YR 25 ISSUE 11

# Apparel INDIA

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## A New Stitch in Time: Labour Code Overhaul and Its Industry Implications

*AEPC Thrust on Boosting Exports to Australia*

# Apparel INDIA

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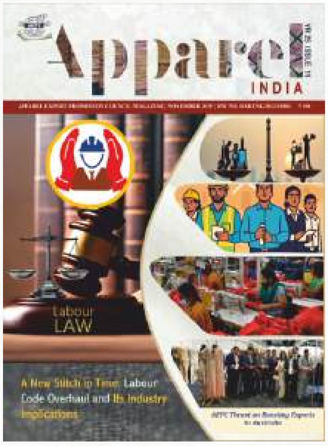



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**Dear member exporters,**

**Greetings of the day!**

The Indian apparel industry stands today at a critical inflection point. As global trade dynamics evolve amid US tariff actions, our exporters face renewed uncertainty. The United States remains India's single largest apparel market and escalation in duties have directly impacted our order books, pricing competitiveness, and overall sectoral stability. The silver lining is the India US trade deal which the industry has been eagerly waiting for. In this challenging environment, it is imperative that we proactively support our industry to cushion the impact and ensure sustained resilience.

Our sincere thanks to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Hon'ble Textiles and Hon'ble Commerce & Industry Minister for the Support package of Rs 25,060 crore Export Promotion Mission and Rs 20,000 crore in additional collateral free credit to support the industry. These are timely measures, which will go a long way in strengthening India's export competitiveness, easing liquidity challenges, and empowering especially the MSMEs to expand their global footprint. These initiatives reflect the Government's deep commitment to realizing the Viksit Bharat vision by making India a trusted and resilient partner in global trade.

At AEPC, we have been actively engaging with the government to secure a comprehensive support framework. Our key submissions focus on fast-tracking the operationalization of PM MITRA parks, which hold the potential to transform India's textile-apparel value chain by providing integrated infrastructure of global standards. We have also emphasized the urgent need to extend the Interest Equalization Scheme, a proven lifeline for MSME-dominated apparel units facing tight liquidity and rising borrowing costs.

Ensuring continuity of RoSCTL is equally critical. This scheme has been instrumental in maintaining export competitiveness, and any disruption would adversely affect pricing stability in global markets. To further strengthen our

outreach, AEPC has proposed the creation of a Market Diversification Fund, enabling exporters to explore non-traditional and emerging geographies—including Latin America, CIS nations, and key economies across Africa—where significant untapped demand exists.
India's strategic pursuit of FTAs with new and promising regions must continue with fresh vigour. Preferential access to diverse markets will not only reduce overdependence on a few destinations but also open new opportunities for value-added apparel exports.

Beyond market and policy support, our long-term competitiveness rests on addressing structural priorities. A future-ready industry demands skilled and upskilled workforce, especially as automation, lean manufacturing, and sustainability-linked production models gain prominence. We have urged for enhanced, industry-aligned skilling programs that prepare our workforce for modern global supply-chain expectations.

Equally vital is investment in technology. To accelerate modernization across the sector, AEPC has recommended measures to attract higher FDI for technology upgradation, allow duty-free import of advanced machinery, and introduce greater flexibility in sourcing raw materials, particularly specialized fibers and fabrics not available domestically.

The new labour codes (effective from 21 November 2025) in India bring in several opportunities and changes that will have significant impacts on the apparel and textile industry. The long-awaited roll out of four labour codes marks a giant step towards simplification and streamlining of multiplicity of existing labour laws. These labour reforms will unshackle the Indian industry and help it realize the true potential through improvement in productivity while ensuring transparency, job security, social & financial security and social compliance for workers.

The apparel sector will immensely benefit from the change brought by allowing women to work at night in all types of work and across all establishments. Hitherto Section 66 (1) (b) of the Factories Act, 1948 prohibiting women employees from working at night in factories was a major impediment to introduction of double-shifts in the women workforce dominated apparel sector. Though some states had brought their own legislation permitting females to work in factories at night, it was not allowed across all states. This change will immediately address the capacity augmentation challenges in the sector and help India emerge as a major global sourcing hub for clothing.

The India Pavilion at Global Sourcing Expo, Melbourne, Australia — featuring 30 Indian apparel exporters- who participated through AEPC, was Inaugurated on 18th November 2025 in Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, Melbourne Australia. The India Pavilion inaugurated by Shri Harsh Chirania, First Secretary India in Australia (High Commission of India, Canberra) along with Ms. Swayamprava Pani, Additional Development Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, in presence of AEPC's EC members, senior representatives and industry leaders including me.

AEPC also organized webinars on Trade Connect in collaboration with DGFT. Plus, topical webinars on enhancing export efficiency through IFSC and facilitating export growth through new age trade finance solutions.

Towards relentless efforts of the Council to keep increasing employee awareness regarding the PoSH Act, a self-defense training for female employees was also organized.

The apparel sector has always been one of India's most employment-intensive and socially inclusive industries. With timely policy support, robust trade partnerships, and focused capacity building, we can not only mitigate the current challenges but also strengthen India's position as a reliable global apparel hub.

AEPC remains fully committed to working with all stakeholders to secure a stable, competitive, and future-ready growth ecosystem for our exporters. Together, we will navigate the uncertainties and steer the Indian apparel industry toward greater global leadership.

**Sudhir Sekhri**
**Chairman AEPC**

# India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP)

## *Textiles & Wearing Apparel update for India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for the month of September in FY 2025-26*

| Month | Manufacture of Textiles | | Growth Rate (In %) | Manufacture of Wearing Apparel | | Growth Rate (In %) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2025-26 over 2024-25 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2025-26 over 2024-25 |
| April | 105.3 | 105.7 | 0.4 | 105.1 | 114.2 | 8.7 |
| May | 107.0 | 103.8 | -3.0 | 123.6 | 126.5 | 2.3 |
| June | 106.2 | 107.8 | 1.5 | 122.6 | 127.7 | 4.0 |
| July | 109.1 | 107.6 | -1.4 | 111.7 | 115.3 | 3.2 |
| August | 109.4 | 107.7 | -1.6 | 112.5 | 107.2 | -4.7 |
| September | 109.3 | 110.6 | 1.2 | 103.7 | 100.8 | -2.8 |
| October | 111.1 | | | 104.0 | | |
| November | 106.2 | | | 110.3 | | |
| December | 113.9 | | | 119.1 | | |
| January | 113.7 | | | 120.2 | | |
| February | 106.6 | | | 120.1 | | |
| March | 112.1 | | | 144.8 | | |
| Cumulative Index (Apr-Sep) | **107.7** | **107.2** | **-0.5** | **113.2** | **114.8** | **1.4** |

**Source: CSO,2025**
***Figures for September 2025 are Quick Estimates. (Base: 2011-12=100)**

➢ ***Manufacturing of Textiles Index*** *for the month of September, 2025 is 110.6, which has grown by 1.2% as compared to September, 2024.*

➢*Manufacturing of Textiles Index for the financial year 2025-26 (April-September) is 107.2, which has shown a decline of 0.5% to as compared to the year 2024-25 (April-September).*

➢***Manufacturing of Wearing Apparel Index*** *for the month of September, 2025 is 100.8, which has declined by 2.8 % as compared to September, 2024.*

➢*Manufacturing of Wearing Apparel Index for the financial year 2025-26 (April-September) is 114.8, which has shown a growth of 1.4% as compared to the financial year 2024-25 (April-September).*

# INDIA'S READY-MADE GARMENT (RMG)

## India's RMG Export to World

| Month | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | YoY Growth (%) 2024-25 Over 2023-24 | YoY Growth (%) 2025-26 Over 2024-25 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | (In US$ Mn.) | | | | |
| April | 1210.9 | 1198.4 | 1371.3 | -1.0 | 14.4 |
| May | 1235.8 | 1357.4 | 1511.5 | 9.8 | 11.4 |
| June | 1248.0 | 1293.9 | 1309.8 | 3.7 | 1.2 |
| July | 1142.0 | 1278.0 | 1338.7 | 11.9 | 4.7 |
| August | 1133.5 | 1268.2 | 1234.6 | 11.9 | -2.6 |
| September | 946.3 | 1110.2 | 997.6 | 17.3 | -10.1 |
| October | 908.8 | 1227.4 | 1069.4 | 35.1 | -12.9 |
| November | 1021.2 | 1121.4 | | 9.8 | |
| December | 1295.3 | 1462.3 | | 12.9 | |
| January | 1441.4 | 1606.4 | | 11.5 | |
| February | 1476.3 | 1534.9 | | 4.0 | |
| March | 1472.8 | 1531.3 | | 4.0 | |
| **Total** | **14532.2** | **15989.8** | **8832.8** | **10.0** | **1.1** |

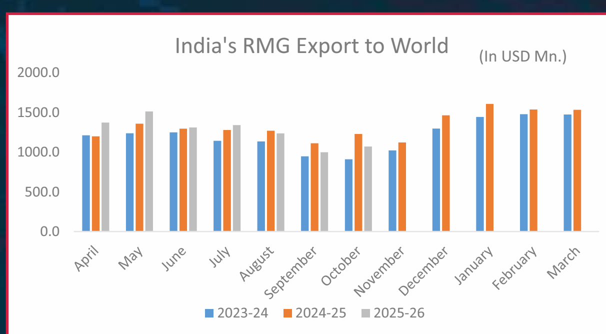
Note- 1) Data for the month of October 2025 is provisional data released on PIB by Ministry of Commerce on 17.11.2025

2) Sum of the value for (Apr-Oct) 2023-24 is USD 7825.2 mn and (Apr-Oct) 2024-25 is USD 8733.6 mn. and (Apr-Oct) 2025-26 is USD 8832.8 mn.

3) Source: DGCI&S 2025

***RMG exports for the month of October 2025 has decreased by 12.9% as compared to October 2024 and increased by 17.7 % as compared to October 2023.***

***Similarly, cumulative RMG exports for the period April- October 2025-26 is USD 8832.8 mn. showing a growth of 1.1% over April- October 2024-25 and a growth of 12.9 % over April- October 2023-24.***



## *Switzerland, Liechtenstein sign non-binding MoU with US*

Switzerland and Liechtenstein recently signed a non-binding memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the United States, which will reduce the country-specific additional tariff to 15 per cent. Switzerland has made commitments to balance its trade with the United States. Switzerland will reduce import duties on a range of US products. In addition to all industrial products, fish and seafood, this includes agricultural products from the United States that Switzerland considers non-sensitive, an official Swiss government release said. For other US export interests, a solution was agreed that takes Switzerland's agricultural policy interests into account. Under the agreement, Switzerland will grant duty-free bilateral tariff quotas on selected US export products. The date for implementing these market access concessions will be coordinated with the US to ensure that customs duties are reduced at the same time.

Furthermore, Swiss companies are planning to make direct investments in the United States amounting to $200 billion by the end of 2028, with at least $67 billion worth of investment occurring in 2026.The deal will provide US exporters unprecedented access to Swiss and Liechtenstein markets and drive billions of dollars in investment on US soil, creating thousands of jobs across America, a White House fact sheet said. Both sides will streamline customs processes to make it easier for US goods to enter, work to address forced labour in their supply chains and increasing cooperation on labour-related trade issues. They have committed to a robust set of digital trade principles, including refraining from harmful digital services taxes.

## *US, Uzbekistan Sign Several Bilateral Trade, Economic Agreements*

President Mr. Donald Trump and his Uzbek counterpart Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev recently announced in Washington, DC, Uzbekistan's willingness to invest billions of dollars in the United States and US companies as part of several new bilateral trade and economic agreements. "Over the next three years, Uzbekistan will be purchasing and investing almost $35 billion, and, in the next 10 years, over $100 billion, in key American sectors, including critical minerals, aviation, automotive parts, infrastructure, agriculture, energy & chemicals, information technology, and others," Trump wrote on Truth Social. The Governments of Uzbekistan and the United States have worked toward advancing comprehensive economic, security, and people-to-people cooperation to the benefit of the economic stability and prosperity of both countries. Both sides agreed for up to $400 million for investment in the United States and Uzbekistan to strengthen US companies' critical minerals and rare earths supply chains. Uzbekistan committed to purchase small modular reactors from US energy companies.

Uzbekistan committed to import $2 billion worth US agricultural machinery and up to two million tonnes of US soybeans and 100,000 tonnes of US cotton over the next three years, a factsheet from the US Department of State said.US firm Air Products and Chemicals will invest up to $3 billion on a methanol production facility in Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan will accelerate support for a domestic methanol-to-olefin facility, coal-to-chemicals and other initiatives in its territory.

# *US unveils trade deals with El Salvador, Argentina, Ecuador, Guatemala*

President Mr. Donald Trump announced trade deals with El Salvador, Argentina, Ecuador and Guatemala, allowing greater and more streamlined market access there. These deals secure commitments on economic and national security issues to strengthen supply chains and trade partnerships in the region, deepening bilateral trade and investment cooperation to provide US exporters unprecedented access to markets in Central and South America. The deals will help US farmers, ranchers, fishermen, small businesses and manufacturers to increase US exports to and expand business opportunities with these trading partners, a White House fact sheet said. Key terms of the deal with El Salvador include commitment by the country to address a range of non-tariff barriers, including by streamlining regulatory requirements and approvals for US exports. El Salvador will also break down non-tariff barriers for US agricultural products in its market.

Argentina will provide preferential market access for US goods exports, including for chemicals, machinery, information technology products and a wide range of agricultural products. It has also committed to addressing structural challenges cited in the Office of the United States Trade Representative's 2025 Special 301 report, including patentability criteria, patent backlog and geographical indications, as well as working towards aligning its intellectual property regime with international standards. Guatemala has committed to facilitating digital trade, including by refraining from imposing digital services taxes or other measures that discriminate against US digital services or US products distributed digitally, ensuring the free transfer of data across trusted borders, and supporting a permanent multilateral moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions at the World Trade Organization (WTO).It has committed to protect internationally recognized labour rights, and will prohibit import of goods produced by forced or compulsory labour and strengthen its labour laws and their enforcement.

Ecuador has committed to adopting and maintaining high levels of environmental protection and taking measures to improve forest sector governance and combat illegal logging. It will remove or decrease a range of tariff barriers across key goods sectors and fully eliminate a variable tariff on many agricultural products it had imposed through the Andean Price Band System. These actions will create commercially meaningful market access opportunities for US exports, supporting high-quality American jobs, the fact sheet said. In the coming weeks, the five countries will work to finalize the agreements for signature. For El Salvador and Guatemala, the United States will also remove reciprocal tariffs from certain products like textiles and apparel, originating under the Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA).This will be a boon for US textile production and El Salvador's and Guatemala's economic growth, and will strengthen the resilience of textile and apparel supply chains, the fact sheet noted.

Mr. Dubiwak said the research team is testing composting recipes that combine cotton textiles with different green wastes to find the most effective recipe and mix for producing high-quality compost and reduced environmental impact. The project also tracks greenhouse gases released during composting, including carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide to compare the environmental impact of composting versus landfilling Future phases of the research will evaluate how composted textile materials affect long-term soil health.

# *US, South Korea agree to Korea Strategic Trade and Investment Deal*

The United States and South Korea recently agreed to the Korea Strategic Trade and Investment Deal, with Presidents Mr. Donald Trump and Mr.  Lee Jae Myung announcing a joint fact sheet reaffirming the deal. The deal reflects a common goal to increase mutually-beneficial trade and investment and will address longstanding barriers that American exporters have faced in the South Korean market, while bolstering US national and economic security, The White House fact sheet said. Both sides will jointly address non-tariff barriers affecting trade in food and agricultural products, including by ensuring that existing commitments under bilateral agreements and protocols are met, streamlining the regulatory approval process for agricultural biotechnology products and resolving the backlog of US applications. Both the countries committed to ensuring that US companies are not discriminated against and do not face unnecessary barriers in terms of laws and policies concerning digital services, including network usage fees and online platform regulations, and to facilitate cross-border transfer of data.

Further, both sides will support the permanent moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions at the World Trade Organization (WTO). South Korea committed to provide additional procedural fairness provisions in competition proceedings, including the recognition of attorney-client privilege. Both sides will work together to protect intellectual property rights. South Korea will continue to take the necessary steps to accede to the Patent Law Treaty. They committed to work together to ensure strong protection of internationally-recognized labour rights, combat all forms of forced labour and reaffirmed the importance of ensuring differences in environmental protection do not distort trade and investment. Both sides will combat duty evasion and take complementary actions to address unfair and non-market policies and practices, enhancing inbound investment and outbound investment regulations, and ensure that international procurement obligations provide a benefit to those countries that have taken on the same commitments.

# AEPC ORGANIZES SELF-DEFENSE TRAINING SESSION

In continuous efforts of the Council to keep increasing employee awareness regarding the PoSH Act, a self-defense training was organized for its female employees on 11th November, 2025, with an aim of empowering them and boosting their confidence and situational awareness. While the POSH Act focuses on prevention, legal compliance, and reporting, self-defense training equips employees with the physical and mental skills to react to immediate unsafe situations and build confidence, contributing to an overall safer and more respectful workplace culture.

Ms. Chandra Vati, the Karate Coach from the Haryana Sports Karate Association led the training and helped the group acquire practical self-defense techniques to deal with everyday real-life situations.

Employees participated actively and acknowledged the importance of the training, which helped in increasing their confidence, awareness, and preparedness for personal safety.

# AEPC organizes webinar on Facilitating Export Growth through New-Age Trade Finance Solutions

The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) organised an informative webinar on "Trade Finance Solutions for Exporters" in collaboration with Olea Global Pte. Ltd., a Singapore-based trade finance platform backed by Standard Chartered Group. The session aimed to familiarize Indian apparel exporters with innovative receivables financing and supply chain finance solutions that support cross-border trade liquidity and risk mitigation.

Olea, operating across 70+ global trade corridors and having processed over USD 2 billion in transactions, presented its digital trade financing capabilities designed for small, medium, and large enterprises. The session highlighted Olea's ability to simplify access to working capital, diversify funding sources, and ensure secure settlements across geographies.

The webinar witnessed active participation of around 50 exporters seeking flexible, technology-driven alternatives to traditional banking channels. The programme reinforced AEPC's commitment to enabling members to explore new-age financial solutions for global competitiveness and sustainable export growth.

### Speakers for the webinar

Mr. Mithileshwar Thakur, Secretary General, AEPC, opened the session with remarks on the growing importance of digital finance platforms in strengthening India's apparel export ecosystem.

The technical session was led by Mr. Vivek Kumar Pachauri, who shared insights on global trade financing trends, Olea's product suite, and case studies from the textile and engineering sectors.

### About Olea Global Pte. Ltd

Headquartered in Singapore, Olea Global Pte. Ltd. is a joint venture incubated by Standard Chartered and is licensed under Singapore's Capital Markets Services (CMS) framework. The platform connects exporters, importers, and funders through a digital ecosystem that enables efficient, secure, and scalable trade finance solutions.

### Product Offerings for Exporters and Importers

**Speakers elaborated on Olea's structured trade solutions designed for exporters:**

- **Receivables Factoring:** Discounting of invoices with limited recourse.
- **Advance Payments:** Upfront liquidity post-shipment or invoicing.
- **Risk Mitigation:** Protection against buyer default through structured coverage.
- **Currency Flexibility:** Funding in multiple currencies as per trade corridor.
- **Legal & Compliance Support:** Assistance with documentation and assignment acknowledgement requirements.

For importers, Olea's Buyer Programme supports supplier payments, ensuring smoother procurement and consistent supply chain performance.

