sima
REVIEW

Vol. - XXXI No. 4
SIMA
April 2026

In this Issue...

India's Trade Performance of Textiles & Clothing - Portwise

IN - HOUSE JOURNAL

CONTENTS

Volume : XXXI

Issue No : 04

Month & Year : April 2026

Editor :

Dr K Selvaraju, Secretary General

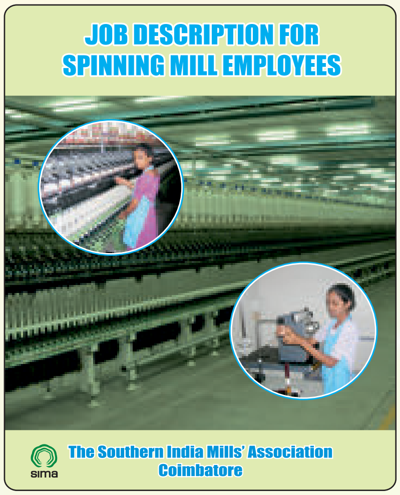
The Southern India Mills' Association

"Shanmugha Manram,

41 Race Course

Coimbatore – 641018

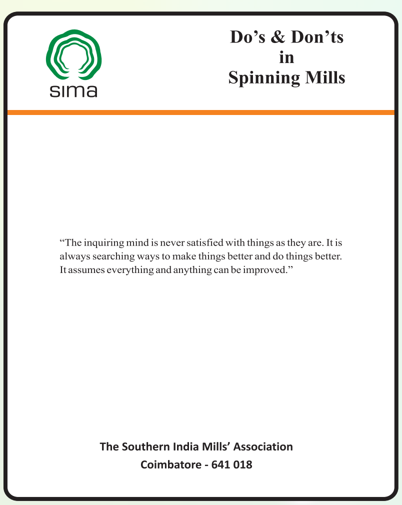
PUBLICATIONS



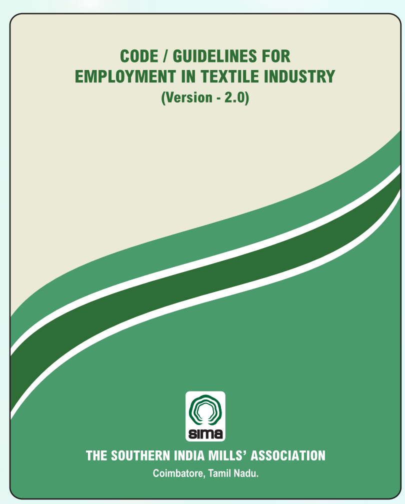
₹ 550

₹ 25

₹ 500



₹ 150



₹ 100

sima

The Southern India Mills' Association

Shanmukha Manram, 41, Race Course, Coimbatore - 641 018

Ph : 0422 4225333 | E-mail : info@simamills.org

ReNfra EnerGy®

CLEAN ENERGY FOR A GREENER FUTURE

POWERING THE FUTURE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

SOLAR & WIND TURNKEY EPC SOLUTIONS

ONGOING WIND PROJECTS
82.5 MWp

WIND - PIPELINE
200 MWp

ON-GOING SOLAR
100 MW

SOLAR INSTALLED
0.65 GW

BESS ON-GOING PROJECTS

- 2 MW /2.8 MWp / 3.42 MWh BESS
- 4 MW / 6 MWp / 5.0 MWh BESS
- 5 MW / 7 MWp / 5.015 MWh BESS (WITH TRACKING SYSTEM)

VISWANANTHAN.M
A.G.M MARKETING
+91 70944 88912
vnm@renfraenergy.com

+91 70944 88909
gpk@renfraenergy.com
GOWTHAM PRABHU.K
A.G.M MARKETING

From the Chairman

Friends,

We extend our heartfelt congratulations and warm wishes to the newly formed Government of Tamil Nadu on assuming office with the trust and mandate of the people. We are confident that under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru C. Jospeh Vijay, the State will continue to progress towards inclusive growth and economic development. May this new administration bring renewed energy, visionary governance and lasting prosperity to Tamil Nadu and its people. We assure the Hon'ble Chief Minister of our wholehearted support and cooperation in all his policy initiatives.

The market outlook for our industry is steadily improving, with enquiries showing encouraging momentum especially cotton yarn. Despite ongoing geopolitical tensions globally, the textile sector is expected to perform well in the coming months. The Government of India has been proactively announcing series of measures to support the exporters to mitigate external challenges, a highly positive sign for the growth of the industry. However, the major factor currently hindering the momentum of growth is the 11% import duty on cotton. I am confident that this issue will soon receive favourable attention and that the duty burden may be removed or rationalised in the near future, further enhancing competitiveness.

At the same time, the Government of Tamil Nadu continues to extend valuable support through various policies, including subsidies for participation to individual units in international trade fairs & the Department of Textiles is currently undertaking a district-wise SWOT analysis to unlock and realize the sector's full potential. Members are strongly encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities by participating in various global exhibitions and exploring new export markets. Industry bodies such as MATEXIL, PDEXCIL and TEXPROCIL are also actively organizing and participating in international fairs, creating excellent platforms for networking and business expansion.

The upcoming Bharat Tex exhibition also presents a significant opportunity for the industry to showcase capabilities, connect with global buyers, and identify new avenues for growth. Members are encouraged to participate actively, explore emerging markets and invest prudently for long-term sustainability and expansion.

We are closely working with both the Central and State Governments on various industry-related matters and remain hopeful that the new Government formed in Tamil Nadu will introduce progressive policies and initiatives that will further strengthen the textile and export sectors.

The limited availability of raw material, volatility in prices and depreciating currency fluctuation could severely impact the sector, potentially leading to export order cancellations and job losses. This, in turn, may push international buyers to explore alternative sourcing options, further weakening India's position in global trade. Further, domestic cotton prices continue to rise tracking global cues, putting pressure across the value chain. This sustained price surge is eroding the margins, particularly for exporters operating on long term contracts, with limited flexibility to absorb input cost increases.

The Committee on Cotton Production and Consumption, in its meeting held on April 16, 2026 projected cotton production at 290.91 lakh bales and consumption at 324 lakh bales. Imports and exports are estimated at 47 lakh bales and 12 lakh bales respectively, leaving a closing stock of just 43 lakh bales, the lowest in two decades.

In this context, an industry delegation led by Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI), comprising leaders from The Southern India Mills' Association (SIMA), Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC), Powerloom Development and Export Promotion Council (PDEXCIL), The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL) and representatives of the powerloom sector, met the Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister, Shri. Shivraj Singh Chauhan, on 29th April 2026 to deliberate on the critical issue of removal of 11% cotton import duty.

To support evidence-based policy dialogue, CITI & SIMA engaged M/s Gherzi Textile Organization to undertake a comprehensive economic assessment of India's cotton sector. The study examines the structural dynamics influencing cotton production, pricing, trade policy and the competitiveness of the broader textile value chain.

The Union Cabinet recently approved Rs 5,659.22 crore for the Mission for Cotton Productivity to address the bottlenecks, declining growth and quality concerns in India's cotton sector and position the country as a competitive player in global textile markets by 2030-31. While the MCP is a much-needed initiative by the government, its tangible outcomes are likely to materialize only over a medium-to- long-term horizon of 5-10 years.

On the trade front, during FY26, India's textile and apparel exports reached US$ 35,718.75 Million as compared to US$ 36,442.73 Million in FY25, degrowth of 1.99%. Of which textile exports registered a degrowth of -2.86% while apparel exports registered a degrowth of -1.36% over the previous year same time.

In view of the mounting operational expenditure (Opex) pressures faced by the industry, the Union Cabinet has approved an additional credit flow target of Rs.2.55 lakh crore under the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) 5.0. This measure is aimed at supporting MSMEs in overcoming short-term liquidity challenges arising from the ongoing West Asia crisis.

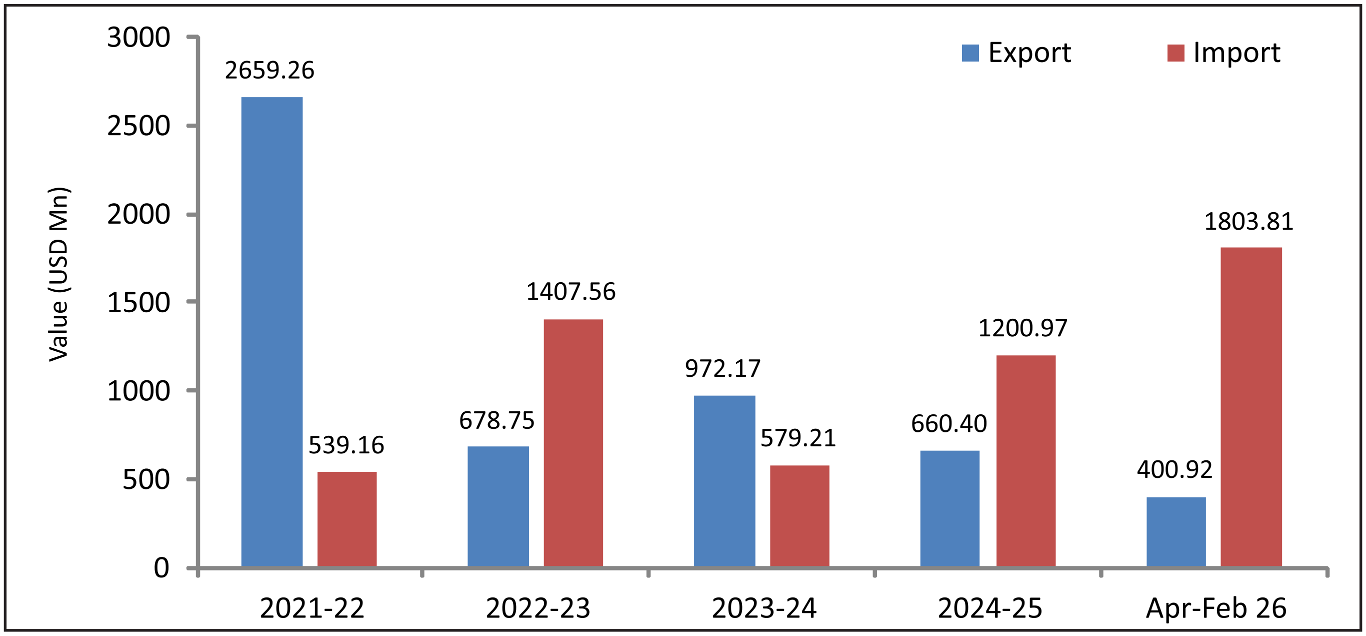
We remain hopeful that, despite the prevailing geopolitical challenges, the continued support extended by the government will strengthen the industry's resilience and enable it to navigate the current uncertainties effectively. With improving market sentiment, supportive policy measures and growing global engagement, the industry can look forward to a positive and promising future.

