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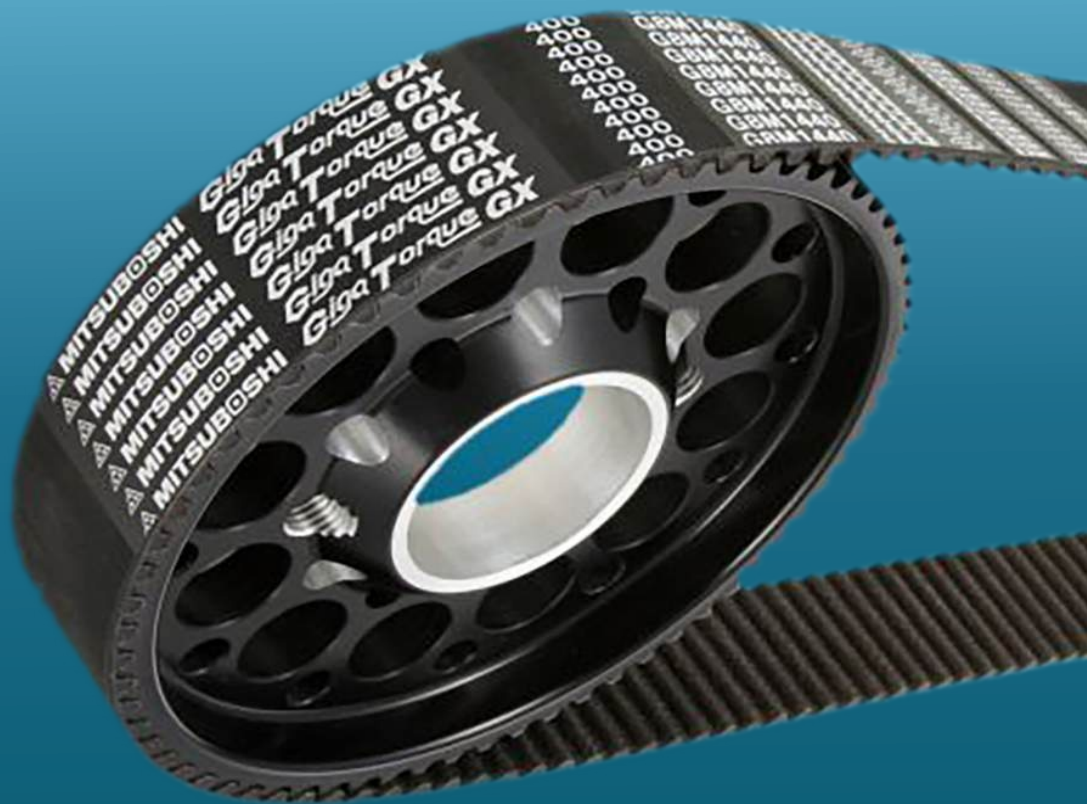
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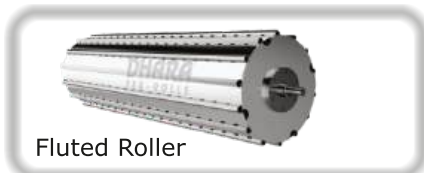
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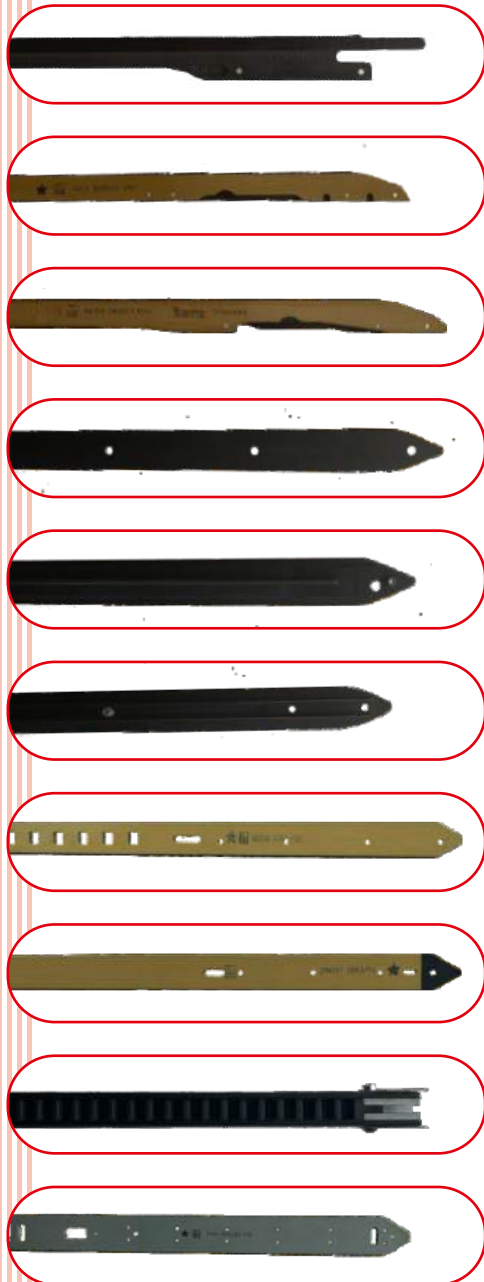
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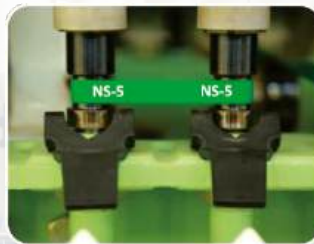
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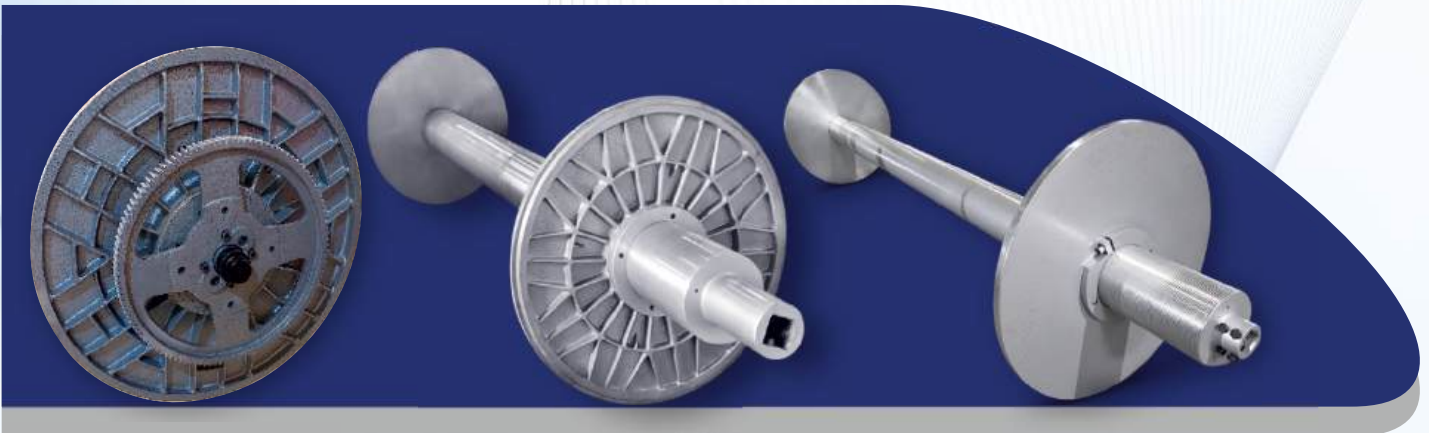
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Archive is always an inspiration for textiles

Designers are becoming more desirous to preserve legacy of their brands. Today veteran designers utilizing exhibitions as platform of commemorating their past works of textiles sculpture. Preserving clothes for posterity has been too important in the fashion industry, which is always looking to the next season. Today however, designers have understood well that their old collections could make for great exhibitions and retrospectives. Some of them believe past collections make a brand as much as the current. They should not be forgotten, but celebrated.

Displaying pieces of designers' couture collections in flagship stores inspire designers to build living archive in store in mega cities like Delhi, Mumbai. This display reminds the history of works of weavers and craftsmanship, makes collection alive and they continue to thrive as part of current ethos of the brand. Younger brands are also keeping in-house archive, helping to preserve their origin story.

Maintaining an archive ensures that designers are able to have a consistent brand and design language. Collaboration have become very essential for the brand DNA to be strong which makes room for archiving in the fashion industry. Maintaining an archive also requires serious financial commitment. Focus on selling is essential, as for popular brand like Chikankari embroidery can facilitate to bring reprieve to some extent. Today designers have been recreating swatches of their works or borrowing pieces from their clients to build their archives.

Archiving is not just about arranging collections in chronological order, it requires details segregation and filing of inspiration boards, yarns, resource library, textiles. Contact of karigars, personal anecdotes, sketches and family heirlooms that impact the design process. It takes many months of ardent book-keeping to arrive at something substantial. Expertise may be required to maintain archive; expert and his team can meticulously work on documenting each pieces of archive and bring restructuring his archives. An original museum creator must stress the importance of being methodical.

➡ China's trade surplus surpasses \$1 trillion for first time

China got the world's attention last January when it announced that its trade surplus for goods and services had hit almost \$1 trillion, an excess of exports to imports that no country had ever reached. Now China has surged through that milestone in just 11 months in 2025. China's customs agency announced recently that the country's accumulated trade surplus reached \$1.08 trillion through November. Tariffs imposed by US President Trump on China have caused Chinese exports to the US to drop by nearly a fifth. But China has throttled back its purchases of American soybeans and other products by almost the same rate, continuing to sell three times as much to the US as it buys. China's \$111.68 billion trade surplus in November was its third-largest ever in a single month. The overall surplus through the first 11 months of the year is up 21.7 percent from the same period last year. China has ramped up considerably its sales to other countries. From cars to solar panels to consumer electronics, a tsunami of Chinese exports is flooding Southeast Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America. Carmakers and other exporters in traditional manufacturing powerhouses like Germany, Japan and South Korea are losing customers to Chinese rivals. Chinese companies have shifted final assembly of their goods to Southeast Asia, Mexico and Africa, which then ship finished products to the US. This has allowed them to partly bypass Trump's tariffs on goods coming straight from China. China now sells more than twice as much to the European Union as it buys. China's trade surplus with the region has widened considerably in 2025. One major reason is that China's currency has been weak over the last several years against many other currencies, particularly the euro. Another is that prices have been falling in China, while they have been rising in the US and Europe. The weakness of the Chinese currency, the renminbi, has helped propel its exports. "With the renminbi undervalued by 30 per cent against the euro, possibly more, it will be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to compete against Chinese manufacturers even if Europe does all the right things it needs to do in terms of deregulation, bringing down energy prices and establishing a true unified

market," said Jens Eskelunds, the president of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China. China's trade surplus in factory goods is even bigger as a share of its economy than the US ran in the years immediately after World War II, when most other manufacturing nations were in ruins; or during the early years of World War I, when the US was at peace and churning out civilian goods while Europe was embroiled in war. Top leaders of the International Monetary Fund visited to China recently to review its currency and financial policies. A growing number of economists and business leaders, including former senior officials at China's own central bank are calling on Beijing to let the renminbi increase in value against the dollar and other currencies. For China, a stronger renminbi would make goods like gasoline. French wines or Japanese cosmetics cheaper to import. Savings on such purchases would leave China's households with more money to spend on Chinese goods and services. □

➡ Macron asks Xi to help correct global trade imbalances

French President Emmanuel Macron urged Chinese leader Xi Jinping to boost cooperation on geopolitics, trade and the environment, as the European Union seeks China's help in ending the war in Ukraine and Beijing looks for economic wins from US tariffs. On his fourth state visit, Macron is walking a delicate tightrope, trying to reduce France's massive trade deficit with China and secure industrial jobs at home to bolster his legacy, without antagonising the world's second-largest economy. China, for its part, wants to ease trade frictions with the 22-strong EU over its heavily subsidised electric vehicle industry, while presenting itself as a more reliable market to the U.S. for economies hit by President Donald Trump's tariffs. "The imbalances we see accumulating today are not sustainable, they carry the risk of triggering a financial crisis and threaten our ability to grow together," Macron told his host during their recent meeting at Beijing's Great Hall of the People. "There are solutions," he said, calling for rules that were fairer and stronger, rather than based on "survival of the fittest." Xi told Macron their countries should follow their own geopolitical paths. "No matter how the external environment changes, our two

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countries should always demonstrate the independence and strategic vision of major powers," he said. However, no major business deals were signed at a ceremony between Xi and Macron, who was traveling with a big business delegation. Nothing was said of a package of Airbus orders that the group has discussed with Beijing for months and is often tied to diplomatic visits. The Chinese leader was not expected to approve the long anticipated 500-jet Airbus order, as that would weaken Beijing's leverage during trade talks with the US. □

IMF urges China to curb exports, boost consumption

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently urged China to make the "brave choice" of speeding up structural reform, as pressure grows on the world's second-largest economy to shift towards a consumption-led model and curb reliance on debt-driven exports. "China is simply too big to generate much (more) growth from exports, and continuing to depend on export-led growth risks furthering global trade tensions," IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva told a press conference concluding the Fund's regular review of the \$19 trillion economy. "It requires brave choices and determined policy action," Georgieva added, while pressing Chinese policymakers to adopt a comprehensive macroeconomic policy package including additional fiscal stimulus and greater monetary easing, alongside targeted steps to rein in local government debt, resolve a protracted property crisis and improve social welfare provision. Increased social spending and accelerating reform of China's internal passport "Hukou" system, which has largely tethered people's destinies to their place of origin since the 1950s, could boost consumption by up to 3 percentage points of GDP, she added. Meanwhile, bringing end to the property crisis within the next three years - which weighs heavy on domestic demand as some 70 per cent of Chinese household wealth is in real estate - will require China to spend 5 per cent of GDP, the IMF forecasts. "We have been urging more attention for closure on this problem. We call them 'zombie firms'. Let the zombless go away," Georgieva said, encouraging officials to speed up the exit of unviable property developers

from the market. Beijing closely watches the IMF's "Article IV" review for approval or criticism of its economic management, with its endorsement serving as a valuable counter amid rising tensions with major trading partners. Georgieva said it was not in China's interests to provoke its trading partners to impose curbs on Chinese imports over fears that a flood of cheap goods would devastate their manufacturing sectors. The IMF upgraded its China growth forecast for 2025 to 5 per cent, from 4.8 per cent, citing the production powerhouse's strong outbound shipments, also lifting its 2026 forecast to 4.5 per cent, from 4.2 per cent. Net exports constituted 1.1 per cent of China's 5 per cent growth for 2025, the IMF chief said, while adding that the Chinese economy was on course to contribute 30 per cent of global growth. China has posted a record \$1 trillion trade surplus for the first time, November trade data showed, sparking criticism that its slowing economy was being propped up by dominating an ever-growing share of the global industrial value chain and flooding emerging markets with cheap goods diverted from the US due to President Donald Trump's tariffs that deny their manufacturing sectors a chance to develop. Economists have also accused Beijing of benefiting for too long from an undervalued renminbi. "We haven't recommended explicit action to appreciate the RMB," Georgieva said. "We would like to see China with an exchange rate that is flexible both ways, up and down." □

China's economy declines in Nov

Investment in China slowed drastically in November, propelling the country closer towards its first annual decline in more than three decades. Investment for housing, public infrastructure and manufacturing fell 2.6% from January through November, marking another month of sharp decline in so-called fixed-asset investment, China's National Bureau of Statistics announced recently. The research firm Capital Economics estimated that investment fell 11.1% in November from a year earlier, a second straight month of double-digit declines over 2024. The November drop puts China on the brink of a historic slowdown in investment. For more than 30 years, as China's economy grew by leaps and bounds, investment in buildings,

public works and factories had increased every year since the late 1980s. The pullback, which began in the second half of this year, signals growing caution about the Chinese economy. Investment in real estate, once considered a pillar of China's growth, continued to drop precipitously in November. Investment in public infrastructure and manufacturing also fell, as all three main components of fixed-asset investment declined. It is unusual for investment to decline across all three segments, indicating the confluence of problems affecting the Chinese economy. China is dealing with an entrenched real estate crisis that has shaken confidence. Because of the property slump, local governments lack the funds to plow money into public works projects. And Beijing's efforts to curb excessive competition, which is harming even China's fast-growing industries, have slowed investment in new factories. Meanwhile, industrial output rose 4.8% year-on-year, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) data showed of late, the weakest pace since August 2024, slowing from 4.9% in October. It missed a 5.0% increase forecast in a Reuters poll. Retail sales, a gauge of consumption, grew 1.3%, their weakest pace since December 2022, when the world's second-largest economy ended pandemic restrictions, well below 2.9% in October and forecasts for a 2.8% gain. "Strong exports limited the need to turbocharge domestic demand in 2025, and the trade-in subsidies have started to run out," said Xu Tianchen, senior economist at the Economist Intelligence Unit. □

➡ US trade deficit contracts to narrowest since 2020

The US trade deficit unexpectedly narrowed in September to the smallest since mid-2020 as exports surged. The goods and services trade gap shrank nearly 11% from the prior month to \$52.8 billion, Commerce Department data showed recently. The median estimate in a Bloomberg survey of economists was for a \$63.1 billion deficit. The value of US exports rose 3% to the second-highest level on record, fueled by non-monetary gold and pharmaceutical preparations. Imports increased a more modest 0.6%. The figures aren't adjusted for inflation. Large monthly swings in trade in 2025 related to US implementation of tariffs have introduced

similar volatility in the government's measure of economic activity — gross domestic product. The September trade figures will help economists fine tune their estimates for third-quarter GDP. That task has been more challenging as the government excludes trade in gold, unless used for industrial purposes such as the production of jewelry, from its GDP calculations. What Bloomberg Economics Says... "With all three months of data in hand, net exports likely contributed a modest boost to third-quarter GDP as firms continue to hold back shipments." Prior to the monthly report, the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's GDP. Now forecast saw net exports contributing 0.86 percentage point to third-quarter growth. The pickup in imports of pharmaceuticals "was presumably sparked by President Trump's threat to impose tariffs on branded drug imports, although that threat issued on social media still hasn't been implemented," Paul Ashworth, chief North American economist at Capital Economics, said in a note. "The upshot is that those imports should eventually drop back to more normal levels." On an inflation-adjusted basis, the merchandise trade deficit narrowed to \$79 billion in September, the smallest in nearly five years. □

➡ China Inflation at 21-mth High, Demand Still low

Rising food costs pushed consumer inflation in China in November to its fastest pace in nearly two years, data showed recently, but lower factory-gate prices suggested demand in the world's second-largest economy remains weak. The consumer price index, a key measure of inflation, jumped 0.7% year-on-year in November, according to the National Bureau of Statistics. The reading was much higher than October's 0.2% increase. It also rose at the fastest pace since posting the same figure in February 2024. The CPI has not exceeded that since February 2023. Chinese policymakers have been battling sluggish spending for years, with a prolonged debt crisis in the property sector and lingering effects from Covid-19 weighing on consumer sentiment. Experts have long argued Beijing needs to shift towards a growth model based more on domestic consumption and less on exports and manufacturing — though that has proven easier said than done. ■

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India's shipments to China grow by nearly 33% in Apr-Nov

Outbound shipments from India to China grew by nearly a third to \$12.22 billion during April-November 2025, compared to the same period in the previous year, signalling early signs of a shift from the American market. China is India's fourth-largest export destination, accounting for 4 per cent of the country's total exports. In November alone, exports to China witnessed 90 per cent growth to \$2.2 billion. While disaggregated data for November is not available, during April-October, the growth was driven by sharp increases across key sectors such as petroleum products, electronics and marine exports. The growth trend in China's imports from India over the last three-four months indicates a shift away from the US, a senior government official told. After reaching \$21.26 billion in FY22, India's exports to China gradually declined to \$14.25 billion in FY25. Another official said that the sharp increase highlights strengthening trade momentum with China. This is because of higher demand across key commodity segments and improved export performance over the period. Exports of petroleum products saw the biggest jump. It more than doubled with a growth of 121.25 per cent during April-October to \$1.62 billion from the same period in the previous year. This was followed closely by electronic goods, registering 158.95 per cent growth to \$1.35 billion, reflecting rising demand for electronics. According to an internal analysis done by the department of commerce, marine products saw a steady increase with 19 per cent growth to \$0.85 billion. Exports of oil meal, mica and coal, among others, also contributed to the overall rise. Trade economist Biswajit Dhar said that there's clear signal that China is certainly moving away from the US, "Clear signs have been evident since Donald Trump's first term. In 2017, China's exports to the US were 19 per cent of its total exports. By November this year, it was down to 10 per cent. Similarly, US imports from China declined from 20 per cent in 2017 to about 9 per cent now. With or without Trump, China has been shifting away from the US and seeking new markets - and India is among them," Dhar said. □

