recent months with the rising credit demand.

FDI flows improved in June 2026 from the previous month, supported by higher gross inflows. Net FDI stood at $ 1.3 billion in June 2026 as compared to (-) 0.1 billion in May 2026 and $ 2.3 billion in June 2025. During June quarter of FY27, net FDI stood at $7.8 billion as compared to $4.8 billion in the corresponding period last year.

More on business-standard.com

Vyapar – 26.08.2026

ભારતની વેપાર નીતિ : વિશ્વ ભારતની પ્રગતિની નોંધ લઈ રહ્યું છે

પારદર્શિતા જાળવવી એ વિશ્વ વેપાર સંગઠન (WTO)નું સંસ્થાકીય કાર્ય છે અને વેપાર નીતિ સમીક્ષા (TPR) તેની વિવિધ પદ્ધતિઓમાંની એક છે. આ સમયાંતરે હાથ ધરવામાં આવતી એક ઉત્તમ સહકર્મી સમીક્ષા પ્રક્રિયા છે, જેમાં સચિવાલય સભ્ય દેશની વેપાર નીતિઓ અને પ્રથાઓનો સંપૂર્ણ અભ્યાસ કરે છે, જેમાં વ્યાપક આર્થિક પરિસ્થિતિઓનો સમાવેશ થાય છે અને સભ્યો સમગ્ર પ્રક્રિયા દરમિયાન વિચારશીલ, નિર્દેશિત અને ઘણીવાર મહત્ત્વપૂર્ણ પ્રશ્નો ઊભા કરે છે. જુલાઈ ૨૦૨૬ના અંતમાં ભારતે WTO ખાતે તેની આઠમી TPR પૂર્ણ કરી, એક પ્રક્રિયા જેમાં મહિનાઓની તૈયારીની જરૂર હતી. આ તૈયારીઓમાં સચિવાલયના કર્મચારીઓની મુલાકાતો ૧,૧૦૦થી વધુ પ્રશ્નો રજૂ

રાજેશ અગ્રવાલ

કરનારા પ્રતિનિધિમંડળો અને મંતવ્યોનું આદાન-પ્રદાન સામેલ હતું. ભારતે આંતર-વિભાગીય અને બહુ-હિતધારક સંવાદો દ્વારા આ પ્રશ્નો અને સ્પષ્ટતાઓનો જવાબ આપ્યો. આ ભારત માટે સભ્ય દેશોને તેના આર્થિક અને વિકાસ દૃષ્ટિકોણ અને ભારત વૈશ્વિક સંપત્તિ અને સમૃદ્ધિમાં કેવી રીતે યોગદાન આપી શકે છે તે સમજાવવાની તક હતી.

ભારતની છેલ્લી વેપાર નીતિ સમીક્ષા ૨૦૨૧માં કોવિડ-૧૯ રોગચાળાની પૃષ્ઠભૂમિ સામે હાથ ધરવામાં આવી હતી. જ્યારે આરોગ્ય કટોકટી કાબૂમાં આવી છે, ત્યારે તાજેતરના દિવસોમાં આર્થિક નબળાઈઓ અને ઊર્જા સ્ત્રોતો સહિત આવશ્યક પુરવઠાની અછત તીવ્ર બની છે. જ્યારે વિશ્વ રોગચાળાના સંકટમાંથી બહાર આવ્યું છે, ત્યારે પુરવઠા શૃંખલામાં વિક્ષેપોએ નવા પડકારો ઊભા કર્યા છે. આ વાતાવરણમાં, આઠમી સમીક્ષાએ ખૂબ જ સકારાત્મક ચિત્ર રજૂ કર્યું: ભારત સૌથી ઝડપથી વિકસતી મુખ્ય અર્થવ્યવસ્થાઓમાંની એક તરીકે ઉભરી આવ્યું છે, વૈશ્વિક વેપારમાં તેની હાજરીનો વિસ્તાર કર્યો છે અને તેને એક મહત્ત્વપૂર્ણ વેપાર ભાગીદાર તરીકે વધુને વધુ જોવામાં આવે છે. WTO સભ્યોએ ૨૦૪૭માં વિકસિત ભારત તરફ ભારતના પ્રયાસોની પ્રશંસા કરી અને સ્વીકાર્યું કે ભારતનો મજબૂત અને સતત આર્થિક વિકાસ, વૈશ્વિક સંબંધોને ગાઢ બનાવવા અને ઝડપી ડિજિટલ પરિવર્તન એકસાથે ૨૦૪૭ સુધીમાં વિકસિત રાષ્ટ્ર બનવાના તેના વિઝન તરફ તેની સતત પ્રગતિને ટેકો આપે છે.

