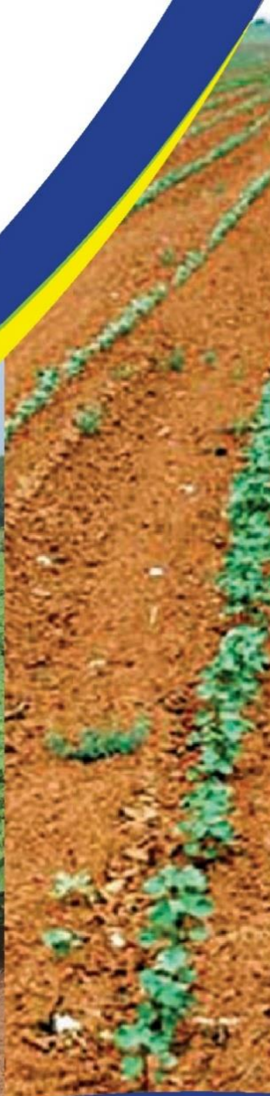
COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Established 1921

ISO 9001:2015



News Relating to
Cotton and Textile Sector

Date-30-07-2026

COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

(Regd. Office : Cotton Exchange Building, 2nd Floor, Cotton Green (E), Mumbai 400 033)
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Mumbai, Thursday 30th July 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	14763	52500	(-500)
2	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	15%	20	12879	45800	(N.C.)
3	M/M(P)	ICS-104	Fine	23mm	4.5 - 7.0	4%	22	15325	54500	(-500)
4	P / H / R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	26	17013	60500	(-400)
5	M/M(P) /SA/TL/GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 – 3.4	4%	25	15466	55000	(N.C.)
6	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	3.5%	26	17069	60700	(N.C.)
7	P/ H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	27	17716	63000	(-400)
8	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	18503	65800	(N.C.)
9	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	18390	65400	(N.C.)
10	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	18447	65600	(N.C.)
11	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	4.0%	27	17716	63000	(-400)
12	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	28	18419	65500	(-500)
13	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	18784	66800	(N.C.)
14	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	18615	66200	(N.C.)
15	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	18728	66600	(+100)
16	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	19009	67600	(N.C.)
17	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	18925	67300	(N.C.)
18	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	30	N.A.	N.A.	
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	24267	86300	(N.C.)
22	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	24464	87000	(N.C.)
23	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	25027	89000	(N.C.)
24	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	25167	89500	(+500)

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: 29-07-2026

ICE COTTON CLOSE					29 Jul 2026	
CONTRACT MONTH	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHANGE	Op. Int.
Cotton (CT) - Quote: Cents/Pound - Contract Size: 50,000 Pounds.						
Oct-26	79.44	79.44	77.86	78.02	▼1.19	141
Dec-26	80.72	80.85	79.20	79.53	▼1.00	1,96,683
Mar-27	82.06	82.38	80.77	81.14	▼0.97	64,828
May-27	83.20	83.46	81.89	82.28	▼0.96	24,146
Jul-27	83.22	83.34	81.88	82.15	▼1.01	14,501
Oct-27	0.00	79.13	79.13	79.13	▼0.62	9
Dec-27	77.50	77.50	76.77	76.83	▼0.67	23,018

Cotlook Index: 29-07-2026

89.75 (-0.35)

India's cotton imports to surge 3.5-fold, output revised up: CAI
Thu. 30th July 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com/news)

Insights
The Cotton Association of India (CAI) has raised its 2025-26 cotton crop estimate to 337 lakh bales and increased domestic consumption to 348 lakh bales.
Cotton imports are now projected to surge 362 per cent to 60 lakh bales, while exports are expected to decline to 15 lakh bales.
Closing stocks are estimated at 89.59 lakh bales, significantly higher than last season.

The Cotton Association of India (CAI) has forecasted cotton imports to rise 362 per cent in current season. It has also marginally raised its estimate for India's 2025-26 cotton pressing to 337 lakh bales (170 kg each), up by 3 lakh bales from its previous projection of 334 lakh bales. India’s cotton crop marketing season 2025-26 will end on September 30, 2026.

The industry body also increased its domestic cotton consumption estimate by 10 lakh bales to 348 lakh bales for the current crop year, based on revised projections from the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI). The estimate is 29 lakh bales higher than the previous season's consumption.

CAI sharply raised its cotton import forecast by 13 lakh bales to 60 lakh bales, citing stronger arrivals. Imports during the season are now expected to exceed the previous year's level by 19 lakh bales, with around 51 lakh bales estimated to have reached Indian ports by the end of June.

In contrast, the association lowered its export estimate by 3 lakh bales to 15 lakh bales for the 2025-26 season, below last year's 18 lakh bales. Cotton exports up to the end of June were estimated at 11.25 lakh bales.

Total cotton supply for the season has been estimated at 452.59 lakh bales, comprising opening stocks of 55.59 lakh bales, domestic production of 337 lakh bales and imports of 60 lakh bales. The opening stock was revised downward by 5 lakh bales, following a stock reconciliation exercise, with a corresponding upward revision in domestic consumption for the 2024-25 season.

The available surplus at the end of the season is projected at 104.59 lakh bales, compared with 73.59 lakh bales, a year earlier. Closing stocks as of September 30, 2026, are now estimated at 89.59 lakh bales, 4 lakh bales higher than the previous estimate, and 34 lakh bales above the closing stock, recorded at the end of the 2024-25 season.

ICE cotton falls further as broader commodity weakness weighs

Thu. 30th July 2026, (Source: www.fibre2fashion.com/news)

Insights
ICE cotton futures fell for a second straight session, with the December 2026 contract slipping below the key 80-cent level as broad commodity weakness, a stronger US dollar and profit-taking outweighed supportive cotton fundamentals.
Strong Chinese demand and tight ICE stocks remained supportive, but thin trading and macroeconomic concerns kept prices under pressure.

ICE cotton futures further declined on second consecutive day yesterday, because broad commodity weakness outweighed cotton's supportive fundamentals. All the actively traded contracts finished lower and December contract slipped back, below the key 80 cents psychological level. There was no major cotton specific bearish news, but stronger US dollar dampened sentiment in US cotton.

The most active December 2026 contract settled at 79.53 cents, down 1.0 cent or 1.24 per cent. The contract recorded weekly decline of 45 points, giving back Monday's recovery.

The decline was primarily driven by broad risk-off sentiment, profit-taking after recent gains, and a stronger US Dollar. The US Dollar Index remained near a one-month high following the Federal Reserve meeting, reducing the competitiveness of US cotton exports and adding pressure to prices.

Market analysts said cotton continues to trade within a broad 80-82 cent range, but repeated failures to break above this level have encouraged selling as investors reduce risk ahead of the Federal Reserve's policy decision.

Cotton's supportive fundamentals, including strong Chinese reserve demand and tight ICE certified stocks, remained intact but were overshadowed by weakness across the broader commodity markets.

Trading volume fell to just 27,393 contracts, the lowest daily volume of 2026, compared with 34,619 contracts on Tuesday, reflecting extremely light summer participation and limited conviction from both buyers and sellers. Daily trading limits will reset to 300 points for the next trading session.

Technically, December futures closed back below the 80 cents level and fell below the 10-day moving average, after holding above all major moving averages for the previous six sessions, representing the first meaningful deterioration in short-term momentum.

China's State Reserve Auctions continued to record 100 per cent sellouts, confirming steady mill demand, and continued support for nearby physical cotton, despite futures weakness.

ICE Certified Stocks remain historically tight, keeping the underlying supply outlook supportive even as outside markets dictate short-term price direction.