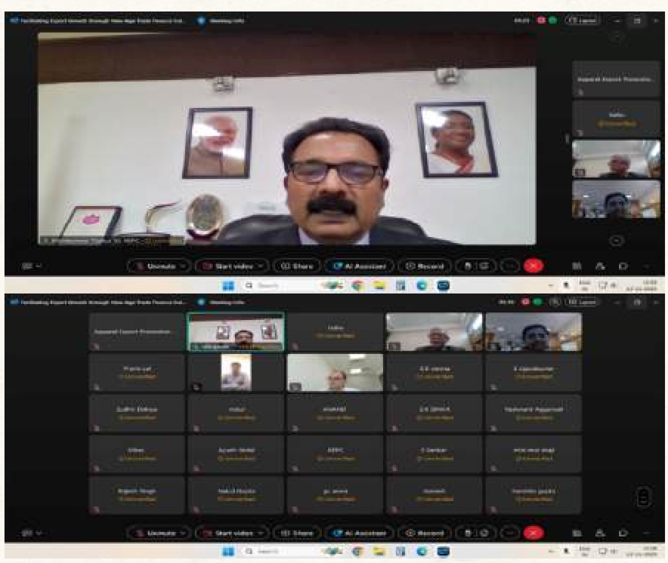
The session concluded with a discussion on how digital trade finance platforms like Olea are transforming global trade flows by offering transparency, efficiency, and flexibility.

For Indian apparel exporters, such platforms provide vital liquidity support and payment security, especially in volatile global markets. The collaboration underlined AEPC's proactive efforts to expose its members to modern financial instruments and alternative trade facilitation tools.

### Engagement and Feedback

Participants found the webinar highly beneficial and relevant to current trade finance challenges. Exporters appreciated the clarity on receivable financing processes, eligibility requirements, and the risk mitigation mechanisms offered by Olea.

The session received positive feedback for providing actionable insights and real-world examples that exporters can apply to expand their access to finance and strengthen business resilience.



# AEPC hosts a webinar on Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textile and Apparel Industry

The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) organised an informative webinar on the "Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textile and Apparel Industry" on 7th November 2025, in collaboration with Wazir Advisors, a leading management consulting firm with deep expertise in the textile, apparel, technical textiles, and retail sectors.

The session aimed to provide exporters and industry stakeholders with a comprehensive understanding of the PLI Scheme's structure, eligibility criteria, incentives, and documentation requirements. The webinar also included practical illustrations of project models under both parts of the scheme and key considerations for companies planning to apply.

Participants gained valuable insights into how the PLI scheme is catalysing investment in manmade fibre (MMF) and technical textile segments—traditionally underrepresented in India's textile portfolio—and how companies can strategically position themselves to benefit. The session witnessed the participation of more than 150 representatives from across the textile value chain, including exporters, manufacturers, and investors.

## 1. Speakers for the webinar

**The technical session was conducted by senior experts from Wazir Advisors, including:**

- Mr. Prashant Agarwal, Joint Managing Director
- Mr. Varun Vaid, Business Director
- Mr. Sanjay Arora, Business Director
- Ms. Shambhavi Srivastava, Consultant

The PLI Scheme for Textiles, launched in 2021 with a budgetary allocation of ₹10,683 crore, aims to strengthen India's presence in MMF apparel, MMF fabrics, and technical textiles.

Recognising that India's traditional textile base is predominantly cotton-oriented, the PLI Scheme seeks to incentivise diversification into high-value, globally demanded product categories. So far, 64 projects have been approved under the scheme, with the application window now reopened till 31st December 2025.

The scheme is valid till FY2028–29, with claims eligible in Fy2029–30.

## 2. Eligible Product Categories

The experts from Wazir Advisors elaborated on the eligible product categories:

- **MMF Garments:** Fashion wear, outerwear, activewear, lingerie, sweaters, and accessories (woven and knitted).
- **MMF Fabrics:** Polyester, viscose, nylon, PV fabrics, and knit structures (circular and warp knit).
- **Technical Textiles:** Covering 10 major segments such as geotextiles, agrotech, meditech, protech, buildtech, mobiltech, and smart textiles.

These categories represent India's emerging strengths in value-added, innovation-driven textile segments with high export potential.

## 3. Scheme Structure and Incentive Framework

**The PLI Scheme operates through two investment slabs, incentivising incremental turnover over a defined base year:**

| Best Exhibit | Minimum Investment | Minimum Turnover | Incentive (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Part 1** | ₹150 crore | ₹300 crore | Up to 15% |
| **Part 1** | ₹50 crore | ₹100 crore | Up to 11% |

## Key highlights:

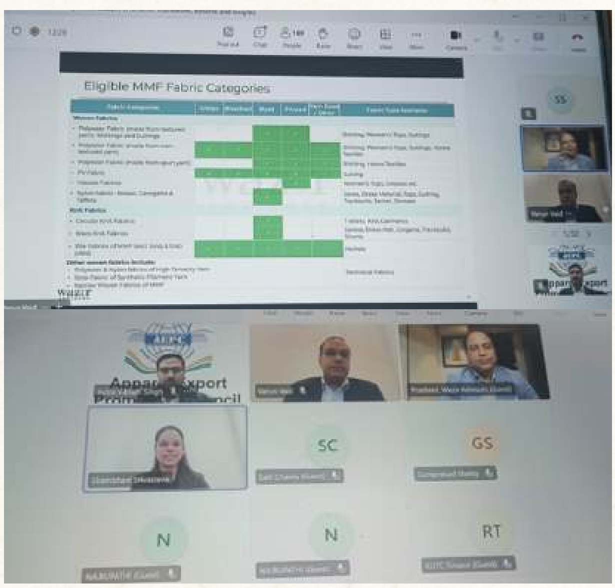
- Eligible investments exclude land, administrative, and pre-operative expenses.
- The gestation year is FY2025–26, followed by three performance years.
- Incentives are computed on incremental sales each year, rewarding consistent scale-up.

The webinar underscored the PLI Scheme's transformative potential in boosting India's MMF and technical textiles sector. With focused incentives, policy support, and industry readiness, India stands well-positioned to emerge as a global production hub in these categories.

Participants appreciated AEPC's proactive role in hosting the knowledge session and Wazir Advisors' practical guidance on implementation pathways, incentive computation, and investment strategies.

The interactive Q&A session revealed strong interest among participants on eligibility norms, investment calculations, and the approval process. Many exporters expressed readiness to explore opportunities under the reopened application window.

Feedback indicated that the session was well-structured, timely, and highly informative, providing both conceptual clarity and actionable direction for industry stakeholders.



# AEPC participated in the Global Sourcing Expo, Melbourne, Australia

The Global Sourcing Expo is a ground-breaking event which brings together visionaries, innovators, and trendsetters in the fashion industry, revolutionising the way you source apparel. AEPC participated in the show with 37 booths. This edition of expo was an unparalleled showcase of top-tier clothes manufacturers, suppliers, and designers, all under one roof.

The shows was held in Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, 1 Convention Centre Pl, South Wharf VIC 3006, Australia between 18th to 20th November, 2025.

The objective of participation was to improve the Indian Apparel & Accessories exports to Australia and also to explore the new business opportunities for the upcoming fashion, clothing and accessories.

The India Pavilion at Global Sourcing Expo, Melbourne, Australia — featuring 35 Indian apparel exporters- who participated under the AEPC banner, was Inaugurated on 18th November 2025 in Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, Melbourne Australia.

The India Pavilion inaugurated by Shri Harsh Chirania, First Secretary India in Australia (High Commission of India, Canberra) along with Ms. Swayamprava Pani, Additional Development Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, Shri Sudhir Sekhri, Chairman AEPC, Shri Rakesh Vaid, EC Member AEPC, Shri Navin Kumar Tarachand Agarwal, etc. by cutting the ceremonial ribbon. Senior representatives and industry leaders from Australia joined the inaugural function.

After the inauguration, HCI Shri Harsh Chirania interacted with all the Indian exhibitors and shown keen interest to know more about their views on Australian Market. He appreciated & encouraged the exhibitors for their good collections/displays.

HCI Shri Harsh Chirania appreciated the efforts of AEPC for actively promoting the expo & for encouraging Indian apparel manufacturer & exporters to explore the Australian market. Fair Director Ms. Julie Holt also thanked AEPC to make the fair a huge success by bringing the worthy Indian exhibitors in the show.

Overall, the three days event of Global Sourcing Expo Australia - Melbourne was moderate with almost 300 plus buyers visited in three days.

The show also hosted engaging and insightful discussions with industry experts, participate in interactive workshops through the Global Sourcing Seminar series, and gain invaluable insights into the future of clothes manufacturing.


# New Labour Codes: Implications for India's Apparel Industry

The Indian apparel industry—one of the nation's largest employers and a cornerstone of export growth—is entering a new regulatory era with the introduction of the **four Labour Codes:** the Code on Wages, Industrial Relations Code, Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code (OSHWC), and the Social Security Code. These codes aim to simplify India's complex labour framework, enhance worker welfare, improve compliance, and make India a more attractive investment and manufacturing destination.

**For the apparel sector—unique in its labour intensity, seasonal demand cycles, and global competitiveness—the impact will be multi-dimensional.**

**1. Formalisation and Wage Structure: A Shift Towards Transparency**

The Code on Wages standardises definitions of wages and mandates timely payments and minimum wages across all states.

### Implications for Apparel Sector

- **Greater clarity in compensation:** The uniform definition of wages reduces disputes and brings consistency across factories operating in multiple states.

- **Potential increase in wage costs:** With allowances capped at 50% of total wages, basic salaries may rise, increasing contributions towards PF and other benefits.

• **Improved worker trust:** Timely, transparent wage payments help attract and retain workers—critical in an industry that struggles with high attrition.

### 2. Flexibility in Hiring and Retrenchment: A Boost for Competitiveness

The Industrial Relations Code eases some restrictions for establishments with up to 300 workers, allowing greater flexibility in hiring, retrenchment, and closure procedures.

#### Implications

• **Seasonal and order-based employment gets easier:** Apparel production fluctuates with global orders; the flexibility to scale the workforce up or down is vital.

• **Faster response to export orders:** Reduced bureaucratic delays in manpower decisions can help Indian exporters compete with Bangladesh, Vietnam, and China.

### 3. Fixed-Term Employment: Structuring the Seasonal Workforce

The codes formally recognise Fixed-Term Employment (FTE), enabling companies to hire workers for short durations while offering them the same benefits as permanent staff (except for retrenchment compensation).

#### Sector Impact

• **Better alignment with production cycles:** Apparel units can legally hire seasonal workers during peak periods such as festival seasons or large export orders.

• **Reduced dependence on contract labour:** Companies can avoid informal hiring, ensuring compliance and worker welfare.

• **Skill retention:** Workers on fixed-term contracts still enjoy social security benefits, which may encourage them to return for future production cycles.

### 4. Social Security Expansion: Strengthening the Labour Ecosystem

The Social Security Code extends ESIC and EPF coverage to gig, platform, and unorganised workers.

#### Implications for Apparel Industry

• Broader welfare net: A significant portion of apparel workers are migrants or informal workers; the new provisions help integrate them into formal social protection systems.

• Better retention and productivity: Improved worker welfare often translates into lower turnover and better output quality.

### 5. Working Conditions and Safety Standards: Modernising the Shopfloor

The OSHWC Code consolidates safety and health standards for factories, mandating welfare measures, working-hour limits, and creche facilities.

#### Impact Points

• Better workplace environment: Enhanced safety norms benefit apparel factories where women constitute a large share of the workforce.

• Improved brand perception: For export-oriented units, better safety and welfare align with global buyers' compliance audits—strengthening Brand India.

### 6. Implications for Export Competitiveness

• Easier business environment: Consolidated regulations reduce paperwork and make India more attractive to global apparel brands seeking alternate sourcing hubs.

• Alignment with global standards: The push towards formalisation supports India's ambition to move into higher-value fashion and technical textile segments.

### Conclusion: A High-Compliance, High-Opportunity Future

The new labour codes usher in a transformative phase for India's apparel industry. While there will be short-term challenges, particularly for smaller units, the long-term impact is poised to be positive—driving formalisation, improving worker welfare, enabling workforce flexibility, and enhancing India's global competitiveness.

For a sector aiming to boost exports, attract investments, and position India as a reliable global apparel hub, the new labour codes provide a foundation for a more structured, ethical, and competitive manufacturing ecosystem.

# SBI Report Shows How Trade With Emerging Markets Is Expanding


India's merchandise exports are showing signs of diversification, even as shipments to the US have slowed since July 2025, according to a recent SBI research report.

The trend highlights a shift toward new markets and product categories, reducing over-reliance on the US market.

### Exports Continue Upward Trend Despite US Slowdown

India's total merchandise exports during April–September 2025 rose by 2.9% to USD 220 billion, up from USD 214 billion during the same period last year. Exports to the US, while still growing 13% year-on-year to USD 45 billion, showed signs of slowdown in September, with shipments declining around 12% compared to the previous year.

SBI's 'Ecowrap' report noted that the share of the US in India's exports has steadily fallen since July 2025, dropping to 15% in September. This decline is largely due to reduced exports of marine products, precious and semi-precious stones, ready-made cotton garments, and cotton fabrics.

### India Widens Export Base; New Destinations Fuel Rise

The report highlights that India's exports to other countries have grown significantly. Key destinations include the UAE, China, Vietnam, Japan, Hong Kong, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nigeria. This indicates a strategic diversification across multiple product categories, helping Indian exporters reduce dependency on a single market.

Interestingly, the report also suggests that some countries, such as Australia and Hong Kong, may be acting as intermediaries, exporting products sourced from India to the US.

Australia's share of US imports of pearls, precious, and semi-precious stones rose to 9% year-to-date in January–August 2025 from 2% in the previous year. Hong Kong's share also increased from 1% to 2% over the same period.

### Tariff Pressures and Government Support

The SBI report noted that India's high tariffs, among the highest in Asia, have affected labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, jewellery, and seafood, particularly shrimp, which operates on thin margins.

To support exporters, the government has approved Rs 45,060 crore, including Rs 20,000 crore in credit guarantees on bank loans.

Collateral-free credit under the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) aims to strengthen liquidity, ensure smooth business operations, and enhance global competitiveness.

### The Impact of Trump Tariffs on the American Economy

The report said that US GDP could be affected by 40-50 basis points due to the new tariffs, while the economy is also likely to face higher input cost inflation.

The recent move by the United States to impose steep tariffs on Indian goods is expected to weigh on the US economy, pushing up inflationary pressures and impacting growth, according to a report by the State Bank of India (SBI).

The report said that US GDP could be affected by 40-50 basis points due to the new tariffs, while the economy is also likely to face higher input cost inflation.

"We believe that U.S. tariffs are likely to affect U.S. GDP by 40-50 bps along with higher input cost inflation," the report noted.

The report highlighted that signs of renewed inflationary pressure have already started emerging in the US, mainly due to the pass-through effects of the recent tariffs and a weaker dollar.

It also flagged that import-sensitive sectors such as electronics, automobiles, and consumer durables are feeling the impact most sharply.

The report stated that inflation in the US is now expected to remain above the 2 percent target through 2026, driven by supply-side factors arising from higher tariffs and exchange rate movements.

The US has imposed tariffs on about USD 45 billion worth of Indian exports. Labour-intensive sectors such as textiles gems, and jewellery are expected to face moderate pressures.

However, exports of pharmaceuticals, smartphones, and steel are relatively insulated due to exemptions, existing tariff structures, and steady domestic demand in the U.S.

The report also noted that if all USD 45 billion worth of exports are hit by the new 50 percent tariffs, India's trade surplus with the U.S. could turn into a trade deficit in the worst-case scenario.

"However, we believe trade negotiations will restore confidence and improve exports to the U.S.," the report added.

The report also pointed out that while tariffs on Indian goods have been raised to 50 percent, duties on Chinese exports stand at 30 percent, on Vietnamese goods at 20 percent, Indonesian exports at 19 percent, and on Japanese products at 15 percent.

The US is India's largest export destination for textiles, a sector where India has steadily gained market share over the past five years, even as China's share has declined. This underscores India's growing role in the U.S. supply chain.

Similarly, the US remains the biggest market for India's gems and jewellery sector, accounting for nearly one-third of its USD 28.5 billion annual shipments.

With tariffs on these products being raised from 25 percent to 50 percent, the report outlined that exporters are preparing for significant disruption.

# Central Government has rescinded the Quality Control Order (QCO) requirement for Viscose Staple Fibre (VSF) with immediate effect

In a major step to address raw material accessibility and foster growth in the textile industry, the Central Government has rescinded the Quality Control Order (QCO) requirement for Viscose Staple Fibre (VSF) with immediate effect, following due consultation with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and key industry stakeholders. This decision directly responds to persistent industry concerns about supply constraints and higher costs, and demonstrates the government's commitment to improving ease of doing business for textile manufacturers, exporters, and MSMEs.

This policy move comes at a crucial time as India's textile sector pursues the ambitious Vision 2030—aiming to boost domestic consumption and meet the target of $100 billion in exports while growing the total textiles and apparel market to $350 billion. Removal of the QCO on VSF is expected to ensure seamless access to quality raw material, enhance global competitiveness, and drive industry-led growth to support these national objectives.

The Ministry will continue to engage with stakeholders, prioritizing evidence-based policies to sustain momentum for domestic manufacturing, exports, and job creation—paving the way for India's emergence as a leading global textile hub.

# Ministry of Textiles Approves 17 New Applicants under PLI Scheme for Textiles

The Ministry of Textiles has approved 17 new applicants under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles in Round 3 of selection. This significant step is set to further accelerate investment, boost domestic manufacturing, and enhance India's global competitiveness in the Man-Made Fibre (MMF) Apparel, MMF Fabrics, and Technical Textiles sectors.

The newly approved applicants have committed a total investment of ₹2,374 crore. The proposed projects are expected to achieve projected sales of over ₹12,893 crore and generate employment for about 22,646 persons in the coming years.

The PLI Scheme for Textiles was notified on September 24, 2021, with an approved outlay of ₹10,683 crore to promote the production of MMF apparel and fabrics, and products of Technical Textiles. The Scheme aims to enable the textile industry to achieve the necessary size and scale, become globally competitive, and create substantial employment opportunities. Under the first two rounds of selections, a total of 74 applicants have been approved under the Scheme.

Recently, the Ministry has notified major amendments to the Scheme to further enhance industry participation. The online application portal has been reopened for acceptance of new applications till December 31, 2025.

# India's Textile Exports Shows Resilience and Diversification; Growth recorded in exports to 111 Countries

India's Textile & Apparel, including handicrafts exports, demonstrated remarkable resilience in the first half of FY 2025-26 despite global headwinds and tariff-related challenges in major markets. India's global exports of textiles, apparel and made ups grew marginally by 0.1% during April–September 2025, compared to the corresponding period in 2024.

Some of the large export markets for India which clocked impressive growth rates were UAE (14.5%), UK (1.5%), Japan (19.0%), Germany (2.9%), Spain (9.0%) and France (9.2%). On the other hand, some of the other markets that recorded higher growth rates were Egypt (27%), Saudi Arabia (12.5%), Hong Kong (69%), etc.

These 111 markets contributed USD 8,489.08 million during April–September 2025, compared to USD 7,718.55 million in the previous year—reflecting a 10% growth and an absolute increase of USD 770.3 million.

**The key sectors driving this growth included:**

- Readymade Garments (RMG) of all Textiles – 3.42% growth
- Jute – 5.56% growth

This performance highlights the sector's adaptability and competitiveness in the face of global uncertainties.