1% of Indian own 40% of wealth

Just 1% of Indians hold about 40% of total wealth in the country, making income inequality in India among the highest in the world and "showing little improvement", according to the World Inequality Report 2026, released recently. The report, edited by economists Lucas Chancel, Ricardo Gomez-Carrera, Rowaida Moshrif, and Thomas Piketty, also said the richest 10% hold around 65% of total wealth. The top 10% of earners capture 58% of national income, while the bottom 50% receive only 15%. "Average annual income per capita is around \$6984 (6,200 euros — purchasing power parity or PPP), and average wealth stands at about \$32,592 (28,000 euros — PPP). Female labour participation remains very low at 15.7%, showing no improvement over the past decade. Overall, inequality in India remains deeply entrenched across income, wealth, and gender dimensions, highlighting persistent structural divides within the economy," the report, prefaced by economists Jayati Ghosh and Joseph Stiglitz, said. Piketty, co-director of the World Inequality Lab, said, "The report comes at a challenging political time, but it is more essential than ever. Only by continuing the historic movement towards equality will we be able to address the social and climate challenges of the coming decades." The world seems to be united in equality. A tiny slice of the global elite owns three times more wealth than the bottom half of the world's population combined. □

Core sector surges 1.8% in Nov

The infrastructure sectors' growth improved to 1.8% year-on-year in November as four components of the index of eight core industries (ICI) recorded positive growth. The core sector growth had declined to 0.1% in October. The output of coal, cement, steel and fertilisers marked expansion in November while refinery products, natural gas, crude oil and electricity contracted. In November 2024, the ICI had expanded 5.8%, constituting a rather strong base. Within the sectors, cement saw maximum growth of 14.5% in November, followed by steel (6.1%), fertilisers (5.6%) and coal (2.1%). The sectors that contracted

were crude oil (-3.2%), natural gas (2.5%), electricity (-2.2%) and refinery products (-0.9%). Refinery products, electricity, steel and coal have maximum weight in the index. While refinery products and electricity contracted, coal and steel recorded positive growth in November. The ICI measures the combined and individual performance of production of eight core industries, which comprise 40.27% of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). The sequential improvement in year-on-year growth between October and November was led by a majority of the sectors, with a particularly sharp pickup in cement (to 14.5% from 5.2%), ICRA Chief Economist Aditi Nayar said. "Given the base effects and shift in the festive calendar, it would be more prudent to assess the average for October and November 2025, which stands at a meagre 0.8%, lower than the average growth of 3% recorded in H1 FY26. Based on the core sector growth and other high frequency indicators, we expect the IIP to rise by 3.5-4.5% in November 2025," Nayar said. The cumulative growth rate of ICI during April to November stood at 2.4% (provisional) compared with 4.4% in the year-period. □

Exports surge fastest in nearly 3.5 yrs

Services exports grew 11.67 per cent to \$35.86 billion in November, while services imports increased 4.11 per cent to \$17.96 billion, yielding a surplus of \$17.9 billion. Services trade data for November, however, is an "estimate" and will be revised following a subsequent release by the Reserve Bank of India. Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said India had "held the fort" in exports to the US despite the imposition of a 50 per cent tariff, which is 30 percentage points higher than that faced by several competing nations, particularly in labour-intensive sectors. "It is good that many exporters have been able to hold on to their supply chains. There is a fair expectation on each side that both countries will be able to finalise a deal sooner or later. Let's try to see how it goes in the next few months," Agrawal said. In November, gold imports declined 59.15 per cent Y-o-Y to \$4.02 billion, while petroleum

imports contracted 11.27 per cent to \$14.11 billion, reflecting lower oil prices. Vegetable oil imports fell by nearly a fifth to \$1.5 billion, while inbound shipments of coal, coke and briquettes also declined 5.7 per cent to \$2.25 billion during the month. Exporters' body FIEO said diversification of export markets, had helped. □

India's food market to exceed \$125 bn by 2030: Report

India's relationship with food is undergoing a noticeable shift, whether it's the rise in late-night cravings or a growing appetite for healthier meals. Interestingly, consumers are also becoming more adventurous, as the number of unique cuisines ordered per user has risen by 20 per cent. In comparison, the number of restaurants a customer orders from has grown by 30 per cent. The insights are part of the 2025 edition of Swiggy's annual report, How India Eats, released in partnership with Kearney. The report highlights the rapid evolution of eating habits across the country and projects that India's food services market will surpass \$125 billion by 2030, with the organised sector expected to expand at twice the pace of the unorganised market. □

Economy to surge by 7% or more in FY26, says FM

India's Economy is set to grow at 7% or higher this fiscal year, backed by strong fundamentals and resilient domestic demand, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said recently. Speaking at the reporters Leadership Summit in Delhi, she noted that low inflation, recent GST rate cuts, and steady consumer spending would continue to support growth despite global challenges. India's GDP expanded 8.2% in the July-September quarter, outperforming expectations and marking a six-quarter high Robust festival-driven consumption, increased factory output, and strong services-sector performance helped offset weaker agricultural growth. "We saw the growth numbers for the second quarter. I think that will sustain, and overall, this year's growth numbers will be 7 or beyond it as well," she said. ■

Despite having rich textile heritage India far behind than China even Bangladesh in shipment of garment

India's long decline in textiles and garments was not due to bad luck or weak factories, but poor policy choices. After years of hurting its own synthetic industry, the country is finally removing the barriers that held it back. The policy reset has begun — now execution, scale and speed matter most. The turnaround can start now.

China shipped \$113 billion of garments last year, Bangladesh \$51 billion and Vietnam \$39 billion — while India, despite its rich textile heritage, managed only \$17 billion.

India's real handicap in textile: It missed the synthetic revolution that now drives 70 per cent of global apparel trade. Synthetics power sportswear, winterwear, athleisure, and fast fashion — the categories that dominate shelves in the United States, Europe, and East Asia.

Vietnam and Bangladesh built smooth, low-cost synthetic supply chains to serve this demand. India clung to cotton — and then made synthetics even costlier through high duties, anti-dumping actions, and sweeping quality control orders (QCOs) that restricted imports and priced micro, small, and medium enterprises out of the winterwear boom.

The impact is visible on the factory floor. Most Indian units run at full capacity only during the cotton-heavy spring-summer season and sit idle through autumn and winter, when synthetics drive global orders. Costs run year-round, revenues don't.

By ignoring synthetics — the growth engine of modern apparel — India tied one leg of its textile horse, limiting scale, depressing wages, and losing market share in the very segment where the future lies. The good news is that this is no longer the case.

Fourth reforms : Recent policy changes have removed four major barriers that had made India uncompetitive in synthetic garments.

First, the government has withdrawn QCOs on over 20 synthetic inputs such as polyester and viscose fibres and yarns, restoring access to global raw materials. Input prices are already falling, giving manufacturers a real chance to compete.

Second, labour reforms have raised the worker threshold under the Industrial Dispute Act from 100 to 300, while states like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Gujarat now allow flexible work schedules. This makes it easier for factories to hire, expand and run year-round.

Third, India is closing its tariff gap through free-trade agreements. Indian garments faced duties of 8-12 per cent in the United Kingdom and European Union (EU), and up to 22 per cent in the US, while Vietnam and Bangladesh paid zero. With the India-UK free-trade agreement done and talks moving with the EU and US, tariff parity is closer despite recent US trade actions.

Finally, the government has fixed goods and services tax anomalies that taxed fibres and yarn at higher rates than finished garments, improving cash flow and allowing factories to operate fully.

What India must do now: With the most significant distortions gone, India must now clear the second layer of frictions holding the sector back.

First, stop encouraging low-value exports of fibre and yarn. Current rebates make it cheaper to sell these abroad than at home, leaving Indian garment makers short of affordable inputs. India should promote finished clothing, not raw materials.

Second, fix the weakest link in India's textile chain — woven fabric and processing. India exports a lot of yarn but has only 6 per cent of the global fabric market because its weaving and processing units are small, outdated and informal. India must build large, modern, integrated weaving and processing parks to turn yarn strength into fabric leadership. That is how China built its textile power.

Third, fix export procedures. Under advance authorisation, exporters must link every imported fabric to each garment produced — an almost impossible task given the hundreds of fabrics and thousands of styles involved at a large unit. India must shift to Bangladesh-style value-based import entitlements that allow firms to import inputs up to a fixed percentage of export value.

Finally, simplify Customs rules to allow duty-free import of buttons, zippers, and labels on self-declaration and risk-based verification. Current system demands large data sets of information for even low value items.

Firm-level initiatives : India's leading garment exporters must stop acting only as suppliers to foreign brands. They need to create their own designs and labels, and learn the fast-fashion model that moves clothes from idea to store in a matter of weeks. To earn more, they must include high-value synthetic fabrics, branded clothing and new blends that dominate global markets. Competing on quality — not just on low tariffs — is the way to move up the value chain. The immediate priority should be to upgrade factories. India has about 1,200 fast-fashion-compliant units in cotton, but far fewer in synthetics. Nearly 80 per cent of exporters still miss key efficiency benchmarks such as standard allowed minute.

Japan is a reminder: Despite zero tariffs for a decade under the FTA, exports barely rose because Indian firms did not align with Japan's exacting quality and workflow standards. Millions of new jobs and a much bigger global market share are now within reach—if garment makers act boldly. ■

Cotton body calls for govt to nix 11% import duty

Advocating free trade, the Cotton Association of India (CAI) has urged the government to scrap the 11 per cent customs duty on raw cotton imports.

Currently, raw cotton can be imported duty-free only until December 31.

CAI President Vinay N Kotak said the textiles industry is going through one of its toughest phases, hit by uncertainty over US tariffs and recessionary trends in Europe.

Lower domestic productivity and a high minimum support price (MSP) have made Indian cotton costlier than competing global varieties, he said.

"The 11 per cent import duty not only distorts prices but also compounds the misery of our textile industry," Kotak said.

Kotak stressed that ensuring a steady, competitively priced supply of raw cotton is the only way to support the struggling textile industry.

Farmers are already protected through MSP, he noted, adding that the duty removal would help prevent job losses, loan defaults and rising bad debts across the textile chain. Removing the duty

would strengthen India's competitiveness, help increase its share in global trade and support the target of \$100 billion in textile exports by 2030.

Unseasonal rain has hit cotton quality this year, forcing mills to rely on imports to meet buyer requirements. "If the 11 per cent duty stays, Indian textile goods will lose out to Vietnam, Bangladesh and Pakistan, causing long-term damage to our export share," Kotak said.

The duty was introduced during the Covid period as a temporary measure. Before that, cotton imports were duty-free without any adverse impact on farmers, he added.

Kotak reiterated CAI's appeal to the government to "give a helping hand" by removing the duty for the survival of the cotton and textile value chain.

Record imports

In its latest supply-demand estimates, CAI projected Indian imports at a record 50 lakh bales (170 kg each) for the 2025-26 season, up from 41 lakh bales in 2025. The crop is pegged at 309.5 lakh bales, with domestic consumption estimated at 295 lakh bales. ■

Artisans in this Kashmir hamlet waiting for creation of Craft Tourism Village

In Sonpah, a small village on the way to the tourist destinations of Doodhpathri and Tossa Maidan, some 20 kms from Srinagar's International Airport, artisans say a government initiative to establish a Craft Tourism Village could breathe a new lease of life into a fading craft.

For generations, families in Sonpah have practised *Sozni*, a fine needle-point embroidery renowned for adorning Kashmiri shawls. But many complain their painstaking work earns little in today's market, undercut by cheaper machine-made imitations.

"People don't realise how long it takes to make a single piece. Needle work on a shawl takes between 12 to 18 months," said Mukhtar Ahmad, an artisan from the village.

He believes the new designation could help reanimate the centuries-old craft by drawing tourists and buyers directly to the village.

Ahmad said that over 20 *Sozni* artisans from the village had received State and national level recognitions.

The central government has announced the development of a Craft Tourism Village in the area at a cost of ₹10 crore, releasing the first instalment of ₹4.5

crore under the National Handicrafts Development Programme's Infrastructure and Technology Support Scheme.

The project includes plans for ornamental entry gates, murals, cultural and interactive spaces, showcasing live craft demonstrations, shared work areas with display and sales counters, as well as upgraded community amenities.

Authorities say the designation will bring infrastructure, marketing support and steady tourist inflow.

The handicraft sector continues to be a cornerstone of the regional economy, employing over 3.5 lakh artisans and contributing around ₹2,100 crore each year.

The sector plays a key role in the rural economy.

New Status

Artisans in Sonpah now hope the new status will help the next generation see value in carrying the art forward.

"At present around 80 per cent of households are engaged in *Sozni* embroidery. However, the younger generation finds it hard to stay with the craft because of low returns," said an artisan. ■

India achieves new global position in textiles

When we speak of India's textile sector, we are not merely referring to factories, machines and fashion. We are talking about the lives of millions of Indians whose daily reality is rooted in cotton fields, handlooms, powerlooms and sewing machines. Over the last 11 years, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the sector has witnessed a strategic vision, strong resolve and bold policy reforms. These efforts have infused new confidence into the textile industry. Today, the impact of recent reforms is not just structural change. It is a story of new opportunities for farmers, entrepreneurs, women, weavers, technicians and the youth.

The foundation of the textile sector lies in the fields, and farmers are the first link in this value chain. Ensuring that cotton farmers are protected from market fluctuations, price uncertainty and exploitative intermediaries has always been a top priority. Between 2004 and 2014, government agencies procured 17.3 million cotton bales. Between 2014 and 2024, this rose to 47.3 million bales, an increase of 173%. Similarly, major reforms in MSP have given farmers long-term stability. Cotton MSP, which stood at ₹3,700 per quintal in 2013-14, has been raised to ₹7,710 per quintal for 2025-26, an increase of 108%.

Higher production is not enough, global competitiveness demands better quality. With this mission, the government launched the ₹2,500 crore Mission for Cotton Productivity, aimed not only at increasing production but enhancing cotton quality to international standards. Initially applicable only till 30 September, the deadline was extended till December 31, considering its positive impact. The mission focuses on improved seeds, scientific cultivation, farm management and enhanced quality-control systems. The future of the textile industry will not depend solely on traditional fibres. The government has prioritised new-age fibres such as flax, ramie, sisal and milkweed. These fibres will open new avenues for processing industries, create large-scale jobs and strengthen the value chain.

Cotton import duty relief

The removal of import duty on cotton has provided immediate relief to the industry. Textile mills can now access cotton at globally competitive prices, reducing yarn and fabric production costs. This directly enhances India's competitiveness in global markets. For SMEs, this move is significant as it provides cost stability, better planning and improved financial management. The domestic market benefits from increased raw cotton availability, ensuring affordable, high-quality fibre for handloom, powerloom and designer segments.

Industrial acceleration through PLI

The Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme has energised the textile sector, creating an enabling environment for unprecedented investment. The application portal has been reopened till December 31, and 27 new applications have already been received. These investments will create new factories, advanced technologies and thousands of jobs, significantly contributing towards India's goal of achieving \$12-billion textile exports by 2030. Of the 74 approved companies, 42 are in technical textiles. Technical textile exports have grown by 12.4% over the previous year, reaching \$3.2-3.4 billion. The top 10 companies have collectively invested ₹4,584 crore, exceeding their committed investment by more than ₹500 crore.

Relief to MMF value chain

The decision to remove Quality Control Orders on MEG and viscose gives the MMF value chain access to raw materials at globally competitive prices. The downstream sector, especially garmenting, receives immediate relief. This segment currently employs 14 million people, and the goal is to create 10 million additional jobs by 2030.

Next-gen GST reforms

Next-gen GST reforms have finally addressed the industry's long-standing inverted duty structure. GST was reduced to 5% on apparel priced up to ₹2,500, making garments more affordable and boosting demand.

Labour reforms

A large proportion of textile workers are women, migrants and contract labourers. Recent labour reforms guarantee equal wages, access to welfare schemes and improved working conditions.

PM MITRA Parks

The PM MITRA scheme is a game-changer. Land allocation across seven states is complete. The parks have already attracted ₹33,000 crore in investment and are expected to generate 2.1 million jobs.

FTAs and new global markets

India identified 40 new markets where it had minimal presence but immense potential. India is entering these regions through FTAs with 27 countries. Exports to the UK increased by \$15 million after the recent agreement. The India-EFTA Agreement opens doors to a premium market worth nearly \$14 billion. In one year, India's textile exports grew in 111 countries, with exports rising over 50% in 38 countries and 25-50% in 16 countries. The most remarkable story is Argentina marking a 73% increase.

The textile sector — one of the engines of national growth — now stands with renewed confidence and capability to lead global competition. The goal is clear — to make India a trusted, modern and sustainable global textile hub of the future. ■

Cotton Corp lunches discount scheme to clear stocks

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) launched a bulk discount scheme from 8th December to help the State-run entity liquidate its stocks ahead of the new harvest season.

The scheme evoked a good response with over 1.85 lakh bales sold. Traders picked up over 1.22 lakh bales, while mills bought some 63,600 bales of the 2024-25 crop. The CCI also reduced the floor price by ₹300 per candy (356 kg of ginned cotton). This is the fourth price cut by CCI since August 19. It has reduced its floor prices by ₹2,000 per candy till now since August 19, when the government announced the removal of 11 per cent import duty.

The ₹300 per candy discount was in addition to the ₹400 per candy it offered initially on its website for buyers such as KVIC units, cooperative spinning mills, MSME spinning mills and institutional mills purchasing a minimum quantity of 2,500-4,999 bales per day. Private textile mills, too, can avail themselves of the discount by purchasing 5,000-9,999 bales and traders 10,000-24,999 bales.

The CCI is also offering a higher discount of ₹600 per candy for KVIC units, co-operative spinning mills, MSME spinning mills and institutional spinning mills purchasing over 5,000 bales, private textile mills purchasing over 10,000 bales, and traders purchasing over 25,000 bales.

The discount scheme will be applicable for purchases made during the fortnight of September 1-15 for the crop year 2024-25.

The CCI is having a stock of over 27 lakh bales. For the 2024-25 season, it had procured about one crore bales of 170 kg each at the minimum support price (MSP) from farmers. Till August 14 this year, it sold about 72 lakh bales of the procured quantity.

To help the Indian textiles sector deal with the US tariffs of 50 per cent, the government in November removed the 11 per cent import duty on cotton till the year-end, enabling access to cheaper fibre crop from countries such as Brazil, the US, Australia and Africa. Global prices of cotton are lower by 10-12 per cent compared to Indian prices.

New Arrivals

The new cotton harvest is expected to start from the middle of September, and domestic prices are seen coming under pressure following the removal of the import duty. Imports for the season ending September 2025 are seen at a record 40 lakh bales, more than double the previous year's 15 lakh bales. Trade expects the imports of touch around 20 lakh bales during the October-December quarter.

Recently, CCI Chairman Lalit Kumar Gupta told reporters that the State-run entity was geared up for market intervention for the new season starting October, amidst concerns that domestic prices could come under pressure following the removal of the import duty.

"We are geared up completely to meet any eventuality of higher operations," Gupta had said. ■

Textile industry urges for removal of import duty on cotton

The Committee on Cotton Production and Consumption recently estimated cotton production this year to be 292.15 lakh bales (of 170 kg each), which will be nearly five lakh bales less than the previous season that ended on September 30, 2025.

However, the demand is expected to be 337 lakh bales compared with 340 lakh bales last season. "When the availability is less than the production, why should there be restrictions on imports," said K. Selvaraju, secretary general of the Southern India Mills Association.

The government extended the import duty exemption on cotton in August this year till December 31, 2025.