Weather concerns in key producing regions continue to be monitored, although improved crop prospects and expectations of higher arrivals later in the season, have eased immediate supply concerns. Overall, cotton traded as a macro-driven commodity rather than on its own fundamentals. Strong Chinese demand, tight certified stocks and supportive supply conditions remain constructive, but broad commodity weakness, a firmer US Dollar, profit-taking, and extremely light trading volume pulled prices back below 80 cents. The next major catalysts remain the Federal Reserve's guidance, US dollar movement, weather developments and whether prices can quickly reclaim the 80-cent level.

This morning (Indian Standard Time), ICE cotton for December 2026 was traded at 79.69 cents per pound (up 0.16 cent), cash cotton at 74.27 cents (down 1.19 cent), the October 2026 at 78.02 cents (down 1.19 cent), the March 2027 contract at 81.19 cents (up 0.05 cent), the May 2027 contract at 82.25 cents (down 0.03 cent), and the July 2027 contract at 82.14 cents (down 0.01 cent). A few contracts remained at their previous closing levels, with no trading recorded so far today.

Scanty Rainfall Puts Cotton and Soybean Crops Under Stress in Maharashtra's Paranda

Thu. 30th July 2026, Jayesh Chouhan (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

Maharashtra: Cotton and soybean crops in crisis due to scanty rainfall in Paranda. Paranda, Maharashtra: Cotton and soybean farmers in Paranda taluka are facing increasing concerns due to insufficient rainfall during the critical Kharif season. The low water availability in the Sina-Kolegaon project has increased dependence on monsoon rains, creating uncertainty over crop development and production.

Farmers who sowed cotton and soybean crops at the beginning of the season are now reporting slow growth due to moisture stress. In several areas, soybean crops have started turning yellow, while cotton crops are also showing signs of stress because of inadequate rainfall. If substantial rainfall does not occur in the coming days, farmers fear a decline in cotton and soybean yields. Many growers have already invested heavily in seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides, and a weak crop season could increase financial pressure.

The limited water storage in the Sina-Kolegaon project has further increased concerns, as irrigation availability remains restricted. Cotton and soybean cultivation in the region is now largely dependent on timely monsoon rainfall.

Market participants are closely monitoring the situation, as any reduction in cotton and soybean production could affect supply and influence prices. The next few weeks of rainfall activity will be crucial for crop recovery and the final Kharif output outlook.

US Cotton Crisis Deepens as Brazil Overtakes Export Market

Thu. 30th July 2026, Jayesh Chouhan (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

US Cotton Crisis Deepens as Brazil Captures Export Customers

The financial crisis facing US cotton extends beyond merely weak agricultural prices; Brazil is attracting export customers who may never return. Bob Antoshak, Managing Partner at Gherzi USA, notes that the industry's long-term viability is threatened by projected producer losses and declining demand.

According to American Farm Bureau estimates, cotton production could incur losses of $342 per acre in 2026 and $406 per acre in 2027, potentially totaling around $3.8 billion. Six consecutive years of negative returns will strain farmers' working capital and likely increase reliance on operating loans.

The greatest threat lies in the reliance on exports. USDA projections indicate the US will export 12.3 million bales of cotton, while domestic mill consumption is expected to remain at just 1.6 million bales. Conversely, Brazil is poised to export approximately 15 million bales, driven by increased production, superior traceability, quality testing, financing options, and strong relationships with mills.

Global cotton demand remains sluggish due to polyester's growing market share and low profit margins at foreign spinning mills. Once mills accept the quality of Brazilian cotton and adjust their production processes accordingly, temporary trade agreements alone will not suffice to win back US business.

While emergency payments may offer some relief to farmers and the agricultural sector, they will not recover lost customers. The industry must focus on export incentives, buyer financing, quality consistency, traceability, and strengthening textile production capacity within the Western Hemisphere.

Telangana Kharif Sowing Nears Completion; Cotton Covers 46.34 Lakh Acres

Thu. 30th July 2026, Jayesh Chouhan (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

Telangana Kharif Sowing Update | July 29, 2026

Cotton: Cotton sowing has reached 46.34 lakh acres, representing 97.72% of the normal sown area. It has thus emerged as one of Telangana's key Kharif crops this season.

Oilseeds: Total oilseed sowing has covered 37.18 lakh acres, which is 83.07% of the normal area. Soybean remains the primary oilseed crop; it has been sown across 36.65 lakh acres, accounting for 87.97% of its normal coverage.

Weather Update: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast light to moderate rainfall and isolated thunderstorms in parts of Telangana over the next few days. This rainfall is expected to aid the remaining Kharif sowing operations and boost soil moisture levels. Additionally, farmers are advised to ensure proper drainage arrangements in low-lying fields to prevent issues related to waterlogging.

US Senate Advances Russia Sanctions Bill; India May Face 100% Tariffs

Thu. 30th July 2026, Jayesh Chouhan (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

US Senate Clears Russia Sanctions Bill, India Could Face 100% Tariffs

The US Senate has moved a step closer to imposing tougher sanctions on Russia, with potential consequences for India. On Tuesday, senators voted 86-12 to advance a bipartisan bill that would give President Donald Trump broad powers to target Russia's energy trade and countries buying its oil and gas.

The proposed legislation would allow the US president to impose a 500% tariff on Russian imports and an additional 100% tariff on the world's five largest buyers of Russian crude and natural gas, as well as countries helping Moscow evade energy sanctions. India and China, among Russia's biggest energy customers, could be affected if the bill becomes law.

The measure also extends the Iran Sanctions Act until 2031 and allows the president to waive sanctions if deemed in US national interest. While the Senate could pass the bill later this week, it is unlikely to become law before September as the House is in August recess.

Trump has backed the proposal and met Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy before the vote. Zelenskyy urged US lawmakers to maintain sanctions pressure on Moscow, calling it "a big signal to Europe and Ukraine." Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer said the bill would send a strong message to Russian President Vladimir Putin, though some lawmakers cautioned it would significantly expand the president's tariff powers. If enacted, the legislation could reshape global energy trade and impact India's imports of discounted Russian crude.

India Cotton Stocks Rise as 2025-26 Closing Inventory Seen at 89.59 Lakh Bales

Thu. 30th July 2026, Jayesh Chouhan (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

A SUMMARISE REPORT ON PRESENT COTTON SCENARIO (POSITION AS ON 30/06/2026) (Each bale170 kgs.)

▪Total pressing estimate during crop year 2025-2026 is estimated as 337.80 lakh bales & considering above , the closing stock at the end of season 25-26 ,september 30th 2026 is calculated as 89.59 lakh bales , higher by 34.00 lakh bales of last year closing.

▪Cotton consumption in this cotton season may touch 348.00 lakh bales and upto 30-06-2026 about 261.00 lakh bales reported as consumed.

▪Export upto June-2026 end is found total 15.00 lakh bales against estimation for this season year of 18.00 lakh bales .Upto 30-June-2026 about 11.25 lakh bales are estimated to have been shipped by the country.

▪It is revealed that during current crop end total 60.00 lakh bales may be imported. Upto June-2026 about 51.00 lakh bales have been arrived at different indian ports.

▪Kepping in view the above , total available stock as on 30.06.2026 is calculated to the tune 434.97 lakh bales, consisting of opening stock, total pressing & import.

▪As on 30-June-2026 closing stock is estimated at 162.72 lakh bales out of which stock with the mills is found to the tune of 94.50 lakh bales where as with CCI/MFED MNCS, Ginner , Treaders and Exporters it comes around 68.22 lakh bales.

India–Mali Textile Partnership Gains Momentum as Bilateral Trade Surges 55%
Thu. 30th July 2026, Jayesh Chouhan (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

India–Mali Textile Partnership Strengthens as Bilateral Trade Jumps 55%

India and Mali are accelerating cooperation in cotton, textiles and manufacturing as rapidly expanding trade paves the way for long-term investment partnerships. The inaugural India–Mali Forum for the Promotion of Exports in Bamako highlighted opportunities across textiles, mining, energy, pharmaceuticals and infrastructure.

