



CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY
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ANNUAL REPORT 2024–2025



CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY (Formerly known as The ICMF)

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The Northern India Textile Mills' Association, New Delhi (Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir)

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1 Overview of the Global Economy

The global economy held steady in 2024, broadly in line with expectations, despite ongoing headwinds from restrictive monetary policies, geopolitical tensions, and trade uncertainties. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) global GDP grew by 3.2 percent in 2024, matching the pace of the previous year.

As per IMF, Global inflation eased further, declining from 6.8 percent in 2023 to around 5.9 percent in 2024, as commodity prices stabilized, supply chain bottlenecks continued to ease, and monetary tightening produced results.

Growth among advanced economies (AEs) rose modestly to 1.7 percent in 2024 (from 1.6 percent in 2023), supported by a moderate recovery in Europe and stabilization in the United States. As per the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and IMF estimates, Emerging Markets and Developing Economies (EMDEs) expanded by 4.2 percent, slightly lower than 2023, but remained the main drivers of global growth, led by strong performances in India and China.

However, challenges persisted. IMF notes that Inflation stayed sticky in many economies, complicating monetary policy normalization and delaying interest rate cuts. Trade tensions, fiscal consolidation, and geopolitical risks also weighed on confidence. Regionally, India and China outperformed, while growth in Latin America, parts of the Middle East, and Sub-Saharan Africa was constrained by climate-related disruptions, conflict, and weaker demand conditions.

Looking ahead, the IMF projects that global GDP growth will moderate slightly to 3.0 percent in 2025, with AEs growing around 1.8 percent and EMDEs expanding by 4.1 percent. Inflation is expected to decline further but at a slower pace, reflecting continued pressures in services and labor markets. Global trade is forecast to gain momentum in 2025, though risks from policy fragmentation, financial vulnerabilities, and geopolitical tensions remain elevated.

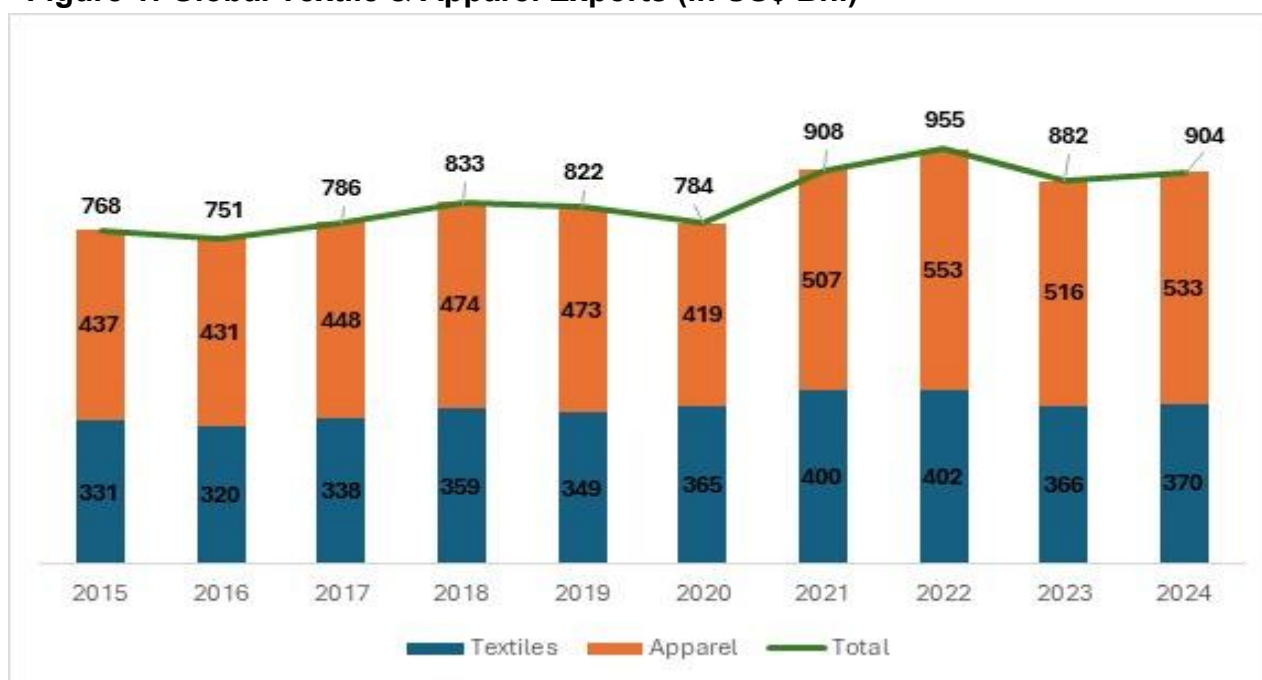
Overall to safeguard the economies, control inflation, sustain growth and address longer-term challenges, policy coordination with a strong multilateral cooperation will be critical.

2 Overview of Global Textile & Apparel Industry

2.1 Global Exports of Textile & Apparel

In 2024, the global Textile and Apparel (T&A) exports increased by about 2.4% as compared to 2023 to reach at about US\$ 904 billion. During the last 10 years (2015-2024), global T&A exports have increased at a CAGR of 1.8%. Apparel had a share of 59% while textiles contributed to about 41% in the total textile and apparel exports of 2024 as shown in figure 1.

Figure 1: Global Textile & Apparel Exports (in US\$ Bn.)



Source: ITC Trade Map and CITI Analysis

1.1. Major Importers of Textiles & Apparels Globally

EU-27 and USA were the largest importers of T&A commodities during 2024. The T&A imports of EU-27 have increased at a CAGR of 2.95% while that of USA, it has decreased at a CAGR of 0.11% during 2015-2024. During the last 10 years imports of Vietnam and Mexico have increased significantly as compared to other top 10 importers of T&A.

Table 1: Top markets of Textile & Apparel (US\$ Bn.)

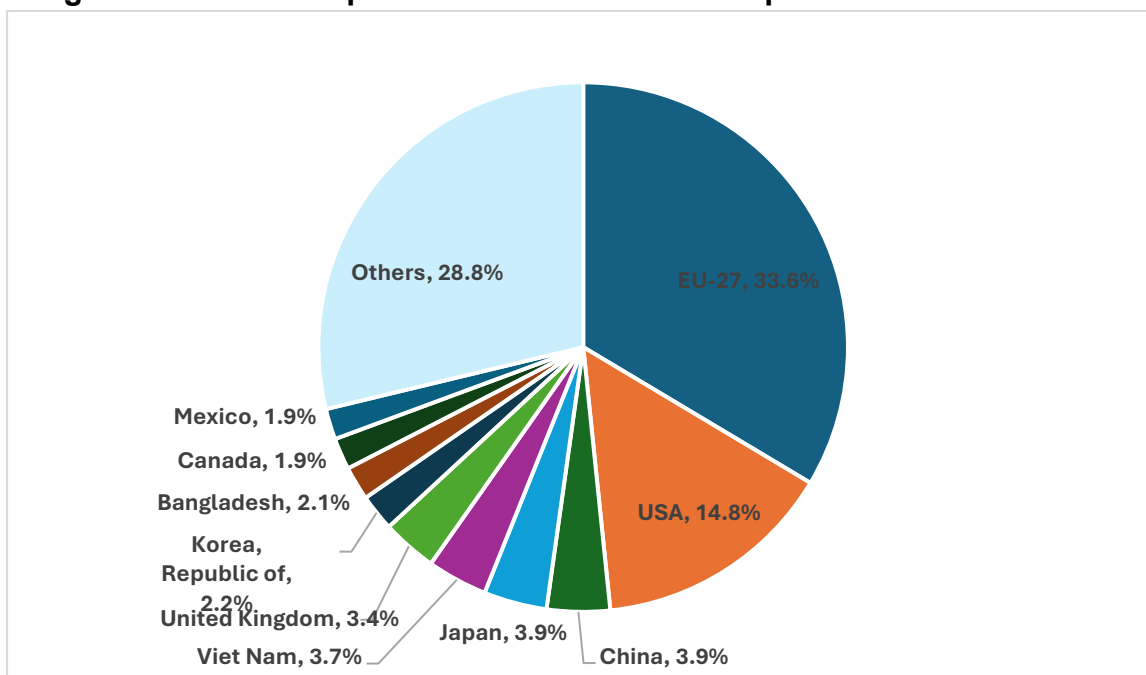
S No	Country	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CAGR
1	EU-27	206.99	214.21	227.73	247.18	241.53	247.44	265.12	289.34	265.16	268.85	2.95%
2	USA	119.59	113.47	113.92	119.19	119.44	117.26	127.80	145.53	114.44	118.42	-0.11%
3	China	32.35	28.38	31.05	34.16	32.18	29.32	35.47	31.45	29.86	30.91	-0.51%
4	Japan	35.35	34.77	35.05	37.77	37.13	35.95	33.36	35.40	32.53	30.87	-1.49%
5	Viet Nam	15.45	16.07	17.97	20.47	20.83	18.67	22.75	24.09	20.67	29.52	7.46%

S No	Country	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CAGR
6	UK	34.76	32.08	31.91	32.90	32.54	34.05	29.60	32.70	27.75	26.95	-2.79%
7	Korea	13.91	13.85	14.47	16.31	16.14	15.13	17.06	18.81	17.60	17.89	2.84%
8	Bangladesh	11.85	10.33	11.61	13.65	12.99	11.09	17.83	18.37	14.65	16.51	3.75%
9	Canada	13.57	13.23	13.87	14.45	14.75	15.10	15.34	18.18	15.61	15.46	1.46%
10	Mexico	10.51	10.21	10.22	10.95	10.65	8.68	11.17	13.53	13.31	15.06	4.08%
	Others	186.06	181.15	194.43	206.01	204.64	184.28	216.44	234.94	218.79	230.32	2.40%
	World	680.39	667.75	702.24	753.04	742.82	716.96	791.94	862.34	770.35	800.77	1.83%

Source: ITC Trade Map and CITI Analysis

The top 10 markets enjoy a share of about 71.2% in the global T&A imports in 2024. EU-27 has maintained the top position with 33.6% share in global T&A imports in 2024, followed by the USA and China with a share of 14.8% and 3.9% respectively as shown in figure 2.

Figure 2: Share of top markets in Global T&A import in 2024



Source: ITC Trade Map & CITI Analysis

1.2. Major Exporters of Textile & Apparel Globally

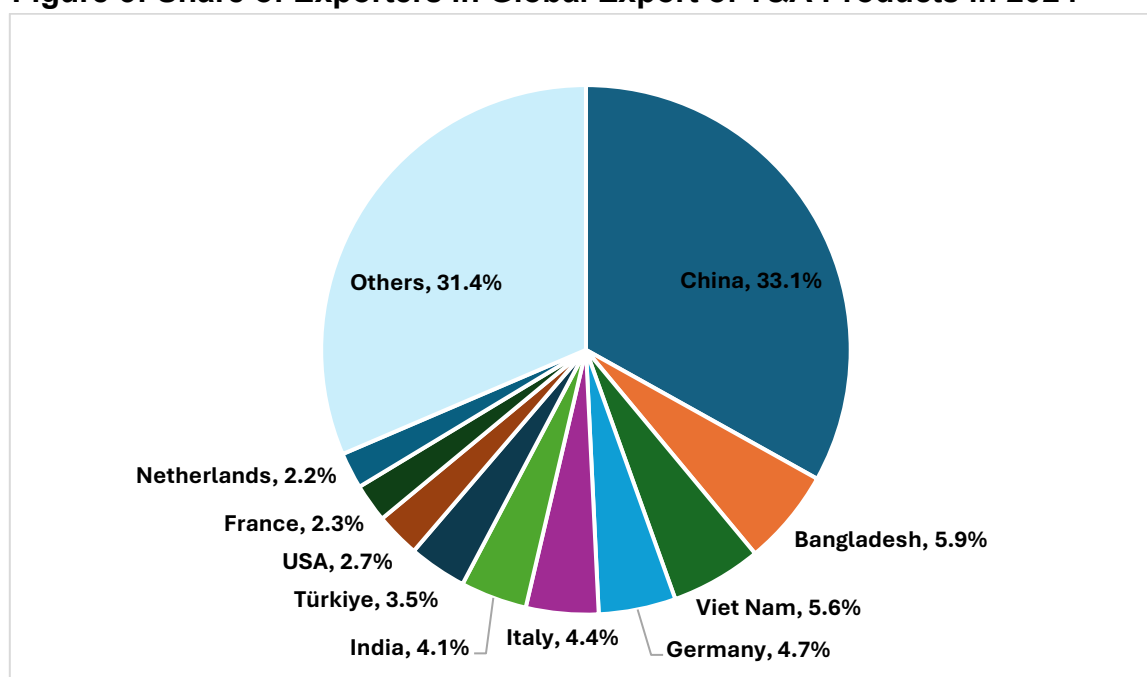
China has maintained the top position of T&A exporter to the world. Its T&A exports have increased at a CAGR of 0.99% during 2015 - 2024. During 2024, India was the 6th largest T&A exporter to world. During the 2015-2024 period, exports from Bangladesh and Vietnam have increased at a significant CAGR of 7.22% and 7.01% respectively.

Table 2: Largest Exporters of Textile & Apparel (in US\$ Bn.)

S No	Country	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CAGR
1	China	273.57	255.07	257.82	266.42	260.24	280.52	304.75	319.70	292.63	299.02	0.99%
2	Bangladesh	28.33	34.99	37.04	41.34	43.07	38.68	48.80	61.55	52.10	53.06	7.22%
3	Viet Nam	27.27	28.70	31.81	36.66	39.42	37.10	41.29	45.42	40.32	50.17	7.01%
4	Germany	30.22	30.71	35.08	38.89	38.18	36.99	41.26	41.53	42.34	42.54	3.87%
5	Italy	31.66	32.23	34.03	36.72	36.39	30.93	37.67	39.91	40.74	40.01	2.63%
6	India	37.15	35.42	37.23	37.11	35.49	29.61	41.47	38.31	34.23	36.71	-0.13%
7	Türkiye	26.34	26.22	26.81	27.88	28.59	27.33	34.46	35.28	32.87	32.06	2.21%
8	USA	24.95	23.61	25.88	27.17	26.12	22.77	25.56	30.81	26.50	24.67	-0.13%
9	France	14.84	15.05	15.78	17.51	17.35	15.12	18.12	19.56	21.52	21.23	4.06%
10	Netherlands	12.43	13.12	14.51	16.59	17.20	17.23	21.07	20.45	19.02	20.00	5.42%
	Others	260.80	255.89	270.12	286.83	279.47	247.71	293.14	302.09	279.74	284.04	0.95%
	World	767.58	751.03	786.11	833.12	821.53	783.98	907.59	954.61	882.02	903.51	1.83%

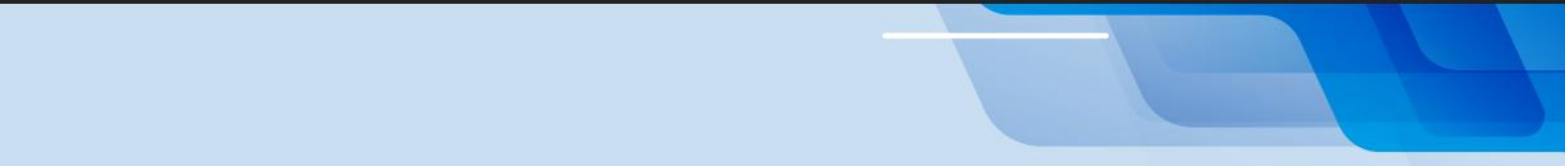
Source: ITC Trade Map & CITI Analysis

The top 10 exporting countries enjoy a share of about 68.5% in the global T&A exports as shown in figure 3:

Figure 3: Share of Exporters in Global Export of T&A Products in 2024

Source: ITC Trade Map & CITI Analysis

Till now, China has capitalized on its low-cost manufacturing and large-scale infrastructure to remain the world's largest exporter of textiles and apparel (T&A). However, its share in global T&A exports has declined from 35.6% in 2015 to 33.1% in 2024. This lost share has largely been captured by Bangladesh and Vietnam, whose exports have grown significantly in recent years.



Recently, the United States—the second-largest T&A market after the EU-27—has introduced notable changes in import duty rates. As of 5th September, an additional duty of 50% has been imposed on Indian exports to the U.S., whereas Bangladesh and Vietnam face an additional tariff of only 20%, giving them a clear competitive edge over India. These tariff changes are expected to significantly impact India's export competitiveness in the U.S. market and may alter the positioning of leading T&A suppliers to the U.S. going forward.

3 Overview of Indian Economy

According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the Indian economy continued to demonstrate resilience in 2024-25, with real GDP growth projected at 7.2 percent, building on the strong performance of 2023-24, when growth accelerated to 7.6 percent from 7.0 percent in 2022-23. This marked the third consecutive year of GDP growth above 7 percent, driven by robust fixed investment and buoyant domestic demand.

The outlook for the Indian economy remains bright, underpinned by robust macroeconomic fundamentals, healthy financial and corporate sectors, and a resilient external sector. The government's continued thrust on capital expenditure, even while pursuing fiscal consolidation, together with consumer and business optimism, augurs well for both investment and consumption demand.

India's external sector, while relatively resilient, has begun to feel the strain of new U.S. tariff measures on select Indian exports, particularly in textiles and engineering goods. These tariffs, along with persistent global financial volatility, commodity price fluctuations, and geoeconomic fragmentation, present downside risks to trade performance. Nonetheless, India's diversified export basket, strong services trade surplus, and deepening ties with alternative markets such as ASEAN, Africa, and the Middle East, provide an important buffer.

Looking ahead, the RBI projects India's real GDP growth in 2025-26 at around 7 percent, supported by sustained investment demand, a revival in private consumption, and a gradual recovery in global trade. Inflation remains broadly under control, but continued vigilance is needed against food price shocks, energy volatility, and climate-related risks. With strong macroeconomic fundamentals and structural reforms underway, India is well-positioned to retain its status as one of the fastest-growing major economies, though the challenges posed by U.S. tariff actions underscore the urgency of expanding trade diversification, improving competitiveness, and deepening participation in global value chains.

4 Overview of Indian Textile & Apparel Industry

Indian Textile & Apparel (T&A) industry is one of the largest in the world with a large manufacturing base and strength across the entire value chain. Contributing to around 8.4% in total India's export during 2024-25, the T&A sector is the second largest employer after agriculture providing direct and indirect employment to about 10+ crore people.

As per the National Textile Committee, the Indian textile and apparel market size was estimated at about US\$ 152¹ Bn during 2021. The domestic consumption of textiles and apparel constitutes approximately 75% of the total market size while exports account for the rest 25%.

Table 1: Overall Market Size of Indian Textile & Apparel Industry (US\$ Bn)

Particulars	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Households	78	88	95	117	83	94
Exports	35	37	37	35	30	36
Non-household*	33	33	38	30	19	22
Total	147	159	171	182	132	152

Source: National Household Survey 2020 by Textiles Committee

*Residual Estimate

In terms of the global ranking of 2024, India was the 7th largest exporter in terms of apparel (compared to 8th in 2023) and the 2nd largest exporter of textiles (compared to 3rd in 2024). Overall, India was the 6th largest exporter of T&A commodities combined during 2022.

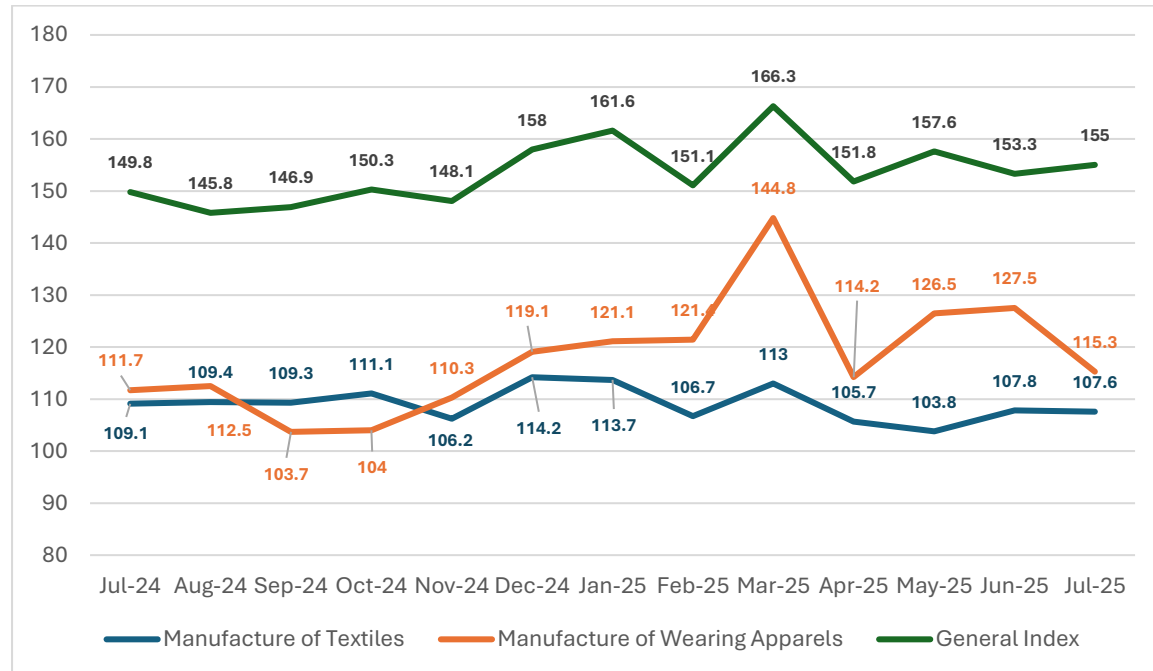
Apparel also plays a critical role in improving social dynamics as most women are employed in the sector. Above all, the backward linkages of the sector to the rural economy give huge opportunities to millions of farmers, artisans, handloom, and handicraft manufacturers. The sector is perfectly aligned with Government's key initiatives viz., Make in India, Skill India, Women Empowerment, and Rural Youth Employment.

¹Market size was estimated by considering T&A export US\$ 36 bn while Actual Exports in 2021 stood at US\$ 41.5 bn which was about US\$ 5.5 bn more, hence, the market size in 2021 stood at about US\$ 158 bn.

4.1 Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for Textile & Apparel

In July 2025, the General Index of Industrial Production (IIP) was 3.5% up as compared to July 2024. During the same time period the IIP for Manufacturing of Wearing Apparels was up by 3.2% while for Textiles, it is down by about 1.4% during the same time period.

Index of Industrial Production Data (Base 2011-12 = 100)

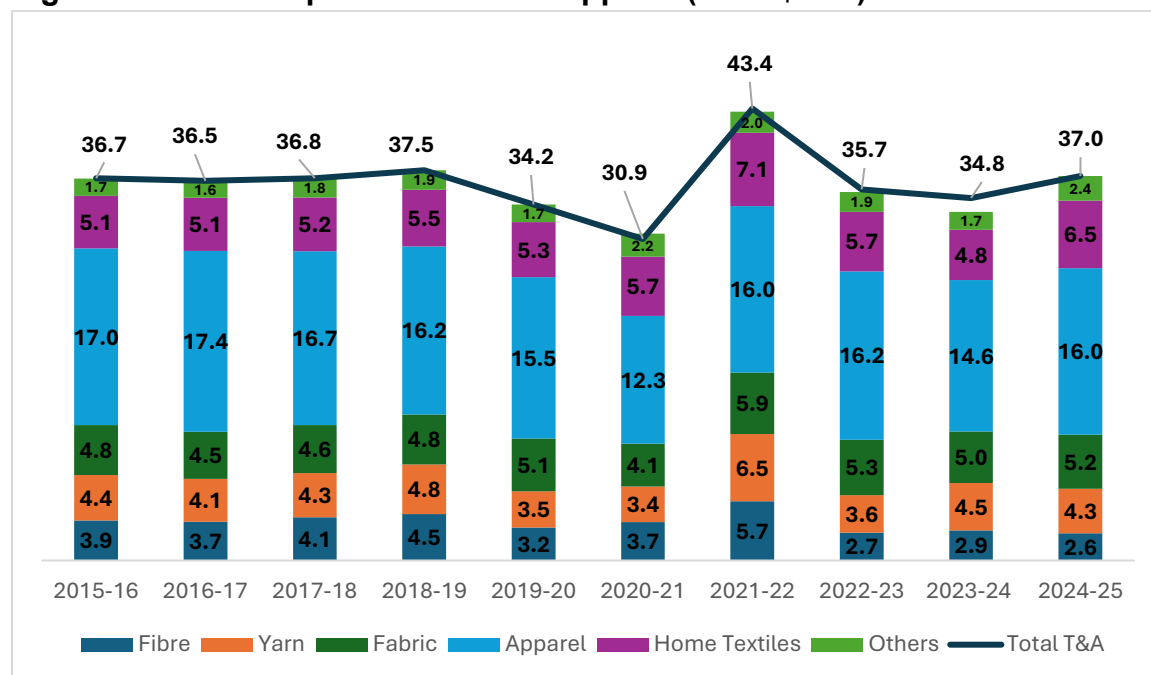


Source: MOSPI

4.2 India's Exports of Textile & Apparel

India's T&A exports have almost been stagnant during the last 10 years. During 2024-25, India's T&A exports stood at about US\$ 37.0 bn which was about 6% higher compared to exports of 2023-24 but almost similar to exports figure of 2015-16. Trade analysis shows that India's exports of apparels have reduced from 17 bn in 2015-16 to 16 bn in 2024-25.

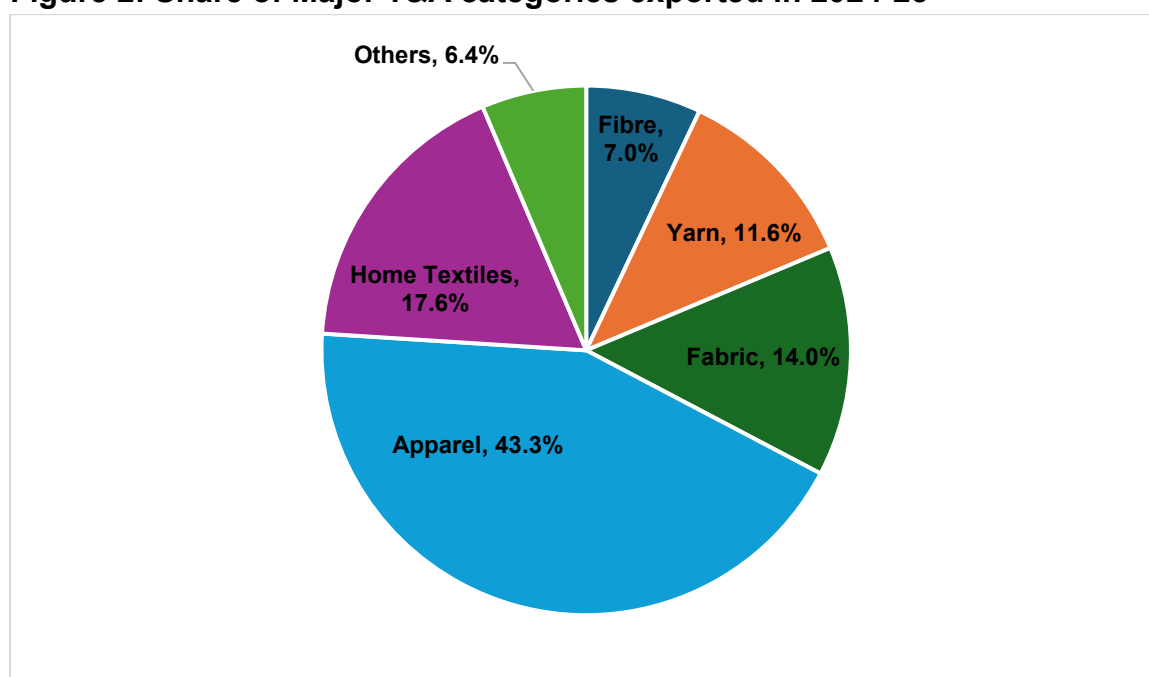
Figure 1: India's Export of Textile & Apparel (in US\$ Bn.)



Source: DGCI&S & CITI Analysis

During 2024-25, Apparel was the largest exported T&A category from India with a share of about 43.4% in total T&A exports followed by Home Textiles and Fabric with a share of 17.6% and 14.0% respectively. Category wise share of exports of T&A commodities is shown in figure 2.

Figure 2: Share of Major T&A categories exported in 2024-25



Source: DGCI&S & CITI Analysis

- Top 20 categories exported in 2024**

The top 20 commodities (HS-4) have a share of about 71.6% in total textile and apparel exports of India. The exports of these top 20 commodities are given in table 2:

Table 2: India's Top 20 Exported Textile & Apparel Categories (US\$ Million)

S No	HS Code	Product label	2015	2024	CAGR	Share 2024
1	5205	Cotton yarn other than sewing thread, containing >= 85% cotton by weight	3,735.93	3,357.50	-1.18%	9.15%
2	6204	Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, dresses, skirts, divided skirts, trousers, etc.	2,685.92	3,023.16	1.32%	8.24%
3	6109	T-shirts, singlets and other vests, knitted or crocheted	2,857.58	2,325.13	-2.27%	6.33%
4	6302	Bedlinen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen of all types of textile materials	1,426.83	2,055.38	4.14%	5.60%
5	6304	Articles for interior furnishing, of all types of textile materials	1,649.98	1,981.26	2.05%	5.40%
6	5208	Woven fabrics of cotton, containing >= 85% cotton by weight and weighing <= 200 g/m ²	1,013.45	1,156.75	1.48%	3.15%
7	6203	Men's or boys' suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches, etc.	1,193.71	1,115.28	-0.75%	3.04%

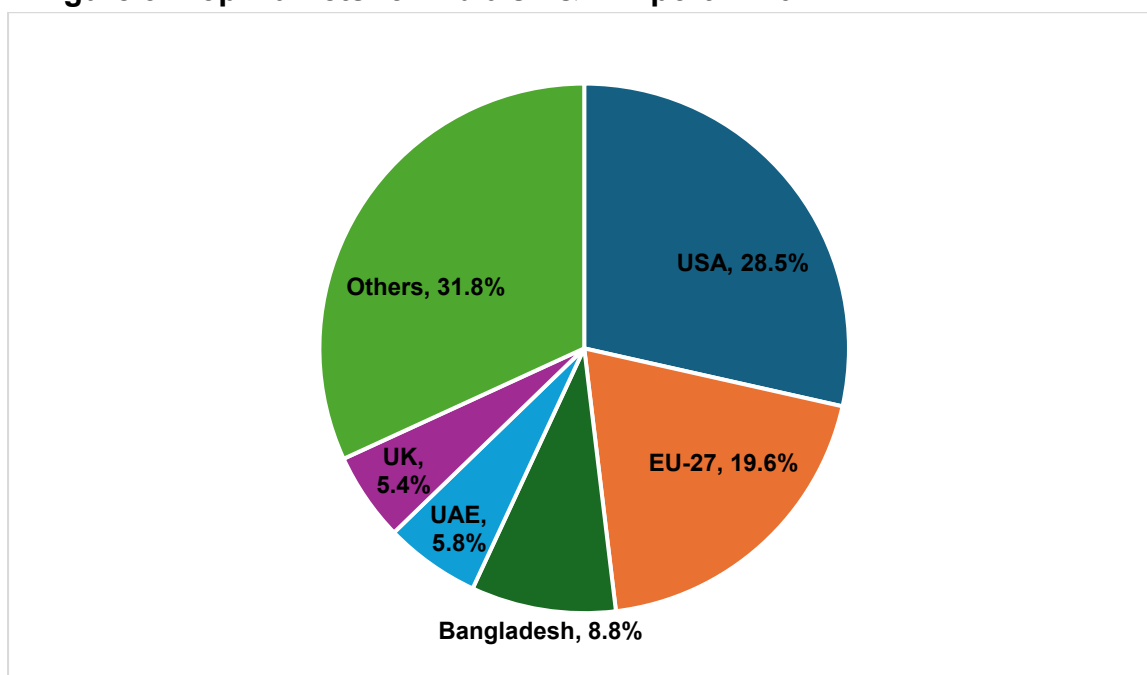
S No	HS Code	Product label	2015	2024	CAGR	Share 2024
8	6206	Women's or girls' blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses (excl. knitted or crocheted and vests)	1,633.51	1,102.98	-4.27%	3.00%
9	6305	Sacks and bags, of a kind used for the packing of goods, of all types of textile materials	630.90	1,081.33	6.17%	2.95%
10	6205	Men's or boys' shirts (excl. knitted or crocheted, nightshirts, singlets and other vests)	1,166.29	1,076.47	-0.89%	2.93%
11	6111	Babies' garments and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted (excl. hats)	702.69	1,050.13	4.57%	2.86%
12	5201	Cotton, neither carded nor combed	1,860.43	918.28	-7.55%	2.50%
13	6211	Tracksuits, ski suits, swimwear and other garments, n.e.s. (excl. knitted or crocheted)	1,085.63	896.81	-2.10%	2.44%
14	5402	Synthetic filament yarn, incl. synthetic monofilaments of < 67 decitex (excl. sewing thread ...	1,025.55	880.47	-1.68%	2.40%
15	5407	Woven fabrics of synthetic filament yarn, incl. monofilament of >= 67 decitex and with a cross ...	1,070.25	806.76	-3.09%	2.20%
16	5703	Carpets and other textile floor coverings, incl. turf, tufted "needle punched", whether or ...	522.19	753.87	4.16%	2.05%
17	6105	Men's or boys' shirts, knitted or crocheted (excl. nightshirts, T-shirts, singlets and other ...	751.37	714.23	-0.56%	1.95%
18	5702	Carpets and other textile floor coverings, woven, not tufted or flocked, whether or not made ...	431.08	706.82	5.65%	1.93%
19	6107	Men's or boys' underpants, briefs, nightshirts, pyjamas, bathrobes, dressing gowns and similar ...	487.44	667.41	3.55%	1.82%
20	6104	Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, dresses, skirts, divided skirts, trousers, etc.	737.85	600.63	-2.26%	1.64%

Source: DGCI&S & CITI Analysis

a) Top Markets for India's Textile & Apparel Exports

During 2024, the USA with a share of about 28.51% was the largest market for the Indian textiles and apparel products followed by EU-27 and Bangladesh with a share of 19.57% and 8.84% share respectively as shown in figure 3:

Figure 3: Top Markets for India's T&A Export in 2024



Source: ITC Trade Map & CITI Analysis

Among the top 5 export destinations, India's T&A exports to Bangladesh have shown the maximum CAGR of 5.04%% during 2015-2024 followed by USA with 3.87% CAGR. During the last 10 years, India's exports of T&A to world have decreased at a CAGR of 0.13%. Though India entered into Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with UAE on 1st May 2022, however, the positive effect of the same is yet to be seen in India's T&A exports to UAE which stood at US\$ 2.14 bn in 2024.