India's continued expansion into non-traditional markets reinforces the Government's policy focus on export diversification, value addition, and global market integration under the "Make in India" and "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" initiatives.

# National Technical Textiles Mission supports the development of Indigenous Thermal Testing Instruments for Protective Textiles in association with NITRA

The National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM), an initiative by the Ministry of Textiles has successfully supported the development of 03 indigenous instruments for testing Convective, Radiant, and Contact (Conductive) Heat Resistance of protective textiles. The innovative project developed by the Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA), marks a key step towards building self-reliant testing capabilities in the Indian technical textile sector.

The NTTM-sponsored project titled "Indigenously Developed State of the Art Instruments to Test Convective, Radiant, and Conductive Properties of Protective Textiles" has resulted in the creation of three precision systems the Convective Heat Tester (ISO 9151), Radiant Heat Tester (ISO 6942), and Contact (Conductive) Heat Tester (IS 12127). These instruments enable evaluation of thermal resistance properties in materials used for firefighter suits, industrial protective clothing, and defence applications, where heat protection is critical.

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|  |  |  |
| **Convective Heat Tester** | **Radiant Heat Tester** | **Conductive Heat Tester** |

Developed entirely using indigenous design and technology, these instruments offer performance comparable to imported counterparts while being significantly more affordable, priced between ₹5–10 lakh compared to ₹15–40 lakh for imported models. The reduction in cost and lead time is expected to expand access to high-quality testing across a wider range of industries and institutions.

The technology has been successfully transferred to M/s Asian Test Equipment Pvt. Ltd., Ghaziabad for commercialization, in line with the Government's Make in India initiative. The instruments have already been installed and validated at M/s Ace Incorporation-Kanpur, and at the Centre for Fire, Explosive and Environment Safety (CFEES), DRDO, Delhi, and are now commercially available at Trade India, IndiaMART, and Alibaba platforms.

With indigenous availability, testing duration has reduced from about 30 days to 3–5 days, and testing costs have fallen from ₹25,000–₹40,000 per sample to ₹6,000–₹10,000, greatly improving ease of access for Indian manufacturers and R&D organizations.

Institutions such as CFEES, DRDO have reported satisfactory performance of the systems. According to NITRA, the instruments have been developed based on extensive field experience with imported models, ensuring world-class performance standards while fostering technological self-reliance.

The successful completion of this project, funded by NTTM, represents a meaningful contribution towards strengthening India's infrastructure in technical textiles and aligns with the national vision of promoting innovation, sustainability, and self-reliance in the sector.

# Secretary of the Ministry Textiles Reviews Activities of Textile Institutions, Export Councils, and Research Associations in Mumbai

Smt. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary of Ministry Textiles and Chairperson, Textiles Committee, began her comprehensive two-day visited to Mumbai, to review the ongoing programmes, institutional performance, and policy implementation progress of various bodies functioning under the Ministry of Textiles. On the first day, she reviewed activities related to handlooms and allied sectors, accompanied by Dr. M. Beena, Development Commissioner (Handlooms).

During the visit, Secretary Interacted with Ms Anshu Sinha, IAS, Principal Secretary (Textiles) Government of Maharashtra and other senior officers from Government of Maharashtra and deliberated on bringing in synergy with both state and central implementation of central schemes in the state of Maharashtra and discussed the issues affecting the growth of the sector .

The visit commenced with a detailed review meeting at the Textiles Committee, where the Secretary examined the activities of the organisation vis-à-vis the functions envisaged in the Textiles Committee Act, 1963 by the founding fathers of the Textiles Committee and advised to restructure and reorient its activities so as to meet the objectives of the Act and support the industry to meet the visions of the Ministry of Textiles. She emphasized the growing needs of the industry in scientific, technical & economic research and attributed the functions of the Textiles Committee to these and advised to realign the priorities to meet the aspirations of both the industry and government. The TC should act like a link between the industry and government by providing inputs on the ground realities of the sector so as to help the industry to mitigate these with the help of policy interventions from the Ministry of Textiles.

Following this, Smt. Rao visited the Synthetic & Art Silk Mills' Research Association (SASMIRA). The review centered on SASMIRA's ongoing R&D in technical textiles, man-made fibers, and green textile innovations. The Secretary appreciated SASMIRA's contributions to training & education, promoting technical textile applications, industrial testing facilities, and capacity-building programs aimed at strengthening the synthetic sector's competitiveness. She emphasized the need to align SASMIRA's research activities with global sustainability and recycling objectives.

At the Weavers Service Centre (WSC), Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Smt. Rao and Dr. Beena reviewed the implementation of major schemes including the National Handloom Development Programme, Cluster Development Programme, and marketing interventions such as exhibitions, design innovation, and digital platforms for weavers. The Secretary highlighted the importance of technology integration, e-commerce enablement, and handloom mark promotion to expand the domestic and export reach of India's handloom products.

Subsequently, the delegation visited the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL), where interactions were held with representatives from the cotton textile export sector. The discussions focused on export competitiveness, diversification of markets, Kasturi Cotton Bharat and the promotion of value-added cotton textile products. Smt. Rao appreciated TEXPROCIL's proactive role in supporting exporters through trade fairs, buyer-seller meets, and international branding initiatives.

A similar review meeting was held at the Man-Made Textiles Export Promotion Council (MATEXIL). The Secretary reviewed export performance trends, challenges faced by synthetic and blended textile exporters, and strategies to enhance global visibility for Indian man-made fibers. She encouraged the Council to adopt sustainability-driven export models and to leverage FTAs and trade pacts for greater market access.

# Union Minister of Textiles Shri Giriraj Singh inaugurates Special Handloom & Handicraft Exhibition cum Sale at India International Trade Fair (IITF), New Delhi

Union Minister of Textiles Shri Giriraj Singh inaugurated the "Special Handloom & Handicraft Exhibition cum Sale" at the India International Trade Fair (IITF), Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi . The inauguration took place in the august presence of Smt. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary Ministry of Textiles, along with other senior officials from the Ministry.

While inaugurating the Textiles Pavilion, Shri Giriraj Singh said that the global demand for handcrafted products is rising, and this 15-day trade fair will bring meaningful economic opportunities for our artisans which will help to transform their livelihoods. He further added that we are developing a new Hub-and-Export model to take our artisans' craftsmanship to the global level.

During the exhibition tour, Shri Giriraj Singh interacted with participating weavers and artisans. He emphasized the Government of India's continuous efforts to strengthen the entire value chain—from raw material support to technology integration, design interventions and market linkages. He reiterated the Ministry's commitment to expanding income and livelihood opportunities for weavers and craftspeople, reinforcing India's leadership as the world's largest and most sustainable handcraft ecosystem.

This year's pavilion is themed "Vastra Kala: Bharat ki Virasat", celebrating India's timeless craft legacy through a geographical journey across North, South, East and West—each region represented through its unique handloom vocabulary of touch, memory and devotion.

**The pavilion narrates:**

- **North – Reflection & Ancestral Grace:** Featuring motifs of Ganesha, Ram Darbar and the luminous Banarasi weave, symbolizing lineage and inherited excellence.

- **South – Precision, Devotion & Sculptural Discipline:** Showcasing Karnataka and Tamil Nadu's mastery in wood, silk, metal craft and the cosmic rhythm of Natraj.

- **East – Memory, Continuity & the Hand-woven Heartbeat:** Highlighting Odisha and Bengal traditions, where weaving embodies lived experience and identity.

• **West – Radiance, Celebration & Desert Brilliance:** A burst of mirror work, lippan art and carved wood reflecting desert resilience and festive spirit.


The event, scheduled from 14 to 27 November 2025, is open to the public from 10:00 AM to 7:30 PM at Hall No. 5, Ground Floor, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. With 200 stalls representing 29 States and Union Territories showcasing 53 distinct crafts, the pavilion is managed by the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) to provide direct market access to handloom weavers and handicraft artisans. Live demonstrations include Kani weaving and Sajni embroidery, offering visitors a window into India's rare and exquisite craft traditions. The exhibition also proudly features distinguished master artisans, including One Padma Shri awardee, Four Sant Kabir awardees, Four National Awardees, Five State Awardee and One NMC Awardee from Handloom and Five State Awardees from Handicraft, whose exceptional craftsmanship enriches the cultural experience of the pavilion and reflects the artistic excellence of India's textile heritage.

# India Responds to Global Textile Demand with Strength and Confidence: MoS Pabitra Margherita

Global demand for textiles is at an all-time high, with the world increasingly turning toward high-performance, functional and sustainable materials. India is responding to this shift with strength and confidence, said Shri Pabitra Margherita, Union Minister of State for Textiles and External Affairs, while addressing the Manmade and Technical Textiles Export Promotion Council (MATEXIL)'s Export Award Function for 2023–24 and 2024–25 in Mumbai.


MoS Shri Margherita conferred awards for export excellence in technical textiles. Nearly 80 outstanding performers from the sector were honoured across various categories.

Congratulating the awardees, Shri Margherita said the celebration was not only about recognising winners but also about acknowledging every worker, engineer, designer, entrepreneur and exporter who drives the textile sector forward. "Your work gives strength to millions of families and pride to our nation," he remarked.


The Minister noted that man-made fibres (MMF) and technical textiles are at the forefront of the global shift toward sustainable and advanced materials. MMF today accounts for nearly 70–75% of the global fibre market, signalling a significant transformation in consumer demand and industrial applications. "India is responding to this shift with strength and confidence," he added.

Shri Margherita highlighted that India's MMF exports grew by 6.5% in 2024–25, while technical textiles exports increased by over 15%, reflecting the nation's rising competitiveness in this sunrise sector. With global demand continuing to grow, India is poised to capture a larger share of the expanding international market. He emphasised that India's high-quality products are strengthening the country's reputation as a trusted global partner.

"Together, we are moving towards the goal of USD 100 billion in textile exports and a USD 350 billion textile market by 2030, aligned with our vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047," he said.

Shri Margherita also stressed the practical approach of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Union Textiles Minister Shri Giriraj Singh in easing industry constraints and strengthening value-chain opportunities. He said that the Ministry of Textiles has implemented transformational initiatives such as the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme and the National Technical Textiles Mission, which are enhancing capabilities at every stage of the value chain. He assured that the Ministry stands firmly with all stakeholders in the textile ecosystem.

The dual-year awards highlighted strong performance across 2023–24 and 2024–25, a period during which India's technical textiles sector recorded robust growth driven by innovation, diversification and global expansion. Awards were presented across twelve categories—including agro, medical, industrial and protective textiles—in recognition of exemplary contributions to India's export excellence.


Prominent awardees included Garware Technical Fibres Ltd., Arvind Limited and KT Exports India Pvt. Ltd., among other leading industry players. Special awards were also presented to organisations and individuals for their significant contributions to strengthening India's technical textiles ecosystem.

MATEXIL's Technical Textiles Dossier was also released during the event. A panel discussion on "Prospects and Potential for Technical Textiles Exports by GenNext" featured young entrepreneurs and thought leaders who discussed emerging market trends, sustainability imperatives and global opportunities.

Dignitaries present at the event included Chairman of MATEXIL Shri Shaleen Toshniwal; Convenor of the Technical Textiles Subcommittee Shri Pramod Khosla; Immediate Past Chairman Shri Bhaderesh Dodhia; and Vice Chairman Shri Anil Rajvanshi, along with senior government officials and key stakeholders from the textiles industry.

In the evening, the Secretary held a comprehensive review meeting at the Office of the Textile Commissioner, focusing on key flagship schemes of the Ministry such as the PM MITRA Parks Scheme, Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles, and SAMARTH – Skill Development Scheme. Later in the evening, Smt. Rao will chair a meeting with major industry associations, engaging leading representatives from across the textile value chain to discuss policy feedback, sustainability initiatives, and investment promotion.

## GLOBAL NEWS

# Euro area unemployment stable at 6.3% in September: Eurostat

In September 2025, the euro area seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.3 per cent, stable compared with August 2025 as well as compared with September 2024. The EU unemployment rate was 6.0 per cent in September 2025, also stable compared with August 2025 and up from 5.9 per cent in September 2024, as per the figures published by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union. Eurostat estimates that 13.246 million persons in the EU, of whom 11.003 million in the euro area, were unemployed in September 2025. Compared with August 2025, unemployment increased by 63,000 in the EU and by 65,000 in the euro area. Compared with September 2024, unemployment increased by 227, 000 in the EU and by 187, 000 in the euro area.

In September 2025, 2.866 million young people (under 25) were unemployed in the EU, of whom 2.282 million were in the euro area. In September 2025, the youth unemployment rate was 14.8 per cent in the EU, stable compared with August 2025, and 14.4 per cent in the euro area, up from 14.3 per cent in the previous month. Compared with August 2025, youth unemployment increased by 10 thousand in the EU and by 23,000 in the euro area. Compared with September 2024, youth unemployment decreased by 121,000 in the EU and by 79,000 in the euro area. In September 2025, the unemployment rate for women was 6.1 per cent in the EU and the unemployment rate for men was 5.8 per cent, both stable compared with the previous month. In the euro area, the unemployment rate for women was 6.5 per cent, stable compared with August 2025, and the unemployment rate for men was 6.2 per cent, up from 6.1 per cent in the previous month.

# China Channels $70.56 bn Through New Policy-Based Financial Instrument

China recently announced allocating 500 billion yuan (~$70.56 billion) through a new policy-based financial instrument.

The China Development Bank, the Export-Import Bank of China and the Agricultural Development Bank of China allocated 250 billion yuan, 100 billion yuan and 150 billion yuan respectively to support construction of projects in key areas and weak links. The move is expected to stimulate over 7 trillion yuan in investment, according to statistics from the policy banks. The financial instrument prioritizes projects in technological innovation, consumption expansion and foreign trade stabilization, while also supporting initiatives in major economic provinces and private investment projects, according to a state-controlled news agency.

The country also established a fund for its centrally-administered state-owned enterprises (SOEs) to develop strategic emerging industries, raising 51 billion yuan (~$7.2 billion) in its first phase. The fund was initiated by the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (SASAC) of the State Council and is managed by China Reform Holdings Corporation Ltd. Over 10 centrally-administered SOEs have contributed to the fund, including China Mobile, Sinopec and the China National Offshore Oil Corporation. The fund will invest in fields like new-generation information technology, artificial intelligence, new energy, new materials, high-end equipment, biomedicine and quantum technology.

## Global cotton trade down as Chinese imports slump by 65% in 2024-25: ICAC

World cotton lint production for 2025 is estimated at 25.4 million tonnes, nearly unchanged from the previous season, surpassing by exceeding global consumption by 392,000 tonnes, according to the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC). Global trade fell, 7.4 per cent to 9.1 million tonnes in 2024-25, mainly due to a 65 per cent decline in China's imports, offsetting gains elsewhere. Tariff escalations have reshaped trade flows and forecasts, with lingering impacts expected into coming seasons. For 2025-26, global cotton area is projected at 30.4 million hectares, with yields averaging 835 kg per hectare—slightly above the decade average. Consumption will continue to be led by China (32 per cent), followed by India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Turkiye, together accounting for 76 per cent of global use, the ICAC said in a press release. Additionally, in the 2025-26 season, the top cotton lint producers are estimated to remain the same as last season, with slight changes in their world market share.ICAC forecasts the Cotlook A Index for 2025-26 in the range of 62–91 cents per pound, with a midpoint of 74 cents, based on current supply and demand conditions.

## Cambodia's Jan-Sept 2025 Textiles-RMG-Shoes-Travel Goods Exports $12 bn

Cambodia's exports of textiles, garments, footwear, travel goods and bags were worth about $12 billion in the first nine months of 2025—an increase of 16.6 per cent year on year (YoY), according to the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MLVT). Garments exported were worth $8.63 billion, textiles $505 million, footwear $1.54 billion, while export of travel goods and bags were worth $1.53 billion During the nine-month period, exports of such items to the United States and China increased by 26 per cent and 13.7 per cent YoY respectively. Such exports to the European Union accounted for 12 per cent of the total exports. Shipments to Japan rose by about 10 per cent YoY and to the United Kingdom increased by 4.4 per cent YoY during the period. Imports of raw materials for garment production reached about $4.4 billion during the period—up by 6.4 per cent YoY, according to domestic media report.

## France's Sept. Textiles-Apparel-Leather Manufacturing Output up 2.6% YoY

France's manufacturing output bounced back in September 2025 by growing at 0.9 per cent month on month (MoM) after a 1-per cent MoM drop in August,2025.Total industrial output grew at 0.8 per cent MoM in the month after a 0.9-per cent MoM drop in August, according to the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE). Cumulative French manufacturing output over the July-September quarter was higher by 1.3 per cent year on year (YoY); for the whole industry, it was up 1.1 per cent YoY in the quarter.

Output in the manufacturing of textiles, apparel, leather and related products grew by 2.6 per cent YoY in September this year and dropped by 1.6 per cent quarter on quarter (QoQ) in the July-September quarter, an INSEE release said.

The evolution of the manufacturing index between July and August 2025 has been revised downwards, to minus 1 per cent instead of minus 0.7 per cent earlier. The evolution of the index for the whole industry has also been revised downwards, to minus 0.9 per cent from minus 0.7 per cent earlier.

# Chattogram Port Bay Terminal in Bangladesh to Start Operations by 2030

The Bay Terminal at the Chattogram port is expected to get operational by 2030, according to Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) chairman Rear Admiral SM Moniruzzaman, who recently said the terminal will usher in a new era for economy, trade and import-export sectors. It will reduce ship turnaround times and strengthen the country's position on South Asia's trade map, he told a conference held at the port. Moniruzzaman said the design and preparatory work for the project are nearing completion. The government and the port authority have held preliminary discussions with several domestic and international construction firms.

The previous government had approved setting up the Bay Terminal, comprising four terminals, on around 2,500 acres in the Anandabazar area of North Halishahar in Chattogram. The project involves construction of breakwaters and navigation channels and development of port facilities such as road and rail links, container yards and jetties, according to domestic media reports. The terminal is expected to enable the berthing of vessels with a draft of up to 12 meters and of up to 280 meters in length.

# New Govt in Germany yet to Lead to Optimism Among Domestic Bizs: DIHK


The new government in Germany is yet to lead to optimism among the domestic business community as the economy continues to stagnate, according to a recent survey, which revealed that while the government has identified the issues, "it has yet to deliver the necessary impact". The fall 2025 business survey released by the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (DIHK) reflects expectations of around 23,000 firms from all sectors and regions.

DIHK Chief Executive Helena Melnikov said in Berlin that the situation did not improve in the summer, and instead, "the sentiment deteriorated slightly once again. "She said the momentum needed for a real recovery in the German economy is lacking, and DIHK projects stagnation for German gross domestic product (GDP) 2025, and only a 0.7-per cent growth next year. Structural problems continue to be a major hindrance for companies, while rising social security contributions and the recent rise in the minimum wage significantly hit the situation, she was cited as saying by a DIHK release. She said corporate investments are still 10 per cent below pre-pandemic levels, even though it has been five years since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. She urged the government to control costs like social security, significantly reduce bureaucracy and implement a promised electricity tax reduction, not only for industry but for all businesses.

DHK estimates a 1-per cent decline in exports this year due to US tariffs, which comes after a 2.1-per cent drop last year, while next year is expected to bring a slight rise of 0.5 per cent. The DIHK's confidence index, measuring the current economic situation and the participating companies' business expectations, declined by 1 point to 93.8. Out of 23,000 firms surveyed, 15 per cent expect the economic situation to improve in the next 12 months, while 27 per cent think it will get worse. Some 22 per cent of the respondent firms plan to raise investments and 31 per cent plan to reduce, while only 11 per cent plan to boost their workforce. Twenty-four per cent think about layoffs, and 56 per cent of the companies see labour costs as one of their biggest business risks. Meanwhile, the German economy shrank by 0.2 per cent in the second quarter after a 0.30-per cent growth in the first, avoiding a recession and seeing stagnation in the third quarter. High energy costs, weak global orders and high US tariffs are the most pressing issues against growth.