Bilateral trade reached US$326.61 million in FY 2025–26, marking a robust 55% year-on-year increase. The forum brought together senior government officials and nearly 30 Indian business leaders to identify new commercial opportunities through B2B, B2G and government-level engagements.

For the textile sector, Mali's position as one of Africa's largest cotton producers presents a significant opportunity. The country produces 600,000–700,000 tonnes of cotton lint in strong crop years but exports most of it as raw material. With plans to expand domestic spinning, weaving, processing and garment manufacturing, Mali is seeking partners that can help build an integrated textile value chain.

Indian companies, with strengths in cotton processing, spinning, textile machinery, fabrics, apparel manufacturing and sustainable production technologies, are well placed to support this transformation. Mali's import-dependent textile and apparel market, estimated at US$200–300 million annually, also offers scope for increased exports of fabrics, garments, home textiles and machinery.

The forum identified textiles and cotton among the priority sectors for collaboration, alongside renewable energy, mining, agro-industry and healthcare. Discussions focused on translating business interest into commercial partnerships and MoUs. Mali will further showcase investment opportunities at its Investment Forum on 3–4 December 2026, reinforcing its ambition to develop a value-added textile manufacturing ecosystem with India as a key partner.

Kasturi Cotton Drives Sustainable Growth
Wed. 29th July 2026, Jayesh Chouhan (Source: www.smartinfoindia.com)

Kasturi Cotton: India's Sustainable Answer to Global Apparel

As the world's second-largest exporter of cotton—a key raw material for the global apparel industry—India is increasingly focusing on sustainable cotton cultivation. Leading this effort is the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL), which, in collaboration with the Government of India, is promoting Kasturi Cotton, a premium cotton brand produced through sustainable and traceable farming practices.

Kasturi Cotton is the first joint initiative of its kind by the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, in partnership with textile trade bodies and industry stakeholders. The initiative aims to establish "Kasturi Cotton" as a premium global brand while enhancing the value and competitiveness of cotton grown in India.

Speaking to Fibre2Fashion during Bharat Tex, Jayesh Kakkad, Deputy Director of Marketing at TEXPROCIL, said the Kasturi Cotton Bharat initiative is built on three core pillars: quality, traceability, and sustainability.

"Quality is ensured through standardised specifications, while farm-level traceability is enabled through a blockchain-based platform called KCTrack. On the sustainability front, we collaborate with organisations such as Better Cotton, Regenagri, CottonConnect, and CITI-CDRA's Cotton Cluster Verification and Rating (CTCVR) programme," Kakkad said.

He added that cotton grown under recognised sustainable farming programmes can be certified as Kasturi Cotton, provided it meets the brand's quality specifications and standards. Such cotton is awarded dual recognition—certified both as Kasturi Cotton and under the respective sustainable cotton standard—reinforcing India's commitment to producing high-quality, responsibly sourced cotton for global markets.

Union Minister Shri Giriraj Singh to Inaugurate Centre of Excellence for Handloom Technology at IIT Delhi on 3 August
Thu. 30th July 2026, Jayesh Chouhan (Source:www.pib.gov.in)

Centre of Excellence to Strengthen India's Handloom Sector through Research, Innovation and Digital Technologies and to boost Competitiveness, Sustainability and Global Outreach of India's Handloom Sector

In a major step towards building a technology-driven, future-ready handloom ecosystem, the Union Minister of Textiles Shri Giriraj Singh will inaugurate the Centre of Excellence for Handloom Technology (CoE-HT) at IIT Delhi on 3 August 2026. Union Minister of State for Textiles Shri

Pabitra Margherita, Secretary Textiles, Smt. Neelam Shami Rao, Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Dr. M. Beena will also grace the inauguration ceremony along with senior officials from Ministry of Textiles and IIT Delhi.
The Centre of Excellence established with a Government of India investment of ₹11.99 crore, aims to integrate India's rich handloom heritage with cutting-edge research, innovation and digital technologies to strengthen the sector's competitiveness, sustainability and global outreach. This centre will serve as a national knowledge and innovation hub, bringing together academia, industry, designers, technologists, startups and handloom institutions to develop advanced solutions for the handloom sector. Its focus areas include loom modernization and ergonomics, artificial intelligence, sustainability, functional innovation, digital knowledge systems and entrepreneurship.
Over the next five years, the Centre will develop a national digital repository of handloom knowledge, create AI-enabled tools, develop improved loom technologies, facilitate patents and research, incubate startups, and train weavers, faculty members and handloom professionals across the country.
The launch of the Centre of Excellence for Handloom Technology marks a significant milestone in the Government's efforts to modernize the handloom sector while preserving India's rich weaving traditions. By fostering research, innovation and entrepreneurship, the Centre is expected to create a robust ecosystem that empowers weavers, enhances productivity, promotes sustainable practices and positions Indian handloom for emerging domestic and global opportunities.
India's handloom sector supports more than 35 lakh weavers and allied workers, with women constituting nearly 70 per cent of the workforce. While preserving centuries-old weaving traditions, the sector also faces challenges relating to productivity, technology adoption, traceability, authenticity, sustainability and market competitiveness. The Centre has been conceived to address these challenges through research, innovation, capacity building and technology transfer.
The inaugural programme will also witness the launch of five flagship initiatives that showcase the Centre's vision of combining tradition with technology:

- Handloom 4.0 – a digital companion for every loom, enabling weavers to assess productivity & sustainability, helping cooperatives and government agencies to deliver timely last-mile assistance.

- Handloom e-Vidya, a problem-linked digital learning and knowledge hub that provides practical, curated solutions for weavers, students and other key stakeholders in the handloom ecosystem.

- HandloomX, an accelerator and incubation platform to nurture startups and innovations across the handloom value chain.

- Kalagriha Handloom Studio (GenZ Design Studio), aimed at connecting handloom with next-generation consumers through digital visualization, customization and product authentication.
- Threads of Valour, an initiative promoting circularity by transforming recycled defence textiles into premium handloom products.

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businessline – 30.07.2026

Cotton imports likely to rise to a record 60 lakh bales

Vishwanath Kulkarni
Bengaluru

Trade body Cotton Association of India (CAI) has raised the import projections of the fibre crop for the 2025-26 season ending September by 13 lakh bales to a new high of 60 lakh bales (of 170 kg each). This is in view of the consuming sector, taking advantage of the 11 per cent duty exemption, making record overseas purchases. Earlier, the trade body projected the imports at 47 lakh bales for the year.

The CAI, which released the latest pressing estimate on Wednesday, said cotton imports during 2025-26 will be higher by 19 lakh bales over the previous year.

Till end-June, about 51 lakh bales are estimated to have arrived at the Indian ports, said Vinay N Kotak, President, CAI, and Atul S Ganatra, Chairman, CAI Crop Committee, in a statement.

CAI reduced the export estimate for the 2025-26 season by 3 lakh bales to 15 lakh bales from its earlier projections of 18 lakh bales

Currently, the cotton imports are duty-free for the June-October period. Ganatra said another 10-15 lakh bales of imports are expected by September-end. Mills are importing more and don't want to miss out on the 11 per cent duty-free advantage, he said.

While projecting higher imports, CAI reduced the export estimate for the 2025-26 season by 3 lakh bales to 15 lakh bales from its earlier projections of 18 lakh bales. Last year, cotton exports were 18 lakh bales. Till the end of June in the current season to September 30, about 11.25 lakh bales have been shipped in. Based on the arrivals, CAI has raised the pressing estimate by 3 lakh bales to 337 lakh bales of 170 kg each.