During 2024 India has signed agreement with UK and EFTA partners also which is likely to increased India's exports in these markets. However Indian T&A exports is facing a set-back a USA markets where they are charged at 50% tariffs (starting 28th August 2025) compared to 20% tariff of competing countries like Bangladesh and Vietnam. Moreover, the trade restrictions imposed by Bangladesh on India's exports through land ports is also likely to affect India's exports to Bangladesh.

Table 3: Last 5 years exports to top markets (in US\$ Bn.)

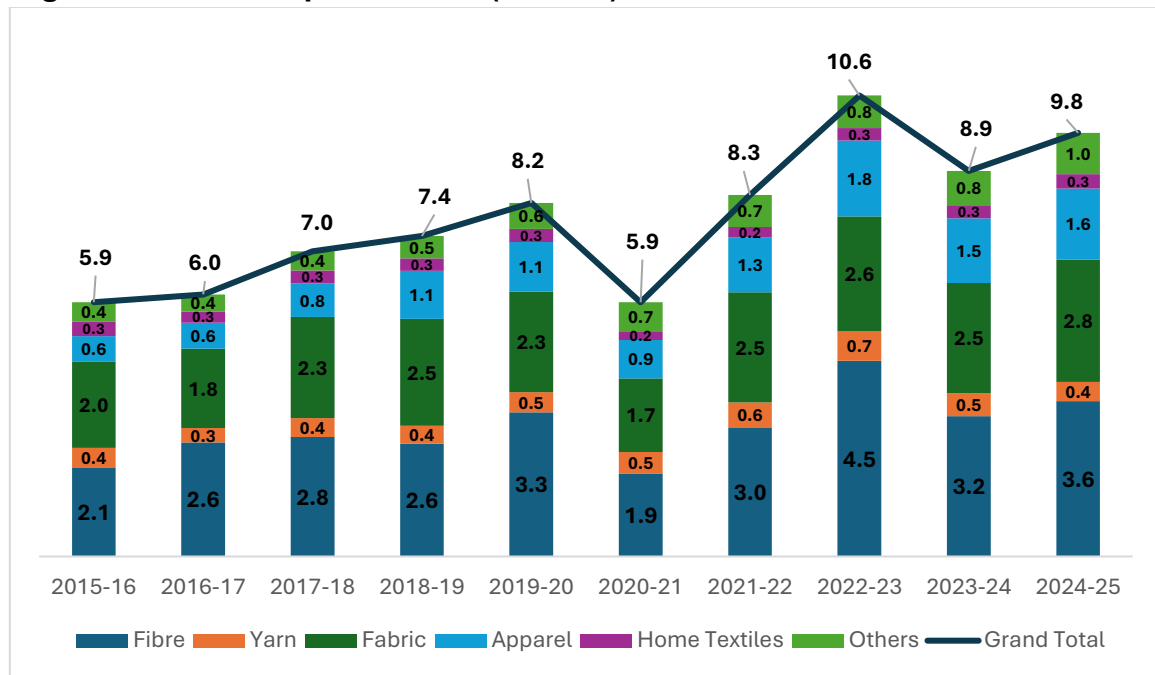
Country	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CAGR
USA	7.43	7.54	7.79	8.12	8.45	7.51	10.82	10.84	9.30	10.47	3.87%
EU-27	6.86	7.03	7.36	7.34	6.87	5.49	7.05	7.62	6.69	7.18	0.52%
Bangladesh	2.08	1.92	2.26	2.50	2.06	2.08	4.27	3.49	2.64	3.24	5.04%
UAE	4.52	4.37	4.11	2.47	2.44	2.07	2.67	2.09	1.98	2.14	-7.96%
UK	2.41	2.23	2.24	2.19	2.15	1.60	1.96	2.01	1.87	1.98	-2.13%
Others	13.85	12.34	13.48	14.48	13.51	10.86	14.70	12.26	11.75	11.69	-1.86%
World	37.15	35.42	37.23	37.11	35.49	29.61	41.47	38.31	34.23	36.71	-0.13%

Source: ITC Trade Map & CITI Analysis

4.3 India's Imports of Textile & Apparel

During 2024-25, India's T&A imports stood at about US\$ 9.7 bn which has increased by about 9.8% compared to 2023-24.

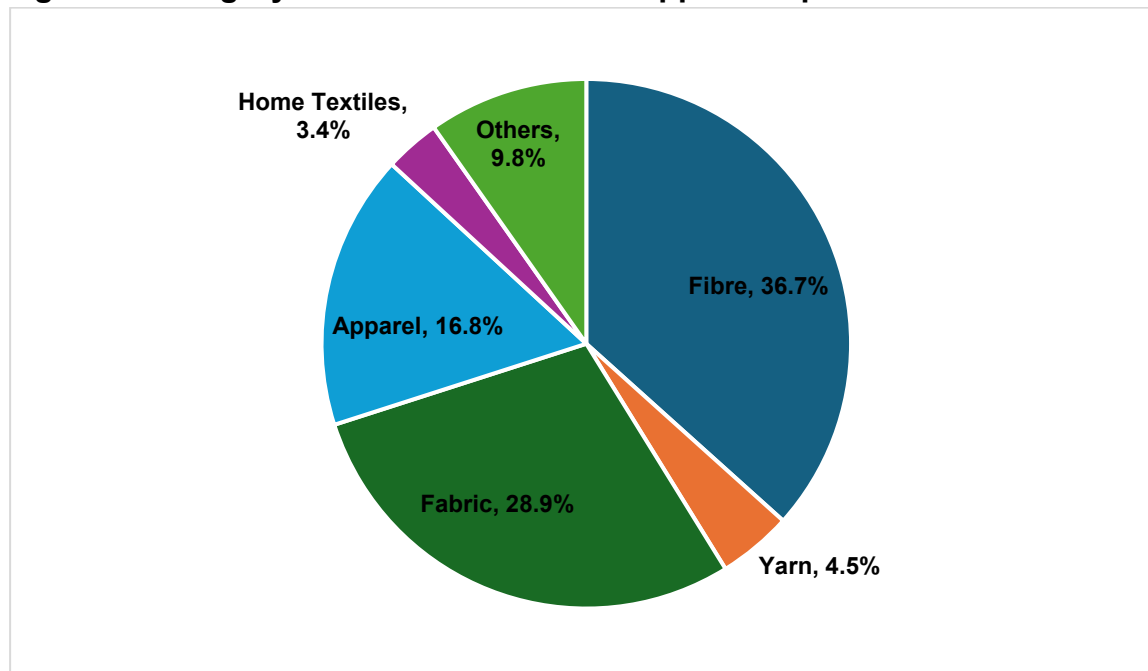
Figure 4: India's Import of T&A (US\$ bn)



Source: DGCI&S & CITI Analysis

Category-wise analysis shows that Fibre & Fabric have the highest share of 36.7% and 28.9% respectively in total T&A imports of India during 2024-25 as shown in figure 5.

Figure 5: Category wise share in textile & apparel imports of India in 2024-25



Source: DGCI&S & CITI Analysis

b) Top 20 categories imported

The top 20 commodities (HS-4) have a share of 64.4% in the total textile and apparel imports of India. The imports of these top 20 commodities are shown in table 3

Table 3: India's Top 20 Exported Textile & Apparel Categories (US\$ Million)

S.No.	HS Code	Commodity	2015	2024	CAGR	Share 2024
1	5201	Cotton, neither carded nor combed	386.7	1,004.7	11.2%	10.9%
2	5402	Synthetic filament yarn, incl. synthetic monofilaments of < 67 decitex	393.3	664.1	6.0%	7.2%
3	6006	Fabrics, knitted or crocheted, of a width of > 30 cm	240.1	408.2	6.1%	4.4%
4	5403	Artificial filament yarn, incl. artificial monofilament of < 67 decitex (excl. sewing thread)	125.5	398.4	13.7%	4.3%
5	5903	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics	383.2	378.7	-0.1%	4.1%
6	6203	Men's or boys' suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches, etc.	112.0	322.4	12.5%	3.5%

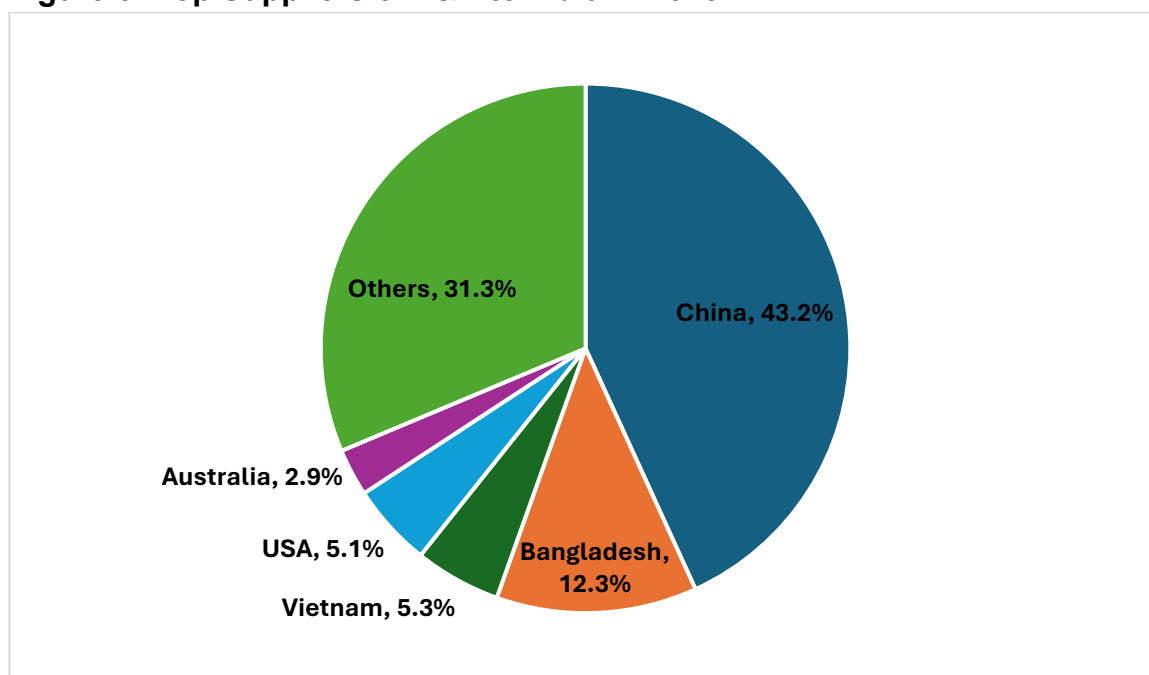
S.No.	HS Code	Commodity	2015	2024	CAGR	Share 2024
7	5301	Flax, raw or processed, but not spun; flax tow and waste, incl. yarn waste and garnetted stock	24.9	319.1	32.7%	3.5%
8	5407	Woven fabrics of synthetic filament yarn, incl. monofilament of ≥ 67 decitex	179.2	290.2	5.5%	3.1%
9	6310	Used or new rags, scrap twine, cordage, rope and cables and worn-out articles thereof,	75.1	257.0	14.7%	2.8%
10	5603	Nonwovens, whether or not impregnated, coated, covered or laminated, n.e.s.	193.3	207.9	0.8%	2.3%
11	5101	Wool, neither carded nor combed	307.9	205.3	-4.4%	2.2%
12	5902	Tyre cord fabric of high-tenacity yarn of nylon or other polyamides, polyesters or viscose	225.5	197.3	-1.5%	2.1%
13	6204	Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, dresses, skirts, divided skirts, trousers,	63.8	194.8	13.2%	2.1%
14	5503	Synthetic staple fibres, not carded, combed or otherwise processed for spinning	191.9	192.5	0.0%	2.1%
15	5509	Yarn of synthetic staple fibres (excl. sewing thread and yarn put up for retail sale)	145.3	178.7	2.3%	1.9%
16	6001	Pile fabrics, incl. "long pile" fabrics and terry fabrics, knitted or crocheted	21.1	165.4	25.7%	1.8%
17	5504	Artificial staple fibres, not carded, combed or otherwise processed for spinning	99.0	145.0	4.3%	1.6%
18	6110	Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats and similar articles, knitted or crocheted	32.3	143.6	18.0%	1.6%
19	5703	Carpets and other textile floor coverings, incl. turf, tufted "needle punched	73.6	132.9	6.8%	1.4%
20	6004	Knitted or crocheted fabrics, of a width > 30 cm, containing by weight $\geq 5\%$ of elastomeric	55.6	132.5	10.1%	1.4%

Source: DGCI&S & CITI Analysis

c) Top Suppliers of Textile & Apparel Commodities to India

China continues to remain the biggest supplier for Indian textiles and apparel products during 2023 with a share of 43.2% followed by Bangladesh and Vietnam with a share of 12.3% and 5.3% respectively as shown in figure 6.

Figure 6: Top Suppliers of T&A to India in 2023



Source: ITC Trade Map & CITI Analysis

Imports of T&A by India from the world have increased at a CAGR of 5.2% during the 2015-2024. After reaching to a maximum level of US\$ 10.7 bn in 2022, imports have been stagnated at US\$ 9.2 bn since last two years.

Table 4: Major Suppliers of T&A products to India (US\$ Bn)

S No	Exporters	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CAGR
1	China	2.6	2.4	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.3	3.4	4.1	3.8	3.4	3.2%
2	Bangladesh	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.1	1.1	12.9%
3	Viet Nam	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	12.8%
4	USA	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	3.5%
5	Australia	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	6.9%
	Others	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.8	3.3	2.1	2.9	3.7	3.1	3.5	4.9%
	World	5.9	6.1	6.6	7.3	8.3	5.5	8.1	10.7	9.2	9.2	5.2%

Source: ITC Trade Map & CITI Analysis

5 Sector Wise Performance of India

5.1 Cotton Fibre

Cotton has been the pride and prime of the Indian Textile Industry. It has been the major competitive strength of the country with India's T&A exports being dominated by cotton. Cotton has been the mainstay for not only more than 65 lakh cotton farmers, but also to the value-added textile industry which employs directly & indirectly more than 10 crore people (making it the largest industrial employer)

India got 1st place in the world in cotton acreage with 114.47 lakh hectares area under cotton cultivation i.e. around 36% of world area of 314.79 lakh hectares. Approximately 67% of Indian's cotton is produced on rain-fed areas and 33% on irrigated lands.

In terms of cotton yield, India lacks behind a lot as compared to other cotton producing nations. While countries like China, Brazil, Australia, and Turkey have cotton yields of above 1800 kg lint/ha, India's yield on the other hand stands at about 437 kg lint/ha which is even far lesser than the world's average yield of about 776 kg lint/ha.

For cotton season 2024-25, India's cotton production is estimated to be around 294.5 lakh bales of 170 kg each which is about 9.5% lower than the production of 2023-24. Consumption of cotton is estimated to be 318 lakh bales in 2024-25 against 323 lakh bales in 2023-24 as shown in table 1.

Table 1: Cotton Balance Sheet of India (In Lakh Bales)

Particular	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21	2021/ 22	2022/ 23	2023/24 (P)	2024/25 (P)
Opening Stock	66.0	36.4	43.8	42.9	56.5	120.8	71.8	39.48	61.16	47.1
Production	332	345	370.0	333.0	365.0	352.5	311.2	336.60	325.22	294.5
Imports	22.8	30.9	15.8	35.4	15.5	11.0	21.1	14.60	12.00	25
Total Supply	420.8	412.4	429.6	411.3	437.0	484.3	404.1	390.68	398.38	366.5
Consumption	315.3	310.4	319.1	311.2	269.2	334.9	322.4	313.6	323	318
Exports	69.1	58.2	67.6	43.6	47.0	77.6	42.25	15.89	28	18
Total Demand	384.4	368.6	386.7	354.8	316.2	412.5	364.66	329.52	351	336
Closing Stock	36.4	43.8	42.9	56.5	120.8	71.8	39.48	61.16	47.38	30.35

Source: As estimated by the Committee on Cotton Production and Consumption (COCPC) in its meeting held on 24/06/2024

Table 2: Cotton Acreage and Yield in last few years

Cotton Year	Cotton Acreage (Lakh Hectares)	Cotton Yield (Lint in Kg/ha)
2018-19	126.14	449
2019-20	134.77	460
2020-21	132.85	451
2021-22	123.71	428

Cotton Year	Cotton Acreage (Lakh Hectares)	Cotton Yield (Lint in Kg/ha)
2022-23	129.27	443
2023-24	126.80	436
2024-25	114.47	437

Source: Ministry of Textiles

Table 3: MSP fixed by Ministry of Agriculture during last few years

Cotton Year	Medium Staple (Staple Length 24.5 to 25.5 mm & micronaire value 4.3 to 5.1)	Long Staple (Staple Length 29.5 to 30.5 mm & micronaire value 3.5 to 4.3)
2018-19	5150	5450
2019-20	5255	5550
2020-21	5515	5825
2021-22	5726	6025
2022-23	6080	6380
2023-24	6620	7020
2024-25	7121	7521
2025-26	7710	8110

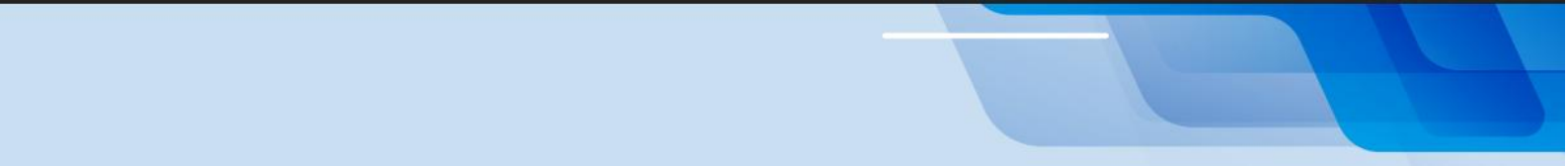
Table 4: Procurement of Cotton Under MSP

Cotton Year	Production (Lakh Bales)	Procurement under MSP Operations	
		Qty. in Lakh Bales	%age of Production
2018-19	333.00	10.78	03.24
2019-20	365.00	124.61	34.14
2020-21	352.48	99.33	28.18
2021-22	311.17	00.01	-
2022-23	336.60	-	-
2023-24	325.22	32.84*	10.1
2024-25*	294.25	100.16	34.04

In 2021-22 & 2022-23, cotton prices were ruling above MSP. Hence, no MSP support was required by farmers

5.2 Man-Made Fibre & Filament Yarn

Globally, fibre consumption is predominated by manmade fibres (MMFs) having about 70% share in total fibre consumption while natural fibres constitute only about 30%. Contrary to the global trend, fibre consumption in India is skewed towards natural fibres, especially cotton.



As far as India's production of man-made fiber is considered, during 2023-24, India's production of man-made fibre stood at about 1987 mn kgs which was about 8.3% lower compared to the 2022-23 as shown in table:

Table 5: Production of Man-Made Fibre (million Kg)

Particular	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	2023-24 (P)	2024-25 (Apr-Sept) (P)	2023-24 (Apr-Sept) (P)	% Change FY 25 over FY 24 for Apr-Sept
Production	1,898	1,610	2,160	2,152	1,987	1,021	989	3.26

Source: Ministry of Textiles

Similarly, production of manmade filament yarn during 2023-24 stood at about 1,702 Mn kg which was about 11.8% lower compared to the 2022-23 as shown in table below:

Table 6: Production of Man-Made Filament Yarn (mn Kg)

Particular	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	2023-24 (P)	2024-25 (Apr-Sept) (P)	2023-24 (Apr-Sept) (P)	% Change FY 25 over FY 24 for Apr-Sept
Production	1,688	1,326	2,016	1,904	1,702	904	844	7.20

Source: Ministry of Textiles

During 2023-24, cotton yarn accounted to about 68.5% of the total yarn production in India while Blended and 100% Non-Cotton accounted to rest 31.5% of the production. During 2023-24, the production of total spun yarn increased by about 5.7% compared to the previous year. This growth was majorly due to the significant recovery in the production of cotton yarn which increased by about 9.3% in 2023-23 compared to 2022-23 as shown in the table below:

Table 7: Production of Spun Yarn (mn Kg)

Particular	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	2023-24 (P)	2024-25 (Apr-Sept) (P)	2023-24 (Apr-Sept) (P)	% Change FY 25 over FY 24 for Apr-Sept
Cotton Yarn	3,962	3,625	4,075	3,438	3,756	1,868	1,889	-1.15
Blended and 100% Non-Cotton	1,702	1,521	1,758	1,746	1,725	884	868	1.91
Total Spun Yarn	5,664	5,146	5,833	5,184	5,481	2,752	2,757	-0.19

Source: Ministry of Textiles

6 Important Policy Updates for the Indian Textile Industry

6.1 Update on Quality Control Orders (QCOs)

Quality Control Orders (QCOs) in the Textile Sector are intended to ensure that textile products meet minimum quality, safety, and labelling standards for consumer protection and to promote fair trade. Ministry of Textiles and Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has already announced a number of QCOs on MMF fibre/yarn products.

As reported by the industry, the implementation of QCOs has led to disruptions in the MMF textile value chain, particularly in terms of the availability of certain raw materials in the required quantity, quality, and at internationally competitive prices. Consequently, domestic raw material prices in India have risen significantly compared to competing nations. For example, during the second fortnight of August 2025, domestic PSF and VSF prices were approximately 35% and 17% higher, respectively, than prices in China.

Additionally, the limited or non-availability of specialized raw materials has affected the export potential of MMF-based specialized Textile & Apparel products, reducing competitiveness in global markets.

CITI has been continuously taking up the issue with the relevant Government bodies for its resolution.

Recently Government has formed a high-level committee to review Quality Control Orders (QCOs) and the associated Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification process to address concerns about industry bottlenecks, compliance burdens, and to promote ease of doing business. This high-level committee, comprises secretaries and technocrats from key ministries and will examine the need for reforms and propose solutions, such as graded standards or exemptions for manufacturers meeting specific standards.

CITI remains fully committed to representing the concerns of the textile industry and will continue to work closely with the Government to resolve issues arising from QCO implementation, ensure smooth availability of raw materials, and safeguard the competitiveness of the MMF textile sector.

6.2 GST 2.0: Historic Policy Reforms for Indian T&A Industry announced during 56th GST council meeting

The 56th GST Council Meeting was held under the chairpersonship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Finance, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, on 3rd September 2025.

During the meeting, the Council approved the rationalization of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) structure into two slabs of 5% and 18%, thereby removing the existing 12% and 28% slabs. Accordingly, GST rates of several textile items have been revised.

In line with industry representations, the Council has also addressed the long-pending issue of inverted duty structure in the MMF textile value chain and ensured fibre neutrality.

The revised GST rates (effective 22nd September 2025) are as follows:

Particular	Old GST Rate	New GST Rate
MMF Fibre	18%	5%
MMF Filament/Yarn	12%	5%
Carpets	12%	5%
Certain labels, badges, braids, ornamental trimmings, embroidery, wall coverings, textile hose piping, handmade/hand embroidered shawls and certain types of specialized fabrics	12%	5%
Apparels (HSN 61 and 62) Made-ups (HSN 63, except for 2 nd hand clothing) Cotton quilts	5% (sales value ≤ ₹1000) 12% (sales value > ₹1000)	5% (sales value ≤ ₹2500) 18% (sales value > ₹2500)
Sewing machines, other than book-sewing machine of heading 8440 and sewing needles	12%	5%
Cartons boxes, cases, sacks/rags of paper,	12%	5%

Further the council has also taken certain measures towards facilitation of trade, some of which are as under:

- The Council recommended amending section 54(6) of the CGST Act, 2017, to provide for sanction of 90% of refund claimed on provisional basis, in cases arising out of inverted duty structure, on similar lines as is presently available for refund in respect of zero-rated supply. It shall be operationalize by 1st

November 2025, after which such provisional refunds will be made within 7 days of filing (if applicable)

- The Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) will be made operational for accepting appeals before end of September and will commence hearing before end of December this year. The Council also recommended the date of 30.06.2026 for limitation of filing of backlog appeals.
- The Council recommended amendment to section 54(14) of the CGST Act, 2017 so as to remove the threshold limit for refunds arising out of exports made with payment of tax. This will particularly help small exporters making exports through courier, postal mode etc.
- The Council has recommended the introduction of an optional simplified GST registration scheme wherein registration shall be granted on an automated basis within three working days from the date of submission of application in case of low risk applicants and applicants who based on their own assessment, determine that their output tax liability on supplies to registered persons will not exceed Rs. 2.5 lakh per month (inclusive of CGST, SGST/UTGST and IGST).

CITI will continue engaging with the relevant authorities to resolve other pending issues towards GST.

6.3 Announcement of reciprocal tariffs by USA

In April 2025, the U.S. introduced "reciprocal" tariffs via Executive Order (the "Liberation Day tariffs"), targeting trade deficits. These tariffs were later paused for a period of 90 days and during that period a substantially lower reciprocal tariff of 10% which was over and above the existing duties, fees, taxes, exactions, or charges applicable was in place for all the countries.

Initially India was having tariff advantage compared to competing countries like Bangladesh, Vietnam, etc. However, the imposition of additional tariff was subsequently paused for 90 days during which several countries negotiated trade deal with USA to get better tariff rates.

After the above relaxation period, USA issued a new executive order thereby imposing an additional ad valorem duty of 25% and penalty of 25% on India's exports to USA (w.e.f. 28th August 2025) over and above the MFN and other applicable duties.

The new rates on India were significantly higher than other competing nations as shown below:

Country Name	Additional ad valorem duty (applicable from 8 th August 2025)
China*	Negotiated to 10% until August 12 th
Vietnam	20%
Bangladesh	20%
Indonesia	19%
Pakistan	19%
Cambodia	19%
Türkiye	15%

No update after 12th August about any revision of rates

After the imposition of the additional ad valorem duty, the range of HSN code wise new duty rates will be as below:

HSN Code	Product Description	MFN Range	New Duty Range effective from 28 th August 2025
50	Silk	0.0% - 3.9%	50.0%-53.9%
51	Wool, fine or coarse animal hair; horsehair yarn and woven fabric	0.4% - 25%	50.4%-75.0%
52	Cotton	3.0%-16.5%	53.0%-66.5%
53	Other vegetable textile fibres; paper yarn and woven fabrics of paper yarn	2.7% - 14.5%	52.7%-64.5%
54	Man-made filaments; strip and the like of man-made textile materials	2.7% - 25.0%	52.7%-75.0%
55	Man-made staple fibres	4.3% - 25.0%	54.3%-75.0%
56	Wadding, felt and nonwovens; special yarns; twine, cordage, ropes and cables and articles thereof	2.7% - 14.1%	52.7%-64.1%
57	Carpets and other textile floor coverings	2.7% - 8.0%	52.7%-58.0%
59	Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics; textile articles of a kind suitable for industrial use	2.6% - 14.1%	52.6%-64.1%
60	Knitted or crocheted fabrics	4.0% - 18.5%	54.0%-68.5%
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	0.6% - 32.0%	50.6%-82.0%
62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	0.5% - 28.6%	50.5%-78.6%
63	Other made up textile articles; sets; worn clothing and worn textile articles; rags	2.5% - 20.9%	52.5%-70.9%

Source: MFN rates are as from WTO while New Duty range will be after adding additional duty of 50% as announced by USA.

USA is the largest market for India's T&A exports accounting to about 28.5% of India's total T&A exports. This additional tariff will significantly impact India's exports to USA. CITI is constantly engaging with the Government for announcement of various relief measures to mitigate the impact of this tariff.

6.4 Mission on Cotton Productivity

For the benefit of millions of cotton growing farmers, a 'Mission for Cotton Productivity' was announced during the budget 2025. This 5-year mission will facilitate significant improvements in productivity and sustainability of cotton farming, and promote extra-long staple cotton varieties. Initially announced with a budget outlay of Rs 2500 crore, the mission is sub-divided into 3 Mini Missions as given below:

Mission and Implementation agency	Objective
Mini-Mission 1 Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW)	To boost productivity and production of cotton in the country through adoption of modern technologies, best agronomic practices, High-Density Planting System (HDPS), closer spacing, and drip irrigation with mulching.
Mini-Mission 2 Ministry of Textiles (MoT)	To enhance the quality of cotton fibre by improving fibre length, strength, and micronaire values; development of Extra Long Staple (ELS) cotton; promotion of Kasturi Cotton brand; and strengthening cotton testing and ginning infrastructure.
Mini-Mission 3 Ministry of Textiles (MoT)	To promote research, development, and commercialization of other natural fibres such as jute, hemp, ramie, banana, bamboo, and coir with focus on eco-friendly and sustainable alternatives.

These three Mini Missions aim to create a comprehensive cotton and natural fibre ecosystem that not only strengthens farm-level productivity and farmer incomes but also enhances fibre quality, supports textile industry competitiveness, and promotes sustainability across the value chain.

Mission on Cotton productivity is likely to be operational soon.

6.5 Temporary removal of import duty from the cotton fibre (HSN 5201)

Cotton imports in India are subjected to an import duty (5% customs duty, 5% Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC) and 1% cess).

Given the lower cotton production for current year as also based on industry requests, Ministry of finance the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) vide its notification no. 35/2025-Customs dated 18th August 2025 has removed the customs duty and AIDC levied on import of all varieties of cotton (HSN 5201) effective from 19th August 2025 to 30th September 2025. In order to support the exporters further, the Central Government has decided to extend the import duty exemption on cotton (HS 5201) from 30th September 2025 till 31st December 2025.

This move was aimed at ensuring adequate availability of cotton for domestic mills, maintaining international competitiveness of Indian textile exports, and stabilizing domestic cotton prices during a period of lower crop output and is thus a win-win situation for all stakeholders of the textile value chain including cotton cultivators, as exemption is provided for off-season period during and moreover, interests are already protected through the MSP.

6.6 Relaxation in EO period for QCOs issued by Ministry of Textiles and Department of Chemicals and Petro-chemicals (DCPC)

Based on industry's request Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) had enable provisions for the import of inputs subjected to mandatory Quality Control Orders (QCOs) by Advance Authorisation holders, Export Oriented Units (EOUs), and Special Economic Zones (SEZs). As per the earlier guidelines, the Export Obligation (EO) period for such imports was restricted to 180 days from the date of clearance of import consignments.

Based on the requests made by CITI, DGFT vide its notification no 20/2025-26 dated 23rd June 2025 and notification no 28/2025-26 dated 28th August 2025 has removed the restriction of 180 days on EO period in respect of goods that are covered under QCO issued by DCPC. These goods will now be governed by Para 4.40 of the Handbook of Procedures, wherein the EO period under Advance Authorisation is 18 months from the date of issue of the Authorisation.

The above exemption covers Viscose Staple Fibre (VSF), Polyester Staple Fibre (PSF), Polyester Fully Drawn Yarn, Polyester Partially Oriented Yarn (POY), Polyester Industrial Yarn (IDY), Polyester Spun Yarn (PSY), PTA/MEG and certain other chemicals (list of which can be found at <https://chemicals.gov.in/petrochemicals-quality-control-orders>)

6.7 Port Restriction on import of RMG, cotton & cotton-yarn waste from Bangladesh to India

On April 15, 2025, Bangladesh banned imports of certain items including all types of yarns from India through all land routes. Bangladesh is a major market for India's cotton yarn, (accounted for US\$ 1.6 bn in 2024) and this ban affected India's exports to Bangladesh significantly. Acting on this, India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) vide its notification dated 07/2025-26 dated 17th May 2025, had restricted the imports of certain goods, including all types of Ready-made Garments and cotton & cotton-yarn waste, through land ports. This restriction was later extended to other product categories including jute products, etc.

Trade analysis shows that India imported RMG worth US\$ 634 million in 2024 which has increased at a CAGR of 19% during the last 10 years. Majority of these imports were taking place through land route only and hence this ban is likely to have a

considerable impact on these RMG imports, particularly in terms of increased logistics cost through sea-route.

As a result of the restrictions, India's imports of T&A from Bangladesh have declined by 32% in June 2025 compared to June 2024 while India's exports of T&A products to Bangladesh declined by 18.3% during the same time frame.

6.8 Amendment in Import Policy Condition of Synthetic Knitted Fabrics covered under Chapter 60 of the ITC (HS), 2022

To check the rising imports of knitted fabric at unviable prices, DGFT in exercise of powers conferred by Section 3 and Section 5 of Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992, read with paragraph 1.02 and 2.01 of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), 2023, as amended from time to time, had imposed Minimum Import Price (MIP) vide Notification No. 77/2023 dated 16.03.2024, No. 33/2024-25 dated 01.10.2024 and No. 49/2024-25 dated 04.01.2025 on certain fabric categories.