## US Halts Action Against China In Maritime-logistics-shipbuilding Case

The Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR) announced suspending action in the Section 301 investigation of China's targeting of the maritime, logistics and shipbuilding sectors for dominance. The action will be suspended for a year, an USTR release said. The suspension follows the historic trade and economic deal reached between President Mr. Donald Trump and President Mr. Xi Jinping announced by the White House on November 1, 2025

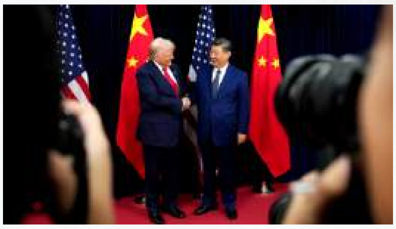
During the suspension period, no party will accrue liability for or be required to pay the fees on maritime transport services and duties. The United States will negotiate with China pursuant to Section 301 regarding the issues raised in this investigation. While taking these actions, the United States will continue its domestic efforts and its discussions with key allies and partners on revitalizing American shipbuilding.

## Bangladesh Court stays for 30 days 41% Increased Tariff Imposed by CPA

The High Court in Bangladesh stayed for a month the 41-per cent increased tariff imposed by the Chattogram Port Authority (CPA). It asked CPA why the tariff should not be permanently cancelled. The bench of Justice Kazi Zinat Hoque and Justice Aynun Nahar Siddiqua passed the order after a preliminary hearing on a writ petition filed by the Bangladesh Maritime Law Society (BMLS). The court directed the shipping secretary, the CPA chairman and other concerned officials to implement the order and submit their replies within a month.

CPA enforced the increased tariff across various service sectors from October 14 midnight—the first tariff hike since 1986. Port users had been demanding suspension of the new tariff since it was announced. BMLS President Mr. Mohiuddin Abdul Kadir had earlier served a legal notice to the secretaries of three ministries and the CPA chairman seeking suspension of the increased tariff. The notice stated that the average charge per 20-foot container had been raised from Tk11, 849 to Tk16,243, increasing costs by Tk5,720 for import containers and Tk3,045 for export containers. Moreover, the per-unit charge for loading and unloading containers from ships was hiked from $43.40 to $68.BMLS argued that since the tariff was fixed in US dollars, any depreciation of the taka against the dollar would further escalate expenses. The resulting cost surge would affect import-export trade, essential commodity supply, industrial raw materials, production costs and inflation. The organization also alleged that none of the consulting firms involved in determining the tariff had expertise in port management or the maritime sector. The process of hiring consultants lacked transparency and procedural legality, the organization was cited as claiming by domestic media reports. The notice pointed out that under the Port Act 1908, new tariffs cannot take effect within 60 days of being published in the gazette. However, the new tariff announced on September 14 was enforced from October 14, and hence, was unlawful and invalid. The society and other stakeholders demanded that the implementation of the tariff be suspended and a joint consultation committee be formed with stakeholders to review the decision.

## US pause on 50% Ownership rule key step in realising Consensus: China



China has taken note of the US announcement of a year-long pause, beginning November 10, 2025 on a regulation that expands export control restrictions to any entity owned 50 per cent or more by parties on US sanctions lists, its Commerce Ministry recently announced. Earlier this week, the US Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) said it would pause its 50-per cent ownership rule designed to limit exports to entities that are majority owned by blacklisted companies until November 9, 2026. The rule was introduced on September 30, 2025.

This is an important step the US side has taken in implementing the consensus of the China-US economic and trade talks in Kuala Lumpur, and both sides will continue discussions after the pause ends, said a ministry spokesperson.

China is willing to work with the United States to properly manage their differences and create favorable conditions for enterprises on both sides as well as the security and stability of global industrial and supply chains, the spokesperson was cited as saying by a state-controlled media outlet.

# ICE Cotton Dips on Weak Grains, Caution Before USDA Report

ICE cotton futures closed lower as the market weakened amid declines in the grain market and investor caution ahead of the US Department of Agriculture's (USDA) World Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report, due later this week. The market continues to lack clear signals on demand and supply following delays in USDA reports due to the recent US government shutdown. ICE December cotton futures settled at 63.88 cents per pound, down 0.43 cent, while the March contract closed at 65.38 cents per pound, down 39 points. Other contracts traded between 35 points lower and 10 points higher. Total trading volume reached 107,876 contracts, marking the 12th-highest volume ever recorded. The previous day's cleared volume was 117,186 contracts, the sixth-highest on record. ICE data shows that the first delivery date for the December contract is November 21, 2025.

Market analysts noted that the market is currently in a sideways consolidation phase, with traders awaiting the USDA's monthly report scheduled for released. This will be the first USDA supply and demand forecast since September, which was delayed by the government shutdown. Soybean futures on the Chicago Board of Trade fell for the first time in three sessions as traders awaited clearer demand signals. Weakness in the grain market also added downward pressure on cotton prices.India's cotton imports are projected to rise by 9.8 per cent to a record level next year, driven by relaxed tax-free import policies and a domestic crop decline to a 17-year low.

As, ICE cotton for December 2025 was trading at 63.77 cents per pound (down 0.11 cent), cash cotton at 61.81 cents (unchanged), March 2026 at 65.25 cents (down 0.13 cent), May 2026 at 66.44 cents (down 0.13 cent), July 2026 at 67.57 cents (down 0.08 cent), and October 2026 at 67.80 cents (down 0.17 cent).

# Turkiye Attracts FDI worth $11.4 bn in Jan-Sept 2025

Turkiye attracted $11.4 billion (TL 481.59 billion) in foreign direct investment (FDI) in the first nine months of 2025—a 46-per cent rise year on year (YoY), according to the International Investors Association (YASED).Citing official data, it said some $8 billion worth of investments during the January-September period came as capital investment, $1.6 billion came through real estate sales to foreign nationals and $2.6 billion through debt instruments.The Netherlands had the largest share of 32 per cent, followed by Kazakhstan (14 per cent), Luxembourg (14 per cent), Germany (7 per cent) and the United States (6 per cent).In September,2025 alone, FDI amounted to $722 million, YASED said.Total FDI since 2003 reached $285 billion.The European Union (EU), which historically accounted for 58 per cent of total investments between 2003 and 2024, accounted for 64 per cent in the first nine months this year, the association added.

# Dutch Exports up 2.6% YoY in Sept. 2025: CBS

The calendar-adjusted total volume of goods exported by the Netherlands was up by 2.6 per cent year on year (YoY) in September this year, according to Statistics Netherlands (CBS).Export volumes were higher for machinery, transport equipment and crude oil and natural gas. However, exports of chemical products were lower YoY.The volume of goods imported was up by 1.7 per cent YoY in the month. The CBS Exports Radar for November, 2025 indicates that conditions for exports were slightly more unfavorable than they were in September's radar. This was mainly due to a shift from YoY growth in German manufacturing output to a contraction. Furthermore, the YoY change in real exchange rates was more unfavorable, a CBS release said.

# Bangladesh Extends Export sops to sub-contracted Garment-Textile Firms

Bangladesh Bank (BB) recently allowed export incentives or cash assistance for garment and textile companies whose products are manufactured and exported through sub-contractors. The benefit will apply at the same rate and under the same terms as those afforded to the main readymade garment manufacturer, a circular from the central bank said. The new directive is effective immediately for products that are shipped or vessel-loaded from the date the current circular was issued. Cash assistance earlier was generally offered to producer-exporter entities based on the net free on board (FOB) value of readymade garments or textile goods produced within their own factories.

Subcontractor companies must adhere to specific conditions to avail of these benefits. They must possess their own operational factory, according to domestic media reports. Sub-contracting processes must strictly follow two specific regulatory documents—the sub-contracting guideline for the readymade garment industry introduced in 2019 and the rules for direct export-oriented garment establishments (temporary import under warehouse system, warehouse management and procedures) introduced in 2024.

# Australia's jobless rate eases to 4.3% in October: ABS

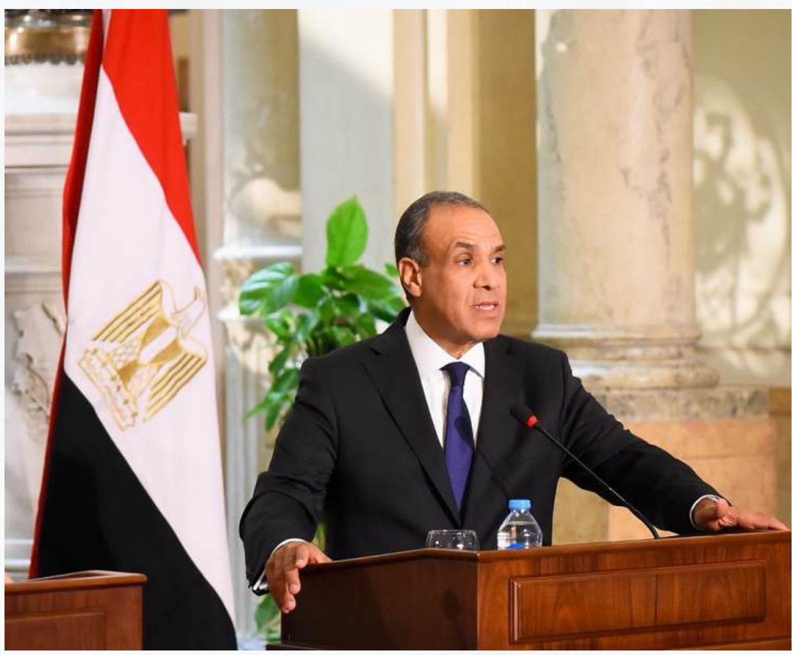

Australia's labour market strengthened in October 2025, with the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate easing to 4.3 per cent after a temporary rise in September, 2025 according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The rate aligns with levels recorded through June to August, signaling continued labour market stability despite pockets of adjustment. The number of unemployed people fell by 17,000, while employment expanded by 42,000. More jobseekers moved directly into employment than is typical for October, 2025 lifting full-time employment sharply by 55,000. Both women and men contributed to these gains, with female full-time employment rising by 29,000 and male full-time employment by 26,000, ABS said in a press release.

Part-time employment fell by 13,000, driven primarily by a 21,000 drop among women, partly offset by an 8,000 rise among men. The participation rate held steady at 67 per cent overall, although it diverged by gender: male participation increased to 71 per cent, while female participation slipped to 63.1 per cent. The employment-to-population ratio remained stable at 64 per cent. Hours worked rose by 0.5 per cent—outpacing the rise in employment—indicating stronger labour demand and fewer people working reduced hours. The underemployment rate dropped to 5.7 per cent, down 0.2 percentage points for the month and 0.5 percentage points from a year earlier. Combined with lower unemployment, the underutilization rate dipped to 10.0 per cent, continuing its steady improvement since 2020.Trend data reaffirmed this resilience, with trend unemployment holding at 4.4 per cent. Trend unemployment is the jobless rate shown without short-term fluctuations, giving a clearer picture of the labour market's real direction.

Trend employment grew by 27,000 (0.2 per cent) in October and 1.5 per cent over the year. Monthly hours worked rose by 0.1 per cent in trend terms, slightly lagging employment growth but remaining broadly consistent with long-term patterns. Trend participation edged up to 67 per cent, while the employment-to-population ratio stayed at 64 per cent. The trend underemployment and underutilization rates were steady at 5.8 per cent and 10.1 per cent respectively, added the release.

# Egypt keen on attracting more FDI into Suez Canal Economic Zone: Prez

Calling for accelerated development of Egypt's ports and logistics infrastructure, President Mr. Ab del Fattah Al-Sisi recently said the country is keen on attracting more foreign investment into the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZONE). Speaking at the inauguration of several new marine terminals at East Port Said, Mr. Al-Sisi assured all necessary facilities to support investors. Mr. Keith Svendsen, Deputy Chief Executive officer (CEO) of A.P. Moller-Maersk and CEO of APM Terminals, announced Maersk's intention to expand its investments in the country, according to domestic media reports. The zone attracted $11.6 billion in investments and generated more than 136,000 direct jobs between 2016 and 2025. The Egypt has upgraded 14 ports and built five new ones as part of a national strategy to transform the country into a regional logistics and transit-trade hub. Mr. Al-Sisi reiterated the need for faster project delivery, promising state incentives to current and prospective investors.



# UK, Indonesia collaborate on implementing Regulatory Impact Assessment


Indonesia's Ministry for Economic Affairs and the UK government recently organized Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) Forum 2025 in Jakarta as part of an ongoing partnership to support capacity-building in policy analysis and the implementation of good regulatory practices (GRP) in Indonesia.

The forum also marks an important moment to strengthen bilateral cooperation between Indonesia and the UK in expanding evidence-based policymaking and sharing experiences in implementing GRP. Such collaboration is expected to enhance the institutional capacity of the Indonesian government in evaluating policy impacts and foster a more transparent, participatory, and accountable regulatory process, an official release from the UK Mission to the association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) said. Indonesia's economy remains resilient, with growth hovering around 5 per cent despite global challenges. This growth is supported by robust domestic consumption, rising exports, and increasing investment. To maintain this momentum, the Indonesian government is strengthening adaptive policies through regulatory governance reforms by implementing RIA as part of GRP. The initiative aims at ensuring that every regulation is drafted efficiently, evidence-based and delivers positive impact on the economy, society and the environment.

The ASEAN–UK Economic Integration Programme encompasses various activities focused on three key areas: regulatory reform, promotion of open trade, and development of inclusive financial services. Additionally, the programme places cross-sectoral emphasis on digitalization as a key driver of economic growth and supports micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and women entrepreneurs.

# EU, OECD Partners Pledge More Transparency On Export Finance In Energy

In a joint statement endorsed in Paris, the European Union (EU) and several other members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) committed to transparency on the export credits they provide in the energy sector. The EU's commitment is part of its continued efforts to advance transparency, accountability and informed policymaking in support of the global energy transition. "We intend to be transparent on the officially supported export credits we provide to transactions in the energy sector. This sector is vital for all economies and public export credits play an important role worldwide, by creating access to reliable, affordable and sustainable energy," the EU agreed together with Australia, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

"We have therefore requested the Export Finance for Future (E3F) coalition to report on all our related transactions within the scope of the Arrangement on Export Credits, with a breakdown by type of energy," they said. The E3F report lays out all relevant transactions notified to the OECD secretariat between 2015 and 2024 and shows a clear phase down of fossil fuel support, with in parallel a huge scale-up of renewable energy financing. Transactions are broken down by year, recipient country and energy sector. The intention is to report annually from now on, an official release from the EU said. The EU participates in the OECD-hosted Arrangement on Officially Supported Export Credits, which seeks to foster a level playing field for this type of government-provided financial instrument. Climate-related provisions within the arrangement have been expanding since 2015, creating financial incentives for climate-friendly export credits and banning the financing of coal-fired power plants. Launched in 2021, the E3F is a coalition of export credit agencies is committed to aligning their export finance policies with climate objectives by increasing support for sustainable projects, phasing out public finance for unabated fossil fuels, and publishing an annual transparency report on their export-finance transactions. In 2024, the EU proposed to create a 'coalition of the willing' transparency exercise for the voluntary disclosure of energy-related transactions.

# APM Terminals to develop Bangladesh's Laldia Container Terminal

Bangladesh's Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) will soon sign a 30-year agreement with APM Terminals BV, a Dutch subsidiary of Denmark-based AP Moller-Maersk Group, to develop and operate Laldia container terminal (LCT) at the port under the public-private partnership (PPP) mode. The announcement followed approval of the PPP model by the country's cabinet committee on economic affairs. A concession agreement allows a private company to build, operate and maintain public infrastructure, while transferring it back to the government after a defined term. The interim government has also progressed towards appointing the UAE-based DP World to run its largest terminal, the NCT, and preparing to sign agreements with PSA Singapore and DP World to build two terminals of the port's Bay Terminal. There has been opposition from different quarters to the government's move to lease out different terminals of the Chattogram Port to foreign companies without tenders. APM Terminals, with its experience of operations in China, Singapore and Sri Lanka, will introduce operational excellence to Bangladesh, helping make the country's logistics sector future-ready, said Mr. Ashik Chowdhury, executive chairman of the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority and CEO chief executive officer of the PPP Authority.

"The newest green port will accommodate large container vessels, reduce per-unit freight cost and enable direct shipping connectivity worldwide," he was quoted as saying by domestic media reports. The project will generate a stable foreign-currency income stream for Bangladesh while minimizing public capital expenditure, said the Chief Adviser's Office. For the first time, round-the-clock port operations with night navigation capabilities for ships with permissible length and draught will be enabled in the country, it said. The LCT will be capable of handling ships nearly twice the size of those currently accommodated at the New Mooring container terminal (NCT), decreasing dependence on trans-shipment ports like Colombo and Singapore, it added. The LCT will be implemented on a 'design, build, finance, operate and transfer' basis for 48 years, comprising an initial 33-year concession with a possible 15-year extension. It will take approximately three years to complete the construction and commissioning of the terminal, which is expected to begin operations by the end of 2029. APM Terminals is expected to invest about $550 million—the single largest European equity investment in Bangladesh to date, Mr. Chowdhury noted.

The terminal's initial annual handling capacity will be 800,000 TEUs, scalable to 1 million TEUs through efficiency gains and technology upgrades. Officials estimate this will raise the country's total container handling capacity by more than 40 per cent.

# Asia's Non-woven, Felt And Coated Textile Garment Market Set For Steady Growth Through 2035

Driven by rising demand for non-woven, felt, and coated textile garments in Asia, the market is expected to maintain an upward consumption trend over the next decade, according to recent research. Market growth is forecast to moderate, expanding at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 1.9% between 2024 and 2035, reaching an estimated 542 million units by the end of 2035. In value terms, the market is projected to increase at a CAGR of 2.2%, achieving a total worth of US $ 98.4 billion (nominal wholesale prices) by 2035.

In 2024, the countries with the highest consumption volumes were China (123 million units), India (68 million units), and Turkey (43 million units), together representing 53% of total consumption. China also led in market value at US $ 34.9 billion, followed by India at US $ 7.3 billion, with Turkey ranking third.

China dominates production of non-woven, felt, and coated textile garments, generating 341 million units, roughly 51% of the total market. Its output exceeds that of India, the second-largest producer, by a factor of five. Turkey ranked third with 43 million units, holding a 6.3% share of production.

China was also the largest importer, receiving approximately 8.1 million units, accounting for 34% of total imports. Other notable importers included Qatar (2.8 million units), Thailand (2.4 million units), the Philippines (1.8 million units), and Saudi Arabia (1.2 million units), collectively representing 34% of total imports. Smaller import volumes were reported by South Korea (1.05 million units), Japan (978,000 units), Turkey (700,000 units), Oman (671,000 units), and Malaysia (548,000 units). In value terms, Japan (US $ 640 million), South Korea (US $ 385 million), and China (US $ 331 million) were the top importers, together accounting for 64% of total import value, with other countries such as Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Thailand trailing behind.

On the export front, China continued to dominate, shipping 226 million units, nearly 88% of total Asian exports in 2024. Other exporters included Cambodia (4.5 million units), Vietnam (4.4 million units), and Thailand (4.2 million units), each with a roughly 5% share. In value terms, China remained the largest supplier at US $ 3.7 billion, representing 52% of total exports, followed by Vietnam (US $ 1.3 billion, 19% share) and Cambodia (US $ 0.25 billion, 3.5% share).