આ વર્ષની સમીક્ષાની ઊંડાઈ ઘણી જ સ્પષ્ટ છે. WTO સભ્યોએ તમામ ક્ષેત્રોમાં અપવાદરૂપે વ્યાપક અને સતત વાતચીત કરી, જે ભારતના વેપાર, નિયમનકારી અને મેક્રોઇકોનોમિક નીતિઓમાં તેમની રૂચિ દર્શાવે છે. સભ્યોએ ભારતની આર્થિક શક્તિ અને બહુપક્ષીય વેપાર પ્રણાલી સાથે રચનાત્મક જોડાણની વ્યાપક પ્રશંસા કરી, જ્યારે ડિજિટલ નવીનતા, કસ્ટમ્સ અને વેપાર સુવિધા, સ્ટાર્ટ-અપ્સ અને મુક્ત વેપાર કરારો જેવી સિદ્ધિઓને પણ પ્રકાશિત કરી. તેથી, સહભાગીઓની સંખ્યા ફક્ત ચકાસણીનું માપ નથી; તે ભારતના આર્થિક પરિવર્તન માટે ચૂકવવામાં આવતા વ્યાજના સ્તરને પણ દર્શાવે છે.

આ પરિવર્તન ડેટામાં સ્પષ્ટપણે દેખાય છે. ૨૦૨૧-૨૨ અને ૨૦૨૫-૨૬ વચ્ચે, ભારતની અર્થવ્યવસ્થામાં સરેરાશ વાર્ષિક વૃદ્ધિ દર લગભગ ૮ ટકા રહ્યો. ૨૦૨૫-૨૬માં કુલ નિકાસ ૮૬૩ ડૉલર બિલિયનના રેકોર્ડ સ્તરે પહોંચી, જેમાં ૪૪૧.૮ ડૉલર બિલિયનની વેપારી નિકાસ અને ૪૨૧.૩ ડૉલર બિલિયનની સેવાઓ નિકાસનો સમાવેશ થાય છે. ઘણા સભ્યોએ ભારતના ડિજિટલી ડિલિવર કરાયેલા સેવા ક્ષેત્રમાં થયેલી નોંધપાત્ર પ્રગતિ પર પ્રકાશ પાડ્યો. સાતમા TPR પછીનો સમયગાળો ભારતના અનેક મુખ્ય ક્ષેત્રોમાં મજબૂતાઈના સ્પષ્ટ માર્ગને પ્રતિબિંબિત કરે છે, જ્યારે વેપાર ભાગીદારોને ભારતની વૃદ્ધિ વાર્તાનો ભાગ બનવાની અભૂતપૂર્વ તક પણ પૂરી પાડે છે. સમીક્ષા સમયગાળા દરમિયાન, ભારતે તેની ગતિ પાછી મેળવી અને વૈશ્વિક બજારો માટે માલ અને સેવાઓના મહત્ત્વપૂર્ણ સ્રોત તરીકે તેની સ્થિતિ મજબૂત કરી છે.