Further vide notification no. 05/2025-26 dated 23rd April 2025, It has been decided by the Central Government to impose the condition of Minimum Import Price (MIP) on the following 04 ITC (HS) codes of Synthetic Knitted Fabrics till 31.03.2026 as under:

ITC(HS) Code	Item Description	Import Policy	Policy condition
60019200	- Other: — of man-made fibres	Restricted	However, import is 'Free' if CIF value is 3.5 US Dollar and above per Kilogram
60053600	- Of synthetic fibres: — Other, unbleached or bleached	Restricted	However, import is 'Free' if CIF value is 3.5 US Dollar and above per Kilogram
60053790	--- Other	Restricted	However, import is 'Free' if CIF value is 3.5 US Dollar and above per Kilogram
60053900	- Of synthetic fibres: — other, printed	Restricted	However, import is 'Free' if CIF value is 3.5 US Dollar and above per Kilogram

It may be noted that MIP condition on above items shall not be applicable for imports by Advance Authorisation holders, Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and units in the SEZ

subject to the condition that the imported inputs are not sold into Domestic Tariff Area (DTA).

6.9 Extension of Quality Control Order on Cotton Fibre

The Cotton Bales (Quality Control) Order under BIS mandates that all cotton bales used domestically must conform to specified quality standards—such as fibre length, strength, moisture content, trash levels, and packaging—ensuring uniformity and enhancing market credibility.

It was introduced originally in 2023 with the enforcement originally slated for 27 August 2024. However, based on the challenges posed by the industry in meeting the required conditions, its implementation was deferred to 27 August 2025 via an amendment under the Cotton Bales (Quality Control) Amendment Order, 2023.

Based on the suggestions of the various stakeholders, the Ministry of Textiles vide notification number S.O. 2996(E) dated 3rd July 2025 has now deferred it further till 27th August 2026.

Stakeholders now have time till 27th August 2026 to align their operations with BIS certification requirements and obtain the required certification.

6.10 Machinery & Electrical Equipment Safety (Omnibus Technical Regulation) Order, 2024

Issued by the Ministry of Heavy Industries on 28 August 2024, the OTR Order mandates that a broad range of machinery, electrical equipment, and their assemblies, sub-assemblies, and components must secure BIS certification and carry the Standard Mark before they can be manufactured, imported, or sold in India. The OTR covers Textile weaving & embroidery machines and their assemblies, sub-assemblies, and components thereof.

To discuss its implementation, Government has also formed a committee consisting of various stakeholders from the manufacturer and user industry. CITI is also part of this committee representing the user industry.

The OTR was set to be effective from 1st August 2025. However, based on the requests made by CITI and the other user industry, the OTR Order has now been extended to 1 September 2026, providing additional time for industry compliance.

7 India – United Kingdom Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

The landmark Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between India and United Kingdom is a major step in building a stronger economic partnership between the two countries.

As the world's fourth and sixth largest economies respectively, India and the UK's bilateral engagement holds global economic significance and can double the trade figures between the two countries by 2030.

- **Present Trade Scenario:**

Trade analysis shows that UK was the 5th largest market for India's T&A exports with India exporting T&A products worth US\$ 1.98 bn (5.4% of its global T&A exports) to UK in 2024, while its imports of T&A from UK stood at just US\$ 65.7 mn during the same year.

Table 1: India's T&A Export and Import with UK

Particular	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CAGR
Exports (US\$ Bn)	1.60	1.96	2.01	1.87	1.98	5.5%
Imports (US\$ Mn)	33.72	52.53	68.95	65.70	67.10	18.8%

Source: ITC Trade Map

India is at present is the 4th largest supplier of T&A products to UK accounting to about 6.6% share in UK total T&A imports in 2024. UK T&A market was dominated by China with 24.9% share followed by Bangladesh with 14.9% share respectively in 2024.

Table 2: UK's T&A imports from top supplying countries (US\$ Bn)

Country	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CAGR	% Share 2024
China	12.04	6.58	8.25	6.55	6.70	-13.6%	24.9%
Bangladesh	2.87	3.10	4.63	4.05	4.01	8.7%	14.9%
Türkiye	2.26	2.52	3.00	2.48	2.28	0.3%	8.5%
India	1.41	1.74	2.05	1.81	1.79	6.2%	6.6%
Pakistan	1.23	1.61	1.79	1.60	1.61	6.8%	6.0%
Others	14.25	12.69	12.95	11.25	10.53	-7.3%	39.1%
Total (T&A)	34.05	28.24	32.66	27.74	26.93	-5.7%	100%

Source – ITC Trade Map

Commodity wise analysis shows that apparel with about 73% share was the largest imported product category by UK from world as also from India followed by Home Textiles. While India accounts for 6.1% share in UK's total apparel imports, its share in UK's imports of home textiles stood at 10.5% share during 2024 as shown below:

Table 3: Commodity wise Imports of UK from World and India (US\$ Mn)

Row Labels	UK's imports from world	Commodity wise share	UK's imports from India	Share of India in UK's total T&A Imports
Fibre	399.98	1.5%	21.25	5.3%
Filament	402.55	1.5%	4.37	1.1%
Yarn	311.36	1.2%	49.40	15.9%
Fabric	1,577.21	5.9%	103.76	6.6%
Apparel	19,658.65	73.0%	1,198.38	6.1%
Home Textiles	2,581.66	9.6%	270.85	10.5%
Others	1,994.18	7.4%	141.82	7.1%
Grand Total	26,925.59	100.0%	1,789.83	6.6%

Source: ITC trade map

Duty disadvantage has been one of the major factors for under performance of India in UK's market. While our competitors like Bangladesh and Turkiye were enjoying duty free access of UK's market, India's apparel exports were being charged to the tune of 12%, thus creating a non-level playfield.

- **Duty structure under the India-UK CETA**

Under the present CETA, UK has offered Zero Duty access to India's T&A products (HSN 50 to 63) thus giving a level playing field to India's T&A exports in UK market.

India also has provided similar benefits to UK except for 13 HS items, in which 2 items (HSN 55049090: Other artificial staple fibre and HSN 63090000: Worn Clothing) are put in exclusion list, 3 in E5 category and 10 in E10 category (mainly apparel categories like T-shirts, winter wear and kids wear)

- **Potential Trade Opportunities**

With the enhanced market access, there is an opportunity for India to enhance its trade between with UK. Given below are the items which UK is importing from world but India despite having an export potential is having limited market share:

UK's top imported commodities from World (US\$ Mn, year is 2024)

Rank in UK top imported commodity	HS Code	Commodity	UK imports from world	UK imports from India	India's global exports	India's share in UK imports
1	610910	T-shirts, singlets and other vests of cotton, knitted or crocheted	1,480.5	125.1	1,723.4	8.5%
4	620342	Men's or boys' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts, of cotton	698.9	17.6	452.3	2.5%

Rank in UK top imported commodity	HS Code	Commodity	UK imports from world	UK imports from India	India's global exports	India's share in UK imports
5	610990	T-shirts, singlets and other vests of textile materials, knitted or crocheted (excl. cotton)	696.9	13.2	601.8	1.9%
6	620462	Women's or girls' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts of cotton	602.0	27.8	314.2	4.6%
9	630790	Made-up articles of textile materials, incl. dress patterns, n.e.s.	491.5	17.7	406.0	3.6%

As far as imports are concerned, India may import specialized filament yarn and certain specialized fabrics from UK which at present it is sourcing from other destinations like China.

Table 4: Potential commodities which India may import from UK (US\$ Mn)

HS Code	Commodity	India's imports from world	United Kingdom's exports to India	United Kingdom's exports to world
540211	High-tenacity filament yarn of aramids (excl. sewing thread and yarn put up for retail sale)	35.1	0.0	139.4
590390	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics	148.8	0.5	48.1
540752	Woven fabrics of yarn containing $\geq 85\%$ by weight of textured polyester filaments,	145.8	0.4	52.5
590320	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with polyurethane	126.2	0.0	41.1

Source: ITC Trade map

8 Union Budget 2024-25

8.1 Key highlights

Hon'ble Union Minister of Finance presented her 8th budget in the Parliament on 1st February 2025.

The budget proposed development measures across the span ten broad areas focusing on Garib, Youth, Annadata and Nari as given below:

- 1) Spurring Agricultural Growth and Productivity;
- 2) Building Rural Prosperity and Resilience;
- 3) Taking Everyone Together on an Inclusive Growth path;
- 4) Boosting Manufacturing and Furthering Make in India;
- 5) Supporting MSMEs;
- 6) Enabling Employment-led Development;
- 7) Investing in people, economy and innovation;
- 8) Securing Energy Supplies;
- 9) Promoting Exports; and
- 10) Nurturing Innovation.

The major highlights of the budget are:

1. **Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana** aimed at
 - Enhance agricultural productivity,
 - Adopt crop diversification and sustainable agriculture practices,
 - Augment post-harvest storage at the panchayat and block level,
 - Improve irrigation facilities, and
 - Facilitate availability of long-term and short-term credit
2. **A National Mission on High Yielding Seeds** will be launched, aimed at
 - Strengthening the research ecosystem,
 - Targeted development and propagation of seeds with high yield, pest resistance and climate resilience, and
 - Commercial availability of more than 100 seed varieties released since July 2024.
3. **Mission for Cotton Productivity**
 - For the benefit of lakhs of cotton growing farmers a 'Mission for Cotton Productivity' is announced. **This 5-year mission** will facilitate significant improvements in productivity and sustainability of cotton farming, and promote extra-long staple cotton varieties.
 - The best of science & technology support will be provided to farmers. Aligned with the integrated 5F vision for the textile sector, this will help in

increasing incomes of the farmers, and ensure a steady supply of quality cotton for rejuvenating India's traditional textile sector.

4. Revision in classification criteria for MSMEs

- To help MSMEs achieve higher efficiencies of scale, technological upgradation and better access to capital, the **investment and turnover limits for classification of all MSMEs** will be enhanced to 2.5 and 2 times respectively.
- This will give them the confidence to grow and generate employment for our youth.

5. Enhancement of credit availability with guarantee cover

- To improve access to credit, the credit guarantee cover will be enhanced:
 - a) For Micro and Small Enterprises, from 5 crore to 10 crore, leading to additional credit of 1.5 lakh crore in the next 5 years;
 - b) For Startups, from 10 crore to 20 crore, with the guarantee fee being moderated to 1 per cent for loans in 27 focus sectors important for Atmanirbhar Bharat; and
 - c) For well-run exporter MSMEs, for term loans up to 20 crore.

6. National Centres of Excellence for Skilling

- Building on the initiative announced in the July 2024 Budget, **five National Centres of Excellence for skilling will be set up** with global expertise and partnerships to equip our youth with the skills required for "Make for India, Make for the World" manufacturing.
- The partnerships will cover curriculum design, training of trainers, a skills certification framework, and periodic reviews.

7. Export Promotion Mission

- Government will set up an **Export Promotion Mission**, with sectoral and ministerial targets, driven jointly by the Ministries of Commerce, MSME, and Finance.
- It will facilitate easy access to export credit, cross-border factoring support, and support to MSMEs to tackle non-tariff measures in overseas markets.

8. Bharat Trade Net

- A digital public infrastructure, 'BharatTradeNet' (BTN) for international trade will be set-up as a **unified platform for trade documentation and financing solutions**.

- This will complement the Unified Logistics Interface Platform. The BTN will be aligned with international practices.

9. Support for integration with Global Supply Chains

Support will be provided to develop domestic manufacturing capacities for our economy's integration with global supply chains. Sectors will be identified based on objective criteria. Facilitation groups with participation of senior officers and industry representatives will be formed for select products and supply chains.

10. Indirect Taxes

- To promote domestic production of technical textile products such as agro-textiles, medical textiles and geo textiles at competitive prices, **two more types of shuttle-less looms added to the list of fully exempted textile machinery.**
- The **BCD rate on knitted fabrics covered by nine tariff lines is revised from "10% or 20%" to "20% or ` 115 per kg, whichever is higher"** list of which is given below:

HSN Code	Description
60041000	Knitted or crocheted fabrics, of wool or fine animal hair
60049000	Knitted or crocheted fabrics, of other textile materials (excluding wool/fine animal hair, cotton, or man-made fibres)
60062200	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of cotton, dyed
60063100	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of synthetic fibres, unbleached or bleached
60063200	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of synthetic fibres, dyed
60063300	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of synthetic fibres, of yarns of different colours
60063400	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of synthetic fibres, printed
60064200	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of artificial fibres, dyed
60069000	Other knitted or crocheted fabrics, of other textile materials (not elsewhere specified)

- For industry to better plan their imports, **the time limit for the end-use of imported inputs in the relevant rules, from six months to one year have been extended.** This will provide operational flexibility in view of cost and uncertainty of supply. Further, such importers will now have to file only quarterly statements instead of a monthly statement. (More clarity awaited)

- To facilitate exports of handicrafts, the time period for export has been extended from six months to one year, further extendable by another three months.
- A new provision that will enable importers or exporters, after clearance of goods, to voluntarily declare material facts and pay duty with interest but without penalty has been introduced. This will incentivise voluntary compliance. However, this will not apply in cases where department has already initiated audit or investigation proceedings.

8.2 Budget Grant Analysis for Textile & Apparel 2025-26

- Budget grant for textiles for year 2025-26 has been increased by about 57.7% as compared to revised budget of 2024-25 and stands at Rs 5,272 crores
- This is majorly due to increased allocation of Rs 1,148 crore for PLI scheme for year 2025-26 compared to Rs 45 crore revised allocation of 2024-25
- Other Major highlights for the textile grant are:
 - No allocation for CCI MSP operations for year 2025-26.
 - Increased allocation of 62.8% for clearing TUFS cases
 - Allocation of Rs 300 crores for PM MITRA for 2025-26 which is similar to the budgeted allocation of 2024-25. However, revised allocation for 2024-25 was Rs just Rs 44 crore indicating a slow uptake of scheme.
- Allocation for RoDTEP and RoSCTL to Ministry of finance also increased by 1.6% and 10% respectively for year 2025-26 as compared to 2024-25 revised budget.
- Rs 500 crore have been allocated to Ministry of Agriculture towards “Cotton Technology Mission” for year 2025-26.

Analysis of Demand of Grants for Textile Sector in Budget 2025-26 (Values in Rs Cr)

Particular	2023-24 (Actual) (Rs Cr)	2024-25 (Budget) (Rs Cr)	2024-25 (Revised) (Rs Cr)	2025-26 (Budget) (Rs Cr)	% Change 2025-26 (Budget) to 2024- 25 (Revised)
Total-Establishment Expenditure of the Centre	357.75	375.41	388.99	392.80	1.0%
Central Sector Scheme/Project					
Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS)	577.75	635.00	390.00	635.00	62.8%
Procurement of Cotton by Cotton Corporation under Price Support Scheme	-	600.00	0.01	0.01	0.0%
Total-National Handloom Development Programme	186.37	200.00	198.84	200.00	0.6%
Total-National Handicraft Development Programme	175.45	236	200	260	30.0%
Total-Integrated Wool Development Programme	11.28	20.00	15.00	18.28	21.9%
Total-Development of Silk Textiles	875.00	900.00	945.56	956.84	1.2%
Total-Development of Jute Industries	101.10	80.00	92.25	128.00	38.8%
Total-Textile Infrastructure	12.86	30.00	15.00	15.00	0.0%
Research and Capacity Building					
PLI Scheme	4.13	45.00	45.00	1,148.00	2451.1%
Integrated Scheme for Skill Development	114.99	166.00	331.00	330.00	-0.3%
National Technical Textile Mission	62.23	375.00	250.00	370.00	48.0%
Textile Cluster Development Scheme	33.05	100.00	50.00	100.00	100.0%
Others- Research & Capacity Building	5.99	-	3.60	-	-100.0%
Total-Research and Capacity Building	220.39	686.00	679.60	1,948.00	186.6%
Scheme for Usage of Geo Textiles in North East	1.36	-	-	-	
PM-MITRA	0.13	300.00	44.00	300.00	581.8%
Raw Material Supply Scheme	159.72	172.17	172.17	190.99	10.9%
Scheme for Protection of the Handlooms and Implementation of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985	6.23	7.00	7.00	7.00	0.0%
Total Central Sector Scheme/Project	2,327.64	3,866.17	2,759.43	4,659.12	68.8%
Other Central Sector Expenditure	329.85	175.45	193.58	220.08	13.7%
Total Budget Allocation	3,015.24	4,417.03	3,342.00	5,272.00	57.7%

Source: Expenditure Bill, Budget 2025-26

Analysis of Demand of Grants for Various Trade Promotion Policies under the Ministry of Finance in Budget 2024-25 (Values in Rs Cr)

Particular	2023-24 (Actual) (Rs Cr)	2024-25 (Budget) (Rs Cr)	2024-25 (Revised) (Rs Cr)	2025-26 (Budget) (Rs Cr)	% Change 2025-26 (Budget) to 2024-25 (Revised)
Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP)	15,018.81	16,575.00	17,951.00	18,232.50	1.6%
Rebate on State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL)	8,033.39	9,246.00	9,246.00	10,170.00	10.0%

Source: Expenditure Bill, Budget 2025-26

9 Indian Textile Industry towards a US\$ 350 bn market size with Sustainability at its core

India stands as one of the world's largest textile producers and exporters, offering a wide spectrum of products ranging from cotton, jute, and silk to synthetic fibers. The sector is a vital contributor to the national economy, providing employment to millions, especially in rural regions. With sustainability becoming a non-negotiable requirement in the global textile trade, consumers and brands in key markets such as the EU-27 are increasingly prioritizing eco-friendly products.

In response, India's textile industry is progressively adopting environmentally responsible practices such as green manufacturing, circular economy models, and waste reduction initiatives. Recognizing the growing global demand for sustainable products, both the Government and the industry are undertaking significant measures to position India's textile sector to seize these opportunities and work towards the ambitious vision of achieving USD 350 billion by 2030.

9.1 Initiatives by the Government

The Government of India has introduced several policies to facilitate the industry's growth while promoting sustainability such as:

9.1.1. Constitution of an ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) Task Force

The Ministry of Textiles has recently constituted an ESG task force to enable the Textile & Apparel (T&A) Sector to transition to a Circular and Sustainable Sector. ESG task force is aimed towards engaging in deliberations with stakeholders of the industry in ascertaining the current status and issues in adopting sustainable production models which will enable the transition of the textile industry to a sustainable and resource-efficient production system. This transition will empower the Indian textile industry to position itself on the global map as a major player in sustainable and circular textiles.

The ESG task force comprises of various industry associations including CITI, EPCs, think tanks, and various service providers in the ESG sector.

The Government is holding regular consultations of the ESG task force to assess the existing/requisite policy frameworks and work towards formulating a sustainability framework with clear deliverables that is essential for transitioning Indian textile value chains from linear to circular.

9.1.2. Preparation of Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document/ COINDS Document for the Textile Sector in India

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has signed an MoU with UBA (German Environment agency) & GIZ to develop a BREF/COINDS Document for the Textile sector in India.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has constituted a Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) including CITI, to provide valuable inputs and suggestions for identifying such techniques in terms of water consumption, chemical consumption, energy consumption, cost savings, product quality & overall efficiency, etc. Implementation of such techniques will also enable the industry towards a more sustainable manufacturing process.

The initial detailed draft report in this regard has already been prepared by the concerned agency and is likely to be rolled out soon.

9.1.3. Working Group on Circular Economy in Textile Waste

NITI Aayog has constituted a Working Group on Circular Economy in Textile Waste to recommend measures for sustainable and environmentally sound management of textile waste in the country. The Working Group comprises key stakeholders from relevant Ministries, industry, academia, and municipal body. CITI is also a part of this working group.

The first meeting of the group was held on 21st July 2025 to deliberate on the approach and roadmap for the preparation of the report and also on the Terms of Reference of the Working Group.

The responsibility of preparing the report was entrusted to M/s Grant Thornton, which will undertake the necessary study and provide recommendations for the development of the final report.

9.1.4. Consultative Group on Sustainability

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has constituted a Consultative Group on Sustainability with the objective of integrating sustainability considerations into standardization activities across sectors. The group brings together representatives from industry associations, corporates, academia, and policy-making bodies to deliberate on frameworks, best practices, and sector-specific sustainability standards.

As part of this initiative, the group is working towards developing a roadmap for sustainable standardization, focusing on areas such as resource efficiency, circular economy, carbon footprint reduction, and responsible business practices. The Consultative Group also serves as a platform to align Indian standards with global

sustainability benchmarks, thereby supporting India's commitments towards climate action and sustainable development goals (SDGs).

CITI is an active participant in the Consultative Group, contributing industry perspectives from the textile and apparel sector.

9.2. Initiatives of CITI

9.2.1. CITI-ILO collaboration to promote Fundamental Principle and Rights at Work (FPRW) among cotton growing community

India is the 2nd largest producer and consumer of cotton in the world and the same is being grown in 11 major states across India by about 6.5 million cotton farmers. In India, the average land holding size is about 1.26 ha. Besides the regular farmers, of which about 40% are women, a large number of migrant labors are also engaged as farmers with leased land in cotton cultivation in India.

This sector is exposed to a number of vulnerabilities that are being misrepresented by many of the international NGOs/agencies. Moreover, Indian cotton cultivation is already listed in the reports of the US Department of Labor for the presence of Child Labour.

To address such vulnerabilities and ensure better institutional support mechanisms for the vulnerable segment of the cotton growing community, CITI entered into an agreement with ILO to create more awareness about Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW) among the cotton growing community, with a focus on small and marginal farmers and workers.

The first year of the project was successfully carried out in the state of Madhya Pradesh.

During the collaboration period, 14 farmers training and awareness program, 3 mega Farmers Meet and 4 Kisan Melas were conducted which covered 16+ clusters/blocks and with direct participation of more than 4000 farmers, workers, and community members directly—bringing measurable improvements in school enrolment, workplace safety, and awareness of child labour and forced labour issues. As a result of various activities, the adoption of OSH practises by farmers in the project areas saw a significant rise.

Considering the positive outcomes of the project, CITI and ILO has extended the collaboration. The proposed extension will cover 2,000 new cotton farmers directly and will benefit over 10,000 individuals indirectly, by deepening interventions in the focus districts of Jhabua, Ratlam, Dhar, Alirajpur, and Barwani. Additionally, this phase will also introduce the following critical components:

- KASTURI Cotton Sensitization
- Training in Regenerative Farming
- Capacity Building on Cotton Futures Trading

9.2.2. Bangalore Workshop: Supplier Dialogue – Making HRDD Work Organized with Fair Wear Foundation

In 2024, a series of cluster-level workshops were successfully conducted in key textile hubs including Coimbatore, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, and Delhi. These workshops were designed to build awareness and capacity among suppliers integrating Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD) into business operations.

Based on the encouraging outcomes of these sessions, Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) and Fair Wear have decided to extend their collaboration in 2025. As part of this year's programme, three HRDD-focused cluster-level training workshops are planned across major hubs. One session has already been conducted in Bangalore, with upcoming workshops scheduled for Tirupur and Noida.

On 24th June 2025 in Bangalore, CITI, in collaboration with Fair Wear, organized the “Supplier Dialogue: Making Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD) Work” to strengthen supplier preparedness for evolving global compliance requirements. The session brought together stakeholders from the textile and apparel industry to engage in constructive dialogue on embedding HRDD into supply chains — a vital step toward meeting global sustainability expectations.

Session Agenda and Highlights:

- **Comprehensive Presentation on HRDD Frameworks**
The workshop began with an in-depth presentation on the principles of Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD) and its critical role in shaping sustainable business practices. Experts explained the step-by-step process of implementing HRDD, from identifying risks and mapping supply chains to setting up grievance mechanisms and corrective action plans. Special emphasis was placed on the EU's Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) and its implications for Indian exporters, highlighting how compliance with these evolving standards is becoming a prerequisite for maintaining market access in Europe and other advanced economies.
- **Industry Observations from Leading Associations**
Leaders from industry associations shared first-hand experiences and observations. This segment captured the ground realities faced by suppliers, such as gaps in awareness among smaller enterprises, and the need for stronger worker engagement systems. At the same, associations showcased best practices already being adopted, including the integration of sustainability into procurement policies.

- **Open House Q&A with Experts**

The interactive session encouraged participants to raise practical, real-world concerns, ranging from the cost of compliance and capacity constraints to aligning HRDD with existing social audits. Experts provided tailored guidance on navigating these challenges, stressing that HRDD should be seen not as a burden but as a business opportunity that enhances reputation, fosters long-term buyer relationships, and reduces operational risks.

Outcomes and Way Forward:

The session emphasized the urgent need for Indian suppliers to proactively prepare for compliance with global due diligence mandates. Participants gained:

- A better understanding of HRDD concepts and tools
- Awareness of upcoming regulations and their impact on exports
- Encouragement to adopt responsible sourcing and ensure supply chain transparency

The event marked a significant step toward capacity-building in the Indian textile and apparel



ecosystem, paving the way for more responsible, resilient, and globally competitive businesses.

Highlights from the Bangalore workshop on HRDD and CSDDD, featuring distinguished speakers:

Ms. Chandrima Chatterjee (SG-CITI),
Ms. Anne Cremers (Consul General - Netherlands Consulate),
Mr. Alexander Kohnstamm (Director - Fair Wear),
Ms. Lisa Süss (Head of Industry Alignment - Fair Wear Foundation),
Ms. Mousumi Sarangi (Country manager in India | Regional Coordinator - Fair Wear India),
and Shri Deva Prasad (Chairman - CMAI) in Bangalore Workshop.



Group photo showcasing the esteemed speakers, organizers, and participants of the workshop, reflecting their joint commitment to advancing Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD) and promoting sustainable practices in the textile and apparel sector.



Mr. Alexander Khonstamm, Director at Fair Wear Foundation, contributing as distinguished speaker an expert during the workshop.

9.2.3. CITI's Mou with GRI to Advance ESG Transparency in India's Textile and Apparel Sector

CITI has entered into an agreement with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) in August 2025 under the “Improving Transparency for Sustainable Business” (ITSB) initiative, supported by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida). This multi-year programme (2024–2027) is designed to strengthen corporate accountability and promote sustainability and impact reporting across the Indian textile and apparel industry.

The ITSB initiative recognizes that greater transparency in environmental, social, and governance (ESG) performance is essential for building trust, enhancing global competitiveness, and aligning businesses with international sustainability goals. Within the Indian context, the initiative places special emphasis on the textile and apparel sector—one of the country's largest industries and a key driver of exports.

Through this collaboration, CITI will play a pivotal role in building industry-wide capacity by organizing workshops, stakeholder consultations, and cluster-level dialogues. The focus will be on strengthening responsible business practices across the value chain, with particular attention to labour rights, economic performance, and tax-related disclosures.

The ITSB initiative also aims to:

- **Enhance ESG Reporting:** Support companies in disclosing their impacts in a structured, internationally aligned manner, thereby improving their global market access.
- **Promote Responsible Practices:** Encourage businesses to adopt sustainable approaches to critical issues such as labour practices, gender equality, and climate-linked risks.
- **Strengthen Global Alignment:** Equip Indian exporters to comply with upcoming international sustainability regulations, including the EU's due diligence directives.
- **Sector-Specific Guidance:** Contribute to the development and adoption of GRI's upcoming sector-specific sustainability reporting standard for textiles and apparel, which will serve as a benchmark for companies worldwide.
- The ITSB initiative was officially launched in India on 10th September 2025 in the presence of policymakers, industry leaders, and sustainability experts. The launch event served as a platform to showcase India's commitment to transparency and responsible business practices in the textile and apparel

sector. The session highlighted the strategic importance of ESG disclosures for global trade, investor confidence, and long-term business resilience.

- A key highlight of the launch was the introduction of the draft GRI Sector Standard on Textiles and Apparel, which is currently under development. This standard will provide sector-specific guidance on sustainability reporting, addressing critical issues such as supply chain labour conditions, resource efficiency, circularity, gender inclusivity, and climate impact. By aligning reporting with this draft standard, Indian companies will be better positioned to demonstrate compliance, benchmark performance against global peers, and showcase leadership in sustainable manufacturing.
- As part of the next phase, dedicated capacity-building workshops have been planned in the Noida and Bangalore clusters. These workshops will provide hands-on guidance to companies on how to integrate ITSB frameworks and prepare for adoption of the forthcoming GRI Textiles & Apparel Sector Standard, enabling them to not only comply with global requirements but also demonstrate leadership in responsible and ethical business practices.
- By leading these efforts, CITI will help Indian textile and apparel companies not only meet global sustainability



expectations but also gain recognition for their commitment to transparency, accountability, and responsible growth.

Deputy Chairman - CITI, Mr. Ashwin Chandran delivering the keynote address on the “Role of Sustainability Reporting in Shaping a Competitive Future for India’s Textile and Apparel Sector” during the ITSB Launch Event.



SG- CITI, Ms. Chandrima Chatterjee, delivering the opening remarks during the ITSB launch event.



Ms. Gelkha Buitrago, Director – Sector Standards at GRI, delivering the launch of the draft GRI Textiles and Apparel Sector Standard during the ITSB Launch Event.



Mr. Rahul Singh, Senior Manager – South Asia, at GRI, contributing as a distinguished speaker during the launch event.

10 Report on CITI-CDRA Activities for 2024-25

With a strong emphasis on sustainability, productivity, and farmer empowerment, CITI-CDRA has had a significant presence in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh, positively impacting the livelihoods of thousands of cotton farmers.

This year marks the 54th year of CITI's existence, and it also commemorates important milestones in the organization's journey of extension-focused engagement:

- 18 years in Rajasthan (since 2007–08)
- 10 years in Maharashtra (since 2014–15)
- 8 years in Madhya Pradesh (since 2017–18)

Currently, CITI-CDRA operates actively in these three states and plays a key role as:

- An extension partner in the Special Project on Cotton under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), and
- An implementing partner in promoting the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW) and enhancing Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO).