# Energy Cost Cuts To Save Uk Businesses Over $550 mn

Around 500 of the UK's most energy-intensive businesses are set to save up to £420 million (~$550.2 million) per year on their electricity bills as the Government takes decisive action to slash industrial energy costs. Business Secretary Mr. Peter Kyle announced that the government will move ahead with plans to increase the discount on electricity network charges for businesses in sectors like steel, cement, glass, and chemicals, which employ around 400,000 people in total across the UK, from 60 to 90 per cent. Some of these businesses currently pay the highest industrial electricity prices in the G7, making it harder to stay competitive on the international stage, which is why the government has taken decisive action to deliver this relief and level the playing field for industry, the department for business and trade said in a press release. The landmark support, which is being delivered at no extra cost to taxpayers, fulfils a crucial promise in the UK's modern Industrial Strategy launched in June, 2025 and follows a four-week consultation on the plans for the increased discount which ran between July and August this year.

The increased discount will also slash costs for a range of businesses across Scotland and Wales to help them support local jobs and deliver growth, including Tata Steel at Port Talbot and INEOS in Grange mouth, ensuring the benefits are felt right across the country. It comes on top of the government's landmark British Industrial Competitiveness Scheme announced in the modern industrial strategy, which will slash energy costs by 25 per cent for over 7,000 businesses from 2027 in sectors like aerospace, automotive and chemicals, supporting hundreds of thousands of skilled jobs in these industries. "British industry deserves a level playing field – and this government is delivering it. We've heard businesses loud and clear, and this landmark support will help them stay competitive on the global stage so they can invest and grow here in the UK. This is our Modern Industrial Strategy in action: practical, targeted support that secures jobs, attracts investment and drives our economy forward, as part of our plan for change," business and trade secretary Mr. Peter Kyle said.

The Supercharger and British Industrial Competitiveness Scheme will be funded through reforms to the energy system. The government is reducing costs within the system to free up funding without raising household bills or taxes, the release added. "Our research shows energy costs remain a major concern, forcing many businesses who are struggling to pay their bills to raise prices. Energy is a business essential not a luxury. The promise of cheaper bills for hundreds of energy-intensive firms through increasing the discount on electricity network charges is welcome," Mr. Ben Martin, policy manager at the British Chambers of Commerce, said.

# Cambodia aims at fostering energy-efficient, green industries: Deputy PM

Cambodia's forthcoming Industrial Transformation Plan aims at fostering industries that are energy-efficient, environmentally responsible and globally competitive, according to the country's Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Vongsey Vissoth. The government is reinforcing its commitment to building a value-driven and sustainable textile industry through comprehensive policies promoting cleaner production, ethical labour practices and green innovation, he told the 'World Green and Sustainability Summit 2025' in Phnom Penh ."Green growth lies at the heart of Cambodia's economic diversification strategy," Mr. Vissoth said. "These actions reaffirm Cambodia's readiness to meet the demands of global buyers and consumers who increasingly favour ethical and eco-friendly products," he was quoted as saying by a domestic media outlet. The country's green growth strategy places a special focus on transforming the export-oriented garments, footwear, and travel goods (GFT) sector, which generated $11.68 billion in 2024, accounting for 44.6 per cent of total exports.

# UK textile brands cut carbon by 6%, water use by 9%


Sustainability teams in the United Kingdom are driving real progress to reduce impacts by improving products, materials, and processes, yet production continues to climb as many brands and retailers pursue familiar models of growth, according to the UK Textiles Pact's fourth Annual Progress Update. In an increasingly volatile global textiles marketplace, these models are still treated as the default for competitiveness and commercial survival, it notes. The pact has two ambitious targets that will drive transformation of the textiles sector by 2030: Fifty per cent reduction in the overall carbon footprint of new textile products placed on the UK market and 30 per cent reduction in the overall water footprint of new textile products placed on the UK market. For the fourth consecutive year, signatories delivered action under the pact and made products better by shifting to less impactful fibres, increasing recycled content and adopting more sustainable manufacturing processes.

These efforts are paying off and impacts per tonne of textiles have fallen, with carbon down by 6 per cent and water down by 9 per cent compared to 2019 figures, the Waste and Resource Action Programme (WRAP), a global environment action non-governmental organization (NGO), said citing the Update. Combined with the efforts of our reuse and recycling signatories, who displaced 1.12 million tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2024 alone, this represents marked progress. However, these gains are being cancelled out by volume growth. In 2024, brands and retailers placed 17 per cent more textiles in the market than in 2019, leading to a 10-per cent rise in total carbon emissions and a 7-per cent increase in water use. This implies product impacts are decreasing, but they are being produced in such vast quantities that the overall footprint continues to grow, WRAP noted. All signatories are continuing to make improvements to reduce their products' environmental impacts. Sixty-two per cent of textiles being put on the market by signatories have reduced environmental impacts, up from 25 per cent in 2019; 16 per cent of fibres used by signatories are now recycled, up from 2 per cent in 2021, outperforming the global average of 7.6 per cent.

Reuse and recycling organizations handled 210,000 tonnes of used textiles in 2024—a 27 per cent increase since 2019.The volume of products collected by brands and retailers for reuse and recycling has nearly tripled since 2019, capturing items that might otherwise have ended up in household waste. Circular business models continue to gain traction. While they currently account for a modest 0.02 per cent of total tonnages sold/put on the market, business adoption is rising year on year, and 13 per cent of used textiles reported by reuse and recycling signatories were sold through peer-to-peer platforms in 2024.

# Bangladesh, UNDP launch project to boost low-carbon urban development

Bangladesh and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) recently launched a new project to promote low-carbon urban development in Dhaka, Chattogram and other major cities. Funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the initiative aims at reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and foster sustainable urban growth through greater investment in energy efficiency, renewable energy and waste-to-energy solutions. The five-year initiative titled 'Promoting Energy-Related Low Carbon Urban Development (LCUD) in Bangladesh' will be executed by the Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority (SREDA) under the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources (MoPEMR), an UNDP release said.

"This project will build vital knowledge and capacity for better waste management and clean energy solutions in our cities ... .We must now work closely to bridge the gaps, manage resources wisely, and expand these efforts beyond Dhaka and Chattogram to ensure cleaner, healthier urban living for all," Mohammad Shahriar Kader Siddiky, secretary of the country's economic relations division, said. Through strategic collaboration and innovative solutions, the LCUD project is expected to create a replicable model for climate-resilient and energy-efficient cities, contributing to Bangladesh's transition toward a greener and more sustainable future.

# EU Commission Grants Over $414 mn for 132 Clean Transition Projects

The European Commission recently granted more than €358 million (~$414.2 million) to 132 new projects across Europe under the LIFE Programme for environment and climate action. The allocated amount represents more than half of the €536 million total investment needs for these projects—the remainder coming from national, regional and local governments, public-private partnerships, businesses and civil society organizations. LIFE project play a significant role in the European Union's (EU) transition to a clean, circular and resilient economy, helping safeguard and restore the EU's biodiversity, supporting industrial competitiveness and contributing to the EU's long-term goal of becoming climate-neutral by 2050.This investment will have a lasting impact on the region's environment, economy, industry and the well-being of all Europeans. The projects will cover all areas of the LIFE programme. It will mobilize €133 million (of which the EU will provide €76 million) to contribute to circular economy and improving quality of life, with 31 projects supporting the transition towards a clean, circular, energy-efficient, and climate-resilient economy. It will mobilize €96 million (of which the EU will provide €58 million) to 19 projects to strengthen climate resilience and mitigation efforts. It will also mobilize €82 million (of which the EU will provide €77 million) to 48 projects aimed at accelerating the clean energy transition, an official release said.

Among the 31 projects selected to promote a more circular economy and quality of life, the €3.6 million LIFE Woodmer project in Sweden will produce biopolymers from waste wood to reduce hazardous chemicals and plastics in packaging and textiles. The €1.9 million project InBioSoil in Spain uses fungi to clean up soil contaminated with persistent organic pollutants. The €1.9 million project InBioSoil in Spain uses fungi to clean up soil contaminated with persistent organic pollutants. To ensure a clean energy transition, the 48 new projects announced today range from citizen-led local energy cooperatives to retrofitting old buildings and installing affordable heat pumps. They include the €1.2 million LIFE SUNACADEMY project, a new renewable energy training academy in France, with a focus on residential and large solar installations. The €1.8-million NESOIplus project will provide for clean energy solutions and capacity building targeted to remote island communities in the Azores, Canaries and Martinique. And with a budget of €1.6 million, the BAIL-RENOV project will give an increased focus on landlord's needs all along the energy renovation process in rental properties in France. Over its 33 years of existence, the LIFE Programme has co-financed more than 6,500 environmental and climate action projects across the EU and associated countries. The present LIFE programme started in 2021 and runs until 2027, with a budget of €5.43 billion. The grants financed under the LIFE Programme are managed by CINEA, the European Climate Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency.

# EU Approves Updated Climate Pledge Ahead Of COP30


The Council of the European Union (EU) has approved an updated nationally determined contribution (NDC) of the EU and its member states, which will be submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) ahead of COP30 which will be held from November 10-21, 2025. Following the 2020 NDC and its 2023 update, the updated NDC covers the period up to 2035. The NDC reiterates the EU's goal of achieving a net reduction of 55 per cent in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and introduces an indicative contribution of 66.25 per cent to 72.5 per cent for 2035 on the path towards carbon neutrality by 2050.The updated NDC builds on previous commitments, aiming to accelerate the transition to a decarbonized economy and industry, and outlines the EU's ongoing efforts to achieve climate neutrality in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

"With the adoption of the EU's NDC, we are sending a strong signal ahead of COP30 that we remain fully committed to keeping the goals of the Paris Agreement. It enables us to push for more global climate action, when we meet the rest of the world at COP30," Mr. Lars Aagaard, Denmark's Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities, said.

# US Researchers Develop Natural Fabric From Fermentation Waste

A fermentation byproduct might help to solve two major global challenges: world hunger and the environmental impact of fast fashion, according to a new study led by researchers at Penn State and published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. The leftover yeast from brewing beer, wine or even to make some pharmaceuticals can be repurposed to produce high-performance fibres stronger than natural fibres with significantly less environmental impact. The yeast biomass — composed of proteins, fatty molecules called lipids and sugars — left over from alcohol and pharmaceutical production is regarded as waste, but lead author Melik Demirel, Pearce professor of Engineering and Huck Chair in Biomimetic Materials at Penn State, said his team realized they could repurpose the material to make fibres using a previously developed process. The researchers successfully achieved pilot-scale production of the fibre — producing more than 1,000 pounds — in a factory in Germany, with continuous and batch production for more than 100 hours per run of fibre spinning. They also used data collected during this production for a lifecycle assessment, which assessed the needs and impact of the product from obtaining the raw fermentation byproduct through its life to disposal and its cost, and to evaluate the economic viability of the technology. The analysis predicted the cost, water use, production output, greenhouse gas emissions and more at every stage. Ultimately, the researchers found that the commercial-scale production of the fermentation-based fibre could compete with wool and other fibres at scale but with considerably fewer resources, including far less land — even when accounting for the land needed to grow the crops used in the fermentation processes that eventually produce the yeast biomass.

"Just as hunter-gatherers domesticated sheep for wool 11,000 years ago, we're domesticating yeast for a fibre that could shift the agricultural lens to focus far more resources to food crops," said Demirel, who is also affiliated with the Materials Research Institute and the Institute of Energy and the Environment, both at Penn State.

"We successfully demonstrated that this material can be made cheaply — for $6 or less per kilogram, which is about 2.2 pounds, compared to wool's $10 to $12 per kilogramme—with significantly less water and land but improved performance compared to any other natural or processed fibres, while also nearly eliminating greenhouse gas emissions. The saved resources could be applied elsewhere, like repurposing land to grow food crops."

Demirel's team has spent over a decade developing a process to produce a fibre from proteins. Inspired by nature, the fibre is durable and free of the chemicals other fibres can leave in the environment for years, the study said. "We can pull the proteins as an aggregate — mimicking naturally occurring protein accumulations called amyloids — from the yeast, dissolve the resulting pulp in a solution, and push that through a device called a spinneret that uses tiny spigots to make continuous fibres," Demirel said, explaining the fibres are then washed, dried and spun into yarn that can then be woven into fabric for clothes. He also noted that the fibres are biodegradable, meaning they would breakdown after disposal, unlike the millions of tons of polyester clothing discarded every year that pollutes the planet. "The key is the solution used to dissolve the pulp. This solvent is the same one used to produce Lyocell, the fibre derived from cellulose, or wood pulp. We can recover 99.6 per cent of the solvent used to reuse it in future production cycles." The idea of using proteins to make fibre is not new, according to Demirel, who pointed to Lanital as an example. The material was developed in the 1930s from milk protein, but it fell out of fashion due to low strength with the advent of polyester.

"The issue has always been performance and cost," Mr. Demirel said, noting the mid-20th century also saw the invention of fibres made from peanut proteins and from corn proteins before cheap and stronger polyester ultimately reigned.

Beyond producing a quality fibre, Mr. Demirel said, the study also indicated the fibre's potential on a commercial scale. The models rolled their pilot-scale findings into simulated scenarios of commercial production. For comparison, about 55 million pounds of cotton are produced globally every year and just 2.2 pounds — about what it takes to make one T-shirt and one pair of jeans — requires up to 2,642 gallons of water. Raw cotton is relatively cheap, Mr. Demirel said, but the environmental cost is staggering. "Cotton crops also use about 88 million acres, of farmable land around the world — just under 40 per cent of that is in India, which ranks as 'serious' on the Global Hunger Index," Mr. Demirel said. "Imagine if instead of growing cotton, that land, water, resources and energy could be used to produce crops that could feed people. It's not quite as simple as that, but this analysis demonstrated that bio-manufactured fibres require significantly less land, water and other resources to produce, so it's feasible to picture how shifting from crop-based fibres could free up a significant amount of land for food production."

In 2024, 733 million people — about one in 12 — around the world faced food insecurity, a continued trend that has led the United Nations to declare a goal of 'Zero Hunger' to eliminate this issue by 2030. One potential solution may be to free land currently used to grow fibre crops to produce more food crops, according to Mr. Demirel. Current production methods not only use significant resources, he said, but more than 66 per cent of clothing produced annually in the US alone ends up in landfills. Mr. Demirel's approach offers a solution for both problems, he said. "By leveraging bio manufacturing, we can produce sustainable, high-performance fibres that do not compete with food crops for land, water or nutrients," Mr. Demirel said. "Adopting bio manufacturing-based protein fibres would mark a significant advancement towards a future where fibre needs are fulfilled without compromising the planet's capacity to nourish its growing population. We can make significant strides towards achieving the 'Zero Hunger' goal, ensuring everyone can access nutritious food while promoting sustainable development goals. Mr. Demirel said the team plans to further investigate the viability of fermentation-based fibres at a commercial scale.

# UNCTAD Calls for Aligning Trade with Paris Agreement


The UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) calls for aligning markets and trade with the Paris Agreement to accelerate the low-carbon transition and finance climate action ahead of COP30, as per the latest Global Trade Update by UNCTAD released ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30), which was taken place from November 10 to 21,2025 in Belém, Brazil. The Global Trade Update shows that sustainable trade can turn climate ambition into measurable progress when trade and climate policies work together. By lowering the cost of clean technologies and opening markets for low-carbon goods, trade becomes a direct instrument of climate action. The report finds that trade-related measures are increasingly used in national climate commitments to promote renewable energy, improve efficiency and develop sustainable value chains. However, direct trade policies such as tariff reduction, liberalization of environmental services and harmonization of sustainability standards could be further leveraged to support affordable access to low-carbon technologies. UNCTAD's mapping of 60 developing countries' national climate plans shows that most already integrate trade measures, though they remain underused with depth and ambition varying widely across regions.

UN Trade and Development's Guide for Policymakers on Trade Policies to Advance National Climate Plans - now part of the COP30 Presidency's Climate and Trade Toolbox (COP30 Key Objective 24) - offers concrete steps for aligning trade, investment and climate strategies. Nearly 90 per cent of newly submitted national climate plans come from developing countries showing their commitment to addressing climate change. To ensure they can be fully implemented access to finance, technology and capacity-building, will be necessary. The report warns that persistent inequalities in access to clean technologies and affordable finance risk widening the gap between economies if global reforms lag. Better integration of trade policy supported by international cooperation can help these countries meet their goals while strengthening competitiveness and resilience. The Global Trade Update calls for regional and South–South cooperation to reduce tariffs, and South-South North cooperation to harmonise sustainability standards and facilitate affordable access to climate-relevant technologies. Aligning trade, industrial and climate policies can unlock new value chains in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture and circular-economy sectors, creating jobs and revenues to finance climate action.UNCTAD stresses that by incorporating trade policy instruments in climate policy countries will be better suited to achieve a just and inclusive transition.

# ADB Approves $100 mn to Boost Sri Lanka's Sustainable Growth

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a $100 million financing package to build on Sri Lanka's progress toward macroeconomic stability and to help achieve sustainable growth following the economic crisis. This will be done by strengthening public expenditure management, improving revenue mobilization, and fostering private sector participation."Sri Lanka has made commendable progress in restoring fiscal and debt sustainability following an unprecedented economic crisis," said ADB country director for Sri Lanka Takafumi Kadono. "We will work closely with the government to restore macroeconomic stability and promote inclusive, sustainable growth by strengthening Sri Lanka's fiscal governance and build a more efficient, accountable, and resilient public sector. This programme also aims to improve the credibility and execution of public expenditure, enhance domestic revenue mobilization, and foster a more predictable and transparent investment climate. "This programme will help improve efficiency and transparency in public expenditure management through a comprehensive approach that streamlines budgetary processes and optimizes resource allocation to ensure the effective utilization of public funds, the ADB said in a press release.

In addition, it will enhance revenue mobilization by strengthening revenue generation through stronger domestic and international tax compliance such as the development and implementation of a multiyear tax compliance improvement strategy and by further deepening international tax cooperation following Sri Lanka's recent membership to the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes. The programme will support the government's efforts to improve the enabling environment for private sector participation, including developing a legal framework for public–private partnerships (PPP) that is aligned with international best practices and mobilizing additional climate finance and private investment. It will also focus on strengthening the management, transparency, and accountability of state-owned enterprises (SOE).Several first-time initiatives in Sri Lanka will be supported. In addition to the draft PPP law, this includes a comprehensive Fiscal Risk Statement and a climate finance strategy that aims to crowd in other sources of finance to support Sri Lanka's climate ambition and resilience. It also addresses gender gaps through Sustainable Development Goals budget tagging, a new gender sensitive Nationally Determined Contribution, and public procurement reforms to enhance its development impact and inclusivity. These innovations, together with newly established institutional mechanisms—such as the SOE credit risk framework and specialized monitoring units—lay the foundation for sustained impact.

ADB is a leading multilateral development bank supporting inclusive, resilient, and sustainable growth across Asia and the Pacific. Working with its members and partners to solve complex challenges together, ADB harnesses innovative financial tools and strategic partnerships to transform lives, build quality infrastructure, and safeguard our planet. Founded in 1966, ADB is owned by 69 members—50 from the region.

ADB ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

# UK Outlines Revised Pathway To Net Zero In 2025 Carbon Plan


The UK remains committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050, with the Labour Government's latest 2025 'Carbon Budget and Growth Delivery Plan' setting out how the country aims to meet emissions targets through to 2037. The document follows a series of legal challenges that required the government to provide clearer evidence on how targets would be met. Earlier strategies, including the 2021 Net Zero Strategy and the March 2023 Carbon Budget Delivery Plan, were ruled unlawful for lacking sufficient detail under the Climate Change Act 2008, the UK Parliament said in a release.

