



# AEPC VOICE

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## India's RMG Export to World (Value)

- March, 2026	: USD 1240.5 mn.
- March, 2025	: USD 1531.3 mn.
- Growth	: -19.0%
- Apr – March 2025-26	: USD 15772.1 mn.
- Apr – March 2024-25	: USD 15989.3 mn.
- Growth	: -1.4 %

## (Quantity)

- Jan., 2026	: 375816.5 Thousand Units
- Jan., 2025	: 396849.1 Thousand Units
- Growth	: -5.3 %
- Apr – Jan 2025-26	: 3294839.7 Thousand Units
- Apr - Jan 2024-25	: 3223055.2 Thousand Units
- Growth	: 2.2 %

## AEPC News

### AEPC requests to remove custom duty on import of Cotton

Chairman AEPC, Dr. A. Sakthivel, vide letters dated April 21, 2026 addressed to the Hon'ble Union Minister of Finance, and April 23, 2026 to the Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, and Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, highlighted the growing challenges faced by the textile and apparel sector due to rising cotton prices driven by supply constraints and market factors, along with increasing fuel and raw material costs.

He emphasized that the resulting increase in yarn and fabric prices has significantly raised apparel production costs, adversely impacting export competitiveness despite strong global demand.

Chairman AEPC has urged immediate removal of customs duty on import of raw cotton to help stabilise prices and provide relief to the textile value chain.

### AEPC requests for extension of relief measures announced due to West Asia conflict

Chairman AEPC, Dr. A. Sakthivel, vide letter dated April 28, 2026 requested DGFT to extend the relief measures

announced due to the ongoing West Asia conflict, which are expiring on or around 30 April 2026.

He highlighted that exporters continue to face disruptions in shipping, elevated freight and insurance costs, and operational uncertainties.

Extension of these measures till the end of the year has been sought to support exporters, particularly MSMEs, and ensure continuity of trade.

### AEPC requests to have India's own shipping line for long term export growth

Chairman AEPC, Dr. A. Sakthivel vide letter dated April 28, 2026 addressed to the Secretary (Textiles) highlighted the need for India's own shipping line to support long-term export growth. It was emphasized that heavy dependence on foreign shipping companies exposes exporters to high freight costs, supply chain disruptions, and reduced global competitiveness, especially during crisis. Chairman AEPC therefore requested that appropriate steps may kindly be taken to establish a national shipping line to strengthen "Atmanirbhar Bharat" and ensure stable, cost-effective logistics for the export sector

### Bharat Tex 2026 – Round Table Discussion & Curtain Raiser, Bengaluru

AEPC organised the Bharat Tex 2026 Brands & Buying Houses Round Table on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026 in Bengaluru. The Chairman AEPC Dr. A. Sakthivel in his welcome address emphasised the importance of industry collaboration and preparedness for the upcoming mega event. The session brought together around 40 global brands and buying houses including Walmart, PVH, Ralph Lauren, Marks & Spencer (M&S), C&A, Columbia Sportswear, among others.

Key discussions focused on strengthening supply chains, sustainability, circularity, traceability, and compliance. The urgent need to bridge technology and quality gaps and strengthen domestic capabilities was highlighted by the brands representatives and buying houses.

With Bharat Tex 2026 scheduled for 14–17 July in New Delhi, stakeholders underscored the role of FTAs and collaboration in positioning India as a leading global apparel sourcing hub.

### **AEPC attends meeting chaired by HMOC&I to strengthen export ecosystem Post India–New Zealand FTA signing**

Chairman AEPC, Dr. A. Sakthivel and SG AEPC, Shri Mithileshwar Thakur, attended the India–New Zealand FTA signing, and Business Forum at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 27th April 2026. They also participated in the meeting chaired by Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal with Export Promotion Councils and industry leaders to deliberate on strategies for strengthening India's export ecosystem in the context of evolving global trade dynamics.

The Minister highlighted India's record USD 860.09 billion exports in FY 2025–26 and urged stakeholders to leverage FTAs to achieve the USD 2 trillion export target by 2030.

### **SG AEPC on India's textile exports edge up 2.1% in FY26 despite global headwinds**

India's textile exports registered a steady 2.1% growth in FY26, underscoring the sector's resilience amid global challenges.

Growth was primarily led by the apparel segment, while diversification into man-made textiles and handicrafts also supported momentum.

SG AEPC, Shri Mithileshwar Thakur highlighted that the industry has "held its ground" despite disruptions, reflecting strong adaptability of exporters.

He emphasised that expanding engagement with key markets has strengthened India's global positioning.

Going forward, upcoming FTAs with major economies like the UK and EU are expected to further boost competitiveness and export growth.

To see the detailed news [click here](#)

### **AEPC Hosts Webinar on Cash Flow Management and Debt Recovery**

AEPC, in collaboration with GCS Worldwide, organised a webinar on "Invoice to Cash in Global Trade: Managing Cash Flow & Overseas Debt Recovery for Apparel Exporters" on April 30, 2026.

In his opening remarks, SG, AEPC, Mr. Mithileshwar Thakur highlighted the challenging global environment and underscored the role of agencies like GCS Worldwide in supporting exporters with efficient recovery of outstanding receivables and urged members to leverage such services.

A detailed presentation was made by Mr. Vishal Chowdhary, Managing Director, CGS Worldwide. The session covered key aspects including cash flow management, reduction of Days Sales Outstanding (DSO), mitigation of payment risks, and overseas debt recovery. Around 100 members participated in the webinar.