આ પરિવર્તન કદાચ ભારતના ડિજિટલ અર્થતંત્રમાં સૌથી વધુ સ્પષ્ટ રીતે દેખાય છે. ડિજિટલ પબ્લિક ઇન્ફ્રાસ્ટ્રક્ચર (DPI) એ ભારતને મોટી વસ્તી સ્તરે ડિજિટલ ઇકોસિસ્ટમ બનાવવામાં મદદ કરી છે; ૨૦૨૫ સુધીમાં એકલા યુનિફાઇડ પેમેન્ટ્સ ઇન્ટરફેસ (UPI) ભારતના ડિજિટલ ચુકવણી વ્યવહારોના ૮૫ ટકા અને કુલ વૈશ્વિક રિયલ-ટાઇમ ચુકવણીઓના આશરે ૪૯ ટકા હિસ્સો ધરાવશે તેવી અપેક્ષા છે. WTO સભ્યોએ ખાસ કરીને DPIમાં ભારતની સિદ્ધિઓ પર પ્રકાશ પાડ્યો છે. ભારતના ડિજિટલ અને વિકાસલક્ષી સુધારાઓને વિકાસશીલ અને ઓછા વિકસિત દેશો માટે એક ઉદાહરણ તરીકે જોવામાં આવી રહ્યા છે જે તેમના દેશોને ડિજિટલ રીતે પરિવર્તન કરવાનો પ્રયાસ કરી રહ્યા છે. આ ભારતની ઉભરતી વેપાર વાર્તાનું એક મુખ્ય પાસું છે: ખુલ્લાપણાને સ્થાનિક ક્ષમતાઓ દ્વારા પણ ટેકો મળે છે, જે વ્યવહાર ખર્ચ ઘટાડે છે અને નાના સાહસો સહિત તમામ પ્રકારના વ્યવસાયોને ઔપચારિક અને ડિજિટલ અર્થતંત્રમાં જોડાવા સક્ષમ બનાવે છે.

ભારતની વેપાર નીતિ હવે બાહ્ય વિશ્વ પર વધુ કેન્દ્રિત બની છે અને વિકસિત તથા વિકાસશીલ અર્થતંત્રો સાથેના મુક્ત વેપાર કરારો (FTA)નો વ્યાપ વધી રહ્યો છે કેટલાક કરારો અમલમાં આવી ચૂક્યા છે, જ્યારે કેટલાક અંગે વાટાઘાટો ચાલી રહી છે. આ વિસ્તરણ ભાગીદારીમાં વૈવિધ્ય લાવવા અને ભારતીય માલસામાન તથા સેવાઓ માટે બજારમાં વધુ સારી પહોંચ સુનિશ્ચિત કરવાના પ્રયાસોને દર્શાવે છે. સાથે જ, TPR ચર્ચાઓમાં ભારપૂર્વક જણાવ્યા મુજબ, FTAમાં ભારતની ભાગીદારી WTOમાં બહુપક્ષીય વેપાર વ્યવસ્થા પ્રત્યેની તેની સતત અને સ્પષ્ટ પ્રતિબદ્ધતા સાથે આગળ વધી રહી છે.

TPRએ પણ દર્શાવે છે કે વધુ ખુલ્લાપણું અપનાવવાનો અર્થ ભારતના કાયદેસર જાહેર નીતિ હિતોને છોડી દેવાનો નથી. ભારતે સભ્યોને ખાતરી આપી હતી કે વૈશ્વિક બજારો સાથે સંકલન કરવાનો તેનો અભિગમ તેની ચોક્કસ વિકાસ વાસ્તવિકતાઓને ધ્યાનમાં લેતી નીતિઓ સાથે સંતુલિત રહેશે.

આ ખાસ કરીને કૃષિમાં સ્પષ્ટ હતું, જ્યાં ભારતે ખેડૂતોની આજીવિકાનું રક્ષણ કરવાની અને ખાદ્ય સુરક્ષા સુનિશ્ચિત કરવાની જરૂરિયાત પર ભાર મૂક્યો હતો. ગુણવત્તા નિયંત્રણ આદેશો અને તકનીકી નિયમો સંબંધિત મુદ્દાઓ પર, ભારતે પારદર્શિતા, હિસ્સેદારોની સલાહ અને WTO નિયમોનું પાલન પ્રત્યેની તેની પ્રતિબદ્ધતાનો પુનરોચ્ચાર કર્યો અને આ સંદર્ભમાં સભ્યોને સ્પષ્ટ માહિતી પૂરી પાડી હતી.