CONSUMPTION UP

Based on the report of the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI), CAI has increased India's total cotton consumption during 2025-26 by 10 lakh bales to 348 lakh bale, from the earlier estimate of 338 lakh bales. Till June 30, the consumption was estimated at 261 lakh bales.

CAI estimates the total cotton supply for the 2025-26 season at 452.59 lakh bales against 393.59 lakh bales last year. Total supply for 2025-26 comprises an opening stock of 55.59 lakh bales, pressing of 337 lakh bales and imports of 60 lakh bales. The opening stock has been cut by 5 lakh bales following the decision to reconcile stock with a corresponding increase in consumption for the 2024-25 season.

businessline – 30.07.2026

Textiles Ministry weighs parity for exporters as rivals gain US tariff quota relief

Amiti Sen
New Delhi

TRADE PUSH

- The Ministry has begun internal consultations on gaining a level-playing field in the US
- It is awaiting details of the tariff-rate quota measures announced under Section 301 forced labour regime

The Textiles Ministry has begun internal discussions on how to deal with the tariff-rate quota (TRQ) concessions proposed by the US for competing textile and apparel exporters, including Bangladesh, Indonesia and Malaysia, under its new Section 301 forced labour regime, with one of the options being to seek a similar dispensation for Indian exporters, sources said.

Officials said that Indian exporters were likely to be able to meet the proposed sourcing requirements linked to US-origin textile inputs, just as competing countries would, and pricing should not be an issue of concern. "The Ministry is waiting for Washington to release the operational details of the TRQ framework and is likely to discuss the matter with the Commerce Department. The issue can be taken up with the US either as a separate bilateral engagement or as part of the ongoing India-US Bilateral Trade Agreement negotiations," the source said.

PENAL DUTIES

On July 23, the Office of the United States Trade Representative announced penal duties on imports from 60 economies, including India, following its Section 301 investigations into forced labour practices. These replaced the global 10 per cent tariffs under Section 122 that lapsed on July 24.

While India, the UK, Canada, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia and 13 other economies were subjected to a 10 per cent additional tariff, 41 others, including China, Turkey, Vietnam and Brazil were hit with a higher 12.5 per cent duty.

However, the USTR also introduced TRQs for specified imports of textiles and apparel made from US-origin cotton or fibres from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia and Malaysia, allowing limited quantities to enter at lower duty rates.

"Indian exporters have expressed concern that the absence of a similar arrangement for India could erode their competitiveness in the US market, particularly in product segments where the beneficiary countries compete directly with Indian manufacturers. Some have said that securing a comparable carve-out should be a priority in discussions with the US to prevent any loss of market share," the source said. According to sources, the Textiles Ministry believes meeting the eligibility conditions linked to the use of US-origin textile inputs should not pose a major challenge for Indian exporters.

"Since the competing countries benefiting from the proposed carve-out would also be required to comply with the same sourcing criteria, Indian exporters are not expected to face any cost disadvantage on account of input requirements," the source added.

businessline – 30.07.2026

India's exports in April-July likely to grow 15%, says Piyush Goyal

Amiti Sen
New Delhi

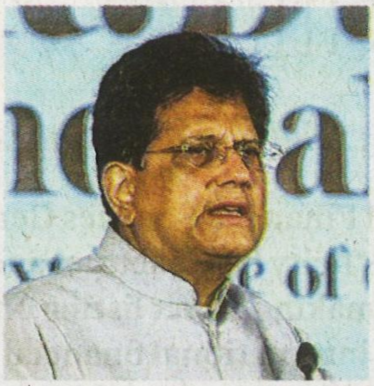
Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has said that India's goods exports were growing robustly, and shipments in April-July 2026 were expected to post a growth of about 15 per cent over the comparable period last year.

On the India-US trade talks that slowed down after the US reciprocal tariffs were invalidated by the country's Supreme Court, the Minister said it would come into operation as soon as the US ensured comparative advantage for India over Asean countries and some other neighbours.

TRADE NUMBERS

Speaking at an event organised by Assocham on Wednesday, Goyal said that the latest trade numbers suggested a 15 per cent growth in goods exports in April-July 2026 (year on year).

This would mean that exports in April-June could be around $170 billion, with shipments in July 2026 likely at about $40 billion.



Union Minister Piyush Goyal speaking at the 22nd JRD Tata Memorial Lecture PTI

"I expect this momentum to continue as we implement FTAs with more economies," Goyal told reporters.

Per the latest Commerce Department data shared earlier this month, goods exports in April-June 2026 posted 15.92 per cent year on year growth to $129.32 billion.

On the India-US trade pact, Goyal reiterated the government's stand.

"I had categorically expressed confidence that what was finalised with the US as first tranche of the BTA (in early February 2026) will come into operation as soon as US is able to ensure we get comparative advantage over countries in the neighbourhood and Asean region" he said.

SECTION 301

The Minister said that India had participated in the Section 301 probes initiated by the US against the country and some others.

While tariffs had been imposed in the case of one probe, the result of the other one was awaited.

"As long we have comparative advantage on comparable duties, will continue to leverage US opportunity," he said.

Responding to questions on the US bipartisan Bill seeking to impose more restrictions on major buyers of Russian energy, which could include India, the Minister said he would not comment on speculation.

businessline – 30.07.2026

Deep depression to unleash rain over M.P., Gujarat, Maharashtra

Vinson Kurian
Thiruvananthapuram

A rare deep depression over Central India is dragging a vast swathe of heavy to very heavy rainfall westwards, with the potential to unleash extremely heavy downpours over parts of Madhya Pradesh before moving into an already waterlogged eastern Gujarat and adjoining Maharashtra through the weekend.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has warned of heavy to very heavy rainfall, with isolated spells of extremely heavy rain over West Madhya Pradesh on Thursday, after issuing a similar alert for Vidarbha and Chhattisgarh on Wednesday. Isolated heavy rainfall is also forecast over parts of North-West India.

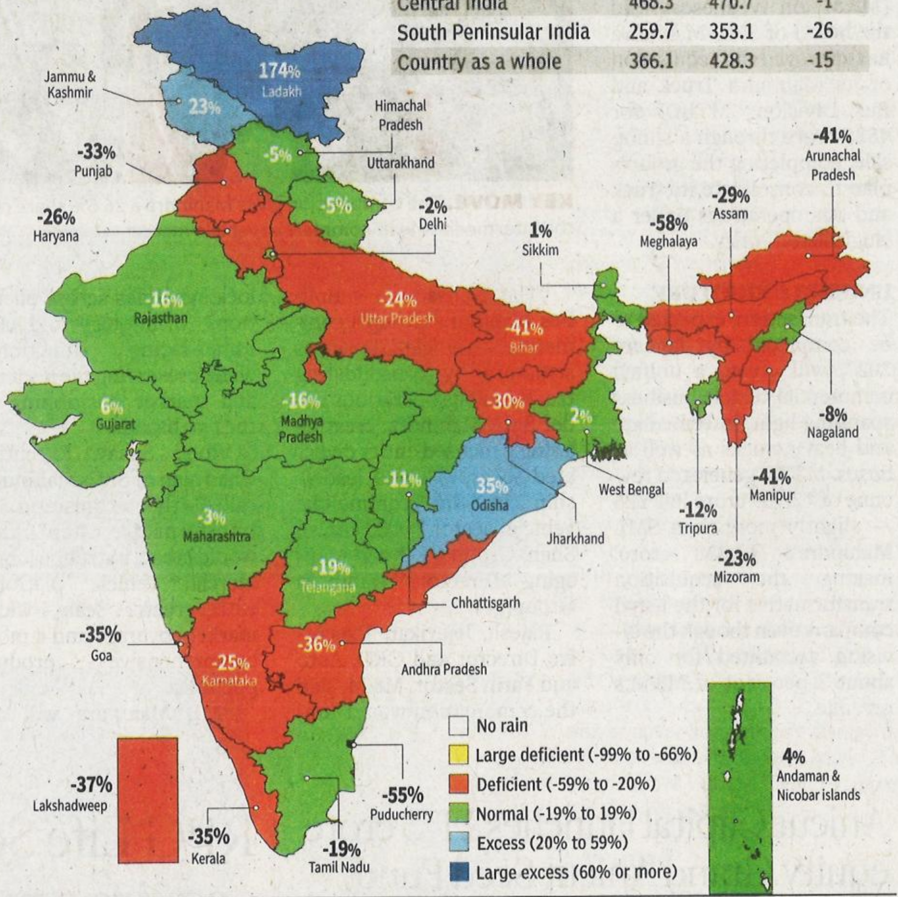
Shrinking deficit

Cumulative rainfall in 738 districts, per data received (June 1 to July 29)