Durai Palanisamy
Chairman

India's Trade Performance of HS Code 5201 (Cotton, Not Carded or Combed)

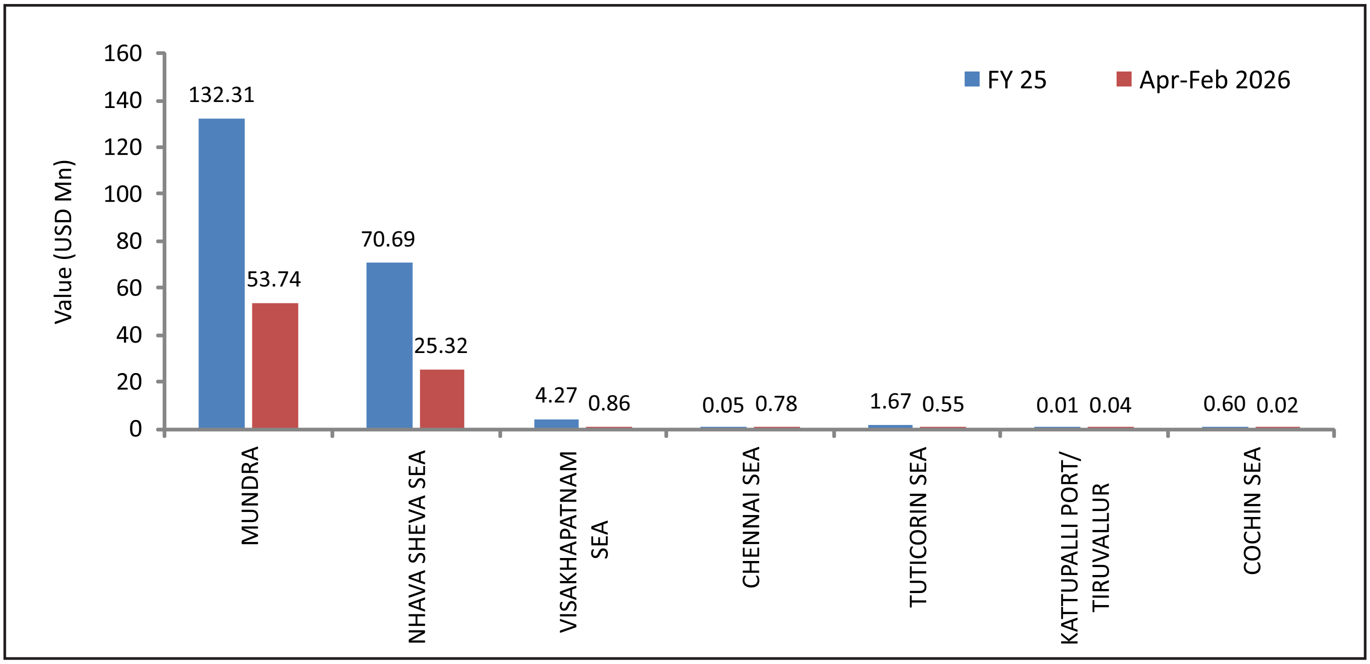
$400.92M Exports (Apr - Feb 2026)	-33.74% (YoY Growth) (Apr - Feb 2025 Vs Apr - Feb 2026)	$1803.81M Imports (Apr-Feb 2026)	60.50% (YoY Growth) (Apr-Feb 2025 Vs Apr-Feb 2026)

Chart - 1 : Export and Import Performance of HS Code 5201



Source : DGCIS

Chart - 2 : Port wise Export of HS Code 5201



Source : DGCIS

India's textile & apparel exports fell 2% to $36 Bn in April-March 2026

- India's textile and apparel exports fell 2 per cent to $35.71 Billion in April-March 2026, with apparel fell 1.36 per cent and textile down 2.86 per cent.
- March saw both apparel and textile drops.
- Imports of raw cotton surged 54.91 per cent, highlighting rising dependency.
- T&A share in India's exports declined to 8.09 per cent.

India's textile and apparel (T&A) exports fell by -1.99 per cent to $35.71 Billion during the period of April-March 2026. Of the total, apparel exports decreased by 1.36 per cent to $15.77 Billion and textile exports declined by 2.86 per cent to $20.02 Billion in April-March 2026.

In March 2026, apparel exports declined by 18.99 per cent to $1,240.50 Million, from $1,531.33 Million in March 2025, whereas textile exports fell by 9.91 per cent to $1,671.99 Million from $1,855.92 Million. The share of T&A in India's total merchandise exports fell to 8.09 per cent during April-March 2026 according to the trade data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Within the textile segment, exports of cotton yarn, fabrics, made-ups fell by -4.42 per cent to $10,094.79 Million during the period of April-March 2026. Exports of man-made yarn, fabrics and made-ups stood at $4,830.83 Million. Carpet exports decreased by 5.31 per cent to $1,459.22 Million. Exports of RMG Cotton including accessories rose by 1.13 per cent to $9,486.60 Million, while exports of RMG Man-made Fibres stood at $2,592.82 Million.

Imports of raw cotton and waste surged by 54.91 per cent to $1,888.79 Million during April-March 2026, compared to $1,219.32 Million in the same period of the previous fiscal. Imports of Cotton yarn, fabrics, made-ups stood at $674.56 Million. Imports of man-made yarn, fabrics and made-ups increased by 24.21 per cent, from $2,725.18 Million to $3,385.01 Million. Imports of RMG Manmade fibres rose by 21.57 per cent to $696.47 Million.

Commodity Group wise Performance (FTPA)

According to the Foreign Trade Performance Analysis of principal commodities data released by the Department of Commerce, the country's total exports stood at USD 442 Billion during April-March 2026, 1 per cent higher than corresponding period of the previous fiscal of USD 438 Billion. At the same time, the country's import had increased at a faster rate during the period. Country's total import during the period has been estimated at USD 775 Billion, 7 per cent higher than corresponding period import of USD 721 Billion in the previous fiscal.

As far as the export of textile & allied products are concerned, while their export during April-March 2026 had declined by 2 per cent, their import increased by 18 per cent over previous year corresponding period.

Foreign Trade Performance

Table - 1 shows comparison of provisional on item wise export of commodities under textiles & allied products category during April-March 2026 with corresponding period export in the previous year.

Table - 2 shows comparison of item wise import of commodities under textiles & allied products category during April - March 2026 with corresponding period Import in the previous year.

The export share of textile and allied products during April-March 2026 fiscal, had declined to 8.09 per cent from previous year corresponding period share of 8.33 per cent. At the same time import share had increased to 1.34 per cent from previous year share of 1.23 per cent.

Chart 1 and 2 show per cent share of major textile allied products in the country's export and import during April - March 2026 compared with the

Salient features of the ECLGS 5.0 Scheme:

- **Total Outlay :** Additional credit support up to ₹2.55 lakh crore
- **Eligible borrowers :** MSMEs and non-MSMEs with existing credit facilities as of March 31, 2026, provided their accounts are standard.
- **Guarantee coverage :** 100% for MSMEs and 90% for non-MSMEs
- **Guarantee Fee :** Nil.
- **Extent of Credit :** Up to 20% of peak working capital (Q4 FY26) (capped at ₹100 crore per borrower).
- **Tenure of Loan :** Up to 5 years (Scheme available for sanction up to 31st March 2027)
- **For MSMEs / Non MSMEs :** 5 years from the date of first disbursement including 1 year moratorium on principal repayment.
- **Interest rate :** MSMEs – EBLR + 0.75%; Non-MSMEs – MCLR + 0.75% with a cap of

News Snippets

US Tariff Refund process gets underway

- The US has initiated the tariff refund process. Following due vetting, only the US importer is eligible to receive the refund. It remains unclear whether a US importer will pass on the refund, in any form, to the Indian seller who may have shared part of the tariff burden when the steep 50% tariff was in force. Any pass-through to an Indian exporter, if it occurs, is likely to depend on the parties' commercial terms.

Foreign Trade Performance

Table - 1 : Export of commodities under Textiles & Allied Products Group (USD Million)

Commodity	Apr - Mar 2025	Apr - Mar 2026	% Growth
Textiles & Allied Products	**36,442.73**	**35,718.75**	**-1.99**
Manmade Staple Fibre	425.10	402.97	-5.21
Cotton Yarn	3,553.19	3,397.89	-4.37
Cotton Fabrics, Made-ups Etc.	7,008.97	6,696.90	-4.45
Other Textile Yarn, Fabric Made-up Articles	927.06	935.53	0.91
Silk, Raw	3.03	0.25	-91.75
Natural Silk Yarn, Fabrics, Made-ups	127.71	221.22	73.22
Manmade Yarn, Fabrics, Made-ups	4,869.50	4,830.83	-0.79
Wool, Raw	0.40	0.67	69.39
Wollen Yarn, Fabrics, Made-ups, etc.	159.87	176.28	10.26
RMG Cotton Including Accessories	9,380.78	9,486.60	1.13
RMG Silk	84.02	77.24	-8.07
RMG Manmade Fibres	2,749.59	2,592.82	-5.70
RMG Wool	174.38	183.40	5.17
RMG of Other Textile Material	3,600.56	3,432.08	-4.68
Coir And Coir Manufactures	454.58	692.60	52.36
Handloom Products	141.96	153.88	8.40
Silk Waste	31.35	34.82	11.06
Jute, Raw	15.83	25.22	59.36
Jute Yarn	18.34	17.50	-4.57
Jute Hessian	102.58	112.46	9.63
Floor Covering of Jute	92.13	76.32	-17.16
Other Jute Manufactures	171.02	151.33	-11.51
Carpet (Excluding Silk) Handmade	1,496.53	1,404.50	-6.15
Silk Carpet	44.58	54.72	22.74
Cotton Raw Including Waste	809.69	560.72	-30.75

Source : MoC

Foreign Trade Performance

Table - 2 : Import of commodities under Textiles & Allied Products Group (USD Million)