આ આત્મનિર્ભર ભારતનું એક સૂક્ષ્મ અર્થઘટન છે. આત્મનિર્ભરતાનો અર્થ વૈશ્વિક અર્થતંત્રથી પોતાને અલગ પાડવાનો નથી. ભારત માટે, તેનો અર્થ સ્થાનિક ક્ષમતાઓ, મજબૂત પુરવઠા શૃંખલાઓ અને તકનીકી ક્ષમતા વિકસાવવાનો છે જેથી દેશ વૈશ્વિક વેપારમાં વધુ અસરકારક રીતે ભાગ લઈ શકે. છેલ્લાં પાંચ વર્ષનો રેકોર્ડ દર્શાવે છે કે ભારત આ સંતુલન જાળવી રહ્યું છે: જ્યાં તે તકો બનાવે છે ત્યાં વધુ ખુલ્લું બની રહ્યું છે, જ્યારે કાયદેસર સ્થાનિક હિતોનું રક્ષણ કરવાની ક્ષમતા જાળવી રાખી રહ્યું છે.

આ અભિગમ એવા સમયે ખાસ મહત્ત્વ ધરાવે છે જ્યારે એકપક્ષીય કાર્યવાહી, પુરવઠા શૃંખલામાં વિક્ષેપો અને ભૂ-રાજકીય તણાવને કારણે વૈશ્વિક વેપાર વ્યવસ્થામાં વિશ્વાસને નબળો પાડ્યો છે. તેથી, WTOને કેન્દ્રમાં રાખીને નિયમો-આધારિત અને વિકાસ-લક્ષી બહુપક્ષીય વેપાર પ્રણાલી પ્રત્યે ભારતની પ્રતિબદ્ધતા ખાસ મહત્ત્વ ધરાવે છે, જે તેના વેપાર હિતોને પાર કરે છે.

ભારતની વેપાર નીતિ સમીક્ષાના અધ્યક્ષે પોતાના સમાપન ભાષણમાં જણાવ્યું તેમ, ભારતના પ્રતિનિધિમંડળે TPR વ્યવસ્થા અને બહુપક્ષીય વેપાર વ્યવસ્થાને દેશ કેટલું મહત્ત્વ આપે છે તે દર્શાવ્યું છે. આ રીતે, આઠમી TPR એક વ્યાપક સંદેશ આપે છે: ભારત દુનિયાથી મોં ફેરવનાર સભ્ય દેશ નથી. તે એવી અર્થવ્યવસ્થા છે, જે પ્રગતિને અપનાવવા અને વૈશ્વિક વેપાર વ્યવસ્થા સાથે વધુ ઊંડાણપૂર્વક એકીકૃત થવાનો પ્રયાસ કરી રહી છે, સાથે સાથે એ પણ સુનિશ્ચિત કરી રહી છે કે આ એકીકરણ તેની વિકાસલક્ષી પ્રાથમિકતાઓ, સ્થાનિક ક્ષમતાઓ અને રાષ્ટ્રીય હિતોને અનુરૂપ રહે.

(લેખક ભારત સરકારના વાણિજ્ય અને ઉદ્યોગ મંત્રાલયના વાણિજ્ય વિભાગના સચિવ છે.)

Vyapar – 26.08.2026

કપાસ ક્ષેત્રે પડકાર અને ટેક્સટાઇલની તક

શું ભારત વિશ્વનું "ચાયના પ્લસ બાંગ્લાદેશ પ્લસ વન" બની શકે?

કોટન ગુરુ
મનીષ ડાગા
email:cottonguru@gmail.com
Mob.:9820072705
www.cottonguru.org

All India Cotton Sowing				
As on 21-08-2026				
STATE	(Area in Lakh Hectare)			
	2026-27	2025-26	Change	
Punjab	0.850	1.190	-0.340	-28.57%
Haryana	3.110	3.940	-0.830	-21.07%
Rajasthan	5.380	6.280	-0.900	-14.33%
North India	**9.340**	**11.410**	**-2.070**	**-18.14%**
Gujarat	21.350	20.680	0.670	3.24%
Maharashtra	38.220	38.470	-0.250	-0.65%
Madhya Pradesh	5.840	5.560	0.280	5.04%
Central India	**65.410**	**64.710**	**0.700**	**1.08%**
Telangana	19.500	18.180	1.320	7.26%
Andra Pradesh	3.850	3.680	0.170	4.62%
Karnataka	7.760	7.810	-0.050	-0.64%
Tamil Nadu	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.00%
South Zone	**31.170**	**29.730**	**1.440**	**4.84%**
Orissa	2.330	2.350	-0.020	-0.85%
Uttar Pradesh	0.210	0.260	-0.050	-19.23%
All India	**108.460**	**108.460**	**0.000**	**0.00%**