CITI CDRA Extension Programs

Table 1: Programs organized in Madhya Pradesh during 2024-25

Sr No.	Date	Program	Farmers Attended
1	31.07.2024	Farmers Workshop – KVK, Jhabua; Overview of SPC 2024-25	110
2	31.07.2024	Farmers Workshop – Sarwan, Ratlam; Overview of SPC 2024-25	390
3	08.08.2024	Farmers Training 1 at Sailana, Ratlam	48
4	11.08.2024	Farmers Training 1 at Sarwan, Ratlam	40

5	12.08.2024	Workshop at KVK, Alirajpur on Special Project on Cotton	145
6	29.08.2024	Farmers Training at Timdikhedha, Badnawar, Dhar - ICM	35
7	01.09.2024	Farmers Training I at Sarwan Ratlam	57
8	12.09.2024	Training Programat KVK, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh	120
9	13.09.2024	Training Program in Valola Chhoti (Near Rajala), Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh with ILO	100
10	16.09.2024	Farmers Training I at Sailana, Ratlam	120
11	18.09.2024	Training Program in Udepuriya, Jhabua,	61
12	18.09.2024 & 19.09.2024	Farmers Training I organized in Bajna & Ratlam	200
13	20.09.2024	Farmers Training at KVK, Alirajpur. DDA & ADA from Alirajpur were present. Farmers from Sondwa & Alirajpur Cluster. Awareness on Canopy Management	94
14	23.09.2024	Farmers Training at Temachi, Alirajpur. Farmers from Udhaigarh cluster attended the session on Canopy Management	95
15	23.09.2024 to 25.09.2024	Three days Farmers Training Program covering Devla, Kakadgaon and Gujari villages in Khargone	151
16	24.09.2024	Farmers Training at Thapali, Alirajpur. Farmers from Jobat cluster attended the session on Integrated Crop Management and Fundamental Principle and Rights at Work.	89
17	07.10.2024	Farmers Training at Badi, Alirajpur. Trainings on Water Use	31
18	07.10.2024	World Cotton Day celebration in Jhabua	40

19	15.10.2024	Farmers Training at Tikhi, Badnawar, Dhar - ICM	140
20	15.10.2024	Farmers Training at Petlawad, Jhabua	65
21	16.10.2024	Farmers Training at Thandla, Jhabua	105
22	16.10.2024	Farmers Training at Junabilwa Village, Khargone	62
23	17.10.2024	Farmers Training at Dashnawal, Khargone	63
24	18.10.2024	Farmers Training at Meghnagar, Jhabua	105
25	18.10.2024	Farmers Training in Anjangaon, Khargone	37
26	19.10.2024	Farmers Training at Pipalyabawadi, Khargone	51
27	20.10.2024	Farmers Training at Kodali, Alirajpur. Trainings on Biological control and PBW management	71
28	21.10.2024	Training Program at KVK, Jhabua	120
29	22.10.2024	Farmers Training at Dholayawad, Jhabua	75
30	26.10.2024	Farmers Training at Ubalad, Alirajpur. Trainings on PBW management and Clean Picking	77
31	06.11.2024 & 07.11.2024	Farmers Training II organized in Lalguwadi and Shivgarh, Ratlam	193
32	08.11.2024	Farmers Training at Temachi, Alirajpur. Trainings on Clean Picking and Storage; Crop Rotation & Soil health.	66
33	11.11.2024	Farmers Training II at Bhatkhedi, Sarwan, Ratlam	166
34	13.11.2024	Farmers Training Program in Pipalai, Khargone	43
35	13.11.2024	Farmers Training II at Lambi Sadar, Bajna, Ratlam	151

36	16.11.2024	Farmers Trainings II , Navapura, Sailana, Ratlam	86
37	05.12.2024	Farmers Training III & World Soil Day Program	135
38	09.12.2024 to 11.12.2024	3 days Workshop in Kirgaon with Circonomy and BEETLE in collaboration. FLD on Biochar	284
39	15.12.2024	Field day, Badihotvi, Alirajpur- Crop Cut	64
40	13.12.2024	Farmers Trainings III at Raoti, Ratlam	153
41	16.12.2024	Farmers Training at KVK, Jhabua	102
42	26.12.2024	Field day at Salrapada, Sarwan, Ratlam	179
43	19.12.2024	Field day at Ranapur, Jhabua	140
44	23.12.2024	Farmers Training cum Field day at Khandala, Alirajpur. Awareness on Cotton Stalk Shredding, Kapaas e portal, residue management.	83
45	23.12.2024	Field day at Hewada Dama Khurd, Bajna, Ratlam	138
46	24.12.2024	Field day at Petlawad, Jhabua	130
47	25.12.2024	Field day at Aamaliyapada Beed, Sailana, Ratlam	145
48	26.12.2024	Field day at Thandla, Jhabua	160
49	08.01.2025	Farmers Training cum Field day at Kaluwat, Alirajpur	71
50	12.01.2025	Farmers Training cum Field day at Thapli, Alirajpur	57
51	30.01.2025	Field day at Tikhi, Badnawar, Dhar	155
52	01.02.2025	Farmers Training at KVK, Jhabua	350
53	04.02.2025	Field day at Khirpoor, Bajna, Ratlam	90
54	04.02.2025	Field day at Petlawad, Jhabua	220

55	24.02.2025	Workshop at KVK, Alirajpur (Cluster – Alirajpur, Sondwa, Jobat and Udhaigarh) – Market Linkage	192
56	24.02.2025	Workshop at KVK, Jhabua	148
57	01.03.2025	Kisan Mela at Aninakhedi, Badnawar, Dhar	302
58	05.03.2025	Kisan Mela in Jhabua District	450
59	06.03.2025	Kisan Mela at KVK, Alirajpur. SPC 2024-25	395
60	07.03.2025	Kisan Mela in Khargone, SPC 2024-25	600
61	08.03.2025	Farmers Workshop at Rampuriya, Bajna, Ratlam	360
62	17.03.2025	Kisan Mela organized at Sarwan, Ratlam. Scientist from CICR (Dr Deepak) chief guest.	565

Table 2: Programs organized in Maharashtra during 2024-25

Sr No.	Date	Program	Farmers Attended
1	05.07.2024	CITI-CDRA Staff Training – CICR Nagpur	0
2	27.07.2024	Farmer Workshop for Nagpur & Wardha (Involved two district) District – CICR Nagpur	160
3	31.07.2024	Farmer Training – Thaturwada, Narkhed District Nagpur	45
4	02.08.2024	Farmer Workshop – Dahegaon, Ghatanji District Yavatmal	90
5	09.09.2024	Farmer Training – Kolona Chore, Deoli District Wardha	65
6	09.09.2024	Farmers Training - Drone Spraying Demonstration & at Kalmeshwar	250
7	12.09.2024	Farmer Training – Kannamwar Gram, Karanja and Arvi (Involved two cluster) District Wardha	70
8	12.09.2024	Farmer Training – Tembhari, Nagpur Taluka and Dada lad (Involved two cluster) District Nagpur	150
9	13.09.2024	Farmer Training – Chistur, Ashti District Wardha	60
10	20.09.2024	Farmer Training – Dahegaon, Ghatanji District Yavatmal	70
11	23.09.2024	Farmer Training – Pimpalgaon Raut, Narkhed and Katol (Involved two cluster) District Nagpur	120

12	30.09.2024	Farmer Training – Daroda, Hinganghat and Wardha (Involved two cluster) District Wardha	70
13	04.10.2024	Farmer Training – Kanhan, Parshivani, Hingna, Umred, Saoner (Involved 4 cluster) District Nagpur	150
14	07.10.2024	Farmer Training – Dhanoli, Seloo (Involved 3 cluster of Daftari Seloo) District Wardha	110
15	07.10.2024	World Cotton Day	250
16	18.10.2024	Kasturi Quality Brand Texprocil CIRCOT Nagpur	250
17	30.10.2024	Farmer Workshop at CICIR	140
18	12.11.2024	Farmer Workshop Arjuna, Taluka Ghatanji, District Yavatmal	110
19	14.11.2024	Farmer Training Mohgaon Village, Cluster Nagpur District Nagpur	13
20	22.11.2024	Mobile Van Janjagruti Rath	1000
21	23.11.2024	Grant Kisan Mela at Agrovision Nagpur	1000
22	09.12.2024	Farmer Training Kolona Chore Taluka Deoli, District Wardha	65
23	10.12.2024	Farmer training Kubala Taluka Saoner, District Nagpur	80
24	11.12.2024	Farmer Training Sonegaon Tembhari, Chichkotha Villages Taluka Nagpur District Nagpur	20
25	12.12.2024	Farmer Training Sonegao Taluka Wardha District Wardha	55
26	12.12.2024	Farmer Training Parsodi Dixit, Taluka Narkhed, District Nagpur	130
27	13.12.2024	Farmer Karmbhal, Taluka Parshioni, District Nagpur	130
28	14.12.2024	Farmer Training Borgao Taluka Seloo District Wardha, Maharashtra	60
29	14.12.2024	Farmer Training Khapa Sonar, Taluka Katol, District Nagpur	85
30	16.12.2024	Farmer Training Mohagaon, Taluka Hingna, District Nagpur	85
31	17.12.2024	Farmer Training Dahegao , taluka Ghatanji , district Yavatmal	70
32	17.12.2024	Farmer Training Karhandala, Taluka Umred, District Nagpur	85
33	18.12.2024	Farmer Training Kannamwar , Taluka Karanja , District Wardha, Maharashtra	65
34	19.12.2024	Farmer Training Malegao Theka , Taluka Arvi , District Wardha, Maharashtra	65
35	23.12.2024	Farmer Workshop for Nagpur & Wardha (Involved two district) District – CICR Nagpur, Maharashtra	270

36	28.12.2024	Farmer Training Chistur , Taluka Ashti , District Wardha	65
37	22.01.2025	Annual Meet for CITI.CDRA Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan (Involved three State) Held at District – Nagpur, Maharashtra	200
38	22.01.2025	Farmer Workshop at Khandala Parshivani (Involved the three state) District – Nagpur, Maharashtra	100
39	28.01.2025	Farmer Training Producer Company Kanholibara	50
40	31.01.2025	Farmer Training Programme Chistur , Taluka Ashti , District Wardha, Maharashtra	80
41	21.02.2025	Farmer Workshop. Eris farmers training center Kamleshwar	60
42	28.02.2025	Farmer Workshop. Mohagaon Cluster Nagpur Dist. Nagpur	120
43	01.03.2025	Farmer Workshop for post budget webinar CICR Nagpur	160
44	09.03.2025	Grant Kisan Mela at Yavatmal	250
45	16.03.2025	Kisan Mela Nagpur	260
46	19.03.2025	Grant Kisan Mela at KVK Selsura	230
47	22.03.2025	Grand Cotton Workshop on Regenerative Farming	150

Table 3: Programs organized in Rajasthan during 2024-25

Sr No.	Date	Program	Farmers Attended
1	02.07.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Asind, Bhilwara	72
2	20.07.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Bagor, Bhilwara	69
3	25.07.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Dhosar, Bhilwara	75
4	02.08.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Pahuna, Chittorgarh	72
5	02.08.2024	Workshop, Kushalgarh, Banswara	300
6	05.08.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Potla & Kangni, Bhilwara	225
7	09.08.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Sawaipur, Bhilwara	75

8	12.08.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Koshithal,Bhilwara	75
9	16.08.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Railmagra.Rajsamand	78
10	24.08.2024	Workshop, Potla,Bhilwara	550
11	02.09.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Rashmi, Chittorgarh	78
12	20.09.2024	Farmer Training, Kheriya Para (Chhoti Sarwa), Banswara	140
13	13.10.2024	Farmer Training, Mediya Dindor (Padla), Banswara	260
14	17.10.2024	Farmer Training, Hanuman Ji Mandir (Chhoti Sarvan), Banswara	120
15	21.10.2024	Farmer Training, Saran (Timeda), Banswara	220
16	01.11.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Bagor,Bhilwara	72
17	02.11.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Dhosar,Bhilwara	110
18	03.11.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Pahuna,Chittorgarh	65
19	04.11.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Sawaipur,Bhilwara	105
20	05.11.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Railmagra.Rajsamand	58
21	06.11.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Rashmi,Chittorgarh	61
22	07.11.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Asind,Bhilwara	121
23	08.11.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Potla & Kangani, Bhilwara	140
24	18.11.2024	Farmers Trainings and Field days, Koshithal,Bhilwara	79
25	20.12.2024	Farmer Training & Field Day Training, Maheshpura (Abapura), Banswara	120
26	23.12.2024	Farmer Training & Field Day Training, Shobhawati (Kushalgarh), Banswara	145
27	25.01.2025	Farmer Training & Field Day Training, Baida Bassi (Chhoti Sarwa), Banswara	120
28	29.01.2025	Farmer Training & Field Day Training, Vadlipara (Timeda), Banswara	125
29	31.01.2025	Farmer Training & Field Day Training, Khedapada (Chhoti Sarwan), Banswara	120

30	03.02.2025	Farmer Training & Field Day Training, Badrel (Padla), Banswara	115
31	07.03.2025	Workshop, Kotra (Abapura), Banswara	170
32	27.02.2025	Kisan Mela, Potla, Bhilwara	410
33	20.03.2025	Kisan Mela, Kushalgarh, Banswara	350
34	03.02.2025	Farmer Training & Field Day Training, Badrel (Padla), Banswara	115
35	07.03.2025	Workshop, Kotra (Abapura), Banswara	170
36	27.02.2025	Kisan Mela, Potla, Bhilwara	410
37	20.03.2025	Kisan Mela, Kushalgarh, Banswara	350

Projects & Initiatives during the year

A. CITI CDRA MAJOR PROJECTS DURING THE YEAR

Special Project on Cotton under NFSM by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and supported by MOT.	Project on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW) and Occupational Health and Safety (OSH)	Collaborative Project on Cotton under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
Implemented in Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode with the support of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and the Ministry of Textiles.	In collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) to promote Fundamental Principles & Rights at Work and safer working conditions	Engaging industry partners to enhance sustainable cotton farming through CSR-driven initiatives

1. Special Project on Cotton under NFSM

The Special Project on Cotton (SPC) by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Ministry of Textiles, is being implemented by ICAR-CICR in a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode. CITI CDRA plays a key role as an extension partner, promoting improved cotton productivity through technological interventions, market linkage, and environmental conservation.

In **2023–24**, CITI CDRA covered **3,160 hectares** across **10 districts** in **3 states**, benefiting **4,850 small and marginal farmers**. Yield improvements were notable:

- **HDPS:** 33%+

- **Closer Spacing:** ~24%
- **ELS:** ~8%

With enhanced focus on **market linkage**, **residue management**, and **geo-tagging**, the project scaled up in **2024–25**, covering **3,565 ha** and reaching **5,170 farmers** across **12 districts—all unique from the previous year**. Yield improvement trends continued:

- **HDPS:** 24–69%
- **Closer Spacing:** 13–63%
- **ELS:** 11–24%

Key outcomes include higher farmer confidence, increased adoption of improved practices (biochar, intercropping, residue management), and sustainable continuation—**20–25% of 2023–24 farmers adopted the practices again without assistance**.

2. Project on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW) and Occupational Health and Safety (OSH).

CITI CDRA, in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO), implemented a transformative program across Madhya Pradesh to embed the *Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW)* and *Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)* practices in cotton farming. Targeting over 5,000 farmers—including women, youth, and marginalized communities—the initiative focused on eliminating child and forced labour, promoting equality and collective bargaining, and enhancing safe farming practices.

Through 48 participatory trainings across 40+ villages:

- **Child labour awareness increased**, with improved school attendance.
- **Knowledge on debt traps and legal rights** empowered farmers against forced labour.
- **Collective farmer groups formed**, enabling better negotiation and price realization.
- **OSH practices adoption rose by over 35%**, with PPE usage jumping from <5% to over 45%.
- **Women's participation** in decision-making and safety implementation significantly improved.

This initiative has not only raised awareness but has sparked behavioural change, fostering a safer, more equitable, and empowered cotton farming community.

3. Collaborative Project on Cotton under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

The CITI-CDRA Cotton Collaborative Project is an agriculture development initiative designed to improve cotton productivity, reduce cultivation costs, and promote clean, contamination-free harvests. Implemented across **Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan**, it directly benefited **over 27,900 farmers** and covered **96,673+ acres** during 2024–25. The project is driven by **CSR collaborations**, technical support, and farmer-centric capacity-building

Core Objectives under CSR Projects:

- **Increase Yield** through high-performing hybrids, HDPS, and agronomic demonstrations
- **Reduce Cultivation Costs** by promoting low-input, eco-friendly techniques (e.g., neem-based biopesticides, composting, INM/IPM)
- **Promote Clean Harvest** with training on cotton picking hygiene and contamination control
- **Build Farmer Capacity** through field schools, demos, and advisory support
- **Encourage Sustainable & Regenerative Practices** such as vermicomposting, intercropping, and reduced chemical dependency.

State-wise Impact Highlights

Maharashtra

Coverage: 15,207 farmers | 160 villages | 23101 ha

Yield Increase: Chandrapur saw up to **35% higher yield** (779 kg/ha vs 575 kg/ha)

Innovations: Drone spraying, HDPS, ginning support at APMC

CSR Partners: Indocount Foundation, Wacker Metroark Chemicals

Women's Role: SHG-led neem oil production and clean cotton initiative

Madhya Pradesh

Coverage: 9,449 farmers | 21,720 hectares | 5 Clusters.

Average Seed cotton Yield: Project areas – **16.5 q/ha**, vs **14.8 q/ha** in non-project areas.

Reduced Sprays: 4.9 (project) vs 5.5 (non-project)

Sustainability Measures: Organic nutrient use, bio-pesticides, intercropping (with maize), Panchgavya.

CSR Partners: Vardhman Textiles

Rajasthan

Coverage: 3,039 farmers | 3,241 hectares | 10 districts

Yield Growth: Lint yield improved from **214 kg/ha (2007)** to **1,056 kg/ha (2024–25) in active areas.**

Practices Promoted: Mycorrhiza, NPK spraying, de-topping, ridge & furrow systems.

Empowerment: Focus on SC/ST women; success stories showcased at Bharat Tex 2025

Eco Practices: Kitchen gardening, cow dung composting, botanical pest control.

Project-Wide Impact

- Total Reach: 27,600+ farmers | 48,000+ hectares
- Average Yield Increase: 10–35% across clusters
- Cleaner Cotton: Significant reduction in trash and contamination
- Reduced Input Cost: Through local input use and regenerative practices
- Model Farmers: Documented success stories in all three states.

B. OTHER STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Sustainable KASTURI Cotton Program

Supporting India’s premium cotton identity through sustainability-focused practices.

Regenerative Farming and Certification

Promoting soil health, biodiversity, and farmer resilience through regenerative agriculture.

Women Empowerment

Empowering over 1,400 women farmers during 2024-25 through active participation, capacity building, and recognition in sustainable cotton farming.

Clean Harvest

Promoting contamination-free cotton through the use of ergonomic, clean picking bags for improved quality and farmer benefit.

Sustainable KASTURI Cotton Program

CITI CDRA is committed to supporting India's premium cotton identity through sustainability-driven practices. The goal is to facilitate, educate, and train farmers to produce **Regen-certified** cotton that qualifies as KASTURI, with a strong emphasis on field-level traceability within the supply chain. This is achieved through comprehensive field training, exposure visits, post-harvest handling sessions, and processing-level training for ginner. The program targetted an area of **150 hectares**.

Regenerative Farming and Certification

To promote soil health, biodiversity, and farmer resilience, CITI CDRA launched a regenerative agriculture initiative in 2024-25. In its first year, and with support from our knowledge partner, we successfully facilitated regenerative certification for the fields of **92 project farmers**. We are proud to share that **Swapnil G. Shelke** from CITI CDRA received the **Best Regenerative Award**—a well-deserved recognition for his groundbreaking work in promoting regenerative practices on the ground.

Women Empowerment

Through sustained engagement and field-level guidance, CITI CDRA has encouraged the active participation of over **1,400 women farmers** in the project. These women are being supported not only in agricultural practices but also in taking on greater roles in decision-making. Notably, **Mrs. Hema Veragi** from Rajasthan was recognized as the runner-up in the Best Sustainability Awards at **Bharat Tex 2025**. Several women farmers have received similar accolades in previous years. Additionally, we support livelihood diversification by promoting simple value-added activities such as pickle-making using seasonal vegetables—helping women preserve produce for off-season use and improve household nutrition.

Clean Harvest

To promote better cotton quality and reduce contamination, CITI CDRA introduced clean cotton-picking practices by distributing approximately **990 specially designed picking bags** to farmers. These bags, designed similar to the ones developed by CIRCOT, help **minimize trash** content and reduce contamination from synthetic fibres and dirt. Their ergonomic design eases the picking process, reduces physical strain, and contributes to cleaner, higher-quality cotton—benefiting both **farmers and ginner** through improved market value.

2.3 Demonstrations and Good Agricultural Practices conducted during the year by CITI CDRA

CITI-CDRA has conducted extensive demonstrations across project areas to bridge key gaps in Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs). The impact of these interventions has been measurable and transformative across several domains:

- I. **Mycorrhiza:** Introduced in the 2023 season, mycorrhiza use demonstrated a **15–20%** improvement in crop yield and nutrient uptake across both Kharif and Rabi crops. Adoption grew rapidly, with Rajasthan Agriculture Department offering a 50% subsidy based on success.
- II. **Vermicomposting:** Enhanced soil structure and increased water retention by **20–30%**, significantly reducing irrigation frequency. Encouraged by local KVKs and widely adopted by project farmers.
- III. **Cotton Picking Bags:** Reduced contamination and trash content in cotton by **30–35%**, improving market quality and lint grade.
- IV. **Azolla:** As a bio-feed supplement and green manure, Azolla helped reduce synthetic urea usage by **15%**, particularly in cotton-rice intercropping systems.
- V. **Ash:** Demonstrated visible improvement in phosphorus, calcium, and potassium content in soil. Ash was also observed to deter **sap-sucking pests**, with farmers noting more robust plant structures.
- VI. **De-Topping:** Practice led to **12–15%** increase in boll formation and better canopy management.
- VII. **Improved Bt Cotton Hybrids:** Farmers were educated to avoid unapproved varieties, resulting in higher yields and reduced pest incidence. Adoption of approved hybrids increased by **25%**.
- VIII. **NPK + Micronutrient Application:** Balanced fertilization led to a **12–18% yield improvement**. Deficiency symptoms were corrected across demo plots.
- IX. **Humic Acid:** Use of humic acid increased crop vigor and root development by **20%**, especially in marginal soils.
- X. **Mobile Van Campaign:** A campaign across **160 villages in five districts** of Maharashtra, promoting clean harvest and PBW management practices.
- XI. **Moisture Meter Use:** Reduced post-harvest price losses by ensuring selling at optimal moisture levels. Farmers reported **better price realization**.
- XII. **Mini Gin (Hinganghat APMC):** Over **1545 farmers** benefited from the free ginning facility, with lint percentages analyzed and certificates provided. Enabled quality-based price realization.
- XIII. **Cotton Shredding:** In low-livestock regions, this practice aided pest lifecycle interruption and on-field biomass recycling. **25% reduction** in pink bollworm incidence noted.

- XIV. **Border Planting & Agroforestry:** Over **1,800 guava and fig** trees planted, supporting nutrition and farm income diversification.
- XV. **Intercropping:** Resulted in **15–20%** higher net returns compared to monocropping due to risk mitigation and better resource use.
- XVI. **Biochar (Cone Pit Method):** Increased soil organic carbon (SOC) by 0.3–0.5% in pilot plots and improved nutrient retention.
- XVII. **Drone Application:** Promoted precision and efficiency, saving **40–50% input costs** while reducing human exposure to chemicals.
- XVIII. **Precision Farming (Microdosing via Syringes):** Demonstrated input cost savings and targeted nutrient delivery.
- XIX. **Women Empowerment:** Approximately **1,483 women farmers** actively participated in training and subsidy-linked interventions, promoting inclusive decision-making.
- XX. **Occupational Safety & Health:** Over **20 PPE kits** distributed, improving awareness and adoption of safe farming practices.
- XXI. **Compost Enrichment:** Enriched compost showed **25% higher nutrient value** compared to raw compost, improving soil fertility and microbial health.

Overview of CITI CDRA's Outreach during the year

Table 4: Network and outreach during 2024-25

	Rajasthan	Maharashtra	Madhya Pradesh
Special Project on Cotton under NFSM			
Districts	Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Rajasamand & Banswara	Wardha, Nagpur & Yavatmal	Ratlam, Dhar, Jhabua, Alirajpur & Khargone
Clusters	Ashahholi, Asind, Bagor, Dhosar, Kangani, Karoi, Koshithal, Potla, Sawaipur, Pahuna, Rashmi, Railmagra, Abapura, Chhoti Sarvan, Chhoti Sarwa, Kushalgarh, Padla, Timeda	Arvi, Aasti, Deoli, Hingagnghat, Karanja, Wardha, Seloo, Hingna, Katol, Nagpur, Parshiwani, Umred, Kalmeshwar, Narkhed, Saoner & Ghatanji	Bajna, Ratlam, Sailana, Sarwan, Shivgarh, Badnawar, Jhabua, Kalyanpura, Meghnagar, Petlawad, Rama, Ranapur, Thandla, Dholyawad, Para, Ranapur, Alirajpur, Jobat, Sondawa,

			Udhaigarh, Jhirniya, Lohari, Keli, Bhagwanpura & Bamnala
Area (hectares)	820	964.4	1780.2
Villages	162	127	324
Farmers	1700	1094	2366
Collaborative Project with CSR support			
Districts	Bhilwara	Wardha, Nagpur, Chandrapur, Yavatmal & Amravati	Ratlam, Dhar & Jhabua
Clusters	Kotri, Banera and Shahpura	Deoli, Wardha, Kalmeshwar, Hingana, Warora, Bhadravti, Ralegaon, Kalamb, Tiosa, Dhamngao, Amravati and Chandur	Sailana, Bajna, Rajod, Tirla, Petlawad
Area (hectares)	3241	23101	21720
Villages	165	160	150
Farmers (Nos)	3039	15207	9449
Project on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and Occupational Health and Safety in collaboration with International Labour Association			
Districts			Ratlam, Dhar, Jhabua, Alirajpur
Farmers			1500 – Direct farmers

			7500 – Indirect farmers
Other Initiatives and Good Practices			
KASTURI QUALIFYING BALES THROUGH AWARENESS & TRAINING		150 hectares	
Regenerative Cotton Farming & Carbon Sequestration			259 farmers 92 farmers certified
Dada Lad Cotton Technique		40 hectares	

Update on the e-cotton portal and KapaasMitra application

The e-Cotton Portal and KapaasMitra mobile application were developed by CITI during the Special Project on Cotton (2023–24) to ensure growth, security, transparency, availability, and smooth integration with internal and external systems, supporting sustainability and traceability.

The portal has four main modules – **Farm Connect, Kapaas-e-Market, Samiksha, and e-Mitra**.

- **Farm Connect** is fully functional, and compared to the first year, more geo-tagged entries were recorded across all implementing agencies. This improvement came from simplifying processes based on learnings.
- **Kapaas-e-Market** worked in a hybrid way, as procurement details were not yet automated.
- **Samiksha** was functional for DBT, but e-voucher integration is still pending with NIC.
- **Portal maintenance and features** continue to be upgraded on a regular basis.

Impact of CITI-CDRA and Yield Achievements

Environmental, Economic and Social Impact: CITI CDRA

Environmental Impact

- **Promotion of Sustainable and Regenerative Practices**
Scaled sustainable models under KASTURI Cotton, Sustainable KCB, and Regenerative Cotton (Regen) projects, promoting eco-friendly, low-input, and climate-resilient practices.
- **Reduced Chemical Dependency**
Promoted adoption of IPM, biofertilizers, micronutrients, and PGRs, leading to improved soil health and reduced agrochemical residues.
- **Soil Health Monitoring & Balanced Nutrition**
Conducted soil testing in collaboration with ICAR-NBSS&LUP, enabling tailored nutrient application and soil fertility improvements.
- **Water and Resource Efficiency**
Encouraged judicious use of water and inputs through scientific PoP, promoting long-term resource sustainability.

Economic Impact

- **Enhanced Yields and Farm Incomes**
Project farmers achieved an average 12–20% higher yield than non-project farmers by adopting improved practices and receiving timely support.
- **Efficient Input Support through DBT**
Implemented Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) for seed and input distribution, ensuring transparency, timely access, and reduced transaction costs.
- **Market Linkages and Value Chain Integration**
Facilitated linkage of produce to K K Fibres and Daftari improving profitability through access to markets for traceable, sustainable cotton.
- **CSR-Driven Development**
Mobilized resources from leading industry partners including Vardhman Group, Indocount Industries, Wacker Metroark Chemicals, Sudiva Spinners, RSWM Ltd, and Nitin Spinners Ltd, accelerating impact on ground.

Social Impact

- Farmer Capacity Building and Outreach reached **over 35,000 farmers** through trainings, demonstrations, field days, and digital extension, enhancing knowledge of best practices and sustainable cultivation.
- FPRW & OSH Interventions: Promoting Health, Safety & Social Equity
Implemented focused Farmer Plus Rural Worker (FPRW) and Occupational Safety & Health (OSH) programs, directly engaging **1,500 individuals** on topics such as:
 - Safe chemical handling and PPE use
 - Ethical labor practices and gender equity

- Farm-level health and safety standards
Indirectly impacted an additional **7,500** community members, promoting a culture of decent work, social protection, and inclusive growth in rural cotton systems.
- Women Empowerment in Cotton Ecosystems
Recognized and encouraged women's active roles in sowing, weeding, harvesting, and manual operations, while also involving them in training on decision-making, financial literacy, and safe input use.
- Community Engagement & Local Institution Building
Strengthened collaboration with local governance bodies, KVKs, and grassroots institutions, fostering trust, coordination, and ownership of sustainable farming initiatives.
- Digital Inclusion & Transparency
Rolled out a robust digital portal to monitor farmer data, track seed/input support, and ensure real-time field reporting, enhancing transparency and accountability.

Average yield obtained in the focus areas of intervention

Table 5: Implementation of Closer Spacing

State	Cluster	No. of Farmers	Average (q/acre)
Madhya Pradesh	Bamnala, Bhagwanpura, Jhirniya, Keli, Lohari, Dholyawad, Para, Ranapur, Alirajpur, Jobat, Udaigarh, Sondwa, Badnawar	968	7.53
Maharashtra	Ghatanji, Nagpur, Hingna, Katol, Parshivni, Umred, Kalmeshwar, Narkhed, Saoner, Deoli, Hinganghat, Wardha, Karanja, Arvi, Ashti, Seloo	811	10.89
Rajasthan	Karoi, Ashholi, Koshithal, Bagor, Kangni, Dhosar, Potla, Sawaipur,	1000	12.63

	Asind, Rashmi, Pahuna, Railmagra		
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Table 6: Implementation of Closer Spacing

State	Cluster	No. of Farmers	Average (q/acre)
Madhya Pradesh	Jhirniya, Lohari,	52	8.65
Maharashtra	Nagpur, Hingna, Katol, Parshivni, Umred, Deoli, Hinganghat, Wardha, Karanja, Arvi, Ashti,	283	12.77

Table 7: Implementation of ELS

State	District	No. of Farmers	Average (q/acre)
Madhya Pradesh	Jhabua	690	5.94
Madhya Pradesh	Ratlam	656	8.84
Rajasthan	Banswara	700	8.8

CITI CDRA – Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Table 8: Linking CITI CDRA activities with SDGs

SDG	Title	CITI CDRA Contribution
SDG 1	No Poverty	Increased farm income through GAPs, quality produce, and better market access.
SDG 2	Zero Hunger	Improved yields, soil health, and sustainable cropping systems like intercropping, border fruit plantation and bio-inputs.

SDG	Title	CITI CDRA Contribution
SDG 3	Good Health & Well-being	Safer practices through PPE kits, drone use, and reduction in chemical exposure.
SDG 5	Gender Equality	1,483+ women engaged in training, subsidy-linked interventions, and farm leadership roles.
SDG 6	Clean Water & Sanitation	Promoted water-efficient methods like drip irrigation, mulching, vermicomposting and humic acid application.
SDG 8	Decent Work & Economic Growth	Rural employment generation, precision farming, and access to innovative farm tools.
SDG 9	Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure	Mini gins, mobile awareness vans, and agri-drones promote rural innovation.
SDG 12	Responsible Consumption & Production	Compost enrichment, nutrient recycling, and input optimization.
SDG 13	Climate Action	Adoption of climate-smart practices like biochar, agroforestry, and reduced emissions.
SDG 15	Life on Land	Agroforestry, intercropping, and biodiversity support through sustainable land use.
SDG 17	Partnerships for the Goals	Multi-Stakeholder partnerships for mobilizing and sharing knowledge, expertise, technologies and financial resources to support sustainable production

Mr. Mansingh Sakariya Bhuriya, Madhya Pradesh

"Resilient Farming: Mansingh's Success with Cotton Cultivation and Overcoming Challenges"

Project Area – 1.5 acre

Technology – Extra Long Staple

Cotton Yield – 8 quintals/acre

Address – Village: Rampuriya, Cluster: Petlawad, Dis. Jhabua (MP).



Cotton farming has been a staple in the village for generations, with many farmers depending on it as their primary source of income. One such farmer, Mansingh, has been a dedicated cotton cultivator in his village for years. This season, he decided to grow Rajtilak-32, a variety known for its high yield potential, under the guidance of the CITI CDRA team through the Special Project on Cotton under NFSM.

Following the expert guidance from the team, Mansingh adopted a detailed and well-structured cotton cultivation cycle. He began by deep ploughing the farm, a technique that helps in loosening the soil and improving water absorption. He then planted the cotton seeds with a spacing of 60X90cms. Thanks to the good rainfall this season, his cotton sowing proved to be successful.

To maintain the health of the crop, Mansingh followed the prescribed plant care regimen. He used Confidor and Actara sprays to control pests, and occasionally applied neem oil.

For fertilization, Mansingh applied the recommended quantity of NPK fertilizer at the time of Phulpudi (flowering). The remaining fertilizer was applied before irrigation, which helped nourish the plants throughout the growing season.

Despite some challenges posed by foggy weather, which caused minimal damage, Mansingh's cotton crop flourished. With the continuous support and guidance through CITI CDRA team under the project, Mansingh's yield was impressive—8-9 quintals of cotton per acre with an income of 8500 Rs/quintal.

However, this year brought additional challenges for Mansingh. His wife fell seriously ill, requiring medical treatment in Dahod and Ratlam. Despite the personal hardships and the

debt incurred due to medical expenses, Mansingh was able to use his cotton earnings to pay off the loans and ensure his wife received the necessary treatment.

This success story highlights the resilience of Mansingh and his ability to adapt to both agricultural and personal challenges. Thanks to the technical expertise provided by the CITI CDRA & the project, Mansingh not only achieved a high cotton yield but also managed to overcome the financial burden. His story is a testament to the power of knowledge, perseverance, and community support in achieving success, even in the face of adversity.

SUCCESS STORIES

Eji Devi Jati: A Story of Resilience and Renewal

Eji Devi Jati, an elderly cotton farmer from Udliyas Village in the Kangani Cluster, Bhilwara District, Rajasthan, has spent many years tending to her one-acre cotton farm. Her fields, though rainfed and well-irrigated, had faced persistent challenges, including a 25% crop loss, which resulted in higher cultivation costs and minimal profits. For years, Eji Devi struggled with pests, diseases, and financial hardships, making it difficult to sustain her livelihood.



In 2024-25, things took a positive turn. Eji Devi, with her unwavering dedication, was selected to participate in the CITI-CDRA Pilot Project. This initiative, aimed at helping farmers like her, offered essential technical guidance and support throughout the growing season.

The CITI-CDRA team, with its unwavering support, played a key role in Eji Devi's success. Through regular training sessions, field visits, and hands-on demonstrations, she learned how to identify pink bollworm pests and their different stages. She was also trained on monitoring pest infestations using pheromone traps and recording observations accurately.

With this newfound knowledge, Eji Devi implemented several effective pest management strategies, such as:

- **Spacing cotton plants** at 90 x 30 cm for better air circulation and reduced pest habitat.

- **Installing pheromone traps** to attract and monitor pink bollworms.
- **Applying a mix of NPK, micronutrients, Mycorrhiza, cow urine, and sour buttermilk** during the flower initiation stage to improve plant growth and minimize pest damage.
- **Performing detopping** at 4.5 to 5 feet to reduce pest infestation and promote healthier cotton plants.

The results were impressive. By following these practices, Eji Devi not only reduced her cultivation costs but also saw her profit margin rise significantly. Her one-acre cotton farm yielded **14.65 quintals** in 2024, a remarkable 25-30% increase compared to the previous year.

Eji Devi's story stands as a powerful example of how knowledge, technical support, and innovative pest management strategies can turn challenges into opportunities. Through the CITI-CDRA project, she not only improved her cotton yield but also gained confidence in sustainable farming practices, proving that it is never too late to learn, grow, and succeed

SUCCESS STORIES

Badiya Maida, Madhya Pradesh

A Story of Growth, Innovation, and Prosperity in Cotton Farming

In the heart of Kundanpur, Bajna-2, Ratlam (Madhya Pradesh), Shree Badiya Maida, a small yet ambitious farmer, was on the verge of giving up ELS cotton farming. With only 1.5 acres of irrigated land, he struggled with declining yields and rising input costs, making farming less profitable. However, his story took a remarkable turn after engaging with the project and CITI-CDRA, which introduced modern and sustainable farming practices.