The industry is demanding removal of the import duty so that the micro, small and medium-scale enterprises get raw material at affordable prices.

The average cotton productivity in India is 440 kg a hectare as against 1,900 to 2,000 kg a hectare in Brazil.

The ₹5,900 crore Cotton Mission announced by the Centre in the Union Budget is yet to take off. India needs to focus on seed quality and productivity so that cotton production does not decline.

The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry chairman Ashwin Chandran said that at a time when the ongoing uncertainty on the U.S. tariff remains a major concern for the textile and apparel sector, and with cotton production likely to decline and fibre quality expected to deteriorate due to unseasonal rains, removal of import duty will reduce the divergence between domestic and global prices.

Atul Ganatra, president of the Cotton Association of India, said the CCI buys cotton at MSP and sells it after four months at ₹65,000 a candy. Brazil cotton is available at a lower price even with the import duty. If the CCI sells the cotton it buys immediately, cotton imports will decline, he added. ■

The bandage dress re-emerges

It was, well, bound to happen. Some 15 years after its last renaissance, the bandage dress, that item of clothing invented in the mid-1980s that makes the wearer look as if she has been sucked into a tube, shrink-wrapped and excreted back into the world, is once again resurgent — just as it is every time the twin forces of body culture and economic gloom combine. And with it comes the debate about whether the dress is ultimately about objectification or self-empowerment.

The trend returned in earnest last September, when Kaia Gerber wore a white bandage dress recreated by Hervé Léger to mimic the white Legér bandage dress worn by her mother, Cindy Crawford, to the Oscars in 1993 with Richard Gere. In January, the influencer Olivia Bobbet posted a TikTok showing herself in a Hervé Léger bandage dress, which now has 1.7 million views and more than 1,000 comments, most of them essentially reading “finally!” Then, in April, Hailey Bieber wore a Saint Laurent bandage dress to the Fashion Trust US awards, doubling down on the style in early June with a vintage Léger number.

“Criminally hot,” Kim Russell, aka the Kimbino, wrote when she reposted a picture of Bieber on Instagram. Bieber responded, “Herve bandage dresses are back I fear.”

Part of this re-emergence is down to the House of CB, a British brand that made its name by introducing the bandage dress to a new generation back in 2010, and reintroduced it as part of its birthday celebrations last May. Part of it has to do with Hervé Léger itself, the brand that popularized the look, which will celebrate its 40th anniversary in September and has gleefully embraced the bandage resurgence.

“So much of the new generation that’s discovering the brand for the first time wants to get dressed up, yearns for connection and going out,” said Michelle Ochs, the Léger creative director. And the bandage dress, which was first the supermodel dress and then the It Girl dress, is also the ultimate clubbing dress. “It’s aspirational,” said Law Roach, the “image architect” who is such a fan of the style he had his own collaboration with the house of Léger a few years ago featuring (yes) bandage dresses.

But as much as the return of the bandage dress is being framed in the language of fun or nostalgia, it is also, erm, all wrapped up in the Ozempic inspired rise of a new form of body consciousness and diet culture. Not to mention a political climate in which cartoonish versions of femininity are the preferred paradigm.

Though often attributed to Léger, the bandage dress was actually invented by Azzedine Alaïa, who showed his first bandage dresses on the runway in the early 1980s as a riposte to the more exaggerated power dressing that was in vogue at the time. Unlike the battering ram shoulders and besuited armor of Thierry Mugler, the Alaïa dress, which was inspired by Egyptian mummies, offered a different kind of

physical assertion, one that celebrated the female figure while also protecting it.

The French philosopher Michel Tournier wrote that bandage dresses allowed women “to be held—as tightly as possible—while remaining free.” They were mere wisps compared with the padded, skyscraper jackets that had dominated women’s wardrobes. It’s “a strange contradiction,” in the words of Olivier Saillard, the fashion historian and curator of the Fondation Azzedine Alaïa.

It was such a pivot that, in 1985, not long after the first bandage dresses were shown, Alaïa was chosen as the “creator of the year” at the Oscar de la Mode awards in France (a short-lived event created by Jack Lang, then the country’s culture minister). He accepted his award with his data, Grace Jones, who wore a fuchsia version of the bandage dress. *The New York Times* christened it “the sexy mummy look”, which wasn’t only about ancient funeral rites.

Léger introduced his version of the dress in the early 1990s. While the Alaïa bandage dresses, which were knit from a stretchy viscose, were relatively soft — they molded the body and wrapped it, rather than constricting it—the Léger version “really did feel like an Ace bandage,” Crawford said. For all that it celebrated the female form, the dress also molded and constrained it—sometimes, Crawford acknowledged, pretty painfully.

Nevertheless, she said, “the models all gravitated to it.” Linda Evangelista, Iman, Naomi Campbell—they all wore bandage dresses. “It was a chic way to show your booty, but not trashy,” Crawford said. Aerobics was on the rise at the time, and the dress was a way to show the hard work that went into your body. And it was a way to differentiate your body from the bodies that couldn’t get into the bandage dress.

Little wonder that, 20 years later, when celebrity culture replaced model culture, the bandage dress was “rediscovered.” Kim Kardashian, Victoria Beckham, Rihanna, Beyoncé and Britney Spears wore bandage dresses on the red carpet. “It was the go-to dress,” Roach said.

This time around, despite all the social media enthusiasm and the fact that, as per Katy Lubin, a spokeswoman for the fashion search engine Lyst, the House of CB sold 15,000 units the first day of its bandage revival in May, actual data suggests that the dresses are not being consumed at the level they are being celebrated. “Volume is pretty low, although we have seen demand increase by 2% in three months,” Lubin said. “Bandage dresses generate strong reactions, and content creators understand that divisive stories drive comments, shares and algorithmic reach in ways that universally beloved items simply don’t.”

In other words, when it comes to the bandage dress, it is possible, she said, that “the controversy itself is the commodity.” ■

FASHIONING MEN'S NEHRU JACKETS BY COMBINING AIPAN MOTIFS WITH INTRICATE MIRROR WORK DESIGNS

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ABSTRACT

India had always been noted as the land which is depicted by artistic and traditional liveliness through its arts and crafts which are conventional in nature. Each place of India is known for its folk art and tradition which has its own characteristic pattern of art and style. The rich heritage folk arts & craft of India is simple, colourful yet traditional underneath lies hundreds of stories. Indian traditional textile craft holds a special place in India's heritage through the millennia that exists across time and space only if it is exchanged and shared amongst each other. It is essential to gain an insight and a better understanding of the heritage framework that is only possible with the information of the practical realities of the craft. Indian textile exhibits, exuberant prototypes that abound in the surface design through adaptation of element and principal of design. Each state in India reflects the story of its craft or the place of its origin representing its textile hub. Indian folk tradition and rich heritage is creating a tremendous interest among the young people in current scenario. Immense in its variety and range, the Indian tradition reflects the amazing diversity of the people who have created it. The present study was conducted to explore the consumer possibility of designing men's Nehru jacket using Aipan Art Motifs in combination of mirror work to assess the consumer acceptance. The study was carried out in Jaipur city. In total, 30 Aipan Art motifs were collected from various secondary sources out of which five motifs were evaluated by five design experts and five academicians on 5-point Likert scale. Out of fifteen design sheets, five motifs were selected to develop the jackets. These design sheets were used for product development. A line of garment was constructed by using glazed cotton fabrics with hand embroidery and mirror work for men's Nehru jacket. Acceptance for these jackets were assessed on the parameter of design, placement of motifs, cost of the product, concept, and overall aesthetic appeal. The results of the study revealed that respondents accepted and showed preferences towards the products developed.

Keywords: Aipan, Motifs, Mirror work, jacket, Designing, Adaptation.

INTRODUCTION

India, a hub of cultural and traditional vibrancy had always been recognized as the land that depicts rich heritage through its conventional arts and craft forms. The folk arts of India are very ethnic and simple, and yet colourful and vibrant which speak thousands of volumes about the country's rich legacy of traditional craft. Aipan is derived from Sanskrit word "Arpan" meaning of which is "Likhai" that means to write in English. Aipan, a traditional art form of Kumaon where women decorate their home to mark the celebration of an auspicious function. This tradition is followed by all women community of Kumaun region to celebrate all festivities and ceremonies by first adorning the floors and entrances of their house by applying paste with the help of their fingers. Usually Aipan is prepared with red vermilion paste called 'Geru' as a primary layer and then rice paste patterns on it giving the effect of pristine white on deep red which looks stunning in contrast combination highlighting the designs. The motifs that are used in Aipan art are related to festivals, pujas, birth of a child, thread ceremony, marriages, and death in family as well. The walls and floors are meticulously decorated by several number of geometric and figurine designs belonging to gods, goddesses and other objects of nature. The artistic Aipan motifs are applied on the pots of tulsi plants, at the temple area, on footsteps of the house, in the courtyard, on the threshold, around the mortar and on wooden seats.

As the tradition is deep rooted in Indian legacy, women pass on the artistic skills to next generation. Each Aipan design has a symbolic meaning and importance attached to it according to the purpose of occasion through which it is drawn. Some of the Aipan designs are significant according to the religious occasions in Uttarakhand, especially depicted at the time of birth, naming ceremony, marriages, threading ceremony, etc as to perform various rituals. (Arya et al., 2017).

Bhandari et al (2019) depicted in their study that the aipan designs were categorized into symmetrical and asymmetrical designs. The five types of symmetrical aipan designs are laxmi pau, ghanti, phani, nata and bada himanchal which were balanced on either side of vertical centre line. The asymmetrical aipan designs were ghiroli 1, ghiroli 2, sua, shankhi and chameli patia.

FASHIONING MEN'S NEHRU JACKETS BY COMBINING AIPAN MOTIFS WITH INTRICATE MIRROR WORK DESIGNS

MIRROR WORK

Mirror work has been in trend for centuries and is widely known as "Sheesha" or "Abhala Bharat" embroidery. This is an art form in which mirrors of various shapes are fixed on to the fabric through embroidery. Indian craftsmen have mastery in creating artistic creations through hand embroidery on various fabrics i.e. silk, cotton, wool, leather and velvet, producing beautiful pieces of art work. The fabric is delicately adorned by different types of hand embroideries i.e. the Phulkari of Punjab, Kashida of Kashmir, the Kanthas of Bengal, the silk embroideries of Varanasi, the embroidered muslins of Dacca, Aari work in gold and silver thread, chikankari of Uttar Pradesh, makhmal of Lucknow, and mirror work chain stitch embroidery of Kathiawar and Kutch. In recent years, mirrors have been replaced by reflective luminescent metal pieces of different shapes and sizes that are predominantly used on garments. Various fabrics such as georgette, crepe, cotton, silk, chiffon are embellished with mirror work for product development i.e. apparel, accessories, canopies, cushion cover, belts etc.

Significance of the study

This study would serve as a guidance for experimentation for designers, students and for fashion innovators who are developing products using Aipan art motifs of Uttarakhand. This would be beneficial to the costumer for new development i.e. Nehru Jacket with the combination of Aipan Art and Mirror work.

Objectives

- To explore the Aipan art motifs of Uttarakhand.
- To design and develop the Nehru jacket for men using Aipan art motifs with Mirror work.
- To assess the market acceptability of the developed product.

Limitations

- Only two colours were used.
- The development was restricted to Nehru Jackets for men only.
- Market acceptability was restricted to Jaipur city only.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Chattopadhyay (1981) revealed in her study that Aipan are generally of three styles having its own characteristics i.e., Sidhu, Davia and Loukika. In

Siddha style, aipans are usually adorned on floor and chaukies whereas in Davia style, design is in the form of patta representing manual designs, astrological designs, and dwarf pattas. In Loukika Aipan is the form of bar boond usually drawn on walls.

Sah (2006), classified that the aipan is of varied types depending upon the purpose or the occasion. For different occasions and ceremonies there are variety of patterns and their combination that can be used depicting the medium selected for drawing.

Joshi (2013) reported that art is an exchange of thoughts, emotions, and symbols which attracts the viewer or listener. Art is a simple way of communication which can be represented by visual and performing depictions for its viewers. Besides it works for a better functioning of the thought as it brings relaxation to our body, mind and soul and inspires to create a new art work. Uttarakhand is located in a natural environment occupying every ecological niche. Since the very beginning when the history of visual arts in the region began, arts have played a pivotal role in their day-to-day life. With a highly diversified and artistic approach they have provided local people a vehicle for their urge for self-philosophical expression. Design is backbone of graphic art. Besides art, it is apart of their life and personality and influences the enjoyment of everything to do and of everything to select. Uttarakhand has rich artistic legacy of Aipan designs. The major performing folk arts of Uttarakhand are Chholia, Jhaura, Chancheri Chapeli, Bhagnaula etc. These folk arts are performed during ceremonies i.e., marriages, fairs, religious rituals, and other occasional ceremonies.

Gahlot et al (2020) revealed in their study that traditional designs of Aipan which existed in museum and artisans were collected and catalogued. These designs were further adapted through Corel Draw software for printing techniques and embroidery stitches so as to apply them in different layout of designs on various articles such as bags, cushion covers, stoles and shrugs. To find out the suitability of the developed designs for printing techniques and embroidery stitches, the modified designs were evaluated by panel of judges on various parameters. The blend of Aipan design with printing provided an imaginative and contemporary range of product to the people who want to retain their tradition with innovation in design.

METHODOLOGY

Documentation and Motif Collection of Aipan Art

Motifs Collection: The data for the Aipan art motifs was collected from secondary data available i.e., books, research dissertation, articles, journals, and internet. Thirty motifs were collected from various secondary sources and a digital catalogue was prepared.

Motifs Selection: Out of thirty motif, best five motifs was selected by 5 fashion designers (experts) and 5 academicians for creating layouts of design for product development. The designs were ranked on 5-Point Likert Scale. The Score are as follows: 5-Excellent, 4-Very good, 3- Good, 2-Fair, 1- Poor.

Designing and Evaluation of Illustrations using selected Aipan Art Motifs

As design plays an important criterion for placement of motif on the product, so fifteen illustrations for men's Nehru Jacket were created from the selected Aipan Art Motifs. For every one Aipan art motifs, three types of layouts were prepared for application on Nehru jackets. Fifteen designs were created through CorelDraw software, best five illustrations were selected for developing the Nehru jackets by five academicians and five experts in field of designing. The designs were ranked on 5-Point Likert Scale. The Score were: 5-Excellent, 4-Very good, 3- Good, 2-Fair, 1- Poor. The criteria for the selection of best 5 illustrations were design, placement of motifs and aesthetic appeal.

Fabric and Technique Selection:

Following were the fabric and technique that was used for product development:

S. No.	Fabric	Technique
1.	Glazed Cotton	Hand Painting
2.	Glazed Cotton	Hand Embroidery
3.	Rayon	Hand Painting
4.	Rayon	Hand Embroidery

Best one fabric and one technique were selected for production of Nehru jacket by 5 fashion designers (experts) and 5 academicians on 5-Point Likert Scale. The Score was: 5-Excellent, 4-Very good, 3-Good, 2-Fair, 1-Poor. Criteria for the selection of fabric and technique were suitability of fabric and suitability of technique for product development.

Assess the acceptability of developed jacket:

Five developed jackets were assessed in order to check the market acceptability of the product.

The designs were analysed by five fashion designers (experts) and five academicians and 50 male respondents through convenience sampling. The designs were ranked on 5-Point Likert Scale. The Score are as follows: 5-Excellent, 4-Very good, 3- Good, 2-Fair, 1- Poor.

Parameter of evaluation were:

1. Design
2. Placement of Motifs
3. Concept
4. Cost
5. Overall appearance

Data Analysis: The data collected for the study was tabulated and analysed accordingly. The statistical criteria used for analysis were frequency, percentage, rank and weighted mean score which was calculated for each motif, design and product acceptance.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Collection of Aipan Art Motifs

For the present study, thirty motifs were collected from secondary sources like research papers, books and internet and a digital catalogue was created.

Selection of best five Aipan Art Motifs

According to the suitability of Aipan art motifs on men's Nehru jackets, 5 motifs were selected for further study from the 30 Aipan Motifs collected through secondary sources. These 5 motifs were selected based on appearance and probability of their development through hand embroidery or hand painting with mirror work. The motifs collected were evaluated by 5 design experts and 5 academicians on 5-point likert scale. The final selection of best five Aipan Art Motifs is specified in figure 1. It can be observed from figure 1, that the top five ranked motif designs selected by 10 respondents on 5 point scale that motif 8 got highest preference in respect to design with 4.7 weighted mean score, followed by motif 14(4.3 WMS), motif 6(4.2 WMS), motif 4 (4.1 WMS) and motif 9 (4 WMS) because the design of the motif taken from Aipan Art are reasonably significant as these stimulate creative attitudes encouraging to think in more imaginative and different methods.

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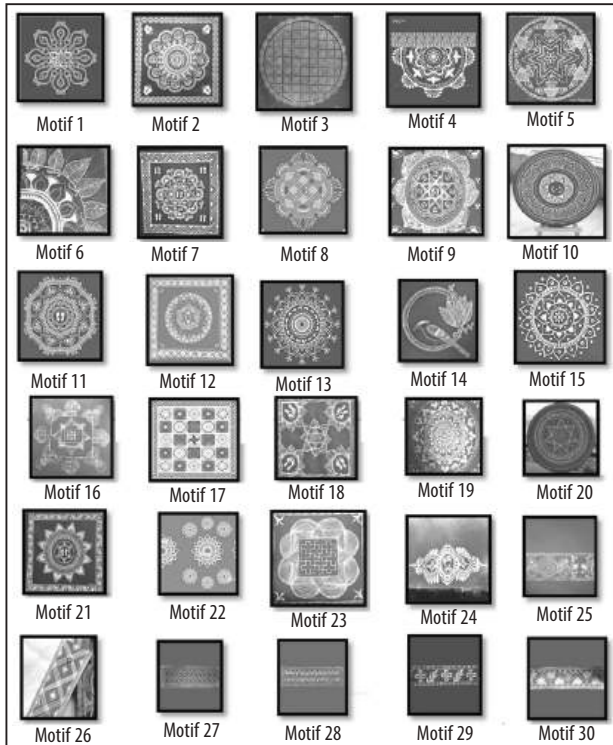


Plate 1 Aipan Art Motifs

The final selected top five Motifs is specified in Plate 2. The selected designs were further used in product development. Respondents gave their preferences of motif appeal to their vision in terms of apparels.

Selection of Men's Nehru jacket designs

The best 5 aipan art motifs were selected for creating 15 illustrations in three different layout through corel draw software for developing Nehru jackets designs. According to suitability of design on men's Nehru jackets with 15 layout of designs, best 5 designs were selected on the basis of suitability, placement of motifs and their aesthetic appeal for development of Nehru jackets using Aipan art Motifs which is depicted in Plate 3.

Selection of best 5 Men's Nehru Jacket designs

Fifteen illustrations created through CorelDraw software for Men's Nehru Jackets were evaluated by 5 design experts and 5 academicians on 5-point likert scale. The final selection of best five illustrations is depicted in figure 2.