Source :- Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (UPAg) - Government of India

સ્થિર વાવેતર વિસ્તાર રાહત આપે છે, પરંતુ ઓછી ઉત્પાદનક્ષમતા, જીવાતોનું દબાણ અને કાચા માલની સ્પર્ધાત્મકતા ભારતની ટેક્સટાઇલ મહત્ત્વાકાંક્ષા માટે સાચી કસોટી સાબિત થશે. ભારતનો કપાસ અને ટેક્સટાઇલ ઉદ્યોગ એક અત્યંત નિર્ણાયક તબક્કામાં પ્રવેશી રહ્યો છે. તાજેતરના વાવેતર આંકડા અનુસાર દેશનું કપાસ વાવેતર લગભગ ગયા વર્ષ જેટલું જ સ્થિર છે. ૨૧ ઓગસ્ટ ૨૦૨૬ સુધીમાં સમગ્ર ભારતમાં કપાસનું વાવેતર ૧૦૮.૪૬ લાખ હેક્ટર નોંધાયું છે, જે પાછલા વર્ષની સમાન અવધિ જેટલું જ છે.

જોકે, આ રાષ્ટ્રીય આંકડો એક મોટો પ્રાદેશિક ફેરફાર છુપાવે છે. ઉત્તર ભારતના પંજાબ, હરિયાણા અને રાજસ્થાનમાં વાવેતર ૧૮.૧૪ ટકા ઘટ્યું છે, જ્યારે બીજી તરફ ગુજરાતમાં ૩.૨૪ ટકા, તેલંગાણામાં ૭.૨૬ ટકા અને આંધ્ર પ્રદેશમાં ૪.૬૨ ટકાનો વધારો થયો છે. સમગ્ર સાઉથ ઝોનમાં વાવેતર ૪.૮૪ ટકા વધ્યું છે અને સેન્ટ્રલ ઇન્ડિયામાં પણ સામાન્ય સુધારો જોવા મળ્યો છે. આ સ્થિતિ દર્શાવે છે કે વાવેતર વિસ્તાર સમાન રહ્યો હોવા છતાં કપાસનો નકશો બદલાયો છે. હવે અંતિમ પાકનું પરિણામ માત્ર વાવેતર વિસ્તાર પર નહીં, પરંતુ પ્રતિ હેક્ટર ઉપજ, ગુલાબી ઈયળ જેવી જીવાતોના દબાણ, વરસાદના વિતરણ અને પાકની સ્થિતિ પર નિર્ભર રહેશે.

મુખ્ય સમસ્યા વાવેતર વિસ્તારની નહીં પરંતુ ઉત્પાદનક્ષમતાની છે. ભારત વિશ્વના સૌથી મોટા કપાસ ઉત્પાદક દેશોમાં સ્થાન ધરાવે છે, તેમ છતાં પ્રતિ હેક્ટર ઉપજની બાબતમાં તે ચીન, બ્રાઝિલ અને ઓસ્ટ્રેલિયાથી ઘણું પાછળ છે. ગુલાબી ઈયળ જેવી જીવાતો સતત ગંભીર પડકાર ઊભો કરી રહી છે અને ખેડૂતો સુધી આધુનિક બીજ, અદ્યતન ખેતી પદ્ધતિઓ, યાંત્રીકીકરણ (મિકેનાઇઝેશન) અને અસરકારક જીવાત નિયંત્રણ સાધનોની પહોંચ મર્યાદિત છે. બદલાતી જીવાતો સામે જૂની ટેકનોલોજી પર નિર્ભર રહેવાને બદલે ભારતે દરેક હેક્ટરમાંથી ઉચ્ચ ગુણવત્તાયુક્ત વધુ ઉત્પાદન મેળવવું પડશે.