Special Project on Cotton: A Game-Changer

Through the pilot project, Badiya Maida participated in Farmer Training, Kisan Goshti, Field Schools, Workshops, and Kisan Melas organized by CITI-CDRA's dedicated team, including the Project Coordinator, Project Officer, and Scouts. These sessions introduced him to seven key modern farming techniques, transforming his approach to cotton cultivation.

Innovative Farming Techniques That Drove Success



The CITI-CDRA team encouraged farmers to adopt scientific and organic farming methods, leading to increased yields and profitability. Key interventions included:

1. Intercropping with Maize: Maintaining a 90cm × 75cm spacing for cotton and planting maize in between rows significantly reduced Pink Bollworm infestations, enhancing overall crop health.

2. Ridge and Furrow Method: Implemented after maize harvest to improve soil aeration and moisture retention.

3. Nutrient Boost: Timely spraying of NPK and micronutrients strengthened plant growth.

4. Organic Fertilization: Use of mycorrhiza fertilizer

enriched soil fertility.

5. Flower Retention: Plano fix spray prevented excessive flower drop, maximizing boll formation.

6. De-topping at 4.5–5 Feet: Encouraged balanced growth and higher cotton production.

7. Natural Pest & Soil Management: Application of buttermilk, cow urine, and botanical pesticides to enhance plant immunity.

Impact: Higher Yields, Increased Profits, and Improved Social Status

With these scientific interventions, Badiya Maida witnessed a dramatic improvement:

Cotton Yield: 12.70 Quintals/Acre (a significant increase from previous years).

Maize Yield: 12 Quintals/Acre (ensuring secondary income).

Reduced Cultivation Costs: Optimized input use and organic solutions lowered expenses.

Higher Profit Margins: Increased earnings led to better financial stability for his family.

Social Upliftment: His success inspired other farmers in the village, elevating his status as a progressive farmer.

Through the unwavering support of CITI-CDRA through project, Shree Badiya Maida not only revived his cotton farming but also achieved economic prosperity and social

recognition. His journey serves as an inspiring example of how scientific techniques, modern agricultural interventions, and the right guidance can transform farming into a profitable and sustainable livelihood.

CITI-CDRA continues its mission of empowering farmers, improving livelihoods, and fostering sustainable agriculture for a better future.

SUCCESS STORIES

Mr. Dilip Pohane, Maharashtra

“HDPS Cotton – Unlocking Potential, Ensuring Profits”



In the heart of Maharashtra, amidst the fertile soils of Wardha district, Mr. Dilip Pohane had always been a committed cotton farmer. For years, he followed conventional practices, but like many farmers in his community, he often faced challenges with yield consistency and profitability. That was until he heard about a revolutionary new approach to cotton farming – the High-Density Planting System (HDPS).

Mr. Pohane’s journey towards embracing HDPS began when he attended a Cotton Awareness Program organized by CITI-CDRA under Special Project on Cotton (SPC) in the 2024-25 season. The session piqued his interest as it highlighted how HDPS could significantly increase cotton productivity, especially on light and medium soils. It wasn’t just about planting more cotton—it was about planting smarter, maximizing every square inch of land to boost both yield and income.

Inspired by the insights he gained, Mr. Pohane decided to take a bold step and apply the new technique to his 2-acre cotton plot. He adopted the HDPS method, a configuration designed to promote optimal plant growth and productivity.

But he didn’t stop there. Mr. Pohane went a step further by following the guidance of CITI CDRA’s experts. Additionally, he used a Plant Growth Regulator (PGR), Mepiquat

Chloride, at a rate of 1 ml/liter of water at 45 and 65 days after sowing (DAS) to control plant height and ensure uniform maturation.

As the season progressed, the results became evident. The HDPS method transformed his cotton field. His yield soared to 22 quintals per acre, a 57% increase over the conventional cotton farming practices used by neighbouring farmers. He couldn't believe the difference.

His success didn't go unnoticed. Word spread quickly throughout the village, and many of Mr. Pohane's fellow farmers visited his fields to see the results for themselves. Impressed by his achievement, they expressed a strong interest in adopting the HDPS technology for their own farms in the coming year.

"I have seen a huge difference in my cotton yield," Mr. Pohane shared with pride. "Not only did my production increase, but my net returns also grew significantly. I am convinced that HDPS is the way forward for sustainable and profitable cotton farming."

The Numbers Speak for Themselves:

The figures from Mr. Pohane's field is nothing short of remarkable:

Particulars HDPS Demonstration Conventional Farming

Yield (Q/ha) 22 Q/Acre 14 Q/Acre

Cost of Cultivation (Rs/ha) 45,500 40,800

Gross Returns (Rs/ha) 1,57,300 1,00,100

Net Returns (Rs/ha) 1,11,800 59,300

B:C Ratio 2.45 1.45

Sale price of cotton: Rs 7150 per quintal.

As the data shows, while the cost of cultivation was slightly higher with the HDPS method, the gross and net returns were significantly better, providing a B:C ratio of 2.45—a clear indicator of the method's effectiveness.

Mr. Pohane's success is a powerful testament to the potential of modern farming practices. The experience also served as a catalyst for change in his community. Many other farmers in Wardha have shown interest in adopting HDPS in the upcoming year.

Looking ahead, Mr. Pohane is excited to expand his use of the HDPS method on his farm and continue spreading the word to his fellow farmers. He hopes that by sharing his journey, he can inspire even more farmers to embrace the changes that can help them thrive in a rapidly evolving agricultural landscape.

Recognizing his remarkable success and exceptional performance with the High-Density Planting System (HDPS), CITI CDRA felicitated Mr. Pohane during the Project Review Event.

SUCCESS STORIES

“A New Ray of Hope through Sustainable Farming”

Farmer's Name: Sitaram s/o Dulji Sonarathi

Village: Delchi, Post - Badnawar, District - Dhar

For many years, Sitaram ji Sonarathi from Delchi village in Dhar district faced consistent challenges in farming. Losses due to high input costs and unpredictable yields had left him worried about his family's future. But everything began to change when he got associated with the CITI-CDRA.



Over the past two years, Sitaram ji actively engaged in the workshops and field trainings organized by the project. With guidance from project officials, he began adopting advanced and sustainable cotton farming techniques. He learned the value of organic inputs and started preparing his own fertilizers and pest control solutions using waste materials from his own farm.

This shift not only reduced his dependency on costly chemical fertilizers and pesticides but also brought down his overall cultivation costs significantly. More importantly, these practices revitalized his soil and improved crop health.

As a result, this year, from just 1.24 acres (2 Bigha) of land, Sitaram ji harvested 12 quintals of cotton, an increase of 2 quintals compared to last year. This improvement—2 to 2.5 quintals more per acre—is a testament to his dedication and the impact of the sustainable methods promoted under the project.

The extra income earned was not just a number for Sitaram ji—it was a dream fulfilled. He invested it in the education of his children, ensuring they receive quality schooling and better opportunities in life.

His journey from uncertainty to confidence stands as a proud example of what the right knowledge, dedication, and institutional support can achieve. CITI-CDRA's

commitment to empowering farmers with sustainable, modern practices continues to bring such inspiring transformations to the fields of India.

**“When you nurture your soil with care,
your crops and your future grow stronger.”**

– Sitaram ji Sonarathi

SUCCESS STORIES

"Empowered to Lead: Bulki Bai Inspires a New Wave of Rural Women"

Bulki Bai, a dedicated cotton farmer from a village in Ratlam district, had long been involved in



farming but found herself on the sidelines when it came to decision-making and community participation. Like many rural women, her contributions were often unrecognized simply because of traditional gender roles.

Her journey took a new direction when she attended a **training session on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW)** conducted by **CITI-CDRA in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO)**. The training provided valuable insights on workplace rights, gender equality, and the power of collective voice through engaging discussions and practical examples.

Inspired and empowered, Bulki Bai began to step forward with confidence. She started attending village-level meetings, voicing her opinions, and gradually earned the respect of her community. Today, she is an active participant in **Gram Panchayat discussions** and local civil society programs.

Beyond her own transformation, **Bulki Bai has become a source of inspiration for other women**, encouraging them to participate actively and assert their rights. Her story is a shining example of how **knowledge and support can unlock leadership potential and drive positive change at the grassroots level**—a vision that CITI-CDRA continues to champion through its initiatives.

CITI CDRA ANNUAL MEET

(22nd January 2025)

Nagpur, Maharashtra

CITI CDRA organized its Annual Project Review Meeting on 22nd January 2025 in Nagpur, Maharashtra, gathering around 93 key stakeholders from the cotton industry, government, academia, and the farming community. The event featured three insightful sessions, a workshop, a felicitation and award ceremony, and concluded with a field demonstration on Cotton Shredding and Biochar preparation at the farm of a project participant in Parshivani Taluka.

Key Dignitaries Present:

- **Dr A L Waghmare**, Director, Directorate of Cotton Development
- **Dr Y G Prasad**, Director, ICAR-CICR
- **Dr C D Mayee**, Cotton Scientist and President of South Asia Biotechnology Centre (SABC)
- **Shri Rakesh Mehra**, Chairman, CITI
- **Shri T Rajkumar**, Chairman-CITI Cotton Standing Committee
- **Shri Prashant Mohota**, Managing Director, Gimatex Industries & CITI CDRA State Committee Head – Maharashtra
- **Ms. Chandrima Chatterjee**, Secretary General, CITI

Industry Representatives:

- **Mr. Badruddin Khan**, Senior Manager, Multi Commodity Exchange of India
- **Ms. Bansari Nag**, National Project Coordinator, International Labour Organization (ILO)
- **Mr. Amol Mishra**, Co-founder & CEO, Beetle Regen Solutions
- **Ms. Jyoti Narain Kapoor**, Country Director, Better Cotton Initiative (BCI)
- **Dr Shailendra Singh**, COO, ZYDEX Industries

SESSION 1: Overview of CITI CDRA Project

The first session focused on the progress and achievements of CITI CDRA's projects across Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh.

- **Smt. Veena Vijayan**, Assistant Manager, CITI CDRA, **delivered the opening remarks** to kick off the event.
- **Shri Govind Wairale**, Project Coordinator, Maharashtra, presented key initiatives that have contributed to improved yield and farmer income.
- **Shri P N Sharma**, Project Coordinator, Rajasthan, shared insights on the ongoing women empowerment programs in the region.
- **Mr. Nitin Tomar**, Assistant Coordinator, Madhya Pradesh, discussed fundamental farmer rights and safety, alongside sustainable and regenerative programs in the project areas.



Smt. Veena Vijayan, Assistant Manager and Session Moderator, CITI CDRA



Shri Govind Wairale, Project Coordinator, Maharashtra



Shri P N Sharma, Project Corrdinator, Rajasthan



Mr. Nitin Tomar, Asst. Project Corrdinator, Madhya Pradesh



Participants

SESSION 2: Stakeholder Discussion

This session provided an in-depth discussion on various aspects of the CITI CDRA project with key industry leaders.

- **Smt. Chandrima Chatterjee** delivered the introductory address and set the tone for the event.
- **Shri T Rajkumar:** Opening the session, Shri T Rajkumar emphasized that the success of India's textile industry starts from the fields, with cotton farmers playing a pivotal role in the entire supply chain. He proudly shared that CITI CDRA is actively working across 14 districts, 70+ clusters, and 851+ villages, impacting over 42,500 farmers. Their focus on scaling up innovative technologies is helping improve cotton production, quality, and safety for farmers, all while supporting regenerative cotton farming practices. CITI CDRA's initiatives are bringing sustainable solutions to our nation's cotton farming sector.
- **Shri Rakesh Mehra:** Shri Rakesh Mehra addressed the growing expectations of the cotton industry, stressing the importance of sustainability and traceability. He encouraged the industry to not just settle for man-made fibres, but to increase cotton production, empowering farmers with the right knowledge and tools to meet global demands. Sustainability, he noted, is at the core of growth—not just in product quality, but also through responsible practices that empower farmers. He also highlighted the KASTURI initiative, a step toward ensuring traceability in cotton, and discussed the necessity of various technologies, especially in empowering women farmers. With a focus on practices like ELS (Extra Long Staple) cotton, the industry can achieve greater productivity and reduce import dependency.
- **Dr Y G Prasad:** Dr Y G Prasad shared an exciting update on the Special Project on Cotton, highlighting its significant progress and the innovative partnership model driving it forward. The project leverages three key technologies designed to boost productivity, enhance cotton quality, and reduce contamination. He

also compared India's cotton farming systems with those of other nations, noting the unique challenges faced by small farmers. Notably, Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Giriraj Ji visited the project areas, witnessing firsthand the transformative potential for farmers. A large-scale demonstration covering 50,000 hectares in Akola is planned for HDPS (High Density Plantation Systems). In the coming years, the project will also incorporate contamination control, helping to ensure the long-term growth and global competitiveness of India's cotton sector. Dr Prasad concluded with the belief that 'Better Agronomy leads to Better Yield.'

- **Dr C D Mayee:** Dr C D Mayee gave an insightful keynote on the evolution of cotton farming in India, emphasizing the revolutionary role of scientific advancements since independence. He stressed that increased yield is only possible through the adoption of technology. His discussion covered the limitations of traditional farming methods and the urgent need for HDPS (High Density Plantation Systems) interventions. With the support of organizations like CITI CDRA, farmers are gaining confidence in managing pests like PBW (Pink Boll Worm) through educational initiatives and projects like Bandhan. Dr Mayee extended his support to CITI CDRA's soil upgradation practices, which are vital for ensuring sustainable yields. He concluded with the important message that 'Continuity of technology should be ensured through education and association.'
- **Dr A L Waghmare:** Dr A L Waghmare provided valuable insights into India's cotton development initiatives, noting the critical role these projects play in the growth of the industry. He addressed the concerning reduction in both cotton area and yield, which has been a significant challenge for India. Dr Waghmare detailed the progress of the Special Project, which started with approximately 10,000 farmers in its first year and has now expanded to include 15,000 farmers in the 2024-25 phase. He emphasized that these efforts are crucial for improving productivity, supporting local farmers, and ensuring a stronger future for India's cotton industry.





Felicitation

1. Mr. Rakesh Mehra, Chairman CITI felicitating Dr C D Mayee Cotton Scientist and President of South Asia Biotechnology Centre (SABC).
2. Mr. T Rajkumar, Chairman-CITI Cotton Standing Committee felicitating Dr A L Waghmare, Director, Directorate of Cotton Development.
3. Shri Prashant Mohota, Managing Director, GIMATEX Industries & CITI CDRA State Committee Head – Maharashtra felicitating Dr Y G Prasad, director ICAR CICR.
4. Shri Govind Wairale, Project coordinator, Maharashtra, CITI CDRA felicitating Mr. Rakesh Mehra, Chairman CITI



**Smt Chandrima Chatterjee, SG, CITI
Introductory Address**



**Shri Rakesh Mehra, Chairman, CITI:
Addressing Industry needs from Cotton
projects**



Shri T Rajkumar, Chairman CITI Cotton Standing Committee: Providing Overview of CITI CDRA activities



Dr C D Mayee, President SABC: Keynote address



Dr Y G Prasad, director ICAR CICR: Update on Special Project on Cotton under NFSM



Dr A L Waghmare, Director, Directorate of Cotton Development: Special Address



Key Dignitaries of the session

The session reinforced the collective efforts and innovative approaches being implemented by CITI CDRA, industry leaders, and governmental bodies. These initiatives are helping to empower farmers, promote sustainability, and drive the continued growth of India's cotton sector, positioning it for a stronger, more competitive future in the global market.

Shri Prashant Mohota **facilitated a Roundtable discussion** on various key cotton-related topics, encouraging collaboration among farmers, industry representatives, and government bodies. The discussion provided a platform for open dialogue and the exchange of ideas on critical issues facing the cotton sector.

Key Topics & Discussions:

1. Innovation & Technology in Seed to Improve Yields and Quality

A primary focus of the discussion was on innovations that could enhance cotton yield and quality from the seed stage. Participants proposed several strategies:

- **Mapping cotton-growing areas** to identify and address contamination in collaboration with the National Bureau.
- Exploring **seed rate variations**, such as using two seeds at a time, to improve germination.
- **Soil testing** and ensuring **seed adaptability**, alongside increasing the availability of quality seeds.
- Reducing **seed loss**, with particular emphasis on addressing the 10% loss currently observed.
- Promoting **early variety/short-duration hybrids** for Extra Long Staple (ELS) cotton due to the shortage of these types.
- Ensuring that **only approved seeds** are used in specific locations to maintain consistency and quality.

2. Supply Chain Strategies to Enhance Cotton Economics

The discussion also revolved around strategies to improve the economic viability of the cotton industry through better supply chain practices:

- Incorporating **carbon-related data** into education programs for farmers to enhance awareness and sustainability.
- Encouraging **ginners' participation** in **traceability** and **bale packing** to ensure quality and reduce contamination risks.
- Promoting **direct farmer-to-ginner, lint-based procurement**, facilitating better prices and quality control.

- Developing adequate **storage and warehouse facilities** to preserve cotton quality and reduce losses.
- Strengthening and educating **Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)** for better resource management and market access.
- Requiring **pre-cleaners** at ginning facilities to prevent contamination from pests like Pink Bollworm (PBW).
- Introducing **contamination-based grading** and pricing systems for cotton to encourage cleaner, higher-quality produce.

3. Government Schemes & Interventions to Improve Cotton Quality and Productivity

The roundtable highlighted the role of government policies and schemes in supporting the cotton industry:

- **Increasing Minimum Support Price (MSP)** rates to provide better financial support for farmers.
- Encouraging **credit financing** to ease financial burdens on farmers.
- Promoting the sale of **cotton bales** through **support prices** to ensure profitability.
- Offering **incentives for controlling contamination** at various stages of cotton production.
- Creating a **holistic production plan** for cotton that incorporates best practices, technology, and financial support.
- Advocating for the introduction of **HT Bt cotton** to reduce labor costs and improve productivity.
- Establishing a clear policy framework for the use of **HT Bt cotton**.
- Introducing an **MSP plus grade points system** for contamination-free cotton, offering financial incentives for high-quality produce.
- Formulating a policy for **regenerative cotton farming** to enhance sustainability in the long term.

4. Quality Standards for Better Yarn Production

A significant portion of the roundtable was dedicated to improving the quality of cotton for better yarn production, which is essential for the overall textile industry:

- Controlling variations in **cotton quality** and **colour** to ensure consistency for yarn production.

- Promoting the idea of “**one village, two seeds**” to improve the overall quality of cotton produced in specific regions.
- Ensuring **access to spinner-level data** on cotton quality, including KASTURI and yarn yield information, to enable better decision-making.
- Defining **sustainability** in the context of cotton and understanding its broader impact on the industry.
- Encouraging **contract farming** arrangements to ensure consistent quality.
- Conducting further **studies** to understand the reasons behind decreases in **yarn yield** and **realization**.
- Proposing that cotton be classified as a **non-food** crop to better align with its industrial use.

Conclusion

The roundtable discussion facilitated a productive exchange of ideas among farmers, industry leaders, and government representatives. Through collaboration, the participants identified innovative solutions and strategic interventions that could help the cotton industry overcome its current challenges. By focusing on seed innovation, enhancing supply chains, supporting government schemes, and establishing quality standards, stakeholders are poised to improve the cotton sector's productivity, economic stability, and sustainability in the years ahead

Some key Talking points

1. Mr. T. Rajkumar emphasized the importance of reducing and eventually eradicating the mixing of cotton at the ginning level, as this affects the uniformity of the final product. He suggested that this will improve gradually with the implementation of the KASTURI system. Additionally, he advocated for cotton to be classified as a non-food category, reflecting its primary use in textiles rather than consumption.
2. Dr C.D. Mayee emphasized the importance of ensuring that farmers use certified, approved hybrid varieties for better yields and quality. He highlighted the risks associated with non-approved varieties that may not meet expected performance standards. Dr Mayee encouraged farmers to be cautious and select certified seeds, ensuring they benefit from guaranteed yields and reliable outcomes.
3. Dr Ravinder, Director of Daftari, highlighted the significant role of pre-cleaners in the ginning process. He pointed out that pre-cleaners do more than just clean the cotton; they also play a crucial role in controlling the transfer of Pink Bollworm (PBW) larvae during ginning. By effectively removing contaminants

and PBW larvae, pre-cleaners help reduce the spread of the pest, ensuring that the cotton remains of high quality and minimizing potential damage to crops in subsequent stages. This process is especially important for maintaining the integrity of the cotton supply chain and enhancing overall yield quality. Dr Ravinder emphasized that using pre-cleaners is an essential step in achieving cleaner, pest-free cotton, which benefits both farmers and the ginning industry.



**Shri Prashant Mohota, Managing Director,
GIMATEX Industries & CITI CDRA State Committee
Head – Maharashtra: Facilitating platform for
productive exchange of ideas.**





Open discussions

Award Ceremony & Felicitation

CITI CDRA recognized outstanding contributors to the project through several awards:

- **CITI CDRA Star Farmer Award 2024-25:** Mr. Dilip Nanaji Pohane (24 quintal per acre seed cotton)
- **Progressive Farmer Award 2024-25:** Mr. Vithal Bisan Kambale (17 quintal per acre seed cotton)
- **Best Cotton Extension Assistant of the Year 2024-25:** Shri Mohan Karnake (Selu, Wardha, Maharashtra)
- **Best Photography Award 2024-25:** Mr. Bharat Sharma, Project Officer, Rajasthan
- **Excellence Award 2024-25:** Mr. R B S Tomar, Sr Project Officer, Madhya Pradesh
- **Best Leadership Award 2024-25:** Mr. Rakesh Patidar, Project Officer, Madhya Pradesh
- **Best Performing Team 2024-25:** Maharashtra Team

Appreciation Certificates were also presented to the following project officers for their exceptional contributions:

- Mr. Nitin Rathore (Madhya Pradesh)
- Mr. Raju Lal Kumawat (Rajasthan)
- Mr. Anish Chouhan (Madhya Pradesh)

Appreciation Certificate was presented to Ms. Veena Vijayan for her contributions towards team building.

Mentorship Recognition was given to:

- Shri P N Sharma (CITI CDRA, Rajasthan)
- Shri Govind Wairale (CITI CDRA, Maharashtra)

A **Token of Appreciation** was presented to **Dr Y G Prasad**, Director of ICAR-CICR, for his continuous support to cotton development.

Recognition was also extended to knowledge and project partners with stoles:

- **Ms. Bansari Nag**, National Project Coordinator, ILO
- **Mr. Amol Mishra**, Co-founder & CEO, Beetle Regen Solutions



Group photo



CITI CDRA Progressive Farmer Award: Mr Vithal Kambale



Best team Award: CITI CDRA, Maharashtra

SESSION 3: Experience Sharing by Project Partners & Future Collaborations

The session served as a platform for project partners to share their insights and discuss the future direction of the CITI CDRA initiative. The focus was on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW), social protection within the cotton supply chain, and sustainable agricultural practices aimed at improving both the livelihood of cotton farmers and the overall health of the cotton industry.

Key Presentations and Discussions:

1. Ms. Bansari Nag (ILO): Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW) and Social Protection

Ms. Bansari Nag from the International Labour Organization (ILO) highlighted the importance of **Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW)** and social protection in the cotton supply chain. She elaborated on the collaboration between the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry through its subsidiary, the Cotton Development and Research Association (CITI-CDRA), and the ILO implementing a project focused on knowledge sharing and technical support on FPRW. The project also aims to enhance access to social protection schemes and empower vulnerable families involved in cotton cultivation, with direct support to approximately 1,500 farmers and indirect support to 7,500 farmers.

Key insights shared included perspectives on:

- **Rights Perspective:**
 - Universal worker rights across all sectors and workers.
 - Country commitment to honouring international conventions.
 - Protection of worker dignity and mental health.
 - Ensuring physical health and wellbeing in the workforce.
- **Business Perspective:**
 - Growing awareness of FPRW issues among end users.
 - Human rights due diligence requirements.
 - National laws and regulations surrounding worker rights.
 - Potential tax concessions and access to new markets.
 - Impact on global supply chains.
- **Sustainability:**
 - Cotton, textiles, and garments as key contributors to the economy.
 - Reputation and investment opportunities in sustainable practices.
 - Legal challenges and their potential impact.
 - Motivation and productivity of the workforce.

2. Mr. Amol Mishra (Beetle Regen Solutions): Carbon Sequestration and Biochar in Regenerative Cotton Farming

Mr. Amol Mishra from Beetle Regen Solutions presented on the role of carbon sequestration, carbon credits, and biochar in regenerative cotton farming. CITI, in knowledge partnership with Beetle, is working to enhance agronomic practices,

improve soil and environmental health, and increase farmers' income. The goal is to meet the industry's need for sourcing higher-quality regenerative cotton.

Key takeaways included:

- **Enhanced Soil & Farmer Livelihoods:** The adoption of climate-resilient regenerative practices.
- **New Revenue Streams for Farmers:** The development of carbon markets that allow farmers to sell carbon credits to companies offsetting their emissions.
- **Verified Carbon Sequestration Projects:** Farmers can participate in verified carbon sequestration projects, contributing to global sustainability efforts while increasing their income.

3. Ms. Jyoti Narain Kapoor (BCI): Sustainability Initiatives for Cotton

Ms. Jyoti Narain Kapoor from the Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) provided valuable insights into ongoing sustainability initiatives within the cotton sector. She discussed various programs and practices that aim to improve environmental sustainability, social welfare, and economic benefits for cotton farmers globally.

4. Dr Shailendra Singh (ZYDEX Industries): Innovations Revolutionizing the Cotton Industry

Dr Shailendra Singh from ZYDEX Industries presented on cutting-edge innovations transforming the cotton industry, focusing on sustainable agricultural practices. The following steps for a sustainable transition in cotton farming were discussed:

- **Effective and Efficient FYM (Farmyard Manure) with Static Surface Bio-Digestion** to improve soil health.
- **Soil Structure Improvement:** Enhancing porosity, water holding capacity, and infiltration rate to improve soil quality.
- **Abiotic Stress Management:** Utilizing dew and water resources effectively to combat environmental stresses.
- **Biotic Stress/Pest Control:** Enhancing pest management strategies to improve cotton yield and reduce chemical dependency.

Conclusion

The discussion underscored the importance of collaboration between stakeholders in the cotton industry, including farmers, industry representatives, and technical partners. Key areas of focus included improving **Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW)**, enhancing environmental sustainability through **regenerative farming practices**, and fostering innovation in cotton production. The insights shared during

the session are instrumental in shaping the future direction of the CITI-CDRA initiative, aiming to empower farmers, promote sustainability, and improve the overall cotton supply chain.



Key Dignitaries of the session

Workshop on Cotton Futures and Hedging

The workshop, led by Mr. Badruddin Khan, Senior Manager at MCX, provided in-depth knowledge on navigating the complexities of commodity markets, with a special focus on cotton price risk management. The session highlighted the crucial role of hedging in stabilizing incomes for farmers and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), particularly in the volatile cotton market.

Mr. Khan explained how cotton futures and contracts can help protect against price fluctuations, giving farmers more control over their financial outcomes. This knowledge is especially vital for small and medium-scale cotton farmers looking to manage risks and ensure a stable income.

The workshop saw active participation from 12 farmers and 32 Cotton Extension Assistants, all of whom are integral members of CDRA's expansive farmer network.



Mr. Badruddin Khan, Senior Manager, MCX: Workshop on Cotton Futures and Hedging

Field Demonstration: Cotton Residue Enrichment

The program concluded with a field demonstration in ParshiVni Taluka, showcasing two key sustainable practices:

1. **Cotton Shredding** – A process of breaking down cotton waste into reusable material, reducing waste and conserving resources.
2. **Biochar Preparation** – Converting cotton stalks into biochar using the cone pit method, enhancing soil health, increasing water retention, and reducing insect pests.

These practices not only contribute to better soil health but also play a vital role in reducing environmental impact and promoting sustainable cotton farming.



Demonstration on Biochar preparation



Demonstration on Cotton Shredding



Field Demonstration and Farmers Interaction

CITI CDRA's Annual Project Review Meeting was a resounding success, fostering collaboration and innovation in the cotton industry while showcasing the organization's commitment to sustainability, farmer empowerment, and cutting-edge practices in cotton cultivation.

2 PHOTOS FEATURES

4.1 Farmers' Awards and Felicitation



Best Sustainability Award at Bharat Tex 2025: Mr. Swapnil S, CITI CDRA



CITI CDRA Star Farmer Award 2024-25: Mr Dilip Nanaji Pohane



Progressive Farmer Award 2024-25: Mr. Vithal Bisan Kambale



4th Runner up at Best Sustainability Award at Bharat Tex 2025: Mrs. Hema Veragi, CITI CDRA

4.2 Extension Programs (Farmers Trainings, Field days, Workshops, Camps, Kisan Mela etc)







4.3 Good Agricultural Practices, CITI CDRA

Agroforestry, Azolla cultivation, Detopping, Natural Pesticides, Mycorrhiza, Compost Enrichment, Biochar, Cotton Stalk Shredding etc,







4.4 Glimpses of Newspaper/Media coverage by CITI CDRA



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रबी की फसल में माइक्रोराइजा के प्रयोग की बताई विधि



स्मार्ट हलचल | गुरला

नेशनल हाईवे 758 स्थित गुरला क्षेत्र में रामपुरिया में मौसम विज्ञानियों ने भविष्यवाणी की है कि इस वर्ष सर्दी कम पड़ेगी एवं इसकी अवधि भी कम होगी। रबी की फसल में कम तापमान एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण निक्षिप्त रूप से रबी की फसलों में बिपरीत असर पड़ेगा। जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण होने वाले प्रभावों को नजरअंदाज नहीं किया जा सकता। पैदावार में कमी किसानों की आर्थिक स्थिति पर प्रभाव डालेगा।

पी एन शर्मा पूर्व उपनिदेशक कृषि ने बताया कि किसानों को रबी फसलों जैसे गेहूँ जी मेथी जीरा अफीम में माइक्रोराइजा का प्रयोग कोर पाप (फहली सिंचाई) में यूरिया खाद के साथ या सड़े हुए गोबर की खाद के साथ दो किलो प्रति बीघा की दर से फसलों को दें। गज दो वर्षों से कपास मक्का गेहूँ मेथी जीरा अफीम में इसका प्रयोग कराया गया परिणाम उत्साह जनक रहे हैं। शर्मा ने बताया कि किसान किसान

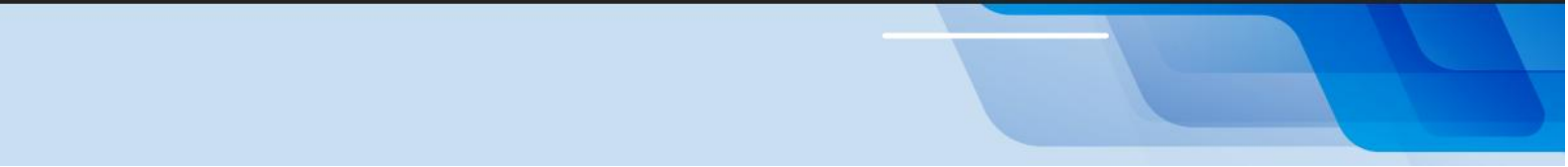
पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिए ह्यूमिक एसिड का प्रयोग फसल में सिंचाई के साथ या स्प्रे कर कर देने से भी उपज में बढ़ोतरी होगी। बाजार से ह्यूमिक एसिड नहीं खरीदता है शर्मा ने छोटे छोटे गुड बेसन सरसों की खली से ह्यूमिक एसिड बनाने का प्रशिक्षण किसानों को दिया है लगातार प्रशिक्षण जारी है। इससे बनाकर स्प्रे भी कर सकते हैं एवं सिंचाई के साथ धोर में दिया जा सकता है।

किसान भाइयों से अपील करते हुए शर्मा ने कहा की जलवायु परिवर्तन सामान्य बात हो गई है इसके लिए किसानों को नवीन विधियों को अपनाना होगा साथ ही खर्चों में कटौती करने के लिए उपलब्ध साधनों का बेहतर प्रयोग बहुत आवश्यक है। बाजार में ह्यूमिक एसिड 500 से 800 रुपया लीटर बिकता है वह भी चीन से आयात किया जाता है। गुरला करोड़ गाइडमाला मजरास कोचरिया सांगवा रामपुरिया दादिया बासड़ा आदि गांवों के किसान मौजूद थे।

Acknowledgement

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to **Vardhman Group, Wacker Metroark Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Indocount Industries, Rajasthan Textile Mills Association** for their generous support through CSR funding. Their valuable contributions have played a pivotal role in enhancing the welfare and livelihoods of cotton farmers under our project. Their unwavering commitment to sustainable agriculture and rural development has enabled us to implement impactful initiatives that have improved productivity, expanded farmer knowledge, and promoted environmentally responsible practices at the grassroots level.

We also express our sincere appreciation to **the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), Ministry of Textiles (MoT), ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), International Labour Organization (ILO), BEETLE, Department of Agriculture, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and all associated institutions, scientists, field officers, and local governance bodies.** Their timely guidance, technical expertise, and active involvement have been instrumental in the successful execution of our various project components.



We deeply value the spirit of collaboration and the shared vision of all our stakeholders. Together, we have made meaningful progress toward building farmer capacities and promoting sustainable, high-quality cotton cultivation. We look forward to continuing these partnerships to further strengthen the cotton ecosystem and uplift the livelihoods of farming communities

11 CITI's Participation in Skill Development Training Programmes

The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) is implementing the Skill Development training programme in the Samarth Scheme “Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS)” under the Ministry of Textiles

The Broad objective of the Schemes is to provide demand-driven, placement-oriented National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) compliant skilling programmes to incentivise and supplement the efforts of the industry in creating jobs in the organized textile and related sectors.

Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) has got the mandate to train 10903 youth by March 2026 in the Textile and Garment sector under the Samarth Scheme from the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.

Scheme	Training Type	Total Training Target allocated to CITI.	Total number of Candidates Certified/enrolled	Number of Training Centers of CITI across India
Samarth Scheme	Short Term Training (STT)	10,903	7,124	161

11.1. Samarth Scheme For Capacity Building In Textile Sector

Samarth (Scheme For Capacity Building In Textile Sector) is a flagship skill development initiative designed to empower youth and workers in India's textile sector through demand-driven, placement-oriented skilling programs under the Ministry of Textiles.

- **Overview of the Samarth Scheme**

Samarth—formally the Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS)—was launched in 2017 as a continuation of the Integrated Skill Development Scheme. Its primary goal is to meet the increasing demand for skilled labor across the textile value chain, except for spinning and weaving, which are excluded from the scheme.

- **Objectives**

- Demand-driven skilling: Focus on National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF)-compliant, placement-oriented training to meet industry needs.

- Job creation: Incentivize and supplement efforts by the industry to create employment opportunities in organized and traditional textile sectors.
- Skill upgradation: Enable sustainable livelihoods through wage and self-employment by upskilling and reskilling for traditional sectors (handlooms, handicrafts, silk, jute).
- Women's empowerment: Strong emphasis on skilling and employment opportunities for women, with more than 85% of trainees being female.

Till July 2025, under the Samarth (Scheme For Capacity Building In Textile Sector) by the Ministry of Textiles, a total of 4,57,724 beneficiaries have been trained (passed), with 3,55,662 placed in jobs. Women constitute about 88% of the beneficiaries, reflecting strong gender inclusion in the scheme. The program continues to focus on providing skill development and placement-oriented training to supplement the textile industry's job creation efforts, covering the entire value chain except for spinning and weaving.

- **Current Training and Placement Data**

- Beneficiaries Trained (Passed): 4,57,724.
- Beneficiaries Placed: 3,55,662 (includes self-employment).
- Women Beneficiaries: 88% of total trained and placed.
- SC/ST Beneficiaries: More than 1.41 lakh from marginalized sections.

- **Recent Developments and Expansion**

The scheme has been extended for FY 2025-26, targeting training for an additional 3 lakh persons, supported by a budget of ₹495 crore.

Robust monitoring: Aadhaar-enabled biometric attendance, MIS-dashboard, CCTV-enabled centers ensure transparency and effective tracking.

- **Impact and Assessment**

A mid-term evaluation in FY 2022-23 showed improvements in candidates' financial stability and socio-economic conditions, as well as addressing unemployment in the sector.

The scheme supports PAN-India implementation and prioritizes training of SC/ST and other marginalized groups for inclusive development in textiles.

This progress highlights Samarth's ongoing contribution to enhancing skills, promoting placements, and supporting inclusive growth in India's textile sector.

11.2. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 4.0

- **Scheme Introduction**

The Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is the flagship skill development scheme of the Government of India, launched in 2015 under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and implemented by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).

The scheme aims to empower Indian youth by providing industry-relevant skill training so they can secure better livelihoods through employment or entrepreneurship. The training are aligned with National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) standards and providing placement assistance. Key components include Short-Term Training and Special Projects (STT) for New Trainees, Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for existing workforce. PMKVY focuses on creating a skilled workforce aligned with the demands of employers, industries, and the overall economy, ensuring India has a competitive edge in both domestic and international markets.

- **Short Term Training (STT):**

The Short-Term Training (STT) shall be implemented under both Central and State component of the scheme. STT shall have provision for the fresh skilling for trainees who are first time learners.

Apart from providing training according to the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF), additional training shall also be imparted in for Soft Skill, Digital Literacy and Employability Modules. This will enhance the potential of the trainees working in organized and unorganised sectors.

The duration of STT program is from 150 to 450 hours (typically 2 to 3 months depending on the course and job role). Includes both theory and practical sessions, plus soft skills, digital literacy, and entrepreneurship training.

- **Upskilling (through Recognition of Prior Learning):**

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a skill certification component under the flagship PMKVY scheme that formally recognizes and certifies the existing skills of individuals who have acquired experience and knowledge through prior learning, whether in a formal or informal setting, enabling them to obtain industry-relevant certification and improve their livelihood prospects.

RPL offers 30 – 120 hours of orientation with bridge course. To address knowledge gaps, PIAs offer bridge courses to candidates along with the 12-hour orientation domain skills, soft skills and entrepreneurship tips and familiarization with the assessment process.

- **Key Objectives:**

- Provide quality skill training to unemployed youth, school/college dropouts, and existing workers.

- Standardize and certify skills under the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF).
- Bridge the skill gap between workforce supply and industry demand.
- Promote job placements and entrepreneurship.

Process under PMKVY 4.0

1. **Mobilization & Counselling**
 - Awareness campaigns are conducted at the district and local level to reach youth.
 - Candidates are counselled about available job roles, courses, and career opportunities.
 - Registration is done through the Skill India Digital HUB (SIDH) Portal.
2. **Candidate Registration & Selection**
 - Interested candidates provide Aadhaar, bank details, and basic documents.
 - Selection is based on eligibility criteria and district skill plan requirements.
3. **Batch Creation & Enrollment**
 - Training partners (TPs) create training batches on the SIDH platform.
 - Candidates are enrolled in NSQF-aligned courses.
4. **Training Delivery**
 - Training is conducted at accredited Training Centres (TCs).
 - Includes:
 - Domain Skills Training (as per NSQF levels)
 - Soft Skills & Life Skills
 - Digital Literacy
 - Practical Training and On-the-Job Learning
5. **Assessment & Certification**
 - After training, candidates undergo third-party assessments by Sector Skill Councils (SSCs).
 - Successful candidates receive Skill India Certification.
6. **Placement**
 - Training partners assist with placements through job fairs, employer linkages, or self-employment support.
 - Candidates may also be guided towards apprenticeships, higher-level courses.

A project management committee is overall responsible for the implementation and deliverable under the PMKVY 4.0 program.

- CITI PMKVY 4.0 Progress during the Year:**

Training Type	Enrolled	Certified	No. of Industry Participated
Upskilling (Through RPL)	4779	3896	23
Special Project (Short Term Training)	231	174	04

Training and Orientation Programme in Samarth Scheme



CITI Vocational Training centre_Dadri, Uttar Pradesh



CITI- Vishwaa Apparels, Andhra Pradesh



Sreeja Educational Welfare Society, ANDHRA PRADESH



CITI Skill Development Training Center 04 Bareilly Uttar Pradesh

Training Kit distribution in Samarth Scheme



Computer Employment Service Educational Society 02, SPSR NELLORE
ANDHRA PRADESH



Computer Employment Service Educational Society 02, SPSR NELLORE
ANDHRA PRADESH

Certificate Distribution Programme in Samarth Scheme



Computer Employment Service Educational Society, and JD Men & Women Garments 04 Andhra Pradesh



CITI Poorvika Balaji Training Centre, Nellore Andhra Pradesh

Surprise visit at the training centres during the training programme



CITI Skill Development Training Center 12, Mujjafrpur Bihar



CITI Skill Development Training Center 12, Mujjafrpur Bihar



CITI Skill Development Training Center 10, Gaya Bihar



CITI Skill Development Training Center 10, Gaya Bihar



CITI Skill Development Training Center 11, Jehanabad Bihar



CITI Skill Development Training Center 11, Jehanabad Bihar



SRI VIDYA INSTITUTE 02, Chodavaram, ANDHRA PRADESH



SRI VIDYA INSTITUTE 02, Chodavaram, ANDHRA PRADESH



SRI VIDYA INSTITUTE 01 ANAKAPALLI, ANDHRA PRADESH



SRI VIDYA INSTITUTE 01 ANAKAPALLI, ANDHRA PRADESH



Sreeja Educational Welfare Society EAST GODAVARI, ANDHRA PRADESH



Sreeja Educational Welfare Society EAST GODAVARI, ANDHRA PRADESH



Sreeja Educational Welfare Society EAST GODAVARI, ANDHRA PRADESH



CITI KB Philanthropy, IMPHAL EAST MANIPUR



CITI KB Philanthropy, IMPHAL EAST MANIPUR



CITI KB Philanthropy, IMPHAL EAST MANIPUR



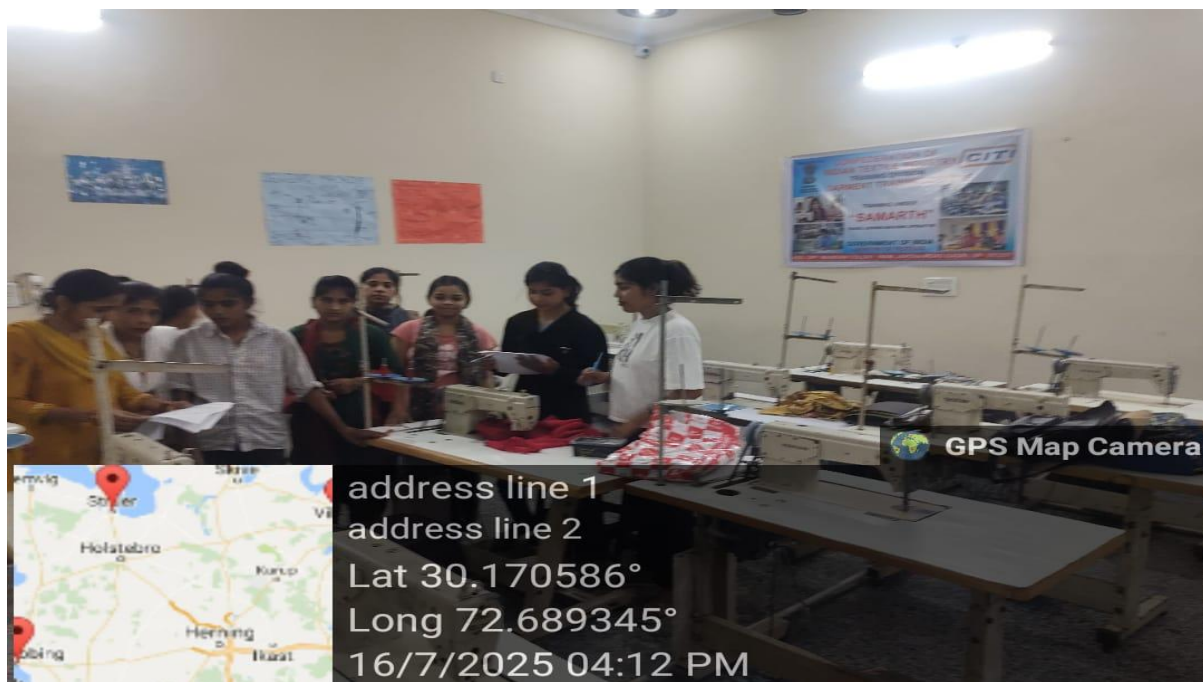
CITI KTPL Ningthemcha, IMPHAL WEST MANIPUR



CITI KTPL Ningthemcha, IMPHAL WEST MANIPUR



CITI Vocational Training centre_Dadri UTTAR PRADESH



CITI Vocational Training centre_Dadri UTTAR PRADESH

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 4.0

PHOTOS FEATURES

Classroom Training



Omax Cotspin Private Limited, Surendranagar, Gujarat



LBTex Private Limited, Ahmedabad, Gujarat



LBTex Private Limited, Ahmedabad, Gujarat



Pratibha Syntex Limited, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh



Sagar Manufacturers Private Limited, Raisen, Madhya Pradesh



Sitaram Spinners Private Limited, Secunderabad, Telangana

On Job Training (OJT)



Sitaram Spinners Private Limited, Secunderabad, Telangana



Omax Cotspin Private Limited, Surendranagar, Gujarat



KOB Medical Textiles Private Limited, Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu



Pratibha Syntex Limited, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh



LBTex Private Limited, Ahmedabad, Gujarat



Reliance Chemotex Industries Ltd, Udaipur, Rajasthan

Assessment



LBTex Private Limited, Ahmedabad, Gujarat



Nitin Spinners Limited, Bhilwara Rajasthan,



Omax Cotspin Private Limited, Surendranagar, Gujarat



KOB Medical Textiles Private Limited, Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu



Sagar Manufacturers Private Limited, Raisen, Madhya Pradesh



Sangam Group, Bhilwara, Rajasthan

Certificate Distribution



Omax Cotspin Private Limited, Surendranagar, Gujarat



KOB Medical Textiles Private Limited, Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu



Shreedhar Spinners Private Limited, Amravati, Maharashtra



Sagar Manufacturers Private Limited, Raisen, Madhya Pradesh



Precot Limited, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu





CAN_33861416

Bolimera Esteru Rani

I recently attended training under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) – Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) scheme at NSL Textiles Limited. The training was conducted over 5 days and focused on the job role of “Cone Winding Operator – Manual and Assembly Winding.”

Through this PMKVY Skill Development Programme, I gained valuable knowledge and learned many new things related to my job role. I would like to sincerely thank my trainers Mr. Prasadrao and Mr. Jayasimha for their excellent guidance.

- During the training, I learned:
- Soft skills for personal development and confidence building
- Machine parts and functions for better operational understanding
- Proper procedures for shift handover and takeover
- Motivational lessons that inspired me to perform better
- Workplace safety awareness to ensure a safe working environment
- Ways to achieve higher quality and production standards

This training was very useful and has enhanced my skills as an operator. I am grateful to NSL Textiles Management and the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry for implementing the PMKVY 4.0 Programme and providing such a valuable learning opportunity.

Acknowledgement

We extend our heartfelt gratitude **to associate Textile Industry Partners/ Training Centres** for their generous support in implementation of the Samarth and PMKVY 4.0 Training Programmes. Their valuable contributions have played a pivotal role in enhancing the skills of trainees trained under the project. Their unwavering commitment to train, certified and placed the skills of the workforce under textile sector have improved productivity, expanded OJT knowledge of the trainees.

We also express our sincere appreciation to **the Ministry of Textile and Grant Thornton (PMU team of Samarth Project) and Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)**. Their timely support and guidance on Management Information System (MIS) and Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) Portals respectively have been instrumental in the successful execution of our projects.

We deeply value the spirit of collaboration and the shared vision of all our stakeholders. Together, we have made meaningful progress toward building strong workforce for the Textile and Apparel Value Chain. We look forward to continuing these partnerships to further strengthen the skilling ecosystem and uplift the workforce in Textile and Apparel Sector.

World Cotton Day 2024

Theme: “Megatrends Shaping Textile Value Chain”

Held jointly by the Ministry of Textiles, Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) and Cotton Corporation of India (CCI)

On the occasion of World Cotton Day 2024, Ministry of Textiles, Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) and Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) jointly organized a conference themed at "Megatrends Shaping Cotton Textile Value Chain".

The event was graced by the presence of the Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Shri Giriraj Singh and was also attended by senior Government officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the Ministry of Textiles including Secretary (Textiles), Smt. Rachna Shah, Additional Secretary (MoAF&W), Smt. Shubha Thakur, Additional Secretary (Textiles), Shri Rohit Kansal, Joint Secretary (Textiles), Smt. Prajakta Verma. Key representatives from CCI, CICR, ICAR, etc were also present.

The conference attracted over 300 delegates, including prominent stakeholders from the Indian and global cotton value chains, fostering a rich exchange of insights and discussions on the future of the industry.

On the sidelines of the event, a dedicated exhibition was organized, showcasing cutting-edge cotton agronomy practices, advanced testing equipment, innovative cotton-based products and the latest cotton-growing technologies.

Session-wise details of the event are as under:

Opening Session

The inaugural session was graced by the presence of Additional Secretary (Textiles) Shri Rohit Kansal and Joint Secretary (Textiles), Smt. Prajakta Verma who were warmly welcomed by Chairman CITI, Shri Rakesh Mehra and Deputy Chairman CITI- Shri Ashwin Chandran respectively.



Chairman CITI- Shri Rakesh Mehra felicitating Additional Secretary (Textiles) Shri Rohit Kansal



Deputy Chairman CITI- Shri Ashwin Chandran welcoming Joint Secretary (Textiles), Smt. Prajakta Verma

The celebration of World Cotton Day started with the welcome address of Deputy



Deputy Chairman CITI- Shri Ashwin Chandran delivering the welcome address.

Chairman CITI, Shri Ashwin Chandran who welcomed all the participants and highlighted the importance of cotton for the Indian economy and the Indian Textile Industry. Highlighting the work of CITI-CDRA, which has been carried out since 1970, for uplifting the Indian cotton farmers socio-economically. Shri Ashwin appealed to the participants to commit to working toward the growth and sustainability of the cotton industry.

Dr Terry Townsend, Global Consultant Cotton Analytics, USA highlighted the cotton scenario in the USA and expressed his concerns over the declining cotton prices, cotton production, and stagnation in cotton yield in the USA, which is one of the major producers of cotton in the world. He also shared his insights on the Sustainability Silos.

Managing Director - India, Eurofins Modern Testing Services, Shri Vipul Bhardwaj highlighted the increasing importance of Traceability in the cotton supply chain. He showcased Eurofins' range of traceability services, designed to help the Indian cotton sector meet the increasing global demand for transparency and accountability.



Joint Secretary (Textiles), Smt. Prajakta Verma giving her address during the inaugural session

Smt Prajakta Verma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, in her address cited that enhancing sustainability is paramount and therefore Ministry has encouraged a collaborative approach through the formation of Textile Advisory Group (TAG) where the challenges of Textile Industry are being addressed through a participative approach. She also highlighted inter-ministerial coordination in launching the initiative of a holistic plan to increase cotton production and yield which enables the farmers to increase their income. She also highlighted about the Kasturi Cotton Bharat Program of the

Ministry of Textiles



Additional Secretary (Textiles), Shri Rohit Kansal delivering his keynote address during the inaugural session

During the opening session Shri Rohit Kansal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Textile in his Keynote Address highlighted that the country has set a target of creating a Textile Ecosystem of USD 350 bn by 2030 from the current USD 176 bn. He urged the stakeholders of the cotton textile value chain to be cognisant of the challenges that are being posed by current and potential competing fibers so that cotton will be the legacy sector of the Indian Textile Industry, further, he emphasized that sustainability is a sine qua non for

the cotton textile value chain.

During the session, Shri Rakesh Mehra and other dignitaries also released a White paper titled "Who's Winning the Race? - Which States Offer the Best Government Incentives in India's Textile & Apparel Sector?" which was prepared by Texcoms Textile Solutions, Singapore.



Release of the White Paper titled “Who’s Winning the Race? - Which States Offer the Best Government Incentives in India’s Textile & Apparel Sector?”. The paper highlighted the comparative advantages that various Indian State Governments are offering towards investment in the textile sector and was aimed at helping the textile industry make a suitable decision pertaining to location for their upcoming investments.

Session I: Enhancing Sustainability & Traceability in the Textile Industry

The session I of the event was focussed on Enhancing Sustainability & Traceability in the Textile Industry. The session was Chaired by Additional Secretary (Textiles) Shri Rohit Kansal and was moderated by Chairman, CITI’s Standing Committee on Cotton Shri T. Rajkumar.



Chairman CITI's Standing Committee on Cotton, Shri T. Rajkumar moderating the session

During the session, stakeholders discussed the increasing role of Sustainability & Traceability in the Textile Industry.

Director, Sussman International Company, Shri Mark Sussman highlighted the increasing importance of Sustainability & Traceability and discussed the various data points towards Environmental and Social compliance that the Indian industry can capture and showcase for the same and called

upon the Indian manufacturers to come up with simplified solutions for showcasing the Sustainability & Traceability in their value chain.

Chairman SIMA, Dr S.K. Sundararaman, highlighted that Indian industry is working in synchronization with the Government and requests the industry to work towards the value proposition of cotton by integrating sustainable practices.

Managing Director, Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS), Mr. Rahul Bhajekar while highlighting the importance of various certifications towards traceability opined to create a centralized database to avoid any duplicity of data.

Executive Director, TEXPROCIL, Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal highlighted the Kasturi Cotton Bharat (KCB) Program and how it is working towards meeting the objectives of Sustainability and Traceability in the Indian cotton value chain. He requested the industry to associate themselves with the KCB program through the already available Kasturi portal and work towards increasing traceability.

Sharing the farmers perspective on these emerging compliances, President & Coordinator, All India Cotton Farmer Producer Organisation Association, Shri Manish Daga called upon to industry to ensure fair prices for the Indian Cotton farmers enabling them to meet these emerging compliances.

Sharing his experience about traceability and sustainability, Shri Gaurav Sharma, Group Leader, Triburg shared his experience where brands agreed to pay a premium towards sustainability and traceability and called upon the buying houses/brands to encourage traceability and sustainability by paying some premium towards the same. The concept was also supported by Managing Director, Pearl Global Industries Ltd, Shri Pallab Banerjee, and he opined that traceability should start at the Ginning level and for the same initially Ginners should be geo-tagged details of which can be made



Eminent Panellists of the Session 1: (from Left to Right) Group Leader, Triburg - Shri Gaurav Sharma, Director, Sussman International Co.-Mr. Mark Sussman, MD, GOTS-Mr. Rahul Bhajekar, President & Coordinator, All India Cotton Farmer Producer Organisation Association-Shri Manish Daga, Additional Secretary (Textiles)-Shri Rohit Kansal, Chairman, CITI's Standing Committee on Cotton - Shri T. Rajkumar, Chairman SIMA-Dr S.K. Sundararaman, Managing Director, Pearl Global Industries Ltd-Shri Pallab Banerjee and ED, TEXPROCIL-Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal

available through a centralized system which can be easily accessed.

Session II: Decent Work in The Cotton Supply Chain

This session was moderated by the National Project Coordinator, ILO, Ms. Bansari Nag.

The session started with the remarks of Mr. Insaf Nizam, Specialist, FPRW who highlighted the critical aspects of Fundamental Principles and Rights and Work (FPRW) and the different activities being undertaken by the ILO toward promoting FPRW at the cotton growing community.

Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIAP, Dr. Khem Chand highlighted that in the absence of the knowledge of FPRW and other basic occupational safety and health norms, Indian cotton commodity used to be to affected a lot. He appreciated the work of ILO towards FPRW and highlighted the importance of the same being recognized and implemented at the entire textile value chain. He also called upon the industry to join hands with ILO to strengthen the Indian cotton Textile value chain to address such vulnerabilities.

General Secretary, INTUC, Mr. R D Chandra Shekar shared the experience of the work done by the ILO towards promoting FPRW in the state of Telangana. He cited that as a result of the activities of ILO, school dropouts of the kids of cotton farmers have reduced as also there has been a considerable improvement in the health of cotton farmers. He urged the cotton farmers to increase the value prospects of the cotton-growing community starting from the farm stage.

SIMA Chairman, Dr. S. K. Sundararaman opined that textile industry should ensure that there is no child labour or any type of discrimination at any stage of textile value chain and requested the industry to follow the law of land towards the same. should be abolished from every sector of the textile value chain.



Eminent Panellists of Session (from left to right) General Secretary, INTUC, Mr. R D Chandra Shekar, Mr. Insaf Nizam, Specialist, FPRW, National Project Coordinator, ILO, Ms. Bansari Nag, Principal Scientist, ICAR, Dr. Khem Chand and SIMA Chairman, Dr. S. K. Sundararaman

Session III: Evolving Trends in Cotton Farming

The session was chaired by Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Director ICAR-CICR, and was moderated by Head- Public Affairs, Science & Sustainability IBSL, Dr. Rajvir Singh Rathi.

During the session, panelists such as the Chairman-Federation of Seed Industry of India (FSII)-Shri Ajai Rana, Founder & Chairman-Rasi Seeds, Dr. M. Ramasami, Project Coordinator (Maharashtra), CITI CDRA-Shri Govind Wairale highlighted the importance of newer seed varieties towards improving cotton productivity. They opined

that policy support is essential for the timely approval of these varieties which would enable farmers to improve their cotton productivity.

President, Global Corporate & Industry Affairs, UPL Ltd, Shri Sagar Kaushik made a presentation highlighting the various Agricultural and Crop Nutrition solutions solution of UPL

Director of International Relations Abrapa - Brazilian Cotton Growers Association, Mr. Marcelo Duarte Monteiro made a detailed presentation on the Brazilian Cotton Sector. He cited that in 2006 only 6% of Brazil's cotton was GMO based, which increased to 94% in 2023. He also discussed some of the good practices related to cotton farming such as: Use of drones, Weather Stations, Precision farming, etc.



Eminent Panellists of Session (from left to right) Project Coordinator (Maharashtra), CITI CDRA-Shri Govind Wairale, Chairman-Federation of Seed Industry of India (FSII)-Shri Ajai Rana, Head- Public Affairs, Science & Sustainability IBSL, Shri Ajai Rana, Director CICR-Dr. Y.G. Prasad, Chairman TEXPROCIL, Shri Sunil Patwari, Founder & Chairman-Rasi Seeds, Dr. M. Ramasami, Director of International Relations Abrapa - Brazilian Cotton Growers Association, Mr. Marcelo Duarte Monteiro, President, Global Corporate & Industry Affairs, UPL

Session IV: Cotton Trading and Risk Management

The session was moderated by MD TT Ltd., Shri Sanjay Jain. He highlighted that in the present scenario when cotton is a globally traded commodity there are several risks associated with its trading and in such a scenario risk management becomes critical. He said that in the present scenario, absolute prices no longer determine

competitiveness but relative price does, and opined that a global cotton contract should be launched on MCX platform.

Addl. Vice president, the Cotton Association of India, Shri Vinay Kotak cited that profit in cotton trading is low, however, it is prone to a number of risks such as market-related risks, capital risks, buyer risks, transactions risks, etc, and gave the below few mantras related to cotton risk management:

- Do not put all eggs in a single basket
- Trend is the key
- Market is wiser of all
- Always set a stop-loss
- Adopt Flexibility

Director-DDPL, Shri Mahesh Sharda, while discussing cotton trading and risk management, highlighted that cotton accounts for about 65% of the cost of yarn and hence cotton should be treated as a sensitive commodity. He opined that any policy of the Government related to cotton should be pro-active in nature and such policies should be based on actual data and not on anything else.

Head of Department – Agri, MCX, Mr. Abhishek Govilkar discussed the major structural changes happened on the MCX cotton contract. While discussing the various features of the cotton contract, he called upon the industry and other stakeholders to increase their participation on the MCX cotton contract.



Eminent Panellists of Session engaged in discussion (from left to right) Director-DDPL, Shri Mahesh Sharda, Addl. Vice president, the Cotton Association of India, Shri Vinay Kotak, MD TT Ltd. Shri Sanjay Jain, Head of Department – Agri, MCX, Mr. Abhishek Govilkar

Valedictory Session (I)

The session started with a presentation on a “Special Project on Cotton for Improving Yield and Increasing Farmers’ income” made by Director, ICAR-CICR, Dr. Y G Prasad. Giving the overview of the project and he discussed the advantages and comparative economics of the technologies such as HDPS with the conventional farming.



SG CITI, Ms. Chandrima Chatterjee making a presentation on “e-Cotton: Enhancing Market linkages under Special Project on Cotton”

Continuing the discussion on the Special Project on Cotton, SG CITI, Ms. Chandrima Chatterjee made a detailed presentation “e-Cotton: Enhancing Market linkages under Special Project on Cotton”. Highlighting the objectives and salient features, Ms. Chatterjee showcased the various functionalities of the web-portal and mobile application which has been developed for the effective monitoring and implementation of project activities. Detailing various modules of the portal, she called upon the industry to visit the portal and extend their contribution towards purchasing cotton from beneficiary

farmers by using the existing “e-Market” module of the portal.

CMD, Cotton Corporation of India, Dr. Lalit Kumar Gupta made a detailed presentation on the Contribution of CCI for the Empowerment of Cotton Farmers and enhancing Cotton Productivity. Dr Gupta highlighted the various contributions of CCI towards the upliftment of Indian cotton sector such as MSP procurement, Cott-Ally Mobile App, On-spot Aadhar Based Farmer Registration, QR based bale identification and Traceability System (BITS), etc. He also highlighted CCI’s contribution for promoting Sustainability and Awareness in Cotton Value Chain.



CCI CMD, Dr. Lalit Gupta making a presentation on Contribution of CCI for the Empowerment of Cotton Farmers and Cotton Productivity

Economist & Senior Journalist, Shri G. Chandrashekhar expressed his concern on the stagnation in the acreage of cotton and shared some initiatives to boost cotton production such as:

- Focus on cotton seed technology
- Educating farmers about best agronomics practices
- Climate Smart Agriculture
- Replication of models of successful high-yielding areas
- Long-term policies to support R&D in seeds

Valedictory Session (II)

The session was graced by the presence of Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Shri Giriraj Singh, Secretary (Textiles), Smt. Rachna Shah, Additional Secretary (MoAF&W), Smt. Shubha Thakur, and Joint Secretary (Textiles), Smt. Prajakta Verma.



CITI Chairman, Shri Rakesh Mehra welcoming the Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Shri Giriraj Singh



CCI CMD, Dr. Lalit Gupta welcoming Secretary (Textiles) Smt. Rachna Shah



Immediate Past Chairman CITI, Shri T. Rajkumar welcoming Additional Secretary (MoAF&W), Smt. Shubha Thakur

Session started with the opening remarks of the Joint Secretary (Textiles), Ms. Prajakta Verma wherein she shared the importance of the World Cotton Day. Discussing about the importance of cotton for Indian economy, she highlighted inter-ministerial coordination in launching initiative of holistic plan to increase cotton production and yield which enable the farmers to increase their income.



CITI Chairman Shri Rakesh Mehra giving his address in the valedictory session

announce the Technology Mission on Cotton competitiveness of domestically grown cotton.

Shri Rakesh Mehra thanked the Hon'ble Minister of Textiles for joining the celebrations of World Cotton Day 2024 and emphasized that cotton being the oldest fibre in the textile industry plays a significant role in driving economic growth, employment generation, provides livelihood to farmers, and women empowerment. He cited that ample availability of cotton at internationally competitive prices is a must to enable the industry to achieve the desired target of US\$ 350 bn industry. Committing full support on behalf of the industry to improve cotton productivity, Shri Mehra requested the Hon'ble Minister to announce the Technology Mission on Cotton 2.0 at the earliest as also to ensure cost



Additional Secretary (MoA&FW), Smt. Shubha Thakur addressing the gathering during the World Cotton Day 2024

Smt. Shubha Thakur, Additional Secretary, MoA&FW while discussing on the initiatives of the government in increasing the yield of cotton, reaffirmed the ministry's commitment to work in close coordination with the Ministry of Textiles, in adopting best farm practice by the farmers so as to improve livelihood of the farmers.

In her special address, Secretary (Textiles), Smt. Rachna Shah mentioned the importance of the cotton economy, which provides livelihood to six million cotton farmers directly and another employment to 45 million people engaged directly or indirectly in various other activities in the cotton value chain. She urged that all the stakeholders of the cotton value chain to concentrate in increasing cotton productivity, as India ranks 35th in terms of yield. She appealed all stakeholders to adopt a collaborative approach to address this serious challenge of productivity, being faced by the entire cotton value chain.



Secretary (Textiles), Smt. Rachna Shah delivering her Special Address during the World Cotton Day 2024



Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Shri Giriraj Singh delivering his valedictory address.

In the valedictory address Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Government of India, Shri Giriraj Singh, while addressing the august gathering in his valedictory address reiterated the commitment of the government to achieve the target of USD 350 billion by 2030 including the export target of USD 100 billion. He urged the stakeholders in the cotton value chain to join hands together for the same. He also shared the experience that how adoption of best farm practices like high-density

planting, closer spacing, drip fertigation etc., can increase the yield to even 1500 Kgs per hectare as against the present national average yield of about 450 kgs. Therefore, there is a dire need to adopt best farm practices in saturation mode, he cited.

He also expressed his concern about the problem of weed management in cotton farming which increases labor costs to cotton farmers. He opined that efforts be made to help cotton farmers to overcome weed management problems by adopting suitable new seed varieties and he appealed to take this issue with all seriousness and examine the suitability of this new seed technology available in the world like HT BT for adoption in our country.

The event ended with the concluding remarks by Chairman, TEXPROCIL, Shri Sunil Patwari who thanked the Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Shri Giriraj Singh for gracing the event and all the officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Textiles as also all the stakeholders for their support towards making the program a huge success.

During the valedictory session, TEXPROCIL signed 7 MoU related to

- Commitment for purchase of Kasturi Cotton
- Adopting Sustainable agronomy practices for production of Kasturi Cotton
- Brand Promotion in Indian and Global Markets



TEXPROCIL Chairman, Shri Sunil Patwari and Vice Chairman – Corporate Advisory Board Trident Group, Dr. P K Aggarwal exchanging MoU on commitment for purchase of Kasturi Cotton.

Trident has graciously committed to utilising 5,00,000 bales or more of Kasturi Cotton as per availability during the next two cotton seasons to produce a variety of home textile product



TEXPROCIL Chairman, Shri Sunil Patwari and Director-Vardhman Textiles, Shri Sushil Kumar Jhamb exchanging MoU on commitment for purchase of Kasturi Cotton.

Vardhman has shown their commitment to the programme by penning down the utilisation of 21,000 of bales to produce a variety of textile products



TEXPROCIL Chairman, Shri Sunil Patwari and Chairman-CITI's Standing Committee on Cotton, Shri T. Rajkumar exchanging MoU on commitment for adopting sustainable agronomy practices for production of Kasturi Cotton.

CITI-CDRA will create awareness among Indian farmers and the supply chain to improve the quality of cotton and cotton products so that they can get the valued Kasturi Cotton mark thereby enabling them to get better returns for their produce.