In December 2024, the Labour Government set out its Clean Power by 2030 goal, with the Great British Energy Act establishing a publicly owned clean energy company to accelerate renewable investment. Additional decarburization funding was confirmed in the 2025 Spending Review. The Climate Change Committee (CCC) continues to scrutinise progress. Its 2024 report warned that swift action was essential.

The 2025 report assessed that achieving net zero remains 'within reach' if policy momentum is maintained, highlighting progress in electricity decarburization, surface transport, heat pump deployment, and nature restoration. However, it stressed the importance of further lowering electricity costs to drive greater uptake of low-carbon technologies. The government responded to the CCC's 2025 findings alongside the new delivery plan, with the CCC confirming it will provide a full assessment in its 2026 Progress Report.

# EU Parliament Backs 90% Emissions Cut Target by 2040 To Reach Net Zero

MEPs on the European Parliament's Environment, Climate and Food Safety Committee have adopted their position on a revision to the EU Climate Law, calling for a binding target to reduce net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 90 per cent by 2040 compared with 1990 levels. The measure is intended to ensure the EU remains on track to achieve climate neutrality by 2050.The committee voted 55 to 32 in favour of the position, with no abstentions. A plenary vote is scheduled for November 13, after which negotiations with EU member states will begin.MEPs agreed that climate action must align with economic competitiveness and therefore support introducing flexibilities in how reductions can be achieved, the European Parliament said in a release. From 2036, member states would be allowed to use up to five percentage points of high-quality international carbon credits from partner countries to meet the target. This exceeds the European Commission's earlier suggestion of three percentage points, but MEPs insist such credits require strong safeguards to ensure environmental integrity. They also propose allowing domestic, permanent carbon removals to offset hard-to-abate emissions under the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS), alongside additional flexibilities across sectors to ensure cost-effective compliance.

In addition, MEPs back the proposal to delay the launch of the ETS2 scheme, which covers CO2 emissions from fuel use in buildings and road transport, from 2027 to 2028 in order to give households and businesses more time to adapt.

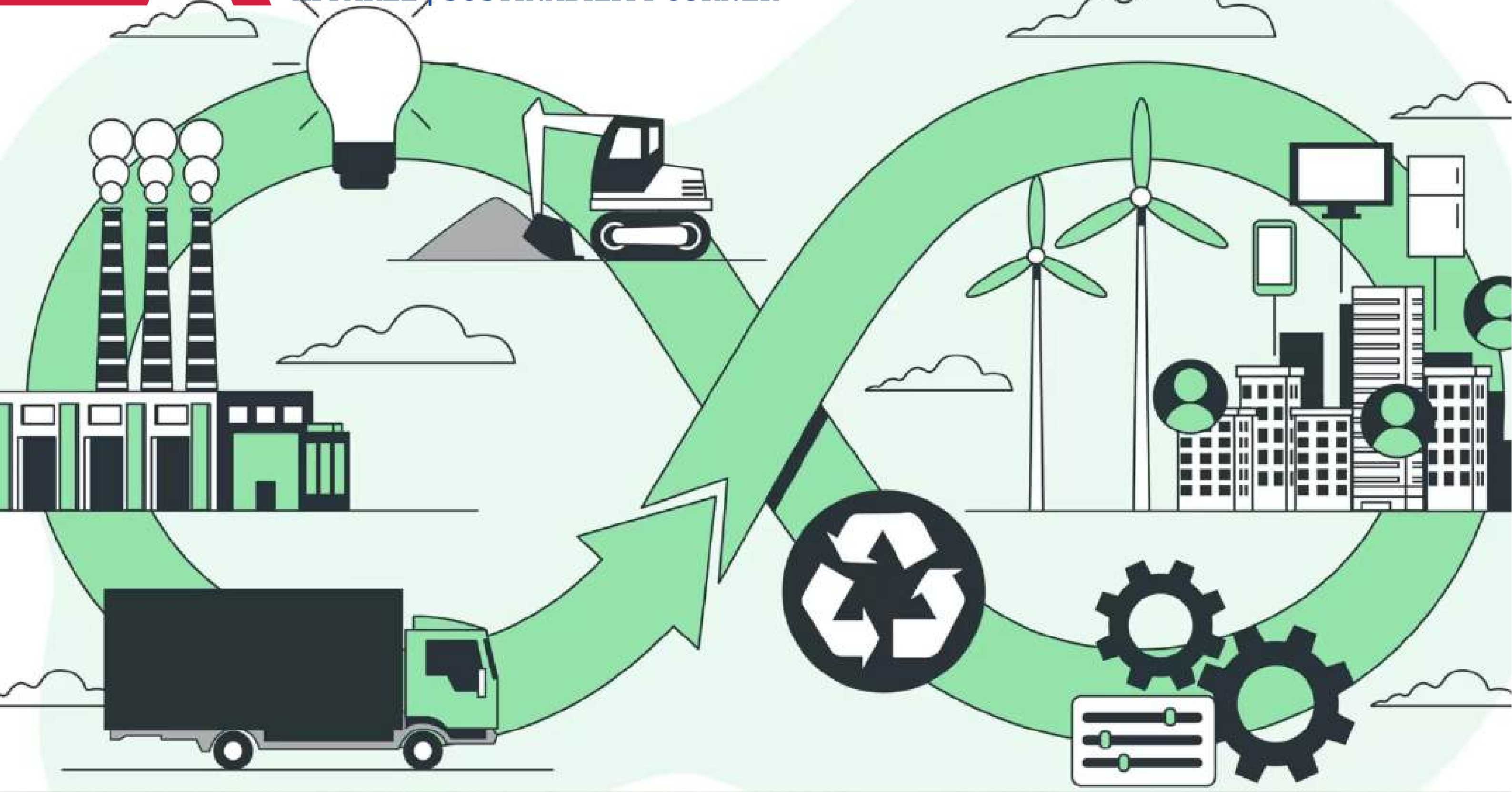
The committee calls for progress towards the 2040 target to be reviewed every two years. The assessment would consider scientific evidence, technological advances, energy price trends, and impacts on EU industry competitiveness. It would also evaluate whether carbon removals are on track and identify any emerging challenges. Depending on the findings, the Commission may propose changes to the target or introduce additional measures to maintain social and economic stability during the transition. The existing European Climate Law already commits the EU to climate neutrality by 2050 and a legally binding reduction of at least 55 per cent in GHG emissions by 2030, relative to 1990. The 2040 target is expected to guide long-term investment decisions and strengthen the EU's position in global climate diplomacy.

The timing coincides with the 30th UN climate conference in Belém, Brazil. A delegation from the European Parliament will participate from November 17 to 21, 2025 Once the Parliament adopts its full position, trilogue negotiations with EU member states will begin to finalize the legislation.


# EU & Ecuador Begin Talks On Sustainable Investment Pact

The European Union (EU) and Ecuador have opened negotiations for a Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreement (SIFA) on November 10, 2025. The deal aims to boost sustainable development in Ecuador by easing EU investment in sectors such as renewable energy, digitalization, agriculture, transport and logistics. It will increase transparency, streamline authorisations, reduce red tape and strengthen dialogue with investors while ensuring strong labour and environmental safeguards.

The SIFA complements the existing EU–Andean Community Multiparty Trade Agreement and aligns with the EU's Global Gateway strategy. It is intended to improve Ecuador's regulatory and administrative environment, encouraging investment, growth, job creation and responsible business practices, the European Commission said in a release. Ecuador is the first Latin American nation to negotiate such an agreement with the EU. The EU is Ecuador's largest trade and investment partner, with EU FDI stock rising to over €8 billion (~$9.27 billion) in 2023, up from €7.1 billion (~$8.22 billion) in 2022.



# MEPs Back Changes To EU Sustainability Reporting, Due Diligence Norms

The European Parliament yesterday endorsed reduced reporting duties and due diligence requirements for companies.

With 382 votes in favour, 249 against and 13 abstentions, the Parliament adopted its negotiating position on simplified sustainability reporting and due diligence duties for businesses.

Parliament members (MEPs) consider that only businesses employing on an average over 1,750 employees and with a net annual turnover of over €450 million should have to carry out social and environmental reporting. Only businesses within this scope would also be required to provide sustainability reporting under taxonomy rules. Reporting standards would be further simplified and reduced, requiring fewer qualitative details, and sector-specific reporting would become voluntary. Smaller companies would be protected from the reporting requirements of their large business partners, which would not be allowed to request more information than what is set out in the voluntary standards. Due diligence requirements would apply only to large corporations with more than 5,000 employees and a net annual turnover of over €1.5 billion. MEPs want these businesses to adopt a risk-based approach to monitoring and identifying their negative impact on people and the planet. Instead of systematically requesting information from their smaller business partners, they should rely on information that is already available and could only request additional information from their smaller business partners as a last resort, an official release said.

These companies would no longer need to prepare a transition plan to make their business model compatible with the Paris Agreement and could face fines for not complying with due diligence requirements the guidance on which will be provided by the European Commission and member states. Offending firms would be liable at the national rather than European Union (EU) level and would have to fully compensate their victims for damages. MEPs also want the Commission to establish a digital portal for businesses with free access to templates, guidelines and information on all EU reporting requirements complementing the European Single Access Point. Negotiations with EU governments, which have already adopted their position on the file, will start on November 18, with the aim of finalizing the legislation by the end of 2025. Following the delayed application of the sustainability reporting and due diligence obligations, the current proposal seeks to simplify them and reduce the administrative burden for companies. The updated rules are part of the Omnibus I simplification package proposed by the European Commission on February 26, 2025.

# US Researchers Develop Composting Methods for Cotton Textiles

UC Merced researchers are collaborating on a two-year research project to develop effective composting methods for cotton textiles. The project explores manufacturing cotton waste scraps from clothing into compost to demonstrate efficient composting with the right recipe, and the compost's ability to nourish soils without introducing pollutants, according to UC Merced's project lead. Mr. Biyensa Dubiwak, a postdoctoral scholar in the department of Life and Environmental Sciences.

"The textile industry produces over 90 million metric tonnes of waste every year that ends up in landfills, contributing significantly to global methane emissions," Mr. Dubiwak said. "We are interested in recycling it and putting it back into the soil to maintain the sustainability of the industry, in addition to the benefits the compost would provide to farmers. "The UC Merced-led project is part of a broader collaboration involving Bowles Farming, Agromin, Fibershed, and Cotton Incorporated who funded the project. The goal is to create a circular economy by recycling cotton waste into compost and returning it to the soil to close the loop on agricultural sustainability.

"Bowles Farming, in partnership with Agromin, one the largest composting companies in the region, is working toward circular practices for sustainable production, improved soil health, and reduced environmental impacts," Mr. Dubiwak said.

"They want to make the system soil-to-soil sustainable and environmentally friendly. Mr. Dubiwak, who works in Professor Rebecca Ryals' Agroecology Lab at UC Merced, brings international expertise in soil science and organic fertilizers. He earned his Phd in integrated agriculture, food and environmental sciences at the Marche Polytechnic University in Italy. His doctoral research focused on converting bio-energy waste into organic fertiliser that could replace the inorganic fertiliser needed to grow sunflowers in Italy's Marche Region, where the bloom's production is not only a commercial enterprise, but attracts tourists each summer. Prior to his current role, he conducted research in Arkansas and Missouri focusing on soil health and exploring pathways to mitigate the spread of micro-pollutants in soils when organic waste is used as fertilizer.

Mr. Dubiwak said the research team is testing composting recipes that combine cotton textiles with different green wastes to find the most effective recipe and mix for producing high-quality compost and reduced environmental impact.

The project also tracks greenhouse gases released during composting, including carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide to compare the environmental impact of composting versus landfilling. Future phases of the research will evaluate how composted textile materials affect long-term soil health.

# Circular Recycling Project Transforms 24tonne Of Textiles Waste In Europe

The project was launched by Dutch textile recycling centre Boer Group with financial backing from Refashion. Both Boer Group and Refashion, which are active partners of the ReHubs alliance, have established a complete European value chain.

As part of the project, textiles were collected and sorted in France before being prepared in the Netherlands by Frankenhuis, which handled colour sorting and defibration. Frankenhuis is a mechanical recycling specialist and part of the Boer Group.

Blue and white textiles were selected to naturally influence the colour of the final yarn. The feedstock was then transferred to Italy, where Spinaker spun the yarn and Stella Sky knitted the fabric.

As the end customer, Zeeman played a key role in defining the product and ensuring it meet consumer expectations.

According to a statement from ReHubs, each garment produced for Zeeman through this project contains 70% recycled content.

Zeeman senior buyer circular Ms. Mariëlle van Dillen said: "At Zeeman, we want to show that circular innovations can also be accessible for affordable clothing for everyone. By collaborating with strong European partners, we have proven that post-consumer textile waste can be turned into new, high-quality products that our customers love to buy.

"The sweaters from this project were a great success in our stores, selling very well and demonstrating that customers value affordable circular fashion. This project brings us one step closer to our ambition to reuse textiles more often and reduce our impact as a retailer."

The project, which ran over eight months, was designed to test both the technical and financial feasibility of producing garments with high levels of recycled content in Europe.

It demonstrated that post-consumer textiles could be converted into quality yarns and garments, achieving a circular value chain from collection to manufacturing within the region.

Yarn developed during the initiative reduced the product's environmental footprint compared to conventional yarn, resulting in lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, reduced water consumption, and decreased energy use, an environmental impact report accompanying the project revealed.

**Refashion circularity head Véronique Allaire said:** "This project proves that Europe can turn its textile waste into new garments at scale. By building a fully circular value chain here in Europe, we have shown that textile-to-textile recycling is not only possible but commercially viable. It's a powerful signal that our industry can lead the shift towards a truly circular economy."

# France

### ➢ Economic Overview:

High-income, advanced EU economy and eurozone member; strong tourism, aircraft manufacturing, pharmaceuticals and industrial sectors; transitioning to a green economy via "France 2030" strategy.

## ➢ Economic Indicators:

| *Indicators* | *Value (in USD)* |
|---|---|
| Real GDP (Purchasing Power Parity), 2024 est. | 3.732 trillion |
| Real GDP (Growth Rate), 2024 est. | 1.2 % |
| Real GDP (Per Capita), 2024 est. | 54,500 |
| GDP (Official Exchange Rate), 2024 est. | 3.162 trillion |
| Inflation Rate, 2024 est. | 2 % |
| **Source: The World Factbook – CIA 2025** | |

### ➢ Industries:

Machinery, chemicals, automobiles, metallurgy, aircraft, electronics, textiles, food processing, tourism.

### ➢ Climate:

Generally cool winters and mild summers, but mild winters and hot summers along the Mediterranean; occasional strong, cold, dry, north-to-northwesterly wind known as the mistral

### ➢ Average Tariff for India:

9.6 %

## ➢ Exchange Rate :

| *Indicators* | *Value (in USD)* |
|---|---|
| Indian Rupees (INR) per Euro (EUR) | 102.41 |
| Euro (EUR) per US Dollar (USD) | 0.86 |
| **Source: X-Rates 2025 (November 2025)** | |

## ➢ France's RMG Trade:

| France's RMG Import from World and India (In USD Mn.) | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | % Change 2024 over 2023 | 2024 (Jan-Sep) | 2025 (Jan-Sep) | % Change 2025 over 2024 |
| France's RMG imports from World | 27167.9 | 25643.6 | 25417.6 | -0.9 | 18806.6 | 19939.7 | 6.0 |
| France's RMG imports from India | 1195.8 | 1183.8 | 1111.8 | -6.1 | 910.4 | 1010.3 | 11.0 |
| India's Share in France's total RMG imports from World, % | 4.4 | 4.6 | 4.4 | | 4.8 | 5.1 | |

**Source: UN Comtrade 2025**

The above table shows that France's RMG import from the World were to the tune of USD 25417.6 mn in 2024 showing a decline of 0.9 % as compared to 2023. RMG import from India has also declined to USD 1111.8 mn, registering a decline of 6.1 % as compared to 2023. India's percentage share in France's RMG import from the World has also decline to 4.4 % in 2024.

France's RMG import from World between Jan-Sep 2025 were to the tune of USD 19939.7 Mn., showing an increase of 6.0 % as compared to Jan-Sep 2024 and import from India during the same period showed a growth of 11.0 % with the share of 5.1% in 2025.

## ➢ Top RMG Supplier to France:

| Top RMG Supplier to France and India's Position | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Position | Countries | Imported value in 2024 (in USD mn | % Share |
| | **World** | **25417.6** | **100** |
| 1 | China | 5686.9 | 22.4 |
| 2 | Bangladesh | 3809.3 | 15.0 |
| 3 | Italy | 2693.7 | 10.6 |
| 4 | Turkey | 1638.0 | 6.4 |
| 5 | Vietnam | 1296.2 | 4.2 |
| **6** | **India** | **1111.8** | **4.4** |

**Source: UN Comtrade 2025**

The above table shows that China has remain the top supplier of RMG to France with 22.4 % share in 2024. India is the 6th largest supplier of RMG to France with 4.4 % share. Bangladesh and Italy has a share of 15.0 % and 10.6 % respectively.

## ➢ France's top 10 RMG Products Import from World vs India's share:

### Top 10 RMG products imported by France from World (in USD mn)

| S. No. | HS Code | Product label | Imported from World in 2024 | Imported from India in 2024 | India's Share in % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Total RMG** | **25417.6** | **1111.8** | **4.4** |
| | | **Sum of Top 10** | **10020.0** | **307.9** | **3.1** |
| 1 | 610910 | T-shirts, singlets and other vests of cotton, knitted or crocheted | 1725.1 | 142.6 | 8.3 |
| 2 | 620342 | Men's or boys' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts, of cotton (excl. knitted ... | 1343.5 | 62.8 | 4.7 |
| 3 | 611020 | Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats and similar articles, of cotton, knitted or crocheted ... | 1338.4 | 40.2 | 3.0 |
| 4 | 611030 | Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats and similar articles, of man-made fibres, knitted ... | 1336.4 | 11.5 | 0.9 |
| 5 | 620462 | Women's or girls' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts of cotton (excl. knitted ... | 1048.4 | 24.1 | 2.3 |
| 6 | 620240 | Women's or girls' overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks, incl. ski jackets, wind-cheaters, ... | 851.1 | 5.7 | 0.7 |
| 7 | 610990 | T-shirts, singlets and other vests of textile materials, knitted or crocheted (excl. cotton) | 787.7 | 11.4 | 1.4 |
| 8 | 620140 | Men's or boys' overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks, incl. ski jackets, wind-cheaters, ... | 628.8 | 1.5 | 0.2 |
| 9 | 611011 | Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats and similar articles, of wool, knitted or crocheted ... | 500.7 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| 10 | 610463 | Women's or girls' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts of synthetic fibres, ... | 460.1 | 7.5 | 1.6 |

**Source: UN Comtrade 2025**

The above table shows France's top 10 RMG products imported from the World vis-à-vis from India and India's % share in those top 10 products. The top 10 products imported from the World were to the tune of USD 10020.0 mn. in 2024 and import from India of these top 10 products were to the tune of USD 307.9 mn. India has 3.1 % share in France's top 10 products import from the World.

The top products imported by France from the World includes **(i)** T-shirts, singlets and other vests of cotton, knitted or crocheted; **(ii)** Men's or boys' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts, of cotton; **(iii)** Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats and similar articles of cotton, knitted or crocheted.