It can be analysed from figure 2 that the best five ranked Nehru Jacket designs selected by 5

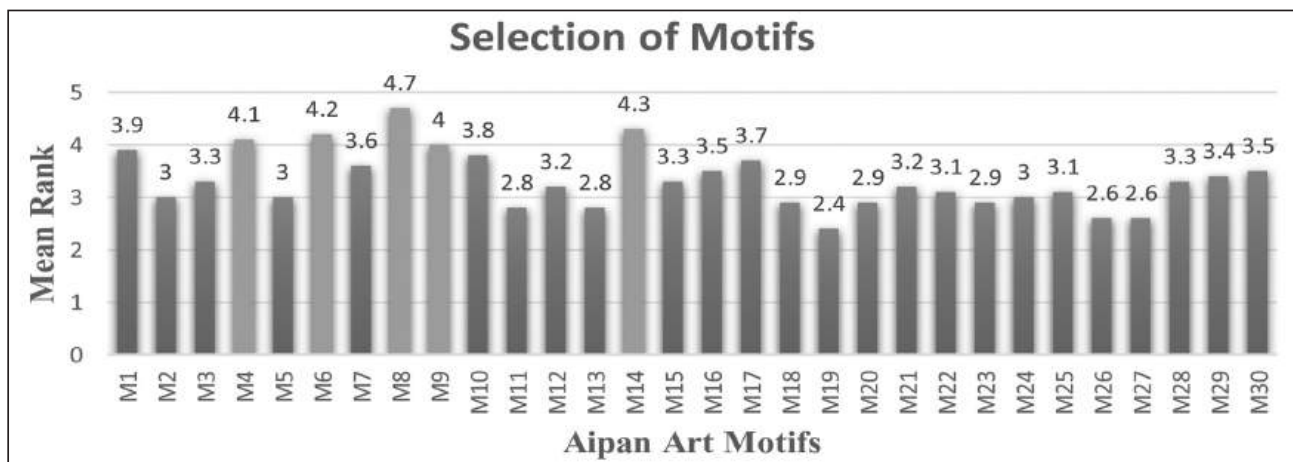


Figure 1 Selection of Aipan Art Motifs

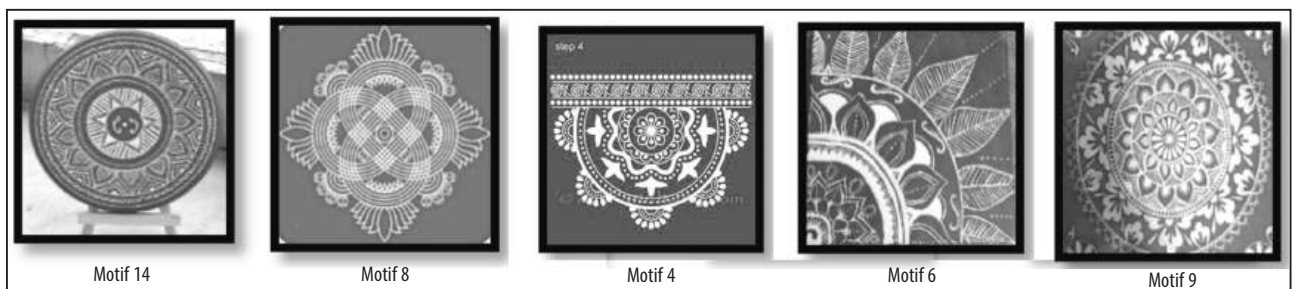


Plate 2. Selected Aipan Art Motifs

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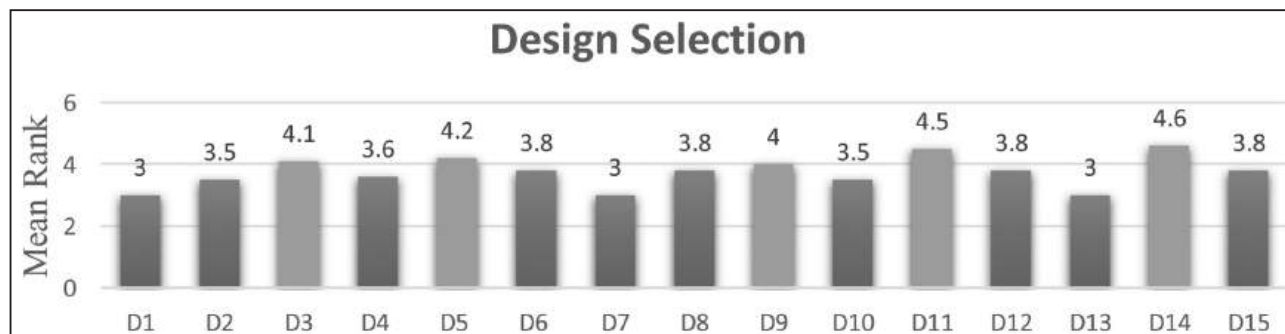


Figure 2 Selection of Designs

design experts and 5 academicians on 5-point likert scale, Design 14 got highest weighted mean score of 4.6 followed by Design 11 (4.5WMS), Design 5 (4.2WMS), Design 3(4.1 WMS) and Design 9(4WMS). The selected designs were preferred by the respondents on the basis of design, placement of motifs and their aesthetic appeal. These final selected designs were further used in product development which is depicted in Plate 3.

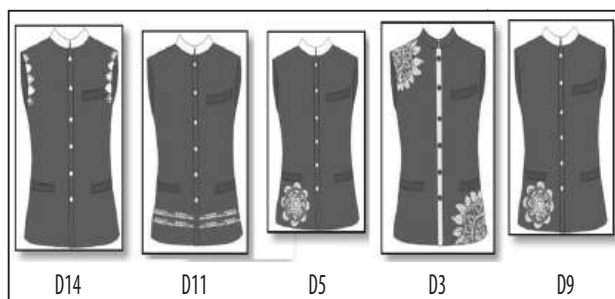


Plate 3. Selected illustration with layouts using Aipan Art Motifs

Selection of fabric and technique

According to suitability of Men's Nehru Jackets designs four Samples were developed, firstly glazed cotton with hand embroidery, secondly glazed cotton with hand painting, thirdly with rayon with hand embroidery and last rayon with hand painting in combination with mirror work. Best one fabric and one technique were selected for production by 5 fashion designers (experts) and 5 academicians. The criteria of the selection of fabric and technique on the basis of suitability of fabric and technique for development of Nehru jackets using Aipan Art designs was aesthetic appearance.

The final selection of best one fabric and best one technique is specified in Table 1.

Table 1: Selection of Fabric and Technique=10

Sampling	Weight Mean Score	Rank
S1: Glazed Cotton with Hand Embroidery	4.5	I
S2: Glazed Cotton with Hand Painting	3.8	III
S3: Rayon with Hand Embroidery	4	II
S4: Rayon with Hand Painting	3.5	IV

It has been analysed from Table 1 that the best one ranked fabric and technique selected by 5 design experts and 5 academicians on 5-point scale, gives highest preference to Sample 1 which is Glazed cotton with Hand Embroidery with 4.5 of weighted mean score. The selected fabric and technique were preferred by the respondents on the basis of Suitability of Fabric and Suitability of Technique with mirror work on Men's' Nehru Jackets.

These selected designs were further be used in product development.

Table 2: Costing of Developed Men's Nehru Jackets

Developed Nehru Jackets	Actual Cost (Rs)			
	Fabric And Lining	Hand Embroidery	Labour Cost	Total Cost
J1	700/-	1700/-	1800/-	4200/-
J2	700/-	1300/-	1800/-	3800/-
J3	700/-	1700/-	1800/-	4200/-
J4	700/-	1700/-	1800/-	4200/-
J5	700/-	1100/-	1800/-	3600/-

Product Acceptability

The developed jackets were evaluated to check the acceptance by the experts and consumers. The evaluation of products was done on aesthetic

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appearance of design, placement of motifs. cost of the product, concept appropriateness and layout of the motifs or designs on the products. Five jackets were developed using top ranked five designs prepared from selected fabric and technique and motifs which were evaluated by 5 design experts and 5 academicians and 30 consumers using 5-point likert scale. Weighted mean score was calculated for each criteria. The acceptability of the developed products is specified in Table 3.

Table 3: Product Acceptability of Jackets n=40

Parameters	J1	J2	J3	J4	J5
Design	4.56	5	4.7	4.7	4.57
Placement of Motifs	4.6	4.59	4.6	4.6	4.3
Cost	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5
Concept	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.7
Overall Appearance	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.8
Total WMS	4.61	4.65	4.6	4.6	4.57
Rank	(II)	(I)	(III)	(III)	(IV)

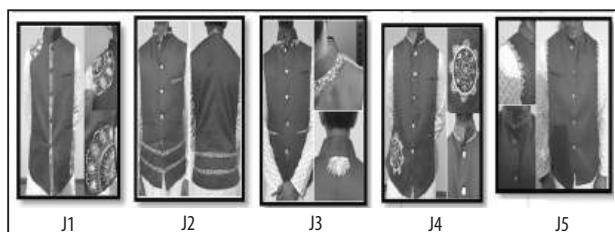


Plate 4: Development of Jackets

Conclusion

Aipan Art of Uttarakhand is a folk-art having motifs inspired from mythology and flora and fauna from nature. Motifs designs show a combination of traditional and natural design in contemporized form. The aipan designs were a bit complex but was able to adapt the designs for developing Men's Nehru Jackets which is popular and trendy in current scenario. As fashion changes every six months there is always demand of innovative and creative products in the field of designing. This inspiration with innovation gives the opportunity to create the traditional motifs with effect of modernization which creates its own uniqueness and demand in the field of fashion and textiles. The blend

of Aipan Art Motif design with Nehru Jackets gives designers to develop new collection for the people who want to adapt their tradition with innovation. The developed product with aipan art motifs with combination of embroidery and mirror work shows higher rank of acceptance by the respondents which states that in the fashion and textile sector the adaption of design is preferable. This kind of artistic creation will also encourage and motivate people to use their creative talent for setting up their own venture, which indirectly help in upgrading the traditional art of Uttarakhand.

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FROM PLASTIC WASTE TO WEARABLE TEXTILES: RECYCLABLE PLASTIC THREADS AND THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE FABRICS

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The rapid accumulation of plastic waste has become a defining environmental challenge of the modern era. Single-use plastics, particularly polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles, account for a substantial share of municipal solid waste, much of which ends up in landfills or marine ecosystems. In response, industries are increasingly seeking pathways to transform plastic waste into valuable secondary resources. The textile and apparel industry, one of the world's largest consumers of synthetic fibers, has emerged as a key sector in this transition through the adoption of recyclable plastic threads, primarily recycled polyester (rPET).

Recyclable plastic threads represent a practical application of circular economy principles by converting post-consumer plastic waste into functional textile fibers. This approach aligns

strongly with Sustainable Development Goal 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), which emphasizes waste reduction, resource efficiency, and sustainable material use. For Asian textile-producing economies, where both plastic waste generation and textile manufacturing are concentrated, plastic-to-textile innovations offer significant environmental and industrial relevance.

Plastic Waste as a Raw Material for Textiles

PET is particularly suited for textile recycling due to its thermoplastic nature and mechanical strength. The recycling process involves collection, sorting, washing, shredding, melting, and extrusion of PET waste into filaments that are subsequently spun into yarn. These recycled yarns can be woven or knitted into fabrics used across apparel, footwear, home furnishings, and technical textiles.

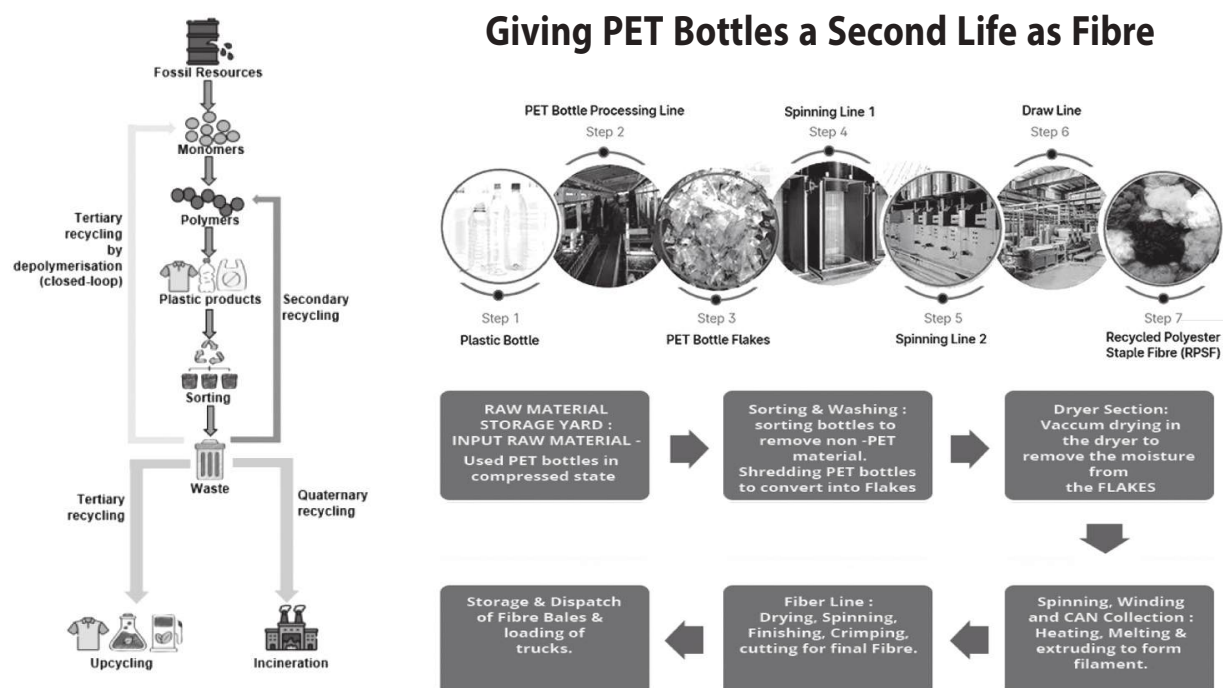


Figure 1: illustrates the conversion of PET bottle waste into textile fibers, highlighting how discarded plastics are reintegrated into production systems.

By reframing plastic waste as a resource rather than an end-of-life burden, recyclable plastic threads support a shift away from linear “take-make-dispose” models toward circular material flows. The adoption of rPET also enables manufacturers to substitute virgin polyester without major changes to existing machinery, lowering barriers

to implementation and facilitating rapid scalability within established textile value chains.

Performance Characteristics of Recyclable Plastic Threads

A key factor driving industry adoption of recyclable plastic threads is their comparable

coexist with consumer expectations of comfort, durability, and design. An illustrative example is Neeman's, which utilizes recycled plastic yarns in footwear products to showcase both functional performance and environmental responsibility.

Such initiatives have contributed to shifting consumer perceptions, helping normalize recycled materials in mainstream markets. Market acceptance is critical, as consumer skepticism regarding recycled textiles has historically limited adoption despite technical feasibility.

Challenges and Limitations

Despite their promise, recyclable plastic threads face several challenges. One major concern is microplastic shedding, where synthetic fibers release microscopic particles during laundering, potentially contributing to aquatic pollution. While this issue affects both virgin and recycled polyester, it highlights the need for improved fiber engineering, fabric construction, and washing technologies.

Another limitation relates to recyclability across multiple life cycles. Mechanical recycling can degrade polymer quality over time, reducing fiber strength and limiting repeated reuse. Blended textiles further complicate recycling processes, as separating mixed fibers remains technologically complex and economically demanding (Piribauer & Bartl, 2019).

Infrastructure gaps also pose barriers, particularly in developing Asian economies where waste collection and sorting systems are fragmented. Without coordinated recycling ecosystems and supportive policy frameworks, large-scale circularity remains difficult to achieve.

Policy and Supply Chain Implications

Regulatory and market pressures are increasingly shaping the trajectory of recycled plastic textiles. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) policies, sustainability reporting requirements, and buyer-driven ESG standards are encouraging manufacturers to integrate recycled materials into their supply chains. At the same time, traceability and transparency are becoming critical, with digital tools and certifications used to verify recycled content and environmental claims.

For textile exporters in Asia, compliance with these evolving standards is rapidly becoming a competitive necessity. Recyclable plastic threads, when supported by transparent sourcing and credible certification, can enhance both regulatory compliance and brand value.

Future Outlook

The future of recyclable plastic threads lies in advancing toward closed-loop textile systems. Chemical recycling technologies capable of regenerating polymers to near-virgin quality offer potential solutions to current material degradation challenges. Hybrid innovations combining recycled plastics with bio-based fibers are also being explored to further reduce environmental impact.

Consumer awareness and education will play a decisive role in scaling these solutions. As understanding of circular textiles improves, recycled plastic fabrics are likely to transition from niche sustainability products to mainstream material choices.

Conclusion

Recyclable plastic threads exemplify how environmental challenges can be transformed into opportunities for sustainable industrial innovation. By converting plastic waste into wearable textiles, the industry supports circular economy objectives while addressing pressing waste and resource concerns. Although technical and infrastructural challenges persist, continued innovation, supportive policy frameworks, and growing market acceptance suggest strong long-term potential.

For the Asian textile industry, recyclable plastic threads offer a pragmatic pathway toward aligning production practices with **SDG 12**, reinforcing the sector's role in responsible consumption and sustainable manufacturing.

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ROLE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) IN BENGAL'S TRADITIONAL HANDLOOM WEAVING SECTOR

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Abstract

India's traditional handloom weaving industry has a glorious history from the immortal past. Indian clothes were very popular in ancient Greece, Rome, Babylon, and many other countries. In per colonial period, India earned a huge wealth by exporting traditional handloom textile products. Indian clothes were so popular in Europe that during the colonial period, the British government imposed a long-term tax policy on traditional handloom weavers and traders. Draconian taxes were imposed on Indian clothing imported into Britain, whereas Britain relaxed the tax and duty on the export of British textiles to India. It badly affected the glorious traditional handloom weaving sector of India. Many traditional weavers left their profession and the traditional weaving sector gradually losing its glorious history. The glorious history of the Indian traditional weaving sector becomes incomplete without the Bengal chapter. Bengal's traditional handloom weaver's products were very popular not only in India but also abroad. Bengal's weavers are experts in the production of Tangail, Baluchari, Garad, Jamdani, Dhaniakhali, Maslin, Santipuri Sarees. and so many others, and recently three of them also got GI tags. In the 1995-96 handloom census of West Bengal 3.5 lakh handloom employed 6.6 lakh weavers which dropped down to 2.83 lakh handloom and 6.39 lakh employment in 2019-20census, but the production and export of traditional handloom products gradually increased after the development of information technology (IT). Almost 50% of the Indian population now use the internet (759 million, 2022), Development of E-commerce, digital marketing, social networking, improvement of online transaction facility, application of computers for designing sarees, application of digital technology in different arenas of handloom sector empower weaving sector. This paper tries to find out the role of modern information technology (IT) in the traditional weaving sector of Bengal.

Keywords: Traditional Weaving, Information Technology (IT), Traditional Weaving and IT, Bengal's traditional handloom weavers.

The Journey of India's Traditional Handloom Weaving Sector

India's traditional handloom weaving industry has a glorious history from the immortal past. Indian clothes were very popular in ancient Greece, Rome, Babylon, and many other countries. During the colonial period, India earned a huge wealth by exporting traditional handloom textile products. Indian clothes were very popular in Europe during the colonial period. Around 2500-2000 BC, the Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro civilizations were highly successful because of their traditional handloom weaving. During the excavation of these civilizations, along with the mini figurines and engraved seals, many spinning whorls of wool, anchors, cotton, and copper sewing needles were found. An impression of woven fabric and a large number of cotton seeds were also unearthed. (Soundarapandian, 2002).

Cloth weaving was also mentioned in the Vedic period, and different terms were used to describe weavers and cloths in India. The Ramayana stated that Sita's clothing was made of wool and embellished with precious stones and silk thread. The Vedas contain references to the textile industry. It is believed by scholars that the textile industry expanded during the later Vedic period, even though knitting fabric is mentioned in the R̥gveda. The R̥gvedic period reveals Aryans' expertise in creating fine decorative clothes, as evidenced by Varundeva's beautiful appearance in the R̥gveda. (Mallick, 2018)

Indian craftsmanship is highly sought after globally, with cotton and silk being the major fabrics during the Mughal era. Mughal India was renowned for its vibrant, printed textiles, which were imported to Europe and became a significant trend. The 16th century saw the 'Golden Age of Textile Production', marked by the introduction of diverse dye sources, refined weaving techniques, and new floral themes. Foreigners were attracted to the intricate patterns of Kalamkari, leading to their export to Europe during the Mughal era. (Dey, 2015).

