

Apparel Export Promotion Council

Amid global headwinds and uncertainty, India-UK FTA presents significant opportunity for exports growth and employment generation: Chairman AEPC



RMG exports to UK to double in next three years

7th May 2025; New Delhi: Lauding the deal, Shri Sudhir Sekhri, Chairman AEPC said, “This landmark free trade agreement between India and the UK is expected to boost RMG exports and help in the employment generation. Against the backdrop of demand contraction in major economies, Russia-Ukraine conflict, Israel-Hamas war, American reciprocal tariff and Chinese belligerence, there was uncertainty and disruption impacting the global trade adversely.” This deal has come as a boon removing immediately tariff disadvantage of 9.6% and making us competitive in the UK market. Now the Made in India RMG will be cheaper on UK shelves and we will be at par with some of our major competitors who enjoyed duty-free access in the UK market,” Chairman AEPC added.

Shri Sekhri thanked Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his visionary leadership and Union Commerce Minister Shri Piyush Goel for the relentless effort in concluding the deal with the UK.

Further, Shri Sekhri noted that, “India is the 4th largest supplier of garment with 6.1% share of the total RMG import of UK. The RMG exports to the UK from India grew by 7.8% between April – March 2024-25 compared to April March 2023-24. The total RMG exports to the UK amounted to 1.4 billion USD during the same period. With this deal in place, India is all poised to double the RMG exports to the UK in the next three years,” he said.

China has remained the top supplier of RMG to the UK with 25.4 % share in 2024. Bangladesh and Turkey have a share of 19.9% and 7.9 %, respectively. The top products imported by UK from India includes (i) T-shirts, singlets and other vests of cotton, knitted or crocheted; (ii) Women's or girls' dresses of cotton; (iii) Babies' garments and clothing accessories of cotton, knitted or crocheted, Chairman AEPC informed.

Huge opportunities offered by this deal coupled with the complementary nature of two economies and synergy across sectors will help in rapid growth and expansion of apparel business by providing competitive edge over our competing countries, Chairman AEPC noted.