Large excess: **4%**	Deficient: **45%**
Excess: **9%**	Large deficient: **7%**
Normal: **34%**	No rain: **1%**

Rainfall (in mm) up to July 29

Region	Actual	Normal	% departure from LPA
East & N-E India	511.1	729.9	-30
N-W India	247.2	273.7	-10
Central India	468.3	470.7	-1
South Peninsular India	259.7	353.1	-26
Country as a whole	366.1	428.3	-15



Source: IMD Cumulative rainfall from June 1 to July 22, 2026

GUJARAT AGAIN

As the system advances west, the focus shifts to Gujarat and Maharashtra. IMD has forecast isolated heavy rainfall over east Gujarat on Thursday and Friday, extending to Saurashtra and Kutch on Friday and Saturday. Konkan, Goa and Madhya Maharashtra are likely to receive heavy rain for three days beginning Saturday, with isolated very heavy falls on Friday and Saturday. Marathwada is also expected to receive very heavy rainfall on Thursday.

RAIN CORRIDOR

The European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) paints an equally wet picture. Its latest guidance identifies a corridor stretching from Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar through Malegaon, Dhule, Nandurbar, Rajpipla, Bharuch, Vadodara, Nadiad and Godhra as the zone most likely to receive the heaviest rainfall through Saturday.

The ECMWF also suggested that the departing deep depression could leave behind atmospheric conditions favourable for another rain-bearing system to emerge from the Bay of Bengal, reviving widespread rainfall across Central India and parts of North-West and East next week.

More intriguingly, the IMD's numerical weather prediction models hinted at the possible development of a cyclonic storm over the Bay of Bengal near the Andaman and Nicobar Islands during this period — an unusual prospect at the peak of the South-West monsoon.

MODEL ABERRATION

The possibility warrants close attention. The current deep depression itself is an uncommon phenomenon over land during the monsoon. Just one category below a cyclonic storm in intensity, such systems rarely form at this time of the year because the prevailing monsoon circulation generally suppresses their development. They are far more typical during the transition months of May and October-November, when the monsoon is advancing or retreating.

The projected Bay system may yet turn out to be a model artefact. But if the signal persists and the cyclone materialises, it could reshape the remainder of this year's monsoon, significantly altering rainfall patterns across large parts of the country through August.

Business Standard – 30.07.2026

Urea prices to remain around $500 a tonne: Coromandel International CEO

Q&A Amid the West Asia conflict disrupting global fertiliser supply chains, **S Sankarasubramanian**, managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of leading agri-solutions provider and phosphatic fertiliser major Coromandel International Ltd talks to **Shine Jacob** in a virtual interview about its impact on the Indian market, and the industry outlook. Sankarasubramanian is also chairman of the Fertiliser Association of India. Edited excerpts:

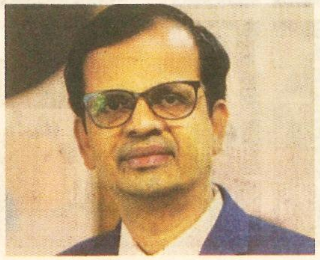
There seems to be enough fertiliser supply for the kharif crops (sown at the start of monsoon in June-July). However, for rabi (winter) crops, there may be uncertainty due to the West Asia crisis. How do you see this situation and its implications?

■ There has been some recovery in the monsoon. So, we are seeing some improvement in fertiliser offtake. For rabi, we have to wait and see how the offtake is going to be in the next two months. If production rates are impacted in the next two months, then it can pose challenges, especially for phosphatics. As for urea, we don't see any major challenge.

What are your major concerns due to the West Asia war?

■ The single biggest challenge we are facing at this point in time is the availability and price of sulphur. Sulphur is a feedstock required for sulphuric acid, which, in turn, is used for phosphoric acid and fertiliser production. The rest of the raw materials, of course, are available, but prices have gone up significantly. There are two issues the industry is facing at this point in time. One is the significant spurt in raw material prices, like sulphur, ammonia, and phosphoric acid. All input prices have gone up.

Regarding subsidy, in the case of urea, it is a pass-through, while in



the case of phosphatics, it is a nutrient-based subsidy rate. These rates were announced for the kharif season just before the West Asia crisis set in. We have been representing to the government to update these rates because all prices have gone up significantly. We do expect the government to make those corrections. So, in terms of availability, margins, pricing, and the market, the industry is facing challenges. And on the market side, we have to see how the offtake is going to be.

> "THE SINGLE BIGGEST CHALLENGE WE ARE FACING AT THIS POINT IN TIME IS THE AVAILABILITY AND PRICE OF SULPHUR. THE REST OF THE RAW MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE BUT PRICES HAVE GONE UP"
>
> S Sankarasubramanian
> CEO & MD, Coromandel International

Urea prices had gone up and touched $950 a tonne during the peak of the West Asia crisis. What is your outlook on urea prices by the end of this year?

■ Now, it is getting stabilised between $450 and $500. Globally also, commodity prices are not likely to go up. I don't expect urea prices to go up significantly. It may remain the same. We have to look at phosphatic fertilisers. Diammonium Phosphate (DAP) is the largest-selling phosphatic fertiliser, where the prices are right now holding around $930-$940. China again has restrictions on phosphatic exports, and hence, there is a demand-supply mismatch. I don't expect any significant increase, but it may not come down either because of the demand-supply mismatch.

The FY27 Budget allocation for fertiliser subsidies was set at around ₹1.71 trillion. According to reports, in the first three months, over ₹70,000 crore was spent on subsidies. What is your estimate for the year?

■ That is for the government to estimate. But with urea prices having come down significantly, that is easing the impact of subsidy on nitrogenous fertilisers to a greater extent. So, the outgo will not be significant. Initially, when urea was at $900, there was an expectation that the subsidy bill would go up. So, I think that may get moderated with the softening of urea prices.

As for phosphatic fertilisers, there won't be that sort of increase. We are not talking about much of an increase even if the government has to revise the kharif subsidy. The increase in prices will be partially offset by a possible consumption drop. This year, I expect a 10 to 15 per cent variation in consumption. If that happens, I think it will provide good relief to the government in terms of overall subsidy outgo.

What are your views on the new national investment policy for urea, as private sector participation may be muted compared with 2012?

■ We are still in the evaluation stage, but it's a good move from the government to ensure fertiliser security through urea capacity creation, which is very critical for food security. And definitely, the government has come up with some guidelines. Although they may not be as attractive as they were last time, they will help in the long term in terms of ensuring that the entire urea requirement is met captively.

It can reduce the overall subsidy outgo for the country and also improve supply security. That is most critical. It's very important that we moderate urea consumption. We can't go on like this.

You are betting a lot on the nano business. What is your take on regulations by state governments on nano products?

■ It is quite unfortunate that, when India is facing this challenge of shortage and availability, some states have chosen to ban fertiliser companies from selling non-subsidised products and not only nano products.