સાથે સાથે, ભારતીય ટેક્સટાઇલ ક્ષેત્ર માટે વૈશ્વિક બજારમાં મોટી તકો સર્જાઈ રહી છે. વૈશ્વિક ખરીદદારો ચીન પર નિર્ભરતા ઘટાડવા માગે છે, જેનાથી 'ચાઇના પ્લસ વન' વ્યૂહરચના, ભૂરાજકીય જોખમો અને નવા વેપાર કરારો ભારતની નિકાસ વધારવામાં મદદરૂપ બની રહ્યા છે. બાંગ્લાદેશ પાસે મોટા પાયે ગાર્મેન્ટ ઉત્પાદન, ઓછો કન્વર્ઝન ખર્ચ અને મજબૂત ઇકોસિસ્ટમ છે, જ્યારે ચીન સ્કેલ, સ્પીડ અને ઇન્ટિગ્રેટેડ મેન્યુફેક્ચરિંગમાં આગળ છે. ભારત પાસે કપાસ ઉત્પાદનથી લઈને યાર્ન, ફેબ્રિક, પ્રોસેસિંગ અને ગાર્મેન્ટ નિકાસ સુધીની સંપૂર્ણ 'ફાર્મ-ટુ-ફેશન' વેલ્યુ ચેઇન ઉપલબ્ધ હોવાથી તે વિશ્વનું પસંદગીનું "ચાઇના પ્લસ બાંગ્લાદેશ પ્લસ વન" સોર્સિંગ ડેસ્ટિનેશન બનવાની વિશિષ્ટ ક્ષમતા ધરાવે છે.

વૈશ્વિક ખરીદદારોને આકર્ષવા માટે ભારતે સ્પર્ધાત્મક ભાવ, સ્થિર ગુણવત્તા, સમયસર સપ્લાય, કમ્પ્લાયન્સ, સસ્ટેનેબિલિટી અને મોટા પાયે ઉત્પાદન આપવું પડશે. આ માટે ઓછી કપાસ ઉપજ, ગુલાબી ઈયળનો ઉપદ્રવ, ફાઇબર ગુણવત્તામાં અસમાનતા, કન્ટેમિનેશન, ઊંચા લોજિસ્ટિક્સ અને ઊર્જા ખર્ચ, બાંગ્લાદેશની તુલનાએ ઓછો ગાર્મેન્ટ સ્કેલ, કપાસના ભાવમાં અસ્થિરતા અને ધીમું યાંત્રીકીકરણ જેવા પડકારો ઝડપથી ઉકેલવા અનિવાર્ય છે.

ભારતની વ્યૂહરચના ખેતરથી વૈશ્વિક બજાર સુધી સંકલિત હોવી જોઈએ. કપાસ ક્ષેત્રે ગુણવત્તાયુક્ત બીજ, આધુનિક પદ્ધતિઓ, જીવાત નિયંત્રણ, કન્ટેમિનેશનમાં ઘટાડો, મજબૂત એફપીઓ સપ્લાય ચેઇન અને ટ્રેસેબિલિટી સુનિશ્ચિત કરવી જરૂરી છે. ટેક્સટાઇલ ઉદ્યોગે એફપીઓ સાથે માત્ર ખરીદી પૂરતી નહીં પરંતુ લાંબા ગાળાની સોર્સિંગ અને ઉત્પાદકતા વધારવા ભાગીદારી કરવી પડશે. સાથોસાથ ગાર્મેન્ટ સ્કેલ વધારીને, સસ્ટેનેબિલિટીમાં રોકાણ કરીને અને મુક્ત વેપાર કરારોનો લાભ લઈને નવા બજારો મેળવવા પડશે. ભારત મજબૂત કપાસ ઉત્પાદક અને ગ્લોબલ મેન્યુફેક્ચરિંગ હબ બંને એકસાથે બનીને વૈશ્વિક સોર્સિંગ ક્ષેત્રે અગ્રેસર સ્થાન હાંસલ કરી શકે છે.