Commodity	Apr - Feb 2025	Apr - Feb 2026	% Growth
Textiles & Allied Products	**8,860.46**	**10,416.15**	**17.56**
Manmade Staple Fibre	482.03	587.12	21.80
Cotton Yarn	25.20	31.89	26.56
Cotton Fabrics, Made-ups Etc.	640.11	642.67	0.40
Other Textile Yarn, Fabric Made-up Articles	1,327.83	1,340.28	0.94
Silk, Raw	118.54	147.05	24.05
Natural Silk Yarn, Fabrics, Made-ups	56.96	59.08	3.73
Manmade Yarn, Fabrics, Made-ups	2,725.18	3,385.01	24.21
Wool, Raw	206.12	230.65	11.90
Wollen Yarn, Fabrics, Made-ups, etc.	108.40	125.56	15.83
RMG Cotton Including Accessories	790.75	759.91	-3.90
RMG Silk	6.23	7.67	23.18
RMG Manmade Fibres	572.92	696.47	21.57
RMG Wool	32.82	24.69	-24.77
RMG of Other Textile Material	240.01	223.58	-6.85
Coir And Coir Manufactures	4.46	6.53	46.17
Handloom Products	2.00	5.01	151.01
Silk Waste	1.49	2.02	34.93
Jute, Raw	79.65	40.10	-49.66
Jute Yarn	59.82	60.92	1.84
Jute Hessian	43.94	51.03	16.15
Floor Covering of Jute	0.54	0.21	-61.55
Other Jute Manufactures	82.51	69.57	-15.68
Carpet (Excluding Silk) Handmade	33.31	30.18	-9.41
Silk Carpet	0.32	0.16	-49.47
Cotton Raw Including Waste	1,219.32	1,888.79	54.91

Source : MoC

Chart - 1 : % Share of Country's Export

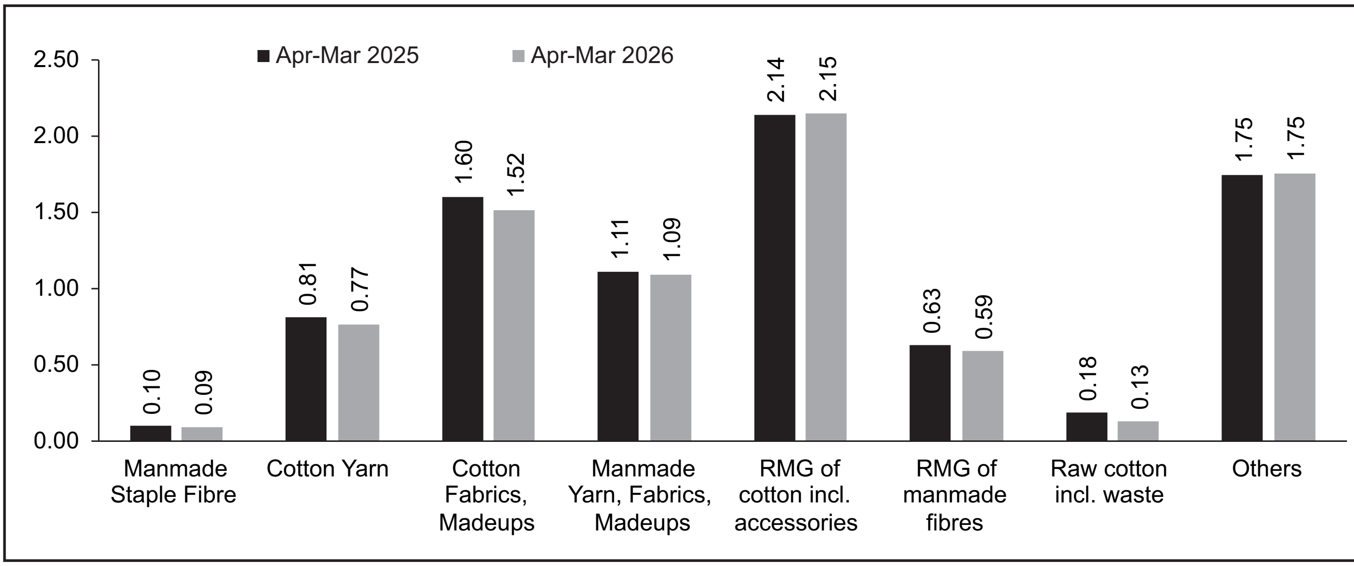
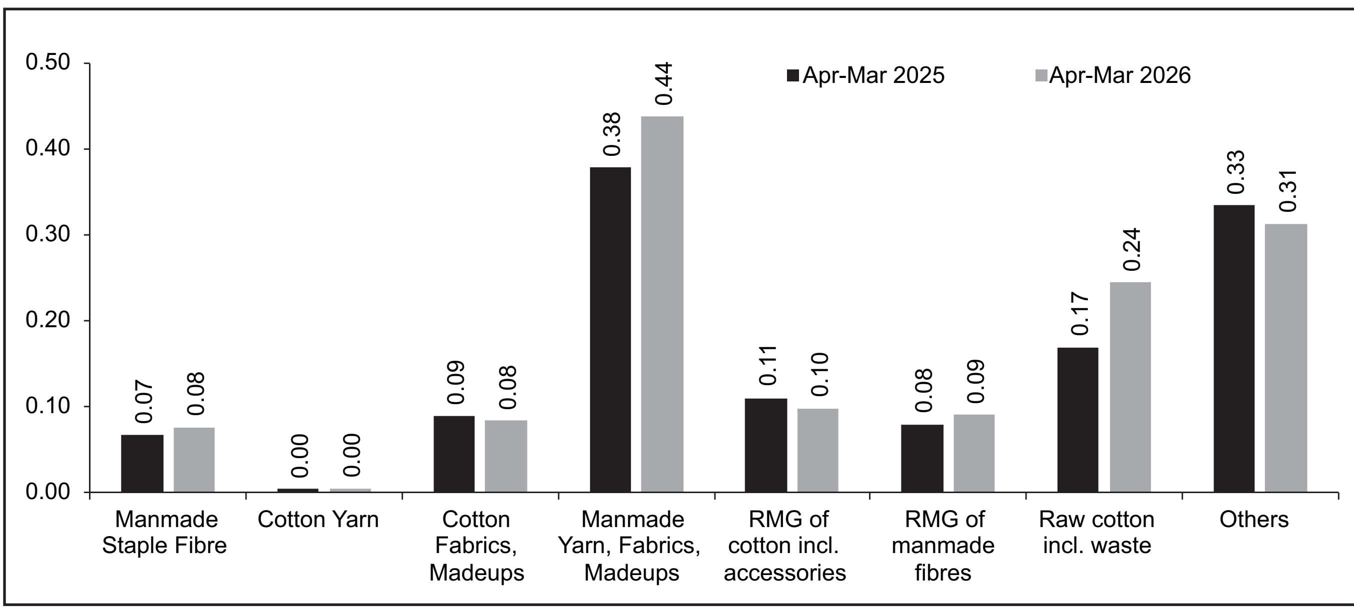


Chart - 2 : % Share of Country's Import



corresponding period share in the previous fiscal. It may be observed that except share of RMG of cotton including accessories, other groups export share was lower than previous year's share. In the case of import while the share of Manmade Yarn, Fabrics, Madeups, Manmade Staple Fibre, Raw Cotton and RMG of manmade fibres was higher than previous year's level.

India's export of items covered under HS Codes 50 to 63

❖ India's export of cotton products covered under HS Code 52 during February 2026 stood at USD 515.61 Million, as against the previous year same time export level of USD 546.52 Million.

- At the same time, export of Man-made filaments during the period stood at USD 146.17 Million, fell by 4 per cent compared to previous year export level of USD 151.84 Million.
- Manmade staple fibres covered under HS Code 55 stood at USD 140.50 Million, rose by 16 per cent compared to previous year export level of USD 121.48 Million.
- Exports of garments covered under HS Code 62 during the period stood at USD 835.59 Million which is decreased by 6 per cent when compared to previous year same time export level of USD 892.22 Million.
- Made-ups exports covered under HS Code 63 stood at USD 468.03 Million.

Table - 3 shows India's export of textile items covered under HS Codes 50 to 63 in USD Million during February 2026 compared with same period of the previous year.

India's Import of items covered under HS Codes 50 to 63

- India's import of cotton products covered under HS Code 52 during February 2026 stood at USD 61.17 Million, fell by 47 per cent compared to previous year same time import level of USD 114.62 Million.
- Import of man-made filaments during the period stood at USD 185.35 Million which is higher by 36 per cent when compared with previous year same time import level of USD 136.71 Million.
- Import of garments covered under HS Code 62 during the period stood at USD 81.43 Million.
- Import of made ups covered under HS Code 63 stood at USD 57.99 Million, which is increased by 22 per cent when compared to previous year same time import level of USD 47.63 Million.

Table - 4 shows India's import of textile items covered under HS Codes 50 to 63 in USD Million during February 2026 compared with same period of the previous year

HS Code wise Performance

Export & Import Quantum - February 2026

- ❖ Export of cotton covered under HS Codes 5201-5203 during the period February 2026 stood at 24.54 Million kgs, declined by 48 per cent as against previous year same time export level of 47.05 Million kgs. At the same time, its imports during the period stood at 22.11 Million kgs, 57 per cent lower than previous year same time import level of 51.95 Million kgs.
- ❖ Export of cotton yarn of all types covered under HS Codes 5204 to 5207 during the period stood at 108.61 Million kgs, which is 11 per cent higher than the previous year export level of 97.74 Million kgs.
- ❖ Export of woven fabrics containing cotton covered under HS Codes 5208 to 5212 during the period stood at 203.91 Million square metres.

Export and Import Value - February 2026

- ❖ Export of cotton in all forms covered under HS Codes 5201 to 5203 during February 2026 stood at USD 39.33 Million, fell by 51 per cent as against the previous year same time export level of USD 79.67 Million. At the same time its import during the period stood at USD 40.50 Million fell by 59 per cent as against the previous year import level of USD 99.86 Million.
- ❖ Export of cotton yarn of all types covered under HS Codes 5204 to 5207 during the period was valued at USD 304.40 Million, 3 per cent higher than previous year same time export level of USD 294.32 Million. Its import stood at USD 3.77 Million during February 2026.
- ❖ Export of woven fabrics of containing cotton covered under HS Codes 5208 to 5212 during the period was valued at USD 171.87 Million as against previous year export level of USD 172.52 Million. At the same time its import stood at USD 16.91 Million.

Table - 5 shows export and import of HS Codes 5201 to 5212 during February 2026 compared with the corresponding period export and import in quantitative terms.

Table - 6 shows export and import of HS Codes 5201 to 5212 during February 2026 compared with the corresponding period export and import in dollar terms.

News Snippets

ICE Cotton rallies 22-month high on weak dollar

- ❖ TICE Cotton Futures rallied to a more than 22 month high, supported by a combination of a weaker US Dollar, firm Crude Oil Prices
- ❖ According to market analysts, high crude oil prices and rising synthetic fibre costs are key drivers supporting the cotton market, along with the impact of a weaker dollar.