## ➢ France's top 10 RMG products import from India:

| Top 10 RMG Products India's Export to France (in USD mn) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S. No. | HS Code | Product label | Export from India, 2024 | % Share in 2024 |
| | | Total RMG | 1111.8 | 100.0 |
| | | Sum of Top 10 | 615.9 | 55.4 |
| 1 | 610910 | T-shirts, singlets and other vests of cotton, knitted or crocheted | 142.6 | 12.8 |
| 2 | 620630 | Women's or girls' blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses of cotton (excl. knitted or crocheted and ... | 77.5 | 7.0 |
| 3 | 620342 | Men's or boys' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts, of cotton (excl. knitted ... | 62.8 | 5.6 |
| 4 | 620442 | Women's or girls' dresses of cotton (excl. knitted or crocheted and petticoats) | 60.2 | 5.4 |
| 5 | 610462 | Women's or girls' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts of cotton, knitted ... | 52.1 | 4.7 |
| 6 | 611120 | Babies' garments and clothing accessories of cotton, knitted or crocheted (excl. hats) | 52.0 | 4.7 |
| 7 | 620520 | Men's or boys' shirts of cotton (excl. knitted or crocheted, nightshirts, singlets and other ... | 48.2 | 4.3 |
| 8 | 620640 | Women's or girls' blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses of man-made fibres (excl. knitted or crocheted ... | 42.1 | 3.8 |
| 9 | 611020 | Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats and similar articles, of cotton, knitted or crocheted ... | 40.2 | 3.6 |
| 10 | 620444 | Women's or girls' dresses of artificial fibres (excl. knitted or crocheted and petticoats) | 38.2 | 3.4 |

**Source: UN Comtrade 2025**

The above table shows France's top 10 RMG products imported from India. France's top 10 products imported from India were to the tune of USD 615.9 mn with 55.4 % share in France's total RMG import from India.

**The top products imported by France from India includes** **(i)** T-shirts, singlets and other vests of cotton, knitted or crocheted **(ii)** Women's or girls' blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses of cotton **(iii)** Men's or boys' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts, of cotton.

# Shri Kumaraswamy urges Shri Piyush Goyal to set up Industrial Parks in Karnataka

Union Steel and Heavy Industries Minister Shri H D Kumaraswamy requested Union Commerce Minister Shri Piyush Goyal to establish Industrial Parks across Karnataka. Shri Kumaraswamy, who met Shri Goyal here, requested him to set up industrial parks in Mandya, Mysuru, Bidar, Raichur, Hubli–Dharwad, Mysuru, Hassan, Kolar, Mangaluru and Chamarajanagar. Shri Kumaraswamy pointed out that the state has high potential to set up industrial parks in different districts as they have resource advantages, logistical strengths, and diverse economic profiles. "Shri Kumaraswamy stressed that these regions collectively offer a strong case for large-scale industrial development and balanced regional growth," a statement said. The JD(S) leader also said that these Industrial Parks should be considered under the appropriate centrally sponsored Industrial Corridor or National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) framework.

The Commerce Minister was very positive about the memorandum and assured to take proper decisions soon, Shri Kumaraswamy said in a statement. "If the industrial parks set up, this will generate large-scale employment, enhance regional supply chain linkages, and support specialized industrial clusters, from logistics and manufacturing in Hubli–Dharwad and Mangaluru to agri-processing in Raichur and value-added sectors in Mysuru and Kolar." the statement added.

# EU-India Trade And Investment Agreements Expected To Strengthen India-finland Ties

The impending EU-India free trade and investment agreements would give a fillip to India-Finland bilateral relations, which have a "lot of room to grow", Mr. Kimmo Lahdevirta, the Finnish ambassador to India, has said. Trade with the Nordic country is pegged at €3 billion, with at least 100 Finnish companies working in India, which have invested about €4 billion here. The largest of them is Nokia, which employs close to 17,000 people here.

Without hazarding a guess about where the trade and investment relations would head after the FTA and investment agreement with the EU, which Finland is a part of, the ambassador observed that the trend is positive. "But I also think there is room for growth. But unfortunately, India is not too well known in Finland. And Finland certainly is not too well known in India. So, we need to do work for that," Mr. Lahdevirta, who is on his first official visit to Kolkata, said.

To raise awareness, the World Circular Economy Forum will be held in Delhi next autumn — the first time in continental Asia — in collaboration with the Finnish innovation fund, Sitra.Finland's export promotion network in India operates under the framework of 'DESI' — digitalization, education, sustainability and innovation — which has now been expanded with an 'M' for mobility, representing the growing exchange between the two countries. The ambassador said people-to-people contact between the two countries is also growing, with Finland issuing 17,000 visas to India in 2024.

The number of Indians settled in Finland has also grown tenfold from the turn of this century onwards to 20,000 now.

Talking about the opportunities in the East and especially West Bengal, Mr. Lahdevirta said there are about nine companies operating in Kolkata. He identified opportunities in areas of renewable energy, agro-based industry in particular.

# Industry Flags Capital Access, Logistics Gaps at Invest UP Textile Meet

In Invest UP's high-level stakeholder consultation with sourcing companies, manufacturers, global firms, and industry experts across the textile and apparel sector, officials from the state govt reiterated the govt's push towards an investor-friendly ecosystem while the sectoral representatives flagged areas of improvement. An official statement said: "Industry representatives underscored the need for easier access to capital, stronger expansion incentives, and customized financial support for MSMEs. Manufacturers also raised concerns over labour availability, tariff structures, power reliability, logistics gaps, cluster development, and the need to align pricing with quality standards." Responding to these issues, an official spokesperson said: "Invest UP presented an overview of Uttar Pradesh's rapidly growing textile ecosystem, highlighting improved infrastructure, a sizeable industrial land bank, and emerging manufacturing clusters. Officials showcased opportunities across PM MITRA Park, Private and Integrated Parks, Integrated Manufacturing and Logistics Clusters (IMLCs), Technical Textiles, Man-Made Fibre (MMF), and Ready-made Garments."

They also detailed major policy frameworks such as the Investment Promotion Policy 2023, IIEPP Policy 2022, and over 30 sectoral policies covering textiles, MSMEs, footwear, and FDI. Incentives, including land and capital subsidies, SGST reimbursement, stamp duty waiver, electricity duty exemption, logistics subsidies, patent refunds, and green and skill-linked support, were outlined for investors. Shri Amit Singh, Secretary to the Chief Minister, said Uttar Pradesh was steadily positioning itself as a global textile contender and encouraged companies to move "from suppliers to global creators." Addressing stakeholders online, CEO Invest UP Shri Vijay Kiran Anand said, "Invest UP is committed to acting as a bridge for investors. We welcome industry inputs to further strengthen the textile ecosystem and invite stakeholders to visit Lucknow for deeper engagement and facilitation."



# Shri Tummala speaks to Textile Ministry officials on cotton procurement

Agriculture Minister Shri Tummala Nageswara Rao spoke to officials of the Textiles Ministry requested them to take a positive decision on problems faced by ginning mills, following increasing pressure from farmers against the new norms in cotton procurement. The new guidelines issued by the Textiles Ministry, particularly in the name of L1 and L2 norms, were causing problems to the ginning mills and in protest they had decided to go on strike from November 17, 2025. He also appealed to the authorities to restore the 12 quintals per acre procurement against the new norm of allowing only 7 quintals of cotton purchase per acre. As suggested by the authorities of the Textiles Ministry, district-wise cotton yield details were collected, and if necessary, the government was prepared to provide even farmer-wise yield statistics.

As per the details collected at the field level, the average yield of cotton was 11.74 quintals per acre and a request was made to issue orders revising the 7 quintals per acre norm with 12 quintals.

The 'anti-farmer' decisions by the Textiles Ministry and Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) have allowed only 1.18 lakh tonnes of cotton procurement from 67,000 farmers so far. At a time when the cotton procurement was supposed to pick up momentum, the decision to go on strike by ginning mills and stop procurement would not augur well for farmers, he said. The Minister stated that farmers had already suffered a lot due to excessive and untimely rains and were overcoming it now, with sunshine helping their produce lose moisture content.

# Commerce Secretary Shri Rajesh Agrawal visits Moscow for the 26th Meeting of the India-Russia Working Group on Trade & Economic Cooperation

Commerce Secretary Shri Rajesh Agrawal met Mr. Vladimir Ilyichev, Deputy Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, for the 26th Meeting of the India-Russia Working Group on Trade & Economic Cooperation under the aegis of the Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC). The two sides reviewed bilateral trade, which has risen to well over twice the leaders' 2014 benchmark of US$25 billion, and took note of the shared objective of US$100 billion by 2030. A forward looking protocol for trade and economic cooperation across multiple sectors was finalized and signed during the meeting.

The Commerce Secretary highlighted the potential for expanding and deepening trade and proposed confidence-building measures to unlock market access. The issues included expedited listing of Indian establishments and a systems-based approach with FSVPS in agriculture, especially marine products and a time-bound pathway in pharmaceuticals covering registration, regulatory reliance, and predictable timelines. The Working Group noted the potential cooperation for expansion of trade across engineering goods, chemicals & plastics, electronics, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, leather, and textiles, and mapped Indian product strengths in engineering goods, smartphones, motor vehicles, gems & jewellery, organic chemicals, textiles, and leather sector that can support Russia's trade de-risking and diversification.

In the services sector, the Indian side encouraged greater procurement of Indian IT-BPM, healthcare, education, and creative services by Russian entities, alongside predictable mobility for Indian professionals to meet the labour shortages in the Russian market. India's Global Capability Centre (GCC) ecosystem, around 45% of global GCCs, with over 1,700 centres employing nearly 1.9 million professionals, was presented as a ready platform for Russian companies to strengthen business continuity, cybersecurity, design and analytics, and shared services, enhancing resilience in both goods and services supply chains. The Indian side took note of the Russian interest in concluding a bilateral investment treaty. Both sides agreed to explore payments solutions to meet the needs for businesses, especially medium, small and micro enterprises.

India and Russia reaffirmed their special and privileged strategic partnership, a relationship that has stood the test of time. The discussions set a forward agenda centred on trade diversification, de-risking and resilient supply chains in goods and services trade, and diversification of production and supply, aligned to the 2030 trade objective and a stronger, more balanced economic engagement.

# TN welcomes Centre's rollback of quality control order for polyester

Industries Minister Shri TRB Rajaa welcomed the union government's decision to revoke the Quality Control Orders (QCOs) on polyester fibre and yarn, a long-standing demand of Tamil Nadus textile sector. "Removing the QCOs will help mills source raw materials at globally benchmarked prices and restore cost competitiveness in a sector where every rupee counts. It was part of our Kovai Rising 2024 election manifesto," Shri Rajaa said in his post. The centre decided to roll back QCOs on key industrial inputs in textiles, plastics and mining to increase the availability of intermediate goods used as inputs in manufacturing. The move is expected to lower the cost of production and ease supply the chain for lakhs of SMEs. QCOs made Bureau of Indian Standards' certification mandatory for a whole lot of intermediate goods which led to cost escalation and left Indian manufacturers at a disadvantage compared to countries like Bangladesh and Vietnam. Shri Rajaa said he had reiterated the industry's concerns to Union Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal "The minister responded positively, and this move comes as relief for thousands of MSMEs and lakhs of workers," he said. Shri S K Sundararaman, former chairman of SIMA, said QCO created supply bottlenecks, raised input costs, and reduced India's competitiveness in global textile markets


# Export quality, textile products need upgrade: Shri Bipin Menon

India's textile exports can no longer depend on traditional methods and must shift towards higher quality and innovation to stay competitive, said Shri A Bipin Menon, Trade Advisor to the Ministry of Textiles. Addressing silk exporters and entrepreneurs in Bengaluru, he noted that several global buyers have expressed dissatisfaction. Shri Menon said that while losses caused by US tariffs were offset through exports to the UAE and European markets, the deep discounts being offered are unsustainable and could hurt the sector in the long run. Despite global challenges, India recorded a 0.1% rise in textile exports between April and September, 2025. However, India has struggled to enter high-demand markets such as Japan, which has repeatedly flagged cotton contamination, an issue unacceptable in premium export markets. "Karnataka, with its fine silk quality, is well-placed to tap these markets," he said. He urged exporters to collaborate with designers and design institutes to track global trends and standards in products and blends.

Although India produces 11 varieties of silk, he said they are not marketed overseas. A supply-chain agreement with the UK is expected in 2026, with additional agreements planned with Peru, Chile and Switzerland. India now needs to focus on penetrating France, Germany, Spain and Norway, he added. Dr Bimal Mawandia, Chairman, Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, echoed the need to enhance export promotion

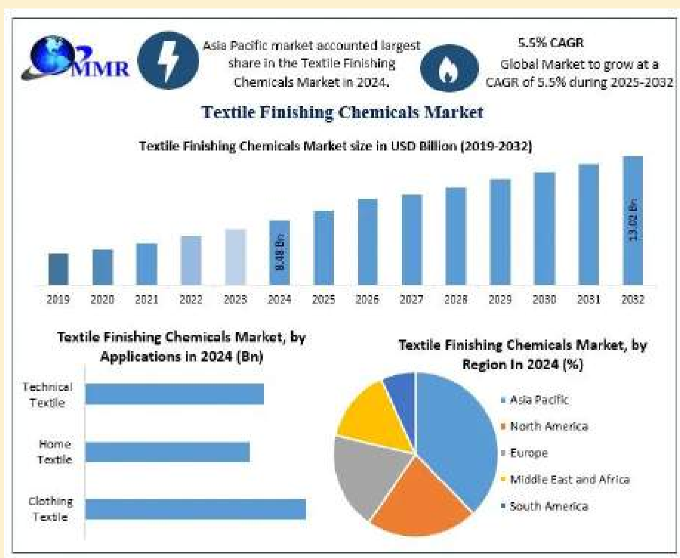
# Textile Finishing Chemicals Market Size | Market Share, Forecast, Trends & Growth Report 2025-2032

**Textile Finishing Chemicals Market is set to reach USD 13.02B by 2032, driven by technical textiles, eco-friendly finishes, and high-performance coatings.**

Discover the Textile Finishing Chemicals Market, valued at USD 8.48 Billion in 2024 and projected to reach USD 13.02 Billion by 2032 at 5.5% CAGR. Explore key trends, technical textiles, eco-friendly finishes, and high-performance coatings driving global market growth and investment opportunities.

### Textile Finishing Chemicals Market Overview:

The Textile Finishing Chemicals Market is on a rapid growth trajectory, projected to reach USD 13.02 billion by 2032, driven by soaring demand for technical textiles, eco-friendly softening finishes, and high-performance coatings. Innovations such as waterless dyeing, plasma treatment, and smart textiles are reshaping the industry, enabling sustainable, next-generation fabrics. With Asia Pacific, led by China and India, emerging as the fastest-growing hub and North American leaders like Lubrizol and Evonik investing in cutting-edge R&D, the market presents strong ROI opportunities. Analysts highlight that stakeholders adopting advanced finishing chemicals can capture market share, drive innovation, and redefine the future of global textiles, making this sector a hotspot for investors and manufacturers alike.



## Textile Finishing Chemicals Market Set to Soar to USD 13.02 Billion by 2032:

### Discover the Innovations Driving Technical, Sustainable, and High-Performance Finishes

Global Textile Finishing Chemicals Market is witnessing unprecedented growth, driven by soaring demand for technical textiles, eco-friendly softening finishes, and innovative coating solutions. With APAC leading the charge and North America following closely, manufacturers are racing to adopt sustainable and high-performance finishing chemicals that redefine clothing, home, and industrial textiles. As technological advancements and eco-conscious trends reshape the industry, the market is poised to reach USD 13.02 billion by 2032, unlocking opportunities that could transform how fabrics perform and feel. Discover which trends and innovations are fueling this explosive growth and why the future of textile finishing chemicals has never been more exciting.

### Explore Game-Changing Opportunities in Sustainable, High-Performance Technical Textile

The Textile Finishing Chemicals Market is unlocking massive opportunities as the demand for next-generation technical textiles and eco-conscious coatings skyrockets. Emerging markets in APAC, led by China and India, are becoming hotspots for innovative softening, wrinkle-free, and repellent finishes that enhance fabric performance and durability. With brands and manufacturers seeking sustainable and high-performance solutions, the market is set to expand rapidly, offering game-changing possibilities for investors, innovators, and industry leaders. Explore the trends and breakthroughs that are shaping the future of textile finishing chemicals and redefining how fabrics meet the demands of modern consumers.

### Overcoming Challenges in the Textile Finishing Chemicals Market: Turning Environmental Risks into Growth

The Textile Finishing Chemicals Market faces mounting challenges as stringent environmental regulations and the disposal of harmful effluents put pressure on manufacturers worldwide. Rising demand for sustainable and high-performance technical textiles is forcing companies to innovate while balancing compliance and cost. Risks related to chemical safety, regulatory fines, and operational inefficiencies could slow market growth if not addressed proactively. To stay ahead, industry leaders are investing in eco-friendly softening, coating, and wrinkle-free finishes, positioning themselves to turn these challenges into opportunities for innovation and market leadership.

# Textile Enzyme Market Size, Share, Business Growth and Upcoming Trends Forecast by 2030

*The Asia-Pacific region held the largest share of the global textile enzyme market in 2020, accounting for nearly half of the total market revenue.*


The surge in textile production and the numerous advantages offered by textile enzymes are driving the growth of the global textile enzyme market. According to a report published by Allied Market Research, the market was valued at $672.3 million in 2020 and is projected to reach $1.22 billion by 2030, growing at a CAGR of 6.3% from 2021 to 2030.

## Market Dynamics

The increasing adoption of textile enzymes for applications such as bio-polishing and fabric designing is propelling market growth globally. Enzymes enable eco-friendly and energy-efficient textile processing, reducing chemical usage and enhancing fabric quality. However, the high cost of textile enzymes remains a key challenge limiting their widespread adoption. Nonetheless, the expanding use of enzymes in advanced fabric treatment and the growing preference for sustainable textile manufacturing are expected to create lucrative opportunities in the coming years.

## Segment Insights

**By Type:** The cellulase segment accounted for the largest share of the market in 2020, contributing nearly one-third of global revenue. Meanwhile, the amylase segment is projected to witness the fastest growth, expanding at a CAGR of 7.1% during the forecast period.

**By Application:** The bio-polishing segment dominated the market in 2020, representing more than one-fourth of the global share. The desizing segment, however, is forecast to register the fastest CAGR of 7.0% from 2021 to 2030.

**Regional Analysis:** The Asia-Pacific region held the largest share of the global textile enzyme market in 2020, accounting for nearly half of the total market revenue. The region is also expected to register the fastest CAGR of 6.6% through 2030, driven by expanding textile production hubs and the growing adoption of sustainable processing techniques. Other key regions analyzed in the report include North America, Europe, and LAMEA.

**Key Market Players:** Prominent companies operating in the global textile enzyme market include: BASF SE, E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, Genotek Biochem, Koninklijke DSM N.V., Refnol Resins & Chemicals Ltd., AB Enzymes, Tex Biosciences Pvt. Ltd., Lumis, Maps Enzymes Ltd. Novozymes A/S, etc. These players are adopting strategies such as partnerships, collaborations, expansions, and joint ventures to strengthen their market presence and expand their global footprint.