### **Practical Guidance for Indian Exporters Entering the US Market | Live Webinar - 24 April 2026**

AEPC, vide its circular dated 23.04.2026, informed and invited its members to an exclusive webinar for Indian exporters on US market compliance, buyer expectations, and engagement with major retailers like Costco.

The webinar was organised on 24 April 2026 by the Consulate General of India (New York & Seattle).

### **AEPC encourages participation in the "2nd Vision Karnataka" Mega Exhibition**

AEPC vide its circular dated April 22, 2026 informed and encouraged its members to participate in the "2nd Vision Karnataka" Mega Exhibition scheduled to be held on June 23-25, 2026, at the KLE Centenary Convention Center, Belagavi, Karnataka. This prestigious national platform aims to showcase key government initiatives, innovations, and sectoral advancements while bringing together government bodies, industry leaders, academic institutions, and citizens under one roof.

### **AEPC's participation in the Sourcing at Magic, Las Vegas, USA**

AEPC is going to participate in "SOURCING AT MAGIC, LAS VEGAS, USA" scheduled to be held from 10th to 12th August, 2026. The event will be held at Las Vegas Convention Center (South Hall), Las Vegas.

Early Bird Discount deadline has been extended from 30th April to 29th May, 2026. The last date for submission of application and payment for participation in the fair has also been extended from 12th May to 12th June, 2026.

The detailed circular can be seen by clicking <https://www.aepcindia.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/Revised%20Circular%20of%20Magic%20USA%20Fair.pdf>

### Relevant Government Notifications / PIB Releases

- [DGFT Notification 11/2026-27 - Amendment to Notification No. 65/2025-26 for inclusion of Egypt and Jordan under RELIEF](#)
- [India's Textile Exports Register Growth of 2.1% in FY 2025-26](#)
- [DGFT Trade Notice 02/2026-2027 - Instructions regarding Issuance/Re-issuance/Extension of Validity of Post Export EPCG Scrips – Activation of Post Export EPCG Module](#)
- [Instruction No.05/2026-Customs - Instruction for time bound processing of RoDTEP and RoSCTL scrolls](#)
- [PIB News - The India & New Zealand FTA, a major boost to Textile Sector](#)
- [QUICK ESTIMATE OF INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND USE-BASED INDEX FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2026](#)

### Top National News

- [How India is contesting US Section 301 probe alleging 'forced labour, excess capacity'](#)
- [Govt steps in to support MSMEs, secure energy and shipping routes as West Asia crisis continues](#)
- [Textiles Ministry plans duty cuts to shield industry amid West Asia crisis](#)
- [Tiruppur Textile Crisis Deepens Ahead Of Tamil Nadu Polls As Donald Trump Tariffs And Global Turmoil Hit Exports](#)
- [Raw Materials, Fuel, And Freight: The Triple Squeeze On The Indian Apparel Industry](#)
- [Techtextil & Texprocess 2026: Global benchmark for textile innovation – Performance Apparel Textiles takes centre stage at the opening](#)
- [FTA partners drive India's trade surge as reliance on non-FTA countries dips, says NITI Aayog report](#)
- [Bharat Tex 2026: Apparel leaders urged to promote India as key textile sourcing hub](#)
- [India's first women-led FTA is a win for exports, shield for farmers](#)
- [India inks 'once-in-a-generation' free trade agreement with New Zealand after a decade of talks](#)
- [Iran conflict exposes India's hidden textile vulnerability as polyester costs surge](#)
- ['Apparel exports will rise 3-4 times': Industry sees sharp gains from India-New Zealand FTA](#)
- [India BRICS Business summit aims to connect MSME sector globally](#)

### Top Global News

- [Australia Cotton Exports Rise on Strong China, India Demand](#)
- [How Countries Rank on Textile ESG Performance](#)

- [Bangladesh leads denim garment exports to EU, US markets](#)
- [Sri Lanka's manufacturing PMI surges: Textiles drive March gains](#)
- [Bangladesh ICDs announce 8.5% increase in container handling charges](#)
- [European Commission seeks proposals on textile reuse and repair systems](#)
- [EU PPWR: Implications for Bangladesh's RMG exporters](#)
- [Iran war hits Asia polyester supply chain, fast fashion faces cost pressure](#)
- [Chinese investors urged to invest in man-made fibre](#)
- [State of Fashion explored the shared future of fashion with new onsite in Sri Lanka](#)
- [BCCCI seeks more Chinese investment, tech support in Bangladesh's textile sector](#)
- [China to extend zero-tariff access to all African nations from May 1](#)
- [British International Investment invests \\$608 mn in Bangladesh by 2026](#)

**For detailed news, click on the links above**

### Currency Trend

INR versus USD FY 2026-27	
Months	INR
30 <sup>th</sup> April	93.40
Source: x-rates.com	

### India's Textile & RMG update for Index for Industrial Production

Quick Estimates FY 2025-26		
Months	Textiles	Apparel
April	105.7	114.2
May	103.8	126.5
June	107.8	127.5
July	107.3	112.7
August	107.7	107.2
September	110.7	100.6
October	106.6	89.6
November	110.0	105.3
December	111.1	109.4
January	109.7	108.7
February	107.0	100.7
March	108.9	123.6
Source: CSO		

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