Indian clothes were so popular in Europe that, during the colonial period, the British government imposed a long-term tax policy on traditional handloom weavers and traders. Draconian taxes

were imposed on Indian clothing imported into Britain, whereas Britain relaxed the tax and duty on the export of British textiles to India. It badly affected the glorious traditional handloom weaving sector in India. Many traditional weavers left their profession, and the traditional weaving sector gradually lost its glorious history. India had been producing 25% of the world's textiles before colonialism, but it dropped to just 2% by the time British rule ended. (Fabriclore V, 2022). By the 1810s, the number of British textile exports to India was greater than that of India. The 1820s saw a gradual decrease in demand for Indian hand-woven fabrics due to Indian yarn costing twice as much as English yarn. Millions of skilled weavers lost their jobs due to the decline of Indian textiles in the 19th century. The Khadi movement was started by Gandhiji to promote hand-woven fabrics in India, but it was hard to compete. The movement was able to evolve Indian handloom fabrics with European designs, despite the competition from British textiles and government support. Brocades that used to be produced in the streets of Varanasi witnessed influence from the West. Traditional Indian plant designs have shifted to modern motifs and patterns. From here, modernization started in the Indian traditional handloom weaving sector. The Indian traditional handloom weaving sector experienced a slight boost during the Second World War, as the war had an impact on British imports, and domestic companies were also producing military products like uniforms and bags. August 15, 1947, was a pivotal moment for the handloom weavers of India. The spinning wheel, Charkha, was used by Mahatma Gandhi as a symbol of national rejuvenation. (Kumar et al., 2021; Fabriclore, 2022)

After India's independence, the traditional handloom weaving sector was given priority treatment. During India's independence, the handloom sector faced challenges due to poor quality and inadequate marketing infrastructure. The All-India Handloom Board was reconstituted in 1945 to advise the government and propose schemes for handloom development. Parliament passed the Khadi and Other Handloom Industries Development Act in 1953 to raise funds and organize weavers' cooperatives. The Weavers Service Centre and Indian Institute of Handloom Technology were established for applied research, service, and training. The Handloom and

Handicrafts Export Corporation of India Ltd. was established in 1958 to promote handloom exports. (High Commission of India, Lilongwe, 2021),

The Ministry of Textiles is promoting sustainable development in the handloom sector through various schemes, including skill upgradation, product diversification, technology upgrades, improved access to subsidized raw materials, low-interest credit, infrastructure development, brand building, and marketing assistance. These initiatives aim to increase earnings for weavers and workers and link handloom with high-end fashion. The Government of India launched many schemes for the development of the traditional handloom weaving sector, among them the Cluster Development Programme (CDP), skill upgradation, Hatkharga Samvardhan Sahayata (looms and accessories), the construction of work sheds, engaging designers, the MUDRA Loan, the Handloom Weavers' Welfare Scheme for universal and affordable Social Security to handloom weavers and workers, including life, accidental, and disability insurance, financial support, the Bunkar Mitra helpline program, the Handloom Awards program, etc. This welfare program is somehow able to rejuvenate the traditional handloom weaving sector in India. (GOI, 2021)

India is home to 95% of the world's total hand-woven fabric. After agriculture, handloom weaving is the second-largest job sector in the nation. With 23.77 lakh looms, the handloom industry is the largest cottage industry in our country, and it is the second largest employment provider after agriculture. According to the 2019–20 handloom census, this industry employs about 35,22,512 handloom workers across the country, and out of them, 72.29% are female workers. (Bhowmik 2019; GOI, 2020)

The glorious history of the Indian traditional weaving sector becomes incomplete without the Bengal chapter. Bengal's traditional handloom weaver's products were very popular not only in India but also abroad. Bengal's weavers are experts in the production of Tangail, Baluchari, Garad, Jamdani, Dhaniakhali, Maslin, Santipuri Sarees, and so many others, and recently three of them also got GI tags. In the 1995–96 handloom census of West Bengal, 3.5 lakh handloom employed 6.6 lakh weavers, which dropped to 2.83 lakh handloom and 6.39 lakh employment

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in the 2019–20 census, but the production and export of traditional handloom products gradually increased (Bhattacharya and Sen, 2018; Ministry of Textiles 2009, 2019, 2023)

India is passing through the era of science and technology. According to the Internet and Mobile Association of India report 59% or 759 million Indians are actively using the Internet. The development of e-commerce, digital marketing, social networking, improvement of online transaction facilities, application of computers for designing sarees, and application of digital technology in different arenas of the handloom sector empower the weaving sector. So the main objective of this paper is to find out the role of modern information technology (IT) in the traditional weaving sector of Bengal and also to understand the challenges. (ICUBE, 2022)

Bengal's Traditional Handloom Sector

Bengal's handloom industry has a golden past. The weaving industry of Bengal reached its peak during the era of the Sultanate and Mughal. Abul-Fazl's book 'Ain-e-Akbari' mentions textile factories in Bengal. High-quality "muslin" was manufactured in Bengal. Emperor Akbar was personally fond of the finer weaving of handlooms. Nur Jahan Bagam was also particularly fond of muslin produced in Bengal. In addition to Maslin, Nilambri, Meghdambri, and Near Melani etc, sarees leave a deep footprint in Bengal's literature and folk culture. During the period of Laxman Sen, Santipur became the handloom hub, but the weavers of Santipur were not so perfect at producing fine yarn like the weavers of Dhaka. Laxman Sen invited some excellent Maslin weavers from Dhaka to settle down in Santipur. They were not successful because of the weather difference, but the thing they made was like muslin and was admired abroad. The name of this garment was Malmal. India had significant foreign exchange profits from the export of textiles during the Sultanate and Mughal eras. The trade reached its peak during the period 1600–1700 AD. With the arrival of the British East India Company, Bengal's textile sector experienced its darkest days. (Debnath, 2022)

The handloom sector of West Bengal is one of the leading decentralized, labor-intensive sectors. It is the largest cottage industrial sector of the state, providing employment opportunities to a

large number of people only next to agriculture. According to a 2009–2010 Ministry of Textiles, Government of India census, there are 3,07,829 handlooms in West Bengal, providing direct and indirect employment for roughly 6,65,006 people, which a little bit dropped in the 2019–20 handloom census, and it now has 2,83,404 handlooms with roughly 6,31,447 direct or indirect workers. (wbmsmet.gov.in, 2020).

Bengal's handloom sector contributes 35.3% of total saree production in India and also contributes 12% of towel, napkin, and gamcha production. Many handloom products are produced in West Bengal (Handloom Census 2019–20). Different districts are experts in the production of different handloom items. Nadia and Bardhaman districts are famous for Tangail, Jamdani, and Santipurisaree production, whereas Hooghly is popular for Dhaniakhali, Begampuri saree, and Fine Cotton Dhoti production. Darjeeling is well known for its woolen shawl. Bankura is popular for Baluchari Sarees, Silk Than, Shirting, and Tassar Scarf, whereas Birbhum district is famous for Tassar Than and Shirting (Bag, 2021). According to West Bengal Handloom Organization report.

District-wise handloom product manufacturing details (According to West Bengal Handloom Organization)

- I. Bankura - Baluchari Sarees, Silk Than, Shirting, Tassar Scarf
- II. Burdwan - Tangail, Jamdani Sarees, Exportable Fabrics (Scarf, Stole, Home furnishing), Coarser Sarees, Gamcha, Lungi, Cotton Khadi, Shirtings, Debipur Dhuti.
- III. Birbhum - Tassar Than, Shirting.
- IV. Cooch Behar- Tangail Saree, Fine Cotton Sarees, Coarser Saree
- V. Darjeeling- Woolen Shawl, Coarser Saree
- VI. Dakshin Dinajpur- Tangail Saree, Fine Cotton Sarees
- VII. Howrah - Fine Cotton Sarees, Dhuti, Shirting, Furnishing Fabrics, Gamcha, Coarser Sarees
- VIII. Hooghly - Dhaniakhali, Begumpuri Sarees, Fine Cotton Dhuti, Sarees, Coarser Sarees
- IX. Jalpaiguri - Coarser Saree, Gamcha
- X. Murshidabad - Silk Than, Silk shirting, Koris Saree, Coarser Cotton

- XI. Nadia - Tangail, Jamdani, Santipuri Sarees, Dress materials, Lungi, Exportable Fabrics (Scarf, Stole), Coarser Sarees, Gamcha
- XII. Paschim Midnapore- Fine & Coarser Saree, Tassar Than, Cotton Shirting
- XIII. Purba Midnapore - Coarser Sarees, Shirting, Furnishing Gamcha
- XIV. Purulia - Tassar Than, Silk Shirting, Coarser Cotton Sarees, Gamcha
- XV. Uttar Dinajpur- Gamcha, Coarser Saree, Jute furnishing
- XVI. 24-Parganas(N) - Gauze, Bandage, Gamcha, Lungi, Coarser Sarees
- XVII. 24-Parganas(S) - Fine Cotton Sarees, Coarser Sarees, Gamcha

The traditional handloom industry in Bengal has a bright future. As the second-largest employment-generating sector after agriculture, the weaving sector has become more significant in Bengal's economy. This sector also earns a good amount of foreign currency through the export of handloom goods (Das, 2017). According to the West Bengal Handloom Organization report, there are five central marketing organizations under the MSSE&T Dept. that procure handloom cloth from primary weavers' co-op societies and weavers outside co-operatives and sell the materials through their retail outlets. The organizations are The West Bengal State Handloom Weavers Co-op. Society Ltd. (Tantuja), West Bengal Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd. (Manjusha), The West Bengal State Handicrafts Co-op Society Ltd. (Banasree), and Paschim Banga Resham Shilpi Samabay Mahasangha Ltd. (Resham Shilpi). Presently, they are all making good profits.

Handloom and handicraft products of West Bengal, sold under the brand names 'Tantuja' and 'Manjusha' respectively, According to the report from the West Bengal state assembly (dated November 26, 2018), these two organizations have registered huge profits in the last few years and have now become profit-making bodies. Both 'Tantuja' and 'Manjusha' were state government undertakings. "Tantuja has started making profits for the financial year 2012-13. In 2017-18, the turnover of Tantuja was Rs 204.90 crore, and the profit was around Rs 10.26 crore. Manjusha's turnover in the 2017-18 financial year was Rs 91.04 crore, and its profit was Rs 5.87 crore. Apart from

that, three sarees (Santipuri Saree, Baluchari Saree, and Dhaniakhali Saree) from West Bengal got GI tags recently (PTI, March 16, 2018), but still, the handloom weaving sector is facing some difficulties like the insufficient supply of raw materials and the rising price of them; acute scarcity of laborers or weavers; unequal competition with the power loom sector; poor living and working conditions of the weavers; poor infrastructural conditions and ill management; and collapse of primary weavers cooperative societies. As a result, the number of weavers and looms is decreasing at a significant rate. The post-liberalization period has also seen the biggest decline in handlooms, either because of the transition from handloom to power loom or because of the exit from handloom (Bhattacharya and Sen, 2018). From the 2009-10 to the 2019-20 handloom census period, 24425 looms completely vanished from West Bengal, and 33559 direct or indirect workers left their profession permanently. To boost this traditional and important economic sector, the governments of India and West Bengal have started different development schemes. According to the Ministry of Textiles GOI 2019 report in West Bengal, 97696 beneficiaries have been enrolled under the Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar BimaYojana (MGBBY), 49 yarn depots and 3 warehouses are functional in the state for the supply of yarn at subsidized rates, and the Mega Handloom Cluster has been sanctioned for Murshidabad district of the state. The project cost of Rs. 72.26 crores, block-level clusters have been sanctioned, and a sum of Rs. 9.02 crore has been released, covering 26793 beneficiaries; marketing events have been sanctioned, and a sum of Rs. 34.00 lakh has been released; and concessional loans worth Rs. 5.20 crore have been sanctioned to 1080 beneficiaries. Apart from this, the rapid development of information and technology is gradually expanding the market and demand for the traditional handloom weaving sector in India as well as in West Bengal.

Information technology (IT) and traditional handloom weaving sectors

We are passing through the era of information and technology. India's internet user growth rate is three times faster than the global average, with 835 million people predicted to have internet connections by 2025. (Kaka et al., 2019). According to NSSCOM (2016), 75% of India's new internet

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users come from rural areas, which are the hub of the handloom industry. Though it was observed that most of the rural internet users are using the internet for their entertainment purposes (60%), the internet is still used for financial transactions (15%) and for other online services 14 %, (Internet and Mobile Association of India, 2017). This continuous development of internet literacy in rural areas will help in the transformation of the handloom weaving sector from traditional to digital in the coming days. India is ranked tenth globally in terms of e-commerce, with a \$400 billion volume (UNCTAD, 2019). E-commerce is very useful for promoting online markets for the indigenous handlooms sector. With the development of information and technology, the volume of traditional handloom weaving products has increased. According to the Export-Import Bank of India (2018), India is the second-largest exporter of handlooms worldwide, with handlooms accounting for 15% of all exports (Majumdar et al, 2021)). This sector also earns a good amount of foreign currency through exporting handloom goods (Das, 2017).

The Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF), established in 2002, uses the 2.4 GHz and 5.8 GHz spectrums to offer wireless internet connectivity to remote locations in India. It operates at over 14 locations and collaborates with various organizations such as the GoI, United Nations organizations, World Bank, EU, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Intel Foundation, Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Google Inc., Vodafone Foundation, and Microsoft India. The Digital Cluster Development Programme (DCDP) is a DEF initiative aimed at empowering India's handloom clusters through digital transformation, incorporating Wireless for Communities (W4C) and the Community Internet Resource Centre (CIRC) as part of its low-cost internet connectivity program. (Majumdar et al. 2021). In West Bengal, Microsoft India plans to develop an e-commerce platform that will link the state's six lakh weavers. As part of its charitable endeavor, the internet giant has announced the opening of a new online store for handloom weavers under the name "Project ReWeave." "This project will start in the Nadia district and contribute to a 25% increase in weavers' income." The platform would facilitate direct communication between artists and consumers, opening up new markets and customers for them. In addition to

helping weavers increase their revenue and reach more consumers, Microsoft India's e-marketplace would also help revive long-forgotten Indian traditional art. Here, Microsoft will carry out "Project Sangam," which seeks to empower municipal functionaries to run community training courses. (Microsoft Philanthropies India - Project Re-Weave, n.d. 2017; Project Sangam: Enabling Skilling at Scale for a Better Tomorrow - Microsoft Stories India, 2019)

Amazon has partnered with Tantuja, the West Bengal handloom weavers' society, to sell sarees internationally under its global selling program. Tantuja will now sell sarees in 10 countries, expanding its reach in India. The company, which had a modest turnover in 2010–11, now has a turnover of Rs 150 crore and an operational profit of Rs 4 crore. With 68 showrooms, Tantuja sells various handloom sarees, including Jamdani, Baluchari, Tangail, Dhaniakhali, Murshidabad Silk, and Tasar Silk. Amazon India's global selling program has grown since May 2015, with over 20,000 Indian sellers selling over 45 million products on its ten global marketplaces (Mukherjee, 2017).

Flipkart has signed a memorandum of understanding with the West Bengal government to train and support local artisans, weavers, and handicraft makers to use its e-commerce platform to scale up their businesses. The agreement was signed with the state's micro, small and medium enterprises and textiles department. The partnership aims to enhance the development of these artisans, weavers, small businesses, and MSMEs by providing access to opportunities through e-commerce. (PTI, 2022). The government has launched an e-commerce portal called Indiahandmade.com to enable artists and weavers to sell their handloom and handicraft products directly to clients without the need for middlemen.

There is a lot of scope for the development and upgradation of Bengal's traditional handloom weaving sector with the help of modern information and technology (IT). E-commerce platforms like Yarn Bazaar connect weavers with certified inputs directly from producers, eliminating middlemen and ensuring competitive prices. Artificial intelligence algorithms can match weavers' requirements with those of suppliers and recommend alternatives. This is an emerging

area of technology integration in the supply chain. Block chain technology can improve transparency and traceability in raw material supply chains by securely recording transactions and handovers from farm to loom. Provenance data on natural fibers can be attached to yarn packages via smart tags, enabling weavers to make informed sourcing decisions and provide a richer marketable story for finished handloom products. (Vani & Meesala, 2023; Arunachalam, 2024).

Handloom weaving requires labor-intensive processes like winding bobbins, dyeing, warping, and sizing. Sensor-fitted, IT-enabled yarn winding machines can automate these tasks, generating data on yarn quality. Computer vision systems can detect color inconsistencies early. Digital design software and 3D modeling enable the creation of intricate weaving patterns, color combinations, and structures without physical sampling. These tools enable weavers to experiment with motifs, share designs remotely, and make revisions. Pattern visualization and color-coding software help weavers set up looms and weave complex designs more efficiently. Ergonomic handloom designs with sensors and actuators can improve productivity and reduce physical strain on weavers. Mobile and web apps can provide training and knowledge-sharing content, while online forums allow geographically dispersed weaving communities to exchange ideas. Technology interventions can standardize quality, minimize waste, and speed up fulfillment in post-loom processing. Computer vision systems can automate visual inspection of raw fabric, while image recognition AI models can identify defects. Sensors embedded in machines can monitor and control process parameters, optimize resource consumption, and ensure uniform drying. RFID tagging of fabric rolls can reduce errors and misplacement. Handloom weavers' income relies on the consistent sale of their products at good prices. (Arunachalam, 2024)

Digital platforms can help them reach a wider market and provide payment gateways, logistics support, and customer service. Social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp can be used to showcase products and engage customers. Influencer marketing can attract more customers. Virtual and augmented reality experiences can create emotional connections and justify premium prices. Mobile-based CRM apps,

ChatbotAI, and analytics can help weavers manage inventory, plan production, and make transactions more convenient and secure. (Brahma & Dutta, 2020, Arunachalam, 2024)

Digital literacy and skills development programs are crucial for weavers. Data security and privacy safeguards are essential for trust. Change management efforts, partnering with community leaders, and performance incentives can sustain technology adoption. (Arunachalam, 2024; Mamidipudi & Bijker, 2018; Choudhary & Bansal, 2022)

To transform the handloom supply chain, weavers need affordable finance for digital tools and connectivity. Governments, cooperatives, and social enterprises can provide loans for upgrading technologies. Weaving clusters with specialized machinery can reduce individual capital expenditure requirements. Investments in rural broadband and low-cost smart phones can bridge the digital divide. Information technologies can revitalize the handloom industry by transforming its supply chain and driving efficiency and innovation. By collaborating with governments, industry players, cooperatives, technologists, and weavers, digital solutions can preserve traditional handloom weaving and artisanal uniqueness, ensuring its survival for generations. (Majumdar et al. 2021)

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EXPORT PROSPECTS AND MARKETS

Effect of punitive tariffs : Orders dry up, squeezing margins of textile exporters

For nearly three months, R Gopalakrishnan, Chairman of Royal Classic Mills (P) Ltd, has been waking up to the hope shared by exporters across India's textile sector that Washington will roll back the punitive 50 per cent tariff on Indian textiles. The wait, however, is stretching on. "Both governments are trying hard to announce a breakthrough. However, we have been unlucky so far," he says.

Not only have exporters in Tiruppur lost orders worth nearly ₹15,000 crores since the US tariffs took effect on August 27, there has been a 30 per cent reduction in production capacity, which has prevented a large chunk of the migrant workforce from Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal from returning to work after Diwali holidays.

Indian textile and apparel exporters, including those in Tiruppur, are under growing strain as the punitive US tariffs continue to choke orders, squeeze margins and disrupt production nationwide. With exporters absorbing a significant share of the tariff burden and buyers diverting sourcing to competing countries, industry leaders warn that sustained pressure could hit employment at home and lead to higher prices for US consumers as early as 2026.

Gopalakrishnan, whose company earns nearly 55 per cent of its revenue from the US, says : "Nearly 32 per cent of exports from Tiruppur are to the US, and the rest to other markets such as Europe, Japan, Australia and West Asia. The exposure of units varies between 20 per cent and 100 per cent. The larger the exposure to the US market, the bigger the impact."

The Apparel Export Daily Losses Promotion Council (AEPC), a pan India body of apparel exporters, says textile exporters in India have been clocking a loss of ₹45 crore every day for the last 90 days after the 50 percent tariff took effect.

"Exporters are being forced to shell out money from their pockets. This could range from 15-18 per cent of the total free on board (FoB) value," said Sudhir Sekhri, Chairman of the Apparel export Promotion Council (AEPC). This FoB is the total cost of getting textile goods ready and delivering to the buyer's designated vessel at the exporters's port. It includes ex-factory price, domestic transport, warehousing and loading.

"If you consider our textile and apparel exports, we have been losing ₹45 crore every day for the last four months. It is a huge drain," Sekhri told reporters. The AEPC official said though exporters

are looking to diversify and tap other countries, the move could take time and employment in India could be adversely affected during the interim.