TEXPROCIL Chairman, Shri Sunil Patwari and Chief Operating Officer-CottonConnect, Shri Kinner Lakhani and his colleague exchanging MoU on commitment for adopting sustainable agronomy practices for production of Kasturi Cotton.

Under the MoU CottonConnect will enable farmers and producers to work sustainably and responsibly and enjoy better livelihoods



TEXPROCIL Chairman, Shri Sunil Patwari and Country Director-Better Cotton Initiative (BCI), Ms. Jyoti Kapoor and her colleague exchanging MoU on commitment for adopting sustainable agronomy practices for production of Kasturi Cotton.

Under the MoU, BCI will promote sustainably grown cotton and sourced cotton which is one of the key pillars of the Kasturi Cotton programme.



TEXPROCIL Chairman, Shri Sunil Patwari and Chief Mentor-CMAI, Shri Rahul Mehta exchanging MoU on commitment Brand Promotion in Indian and Global Markets.

Under the MoU, CMAI WILL promote the brand across various platforms to facilitate the marketing & co-branding of such products created out of Kasturi Cotton.



TEXPROCIL Chairman, Shri Sunil Patwari and Founder and National General Secretary of the Brands & Sourcing Leaders Association, Shri Raman Dutta and his team exchanging MoU on commitment Brand Promotion in Indian and Global Markets.

Under the MoU, BSL will make all efforts to promote the brand across various platforms to facilitate the marketing & branding Kasturi Cotton in the domestic and international markets. BSL will also work towards providing designing services required for the creation of various product lines made with certified "Kasturi Cotton" as part of the efforts to promote and popularise the brand.

The event concluded with the visit of the Hon'ble Minister and delegates to the stall of the various exhibitors showcasing their products and services during the event.



Hon'ble Minister Shri Giriraj Singh visiting the stall of the CITI-Cotton Development and Research Association (CDRA) and discussing the various agronomics practises and services being offered by them to cotton farmers.

Major takeaways of the World Cotton Day 2024 related to Indian cotton sector are:

1. Adopt Best Farm Practices

- Promote the adoption of best farm practices such as high-density planting, closer spacing, and drip fertigation to significantly increase cotton yields, targeting an increase to 1,500 kg per hectare.
- Focus on developing strategies to help cotton farmers manage weeds effectively, including evaluating the adoption of new seed technologies like HT BT
- Consider adopting Brazilian cotton farming practices such as the use of drones, weather stations, and precision farming techniques to improve productivity and sustainability in Indian cotton farming.

2. Ensure ample availability at internationally competitive prices

- To enable the industry to achieve the required target of US\$ 350 bn industry by 2030, Government may ensure ample availability of cotton fibre at internationally competitive prices and for the same Government may come up with a Technology Mission on Cotton 2.0 with a focus on seed technology, at the earliest.

3. Focus on Sustainability and Traceability with Simplified solutions with a Centralized Traceability Database

- There is a dire need for integrating Sustainability and traceability efforts in the Indian cotton supply chain focusing on compliance with environmental and social standards.
- Stakeholders may work together to find a simplified solution, for capturing various databases on environmental and social compliance. There may be a centralized repository for the same to avoid any duplicity of the data.

4. Enhance Industry-Government Synchronization as also Inter-Ministerial Coordination

- Increased Inter-ministerial coordination is needed to make a holistic plan to increase cotton production and yield as also increase the value proposition of cotton.
- Strengthen collaboration between the Ministry of Textiles and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare to implement best farming practices aimed at improving cotton yield and farmer livelihoods.

5. Brands may increase Support for Traceability with Premium Pricing

- Brands may come forward to support the industry as well as farmers by paying a premium to the industry and farmers adhering to the various new compliance standards towards sustainability and traceability.

6. Work towards promoting Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW) in Cotton Supply Chain

- Industry and various stakeholders of the cotton value chain may collaborate to implement FPRW within cotton communities as also work towards improving compliance with labor laws and ensuring fair practices.

7. Policy Advocacy for Seed Varieties

- Government may expedite the approvals for newer cotton seed varieties, ensuring farmers can access improved seeds for enhancing productivity. Additionally, the Government may also explore the potential for increasing the use of GMO-based cotton varieties in India, similar to Brazil's successful transition.

8. Work towards having robust Risk Management Strategies

- Encourage stakeholders to adopt comprehensive risk management strategies to mitigate various risks associated with cotton trading.
- Government may launch a global cotton contract on MCX to enhance market stability and competitiveness

9. Enhance Data-Driven Decision Making

- Advocate for policies and trading practices to be informed by actual market data and conditions and not on sentiments. It will ensure that strategies are responsive to market realities.

Proceedings of the entire event can be viewed at

<https://youtube.com/live/dWP3JQmD4m4?feature=share>

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Webinar on innovative projects under the PAMC for the Scheme for Research and Development for the Textiles Industry

Ministry of Textiles has established the Project Appraisal and Monitoring Committee (PAMC) under the Scheme for Research and Development in the Textiles Industry to advance research, innovation, and technology transfer across the sector. Chaired by the Textile Commissioner, Ms. Roop Rashi, the PAMC has been instrumental in evaluating and approving research proposals, allocating funds, and monitoring the progress of diverse projects that align with the industry's strategic goals.

Under the scheme, various institutions, including premier research bodies like IITs, NIFT, and specialized textile research institutions such as the Bombay Textile Research Association (BTRA), are undertaking innovative projects.

CITI has planned a series of webinars for wider dissemination of these innovations to the industry and the stakeholders and explore the possibility of large-scale commercialization of the same.

The first webinar of the series was scheduled on 6th December 2024 in association with Bombay Textiles Research Association (BTRA) and covered the below given innovative processes developed by BTRA:

- Development of highly efficient and functional finished reusable protective face mask
- Plasma-mediated natural dyeing of Khadi of Cotton and Silk
- Eco-friendly Natural Dyeing of Cotton and Silk using Rare Earths Metal Salts as Mordants

The webinar started with the opening remarks of SG CITI, Ms. Chandrima Chatterjee wherein she welcomed all the participants and apprised participants about the objective of the webinar series.

Deputy Chairman CITI, Shri Ashwin Chandran, delivered the keynote address during the webinar and emphasized that to achieve the US\$ 350 bn market size by 2030, the Industry must focus on Research, Innovation, and Sustainability, as these pillars are not just drivers of growth but imperatives for survival and competitiveness in the rapidly evolving global textile and apparel landscape.



Deputy Chairman, Shri Ashwin Chandran delivering the keynote address during the webinar.

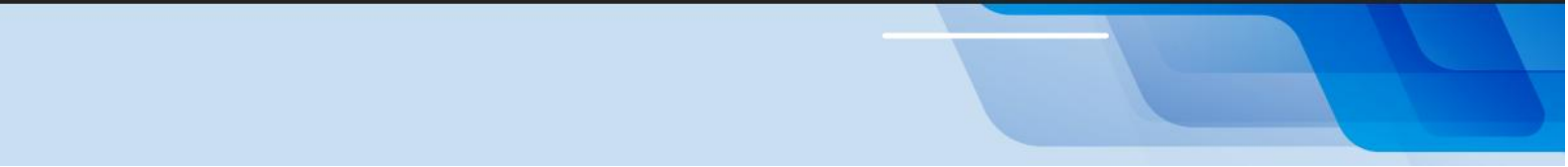


Textile Commissioner, Ms. Roop Rashi delivering her special address during the webinar.

The event was graced by the presence of Textile Commissioner, Ms. Roop Rashi. She informed that the Office of Textile Commissioner holds several patents and urged the industry to stay focused and explore ways to integrate these innovations into the products and processes within the industry. She also requested the industry to bring to the notice of the Government various technologies that are not available domestically but are of critical importance for the industry and assured full Government support in developing those domestically.

During the webinar, BTRA team gave a demonstration of the products developed using the above-mentioned technologies. Indian Textile Industry appraised the technology developed by BTRA and some industry members also expressed their willingness to work with BTRA to explore the possibilities of further advancement of such technologies.

The webinar concluded with the closing remarks of Shri Ashish Gujarati, Past president-SGCCl.



Members are requested to take note of the above technologies and explore possibilities of the mass commercialization of the same as also the other technologies which will be discussed in future webinars.

CITI will provide the necessary support to the industry for the same.

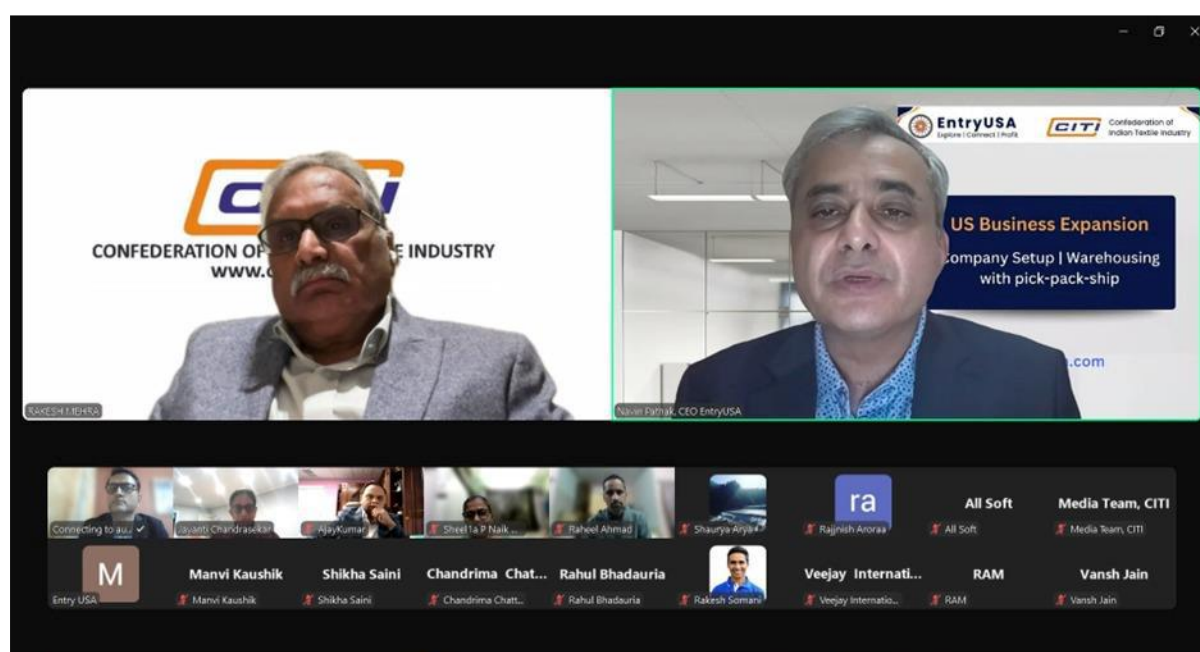
- **Webinar on Business Expansion in USA - Company Setup and Warehousing with Pick-Pack-ShipEntry USA**

In response to the evolving needs of Indian manufacturers, exporters, and tech startups looking to expand into the U.S. market, CITI has partnered with Entry USA to organize a series of webinars. M/s Entry USA assists foreign companies in establishing and expanding their business operations in the United States.

The objective behind starting this series of webinars is to empower Indian businesses with the information they need to succeed and grow their market presence in the United States and will provide valuable insights into critical areas like U.S. company formation, warehousing, L1-A visa for executives, and sales support.

The first webinar of the series was organized on 4th December 2024.

Chairman-CITI, Shri Rakesh Mehra delivered a welcome address during the event wherein he welcomed all the participants and emphasized that this webinar is being organized at an opportune time, when the Indian T&A industry is performing better in the USA market compared to its competitors and with the upcoming new administration, the Indian T&A industry is optimistic about expanding its role as an alternative supplier to China.



Chairman CITI-Shri Rakesh Mehra delivering the welcome address during the webinar

The team of Entry USA discussed and explained to the participants the various critical areas such as insights into US market expansion, covering company formation (LLC vs. C-Corp), compliance, and banking. They also highlighted the 3PL warehousing solutions for storage, labeling, and order fulfillment, alongside strategies to build trust, hire local teams, and leverage on-shoring opportunities. Emphasizing practical steps, the session offered a roadmap to overcome challenges and achieve sustainable growth in the US market.

Chairman YEG, Shri Rajnish Arora proposed the vote of thanks during the event.

Industry may take note of this initiative and may give their suggestions for the upcoming webinars.

- **UNDP's 2-day workshop for the Textile & Apparel Industry on HRDD**

To facilitate greater awareness and action towards reducing the sector's adverse human and environmental impacts, UNDP's B+HR Academy hosted a 2 day-in-person workshop in New Delhi for the Textile and Apparel Industry. The workshop was aimed at strengthening the companies' knowledge of responsible business practices and improving their understanding of and ability to carry out HRDD as envisaged in upcoming regulations globally and nationally.

CITI was the industry partner for this workshop and encouraged participation from mid-level management across Human Resources, Diversity and Inclusion, and Sustainability divisions/departments.

CITI Chairman, Shri Rakesh Mehra delivered welcome remarks during the event wherein he requested the industry to stay informed, proactive, and prepared to align with these evolving standards to maintain our global competitiveness.

He also highlighted the various activities of CITI that promote knowledge sharing and capacity building and facilitate impactful due diligence actions and reporting, such as:

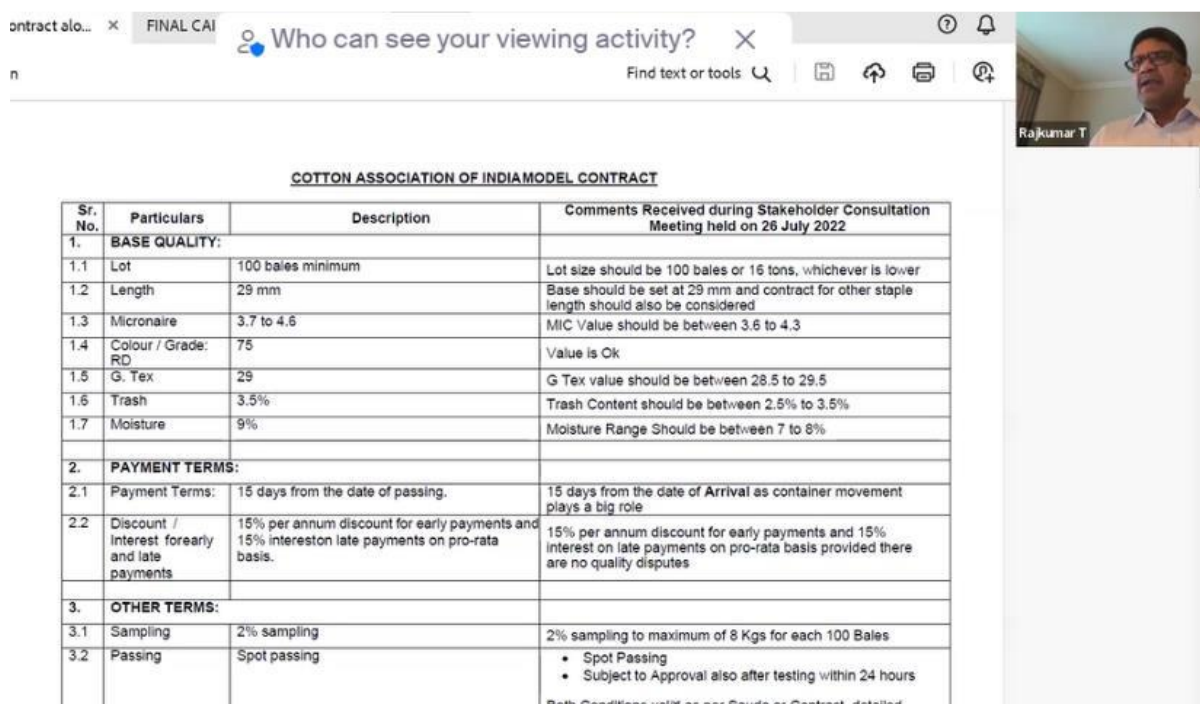
- Partnership with esteemed organizations like UNDP, Fairwear, and others to provide industry-focused support
- Management Development Program to empower textile professionals to integrate Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles into their operations.
- Setting up a Helpdesk to facilitate updates and a better understanding of the various legislations for dialogue, learning, and collective problem-solving.

SG CITI, Ms. Chandrima Chattejee also participated in the event and made a detailed presentation of the CITI's initiative of the Management Development Program on ESG (MDP-ESG) and highlighted the program's strategic objectives and its alignment with global sustainability efforts in the textile sector.

Members may take note of the above.

- **Meeting to discuss the objective of the CITI-CAI Cotton Contract Meeting**

CITI collaborated with the Cotton Association of India (CAI) to develop a model cotton contract aimed at minimizing trade disputes and fostering fair trade practices in the cotton industry.



Sr. No.	Particulars	Description	Comments Received during Stakeholder Consultation Meeting held on 26 July 2022
1.	BASE QUALITY:		
1.1	Lot	100 bales minimum	Lot size should be 100 bales or 16 tons, whichever is lower
1.2	Length	29 mm	Base should be set at 29 mm and contract for other staple length should also be considered
1.3	Micronaire	3.7 to 4.6	MIC Value should be between 3.6 to 4.3
1.4	Colour / Grade: RD	75	Value is Ok
1.5	G. Tex	29	G Tex value should be between 28.5 to 29.5
1.6	Trash	3.5%	Trash Content should be between 2.5% to 3.5%
1.7	Moisture	9%	Moisture Range Should be between 7 to 8%
2.	PAYMENT TERMS:		
2.1	Payment Terms:	15 days from the date of passing.	15 days from the date of Arrival as container movement plays a big role
2.2	Discount / Interest forearly and late payments	15% per annum discount for early payments and 15% interest on late payments on pro-rata basis.	15% per annum discount for early payments and 15% interest on late payments on pro-rata basis provided there are no quality disputes
3.	OTHER TERMS:		
3.1	Sampling	2% sampling	2% sampling to maximum of 8 Kgs for each 100 Bales
3.2	Passing	Spot passing	- Spot Passing - Subject to Approval also after testing within 24 hours

Chairman, CITI's Standing Committee on Cotton Shri T. Rajkumar discussing the CITI-CAI model cotton contract

CITI received several communications raising concern that traders are using the standards mentioned in the CITI-CAI cotton contract to dilute the quality standards of the cotton and accordingly, a stakeholder consultation was conducted on 5th December 2024 to brainstorm on how to make the contract more adaptable and aligned with industry needs.

The meeting was attended by key textile associations of the cotton value chain as also by the cotton veteran, Shri Suresh Kotak.

During the meeting, it was discussed that the primary objective of this contract was to establish a nationwide standard contract similar to that in China. The intent was to enable arbitration for disputes within India, thereby eliminating the need for domestic importers to approach the Liverpool Cotton Association, which is often a time-consuming and costly process. Accordingly, the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) collaborated with CAI for this contract to cater exclusively to Imported Cotton transactions. It was also discussed that the transactions in the domestic market should be conducted based on mutually agreed terms and conditions between buyers and sellers. Imposing a standardized contract for domestic trade is not advisable, as it may hinder the market mechanism.

Accordingly, CITI also clarified its stand to CAI vide a letter addressed to the CAI President and requested for the immediate removal of CITI's logo, name, or any other identifying representation from any version of the Model Cotton Contract intended for domestic use.

Members may kindly take note of the above.

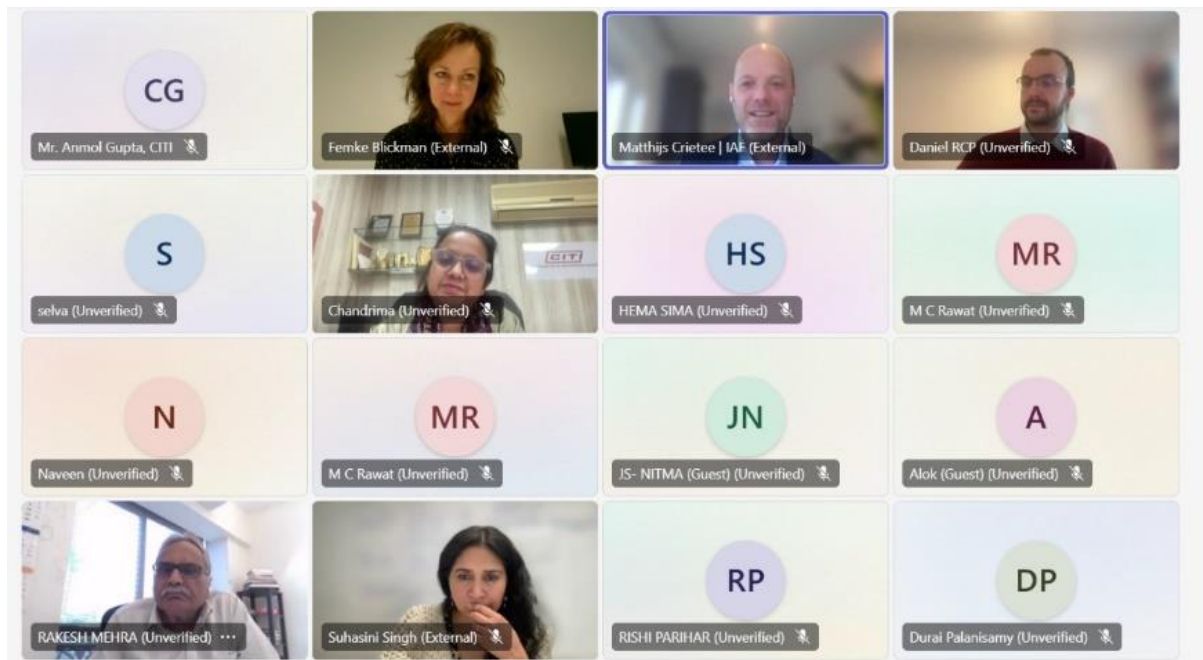
- **Exclusive Webinar on various upcoming legislations like Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence (CSDD)**

The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) has been taking an active role in the dissemination of the fourth coming EU legislation and its impact on the suppliers in the textile value chain of India. In this regard, CITI has partnered with the Fair Wear Foundation and organized several cluster-level capacity-building workshops. Now the International Apparel Federation (IAF) and Fair Wear Foundation have together approached CITI to partner in taking forward this dialogue that plays the concerns of the suppliers as well as with the aim to improve the purchasing practices.

In this regard, a webinar was organized on various upcoming legislations on 5th December at 3.00 PM with selected Board Members of CITI/Committee Members. The Head of IAF Secretariat and Fair Wear Foundation Secretariat along with the legal expert on EU legislation also gave a presentation on the implications of the forthcoming EU legislation and the rights of the suppliers in India.

The session provided a platform to raise our concerns as well as any supplier's concerns to be included in the legislation for improving India's marketing concerns.

CITI is planning to organize more such webinars/events in future and invites members suggestions for the same.



SG-IAF, Mr. Matthijs Crietee sharing his thoughts on the upcoming regulations in EU.

12.1.1.1 **BHARATTEX 2025 - BHILWARA ROADSHOW**

12.1.1.1.1 ORGANIZED IN BHILWARA, RAJASTHAN



Trade Advisor - Ms. Shubra addressing the gathering during the roadshow program

The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI), in association with The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL), Rajasthan Textile Mills Association (RTMA), and Mewar Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI), successfully hosted the BharatTex 2025 - Bhilwara Roadshow on 19th October 2024. The event witnessed the participation of over 100 key stakeholders from Rajasthan's textile value chain, marking a significant step towards the highly anticipated BharatTex 2025.

Ms. Shubhra, Trade Advisor, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, was the Chief Guest at the roadshow. In her address, she reaffirmed the government's unwavering commitment to fostering the growth of the textile sector and stressed the importance of industry collaboration to make BharatTex 2025 a landmark event for India's textile industry. Shri Damodar Agarwal, Member of Parliament, Bhilwara, Rajasthan, attended as the Guest of Honour, emphasizing Bhilwara's crucial role in shaping India's textile future.

Key industry leaders delivered impactful presentations, including:

- Shri Rakesh Mehra, Chairman, CITI, underscored BharatTex 2025 as a unique opportunity to position India's textile industry on the global stage. In his address, he stated, "BharatTex 2025 will not only showcase the strength and capabilities of India's textile sector but will also serve as a platform to elevate our global competitiveness. Bhilwara, as one of the key textile hubs of India, plays a pivotal role in driving this narrative forward. We look forward to the active participation of all stakeholders in making BharatTex a resounding success."
- Dr. S.N. Modani, Chairman, RTMA, shared insights on innovations within the domestic textile sector.

- Shri B.M. Sharma, President, MCCI, emphasized the importance of value chain integration for sustainable growth.
- Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal, Executive Director, Texprocil, and Ms. Chandrima Chatterjee, Secretary General, CITI, provided a comprehensive overview of BharatTex 2025, outlining the event's objectives to enhance India's textile exports and drive sustainable practices across the sector.

The gathering also witnessed dynamic discussions between Bhilwara's key industrialists and the dignitaries, where critical challenges facing the textile and apparel value chain were addressed. These discussions reaffirmed the industry's collective commitment to making BharatTex 2025 a global success.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Shri Dinesh Nolkha, Vice Chairman, CITI & MD, Nitin Spinners Ltd., who expressed his gratitude to all participants and emphasized the need for continued cooperation to elevate India's textile sector to new heights.

The Bhilwara Roadshow has set a strong foundation for BharatTex 2025, with enthusiastic participation and robust support from industry leaders.

CITI TEXTILE SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS 2025

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN TEXTILE SUSTAINABILITY

Since 1993-94, the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) has been fostering excellence across the textile production value chain through the prestigious CITI BIRLA Awards.

However, starting with the year 2023, an attempt is being made to expand the areas of focus, with special emphasis on Sustainability, Circularity, and Traceability through the CITI Textile Sustainability Awards. These awards have been launched to nudge



Past Chairman, CITI and MD, TT Ltd. Shri Sanjay Jain, giving his welcome address

the industry to chart out a more aggressive path with both the planet and people at the centre of all activities.

During the Bharat Tex 2025, CITI organized the CITI Textile Sustainability Awards 2024-25 on 17th February 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

This year the awards were given across the 4 main categories:

1. Exemplary Service to Textile Industry Awards
2. CITI Birla Economic & Textile Research Foundation Award
3. CITI Textile Sustainability Awards
4. Award for responsible Business Membership Organizations (BMOs)

Honourable Minister of State for Textiles, Shri Pabitra Margherita was the Chief Guest for the day and Secretary (Textiles), Ms. Neelam Shami Rao, was the Guest of Honor for the event.



Panelists of the session (from left), Mr. Marius Golden, COO and Co-Founder- Reverse Resources, Mr. Sunil Patwari, Past Chairman -TEXPROCIL, DR. Arindam Basu DG-NITRA (moderator), Mr. Jagjeet Singh Kandal, Country Director, India - IDH and Mr. Navodit B., CTO - Green Story

The award ceremony started with the opening remarks of Mr. Sanjay Jain, Past Chairman, CITI and MD, TT Ltd., wherein he emphasized the need for collective responsibility, and called for an industry-wide commitment to incremental improvements and a 'glass-half-full' approach to sustainability.

During the awards a session on “Mapping best practices” was also organized in which the panel emphasized on sustainability and efficiency in the textile industry.

Key discussion points included improving cotton- picking methods, transitioning to regenerative agriculture for better yields and resilience, and ensuring fair wages for workers. Circularity was



Chief Guest, Honourable Minister of State for Textiles, Shri Pabitra Margherita delivering the inaugural address

highlighted through large-scale textile waste recycling initiatives.

During the session, digitalization and traceability were recognized as essential for optimizing resources, while quantifiable sustainability efforts, such as life-cycle assessments, were emphasized to align with evolving regulations. The session concluded with a call for broader knowledge sharing, reinforcing collaboration and innovation.

During the event, Mr. Manu Gahlowt, Director - Softlines, Intertek gave a detailed presentation on Upcoming sustainability Requirements and good practices.

The inaugural session of the award started with the welcome address of Chairman-CITI, Shri Rakesh Mehra. He cited that The younger generation is shifting towards sustainability, with a growing interest in buying preloved clothes and hence the



industry must encourage more eco- friendly choices.

Guest of Honor, Secretary (Textiles), Ms. Neelam Shami Rao giving her keynote address

Chief Guest, Honourable Minister of State for Textiles, Shri Pabitra Margherita in his inaugural address lauded India's textile sector for its remarkable strides in sustainable manufacturing and global competitiveness. "The textile industry is the backbone of our economy, and sustainability is key to its future resilience," he stated.

Guest of Honor, Secretary (Textiles), Ms. Neelam Shami Rao in her keynote address cited that sustainability must extend beyond environmental goals to ensure social and economic well-being within the workforce.

During the event, Shri Rohit Kansal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Textiles,

echoed the need for stronger industry-government collaboration to meet international sustainability benchmarks. Building on the same, Ms. Prajakta Verma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, highlighted the role of innovation and digitalisation in reducing the sector's environmental footprint. She pointed to the integration of AI-driven analytics and smart manufacturing as key drivers of efficiency and environmental responsibility.



Shri Rohit Kansal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Textiles giving his address

12.2 CITI AWARDS 2025

The CITI Textile Sustainability Awards 2024-25 recognized outstanding contribution to sustainability in the textile sector, honoring 56 winners across 4 major categories and 18 sub-categories covering the entire value chain from farm to fashion, including academic institutions and Business Membership Organizations (BMOs).

A total of 300+ applications were received across the award categories which were evaluated through a 2-stage process: Initially through a panel of eminent jury members and then by a 3rd party validation to verify all claims.



Honourable State Minister of Textile, Shri Pabitra Margherita along with winners. Also in frame, Joint Secretary, Ms. Prajakta Verma, Textile Commissioner, Ms. Roop Rashi, Chairman CITI, Shri Rakesh Mehra, SG-CITI, Ms. Chandrima Chatterjee and DG-NITRA, Dr. Arindam Basu

Winners details are as below:

12.2.1.1.1.1 Category 1: Exemplary Service to Textile Industry Awards

During the awards function Exemplary Service to Textile Industry awards were conferred to 4 industry stalwarts for their contribution towards social and environmental cause that have significantly impacted the Indian textile sector, details of which are given below:



Shri P D Patodia, Past Chairman CITI and Chairman & MD - Prime Urban Development India Ltd for pioneered initiatives to enhance cotton productivity in Rajasthan and beyond



Shri R K Dalmia, Past Chairman - CITI and MD - Aditya Birla Real Estate Ltd. (formerly Century Textiles & industries Ltd.) for spearheading innovations in textiles as a trustee of CITI's Birla

Economic & Textile Research Foundation.

Mr S. P. Oswal, Chairman & MD - Vardhman Textiles Ltd. for championed sustainability with initiatives like Project Nandini and ReNova,



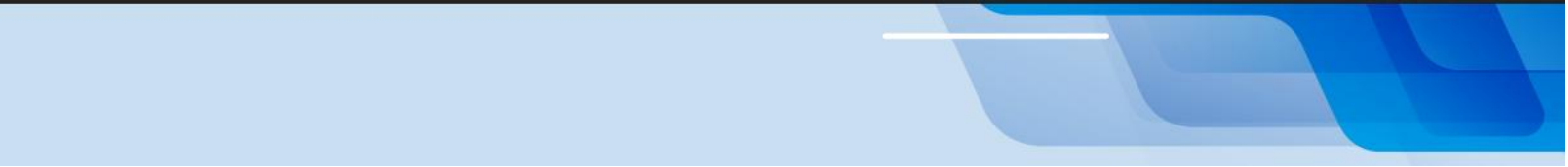
Shri Jagadish Chandran, Chairman Premier Group for key reforms like 24-hour operations in spinning mills, 100% women employment in textiles, world-class dormitory systems, etc.

12.2.1.1.1.2 Category 2: CITI Birla Economic & Textile Research Foundation Award

Award Sub Category	Winners
2.1. Award for Innovative Water Management and Conservation for companies implementing advanced water conservation and reuse for sustainability	• WINNER - Jeyavishnu Clothing Private Ltd. • 1st RUNNER UP- RSWM Ltd. • 2nd RUNNER UP- SCM Garments Pvt. Ltd.
2.2. Award for Leadership in Renewable Energy Integration for firms leading in renewable energy adoption and carbon footprint reduction.	• WINNER- Premier Mills Pvt Ltd • 1st RUNNER UP- Madura Coats Pvt. Ltd. • 2nd RUNNER UP- Victus Apparel Pvt. Ltd.
2.3. Award for Excellence in Carbon Emissions Reduction for organizations excelling in green technologies and net-zero initiatives	• WINNER - Radnik Exports Global Pvt. Ltd. • 1st RUNNER UP - Sulochana Mills Ltd. • 2nd RUNNER UP - Pratibha Syntex Ltd.
2.4. Award for Excellence in Waste Reduction and Circular Innovation Leadership for acknowledging textile firms driving waste reduction and circular economy practices.	• WINNER - Indo Count Industries Ltd.