Vyapar – 26.08.2026

યાર્ન ક્ષેત્રે ત્રણ હજાર કરોડથી વધુનો વેપાર મળવાની સંભાવના

અમારા પ્રતિનિધિ તરફથી

સુરત, તા. ૨૫ ઑગસ્ટ

શહેરમાં આયોજીત યાર્ન પ્રદર્શન પૂર્ણ થતાં આગામી છ મહિનામાં પ્રદર્શનમાં ભાગ લેનાર અને યાર્ન ઉત્પાદક કંપનીઓને રૂા. ત્રણ હજાર કરોથી વધુનો વેપાર મેળવાની સંભાવના છે. ત્રણ દિવસમાં ઘરઆંગણાના અને વિદેશોના મળીને કુલ ૨૫૮૦૦થી વધુ ખરીદદારોએ યાર્ન પ્રદર્શનની મુલાકાત લીધી હતી.

દક્ષિણ ગુજરાત ચેમ્બર તથા ગ્લોબલ ફેબ્રિક રિસોર્સ એન્ડ રિસર્ચ સેન્ટરના સંયુક્ત ઉપક્રમે સરસાણા ખાતે ત્રણ દિવસનો યાર્ન એક્સપો-૨૦૨૬ યોજાયો હતો.

ચેમ્બર ઓફ કોમર્સના પ્રમુખ અશોક જીરાવાલાએ જણાવ્યું હતું કે, પ્રદર્શનમાં ટેન્સેલ, ક્તાન, એન સિલ્ક, લાયોસેલ, ઝીંક લિનન, કાર્બન ફાઇબર, મોઇશ્ચર મેનેજમેન્ટ, બાયો-ડીગ્રેડેબલ, હેમ્પ યાર્ન, એન્ટી માઇક્રોબાયલ યાર્ન, ડોપ ડાઇડ, સિરો પોલિએસ્ટર, મિલાન્જ, કેટોનિક, એન્ટી બેક્ટેરિયલ યાર્ન સહિતના વિશિષ્ટ ઉત્પાદનો પ્રદર્શિત કરાયા હતા.

યાર્ન એક્સપોના ચેરમેન ગિરધરગોપાલ મુંદડા પ્રદર્શનમાં રજૂ થયેલી નવીનતમ પ્રોડક્ટ્સ અંગે વિગતો આપતાં જણાવ્યું હતું કે મિકેનિકલ સ્ટ્રેચ યાર્નમાં સ્પેન્ડેક્સ કે ઇલાસ્ટેનનો ઉપયોગ કર્યા વગર ક્રિમ્પિગ, ખાસ ટેક્સચર અને વિશિષ્ટ સ્ટ્રક્ચર દ્વારા સ્ટ્રેચ તથા રિકવરી ઇફેક્ટ આપવામાં આવે છે. ડેનિમ, સ્પોર્ટ્સવેર, લેડીઝ ગારમેન્ટ્સ અને કેઝ્યુઅલ વેરમાં વપરાતું આ એક મહત્વપૂર્ણ વેલ્યુ-એડેડ યાર્ન છે. કોટન લાઇક યાર્નમાં સ્પેશિયલ ક્રોસ-સેક્શન, ફાઇન ફિલામેન્ટ્સ અને ટેક્સચરિંગ પ્રોસેસ દ્વારા આ પોલિએસ્ટર યાર્નને કોટન જેવો સોફ્ટ ફીલ, મેટ લુક અને મોઇશ્ચર મેનેજમેન્ટ અપાય છે. જેથી પોલિએસ્ટરની મજબૂતી સાથે કોટન જેવું કમ્ફર્ટ અને લુક એકસાથે મળે છે.

સસ્ટેનેબલ યાર્ન સુરતમાં પ્રથમ વાર રજૂ થયા

પ્રદર્શનમાં સસ્ટેનેબલ (પર્યાવરણ-અનુકૂળ) યાર્નની વિશાળ શ્રેણી રજૂ કરવામાં આવી હતી. જેમાંની ઘણી વેરાઇટી તાજેતરમાં જ ઘરઆંગણે લોન્ચ થઈ છે અને સુરતમાં તે પહેલી વાર પ્રદર્શિત થઈ હતી. જેમ કે દેખાવમાં કોટન જેવું પણ અનુભૂતિમાં અત્યંત મુલાયમ અને ડેનિમમાં સૌથી વધુ વપરાતું ટેન્સેલ મુખ્ય આકર્ષણ રહ્યું હતું. આ ઉપરાંત જેન-ઝીની ચોઇસ મુજબનું ફાસ્ટ ફેશન ફેબ્રિક યાર્ન, લાકડાંને બદલે ગ્રાસ(ઘાસ)માંથી બનતું સસ્ટેનેબલ યાર્ન તેમજ જૂનાં કપડાંમાંથી રી-પ્રોસેસ કરીને તૈયાર કરાયેલું રિસાયકલ્ડ યાર્ન ભારે ચર્ચામાં રહ્યું હતું.