For Raft Garments that manufactures innerwear, the tariff burden is getting difficult to manage. "When the US announced the first tariff hike, they wanted us to share 16 per cent of that. We shared it.

However, when they hiked it again, they wanted us to share 25 per cent of that increase. This is not possible for us to share," says Siva Subramaniam. Founder & Chairman of the company, which derives 50 per cent of its revenues from the US market.

"We are going through a rough time with clients cancelling orders. We got an order for 2 million units to be supplied by February. We supplied half a million before Diwali. In September-November when the tariff hike was implemented, we could not afford the increase in share ; the clients cancelled the rest of the order and diverted it from countries such as Bangladesh, Cambodia and Vietnam," he added.

Price Tags to Rise

India's largest textile exporters, including Welspun Living, Arvind Ltd and Gokaldas Exports, did not respond to e-mailed questionnaires, but have flagged concerns over US tariffs in discussions with investors. The concerns include Indian textiles and apparels becoming costlier in the US market.

According to APEC, the price tags on Indian products sold in the US market are expected to see a rise in the 2026 winter season, export shipments for which will leave Indian shores in April next year.

However, Gokaldas Exports, which is one of the top five textile exporters to the US, feels the price rise could hit the US as early as spring 2026.

"Going forward, there will be price rise, which will be passed on to customers. Most of that will happen from spring 2026.. Demand is very price-sensitive. And if a 4-6 per cent price increase is passed on to consumers, which is most likely to happen, I think there could be some degree of demand contraction," Sivramakrishnan Ganpathi, Vice-Chairman and MD of Gokaldas Exports, told investors in November.

Low Demand

Welspun Living, too, felt that while customers are sharing the tariff burden, partial absorption of tariffs is likely to weigh on margins this fiscal year, and the company expects US consumer demand to weaken during the current holiday season and beyond.

Some exporters have been successful in cutting down discounts.

According to Pravash Agarwal, Director of Kolkata-based Maasis Interfashion, which exports

women's apparels to the US, the company was forced to offer a 20 per cent discount to customers in October, which in turn adversely impacted its margins. However, in the new orders received, the company has not offered discounts.

Ahmedabad-based united Polyfab Gujarat Ltd. said only a portion of the tariff is being passed on to customers, while a significant part is still being absorbed by exporters to retain customers.

"The impact of the tariffs started becoming visible and, if an Indo-US deal does not materialise, the pressure could continue into 2026. There is already a slowdown in US-linked orders, especially in garment-related segments," said Ritesh Hada, director of the company.

Another exporter who did not wish to reveal his identity, said his company managed the last 90 days with orders in hand for delivery. However, there is a lot of uncertainty, with orders not coming from the US.

Some of the clients have diverted their sourcing to other countries such as Bangladesh, Vietnam, Sri Lanka and Thailand. "We seem to be in for a long haul," he remarked. □

Textile industry welcomes new labour code because it may boost export prospects to US, EU

The textile industry has welcomed the rollout of new labour codes, citing that it will help players clinch more export orders, as it will comply with the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) norms.

While the move may give a competitive edge over rivals like Bangladesh in the global market, several industry bodies raised concerns that many state governments may not implement it on the ground.

The export boost would be seen once free trade agreements (FTAs) conclude with the European Union (EU) and the United States (US).

"The new labour codes would facilitate compliance with various social accountability norms prescribed by leading markets like the EU and the US. The EU has decided that any exporting country must comply with the CSDDD requirements to access the European market. The new policy initiatives would facilitate the industry to take advantage of the PTA to be concluded with the EU and US in the short run," said Me Manivannan, Member, CII Southern Region Textiles Task force, and whole-time director, Loyal Textile Mills.

The new labour code will create a competitive edge for the Indian textiles industry to get more business as it will pave the way to comply with the CSDDD, he added. This comes at a time when India is pitching itself as a global hub of textile sourcing. India exported \$36.55 billion in FY 25, up from \$34.40 billion during the previous financial year.

The new changes include mandatory appointment letters to all workers. PF, ESIC insurance and other social security benefits for all workers. Also they provide statutory right to minimum wage payments, free annual health check-ups and permission for women to work at night, among others. The textiles industry, particularly mills which are in exports, has been constantly approaching the government to simplify the labour legislations and bring a common code. This would help India leading the world on social accountability.

"Simplification of several laws reduce compliance and it must be easier to understand. Rather than helping manufacturing grow, this may make life easier for manufacturers," said Sanjay Kumar Jain, managing director of Delhi-based TT Ltd. and chairman of ICC National Textiles Committee.

"Unless state rules are notified by the state governments, actual implementation may not happen. Until these notifications come, enforcement of the provisions in the codes would remain silent," said K. Venkatchalam, chief advisor, Tamil Nadu Spinning Mills Association. □

To match with global practice, clothes, homelinen may have to tag care, origin, fabric details

If you've ever wondered about the exact materials used in your clothes and home linens, you may soon be able to find out. India is working on a new labelling rule for apparel and home textiles sold in the country that will make it mandatory for manufacturers to share details such as the fibre used, origin and care instructions.

Officials say the move will help India match global practices, support better recycling and ensure shoppers aren't misled about fibre compositions or origin claims.

"Preliminary talks are going on, and we've done some stakeholder consultation," said an official. "Things are yet to be finalised."

Disclosure and display of country of origin. Fibre composition, wash and care instruction are mandatory in developed countries.

EXPORT PROSPECTS AND MARKETS

India produced about \$175.7 billion worth of textile and apparel in 2024. Textile and apparel exports during the April-October period stood at \$20.4 billion.

"The move is in consumer interest as it will help demarcate cheap imported products from the ones locally produced in the light of India signing many trade agreements," said a representative of the cotton textile industry who participated in a recent stakeholder meeting.

Experts said it is also essential to know the fibre content to ensure that the cloth is compatible with textile recycling processes or whether it has to be discarded entirely. It will also help retail chains to manage their supplies.

"The proposed regulation on mandatory labelling of readymade garments and made-ups articles sold in India aims to enhance consumer awareness and protect consumer interests from, absence of information about fibre composition, display and disclosure of country of origin, wash and care instructions to safeguard against the inaccurate or misleading product claims," said another industry representative.

The textile ministry is working on an action plan to boost the textile waste value chain as part of which it aims to make mandatory a certain amount of textile products in government procurement to be made of recycled materials, and Indian standards and certification on recycling. □

RBI relief has to be extended to raw material suppliers : Texprocil

The Reserve Bank of India's recent trade relief measures should be extended to the entire value chain and not restricted only to exporters of finished goods, according to a top official of industry body Texprocil.

The statement comes amid raw material suppliers feeling the pinch of reduced demand for India's exports due to steep US tariffs.

Citing the example of the textile sector, Siddhartha Rajagopal, Executive Director, Texprocil (The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council), said, "The sector should be seen as an integrated value chain. There is no point in giving relief only to the finished goods'

exporters affected due to the US tariffs. There are also the yarn and the fabric manufacturers supplying to these exporters, who are equally impacted."

The RBI recently announced a host of trade relief measures, including moratorium on/deferment of payment of all term loans and recovery of interest on world capital loans, falling due between September 1 and December 31 and enhanced maximum credit period from one year to 450 days for pre-and post-shipment export credit disbursed till March 31, 2026.

However, no relief measures have been announced for suppliers of raw materials.

DOMINO EFFECT

Rajagopal noted that when export demand for garments go down, demand for fabric and yarn also takes a hit. So raw material suppliers also suffer loss.

"Fabrics are also getting exported. So, there is dampening of demand at various levels. Whenever we talk about the textile sector, an integrated view has to be taken. It has to be seen as a whole not in parts," he said.

The Texprocil official observed that delayed payments by exporters from the 20 eligible sectors, in line with the RBI's trade relief measures, will be converted into term loans and the restructuring will not be taken into account for NPA (non-performing asset) calculation. However, the same relief is not extended to their suppliers.

Bankers opine that in the absence of relief measures for suppliers of exporters, the usual income recognition, asset classification and provisioning (IRACP) norms will apply to them. This could push suppliers into a stressful situation, requiring banks to make provisions.

'RELIEF TIMELY'

Meanwhile, Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) Chairman Kirit Bhansali Hailed the relief measures.

He noted that these measures are vital, especially since a large portion of exports—mainly diamonds and diamond jewellery—are directed to the US.

The extension of the export credit tenor to 450 days, export realisation period from 9 months to 15 months, and the permission to ship exports against advance payments for up to 3 years will greatly enhance operational flexibility, he added. □

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Textile exporters hit by higher wage bills, compliance costs

Industry Textile and apparel exporters — already hit by US tariffs—fear that provisions in the new labour codes, recently notified by the Union government, could push up wage bills and compliance costs, further squeezing their water-thin margins.

“The directive to treat migrant workers on par with local employees in wages and welfare is well-intentioned but can be financially straining,” a Tiruppur-based MESE exporter said. “The industry already operates on a waferthin margin of 5-10%. Bringing every worker—direct or contract —under full compliance will sharply increase costs and hit small exporters like us.”

Some exporters also worry that extending gratuity eligibility to fixed-terms employees (FTEs) after one-year of service could increase attrition in labour-intensive clusters such as Tiruppur, Coimbatore, Surat and Ahmedabad. Under current rules, gratuity applies only after five years of continuous service. FTEs are workers hired under a contract for a specific period or project.

However, Kumar Duraiswamy, Joint Secretary, Tiruppur Exporters Association, said implementing the codes will not be a major challenge in Tiruppur, where exporters already comply with corporate sustainability due diligence directive norms required for EU and US shipments. “Migrant workers are anyway treated at par with locals here and the textile sector is already covered under minimum wages, so the impact is limited,” he said.

The codes introduce a universal minimum wage across organised and unorganised sectors. Replacing a framework that covered only about 30% of workers. N Thirukkumaran, chairman of Tiruppur-based Estee Exporters, acknowledge that compliance costs may rise but said the broader benefits outweigh concerns. He said allowing women to work night shifts will significantly benefit export operations, given the predominance of women workers on the textile shop floor. Tiruppur hosts over 22,000 companies and employs around 10 lakh workers, 60% of there women and a large share of migrants. The city, often called India’s knitwear capital, exports about 45,000 crore worth of apparel annually, accounting for 60% of the country’s knitwear shipments.

According to Vishal Pachariwal, MD of Parnika India, a Surat-based women’s wear manufacturer and exporter, the cost impact of the labour codes is likely to be material but manageable, as the new

framework also provides flexibility, formalisation and ease of compliance “under the Industrial Relations Code, firms now have more leeway they can lay off or retrench up to 300 workers without prior government approval,” Pachariwal said. He added that Occupational Safety Code permits 8-12 hour workdays within a 48-hour week, offering operational flexibility.

Industry experts, however, point out that the full impact in businesses and workers will become clear only after states notify their own rules. Since labour is a concurrent subject, states can frame their own regulations, which must align with the central codes. □

Cotton panel forecasts production, imports, exports lower this season

The Committee on Cotton Production and Consumption (CCPC), a body comprising all stakeholders in the sector, has pegged the natural fibre’s production lower this season, while projecting a fall in imports.

At its review meeting held recently the CCPC provisionally estimated cotton production at 292.15 lakh bales produced last season. The production estimate is in line with the Ministry of Agriculture’s first advanced estimate.

Tamilnadu Spinning Mills Association (TASMA) Chief Advisor (TASMA) Chief Advisor K Venkatachalam, in a letter to association members, said the first meeting of the season was held via video conference, chaired by the Textile Commissioner.

The CPCC estimated imports at 40 lakh bales compared with 41.4 lakh bales last season. This is in contrast to the Cotton Association of Indian estimates, pegging cotton imports at a record 50 lakh bales.

Low ending stocks

Along with carryover stock of 45.50 lakh bales (47.47 lakh bales last season), overall supply is estimated at 377.65 lakh bales (386.11 lakh bales).

The lower production and imports led to the ending stocks being seen lower at 40.65 lakh bales.

The CCPC also pegged exports lower at 15 lakh bales against 18 lakh bales, while mills’ consumption could be a tad lower at 213 lakh bales (213.04 lakh bales).

Non-textile consumption is estimated to be unchanged, while the offtake by micro, small and medium enterprises is expected to be lower by 0.5 lakh bales at 213 lakh bales. ■

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29th Product-cum-Catalogue Show to be held at Bhilwara organized by ITAMMA on 31st January 2026 (Saturday)

ITAMMA had organized until now Twenty Eight Product-cum-Catalogue Shows at various Textile clusters of India, giving a platform to our



ND Mhatre
Director General (Tech) - ITAMMA

members to explore new customers as well as to connect with their old customers to understand their problems/suggestions for improving the process and product quality in order to suit their customer's present factory/machine set-up. The support received from members' participation and the response from the user industry was

overwhelming during all the previous shows.

We are glad to inform you that the 29th Product-cum-Catalogue Show will be organized by ITAMMA at Bhilwara on 31st January 2026 (Saturday). For each participant, a booth ad measuring approximately 2 x 2 sq. mtrs. along with the facia, 1 table, 2 chairs, adequate lighting, 1 dustbin and 1 electrical point will be provided.

The participation fee has been fixed at Rs. 17,700/- (including 18% GST) for ITAMMA member company and Rs 37,760/-[(including 18% GST and including 5 year's membership of ITAMMA including 18% GST & Entrance fees) for Non-Member of ITAMMA]. Please fill-up the attached form and confirm your booking with advance payment. The registration will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis and the stall allocation will be made in alphabetical order.

An opportunity for branding/advertising your Company/Product through display standees at prominent places is also offered @ Rs 5900/- per standee and you can book maximum 6 such standees at a concessional charge of Rs 29,500/-(including 18% GST).

As usual this event will be extensively publicized in the print media and amongst the user industry and our special efforts will be made to reach out to the User Industry which shall help us to have a good number of visitors during the event.

A brief write up on the Business opportunities at Bhilwara Textile Industry is also attached for your reference.

N.D. Mhatre

Director General (Tech.)

Other activities organized in line with this event are:

- 30th Jan 26 (Morning session) PRESS Conference
- 30th Jan 26 (Afternoon session) B. K. Mehta Technology Networking Mission & MoU signing ceremony with Sangam University, Bhilwara
- 31st Jan 26 (Afternoon session) Special Session on Technical Textiles Projects followed by inauguration of 29th Product-cum-catalogue show and Release of ITAMMA Voice issue No. 18 followed by Dinner
- Event supported by Mewar Chamber of Commerce and Industries
- Event branded by 3 / 4 Media Partners

Bhilwara Textile Industry

The city's textile industry's annual turnover is (approx) Rs. 25,000 cr, with yarn and fabric exports contributing around Rs. 3,800 cr. Providing direct employment to about 85,000 individuals and indirect employment to an additional 60,000.

Bhilwara is the largest manufacturer of fabrics, accounting for 50% of the nation's polyester fabrics and suits. The city houses over 850 manufacturing units, producing a diverse range of high-quality cotton, silk, and woollen fabrics that are exported globally.

The Rajasthan government's implementation of the Textile and Apparel Policy 2025 offering substantial financial incentives and addressing infrastructure challenges, to create over 200,000 jobs in the sector.

Bhilwara loom upgrade growth rate of 9.57%, surpassing the national average of 8%.

For further information, please contact :

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- Special Session on "Technical Textiles Turnkey Projects" by Industry Experts of ITAMMA Expert Panel
- Release of ITAMMA Voice a quarterly publication
- MoU signing ceremony- Sangam University, MLV Textile & Engineering College, Mewar Chamber of Commerce & Industries and TEAM (Thriving Engineers Alumni of MLVTEC)

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CORPORATE NEWS

FabriCare ; A Bedding collection for toddlers, preteen and teens

From Playtime to Bedtime: FabriCare DreamWorld Transforms Kids' Bedrooms into Magical Spaces

FabriCare by D'Decor, India's leading innovator in high-performance home textiles, unveils DreamWorld – A Bedding Collection for toddlers, preteens, and teens, designed to inspire wonder and creativity in children's bedrooms. Featuring internationally inspired digital prints of rainbows, stars, clouds, whimsical woodland animals, playful holiday motifs, cozy nordic patterns, and soft pastel hues- this vibrant collection of bedding caters to both boys and girls with its trend-forward designs, accompanied by a coordinated multipurpose fabric range that ties it all together. It is a curated combination of bedding, ready-made curtains, and cushion covers to create a unified dream bedroom aesthetic.



Enhanced with Anti-Microbial protection, these fabrics ensure a safe, hygienic, and restful environment, ideal for active little ones. This innovative collection combines playful imagination with practical features to keep kids' spaces fresh and vibrant every day.

With Christmas around the corner, FabriCare's DreamWorld Kids Collection becomes the perfect gift to transform any child's room into cozy holiday magic. Parents can focus on creating memories, knowing these fabrics keep bedrooms fresh and beautiful long after the gifts are unwrapped. It's the ultimate surprise to make every child's room a dreamy retreat this festive season. FabriCare

continues to blend luxury, innovation, and family-friendly resilience, turning ordinary celebrations into extraordinary adventures.



About FabriCare

FabriCare, a premium brand of High Performance Fabrics from the house of D'Decor, represents the pinnacle of innovation, design and comfort in home furnishing. Launched to meet the evolving needs of modern homes, FabriCare offers a revolutionary line of fabrics that combine unparalleled aesthetic appeal with functional benefits. Each fabric in the collection is designed for easy maintenance, durability, and comfort. Embracing innovation in every thread, FabriCare's range includes features such as Easy Clean, 100% Blackout, Home Wash, Fade Resistance, Water Repellence, and more, ensuring that beauty and functionality go hand in hand. Committed to enhancing consumer lifestyles, FabriCare continues to set new standards in the textile industry, making everyday luxury accessible to all. For more information, visit <https://fabriCare.ddecor.com/>

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Leading fashion brands gear up to unlock the next chapter of Circulose

Since 2024, under new ownership and leadership, Circulose has set a renewed strategic direction focused on securing long-term commitments with partner brands to bring CIRCULOSE® back to market at scale. This strategy has proven successful.

Today, Circulose is proud to announce a series of new partnerships with global fashion brands that recognise the value and importance of scaling next-generation materials.

Following H&M, Mango and Marks & Spencer, several leading fashion brands are now partnering with Circulose. These include Bestseller, John Lewis, C&A, Filippa K, Reformation, Faherty, Bobo Choses and Zero. Their commitments underpin the renewed trust and momentum of CIRCULOSE® and demonstrate strong industry confidence in its role as a next-generation material.



CIRCULOSE® continues to stand out as a proven, scalable solution for replacing virgin cellulose fibers such as viscose and lyocell. The strong partnerships and support from leading fashion brands signal that Circulose is ready to lead the transition to next-generation materials.

"These partnerships are an important milestone in Circulose's new chapter. After a year of resetting our strategy and intensely engaging with brands, this wave of commitments shows our efforts are paying off. Their support will help to unlock the next phase of our production journey. We are proud to enable brands who are serious about transforming the textile industry" says Jonatan Janmark, Circulose CEO.

About Circulose

Circulose is a Swedish sustain-tech company that has developed a patented process that enables the

recycling of cellulosic textile waste, transforming it into a new material called CIRCULOSE®. Fast Company named Circulose (formerly Renewcell) one of the World's Most Innovative Companies in 2021 and was a winner of the 2023 World Changing Ideas Awards. CIRCULOSE® was also included on TIME Magazine's list of the 100 Best Inventions 2020. Founded by innovators from Stockholm's KTH Royal Institute of Technology in 2012, the award-winning company's vision is to make fashion circular. To learn more please visit www.circulose.com.

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Know more what founder from music and fashion have commonality to make their business go wide on global standard

India's youth culture is being shaped by the bold, the original, and the homegrown. The latest episode of It's In Our Genes by Spykar, features another Indian disruptor rewriting the rules of creativity; Hoopr, India's first automated music-licensing platform for creators and brands, worldwide.

Hosted by Sanjay Vakharia, Co-Founder & CEO, Spykar, this episode is a fascinating future-forward conversation with Gaurav Dagaonkar and Meghna Mittal, Co-founders of Hoopr. The discussion goes beyond business and product to delve into the ideas that are shaping India's growing creator economy, music rights, AI-driven content, genuine storytelling, and the power of homegrown innovation.