12.2.1.1.1.3 Category 3: CITI Textile Sustainability Awards

Award Sub Category	Winners
3.1. CITI- Reverse Resources Best Recyclers for textile-to-textile recycling and circular business models. Knowledge Partner: Reverse Resources	• WINNER - Sitaram Spinners Private Limited • 1st RUNNER UP- Oasis Textiles • 2nd RUNNER UP- Maleema eco weaves
3.2. CITI- IDH Best Alternate Materials Use for leaders in recycled fibres and next-gen sustainable materials. Knowledge Partner: IDH	• WINNER - Raymond UCO Denim Private limited • 1st RUNNER UP- USHA YARNS LTD • 2nd RUNNER UP- Banofi Leather Special Award for use of technology- Tooused
3.3. CITI- BSL Best Sustainable Retail Practices for retailers reducing environmental impact and promoting sustainability Knowledge Partner: Brands and Sourcing Leaders Association (BSL)	• WINNER - Indo Count Industries Ltd • 1st RUNNER UP- Eastman Exports Global Clothing Pvt Ltd • 2nd RUNNER UP- M/s Lafaani
3.4. CITI- Aalekh Foundation Textile Heritage Reviver to recognize efforts to revive India's textile heritage and empower communities Knowledge Partner: Aalekh Foundation	• WINNER - Dastkar • 1st RUNNER UP- 23:23 Designs & Sourcing Pvt Ltd • 2nd RUNNER UP- Lahe Lifestyle Special Award for exceptional work towards textile heritage reviver- Meghalaya Government
3.5. CITI- Rajesh Bheda Consulting Best HR Practices Award for organizations prioritizing inclusive and sustainable HR practices Knowledge Partner: Rajesh Bheda Consulting (RBC)	• WINNER - Gokaldas Exports Limited • 1st RUNNER UP- Raymond UCO Denim Pvt. Ltd. • 2nd RUNNER UP- Banswara Syntex Ltd., Garment Division
3.6. CITI- Best academic institution educational contribution to textile and clothing sustainability Award for institutions leading in sustainable textile research and education	• WINNER - NIFT Gandhinagar (Best academic institution (Textile) Educational contribution sustainability Award) • WINNER - Goa Institute of Management (Best academic institution Educational contribution sustainability Award) • 1st RUNNER UP- Vimala College, Thrissur, Kerala



Award Sub Category	Winners
3.7. CITI- CDRA Best Regenerative Farmer for farmers excelling in sustainable cotton farming and community welfare. Knowledge Partner: CITI - Cotton Development & Research Association (CITI-CDRA)	• WINNER - Shri Swapnil Gunwant Shelki (Supporting Agency - CITI CDRA) • 1st RUNNER UP- Shri Pavra Mohit (Supporting Agency: Indocount Industries) • 2nd RUNNER UP- Shri Rama (Supporting Agency: Pratibha Syntex) • 3rd RUNNER UP- Ms. Hema Devi (Supporting Agency: CITI CDRA) • 4th RUNNER UP - Shri Tulsiram (Supporting Agency-Beetle Regen)
3.8. CITI-TEXPROCIL Leading Kasturi Ginner to recognize excellence in quality, sustainability, and traceability in cotton ginning Knowledge Partner: TEXPROCIL	• WINNER - Ram Agro, • 1st RUNNER UP- Jayesh Cotsyn, • 2nd RUNNER UP- Gimatex Industries Pvt Ltd.
3.9. Special Award for Women Entrepreneur to honour the women who through their outstanding leadership drive innovation and sustainability in industry.	• Kevisedenuo Margaret Zinyu

To celebrate the efforts of cotton farmers towards environmental stewardship CITI also honoured the cotton farmers



from major cotton producing states who are doing exceptional work towards regenerative cotton farming. The highlight of the award category was the lady farmer Ms. Hema Devi, a farmer from Sirohikhera village in Rajasthan, who not only achieved the highest cotton yield in her area—14.50 quintals from one acre but also improved soil health and productivity through her various regenerative practises which she learnt from through participating in projects and training programs of CITI - Cotton Development & Research Association (CITI-CDRA)

12.2.1.1.1.4 Category 4: CITI-FMC Award for responsible Business Membership Organizations (BMOs)

This year in association with Foundation for MSME Clusters (FMC), CITI also organized Award for responsible Business Membership Organizations (BMOs). BMOs are industry associations and chambers of commerce which provide a variety of business-related services to promote the competitiveness of their members as well as non- members. This award targets BMOs who have textiles, apparels or their value chain partners as their members.

Details of winners are as below:

Award Sub Category	Winners
4.1 Promoting Green Environment (National/State/Regional LEVEL)	• Winner: Haryana Environment Management Society • 1st Runner up: South Gujarat Textile Processors Association • 2nd Runner up: United Sewing Machine & Parts Manufacturers Association
4.2 Promoting Social Issues (National/State/Regional LEVEL)	• Winner: Indian Textile Accessories & Machinery Manufacturers Association • 1st Runner up: Disha Shekhawati Women and Girls Development Institute • 2nd Runner up: Haryana Carpet Manufacturers Association
4.3 Promoting Green Environment (District/Cluster/SPV/Industrial Estate/ Industrial Area LEVEL)	• Winner: Jayadev Banana Farmers and Artisans Association • 1st Runner up: The Panipat Dyers Association • 2nd Runner up: Seharabazar Zari & Zarodoushi Product Manufacturing Industrial Cluster Cooperative Society Ltd
4.4 Promoting Social Issues (District/Cluster/SPV/Industrial Estate/ Industrial Area LEVEL)	• Winner: Nitya Sangha Mahila SHG Cooperative Society Limited • 1st Runner up: Khushali Artisan Handicraft Producer Company Ltd • 2nd Runner up: Shivalik Jankalyan Samiti
4.5 Special Award for Promoting Innovative Responsible Business Activity	• Rounak Centre for Cultural & Social Development Initiative



Joint Secretray, Ms. Prajakta Verma and Textile Commissioner, Ms. Roop Rashi presenting the awards to winners of CITI-FMC awards

Fashion Show

The award function concluded with a fashion show Earthloom - Threads of Heritage: A Fashion Show Celebrating Sustainable Heritage Weaves of India which was organized by Aalekh Foundation in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI).

The event showcased a fusion of heritage and modernity through four visionary designers: Rosy Ahluwalia's bold Khadi, Shilpi Gupta's reimagined Banarasi silk, Daniel Syiem's sustainable Ryndia silk, and Sanjukta Dutta's intricate Mekhala Chador.

A key highlight of the show was Shri Pabitra Margherita, Hon'ble Minister of State for Textiles, gracing the ramp as the showstopper, donning Erisilk to showcase India's traditional weaves.

Adding a global spectacle, K-pop star Aoora, not only walked the ramp but also delivered an electrifying live performance, fusing fashion with international entertainment.

Show started with the remarks of Dr Rennie Joyy, founder of Aalekh Foundation, during which she stated that *"The Earthloom show is more than just a showcase; it's a testament to the timeless beauty of India's heritage, seamlessly blended with modern sustainability."*

The CITI Textile Sustainability Awards served as a powerful reminder that

sustainability in textiles is not just a choice but a necessity for long-term industry resilience. Honouring forward-thinking initiatives, the ceremony brought together distinguished leaders who reinforced the shared vision of a greener future.



Honourable Minister of State of Textiles, Shri Pabitra Margherita walking the ramp during the fashion show.

3rd Man-Made Fibre Conclave- Post Event Report

The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) recently organized the 3rd Man-Made Fibre Conclave on 30th June 2025 in Coimbatore, with the presence of senior government officials, industry stalwarts, and policy leaders. The theme of the conclave, “*Global Trade Dynamics: Strengthening India’s Position in the Manmade Fibre Value Chain*,” resonated through the day’s sessions, which addressed emerging opportunities, strategic challenges, and policy imperatives for India’s MMF sector.



Shri Pabitra Margherita, Union Minister of State for Textiles and Union Minister of State for External Affairs, addressing 3rd MMF Conclave

The conclave was inaugurated by Shri Pabitra Margherita, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles and Union Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India. In his inaugural address, the Minister emphasized the growing importance of man-made fibres (MMF) in the global textile and apparel trade and urged Indian manufacturers to innovate, integrate sustainability, and tap into the vast export potential of MMF-based products. He appreciated the efforts of CITI in organizing a focused platform that addressed challenges and opportunities for MMF stakeholders in the country.

The event commenced with opening remarks from Shri T. Rajkumar, Past Chairman, CITI and Chairman, Sri Mahasakthi Group. Shri Rakesh Mehra, Chairman of CITI, delivered the welcome address and emphasized the need for a coordinated push to enhance India's share in the global MMF market. Padmashri Dr. A. Sakthivel, Vice Chairman, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) and Chairman, Poppys Group, highlighted the importance of boosting MMF garment exports.



Eminent dignitaries and industry stakeholders unveiling the Knowledge Paper during the Inaugural Session

During the inaugural session, CITI released its Knowledge Paper titled "From Potential to Power: Aligning India with Global MMF Shifts" which provided a comprehensive overview of the MMF industry landscape and recommendations to drive sectoral growth. Shri Ashwin Chandran, Deputy Chairman, CITI, proposed the vote of thanks and expressed gratitude to the dignitaries, sponsors, and participants.

The event served as a vital platform for industry leaders to collectively reflect on the future trajectory of the Indian textile and apparel sector. The shared emphasis on sustainability and environmental responsibility marked a progressive shift toward ensuring that industry growth is aligned with long-term ecological well-being.

Theme Presentation



Theme Presentation by Mr. Prashant Agarwal, Joint Managing Director, Wazir Advisors

Following the inaugural session, Mr. Prashant Agarwal, Joint Managing Director, Wazir Advisors, delivered the theme presentation. He outlined key shifts in global MMF consumption, emerging trade patterns, and India's competitive positioning, highlighting structural gaps in fibre-to-fabric integration, raw material security, and the need for sustainable value chain transformation. He emphasized the importance of aligning trade, technology, and sustainability to create a globally competitive MMF value chain. As MMF consumption continues to rise globally, India must build capabilities across the value chain to meet international quality and compliance benchmarks. The session provided a strategic backdrop for the day, offering insights into how India can respond to global trade realignments while nurturing domestic innovation and capacity expansion.

Session 1: Global MMF Industry and Trade Landscape

The global man-made fibre (MMF) industry is witnessing a fundamental realignment driven by evolving trade dynamics, shifts in consumption patterns, and rising sustainability pressures. In this context, the session on "Global MMF Industry and Trade Landscape" provided an in-depth examination of India's positioning in the global MMF ecosystem. Chaired by Ms. Shubhra, Additional DGFT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and moderated by Mr. Uday Gill, Partner, Gherzi Textil Organisation and Board Member, ITMF, the session brought together diverse industry leaders to deliberate on strategies for global integration.



Panelists during Session on “Global MMF Industry and Trade Landscape” (L to R): Mr. Hemant Sharma, Mr. Uday Gill (Moderator), Ms. Shubhra (Chairperson), Mr. R.K. Vij, Mr. Rajeev Gupta

Mr. Hemant Sharma, President – Polyester, Reliance Industries Ltd., highlighted the need for India to focus on large-scale production capacities to achieve economies of scale and match the global MMF powerhouses. He emphasized the importance of investing in backward integration, technological upgrades, and raw material availability to strengthen India's supply competitiveness.

Mr. Rajeev Gupta, Joint Managing Director, RSWM Ltd., addressed the export potential of value-added MMF products and underlined the need for an integrated supply chain from fibre to fashion. He spoke about aligning India's manufacturing ecosystem with the expectations of global brands and suggested policy-driven incentives for accelerating exports.

Adding institutional perspective, Mr. R.K. Vij, Secretary General, Polyester Textile Apparel Industry Association and Advisor, Indorama Synthetics (India) Ltd., reflected on the regulatory landscape governing MMF trade. He elaborated on the implications of tariff and non-tariff barriers and suggested proactive engagement with trade partners to enhance market access.

The session concluded with a consensus on the need for India to look beyond traditional markets and diversify towards high-potential geographies such as Africa, ASEAN, and South America. The panel stressed the urgency of aligning with international sustainability norms, enhancing ease of doing business, and investing in circularity as a means of long-term value creation in the MMF sector.

Session 2: Sustainable Innovation in the MMF Industry

With increasing global emphasis on sustainable manufacturing and regulatory compliance, the MMF industry is compelled to reimagine its processes, inputs, and outcomes. The second session, focused on "Sustainable Innovation in the MMF Industry," explored how technological advancements and regulatory frameworks are shaping the industry's path towards environmental responsibility. The session was chaired by Ms. Rekha Rani, IAS, Commissioner of Handlooms and Textiles, Andhra Pradesh, and moderated by Mr. Varun Vaid, Director, Wazir Advisors.



Panelists during the Session on “Sustainable Innovation in the MMF Industry” (L to R): Mr. Kranthi Kiran, Mr. Varun Vaid (Moderator), Ms. Rekha Rani, IAS (Chairperson), Dr. Smita Bait, Mr. Sudipto Mandal, and Mr. Vijaykumar

Mr. Sudipto Mandal, Regional Sales Director, Oerlikon Barmag, provided insights into next generation spinning equipment designed for resource efficiency and waste reduction. He highlighted how automation and precision engineering are enabling lower energy intensity and improved production outcomes, helping MMF producers align with sustainability goals without compromising scale.

Mr. Kranthi Kiran, Regional Head of Digital Business & Sustainability Coordinator for Asia Pacific at Klüber Lubrication India, presented on the role of digital technologies in monitoring and optimizing sustainability metrics. He emphasized the growing demand for real-time



environmental compliance tracking systems, which are becoming a norm in global sourcing discussions.

Dr. Smita Bait, Senior Technical Manager at ZDHC, brought attention to the need for transparency in chemical management and how international standards and frameworks are influencing procurement practices. She outlined the growing preference among global brands for suppliers who meet rigorous environmental and safety criteria.

Adding to the domestic implementation perspective, Mr. Vijaykumar from PDEXCIL underscored the importance of integrating sustainability practices into MSME clusters. He advocated for capacity building, handholding initiatives, and easier access to compliance tools as a means of bringing smaller units into the sustainable supply chain.

The session concluded with a collective call to action for the MMF industry to embed sustainability into every stage of the product life cycle from fibre design and processing to brand engagement and consumer education. It was widely acknowledged that sustainability must go beyond compliance to become a core tenet of competitive strategy in global MMF trade.

Session: ITMA Asia + CITME 2025 Preview

Ms. Daphne Poon presented a detailed overview of the upcoming ITMA Asia + CITME 2025 event in Singapore. Her address showcased upcoming innovations in textile and MMF machinery and invited Indian businesses to leverage the event to identify suitable technology partners. She highlighted areas such as automation, eco-friendly machinery, and smart factory integrations that can drive the competitiveness of Indian MMF firms.

Session 3: MMF's Role in Emerging Sectors: Technical Textiles and Beyond

As India seeks to move up the value chain in textiles, technical textiles have emerged as a strategic focus area with immense potential for innovation, value addition, and exports. Man-made fibres, with their adaptability and performance characteristics, are increasingly being positioned as foundational to the growth of sectors such as defence, medical, automotive, and sportswear. The session titled “MMF's Role in Emerging Sectors: Technical Textiles and Beyond” explored the interplay between fibre innovation and new-age applications. It was moderated by Dr. S.K. Sundararaman, Chairman, Southern India Mills Association (SIMA) and Managing Director, Shiva Texyarn Ltd.



Panelists during the Session on “MMF's Role in Emerging Sectors: Technical Textiles and Beyond” (L to R): Mr. Prashanth Ramesh, Dr. S.K. Sundararaman (Moderator), Dr. Prakash Vasudevan, and Mr. A. Sunil Kumar Jhunjunwala

Mr. Avinash Misar, Chairman of the Indian Technical Textile Association (ITTA), began the discussion by highlighting the increasing role of MMFs in areas requiring strength, durability, and specialized functionality. He stressed the need for robust R&D collaboration between industry and academia to support application-oriented innovation.

Mr. A. Sunil Kumar Jhunjunwala, Vice Chairman, MMF Subcommittee, TEA, and Co-founder of Techno Sportswear Pvt. Ltd., reflected on the exponential growth of the athleisure segment and how MMF-based fabrics have enabled Indian manufacturers to meet global standards in comfort and performance. He emphasized that agility and responsiveness to evolving global fashion and fitness trends are crucial.

Dr. Prakash Vasudevan, Director, SITRA, brought a scientific lens to the discussion by sharing insights into advanced MMF processing and product development. He highlighted the need for standardized testing infrastructure to validate functionality across different end-use sectors.

Adding the buyer's perspective, Mr. Prashanth Ramesh, Knit Component Leader, Decathlon International, noted that global brands are actively seeking Indian partners who can deliver not

just volume but also compliance, traceability, and technical consistency. He underscored the importance of quality benchmarking, sustainability credentials, and speed-to-market.

The session concluded with a shared view that India must prioritize the development of strong research and testing ecosystem, create cross-sector linkages, and aggressively position its MMF capabilities in the technical textiles domain. There was broad agreement that MMFs hold the key to unlocking India's full potential in high-value, innovation-driven textile applications.

Session 4: Scaling Up - Investment Opportunities and Strategic Challenges

India's MMF industry has witnessed robust interest from investors and stakeholders over the last few years. However, challenges around policy clarity, infrastructure, raw material availability, and environmental compliance continue to slow the sector's expansion. The session on "Scaling Up - Investment Opportunities and Strategic Challenges" delved into these structural bottlenecks while exploring pathways to unlock the industry's full potential. It was moderated by Mr. Shaleen Toshniwal, Chairman, MATEXIL.

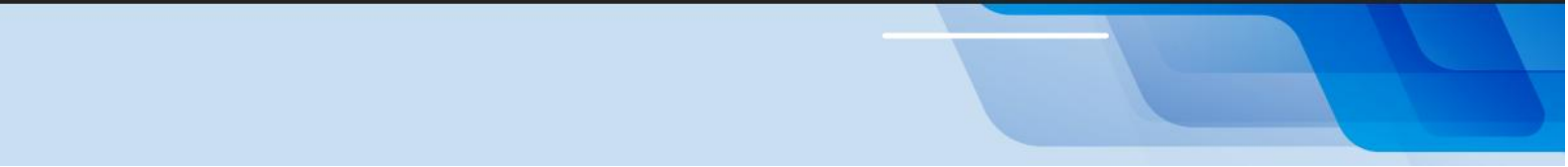


Panelists during the Session on "Scaling Up – Investment Opportunities and Strategic Challenges" (L to R): Mr. Samir Dattani, Dr. Velkrishna Kandaswamy, Mr. Shaleen Toshniwal (Moderator), Dr. K. Velkrishna, and Dr. K. Selvaraju

Mr. Sammir Dattani, Executive Director, Sanathan Textiles, spoke about the need to de-risk investments through long-term infrastructure planning, logistics connectivity, and stable energy availability. He emphasized that capital investment must be matched with facilitative policies and streamlined approvals to improve project viability.

Dr. Velkrishna Kandaswamy, Managing Partner, Deiveegam Dyers, shared the perspective of processing units and underlined ground-level challenges such as effluent treatment, zoning constraints, and limited access to industrial land. He advocated for developing plug-and-play parks and CETP-supported processing clusters to attract mid-sized firms.

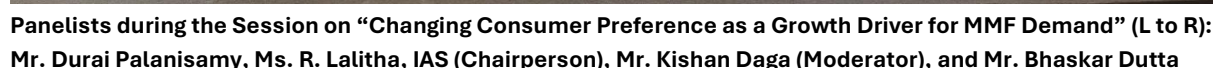
Offering a broader policy outlook, Dr. K. Selvaraju, Secretary General, SIMA, stressed the need for harmonizing GST structures, rationalizing raw material duties, and supporting backward



integration through fiscal and non-fiscal incentives. He also emphasized the importance of aligning central and state policies for seamless industry support.

The session concluded with a shared view that while investor appetite is growing, it must be met with a stronger enabling ecosystem. Speakers highlighted the need for integrated cluster planning, common infrastructure, buyer linkages, and continued engagement with policymakers to foster sustained, large-scale investments in India's MMF value chain.

Shifting consumer preferences have become a powerful force shaping the evolution of the MMF industry. As comfort, performance, and affordability emerge as dominant purchase drivers, MMF-based products are increasingly preferred across categories such as activewear, innerwear, and daily casualwear. This concluding session explored how manufacturers and brands are responding to evolving lifestyle needs, and what this means for product development and market strategy. The session was chaired by Ms. R. Lalitha, IAS, Director (Textiles), Government of Tamil Nadu, and moderated by Mr. Kishan Daga, Founder Anchor – Concepts N Strategies.



Offering the brand perspective, Mr. Bhaskar Dutta, Raw Material Sourcing Head at Jockey India, discussed how MMFs have become central to product innovation in the athleisure and innerwear categories. He emphasized the importance of understanding nuanced consumer behaviour and stressed that agile product development cycles, built on feedback loops and trend forecasting, are critical to staying competitive.

The session concluded with the recognition that consumer-centricity is no longer optional it must drive every strategic and production decision. Panelists called on Indian manufacturers to invest in fabric R&D, embrace responsive supply chains, and collaborate with fashion brands to stay attuned to evolving preferences. As MMF continues to gain consumer acceptance, India's ability to align with these trends will define its global relevance in fibre-forward product categories.

Summing Up and Way Forward

The conclave concluded with closing remarks by Ms. Chandrima Chatterjee, Secretary General, CITI. She summarized the key outcomes of the day, emphasizing the need for synchronized efforts across the MMF value chain to boost investment, innovation, and global integration. Ms. Chatterjee urged stakeholders to build on the momentum generated by the conclave and reaffirmed CITI's commitment to supporting industry growth through policy advocacy, research, and collaboration.

Key Takeaways and Action Points from the 3rd MMF Conclave

These consolidated takeaways aim to inform policy direction, investment planning, and collaborative actions to strengthen India's position in the global MMF value chain.

1. Strengthening India's Position in Global Trade:

- Emphasis on large-scale MMF manufacturing capacities to compete globally.
- Need for trade policy interventions to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers.

2. Fostering Sustainability and Compliance:

- Call for embedding sustainability across the product life cycle.
- Promotion of digital tools for environmental monitoring and chemical transparency.

3. Leveraging MMF in Technical Textiles:

- Focus on innovation in functional applications such as defence, automotive, and medical textiles.
- Development of standardized testing and certification infrastructure.

4. Accelerating Investment and Infrastructure:

- Creation of plug-and-play parks and CETP-backed clusters.
- Streamlined regulatory approvals and state-industry collaboration to improve investor confidence and project execution timelines.

5. Responding to Changing Consumer Preferences:

- Recognition of MMF's rising demand in performance and athleisure wear.
- Push for faster product cycles, agile supply chains, and deeper consumer insights.

6. Strategic Alignment and Industry Collaboration:

- Need for a unified national MMF vision with coordination between industry, Centre, and States.
- Stronger collaboration across stakeholders for export readiness and innovation.

7. Enhancing Fibre-to-Fashion Integration and Export Readiness:

- Close critical service and quality gaps in the domestic MMF value chain to improve India's export competitiveness.
- Focus on vertical integration, SOPs, and product innovation aligned with buyer expectations.

8. Seizing Opportunity in Global Trade Realignments:

- Leverage sourcing shifts and China+1 strategies to position India as a preferred MMF hub.
- Build scale, reliability, and sustainability credentials to expand market share globally.

ATEXCON 2025 Drives Transformative Dialogues in the Textile Industry

The 12th edition of the Asian Textile Conference (ATEXCON 2025), organized by the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI), concluded successfully on 25th March 2025 at the Courtyard by Marriott, Mumbai. Gherzi, a leading global textile consulting firm, served as the official knowledge partner for the event.

Asia continues to be the backbone of the global textile and apparel sector, contributing significantly across the value chain. The region accounts for approximately 63% of the world's total cotton production and an astounding 90% of the world's man-made fiber (MMF) production, making it the global leader in raw material supply. Furthermore, with around 90% of the world's total spinning capacity and 85% of global knitting capacity, Asia remains the largest manufacturing base worldwide.

Recognized as one of Asia's most prestigious textile industry conferences, ATEXCON 2025 brought together global leaders, policymakers, and experts to explore Asia's growing influence in the global textile sector.

The event commenced with a warm welcome address by Shri Rakesh Mehra, Chairman, CITI, who underscored the immense potential of Asian countries in the global textile landscape. He emphasized that while increasing export volumes is important, the focus should also be on enhancing value addition to drive higher unit value realization (UVR). "Exporting high-value products with greater UVR should be a priority for all Asian countries," stated Shri Mehra, highlighting the need for strategic growth in the sector.

ATEXCON 2025 witnessed the release of two significant documents aimed at shaping the future of India's textile and apparel (T&A) sector:



1. "5-Point Agenda for the Indian T&A Industry (2025-26): A joint initiative by leading textile associations and export promotion councils, this agenda outlines immediate policy interventions needed to achieve India's export target for 2025-26 and drive the industry toward a collective goal of US\$ 100 billion in exports by 2030.
2. "Code of Conduct for Prevention of Child Labour and Forced Labour in the Indian Textile Industry:" Demonstrating the industry's strong commitment to ethical practices, this voluntary code aims to address and eliminate any instances of child labor and forced labor across the textile value chain. The code has been endorsed by AEPC, CITI, Indian Technical Textile Association (ITTA), SIMA, TEA, CMAI, MATEXCIL, PDEXCIL, and TEXPROCIL.

This year was the 12th year of the ATEXCON which brought together industry leaders, policymakers, and experts to discuss Asia's growing influence in the global textile sector under the theme "Asia Steering Global Growth."

Key sessions at 12th ATEXCON:

1. Theme Session: Asia Steering Global Growth

Set the tone for the conference, highlighting Asia's strategic position in global textile markets and the need for collaborative growth.



2. Session 1: Strategies for Changing Landscape – Trade Dynamics & Policy Shifts

Moderated by Mr. David Uricoli, Partner, Gherzi USA, this session explored how evolving trade policies and geopolitical shifts are reshaping supply chains and competitiveness in the region.



3. Session 2: Trade Dynamics & Policy Shifts

Moderated by Dr. Siddharth Rajagopal, Executive Director, Texprocil, the session brought together industry leaders to discuss emerging trade trends, policy challenges, and strategies for enhancing Asia's competitiveness in the global textile market.



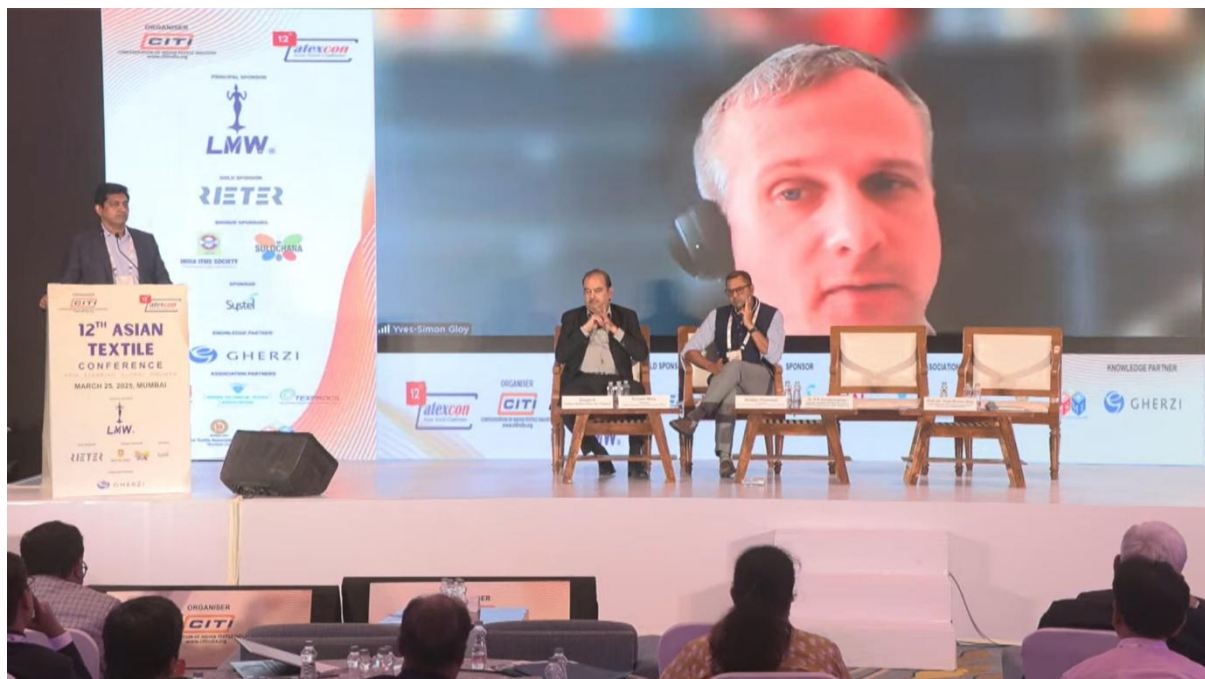
4. Session 3: Technological Disruptions & Digitization

Led by Mr. Suryadeb Mukherjee, Principal Consultant, Gherzi Consulting, the discussion focused on the transformative impact of AI, automation, and digital tools on textile manufacturing and sustainability.



5. Session 4: Technical Textiles Expansion

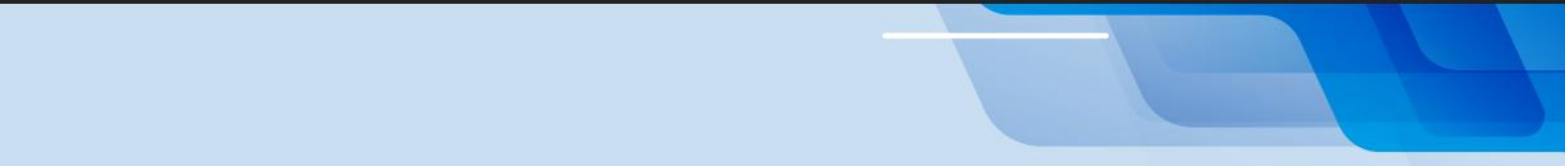
Moderated by Dr. SK Sundararaman, SIMA Chairman, explored growth opportunities in medical, automotive and geotextiles



6. Session 5: Future of Fashion & Consumer Trends

Moderated by Mr. Rahul Mehta, Chief Mentor, Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI), this session examined shifting consumer preferences, the rise of circular fashion, and how brands can adapt to meet new demands.





The topics covered at ATEXCON 2025 are critical to the textile industry's future, particularly as Asia cements its role as the global hub for textile production and innovation. From trade policy adjustments to technological advancements and sustainability imperatives, the conference provided actionable insights for businesses navigating a rapidly evolving landscape.

The conference concluded with a valedictory session, summarizing key takeaways and set the stage for future initiatives

CITI's Participation in Preview in Seoul 2025 Textile Trade Fair

Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) in its ongoing efforts to strengthen and promote Indian textiles and clothing trade and exports globally and to build a strong image of Indian textile industry, participated and organized India Pavilion with seven participants in "Preview in Seoul 2025 Fair". The Fair organised by Korea Federation of Textile Industries (KOFOTI) from 20th August to 22nd August 2025 in Convention and Exhibition Centre, Seoul, Korea was a grand success.

Marking its 26th year and under the motto "Innovation, Sustainability and Digital Convergence," the event hosted programs including exhibitions, global forums and seminars.

515 domestic and foreign companies participated in the exhibition to introduce trends in textile materials, fabrics and fashion, as well as showcased cutting-edge products such as textiles with eco-friendly, industrial and medical smart features and fashion technology that use artificial intelligence (AI).

Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) and Korea Federation of Textile Industries (KOFOTI) have signed an MOU for mutual co-operation between the two organisations including promotion of the events of CITI and KOFOTI in each other's country.

CITI leads the contingent of Indian Textiles and Clothing Companies every year to promote and strengthen Indian Textiles & Clothing trade and build a strong image of Indian textile industry in Korea. Platform like PIS is important as companies can personally meet the leading foreign buyers, traders, etc. who have business interests in India and invite them to participate in T&C trade related activities in India.



Following companies participated in the PIS 2025 and sent their representatives to promote their textile business and showcased their products and services to tap global buyers.

Indian Delegation Details for PIS 2025

S.No.	Name of Party	Booth Number
1.	GMP WEAVING MILLS PRIVATE LIMITED	E-17
2.	Pawan Fabtex Private Limited	E-18
3.	Salona Cotspin Limited	E-19
4.	Paras Fashion	C-22
5.	Mohan Spintex India Limited	E-27
6.	SVARNA TEXTILES LTD	E-28
7.	J. Korin Spinning Pvt. Ltd	E-29

CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY
(Formerly known as The ICMF)
PAST CHAIRMEN

Name of the Past Chairman	Period
Late Shri Kasturbhai Lalbhai	1958-60
Late Shri Krishnaraj M.D. Thackersey	1960-61
Late Dr. Bharat Ram	1961-63
Late Dr. Ramnath A. Podar	1963-65
Late Cav. Dr. G.K. Devarajulu	1965-67
Late Shri Madanmohan Mangaldas	1967-69
Late Shri Radhakrishna R. Ruia	1969-71
Late Shri Tej Kumar Sethi	1971-73
Late Shri G.K. Sundaram	1973-75
Late Shri Balkrishna Harivallabhdas	1975-77
Late Shri Rasesh N. Mafatlal	1977-78
Shri J.P. Goenka	1978-80
Shri K. Rajagopal	1980-82
Late Shri Arvind Narottam Lalbhai	1982-84
Shri Kantikumar R. Podar	1984-86
Shri Satish Kumar Modi	1986-88
Late Shri G. Varadaraj	1988-90
Shri Rohitbhai C. Mehta	1990-92
Late Dr. Mohanlal Piramal	1992-94

Shri R.V. Kanoria	1994-95
Shri D. Lakshminarayanawamy	1995-97
Shri Deepak Parikh	1997-98
Shri Sudhir Thackersey	1998-00
Shri B.K. Patodia	2000-01
Late Dr. Rajaram Jaipuria	2001-02
Shri Chintan Parikh	2002-03
Dr. B.K. Krishnaraj Vanavarayar	2003-04
Shri V.K. Ladia	2004-05
Shri Hiren Shah	2005-06
Shri Shekhar Agarwal	2006-07
Shri R.K. Dalmia	2008-09
Shri Shishir Jaipuria	2009-11
Shri S.V. Arumugum	2011-13
Shri Prem Malik	2013-15
Shri Naishadh Parikh	2015-17
Shri J. Thulasidharan	2017
Shri Sanjay Kumar Jain	2017-19
Shri T. Rajkumar	2019-2023