Indian farmers need, besides primary nutrients, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (N, P, and K) micronutrients. They need water-soluble fertilisers. They also need nano products.

We need a wide array of products to be offered to the farmers, and they should make their choice.

Business Standard – 30.07.2026

RISING RAW MATERIAL COST

Fertiliser industry seeks hike in subsidy rate

SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 29 July

India's domestic production of key complex fertilisers, including NP and NPKS, could come under pressure in the coming months if the Centre doesn't immediately revise the subsidy rates for kharif 2026, as production costs have risen sharply due to the West Asia crisis, senior executives from leading fertiliser manufacturers have said. Sources said representatives of top domestic fertiliser companies, who have been meeting government officials over the past few days, informed them that the landed cost of key raw materials used to manufacture NP and NPKS fertilisers has gone up sharply because of the conflict in West Asia, sharply raising production costs.

"We have taken some price hikes in NP and NPKS because of the war, but there is a limit to how much retail prices can be increased. Beyond a point, it starts hurting us if the subsidy component is not revised upwards," a senior industry executive said. He noted that the nutrient-based subsidy (NBS) rates were last revised in April for the kharif season and did not factor in the impact of the West Asia conflict.

According to the executive, the landed price of ammonia, a key raw material, rose from \$400-500 per tonne to nearly \$900 per tonne before easing slightly. Similarly, sulphur prices climbed to \$1,000-1,100 per tonne from \$550 per tonne. "All this has put a heavy burden on production costs, which the recent price hikes have not been able to fully offset," he said.

In India, nutrient-based subsidies are fixed twice a financial year. First during kharif season which runs from April to September and secondly for the rabi season from October to March.

Trade, farmers' groups call for nationwide protests on Aug 10

A joint convention of central trade unions and farmer organisations on Wednesday called for nationwide protests on August 10 against the government's labour and economic policies. Their demands include repeal of the four labour codes, a statutory minimum wage of ₹42,000 linked to dearness allowance, and a legal guarantee for minimum support price (MSP) with assured procurement.

The call was made at the National Convention of Workers and Farmers at the Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi, organised by central trade unions, sectoral federations and associations along with the Samyukta Kisan Morcha. In a joint declaration adopted at the convention, the groups accused the Centre of pursuing policies that had fuelled unemployment, inflation, privatisation of public sector enterprises and erosion of labour protections. They also opposed foreign trade agreements and the National Monetisation Pipeline 2.0, and sought restoration of social security measures. BS REPORTER

Business Standard – 30.07.2026

Goods exports rise 15%, FTAs to give further boost: Goyal

KRITY AMBEY
New Delhi, 29 July

India's merchandise exports have grown 15 per cent so far in 2026-27 (FY27), Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Wednesday, expressing confidence that the momentum would continue as the country's free-trade agreements (FTAs) will boost outbound shipments.

India's goods exports stood at $148.58 billion during April-July last year. A 15 per cent rise would take outbound shipments to over $170 billion during the corresponding period this year.

"As we speak, merchandise exports have grown 15 per cent so far in the year," Goyal said at Assocham's annual JRD Tata Memorial Lecture in New Delhi.

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said trade pact with the EU might take effect in the first quarter of next year

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the event, he said exporters were optimistic about sustaining the growth momentum. The minister said India's FTAs with the United Kingdom and Oman would support export growth. He added that the legal scrubbing of the India-European Union trade agreement was nearing completion and the pact was expected to come into force in the first quarter of next year.

On the proposed bilateral trade agreement (BTA) with the United States, Goyal said the first tranche would come into operation once Washington ensured India enjoyed a comparative advantage over competing exporters. "I have very categorically, and on several occasions, stressed the confidence that what we have finalised with the US as the first tranche of the BTA, which was announced by our leaders in February, will come into operation as soon as the US is able to ensure that we get comparative advantage over our competitors like countries in our neighbourhood and the Asean region," he said.

Divya Bhaskar – 30.07.2026

ટેક્સટાઈલ મંત્રાલયની મેગા તપાસઃ 10 વર્ષ જૂની 7000 ફાઈલો ખોલી

TUFS સબસિડીમાં સુરતના ટેક્સટાઈલ ઉદ્યોગકારો પાસેથી 2500 કરોડની રિકવરી

■ સબસિડી વાપરી તેટલાં વર્ષનું 10% લેખે વ્યાજ/પેનલ્ટી વસૂલાશે

ભાસ્કર BREAKING

જલ્પેશ કાળેણા | સુરત

કેન્દ્રીય ટેક્સટાઈલ મંત્રાલય દ્વારા દેશભરમાં ટેકનોલોજી અપગ્રેડેશન ફંડ સ્કીમ (TUFS) હેઠળ અપાયેલી સબસિડીમાં અત્યાર સુધીની સૌથી મોટાપાયે તપાસ હાથ ધરવામાં આવી છે. મંત્રાલય દ્વારા દેશભરમાંથી શંકાસ્પદ જણાતી અંદાજે 7 હજાર જેટલી ફાઈલોમાં તપાસ કરીને રૂ. 5100 કરોડની સબસિડી રિકવરી કાઢવામાં આવી છે.

આ તપાસનો સૌથી મોટો સપાટો સુરત પર બોલ્યો છે. દેશની 7 હજાર પૈકી અંદાજે 3500 ફાઈલ એકલા સુરતના ઉદ્યોગકારોની હોવાનું ટેક્સટાઈલ મંત્રાલયના સુત્રો જણાવી રહ્યાં છે. જેના કારણે માત્ર સુરત ટેક્સટાઈલ ઉદ્યોગ પાસેથી અંદાજે રૂ. 2500 કરોડથી વધુની વસૂલાત કાઢવામાં આવે તેવી સંભાવના છે. મંત્રાલયના આ આકરા પગલાંથી સુરતના કાપડ ઉદ્યોગકારોની ઊંઘ ઉડી ગઈ છે. કારણ કે મંત્રાલયે માત્ર સબસિડીની ...અનુસંધાન પાના નં. 4

આ મોડસ ઓપરેન્ડીથી સબસિડી મેળવાઈ

જૂના મશીન પર નવી સબસિડી: યુનિટમાં સેકન્ડ હેન્ડ કે જૂના મશીનો ગોઠવીને પેપર્સ પર તેને નવા બતાવી સરકાર પાસેથી કરોડોની સબસિડી મેળવી લેવાઈ.

ઓવર વેલ્યુએશન: મશીનની મૂળ કિંમત કરતાં બિલિંગમાં ઓવર-વેલ્યુએશન કરી સબસિડીનો આંકડો મોટો કરવામાં આવ્યો.

ફિઝિકલ વેરિફિકેશનમાં ભૂલો: જે-તે સમયે બેંકો દ્વારા કરાયેલા ફિઝિકલ વેરિફિકેશન અને સર્ટિફિકેશનમાં રહેલી ગંભીર ખામીઓનો લાભ લેવાયો.

...10 વર્ષ પછી ફાઈલો ખોલાતા અસમંજસ, 'ચાઈનીઝ મશીનોનું આયુષ્ય જ 10 વર્ષનું હોય છે!'

■ મંત્રાલય દ્વારા હાલ જે ફાઈલોમાં રીકવરી કાઢવામાં આવી રહી છે તે તમામ 10 વર્ષથી વધુ જૂની છે. સામાન્ય રીતે યુરોપિયન મશીનરી સિવાયના મશીનોની લાઈફ જ 10 વર્ષ જેટલી હોય છે. 10 વર્ષ પછી જ્યારે મશીનો ભંગાર થઈ ગયા હોય અથવા બદલાઈ ગયા હોય, ત્યારે મંત્રાલય દ્વારા જૂની તપાસના નામે પેનલ્ટી સાથે કરોડોની રિકવરી કાઢવામાં આવતા આખો વીવિંગ અને પ્રોસેસિંગ ઉદ્યોગ સંકટમાં મુકાઈ ગયો છે.