This episode brings two different yet aligned forces together—one in music and one in fashion. Spykar, a champion of fearless self-expression in fashion, and Hoopr, a pioneer enabling brands and creators to use music legally and confidently, share a common belief, individuality isn't just encouraged, it's essential. Spykar's latest Daur Apna Hai campaign celebrates individuality, courage, and running your own race, values that perfectly mirror Hoopr's mission of enabling creators to chart their own path in a rapidly evolving digital world.

"Youth culture evolves every single day and Spykar has always stood for bold, unapologetic self-expression," said Sanjay Vakharia, "Spykar has always believed that fashion doesn't exist in a silo — it evolves

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with culture, with technology, with sound. We're now leaning into AI, tech-driven retail and India's booming music ecosystem to understand how young creators express themselves. Partnering with innovators like Hoopr helps us stay ahead of that curve and build a future where creativity has no barriers."



At a time when creators face takedowns, muted audio, copyright strikes and rising legal risks, Hoopr is leading an important movement: making access to copyright safe music licensing easy, scalable, and truly for Indian creators.

Gaurav shared, "India's next creative revolution isn't coming from big studios—it's coming from bedrooms, gullies, and homegrown creators everywhere. Hoopr exists to unlock that potential by giving everyday storytellers access to safe, global-level music."

"Licensed music isn't just a technicality, it protects creativity," further added Meghna. "When creators have access to legal, high-quality music, it empowers them to express themselves freely without fear."

It's In Our Genes is much more than just a podcast; it's a cultural dialogue that celebrates the spirit of originality, champions India's creators, and reminds us that 'The Future Belongs to Those Who Create Their Own Way'.

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Jeanologia carries out major step in celebration of its 30th anniversary

Jeanologia, the Spanish technology company whose solutions are used to produce more than 40% of the world's jeans, is celebrating its 30th anniversary and unveiling the next major step in textile manufacturing.

For three decades, Jeanologia has driven some of the most significant shifts in the industry: laser finishing that replaced harmful manual sanding, industrial ozone that removed toxic washing processes, eFlow that drastically reduces chemicals and water, H2Zero systems for full water recycling, and digital platforms that brought real transparency to production. These technologies, among many others, helped scale cleaner, more responsible manufacturing worldwide.



Looking ahead, Jeanologia is accelerating the roadmap of its long-standing MissionZero vision, aiming to eliminate the environmental footprint of textile finishing by integrating a new generation of intelligent technologies, focused on AI-driven processes, advanced automation, and water-free systems, to enable a truly clean, connected, on-demand fashion industry.

A few angles that may interest you:

- ▶ **Global reach:** Jeanologia technologies are used by leading brands such as Levi's, VF Corporation, Uniqlo, Gap, Inditex, American Eagle, Abercrombie & Fitch, Mango, and luxury houses including Chanel, Prada and Balenciaga.
- ▶ **Massive impact:** Millions of liters of water saved, toxic chemicals eliminated, and the

democratization of clean tech across 70+ countries.

- The next disruption: Real-time connection between design and production, AI-powered finishing, robotics, and systems that aim to achieve a zero-water, zero-toxicity industry.

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Kornit Digital unveiled Breakthrough Footwear Solution at ITMA Asia + CITME Singapore 2025, Bringing Scalable Digital Production to Sports and Athleisure

Kornit Digital Ltd. (NASDAQ: KRNT) ("Kornit" or the "Company"), a global pioneer in sustainable, on-demand digital fashion and textile production technologies, on 28th October announced a major industry milestone: the commercial launch of its groundbreaking digital footwear solution for sports and athleisure markets.

After two years of intensive development and close collaboration with leading global brands, together with its customers, the company unveiled its complete footwear solution at ITMA Asia + CITME Singapore 2025, marking a turning point for digital production in footwear. For the first time, Kornit technology has crossed the milestone of more than one million pairs of sports shoes sold globally under leading brands, proving that digital footwear manufacturing has moved beyond concept and is now a fully scaled commercial reality.



A Massive Market Opportunity for Digital Transformation, and Kornit is Just Getting Started

The addressable market Kornit is targeting represents roughly one billion decorated shoe uppers each year across the global sports and athleisure footwear industry. This is a massive and

fastgrowing segment shaped by consumer demand for variety, innovation, and personalization. Kornit's technology directly addresses the key challenges of this market, including design limitations, long development cycles, and overproduction, by replacing complex analog decoration with a single-step digital workflow that delivers durability, flexibility, and limitless design freedom. Kornit's patented technology enables high-quality, durable prints directly on technical fabrics used in footwear, combining precision, sustainability, and performance in one streamlined process. This innovation redefines how footwear is designed and produced, shifting from traditional mass-production methods to agile, efficient, and creative digital workflows that allow brands to create on demand.

Following successful deployments with two leading footwear manufacturers in China, Kornit is expanding globally with additional customers in Vietnam and in Germany, setting a new standard for agility, creativity, and sustainability across the world's leading footwear hubs. Ronen Samuel, Chief Executive Officer at Kornit Digital said: "The footwear industry is undergoing a profound transformation. Through close collaboration with visionary partners and relentless innovation, we have developed a fully digital solution that redefines how shoes are designed, produced, and delivered. What started as a concept is now being adopted at scale, with leading global brands. Kornit has always been about pushing boundaries, and this milestone marks a new era for digital manufacturing and sustainable growth."

Customer feedback highlights that Kornit's digital solution has dramatically accelerated footwear development and unlocked creative freedom. What took months now happens in days, enabling brands to respond faster to trends and deliver distinctive, high-performance products with consistency and efficiency.



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Kornit's footwear solution also sets new standards for sustainability. The process requires no water, uses minimal energy, and enables local, near-shore production—reducing waste, inventory, and carbon footprint while allowing brands to produce only what is sold.



Looking ahead, Kornit's next-generation patented footwear technology will be introduced at Techtextil 2026 in Frankfurt, showcasing new specialized polymers and expanded material compatibility that will further enhance performance and scalability.

About Kornit Digital

Kornit Digital (NASDAQ: KRNT) is a worldwide market leader in sustainable, on-demand, digital fashion and textile production technologies. The company offers end-to-end solutions including digital printing systems, inks, consumables, software, and fulfillment services through its global fulfillment network. Headquartered in Israel with offices in the USA, Europe, and Asia Pacific, Kornit Digital serves customers in more than 100 countries and states worldwide. To learn more about how Kornit Digital is boldly transforming the world of fashion and textiles, visit www.kornit.com.

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VIRGIO rapidly expanding its off line business

VIRGIO, India's rising trend-led sustainable fashion brand, has been rapidly expanding its offline business. 5 stores now operate in some of

the country's most commercially and culturally dynamic retail corridors. Located in Surat, Malad (Mumbai), Navi Mumbai, Bengaluru, and Ahmedabad, the new storefronts mark the brand's evolution from digital fashion disruptor to IRL retail contender.

For a young Indian fashion brand, scale is a statement. For VIRGIO, offline scale is a narrative. Each store is conceptualized to embody the brand's core identity: trend-first design, thoughtful capsule energy and retail that feels like a cultural drop, not a transaction.



These spaces bring the brand's aesthetic vocabulary to life - clean rails of thought, lighting that flatters the emotion, layout built for easy discovery, and a design language that borrows confidence from runway electricity and internet immediacy. The result: stores that feel current, personal, and identifiably VIRGIO.



Reflecting on the growth, Amar Nagaram, Co-Founder, VIRGIO, said, "At VIRGIO, we've always believed that fashion can be both expressive and responsible. Reaching five stores is a meaningful milestone for us at VIRGIO. It reflects the growing resonance of our vision for conscious, inclusive

fashion. We're excited to build on this foundation and continue expanding into new cities in the months ahead. This isn't just about growing our presence; it's about strengthening a movement toward fashion that cares."

As VIRGIO marks its second anniversary, the brand celebrates a growing community, a strengthened sustainability mission, and a renewed commitment to shaping fashion that's thoughtful, inclusive, and future-ready. Across all locations, customers can explore VIRGIO's full spectrum of clothing:

- ▶ Core Collections: Everyday wardrobe staples designed to be worn often, styled easily, talked about naturally.
- ▶ Marquee Drops: Capsules built for cultural currency, global trends and topical mindset
- ▶ Size-Inclusive Line, Beyond The Curve: Co-created with Anjali Anand, a celebration of fashion for sizes above 2XL that lives boldly both online and offline.
- ▶ Amodira: A new product line of artisanal fragrances expanding the VIRGIO sensorial world beyond apparel.

The VIRGIO stores are now open at:

- ▶ Bengaluru: M5 ECity Mall, Electronic City
- ▶ Navi Mumbai: G-32, Inorbit Mall, Vashi
- ▶ Malad, Mumbai: FF-117A, Infiniti Mall, Malad West
- ▶ Surat: G-11, Avadh Kontina, VIP Road, Vesu
- ▶ Ahmedabad: Shop No.1, Abhinit Square, Sindhu Bhavan Road



As VIRGIO continues to grow its conscious fashion ecosystem, the brand is mapping its next phase of retail expansion, evaluating new markets, building community-led touchpoints, and creating more accessible entryways for customers to

experience its sustainability-first approach across India.

For further information, please contact:

VIRGIO Website- <https://www.virgio.com>

Beyond The Curve Website: <https://www.virgio.com/beyond-the-curve>

Amodira Website: <https://www.virgio.com/amodira-amd>

Instagram- <https://www.instagram.com/virgio.official/?hl=en>

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Durak Tekstil holds positive momentum in 2026, strengthens its global market focus

Durak Tekstil, maintaining its profitability and turnover levels in 2025 compared to the previous year, prioritizes growth through its export-oriented sales strategy. Increasing both its capacity and utilization rate, the company anticipates further gains in 2026 through expansion in global markets.



As one of the leading manufacturers of industrial sewing and embroidery threads, Durak Tekstil closed the challenging year of 2025—marked by regional and global difficulties—by preserving its production strength and market position, ending the year with positive momentum. Maintaining its turnover on a USD basis compared to the previous period, Durak Tekstil also stood out with its capacity increase. By continuing to take strategic export-driven steps, the company strengthened its resilience against local market fluctuations and raised the share of exports in its total sales to around 60%.

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Saadet Oran, Chair of the Board of Directors and second-generation executive of Durak Tekstil, emphasized the company's deep-rooted history and strong corporate structure, stating that Durak Tekstil has become a trusted brand within the supply chain. "In challenging periods, the need for reliable partners and robust supply chains increases significantly. During this process, Durak Tekstil proved to be a reliable partner for both its local and global customers. In 2025, when the Turkish textile sector faced significant difficulties, we achieved the same level of turnover in USD terms as the previous year. We managed to offset volume losses experienced with some of our sectoral customers by acquiring new customers and entering new markets," she said.



Saadet Oran, Board of Directors, Durak Tekstil

Durak Tekstil expands its targets in export markets

On the impact of global developments on the sector, Saadet Oran commented: "Throughout the year, ongoing discussions on customs duties and delays in reaching conclusions, along with trade wars continuing at various levels, negatively affected both consumption and order balances. In addition, the real exchange rate remaining well below inflation and interest rate levels created challenges for both exports and profitability. In 2025, by relocating our production facility in China to Türkiye, we achieved a significant efficiency gain of approximately 20%, which provided us with a relative advantage in price competitiveness. As a result, we maintained the previous year's sales momentum and preserved our profitability and turnover levels. During this period, our capacity utilization rate also reached around 80%, well above the average of the Turkish textile sector."

Oran noted that, with the support of the Turquality Brand Support Program, the company has identified target markets across five continents in the global arena, and that significant efforts are underway to extend its strong presence in European markets to the US market. "The US market has very high potential, and for this reason we have established our local company there. We are now working to gain deeper access to the market. Moreover, while China exports goods to the entire world, we are exporting to China from Türkiye. The share of exports in our sales and the number of our export markets continue to increase every year," she stated.



Durak Tekstil took decisive steps in 2025 to shape its future

Durak Tekstil transformed its presence in China from a production facility into a procurement and marketing department and consolidated production under a single roof in Bursa with the technologies transferred from there. Now, it is implementing significant investment plans to shape its future. The licensing procedures for the company's new production facility project, planned to be built on a 21-decare plot of land, have been completed.



Innovative products developed through the efforts of Durak Tekstil's in-house R&D department have expanded the company's product portfolio while also attracting strong market interest. Guided by its principle of "Continuous R&D," the company continues its work with the goal of developing five new products each year.

2026 will be a year when markets reopen

Saadet Oran reiterated that 2025 was closed without losses and said the following regarding 2026 targets: "We are entering a year in which export markets will reopen globally. Especially in Europe and the US, consumer markets are expected to become more dynamic with declining interest rates. Compared to 2025, we believe higher sales levels will be achieved in these markets. As Durak Tekstil, we serve more than 20 different sectors and over 70 countries. In addition to our

growth expectations in high value-added technical threads, we also anticipate a recovery in the textile and apparel sectors, enabling us to reach higher volumes."

Emphasizing that Durak Tekstil is beginning to transform into a recognized brand in the global textile industry thanks to its high-quality products and reliable, fast supply capabilities, she added that the company will continue local collaborations to further enhance brand awareness.

About Us

Founded in 1972 in Bursa, Durak Tekstil develops and produces sewing and embroidery threads and sells them domestically and internationally. Durak Tekstil has a production facility in Türkiye, as well as several sales offices and representatives abroad. The company, which cooperates with global brands from Türkiye and abroad, responds to the textile industry's growing demand for quality and qualified products.

Thread solutions developed and manufactured by Durak Tekstil are preferred in apparel/garment, footwear/leather, denim, outdoor, automotive, mattress/quilting, broderie and embroidery applications, as well as in protective technical textile applications where flame-retardant and cut-resistant threads are used.

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Lenzing positioned its new standard for sustainability with show casing its cutting-edge TENCEL™ and LENZING ECOVERO™ fibers at Fibers & Yarns Expo 2025

Lenzing Group, a leading global producer of wood-based specialty fibers, concluded its participation in the Fibers & Yarns Expo 2025 on a high note. The event provided an excellent platform for Lenzing to showcase its cutting-edge TENCEL™ and LENZING™ ECOVERO™ fibers, attracting significant interest from leading brands, spinners, and industry professionals.

During the expo Lenzing featured a comprehensive range of innovative products,

including TENCEL™ Lyocell A100, TENCEL™ Lyocell LF, Cotton Enhanced with TENCEL™, LENZING™ ECOVERO™ Black collections, TENCEL™ Denim, TENCEL™ Home, fashion woven fabrics, traditional and ethnic wear, and the latest TENCEL™ Intimate and TENCEL™ Active collections. A key highlight was the focus on TENCEL™ Fibers with Micro Technology, which offers unmatched softness, lightness, and superior moisture management, providing enhanced comfort and durability for a wide range of applications.



The three-day event witnessed over 4,000 visitors engaging at Lenzing's stall. Among them were representatives from over 25 prominent brands and 40 leading spinners, highlighting the increasing demand for sustainable and high-performance fibers in the Indian textile industry.



Avinash Mane, Senior Commercial Director of Textile Business at Lenzing Fibres AMEA & NEA, said, "The Fibers & Yarns Expo 2025 has been a tremendous success for us. We are thrilled by the remarkable interest and enthusiasm shown by brands, manufacturers, and industry experts. The positive reception and opportunity to engage with the industry at such a dynamic event have been truly rewarding. Our latest advancements,

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including TENCEL™ Fibers with Micro Technology and ECOVERO™ Black fibers, underscore our commitment to sustainability and innovation. We look forward to leveraging the connections made here to drive future growth and collaboration.”

The Fibers & Yarns Expo 2025 reinforced Lenzing’s leadership in sustainable fiber solutions. The company is committed to fostering partnerships that drive innovation, enhance product offerings, and contribute to a more sustainable textile ecosystem.

Lenzing looks forward to building on the momentum generated at the expo and furthering its vision of a efficient textile industry in India and beyond.

About the Lenzing Group

The Lenzing Group stands for the ecologically responsible production of regenerated cellulose fibers based on cellulose and recycled material. As an innovation leader, Lenzing is a partner to global textile and nonwoven manufacturers and drives many new technological developments. The Lenzing Group’s fibers are the raw material for a wide range of textile applications – from functional, comfortable and fashionable clothing through to durable and sustainable home textiles. A range of LENZING fibers is also certified by TÜV AUSTRIA for the following properties: biodegradable in soil, fresh water and marine environment as well as compostable in home applications and industrial facilities.

The Lenzing Group’s business model extends far beyond that of a conventional fiber producer. Together with its customers and partners, Lenzing develops innovative products along the value chain, creating added value for consumers. The Lenzing Group strives for efficient utilization and processing of all raw materials used and offers solutions for the transformation of the textile industry from the current linear economic system to a circular economy. In order to reduce the rate of global warming and thereby also support the goals of the Paris Agreement and the EU Commission’s Green Deal, Lenzing has a clear, science-based climate action plan that aims for a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and a net-zero target (Scopes 1, 2 and 3) by 2050.

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Miss Diva 2025 exhibited by Liva

Meet the new winners of Miss Diva 2025

A historic night of India’s Biggest Fashion Hunt.

The Miss Diva 2025 presented by LIVA Grand Finale lit up Mumbai with a night filled with fashion, glamour, talent, and pure celebration. It was an evening where India’s brightest rising stars in beauty, fashion design, and content creation owned the stage and showed the world what the future of the industry looks like.

LIVA, the 100% natural-origin fabric brand from the house of Birla Cellulose, renowned for its unmatched fluidity, softness, and breathability, proudly joins Miss Diva as the presenting sponsor for the sixth consecutive year. This collaboration has been effortless, as both brands champion independent women who are unrestricted, spontaneous, and versatile

Miss Diva 2025 was a journey of discovery and determination, bringing together aspiring Content Creators, Fashion Designers, and Beauty Queens from across the country. The process began with online screenings, auditions, and task submissions, narrowing to the Top 8 in each category. These finalists then underwent an intensive bootcamp that honed their skills, tested their resilience, and prepared them for the ultimate stage. The journey culminated in a grand finale, celebrating talent shaped through rigor, mentorship, and purpose.

SachiinKumbhaar and Pooja Bumrah hosted the star-studded evening with effortless wit and charm, holding the energy high all night. As the energy in the room built, the anchors led the audience into the Content Creator Finale Task Showcase—a segment that highlighted storytelling, influence, and originality in the digital age. The content creator finalists wore the creations of Designer Nandita Mahtani.

This was followed by the display of craftsmanship and couture when the Top 8 Miss Diva Fashion Designer 2025 finalists took the stage in ensembles created by the Miss Diva Fashion Designer 2025 Mentor and Designer, Samant Chauhan. The Fashion Designer finalists wowed the jury with their Bohemian Musecreations—exquisite bohemian looks crafted from LIVA - a 100% natural-origin fabric known for its fluidity, softness, and breathability.

As the evening progressed, the anchors ushered in the Beauty Queen finalists in scintillating resort wear designed by MandiraWirk. A high-voltage performance by Manasi Scott electrified the arena before the Beauty Queen finalists returned to the

stage, in beautiful gowns by Designer Amarjit Bora, for their Q&A Round.

The night culminated with the unveiling of the new winners. Avni Gupta as Miss Diva Supranational 2025 and Avanikakekochhi Bhat as Miss Diva Cosmo 2025. Both queens will now carry India's pride to the global stage at Miss Supranational 2026 and Miss Cosmo 2026, continuing India's strong legacy in international pageantry.

Mr. Vadiraj Kulkarni, Business Head of Birla Cellulose, felicitated Aishwarya V, winner of Miss Diva Fashion Designer 2025, celebrating her exceptional talent and dedication to her craft. Similarly, Manmohan Singh, Chief Marketing Officer at Birla Cellulose, felicitated Monica D'Souza, winner of Miss Diva Content Creator 2025, recognizing her creativity, unique style, and individuality.

An eminent jury panel helmed the night, featuring Actor & Entrepreneur, Rakul Preet Singh, Miss Supranational 2025 Eduarda Braum, Fashion Designers Nandita Mahtani and Mandira Wirk along with former Miss Diva & Mentor for Miss Diva Beauty Queens 2025 Adeline Castelino, Fashion Icon, Actor and Mentor for Miss Diva Content Creator 2025 Sahil Salathia, and Ace Pickleball Athlete Megan Fudge.