Foreign Trade Performance

Table - 3 : Export of Textile items covered under HS Codes – USD Million

HS Code	Commodity	February 2025	February 2026	% Growth
50	Silk	9.74	22.03	126.30
51	Wool, fine or coarse animal hair, horsehair yarn and woven fabric.	9.52	13.12	37.82
52	Cotton.	546.52	515.61	-5.66
53	Other vegetable textile fibres; paper yarn and woven fabrics of paper yarn.	73.18	79.99	9.32
54	Man-Made Filaments.	151.84	146.17	-3.73
55	Man-Made Staple Fibres.	121.48	140.50	15.65
56	Wadding, felt and nonwovens; spacial yarns; twine, cordage, ropes and cables and articles thereof.	52.98	48.60	-8.26
57	Carpets and other textile floor coverings.	160.97	151.75	-5.73
58	Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics; lace; tapestries; trimmings; embroidery.	25.88	32.85	26.94
59	Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics; textile articles of a kind suitable for industrial use.	40.44	34.67	-14.26
60	Knitted or crocheted fabrics.	50.26	43.38	-13.70
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.	642.73	571.21	-11.13
62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.	892.22	835.59	-6.35
63	Other made up textile articles; sets; worn clothing and worn textile articles; rags	470.31	468.03	-0.48

Source : MoC

Foreign Trade Performance

Table - 4 : Import of Textile items covered under HS Codes – USD Million

HS Code	Commodity	February 2025	February 2026	% Growth
50	Silk	11.96	15.68	31.03
51	Wool, fine or coarse animal hair, horsehair yarn and woven fabric.	19.25	23.78	23.53
52	Cotton.	114.62	61.17	-46.63
53	Other vegetable textile fibres; paper yarn and woven fabrics of paper yarn.	47.37	44.46	-6.16
54	Man-Made Filaments.	136.71	185.35	35.58
55	Man-Made Staple Fibres.	63.34	89.73	41.66
56	Wadding, felt and nonwovens; spacial yarns; twine, cordage, ropes and cables and articles thereof.	35.11	38.92	10.83
57	Carpets and other textile floor coverings.	12.13	15.87	30.82
58	Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics; lace; tapestries; trimmings; embroidery.	15.28	21.31	39.47
59	Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics; textile articles of a kind suitable for industrial use.	60.30	80.04	32.73
60	Knitted or crocheted fabrics.	79.58	66.32	-16.66
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.	53.21	68.84	29.37
62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.	72.81	81.43	11.84
63	Other made up textile articles; sets; worn clothing and worn textile articles; rags	47.63	57.99	21.74

Source : MoC

Foreign Trade Performance

Table - 5 : Export / Import – Million kgs/sq.mtrs

HS Code	Description	Export			Import		
		February 2025	February 2026	% Growth	February 2025	February 2026	% Growth
5201	Cotton, Not Carded or Combed	37.65	16.55	-56.06	49.13	17.08	-65.24
5202	Cotton Waste (Including Yarn Waste and Granted Stock)	5.17	2.11	-59.20	2.81	5.00	78.05
5203	Cotton, Carded or Combed	4.22	5.88	39.37	Neg	Neg	Neg
5204	Cotton Sewing Thread W/N Put Up for Retail Sale	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg
5205	Cotton Yarn (Other Than Sewing Thread) Containing 85% Or More By Weight ff Cotton Not Put up for Retail Sale	92.10	103.47	12.35	Neg	Neg	Neg
5206	Cotton Yarn (Other Than Sewing Thread) Containing Cotton <85% By Weight not put for Retail Sale	5.50	4.95	-9.92	Neg	Neg	Neg
5207	Cotton Yarn (Other Than Sewing Thread) Put Up for Retail Sale	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg
5208	Woven Fabrics of Cotton Containing >=85% By Weight of Cotton Weighing not more than 200 G/M2	150.24	153.26	2.01	6.26	20.00	219.41
5209	Woven fabrics of Cotton, Containing >=85% Cotton by Weight Weighing>200 G/M2	37.03	35.22	-4.89	6.71	0.80	-88.06
5210	Woven fabrics Containing <85% Cotton, mixed mainly or solely with manmade fibres Weighing <=200g/M2	5.99	4.09	-31.66	1.60	1.43	-10.60
5211	Woven Fabrics of Cotton, containing <85% Cotton, mixed Mainly with Manmade Fibres Weighing>200 G/M2	12.71	9.88	-22.30	1.38	1.17	-15.33
5212	Other Woven Fabrics of Cotton	2.64	1.45	-44.87	Neg	Neg	Neg
	Cotton (HS 5201-5203)	**47.05**	**24.54**	**-47.84**	**51.95**	**22.11**	**-57.45**
	Cotton Yarn (HS 5204-5207)	**97.74**	**108.61**	**11.12**	**0.90**	**0.82**	**-9.58**
	Woven Fabrics of Cotton (HS 5208-5212)	**208.60**	**203.91**	**-2.25**	**16.18**	**23.48**	**45.14**

Source : MoC

Foreign Trade Performance

Table - 6 : Export / Import– USD Million

HS Code	Description	Export			Import		
		February 2025	February 2026	% Growth	February 2025	February 2026	% Growth
5201	Cotton, Not Carded or Combed	68.38	28.77	-57.92	98.34	37.77	-61.59
5202	Cotton Waste (Including Yarn Waste and Granted Stock)	6.13	2.94	-51.99	1.44	2.57	78.49
5203	Cotton, Carded or Combed	5.16	7.62	47.64	Neg	Neg	Neg
5204	Cotton Sewing Thread W/N Put Up for Retail Sale	0.85	0.69	-18.69	Neg	Neg	Neg
5205	Cotton Yarn (Other Than Sewing Thread) Containing 85% Or More By Weight ff Cotton Not Put up for Retail Sale	277.92	289.68	4.23	1.90	3.46	82.10
5206	Cotton Yarn (Other Than Sewing Thread) Containing Cotton <85% By Weight not put for Retail Sale	15.11	12.96	-14.19	0.18	0.22	23.94
5207	Cotton Yarn (Other Than Sewing Thread) Put Up for Retail Sale	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg
5208	Woven Fabrics of Cotton Containing >=85% By Weight of Cotton Weighing not more than 200 G/M2	103.51	109.77	6.05	7.00	11.27	60.99
5209	Woven fabrics of Cotton, Containing >=85% Cotton by Weight Weighing>200 G/M2	45.22	43.19	-4.48	1.87	1.80	-3.74
5210	Woven fabrics Containing <85% Cotton, mixed mainly or solely with manmade fibres Weighing <=200g/M2	5.50	4.36	-20.64	1.40	1.47	4.67
5211	Woven Fabrics of Cotton, containing <85% Cotton, mixed Mainly with Manmade Fibres Weighing>200 G/M2	16.13	12.75	-20.99	1.95	2.07	6.21
5212	Other Woven Fabrics of Cotton	2.16	1.80	-16.74	0.44	0.30	-32.95
	Cotton (HS 5201-5203)	**79.67**	**39.33**	**-50.63**	**99.86**	**40.50**	**-59.44**
	Cotton Yarn (HS 5204-5207)	**294.32**	**304.40**	**3.42**	**2.10**	**3.77**	**79.52**
	Woven Fabrics of Cotton (HS 5208-5212)	**172.52**	**171.87**	**-0.38**	**12.66**	**16.91**	**33.57**

Source : MoC

India's export of Cotton - Top 10 Countries

- India's cotton exports observed a 28% decline during Apr-Feb 2026 compared to the same period in 2025.
- Bangladesh, the top export destination, saw a significant decline of 26%.
- Major declines were observed in:
- Vietnam (61%)
- Japan (50%)
- Greece (43%)
- Nepal (37%)
- Among the top 10, only China and Mauritius recorded positive growth.

Table - 7 shows the details of India's cotton export to major countries in quantitative terms.

Table - 7 : Cotton Export-Major Countries (5201)

(Quantity)

S.No.	Country	Apr - Feb 2025	Apr - Feb 2026	% Growth
1	BANGLADESH PR	26,83,32,183	19,77,16,575	-26
2	CHINA P RP	25,22,756	1,01,26,650	301
3	VIETNAM SOC REP	2,02,17,875	79,67,096	-61
4	INDONESIA	1,03,96,715	71,75,250	-31
5	THAILAND	9,16,604	7,88,379	-14
6	JAPAN	9,86,287	4,90,057	-50
7	NEPAL	7,41,059	4,63,616	-37
8	MAURITIUS	100132	1,97,621	97
9	GREECE	1,54,896	88,585	-43
10	PHILIPPINES	-	44,508	-
	TOTAL	**31,10,01,047**	**22,51,96,633**	**-27.59**

Source : MoC

Cotton Yarn Export-Major Countries

- India's cotton yarn exports recorded a growth of 3%, during Apr-Feb 2026 compared to the same period in 2025, rising from 980 Million kgs to 1,009 Million kgs.
- Bangladesh remained the largest importer, registering a decline of 12%.
- Strong growth was observed in:
- China P Rp: up by 103%
- Egypt: up by 86%

Foreign Trade Performance

- Several Major markets witnessed sharp declines:
- Vietnam (20%)
- Turkey (16%)
- Colombia (11%)
- Sri Lanka Dsr (10%)

Table - 8 shows the details of India's cotton yarn export to major countries in quantitative terms.

Table - 8 : Export of Cotton Yarn (5205)

(Quantity)

S.No.	Country	Apr - Feb 2025	Apr - Feb 2026	% Growth
1	BANGLADESH PR	49,91,74,341	43,73,51,280	-12
2	CHINA P RP	7,78,71,805	15,81,73,803	103
3	EGYPT A RP	4,35,57,734	8,11,97,625	86
4	PERU	4,86,76,683	5,15,59,927	6
5	VIETNAM SOC REP	4,67,96,414	3,75,17,826	-20
6	PORTUGAL	3,31,45,966	3,46,23,897	4
7	COLOMBIA	2,69,55,549	2,40,53,164	-11
8	KOREA RP	2,25,91,253	2,21,83,655	-2
9	SRI LANKA DSR	1,80,64,371	1,63,45,738	-10
10	TURKEY	1,21,00,393	1,01,19,116	-16
	TOTAL	**98,00,89,935**	**1,00,87,46,156**	**2.92**

Source : MoC

Cotton Import-Major Countries

- India's cotton imports surged expressively rising from 31 lakh bales in Apr-Feb 2025 to 58 lakh bales in Apr-Feb 2026.
- Brazil remained the leading supplier of cotton.

Table - 9 shows the details of India's cotton import from major countries in quantitative terms.