- 10 વર્ષ જૂના કેસ ખુલતા ટેક્સટાઈલ ઉદ્યોગમાં અનિશ્ચિતતા
- 5,100 કરોડની દેશવ્યાપી રીકવરીની તૈયારી
- 7,000 ફાઈલો ફરીથી ખોલવામાં આવી
- 3,500 ફાઈલો સુરતની હોવાનું સૂત્રોનું કહેવું
- 2,500 કરોડથી વધુની અસર સુરત પર પડી શકે
- સબસિડી ઉપરાંત દર વર્ષે 10% વ્યાજ અને પેનલ્ટી
- RTUFS, RRTUFS અને MTUFS યોજનાની તપાસ થશે

Global Textile Machinery Investment Remains Uneven in 2025 as Spg. Defies Broader Slowdown: ITMF

By Our Staff Reporter

MUMBAI, JULY 29—

Global textile machinery investment remained uneven in 2025, with spinning capacity continuing to attract fresh investment despite slower demand across most other machinery segments, according to the latest International Textile Machinery Shipment Statistics (ITMSS) released by the International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF).

Based on data from more than 200 textile machinery manufacturers worldwide, the report highlights steady growth in shipments of short-staple spindles and open-end rotors, while deliveries of weaving, knitting, texturing and several finishing machines declined, reflecting a more selective investment cycle across the global textile industry. The annual survey covers six machinery segments—spinning, draw-texturing, weaving, large circular knitting, flat knitting and finishing.

Spinning machinery emerged as the strongest-performing segment during the year. Global shipments of short-staple spindles increased 3.3% to 6.11 million units, with Asia & Oceania accounting for 95% of deliveries. China, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Uzbekistan and Pakistan were the world's largest investors in this category. Shipments of open-end rotors also rose 3.5% to 645,000 units, supported by higher investments in China, India and Vietnam.

Long-staple spindle shipments, however, declined 31% to 90,000 units as investments weakened across key markets. China remained the largest destination, accounting for 46% of total deliveries, followed by India and Iran.

Investment in draw-texturing machinery also softened during the year. Shipments of single-heater draw-texturing spindles declined 21% to 65,000 units, while double-heater spindles, mainly used for polyester filaments, fell 22% to 743,000 units. Asia continued to dominate global demand, with China accounting for the overwhelming majority of installations.

The weaving machinery segment witnessed one of the sharpest declines in 2025. Global shipments of shuttle-less looms fell 27.5% to 164,000 units, with air-jet, rapier/projectile and water-jet looms all recording lower deliveries. Asia & Oceania remained the principal destination, receiving 95% of worldwide shipments. While China continued to lead investments in air-jet and water-jet looms despite lower purchases, India stood out as the largest investor in rapier and projectile looms, increasing its installations by 21% during the year.

Knitting machinery also recorded weaker demand. Shipments of large circular knitting machines declined 13% to 24,500 units, although China increased its purchases by 9% and remained the largest market. India ranked as the second-largest destination with 4,100 machines, followed by Vietnam. Electronic flat knitting machine shipments fell 21% to 106,000 units as investment slowed across Asia.

The finishing machinery segment presented a mixed picture. Shipments of stenters increased 3% to around 2,300 units, while

Continued on Page 3

Global Textile Machinery Investment Remains Uneven in 2025

Continued from Page 1 Col 2

mercerizing lines registered a 24% increase. However, deliveries of singeing lines dropped 75%. In the discontinuous finishing segment, overflow dyeing machine shipments increased to around 2,900 units, while air-jet dyeing and jigger/beam dyeing machinery recorded lower deliveries.

Overall, the latest ITMSS findings indicate that while investment in spinning machinery remained resilient, textile manufacturers adopted a more measured approach to capital expenditure across most other machinery segments during 2025, reflecting changing investment priorities across the global textile industry.

Groz-Beckert gears to up present its latest innovations and solutions for Nonwovens and Knitting at CINTE Expo

MUMBAI, JULY 29—

From September 1 to 3, 2026, Groz-Beckert will present its latest innovations and solutions across the product areas of Nonwovens and Knitting at CINTE Techtextil China (Hall W5, Booth A01).

NONWOVENS

In the Nonwovens product area, Groz-Beckert will present its latest innovations. One of the highlights is the advanced Litespeed felting needle designed to significantly reduce insertion and removal times, thereby simplifying handling and increasing operational efficiency.

Furthermore, the newly developed CB-Barb felting needle will be part of the showcase. For the Nonwovens Carding segment, Groz-Beckert will introduce its specialized Mounting Service. The portfolio is complemented by the innovative SiroLock™ plus wires from the GrozBeckert InLine card clothing family.

These products are designed to deliver high levels of precision, performance and reliability throughout the carding process.

KNITTING

In the Knitting product area, Groz-Beckert will present its expanded product portfolio for the warp knitting industry. The extended range of modules offers high levels of precision, stability and efficiency during the loop formation process. With its comprehensive product portfolio, Groz-Beckert provides customers with integrated and precisely coordinated solutions from a single source.

This approach simplifies procurement and production processes, reduces coordination effort and ensures that all components are optimally matched for reliable machine performance.

ICAC Report Projects World Cotton Trade to Reach 10.3 Million Tonnes by 2028-29

By Our Staff Reporter

MUMBAI, JULY 29—

The International Cotton Advisory Committee has released the 2026 World Cotton Trade Report, which provides analysis of global cotton trade patterns, key trading relationships, import and export trends, and the geopolitical and policy developments shaping cotton trade flows.

According to the publication — which is available free through the end of 2026 — global cotton trade is expected to remain on a positive trajectory over the medium term despite increasing supply-side pressures. Trade in the 2025/26 season is estimated at 9.4 million tonnes, representing a 2% increase over the previous season. It is projected to rise further to 9.6 million tonnes before reaching approximately 10.3 million tonnes by the end of the 2028/29 season.

The report identifies the increasingly tight balance between global production and consumption as a primary driver of future trade growth. In the 2026/27 season, global cotton production is projected to decline by 2% to 25.8 million tonnes, while consumption is expected to remain relatively robust at 25.5 million tonnes.

As the gap between production and consumption narrows, global markets are expected to become increasingly dependent on inventories held by major exporting countries. Any additional increase in demand would require exporters to draw down ending stocks, increasing the volume of cotton moving through international trade channels.

Demand developments in China, the world's largest cotton-consuming country, will be particularly important in determining future trade patterns. Sustained growth in China's textile manufacturing and consumer demand could push global consumption beyond current projections, increasing imports and providing additional support for international cotton trade. Among the major trends addressed in the report:

* Global cotton trade is estimated at 9.4 million tonnes in 2025/26 and projected to reach 10.3 million tonnes by 2028/29.

* Brazil remained the world's largest cotton lint exporter in 2025/26, supported by record production, competitive pricing, expanded market access, and reduced availability of U.S. cotton in international markets.

* U.S. exports declined in 2025/26 but are projected to increase by 3% in 2026/27, supported by higher ending stocks.

* China's imports are expected to recover strongly in 2025/26 after falling sharply in the previous season.

* Bangladesh remains one of the world's leading cotton importers, although consumption and imports have been affected by economic disruption, energy constraints, and logistical challenges.

* Vietnam continues to expand its role as a major cotton importer, supported by its growing textile and apparel sector and strengthening trade relationships.

* India's cotton import and consumption patterns are being shaped by policy changes, tariff measures, and expanding domestic textile demand.

"Global cotton trade is entering a period in which supply constraints, inventory levels, policy decisions, and consumption trends will play an increasingly important role," said Parkhi Vats, ICAC Principal Statistician and Data Architect and author of the World Cotton Trade Report.