Vyapar – 26.08.2026

તહેવારો નજીક આવતાં મંડપના કાપડની માગ નીકળી : ભાવમાં ૨૦ ટકાનો ઉછાળો

ચાલુ સપ્તાહથી ડેકોરેશનના કાપડની ઘરાકીમાં સુધારો

અમારા પ્રતિનિધિ તરફથી

સુરત, તા. ૨૫ ઓગસ્ટ

તહેવારોની રોનક શરૂ થઈ છે. ગણેશ ચતુર્થીને હજુ થોડો સમય બાકી છે પણ પંડાલો સજાવટનું કામ શરૂ ચૂક્યું છે. જેના કારણે બજારમાં મંડપના કાપડની માગ નીકળી છે. ભાવમાં પણ ઉછાળો છે. કાચામાલના ભાવવધારાને કારણે તૈયાર કાપડમાં વધારો થયો હોવાનું કહેવાય છે. દરેક પ્રકારના કાપડની વેરાયટીમાં ૧૫ થી ૨૦ ટકાનો ઉછાળો આવ્યો હોવાનું વેપારીઓ જણાવી રહ્યા છે. સુરત મંડપ કાપડ એસોસિએશનના દેવકુમાર સંચેતી કહે છે કે, શહેરમાં મંડપના કાપડના વેપાર સાથે ૨૫૦થી ૩૦૦ જેટલા વેપારીઓ સંકળાયેલા છે. ગણેશ ઉત્સવ નજીક છે બહારગામના વેપારીઓની બજારમાં હાજરી જોવા મળી રહી છે. યુદ્ધને કારણે યાર્નના ભાવોમાં વધારો થતા મંડપના કાપડના ભાવમાં ૧૫ થી ૨૦ ટકાનો વધારો થયો છે.

દેવકુમાર વધુમાં ઉમેરે છે કે મંડપના કાપડમાં સૌથી વધુ લાયક્રા કાપડની માગ રહેતી હોય છે. આ સિવાય વેલ્વેટ, પ્રિન્ટેડ, ફર, ટિકલી જેવા કાપડની માગ છે. મંડપનુ કાપડ રૂ. ૧૩ થી લઈને રૂ.૩૦૦ થી વધુના ભાવનુ મીટર દીઠ મળે છે. આ વર્ષે નાની હાઈટ વાળા તૈયાર મંડપની સાથે એલઈડીવાળી ઝાલરની ભારે ડિમાન્ડ નીકળી છે જે ૫૦ ફૂટની સાઈઝવાળી એલઈડીવાળી ઝાલર રૂ. ૨ હજારના ભાવે મળી રહે છે.

મંડપના કાપડના વેપાર સાથે સંકળાયેલા રાકેશભાઈ લુકર કહે છે કે, ગણેશ ઉત્સવ નજીક આવી રહ્યો છે ત્યારે ગ્રાહકી સુધરી છે. મંડપના કાપડમાં રોટો, લાઈક્રા, વેલ્વેટ, પ્રિન્ટેડકાપડોની માગ રહેતી હોય છે. જે સામાન્ય રીતે રૂ. ૧૩ થી લઈ રૂ. ૩૦૦ સુધી મીટર દીઠ મળી રહે છે. ગ્રાહકો મંડપના કાપડની સાથે સાથે મૂર્તિ ડેકોરેશનના કાપડની પણ માગ કરતા હોય છે. આ માટે હાલમાં વેલ્વેટના કાપડની સૌથી વધુમા માગ જોવા મળી રહી છે. આ ઉપરાંત હાલમાં લોકો ધીમે ધીમે મંડપોમાં ડિજિટલ પ્રિન્ટ વાળા કાપડનો વધુ ઉપયોગ કરી કરી રહ્યા છે.