Table - 9 : Import of Cotton (5201)

(Quantity)

S.No.	Country	Apr - Feb 2025	Apr - Feb 2026
1	BRAZIL	9,57,33,563	22,97,31,688
2	AUSTRALIA	12,16,19,132	21,34,61,336
3	U S A	7,47,44,940	18,02,74,418
4	MALI	2,99,59,517	9,09,75,444
5	SINGAPORE	1,65,10,795	5,99,98,660
6	SWITZERLAND	2,57,28,595	4,36,85,672
7	TANZANIA REP	1,57,40,320	3,02,37,572
8	EGYPT A RP	3,05,33,967	2,37,27,436
9	COTE D' IVOIRE	2,73,85,266	1,88,97,350
10	TURKEY	58,37,152	1,39,41,425
	TOTAL	**52,79,10,892**	**98,60,38,515**

Source : MoC

News Snippets

Sri Lanka fabric imports rise modestly in early 2026 recovery

- Sri Lanka's fabric imports showed a modest recovery in January–February 2026, following a decline in the previous year. Total imports rose to $373.479 million, compared to $360.447 million in the same period of 2025, marking a growth of around 3.6 per cent year on year.
- China and India continued to dominate the supply landscape. Imports from China increased to $163.137 million, raising its share to 43.68 per cent from 42.98 per cent a year earlier.
- India remained the second-largest supplier at $106.923 million, though its share slightly declined to 28.63 per cent from 29.53 per cent.

Table - 10 : India's Trade Performance of Textiles & Clothing (Portwise)

(Values in USD Mn)

S. No.	Seaport	FY 24	FY 25	Apr - Feb 2026
1	NHAVA SHEVA SEA	9595.77	10057.15	9070.84
2	MUNDRA	4187.07	4169.33	3961.26
3	TUTICORIN SEA	3673.88	3877.66	3384.51
4	CHENNAI SEA	2014.43	2007.23	2076.44
5	COCHIN SEA	808.54	839.31	659.46
6	HAZIRA PORT, SURAT	820.29	799.92	636.58
7	KOLKATA SEA	337.48	328.02	352.81
8	ENNORE SEA	254.85	234.63	322.55
9	KATTUPALLI PORT/ TIRUVALLUR	99.21	185.65	91.18
10	NEW MANGALORE SEA	65.79	70.62	51.61
11	Others*	10500.59	12003.44	10418.45

Source : DGCIS

*- Others including Airport, ICD and Other

Index of Industrial Production

India's IIP Growth records 4.1% growth in March 2026

India's industrial production growth in March 2026 registered a 4.1% year-on-year increase according to data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

The mining sector was a major contributor to this growth, recording a 5.5% year-over -year increase. The manufacturing sector experienced a rise of 4.3% and electricity generation saw a marginal growth of 0.8%.

The General Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for March 2026 stood at 173.2 points, compared to 166.3 in March 2025. Sector-wise, the indices were recorded at 166.8 for Mining, 169.4 for Manufacturing, and 221.3 for Electricity. The mining sector emerged as the main contributor to this growth, underscoring its importance in boosting the economy. At the same time, manufacturing and electricity also showed consistent improvement, contributing to the overall positive growth.

Within the manufacturing sector, 14 out of the 23 industry groups posted positive year-on-year growth. The top three positive contributors for the month of March 2026 are - "Manufacture of other transport equipment" (20.8%), "Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers" (18.1%), "Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c." (11.2%).

The index of manufacturing of wearing apparel stood at 123.6 points during the month, recorded a growth of 22.7% comparing to previous month index of 100.7 points. The manufacture of textiles rose by 1.8%, with the index rising to 108.9 points from 107 points in February 2026.

The manufacture of textiles showed a year-on-year decline, with the index fell to 108.9 from 113 in March 2025, reflecting a dip of 3.6%. The manufacture of wearing apparel registered a decline of 14.6%, with the index fell to 123.6 from 144.8 in the same period last year.

Overall, India's industrial production showed steady growth in March 2026, supported mainly by strong performance in the mining and manufacturing sectors, while electricity output grew modestly. Key industries such as transport equipment, motor vehicles, and machinery played an important role in driving growth.

However, the textile and wearing apparel sectors showed a mixed performance during the period. Although both segments experienced some improvement on a monthly basis, they registered a decline compared to the same period last year, indicating underlying challenges affecting their sustained growth. The contrasting trends indicate that not all segments are recovering at the same pace. Overall, the industrial outlook remains positive, though certain sectors require focused attention.

Index of Industrial Production

Table - 1 : Component - wise breakup of IIP Growth (%)

Sectoral	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26
Mining & quarrying	5.8	6.9	4.3	3.1	5.5
Manufacturing	8.5	8.4	5.3	6.0	4.3
Electricity	-1.5	6.3	5.1	2.3	0.8
Primary goods	2.2	4.4	3.1	1.8	2.2
Capital goods	10.1	8.3	4.1	12.5	14.6
Intermediate goods	7.4	7.8	6.3	7.7	3.3
Infrastructure/construction goods	13.0	12.8	14.6	11.2	6.7
Consumer durables	11.2	12.4	7.2	7.3	5.3
Consumer non-durables	8.0	8.5	-2.3	-0.6	1.1
Overall IIP	7.2	8.0	5.1	5.2	4.1

Chart - 1 : Index of Industrial Production (Y-o-Y%)

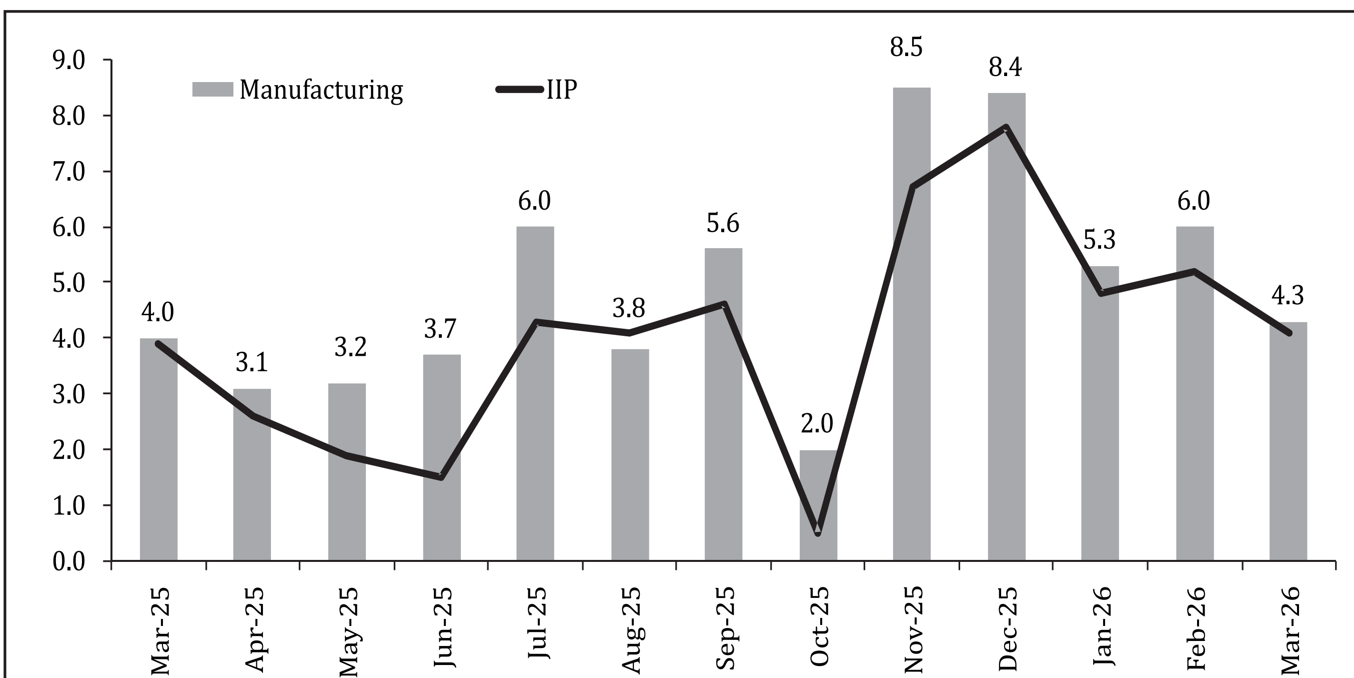


Table - 2 : Index of Industrial Production (Base 2011-12 =100)

NIC 2008	Description	Weights	Mar. 2025	Mar. 2026	% Change
10	Manufacture of food products	5.3025	131.6	132.2	0.5
11	Manufacture of beverages	1.0354	133.4	129.2	-3.1
12	Manufacture of tobacco products	0.7985	96.9	87.2	-10.0
13	Manufacture of textiles	3.2913	113.0	108.9	-3.6
14	Manufacture of wearing apparel	1.3225	144.8	123.6	-14.6
15	Manufacture of leather and related products	0.5021	88.8	84.4	-5.0
16	Manufacture of wood and products of wood and cork, except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials	0.1930	117.2	113.1	-3.5
17	Manufacture of paper and paper products	0.8724	78.2	83.3	6.5
18	Printing and reproduction of recorded media	0.6798	82.2	83.7	1.8
19	Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products	11.7749	146.0	147.3	0.9
20	Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	7.8730	129.8	125.2	-3.5
21	Manufacture of pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemical and botanical products	4.9810	218.3	224.3	2.7
22	Manufacture of rubber and plastics products	2.4222	118.9	122.2	2.8
23	Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products	4.0853	180.2	185.9	3.2
24	Manufacture of basic metals	12.8043	252.2	273.9	8.6
25	Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	2.6549	110.4	119.7	8.4
26	Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	1.5704	165.2	151.6	-8.2
27	Manufacture of electrical equipment	2.9983	144.8	153.3	5.9
28	Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.	4.7653	158.3	176.1	11.2
29	Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	4.8573	145.3	171.6	18.1
30	Manufacture of other transport equipment	1.7763	165.2	199.5	20.8
31	Manufacture of furniture	0.1311	239.4	245.9	2.7
32	Other manufacturing	0.9415	88.2	61.9	-29.8
	Mining	***14.3725***	***158.1***	***166.8***	***5.5***
	Manufacturing	***77.6332***	***162.4***	***169.4***	***4.3***
	Electricity	***7.9943***	***219.5***	***221.3***	***0.8***
	General	***100.0000***	***166.3***	***173.2***	***4.1***

As per the data release of International Cotton Advisory Committee, the world cotton supply and demand as estimated by ICAC.