"While production challenges and geopolitical uncertainty remain significant, the medium-term outlook points to continued growth in trade as markets respond to stable consumption and shifting sourcing relationships."

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Tecoya Trend – 30.07.2026

Pabitra Margherita briefs Lok Sabha on Schemes to uplift the textile industry

NEW DELHI, JULY 29—

The Government of India has implemented various schemes/ initiatives to provide incentives and financial assistance to uplift the textile industry across the country including Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh. The major schemes/initiatives include Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme focusing on Man-Made Fibre (MMF) Fabric, MMF Apparel and Technical Textiles to boost large scale manufacturing and enhancing competitiveness; National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) focusing on Research Innovation & Development, Promotion and Market Development; SAMARTH-Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector with the objective of providing demand driven, placement oriented, skilling program; National Handloom Development Programme; Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS); and National Handicraft Development Programme.

The above information was provided by Minister of State for Textiles, Mr. Pabitra Margherita, in a written reply in Lok Sabha.

The details of the schemes, programmes and incentives given to the textile industries last by Mr. Margherita are as below:

A. Under the Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS) and National Handloom Development Programme, financial assistance is provided to eligible handloom agencies/workers for raw materials, procurement of upgraded looms & accessories, solar lighting units, construction of workshed, skilling, product diversification & design innovation, technical and common infrastructure, publicity and brand development through India Handloom Brand (IHB), Handloom Mark (HLM) and GI tag, e-commerce facilities, marketing of handloom products in domestic/overseas markets, etc. Further, for upliftment of handloom weavers in Uttar Pradesh, the following support has been provided from 2014-15 to 2025-26:

* 86 Small Handloom Clusters and 1 Mega Handloom Clusters have been taken up for financial assistance of Rs. 96.34 crore benefitting 25,885 handloom workers.

* 143 marketing events have been organised to facilitate and promote sales of Handloom Products.

* To enhance productivity, marketing capabilities and facilitate better incomes, 13 Handloom Producer companies have been formed.

* 6 Urban Haats are functional at Varanasi, Agra, Bareily, Rampur, Ayodhya and Jhansi and Rs. 2.67 crore has been released.

* 6,865 weavers/ handloom entities have been on-boarded on GeM for marketing of handloom products.

* 21,566 beneficiaries have been provided loans under weavers' MUDRA Scheme.

* 17,391 beneficiaries have been enrolled under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana.

* Total 732.39 lakh kg of yarn has been supplied under Transport Subsidy & Price Subsidy.

B. For promotion of handicraft sector, National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) has been implemented. Under this scheme, need based financial assistance is provided for end-to-end support to the artisans throughout the country including Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh. Three Guru Shishya Hastshilp Prashikshan Training programme and one Toolkit Distribution programme were implemented during 2025–26, benefiting 138 artisans.

Also, two Craft-Based Resource Centres (CBRCs) were sanctioned to Indian Institute Carpet Technology (IICT) during 2025–26. Further, Uthan Carpet Producer Company Limited (UCPC) has been formed in handmade carpet of Bhadohi GI craft during 2022-23 and 11 different interventions were sanctioned to the UCPC for strengthening the carpet cluster of Bhadohi.

C. The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme aims to address India's structural gaps in MMF textiles and enhance global competitiveness through scale, technology and value addition. Incentives of Rs.386.30 crore has been released under the scheme till date across the country. Out of the 170 companies selected under the scheme, 15 are from Uttar Pradesh.

D. SAMARTH-Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector provides demand driven and placement-oriented skilling program. As on 22.07.2026, a total of 1, 34,503 beneficiaries has been trained (passed) in the State of Uttar Pradesh and 151 beneficiaries has been trained (passed) in the Bhadohi District.

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Pabitra Margherita updates LS on Grant for Research & Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles (GREAT) scheme

NEW DELHI, JULY 29—

The Ministry of Textiles is implementing the "Grant for Research and Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles (GREAT)" scheme under the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) since 2023 with an objective to support the start-up ecosystem in the Technical Textiles sector by providing assistance to young innovators, scientists, technologists, and start-up ventures in translating their ideas into commercial technologies & products and fostering a culture of rapid translation of ideas and prototypes into products through collaboration among various stakeholders and establishment of a robust start-up ecosystem in the Technical Textiles sector. Since its launch, a total of 31 start-ups have been approved under GREAT scheme at a total cost of Rs 15.40 crore, of which Rs 13.65 crore is Government of India share.

The above information was provided by Minister of State for Textiles, Mr. Pabitra Margherita, in a written reply in Lok Sabha.

The National Technical Textiles Mission is a pan-India Mission. Under the GREAT scheme, a maximum financial support of Rs. 50 Lakh is provided to each approved start-up. The scheme is open to eligible start-ups in the Technical Textiles sector across the country, including those from eastern Uttar Pradesh. The Mission has carried out multiple public events, workshops, exhibitions, seminars, and outreach activities to promote the GREAT scheme, including in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. These awareness events have been conducted with educational & research institutions, Textile Research Associations, Start-up incubators, etc. which aimed at promoting the various components of the Mission and disseminating scheme-related information.

Under the GREAT scheme, the 31 approved Start-Ups are working across six Technical Textiles segments for prototype development. These include Indutech (11), Meditech (9), Protech (7), Oekotech (2), Buildtech (1), Sportech (1).

The State-wise details of Start-ups under various Technical Textiles segment are Given in Table 1.

Under the GREAT guidelines, commercialization and industry adoption are tracked through incubator-facilitated feedback from industry experts/investors in the final project report. Success is assessed on criteria like prototype/product development and field trials, market launch and further investor funding, and job creation and Start-up turnover. Incubators are further mandated to provide technical/business mentoring, intellectual property and legal support, training, and networking assistance to help translate innovations into market-ready, industry-adopted products.

A Review and Monitoring Committee has been constituted to assess and oversee the progress of the approved start-ups, with the authority to recommend for release of subsequent instalments of grant and closure of projects to the Empowered Programme Committee under NTTM. Further, various public events, workshops, seminars and outreach activities are being organized nationwide to disseminate information about the scheme and facilitate industry engagement for scaling up the potential start-up projects.

TABLE - 1

Technical Textiles Segment	State	No. of Start-Ups
INDUTECH	Andhra Pradesh	1
	Delhi	2
	Gujarat	2
	Karnataka	1
	Maharashtra	1
	Tamil Nadu	2
	Uttar Pradesh	2
MEDITECH	Delhi	2
	Gujarat	1
	Maharashtra	2
	Tamil Nadu	4
PROTECH	Karnataka	1
	Delhi	1
	Rajasthan	1
	Maharashtra	1
	Punjab	1
	Uttarakhand	1
	Gujarat	1
OEKOTECH	Maharashtra	2
BUILDTECH	Uttar Pradesh	1
SPORTECH	Maharashtra	1

The GREAT scheme under NTTM is implemented across the country and the start-ups approved under this scheme covers a wide spectrum of technology domains, including advanced functional textiles such as temperature-responsive and self-sanitizing fabrics, smart textiles featuring graphene-based materials, energy-harvesting fabrics, shape-memory wearables for healthcare, high-performance composites for automotive, construction, and defence applications. They also encompass sustainable, bio-based innovations such as hemp–bioplastic composites, biodegradable tire yarns, and algae-derived leather, as well as medical and healthcare solutions including surgical simulators and antimicrobial textile technologies.

Under NTTM, public events, workshops, exhibitions, seminars, and outreach activities are organized. These initiatives are aimed at promoting the various components of the Mission and also provide a platform for researchers and start-ups to showcase their products and engage with industry stakeholders, including buyers and sellers, to encourage the scaling up of research outcomes and potential start-up projects.