# ASEAN Manufacturing Sees Strongest Growth In Over Three Years in Oct-2025

The S&P Global ASEAN manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI) rose to 52.7 in October from 51.6 in September, 2025, marking a notable strengthening in the region's manufacturing performance. This latest figure not only remained above the neutral 50 threshold for the fourth consecutive month but also represented the joint-highest reading in over three years, matching the level seen in April 2023.The manufacturing sector in the region went from strength to strength, with the health of the industry improving at one of the strongest rates in over three years in October. While new export orders recorded negligible growth, the overall influx of new work rose sharply and at a pace not seen since September 2022, alluding to especially strong gains in the domestic market. Firms ramped up their production, with the pace of increase hitting a 17-month high, S&P Global said in a press release.

Employment was raised further, with the pace of job creation accelerating on the month. Additionally, price pressures eased, with charges rising minimally at the start of the final quarter. The uptick in the headline index was driven by strong expansions in new orders and output, with modest increases in employment and purchasing activity also contributing positively. Except purchasing activity, where the rate of growth remained strong and unchanged on the month, all aforementioned trackers saw their respective paces of growth quicken in October, 2025.The data also indicated scope for firms to further raise their staffing numbers as pressures on capacity intensified, which was underscored by a solid expansion the volume of backlogs. The rate of accumulation was the most marked since January 2022.dditionally, inflationary pressures eased. Both costs and selling prices rose at softer rates, the latter increasing at the slowest pace in four months and only minimally. Lastly, companies maintained an optimistic view towards output growth prospects, although the degree of confidence weakened slightly on the month, added the release.

"October data revealed a strong improvement for the ASEAN goods producing sector. Production volumes and new orders registered more marked expansions. Uptick in purchasing activity remained solid, and staffing numbers were ramped up at a stronger pace, with backlogs data hinting at further scope for job creation," said Ms. Maryam Baluch, economist at S&P Global Market Intelligence. "Manufacturers remain positive of their year-ahead outlook for output. If new orders continue to rise sharply as they have done so in the latest survey period, and prices pressures subdued, we can expect the ASEAN manufacturing sector to sustain its current level of growth as we conclude the year," added Ms. Baluch.

# EU, ASEAN Demand Boost China's Exports Amid Weak US Trade

A rise in China's shipments to the EU, ASEAN and Africa offset subdued flows to the US in the third quarter, supporting port cargo throughput growth of 6 per cent y-o-y in the third quarter of fiscal 2025, up from 5 per cent in the prior quarter, as per the Fitch Ratings. However, the slowdown in US-bound exports could moderate in the fourth quarter following the recent agreement on a one-year pause in trade tensions.

China's exports rose by 6.5 per cent y-o-y in the third quarter, slightly higher than the 6.0 per cent in the second quarter. The steep decline in shipments to the US – 27.3 per cent y-o-y – was outweighed by robust demand from the ASEAN, Africa, EU and Latin American markets. Container rates fell sharply in the third quarter, with the Shanghai Containerized Freight Index down by 52 per cent y-o-y and the China Containerized Freight Index by 39 per cent y-o-y on vessel oversupply and soft US-bound demand. Capacity redeployments have yet to absorb excess tonnage.

Fitch believes the one-year China-US agreement to pause tariff hikes helps alleviate near-term pressure and could support throughput flows through 2026, but short-term upside hinges on stable US demand and resilient intra-Asia flows. Diversified Chinese ports would be better positioned to absorb any volatility. That said, risks remain elevated given the temporary pause and the absence of a long-term resolution. A resumption of tariffs or weaker global demand could quickly cap throughput gains.

# Japan's FY26 Economic Growth likely to be Modest: Central bank

Japan's economic growth is likely to be modest in fiscal 2025-26 as trade and other policies in each jurisdiction lead to a slowdown in overseas economies and to a decline in domestic corporate profits and other factors, according to the Bank of Japan. Factors like accommodative financial conditions are, however, expected to provide support, the central bank noted in its October 2025 Outlook for Economic Activity and Prices. Thereafter, Japan's economic growth rate is likely to rise, with overseas economies returning to a moderate growth path, it said. The year-on-year (YoY) rate of increase in the consumer price index (CPI, all items less fresh food) is likely to decelerate to a level below 2 per cent in the first half of fiscal 2025-26. Meanwhile, underlying CPI inflation is likely to be sluggish, mainly affected by the growth pace of the economy.

Thereafter, as it is projected that a sense of labour shortage will grow as the economic growth rate rises and that medium- to long-term inflation expectations will rise, it is expected that underlying CPI inflation and the rate of increase in the CPI (all items less fresh food) will increase gradually and, in the second half of FY26, be at a level that is generally consistent with the price stability target. Risks to the outlook include high uncertainty on how overseas economic activity and prices will react to trade and other policies in each jurisdiction. It is, therefore, necessary to pay due attention to the impact of these developments on financial and foreign exchange markets and on Japan's economic activity and prices, the central bank cautioned. Risks to economic activity are skewed to the downside for FY26. Risks to prices are generally balanced, it added.

# Germany's GDP remains unchanged in Q3 Fy25

Germany's gross domestic product (GDP) remained unchanged (0.0 per cent) in the third quarter of 2025 compared with the second quarter of 2025—after adjustment for price, seasonal, and calendar variations—following a decrease of 0.2 per cent (revised from -0.3 per cent) in the second quarter, according to a report by the Federal Statistical Office (Destatis).Based on provisional results, gross fixed capital formation in machinery and equipment developed positively. However, Destatis reported that exports declined compared to the previous quarter, while GDP increased year-on-year. In addition to calculating the first data for the third quarter of 2025, Destatis also reviewed previously published results for earlier quarters and incorporated new statistical information into the calculations for the first and second quarters of 2025. As a result, the rate of change in price-adjusted GDP for the second quarter was revised upward by 0.1 percentage points.

# Dutch goods trade rises in H1 2025 despite weaker fuel exports: CBS

In the first half (H1) of 2025, the Netherlands international trade in goods increased compared with the same period in 2024, according to Statistics Netherlands (CBS) latest figures on Dutch international trade. The total export value rose by 1.9 per cent year-over-year (YoY), encompassing both re-exports to other countries and exports of goods produced within the Netherlands. The total value of goods imported was 2 per cent higher than it was in the first half (H1) of 2024, CBS said in a press release. In each month of Q1 2025, more goods were traded than in the same month of 2024. In April and May, trade was down compared with 2024, but in June it was higher once again.

Imports and exports of mineral fuel declined in H1 2025: the import value was 11 per cent lower, while the export value was 15 per cent lower. In other product categories, exports were higher than the previous year or were down by less than those of mineral fuels. There has been geopolitical turbulence around the world in recent months, and trade with certain neighboring countries seems to have suffered particularly in the first half of 2025. The value of imports from Belgium and the United Kingdom was down, for instance, as was the value of exports to Belgium and France, added the release. Exports to the Netherlands' key trading partner, Germany, saw an increase, while imports from China rose 5 per cent YoY in the first half (H1) of 2025. Exports to the United States climbed 11 per cent, with the most notable growth occurring in February, March, and April.

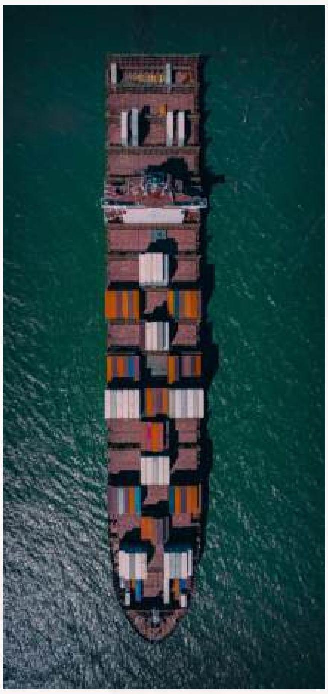
# Vietnam's manufacturing growth hits 15-month high as PMI climbs to 54

Vietnam's manufacturing sector strengthened at the start of the final quarter of 2025, as the latest S&P Global Vietnam manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI) rose sharply to 54.5 in October from 50.4 in September 2025. The improvement—the strongest since July 2024—reflected growth across all five sub-components: output, new orders, employment, suppliers' delivery times, and stocks of purchases. The sector reported notable gains in output and new orders, while employment expanded for the first time in over a year. Purchasing activity increased, signalling renewed growth in inventories, and business confidence climbed to a 16-month high. At the same time, inflationary pressures intensified, with both input and output prices rising more steeply than in September, S&P said in a press release. New orders surged for the second month running, driven by improving domestic demand and a slight rebound in new export business—the first in a year. This led manufacturers to boost production at the fastest pace since July 2024, marking six consecutive months of output growth.

Business confidence strengthened to its highest level in 16 months as firms anticipated continued growth in new orders and planned production capacity expansions. In response to rising workloads, manufacturers expanded their workforce for the first time in over a year. Backlogs of work rose at the quickest pace in more than three and a half years, partly due to adverse weather and flooding disrupting operations. Flood-related disruptions also led to longer supplier delivery times—the most pronounced since July, 2025. Despite supply challenges, firms increased purchasing activity for the fourth consecutive month, leading to the first rise in pre-production inventories in over two years. Stocks of finished goods, however, declined slightly as companies fulfilled strong order volumes. Input cost inflation accelerated sharply in October, with about 27 per cent of surveyed firms citing higher raw material prices and supply shortages. Output prices also rose more steeply, hitting a 40-month high, as producers passed on increased costs to customers. Overall, the October survey results suggest that Vietnam's manufacturing sector entered the fourth quarter (Q4) 2025 with robust growth momentum and rising optimism, though escalating cost pressures and weather-related disruptions remain key risks to watch. "The Vietnamese manufacturing sector moved up a gear in October, 2025 seeing much stronger increases in output and new orders during the month. Positively, the strength of the expansions were sufficient to enable firms to take on extra staff and build inventories of inputs," said Mr. Andrew Harker, economics director at S&P Global Market Intelligence. "Whether these growth rates can be sustained in the months ahead remains to be seen, but there is clearly some positive momentum in the sector at present."

"Inflationary pressures built again, however, and are now relatively elevated. For now, customers are happy to look through price increases and commit to new orders, but this may start to wane should rates of inflation pick up further," added Mr. Harker.

## UK Manufacturing Output Expands For 1st Time In 1 Yr In Oct



UK manufacturing output expanded for the first time in a year in October, 2025 as companies depleted backlogs of work and increased stocks, according to purchasing managers' index (PMI) data. The seasonally-adjusted S&P Global UK manufacturing PMI rose to a 12-month high of 49.7 in October, up from 46.2 in September, 2025.Three of the PMI constituents—new orders, employment and stocks of purchases—registered contractions, while sub-indices for output and suppliers' delivery times were at levels consistent with improved operating conditions, S&P Global said in a release.

Sector data signaled that production volumes rose in the consumer and intermediate goods industries. Growth was stronger in the latter, partly reflecting a boost to some manufacturers, mainly those sensitive to the autos supply chain. Although investment goods output contracted for the twelfth month om a row, the rate of decline was the weakest during that sequence. Market conditions faced by manufacturers remained tough, however, with demand from both domestic and overseas markets decreasing during the latest survey month.

October 2025 saw total new business contract for the thirteenth successive month, albeit to a weaker extent than in the prior month. All three sectors covered by the survey saw new order intakes contract, with the steepest fall at investment goods producers and the slowest in the intermediate goods category. The month saw the level of new export orders in the United Kingdom decline for the forty-fifth successive month, amid reports of weaker demand from the United States, the European Union (EU), Asia and the Middle East. Weak global market conditions, ongoing tariff uncertainties and UK competitiveness issues were all mentioned as factors leading to reduced overseas demand. Although business optimism climbed to an eight-month high, it remained below its long-run average. Over half of panellists expect their output to be higher one year from now, compared to 12 per cent forecasting contraction. Positive sentiment was linked to economic recovery, efforts to regain market share, promotional activity and new product launches. In contrast, tariff uncertainty, especially the effect on overseas client confidence, domestic fiscal policy concerns, a weak global economy and heightened geopolitical tensions all weighed on UK manufacturers' sentiment. The month continued to see job losses. There were reports of natural attrition, hiring freezes, cost-control initiatives and difficulties finding appropriately skilled staff. The overall pace of job loss eased to its weakest during the current sequence of decline, with rates decelerating across the consumer, intermediate and investment goods industries. Although October continued to see manufacturers report operating in a high-cost environment, there were further signs that purchase price inflationary pressure is easing. Average input costs rose at the slowest pace so far in 2025, as decelerations in the consumer and intermediate goods industries offset steeper cost increases at investment goods producers.

# EU Trade Network Strengthens Resilience Amid Tensions: Report

The European Union's fifth Annual Report on Implementation and Enforcement of EU Trade Policy has highlighted how its extensive trade network continues to strengthen economic resilience and competitiveness in an increasingly volatile geopolitical landscape. Covering 2024 and the first half of 2025, the report underscores how trade agreements have reduced dependencies and opened new markets for EU exporters. In 2024, EU goods exports to its 76 preferential trade partners grew twice as fast as exports to non-FTA countries—1.4 per cent compared to 0.7 per cent. Exports to Canada have surged 51 per cent since 2017, versus a 20 per cent rise to the rest of the world. The report notes that diversified trade has helped cushion the impact of sanctions against Russia—exports to Mexico, Norway, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom offset declines in vehicle and machinery sales to Russia. Meanwhile, higher imports of gas from Algeria, Kazakhstan, and Norway compensated for reduced Russian supplies. The EU also achieved progress in tackling market obstacles—44 trade barriers were removed in 2024 alone, bringing the total to 186 since the appointment of the chief enforcement officer in 2020, European Commission said in a release.

The EU's trade network continues to expand: two new agreements entered into force in 2024—one with New Zealand and an Economic Partnership Agreement with Kenya—raising the total to 44 agreements covering 76 partners. Negotiations concluded this year with Indonesia, while deals with Mercosur and Mexico await Council and European Parliament approval. Talks are ongoing with India, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates.

The accompanying Staff Working Document details the removal of trade barriers, dispute resolutions, and outreach efforts to promote trade benefits, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises through the Access2Markets portal.

"Trade agreements make the EU more resilient in the face of geopolitical challenges by providing safer, more diverse sources of supply for our imports and stable markets for our exports. The agreements not only remove tariffs but also support regulatory coherence and international standards, which in turn reduces costs for economic operators. Securing the widest possible range of markets is vital for EU businesses in these turbulent times for international trade," said Mr. Maros Sefcovic, commissioner for trade and economic security; Interinstitutional Relations and Transparency.

# Global trade strains deepen as ICC survey shows rising uncertainty

Trade conditions have deteriorated across much of the global economy, with more than half of participating Chambers of Commerce reporting a worsening outlook, according to the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) latest Global Economic Survey. The findings reflect rising pressure from tariffs, inflation, geopolitical tensions, and access to finance constraints. The survey, published during the ICC World Chambers Congress in Melbourne, gathered perspectives from over 240 Chambers across 110 economies representing 90 per cent of global GDP. Concern drivers vary worldwide: tariffs, inflation, and labour shortages in North America; taxation and geopolitical tensions in South Asia; political instability and inflation in Latin America and the Caribbean; and access to finance challenges in Sub-Saharan Africa. These findings align with the United Kingdom's situation, where the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) reports declining exporter confidence, squeezed margins, and persistently weak investment sentiment.

Customs procedures remain the top barrier for UK exporters, cited by 45 per cent of firms. A further 20 per cent report having planned to establish or expand a commercial presence in the EU to navigate these barriers. A smaller but notable 9 per cent say they have been prompted to diversify into non-EU markets have similar trading requirements.

Amid rising trade frictions, firms globally are adjusting not through large-scale relocation but through diversification. East Asian businesses are increasing intra-regional trade, European companies are expanding within Europe and Asia, and Latin American firms are deepening connections across the Americas while engaging China and the EU. North American companies are reducing reliance on Chinese suppliers in favour of Canadian and European partners. Crucially, the ICC survey identifies uncertainty as the single biggest barrier to global trade, surpassing tariffs. This challenge is particularly acute in Europe, East Asia, South Asia, and Latin America. The UK continues to feel the effects of political and regulatory unpredictability, which businesses say hinders investment more than cost pressures. Despite these difficulties, nearly half of Chambers remain optimistic about future conditions. Trade digitalization is seen as a key opportunity. The ICC and WTO highlight the potential of artificial intelligence and digital trade systems to dramatically enhance supply chain efficiency and global market access. The WTO estimates AI could increase global trade value by nearly 40 per cent by 2040. However, without inclusive policy frameworks, such gains risk reinforcing existing global inequalities. The ICC said that without a renewed, cooperative multilateral framework, fragmentation could deepen, with estimates suggesting developing economies could face a 33 per cent drop in goods trade and permanent GDP losses.

# New Tariffs Surge Accompanies Steps To Raise Trade: WTO report on G20


Trade covered by tariffs in G20 economies increased about four times as much between mid-October 2024 and mid-October 2025 compared to the prior reporting period, marking the largest increase in the history of trade monitoring by the World Trade Organization (WTO).At the same time, economies made trade easier by twice as much in value terms over this period, according to the WTO's latest report on trade measures in the G20.G20 merchandise imports worth $2,599 billion, or 14.3 per cent of their total, were affected mostly by tariffs along with other measures introduced during the period—more than four times the $599 billion recorded in the preceding period.

Adding similar measures on exports, a total of 185 measures affect trade worth about $2,900 billion compared to $829 billion recorded in the previous G20 report. Over the same period, G20 economies also introduced a large number of new trade-facilitating measures, and mostly refrained from retaliation, favoring dialogue and reducing trade barriers instead, a release from the WTO said citing the report.G20 economies introduced 184 trade-facilitating measures on goods, covering trade estimated at $2,055 billion—nearly double the $1,070 billion recorded. The stockpile of measures affecting imports had been steadily accumulating since the 2008-09 global financial crisis, but its size has now sharply increased: a year ago 12.9 per cent of G20 imports were affected ($2,353 billion or 9.9 per cent of world imports); that share has now jumped to 22.0 per cent ($4,015 billion or 16.9 per cent of world imports).WTO economists estimate world merchandise trade growth at 2.4 per cent in 2025 and at 0.5 per cent in 2026, with stronger-than-expected trade growth in the first half of 2025 driven by import frontloading, strong demand for artificial intelligence-related products, and continuing trade growth among most WTO members, notably developing economies.

The new G20 report notes increased dialogue among trading partners and efforts to negotiate trade solutions. During the review period, G20 economies initiated 28.5 trade remedy investigations per month on an average—less than the monthly average of 32.5 recorded in 2024, but close to the 2020 level of 28.6 per month. The average number of trade remedy terminations was 9.3 per month, marking the third-lowest level since 2016. Trade remedy actions-particularly anti-dumping measures-remain a key trade policy instrument for most G20 economies, accounting for 55.2 per cent of all trade measures on goods recorded in this report. During the period, G20 economies introduced an increased number of general and economic support measures, many of which were linked to key sectors like environment, energy and agriculture. The report notes a possible shift toward non-financial interventions and the pursuit of broader strategic policy objectives.

# UK GDP edges up 0.1% in Q3 as production sector weakens

UK real gross domestic product (GDP) is estimated to have increased by 0.1 per cent quarter on quarter (QoQ) in the third quarter (Q3) this year compared with a QoQ growth of 0.3 per cent in Q2, according to the Office of National Statistics (ONS). The GDP growth was 1.3 per cent year on year (YoY) in the quarter. The QoQ growth was 0.2 per cent in the three months to August 2025.Growth in the production sector fell by 0.5 per cent QoQ in Q3 2025. Real GDP per head is estimated to have shown no growth QoQ in Q3 2025 and was up by 0.8 per cent YoY.

Monthly GDP is estimated to have fallen by 0.1 per cent in September, following no growth in August and an unrevised fall of 0.1 per cent in July 2025. Production fell by 2 per cent month on month.

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