(in Million Tons)

Particulars	2024-25	2025-26
Opening Stocks	15.80	15.56
Production	25.37	25.99
Supply	41.17	41.55
Consumption	25.14	25.16
Exports	9.21	9.89
Ending Stocks	15.56	16.39

Area

The area under cotton as projected by ICAC are as follows :

Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	% Change
Area (Million Hectares)	30.60	30.49	-0.36
Yield (Kg/ha)	829	852	+2.77

In particular, Pakistan's area is projected to decrease by 5% from 2 million hectares to 1.90 million hectares. Increase in area is projected in Brazil, where area is expected to be increased by 13.02% from 1.92 million hectares to 2.17 million hectares.

Production and Consumption :

The production and consumption of cotton projected by ICAC are as follows :

Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	% Change
Production (Million tons)	25.37	25.99	+2.44
Consumption (Million tons)	25.14	25.16	+0.08

Increase in world cotton production estimate by ICAC can be attributed to increase in production in China and Brazil. Cotton production in Brazil increased by 14.86% from 3.70 million tons to 4.25 million tons in 2025-26, in China by 3.59% from 6.41 million ton to 6.64 million tons in 2025-26. Cotton production in Pakistan is estimated to decrease by 8.33% from 1.20 million tons to 1.10 million tons.

World cotton consumption is estimated to be roughly the same as the last season. Competition in Vietnam is projected to increase by 3.33% from 1.50 million tons to 1.55 million tons in 2025-26.

Cotton consumption in Bangladesh is estimated to decrease by 4.86% from 1.85 million tons to 1.76 million tons, in China by 2.44% from 8.20 million tons to 8.0 million tons in 2025-26.

World Cotton Trade and Ending Stocks

Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	% Change
Exports (Million tons)	9.21	9.89	+7.38
Ending Stock (Million tons)	15.56	16.38	+5.27

According to ICAC, Bangladesh has replaced China as the largest importer of cotton in the 2024-25 season and is estimated to remain in the same position for 2025-26 accounting for 18.20% or an estimated 1.8 million tons of world imports. Vietnam and China will be the second and third largest importers of cotton.

Brazil is estimated to remain the world's largest exporter of cotton, with 32.36% of total world or estimated 3.20 million tons of world's exports. Exports by Brazil are projected to increase by 14.29% from 2.80 million tons to 3.20 million tons in 2025-26. Exports by USA are projected to decrease by 3.70% from 2.7 million tons to 2.6 million tons.

Indian Cotton Scenario

The Committee on Cotton Production and Consumption, in its meeting held on April 16, 2026 projected cotton production at 290.91 lakh bales and consumption at 324 lakh bales. Imports and exports are estimated at 47 lakh bales and 12 lakh bales respectively, leaving a closing stock of just 43 lakh bales the lowest in two decades.

During 2025-26, cotton production dipped to 290.91 lakh bales from 2947.24 lakh bales in 2024-25 cotton season despite the acreage remaining stagnant at 114.8 lakh hectares in the last two years, after dropping from a high of 129.27 lakh hectares in 2022-23. The major highlights, as decided during the meeting, for the cotton season 2025-26 as compared to 2024-25 are as below:

Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	% Change
Crop Size (Lakh bales)	297.24	290.91	-2.13%
Total Supply (Lakh Bales)	386.11	383.41	-0.70%
Demand (Lakh Bales)	340.61	340.00	-0.18%
Closing Stock (Lakh Bales)	45.50	43.41	-4.59%
Acrage (Lakh ha)	114.84	114.82	-0.02%
Yield (Kg./ha)	440.01	430.72	-2.11%

The area wise cotton production as also the cotton balance sheet for the cotton season 2025-26, as finalized by the CoCPC during the meeting is attached for the kind perusal of the members.

Particulars	2024 - 25 (P)*		2025 - 26 (P)*	
	(In lakh bales of 170 kg. Each)	(In Thousand Tons)	(In lakh bales of 170 kg. Each)	(In Thousand Tons)
SUPPLY				
Opening Stock	47.47	806.99	45.50	773.50
Crop	297.24	5053.08	290.91	4945.47
Import	41.40	703.80	47.00	799.00
TOTAL SUPPLY	386.11	6563.87	383.41	6517.97
DEMAND				
Non-MSME Consumption	213.04	3621.68	217.00	3689.00
MSME Consumption	93.50	1589.50	95.00	1615.00
Non-Textile Consumption	16.00	272.00	16.00	272.00
Export	18.07	307.19	12.00	204.00
TOTAL DEMAND	**340.61**	**5790.37**	**340.00**	**5780.00**
Closing Stock.	**45.50**	**773.50**	**43.41**	**737.97**

State-wise area of Cotton, Production & Yield

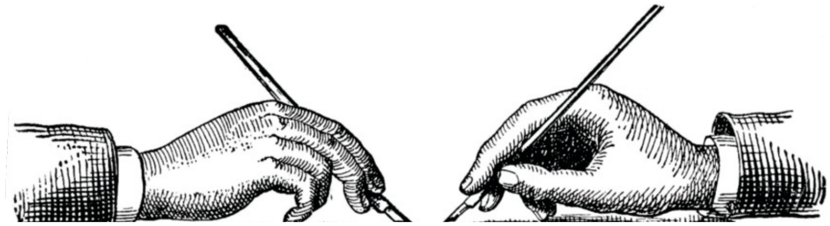
Area : in Lakh Hectares

Production : in Lakh bales of 170 Kg

Yield : kg per hectare

Name of the State	2024-25 (P)			2025-26 (P)		
	Area	Production	Yield	Area	Production	Yield
Punjab	1.60	4.14	439.88	1.42	3.46	414.23
Haryana	3.98	11.77	502.74	3.94	9.75	420.69
Rajasthan	6.27	17.86	484.24	6.44	17.94	473.57
NORTHERN ZONE	**11.85**	**33.77**	**484.46**	**11.80**	**31.15**	**448.77**
Gujarat	23.72	71.57	512.94	20.96	66.08	535.95
Maharashtra	41.23	73.73	304.00	38.55	78.91	347.98
Madhya Pradesh	5.37	15.35	485.94	5.58	10.16	309.53
CENTRAL ZONE	**70.32**	**160.65**	**388.37**	**65.09**	**155.15**	**405.22**
Telangana	18.12	57.89	543.12	20.52	60.84	504.04
Andhra Pradesh	4.04	11.31	475.92	5.42	12.11	379.83
Karnataka	6.78	22.73	569.93	8.81	21.50	414.87
Tamilnadu	1.02	2.11	351.67	0.50	1.12	380.80
SOUTHERN ZONE	**29.96**	**94.04**	**533.60**	**35.25**	**95.57**	**460.90**
Orissa	2.39	8.23	585.40	2.39	8.49	603.89
Others	0.32	0.55	292.19	0.29	0.55	322.41
TOTAL	**114.84**	**297.24**	**440.01**	**114.82**	**290.91**	**430.72**

Editorials



Key Petroleum Items get 3 Months Import Duty Relief :

Move targets price stability, uninterrupted supply for sectors like textiles,chemicals and pharma. India exempted imports of critical petro-chemical products from customs duty for three months till June 30, giving relief to sectors such as pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and textiles, and helping ensure supply stability amid the West Asia conflict.

The government could also reduce import duties and regulate exports if necessary to ensure adequate domestic supplies of essential products whose availability is restricted by the war, said Mr Lav Agar wal, Director General of Foreign Trade. He said the government is examining reducing import duties on critical raw materials and other essential goods.

Mr Sanjay Mangal, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs member for tax policy said the tax cuts will cost the exchequer about Rs 1,800 crore but would help ensure price stability, continuity in production and supply chain.

Sectors dependent on petrochemical feed-stock and intermediates such as plastics, packaging, textiles, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, automotive components, and other manufacturing segments will benefit from the duty exemption.

"This measure has been taken as a temporary and targeted relief in order to ensure continued availability of critical petrochemical inputs for domestic industry, reduce cost pressures on downstream sectors, and safeguard supply stability in the country," according to a finance ministry statement. This would also provide relief to consumers of final products, it said.

Goods which received the customs duty exemption include methanol, anhydrous ammonia, toluene, styrene, dichloromethane (methylene chloride), vinyl chloride monomer, poly butadiene, styrene butadiene, and unsaturated polyester resins. Disruptions in shipping routes due to the war has sparked concerns of continued imports of fertiliser, crude oil, and natural gas. India is a major importer of fertilisers and petroleum.

Global crude prices have surged nearly 50% since the US and Israel launched military strikes against Iran on February 28, triggering sweeping retaliation from Tehran. The government had cut excise duty on petrol and diesel by Rs 10 a litre as it looked to shield consumers from the impact of rising crude prices. It also imposed an export duty of

Rs 21.5 per litre on diesel and Rs 29.5 per litre on jet fuel. Excise duty on petrol has been cut to Rs 3 per litre, while on diesel, it is zero currently. The government allowed special economic zone (SEZ) - unit to sell up to 30% of their export production in the domestic market. This is a one-time relief window to units in SEZs due to the global trade ease pressures faced by existing disruptions.

The Economic Times 03.04.2026

Industry leaders' push for PNG gains momentum in Tirupur's textile industries

Tirupur's textile industry is gearing up for a major energy shift as exporters and industry leaders push for wider adoption of piped natural gas (PNG). With global sustainability norms tightening, stakeholders siad the transition is key for staying competitive. An awareness, programme on the use of PNG, jointly organised by the Tirupur Exporters' Association (TEA) and Adani Total Gas, was held on the TEA premises, highlighting the need for industries to transition towards cleaner energy.

Mr Kumar Duraiswamy, joint secretary, TEA, said the shift to PNG is not a temporary response to geopolitical factors but a necessary step as global industries move towards sustainable production. He pointed out that (environmental, social and governance) norms, exports to European markets are expected to comply with sustainable manufacturing practices within the next two years. This would require industries to gradually move away from conventional fuels such as LPG and coal.

While acknowledging the challenges involved in such a transition for Tirupur's industrial ecosystem, he said it also presents an opportunity to remain globally competitive.

TEA president Mr K M Subramanian said gas connectivity would soon become essential for industries. He noted that Adani Total Gas is prepared to fast-track PNG infrastructure in Tirupur. He referred to the upcoming Digital Product Passport (DPP) regulations, which will mandate strict monitoring of sustainability standards across the production cycle.

He added that global brands such as H&M, Primark and Mothercare are increasingly insisting on compliance with sustainability norms, including phasing out coal and adopting cleaner fuels. He stressed the need for a reliable gas supply in Tirupur, which employs nearly one million people, and said gas shortages have pushed production costs up by around 15%. He urged the government to expedite the PNG rollout and assured full industry support.

The Times of India 07.04.2026

War cuts cotton grey fabric production by half

Powerloom textile manufacturers have reduced production by 50%, as the sale of manufactured fabrics (cotton grey fabric) has stagnated locally due to the prevailing US Israel-Iran war. Mr K Sakthivel, coordinator of Tiruppur and Coimbatore District Textile Manufacturers Association, said, "Around 2.5 lakh power looms operate in Tiruppur and

Coimbatore, and about 10 million metres of cotton grey fabric were being produced per day. However, we have reduced our production by 50%. The primary reason is that our buyers in Africa and other countries have temporarily suspended fabric imports due to the prevailing war."

"In addition, the fabric that used to take about 45 days to reach the European market now takes 80 days. Moreover, payments from foreign buyers are currently being delayed significantly. For such reasons, over the past four weeks, fabrics worth Rs.200 crore have stagnated."

"Taking advantage of this, domestic buyers have also started reducing fabric prices. The price of yarn has also risen sharply due to the rise in cotton prices. For example, the price of 40s spinning yarn has risen from Rs.235 per kg to Rs.300. This price hike has occurred within a month. The prices of synthetic fibres, which are manufactured from petroleum by-products, have also risen. Due to the war, China has now started importing yarn from India, instead of Brazil. This, too, is a reason for the yarn price hike," he further said. Another textile manufacturer said domestic buyers have reduced the price by up to 25 paise per metre. The price of cotton grey fabric ranges from Rs.35 to Rs.50 per metre, he said.

The Indian Express 08.04.2026

Textile Sector Gets a Boost with 52 New PLI Approvals

The government has approved 52 new applications under Round III of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles, at a time when domestic demand remains strong and free trade agreements, such as the one with the UK, are nearing implementation, further supporting the sector's growth prospects.

Out of the new approvals, five are for man-made fibre (MMF) clothing, 19 are for MMF fabrics, 18 focus on technical textiles, and the remaining ten cover more than one segment. So far, 148 companies have been selected under this scheme. Together, they are expected to invest Rs.6,708 crore (US $718 Million) and generate a turnover of Rs.21,186 crore (US $2.27 Billion).

These companies are spread across many states. These include Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Some Union Territories like Daman and Diu, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli are also included.

In December 2025, the government made some changes to the scheme. The minimum investment needed was reduced. For Part 1, it was cut from Rs.300 crore (US $32.13 Million) to Rs.150 crore (US $16.06 Million). For Part 2, it was reduced from Rs.100 crore (US $10.71 Million) to Rs.50 crore (US $5.35 Million). The minimum incremental turnover criterion was also reduced from 25% to 10%, and the product basket was expanded to include additional MMF apparel, fabrics, and technical textiles. Also, the requirement to set up a new company to avail of the scheme's benefits has been removed.

The PLI Scheme for Textiles was originally approved in September 2021, with a total budgetary outlay of Rs.10,683 crore (US $1.14 Billion) for a period of five years. It focuses on high-value segments that will support long-term growth and exports.

Right now, India has only a 9.2% share in the global man-made fibre market. This is much lower than countries like China, Vietnam, and Taiwan. India's share in the global technical textiles market is also low, at around 5% to 6%.

Apparel Resources 13.04.2026

Textiles Ministry launches 'Vishwa Sutra' to promote Indian handlooms globally

The Ministry of Textiles has launched an initiative called 'Vishwa Sutra - Weaves of India for the World'. A designer collection based on the initiative was presented at the 61st Femina Miss India held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The initiative has been developed by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms) in collaboration with the National Institute of Fashion Technology. It aims to present Indian handlooms in a contemporary global design framework.

Under this initiative, 30 distinct handloom weaves from across the country have been brought together, each representing a different state. These weaves have been creatively reinterpreted with design inspirations drawn from 30 countries, reflecting diverse cultures and modern fashion sensibilities.

The Ministry said that the initiative highlights the Government's vision of Vocal for Local to Global and the Prime Minister's 5F framework - Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign. It also emphasises the role of the handloom sector in preserving cultural heritage, generating sustainable livelihoods and strengthening India's presence in the global textile and fashion market.

News On Air 19.04.2026

RBI Engages With Tiruppur Exporters Association on Investment Climate in Apparel Sector

Officials from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) held discussions with leaders of the Tiruppur Exporters Association (TEA) to assess the state of private investment in the apparel sector, amid concerns over slowing growth and structural challenges.

During the interaction, Dr Harendra Behera, Director in the Department of Economic and Policy Research at the RBI, underscored the importance of employment generation and sustained investment in the textile industry. He observed that private investment growth had slowed since 2008, with a noticeable shift towards financial assets. He further stated that factors such as high financial costs, regulatory uncertainties and global geopolitical developments were acting as constraints on fresh investment. He also emphasised that MSMEs should actively utilise schemes and initiatives introduced by the government and the RBI to support their expansion.

Building on these concerns, Mr Kumar Duraisamy, Joint Secretary of TEA, highlighted the challenges faced by MSMEs in the sector, including manpower shortages, stringent regulatory requirements, the impact of Basel III norms and low credit scores. He noted that while significant efforts had been made towards sustainability through water recycling systems, the high maintenance costs of common effluent treatment plants were affecting competitiveness. He also called for more liberal financial support from banks to address these constraints.

Echoing the need for stronger institutional backing, Mr R Gopalakrishnan, Treasurer of TEA, stressed the need for stronger institutional credit support for the sector. He urged the RBI to consider dedicated funding mechanisms for MSME exporters, on the lines of priority lending frameworks seen in sectors such as education and agriculture. He also called for clear guidelines to be issued to both public and private sector banks to ensure that such support reaches the intended beneficiaries. In addition, he suggested the development of an online platform, similar to the Jan Samarth portal, to simplify the loan renewal process for MSME exporters.

The interaction reflects ongoing efforts by policymakers and industry stakeholders to address investment bottlenecks and improve credit access within India's apparel export ecosystem.

Apparel Resources 18.04.2026

China textile & apparel exports edge up to $67 Bn in Q1 2026

China's textile and apparel exports increased 1.21 per cent during January-March 2026, signalling a steady tone after a subdued 2025. According to data from the General Administration of Customs (GACC), combined exports of textiles, garments and accessories rose year on year to $67.079 Billion, compared with $66.272 Billion in the same period of 2025. China's shipment of garments and accessories eased 0.4 per cent year on year to $32.885 Billion from $33.011 Billion. Meanwhile, exports of textile products, including yarns, fabrics and related articles, rose 2.8 per cent to $34.194 Billion from $33.261 Billion, supported by better downstream manufacturing activity across Asia.

In March 2026 alone, exports of textile yarns, fabrics and related articles were valued at $8.621 Billion, while garment shipments stood at $8.014 Billion, taking the combined monthly total to $16.635 Billion.

On the import side, China's imports of textile yarns and fabrics increased 17.3 per cent year on year to $2.682 Billion in January-March 2026, compared with $2.287 Billion in the same period of 2025. March imports alone stood at $1.0931 Billion. The rise indicates replenishment of raw materials, particularly cotton and specialised yarns, as domestic mills ramp up production in response to rising export orders. China's outbound shipment of textile and apparel had noticed a decline of 2.42 per cent to $293.77 Billion in 2025.

Of this, garments and accessories accounted for $151.18 Billion, while textile products contributed $142.58 Billion. Imports of textile yarns and fabrics had also declined 7.9 per cent to $9.97 Billion in 2025, compared with $10.83 Billion in 2024, reflecting weaker domestic demand and cautious procurement.

Looking at the broader trajectory, China's textile and apparel exports were valued at $301.07 Billion in 2024, marking a modest 2.7 per cent recovery after a sharp 8.05 per cent contraction in 2023, when shipments dropped to $293.64 Billion from $319.38 Billion in 2022. The current uptick in early 2026 suggests that the sector may be entering a more stable recovery phase, supported by improving external demand, supply chain normalisation and China's continued competitiveness in the global textile trade.

Fibre2Fashion 21.04.2026

As cotton prices rise, textile industry seeks removal of 11 per cent duty on imports

As domestic cotton prices continue to rise tracking global clues, a worried textile industry has urged the government to allow duty-free imports of the fibre crop to safeguard export competitiveness and stabilise the value chain.

Cotton prices have been climbing steadily in recent weeks, putting pressure across the textile ecosystem - from spinning mills to garment exporters. Industry stakeholders warn that the sustained price surge is eroding margins, particularly for exporters operating on long-term contracts with limited flexibility to absorb input cost increases.

"Cotton price increase will definitely affect the whole value chain because it is rising steeply day by day," said Dr K Selvaraju, Secretary General of The Southern India Mills Association (SIMA), highlighting that garments, which rely on fabric inputs, are especially vulnerable due to the absence of sufficient price cushioning.

The timing of the cotton price rally is particularly challenging as India's textile exports are already facing headwinds due to geopolitical disruptions, including the ongoing tensions in West Asia that have affected demand in key markets. While yarn exports have remained relatively stable, supported by demand from China, the broader export segment is under strain. Spinning mills have managed to sustain operations despite elevated cotton prices. However, if the trend continues, even this segment could face disruptions, he said, adding that there was a dearth of quality cotton in the country. The untimely rains last year damaged more than half the cotton crop, resulting in quality issues. As a result, the mills are not only grappling with tight supplies but also limited availability of quality cotton.

He said cotton production is around 290 lakh bales, lower than the domestic requirement around 330 lakh bales. To bridge the gap, the industry is calling for the removal of the 11 per cent import duty on cotton from May till October, a window that would cover the lean supply period before fresh arrivals begin.

Business Line 22.04.2026

TN power demand may jump 89% in 10 yrs, second-highest in south

Tamil Nadu's energy requirement is expected to increase by about 89% over the next 10 years, according to the National Generation Adequacy Plan released by the Central Electricity

Authority (CEA) for the period from 2026-2027 to 2035-2036.

The state's demand is projected at 1,48,219 Million units (MU) in 2026-27 and is likely to rise to 2,80,398 MU (89%) by 2035-36. Among the southern states, Tamil Nadu is expected to rank second in terms of power requirement, while Andhra Pradesh is projected to top the list with a demand of 2,93,798 MU in 2035-36. At the national level, Gujarat is expected to record one of the highest energy requirements, reaching 3,65,811 MU by 2035- 36.

Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNP- DCL), in its 16th annual report for 2024-25, had highlighted the financial burden of power procurement. The utility stated that it spent Rs.75,960.32 crore on power purchases, including procurement from private sources, while its total income stood at Rs.1,00,417.13 crore. This shows that nearly 75% of its income was spent on buying power.

It is clear that such high spending on power purchase is not sustainable in the long run. With demand expected to rise steadily, there is a need to reduce dependence on costly private procurement and focus more on increasing state-owned power generation capacity.

A senior TNPDCL official, on condition of anonymity, told TNIE that no major power plants have come into full commercial operation after the commissioning of North Chennai Stage II (2x600 MW) in May 2014. "North Chennai Stage III, with a capacity of 800 MW, commenced commercial operations. However, the Plant Load Factor (PLF) currently stands at around 40% alone as some technical works are yet to be completed," he said.

The official further said that several major projects are in the pipeline including Udangudi Supercritical Thermal Power Station (2x660 MW), Ennore SEZ Supercritical Thermal Power Project (2x660 MW), Uppur Supercritical Thermal Power Project (2x800 MW) and ETPS Expansion Supercritical Thermal Power Project (1x660 MW). Among these, the first unit of the Udangudi project is nearing completion and is expected to begin commercial operations soon.

He added that after the Assembly elections, the new government should focus on completing these ongoing projects and increasing the state's own power generation. He Said, this would also help in reducing the utility's total debt, which currently stands at around Rs.1.76 lakh crore

The Indian Express 11.04.2026

Global apparel brands urged to promote India as a key sourcing hub

Buying houses of global apparel brands should play a proactive role in promoting India as a preferred sourcing destination and support the Indian textile and apparel industry's growth and global positioning, said Dr A. Sakthivel, chairman of the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC). At the Bharat Tex 2026 round table discussion held in Bengaluru, he emphasised on the need to bridge the technology and quality gaps within the industry. He suggested that strategic measures such as importing specialised fabrics may be necessary in the short term apart from focused efforts to strengthen the domestic supply chain.

He also highlighted the importance of integrating global expertise into the Indian textile ecosystem and proposed active engagement with Taiwanese industry for introducing advanced technologies in synthetic yarn manufacturing.

India has entered into Free Trade Agreements (FTAS) with several advanced economies that are creating immense possibilities for the country to emerge as a key apparel sourcing hub. Hence, the upcoming decade is set to be a defining period for the Indian apparel industry, he said.

A comprehensive presentation on Bharat Tex 2026 was delivered by Bhatat Tex Federation outlining the scale, opportunities and key arrangements for the upcoming mega event scheduled to be held in New Delhi from July 14-17, 2026.

The round table saw participation from around 40 leading global brands and buying houses, including Walmart, PVH, Ralph Lauren, Marks & Spencer (M&S), C&A and Columbia Sportswear.

The buying house representatives shared their insights on critical industry aspects such as need for strengthening the value supply chain, sustainability, circularity, traceability and compliance requirements. The discussions also focused on identifying existing gaps and exploring collaborative approaches to address them.

The Hindu 27.04.2026

Monitoring cell set up by Textile Ministry

The Textile Ministry has set up a monitoring cell to examine ways to support the industry, especially man- made fibre sector, impacted by the West Asia crisis. The Ministry is holding weekly meetings with export promotion councils, domestic industry associations, regional clusters and State government officials, as per a press statement. GAIL has indicated that both the textiles and handicraft sectors have been prioritised with supplies maintained at 80% of the past six months' average consumption. This follows the Textiles Ministry's request to the Centre seeking assured supply of natural gas to these sectors. The Ministry took up lifting Customs Duty with the Revenue Department on manmade fibre inputs while batting for removal/ deferment of anti-dumping levy on elastomeric filament yarn and viscose rayon filament yarn.

The Hindu 29.04.2026

India-NZ FTA may triple Tirupur garment exports

The textile and apparel industry in Tirupur has welcomed the signing of the India- -New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA), stating that the pact could boost exports and help triple India's ready-made garment (RMG) shipments to New Zealand within the next two years.

The agreement was signed between Union Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal and New Zealand's Minister for Trade and Investment Mr Todd McClay. Apparel Export Promotion Council chairman Dr A Sakthivel said the agreement would provide Indian exporters with 100% duty-free access to the New Zealand market, giving Indian textile and garment products an immediate price advantage.

He said it would particularly benefit labour-intensive sectors like garments and textiles, leading to higher export volumes, employment generation and growth of micro, small and medium enterprises across the value chain.

New Zealand imports ready-made garments worth more than US$ 1.2 Billion annually, while India currently accounts for only around 4.4% of that market. He noted that the agreement creates strong opportunities for Indian exporters to expand their presence in categories like cotton T- shirts, shirts, knitwear and other garments. He added that improved market access and competitive pricing could help India treble its garment exports to New Zealand within two years.

AEPC noted that the FTA aligns well with India's strengths in cotton-based apparel and offers scope for diversification into man-made fibre segments to better match New Zealand's import demand trends.

The Tirupur Exporters' Association (TEA) welcomed the agreement, calling it a major milestone for India's textile sector. TEA president Mr K M Subramanian said the trade deal is expected to attract investments worth US$20 Billion into India and strengthen long-term economic cooperation between the two nations.

He said the removal of tariffs, currently averaging 4.19% and going up to 10%, would enhance India's competitiveness in global markets and benefit the textile sector.

Times of India 29.04.2026

India-New Zealand FTA a significant move: SIMA

The Southern India Mills' Association (SIMA) has welcomed the signing of the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA), calling it a significant market opportunity for the Indian textile and apparel sector. SIMA Chairman Mr Durai Palanisamy expressed gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Hon'ble Union Commerce & Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal for the landmark pact.

He stated that the FTA will provide 100% duty- free access for Indian textiles, including apparel, home textiles and made-ups to New Zealand, creating a level playing field for exporters. He noted that the agreement aligns with the Government's vision of 'Viksit Bharat 2047' and will support the target of achieving a $350 Billion apparel market by 2030.

The Indian Express 29.04.2026

India Eyes Duty Cuts to Cushion Textile Sector amid West Asia Disruptions

The Ministry of Textiles has proposed a series of duty reductions and regulatory relaxations aimed at securing raw material supplies, as ongoing disruptions linked to the West Asia crisis place mounting pressure on India's textile industry. The measures under consideration include lowering import duties on rayon pulp and select cotton varieties, as well as deferring anti-dumping duties on certain yarns.

According to officials, the Ministry is engaged in consultations with the Ministries of Agriculture and Finance to finalise these proposals. An official was reported as stating that discussions were ongoing with the Agriculture Ministry regarding a reduction in customs duties, noting that while some stakeholders favour eliminating duties due to inadequate domestic production, the interests of farmers remain a primary concern.

The Ministry has also recommended the removal of the minimum import price (MIP) on certain knitted fabrics. This comes amid rising input costs and shipping disruptions, which are threatening the sector's ability to meet production targets and maintain competitiveness in global markets.

In response to declining exports, the Government is encouraging textile manufacturers to diversify into East Asian markets. Readymade garment exports recorded a 19% year-on-year decline in March, largely attributed to instability in West Asia.

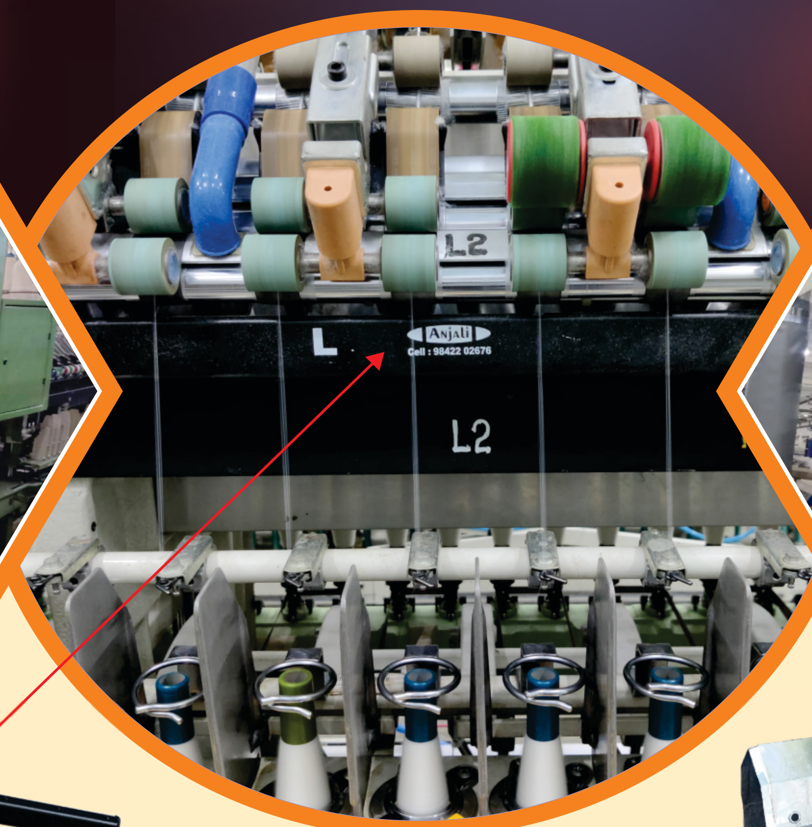
India's cotton imports remain limited and are primarily restricted to specialised varieties such as extra-long staple cotton, sourced mainly from the United States and Egypt. Rayon pulp imports, currently subject to a 5% duty, are largely sourced from Europe.

Apparel Resource 17.04.2026

Ph : 0422 - 2667876
Cell : 98422 02676
94426 02676

Anjali Textile Engineers

anjutextile@gmail.com www.anjutextile.com



Pneumafil Individual Type
Duct Conversion for Common Suction Pipe

PNEUMAFIL GROUP SUCTION PIPE WITH FAN BOX CONVERSION

Pneumafil Common
Suction Type Duct & Pipes

POWER SAVING AND SUCTION IMPROVEMENTS LR6s / G5/1 LR60A, LRJ9 AXL, LR9 AXL
Reiter Ring Frame and KTTM All Compact Spinning Ring Frame (1200 Spindle)

SUCTION and POWER SAVING DETAILS

Power Save
Pneumafil Impeller

CONVERSION

BEFORE		AFTER	
Old Suction Pipe, Fan & Motor		Anjali Suction Pipe, Fan & Motor	
OE	100 mm	OE	120 mm
MD	70 mm	MD	90 mm
GE	45 mm	GE	65 mm
Old Suction Pipe and Fan - 6 Ams		Anjali Suction Pipe and Fan - 2.5 Ams	
3.88 Units Per Hour		1.62 Units Per Hour	

50% POWER SAVE

OHTC Filter Box

50% Power Saving
Pneumafil Motor

Per Day 2.26 X 23.5 Hrs. = 53 Unit Power Saving
Per Month 53 x 30 Days = 53 x Unit Cost Rs. 9/-

Saving Rs. 14,310/- (Approx) PER MONTH (Per Machine)