In attendance at the gala fashion evening were Sangeeta Bijlani, Vindoo Dara Singh, Anu Malik, Meet Bros, Sushri Shreya, to name a few.

More than anything, the Miss Diva 2025 Grand Finale was a tribute to the diversity and evolution of India's talent—where beauty meets artistry, where purpose sparks opportunity, and where dreams are nurtured into reality.

Catch the Grand Finale on 4th January 2026 at 8 PM on Zoom TV, with streaming available from the same day on Times Play and the Beauty Pageants India YouTube channel.

About LIVA

LIVA is a brand of 100% natural-origin fabrics from the Aditya Birla Group. Known for their unmatched fluidity, softness, and breathability, Liva fabrics are versatile enough to be used in haute couture, formal attire, casual wear, and ethnic garments. As a result, they are favored by both leading global and domestic brands, as well as renowned designer houses. Made from renewable resources like eucalyptus and bamboo, Liva fabrics are biodegradable and offer a sustainable and eco-conscious choice for consumers who value both style and the environment in fashion.

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bluesign® pushing up Strategic Transformation Toward a Safer and More Sustainable Fashion Industry

With news headlines like "Fast Fashion is Made with Alarming High Amounts of Toxic Chemicals" (Business Insider) the textile industry continues to be under intense scrutiny as revelations about the widespread use of hazardous chemicals highlight significant risks to human health and the environment. Recently released reports expose alarmingly high levels of toxic substances such as PFAS, phthalates, lead, and cadmium in clothing - ranging from children's garments to activewear, raising urgent concerns about consumer safety and environmental impact.

Celebrating its 25th year in progressing the clean chemical movement across fashion, bluesign®, a key brand within SGS's sustainability portfolio, has been an industry leader in chemical management, environmental management and resource optimization for the textile industry. Leveraging SGS's global network and proven leadership in sustainability and digital trust, bluesign® combines scientific excellence with innovative and actionable solutions to address the textile industry's most pressing challenges.

Addressing Today's Challenges with Our Solutions

With over 800 partners globally from household name brands to manufacturers and chemical makers, the bluesign® SYSTEM focuses on clean chemistry, clean manufacturing, and clean products to ensure worker safety, consumer safety, and reduced adverse environmental impact.

A key component of the system is its proactive approach to chemical change management. By working directly with chemical suppliers, textile manufacturers, brands, and retailers, bluesign®

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sets stringent criteria to eliminate carcinogenic, mutagenic, and toxic-for-reproduction (CMR) substances, while providing more sustainable alternatives. This not only ensures the safety of workers exposed to these chemicals during textile manufacturing but also enables brands to deliver textile materials and products that are safer for their consumers to enjoy.

Additionally, the bluesign® SYSTEM minimizes resource consumption by optimizing water, energy, and chemical usage, with tailored action plans to minimize this consumption, leading to a significant reduction in environmental impact.

By focusing on delivering measurable sustainability outcomes using a collective approach powered by decades of expertise, bluesign® reinforces its commitment to driving tangible progress in protecting human health, the environment, and natural resources.

A Call for Action

As consumer awareness of toxic chemicals in textiles grows, the demand for transparency and accountability in the industry has never been stronger. bluesign®, a trailblazer, stands as a beacon of trust, innovation, and responsibility, proving that safer and more sustainable textiles are not just possible—they are essential.

Daniel Rüfenacht, CEO of bluesign®, emphasizes the importance of proactive industry transformation:

"The textile industry stands at a critical crossroads. For 25 years, we have been setting and evolving rigorous standards by successfully empowering chemical suppliers, textile manufacturers, and brands to adopt safer, more sustainable practices. In collaborating with stakeholders across the value chain, we are shaping the future of textile production, proving that innovation and responsibility go hand in hand, and creating lasting value for people and the planet."

If you'd like more information about bluesign®, or if you're interested in speaking directly with their CEO, Daniel Rüfenacht, or any of their experts about their commitment to clean chemistry and sustainability, please feel free to reach out to me with a simple reply. I'd be happy to coordinate further.

For further information, please contact:

www.bluesign.com

Kenneth Loo

Co-Founder, CEO



Removal of QCOs: A break through in India's Textile Manufacturing Competitiveness

- "QCO removal is not just a policy change, it is a lifeline for MSMEs and employment in the textile sector," says Gautam Ganeriwal.

The Government of India's recent decision, guided by NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Textiles, to remove Quality Control Orders on fibres, yarns and select raw materials marks a decisive and much-needed reform for the Indian textile and apparel industry. This progressive move, undertaken after extensive consultations with industry associations nationwide, directly addresses long-standing structural challenges and significantly strengthens India's global competitiveness.

Aligning India's Manufacturing Vision with Global Market Realities

China continues to dominate global textile manufacturing on the back of scale, cost efficiency and unrestricted access to a wide range of raw materials. For India to establish itself as a credible and reliable alternative manufacturing hub under the Make in India vision, uninterrupted access to globally competitive raw materials is essential.

The removal of QCOs is therefore not just a regulatory adjustment but a strategic intervention that strengthens the entire textile value chain from fibre and yarn to fabric, garments and exports. It also supports rural employment generation, enhances MSME participation and accelerates export-led growth.

Immediate Market Impact: Cost Relief and Price Competitiveness

The positive impact of QCO removal is already evident across the market.

- Polyester Staple Fibre prices have declined by approximately 4 percent despite an upward movement in exchange rates
- Lyocell fibre prices have reduced by 3 percent, with an expected further reduction of nearly 5 percent by January 2026
- Yarn prices have corrected accordingly, improving margins and cost structures for downstream fabric and garment manufacturers

These corrections directly enhance the export competitiveness of Indian textiles and garments, with tangible improvements expected to reflect in trade data over the next two to three quarters.

Enabling Access to Specialty and Value-Added Fibres

The removal of QCOs has also unlocked access to specialty and value-added fibres from global markets. Spinning mills now have the flexibility to import exotic fibres, cationic polyester fibres and other specialty materials, enabling diversification beyond commodity products.

This opens the door for Indian manufacturers to participate in high-value, niche and performance textile segments that are witnessing growing demand in international markets.

Industry Perspective

Commenting on the reform, Mr. Gautam Ganeriwal, CEO of Sitaram Spinners and Chairperson, CITI YEG, emphasized the importance of this decision for MSMEs and employment generation.

“The removal of QCOs has corrected a serious market imbalance. Earlier, a few individual players were dominating the system, creating artificial barriers that pushed many MSMEs out of business. This reform ensures a level playing field, gives MSMEs a fair opportunity to compete and thrive, and ultimately supports employment generation across the textile value chain. This is a reform that genuinely thinks about the long-term health of the industry and livelihoods dependent on it.”

Strengthening India's Textile Export Ecosystem

Lower raw material costs, broader fibre availability and reduced regulatory friction together reinforce India's textile export ecosystem. The reform enables:

- ▶ Faster response to global fashion and buyer trends
- ▶ Improved supply chain efficiency
- ▶ Better compliance with international buyer specifications
- ▶ Higher utilization of installed textile capacity

These outcomes are critical as global supply chains realign and buyers seek scalable, reliable and cost-competitive sourcing destinations.

Expected Export Impact

Lower fibre and yarn costs directly translate into improved competitiveness of fabrics and garments in global markets.

- ▶ Better price realization for exporters, especially in the context of US tariffs
- ▶ Higher order conversions from international buyers
- ▶ Increased utilization of textile manufacturing capacity

The industry expects visible growth in textile and garment exports within the next two to three quarters as these cost efficiencies flow through the system.

Request for Continuation of Basic Customs Duty Relief on Cotton

While the removal of QCOs has provided immediate relief, the industry's competitiveness can be further strengthened by extending Basic Customs Duty relief on cotton imports beyond 31 December 2025.

The industry respectfully urges NITI Aayog and the Government of India to consider this extension, as:

- ▶ Global competition remains intense, particularly from China and other low-cost manufacturing nations
- ▶ Stable and predictable duty structures are essential for long-term investment planning
- ▶ Sustained export growth requires consistent cost competitiveness rather than temporary relief

An extension of BCD relief on cotton imports will complement the QCO reforms and enable Indian manufacturers to fully capitalize on open and efficient raw material access.

Conclusion

The removal of Quality Control Orders represents a forward-looking and impactful policy reform that aligns India's textile sector with global best practices. Early indicators, including price corrections in PSF and lyocell fibres and improved access to specialty fibres, clearly validate the effectiveness of this initiative.

With continued policy support, including the extension of Basic Customs Duty relief on cotton imports beyond 31 December 2025, India can accelerate its journey toward becoming a global textile manufacturing leader, generate widespread rural employment and significantly expand its share in global textile and apparel trade.

About – Sitaram Spinners

Sitaram Spinners Private Limited, part of the MS Agarwal Group conglomerate, is a leading yarn manufacturer recognized for its quality, innovation, and sustainability. Established in 2008, Sitaram Spinners has grown into a trusted name in the global textile industry, supplying high-performance yarns across 30+ countries. Our advanced manufacturing facilities integrate German and Swiss technology to produce premium yarns, including Core Spun Yarn, Zero Twist Yarn, PV CSY, and Open-End Yarn.

With a strong focus on R&D and sustainability, Sitaram Spinners continuously enhances its

CORPORATE NEWS

production capabilities to meet evolving industry demands. Our commitment to excellence, ethical business practices, and long-term partnerships has solidified our reputation as a reliable partner in the textile sector. At Sitaram Spinners, we prioritize customer satisfaction and innovation, ensuring we remain at the forefront of the industry while contributing to a more sustainable future.

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Tejaswi Bandari

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Spykar's denim & youth-focussed fashion available on knot now

Spykar Goes Live on Knot Now Bringing Youth-Focused Fashion to Rapid-Commerce Shoppers

Daur Apna Hai indeed as Spykar now available in 60 minutes

Spykar, India's top homegrown denim and fashion brand, announces its availability on Knot Now, a rapidly growing lifestyle and fashion commerce platform. This will enable their customers in Mumbai and Thane to get their favourite styles in 60 minutes with its quick delivery feature. In line with their Daur Apna Hai campaign, this association marks a strategic step in strengthening the brand's digital footprint and making its trend-forward collections even more accessible.

With the launch of 60-minute delivery, Spykar and Knot Now are redefining convenience. Customers will benefit from quicker delivery alternatives for last-minute plans, urgent styling needs, or impulsive wardrobe updates from Spykar's trendy collection across categories from the convenience of their home.

Sanjay Vakharia, Co-founder and CEO of Spykar, shared, "This collaboration resonates with our focus to cater to young India. By leveraging Knot Now's dynamic ecosystem, we aim to expand reach, deepen engagement, and strengthen its community of trend-forward consumers."

Spykar is among the first few premium brands to enlist on Knot Now. When paired with effective last-mile logistics and real-time order tracking, the 60-minute delivery guarantee delivers a high-

end, upscale shopping experience straight to the customer's house.

About the brand

Spykar is one of India's leading homegrown denim and fashion brands, known for its youthful, trend-forward and edgy design language. Established in 1992, the brand has built a strong identity around innovation in denim, contemporary casualwear and a distinctly modern aesthetic crafted for the young Indian consumer. With a wide portfolio spanning jeans, tops, jackets, accessories and more, Spykar continues to stand for comfort, craftsmanship and everyday style that evolves with the new generation.

For further information, please contact:

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White Marque Solutions

Creative Strategy, Public Relations,

Digital Outreach, Spykar

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Office No: 422/423, 4th Floor, Laxmi Plaza

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Andheri (West), Mumbai-400053

Website: www.whitemarquesolutions.com □

Circulose and Birla Cellulose signed a strategic Partnership Agreement to Advance Circular Textiles

Circulose, a leading producer of recycled textile pulp for the fashion and textile industry, and Birla Cellulose, a global leader in sustainable viscose fiber, have signed a strategic partnership agreement to jointly accelerate textile recycling.

This partnership supports Circulose's renewed strategy, which focuses on deeper brand collaborations and providing end-to-end solutions across the value chain. Under the agreement, Circulose will supply pulp made with 100% recycled textile waste to Birla Cellulose, and Birla will produce viscose staple fiber made with CIRCULOSE® pulp and make it available to Circulose's brand partners.

"Over the past year, we've refined our approach to put brands at the center, with a clear focus on creating offerings that enable mainstream adoption. Achieving this requires closer collaboration with key partners across the value chain. Our partnership with Birla Cellulose is a cornerstone of our strategy, and we're very excited to have them onboard," says Jonatan Janmark, CEO of Circulose.

Recognized as a top-tier company in Canopy's Hot Button Report, Birla Cellulose has earned international recognition for its sustainability and circularity achievements. Circulose and Birla Cellulose have collaborated since the founding of Renewcell and today, Birla Cellulose continues to lead in advancing large-scale circularity, setting benchmarks in India and across the global textile industry.

"Our partnership with Circulose marks a significant step forward in advancing sustainable and responsible sourcing. Through this collaboration, we reaffirm our commitment to delivering high-quality, sustainability-conscious fiber solutions that empower our customers and contribute to a circular future" says Vadiraj Kulkarni, Business Head, Birla Cellulose.

This agreement reflects a shared vision to help drive meaningful progress toward a circular textile value chain designed for the long term.

About Birla

The Cellulosic Fibres Business of the Aditya Birla Group is a globally leading sustainability-focused Man-Made Cellulosic Fibres (MMCF) producer.

Birla Cellulose operates 10 sites for pulp and fibre manufacturing that apply environmentally efficient closed-loop technologies including use of recycled materials and enhanced conservation of natural resources. Its five advanced research centres are equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and pilot plants.

Birla Cellulose collaborates actively with its upstream and downstream partners to create a bigger and broader positive impact on the sustainability of its value chain. Visit <https://www.livabybirlacellulose.com/>

About Circulose

Circulose is a Swedish sustain-tech company that has developed a patented process that enables the recycling of cellulosic textile waste, transforming it into a new material called CIRCULOSE®. Fast Company named Circulose (formerly Renewcell) one of the World's Most Innovative Companies in 2021 and was a winner of the 2023 World Changing Ideas Awards. CIRCULOSE® was also included on TIME Magazine's list of the 100 Best Inventions 2020. Founded by innovators from Stockholm's KTH Royal Institute of Technology in 2012, the award-winning company's vision is to make fashion circular. To learn more please visit www.circulose.com.

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Communications & Public Affairs Director
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Italian Textile Machinery : Orders Index falls in 2025 Third Quarter

In the third quarter of 2025, the orders index for textile machinery - compiled by ACIMIT's Economics Department (the Association of Italian Textile Machinery Manufacturers) - recorded a 16% decrease compared to the same period in 2024. In absolute terms, the index stood at 41.8 points (base year 2021 = 100).

The decline reflects negative performances in both the domestic and foreign markets. Specifically, on the domestic market, orders fell by 17% compared to the same quarter of the previous year, with the absolute index value reaching 49.9 points.

Foreign orders also registered a 16% decrease compared to the third quarter of 2024, with an index value of 40.7 points. During the third quarter, the order backlog ensured four months of guaranteed production, slightly up from 3.9 months recorded in the second quarter.

Marco Salvade, president of ACIMIT, commented: "The ACIMIT survey outlines a business climate where overall demand remains weak. In Italy the decline in order intake reflects the difficult period the textile supply chain is currently experiencing." Mr. Salvade added: "On foreign markets, however, we can see some signs of recovery. Although total order intake is still down compared to the first nine months of 2024, Italian textile machinery exports — based on official data for the first half of the year — show growth in some key markets such as India, Pakistan and Egypt."

Finally, the main Asian trade show for textile machinery, ITMA ASIA + CITME 2025, has just concluded in Singapore, offering some reasons for optimism within the sector. Salvade concluded: "I believe the 100 Italian exhibitors can be satisfied both with the number and quality of visitors and with the business prospects generated by the many contacts made during the exhibition. I hope that the work carried out at the trade fair will translate into a stronger order intake within a geopolitical context marked by reduced uncertainty."

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The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit to host an International Conference on "TEXTILES 2030 - Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations"

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit is organizing an international conference "TEXTILES 2030 - Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations" on Friday, 30th January 2026 at Hotel The Lalit, Mumbai.

This conference aims to bring together industry leaders, policymakers, innovators, and academicians to explore pathways for sustainable growth and strategic self-reliance. The deliberations will cover key topics such as trade realignment, regulatory transitions, technology innovation, sustainability, and leadership strategies for the coming decade.

A special highlight of the event will be an all-women panel discussion - the first of its kind in an Indian textile conference - signifying the active role women are playing, bringing fresh perspectives to the industry. This high-profile event will be attended by around 400 distinguished participants, offering a rare opportunity to engage with renowned experts. We are confident that all delegates will derive immense value from the sessions and interactions.

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit is the largest Unit of the Association having around 4000 members. The Unit has reputation of organizing events of topical interest both at national and global level.

Topics to be covered

- ❖ Geopolitics & Global Textile Realignments
- ❖ Materials Innovation
- ❖ Process Innovation and Technology
- ❖ Global Sustainability Initiatives
- ❖ Women Leadership Driving a Change in T & A Sector

Speakers & Panelists

All the conferences organized by The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit have always selected contemporary & innovative topics presented by high profile speakers. This Conference is also no exception to this.

We appreciate your support to The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit in its activities and it is our pleasure to invite you to be part of this event. Let us join hands to make this conference a great success.

Rajiv Ranjan President	G. V. Aras Conference Chairman	V. C. Gupte Chairman & Convenor
Rahul Bhajekar Jt. Convenor		Haresh B. Parekh Hon. Secretary

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Minesh V. Adhvaryu	Kushal Textile Institute
Rajendra Ranadive	KRS Oils

TEXTILES 2030 — Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations

The conference aims to bring together industry, tech innovators, trade bodies and academia to chart a pathway for the textile sector to 2030 that is resilient, sustainable, compliant, and competitive addressing the global expectations

The Indian Textile & Apparel (T&A) industry is the second-largest employer after agriculture and the third-largest foreign exchange earner after IT and jewellery. Today, the industry stands at a turning point - facing mounting challenges from shifting global trade policies, geopolitical conflicts, tariff pressures, intense global competition and growing industry expectations

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit to host an International Conference on "TEXTILES 2030 - Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations"

on sustainability. While government policies have offered partial relief, further support and industry-led initiatives are critical to safeguard competitiveness.

India's domestic market for the textile industry remains a pillar of strength. Valued at \$147 billion (with textiles and apparel at \$108 billion, technical textiles at \$28 billion, and home textiles at \$11 billion), it has grown at 7% CAGR over the past five years and is projected to grow at more than 9% in the next five. In contrast, exports - currently \$37 billion (apparel \$16B, home textiles \$6B, others \$15B) - have remained stagnant, growing at only 2% annually. Government plans aim to double export earnings, but recent global uncertainties - including the Russia-Ukraine and Israel-Gaza conflicts, as well as new tariff barriers - pose serious risks to margins, employment, and market share. Timely action will help India remain competitive against other producing countries.

To counter these headwinds, India is actively pursuing new Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with strategic partners. At the same time, producers must rethink their product mix - focusing on value-added, design-led apparel, technical textiles, and innovation-driven categories that are less price-sensitive.

Innovation is no longer optional - it is the lifeline for growth. Textiles today are becoming smarter, sustainable, and increasingly personalized. Indian producers must embrace:

- ❖ Sustainability and traceability as central drivers of supply chains
- ❖ Adoption of international certifications and compliance standards
- ❖ Automation, digitalization, and robotics in manufacturing
- ❖ Expansion through textile parks and MITRAschemes to reduce logistics costs
- ❖ Investment in advanced processing and value-added capabilities
- ❖ Skill development, especially in advanced technologies, to offset rising labour costs
- ❖ Domestic production of long-staple cotton to reduce import dependency
- ❖ Positioning India as a true end-to-end global sourcing hub

At the same time, challenges persist and need to be focused R&D infrastructure, strong industry — academia collaboration, and active investment in

sustainable process technologies. Addressing these require collective action and stronger collaboration with all stakeholders in the supply chain.

This conference will bring together leading global and Indian experts to share insights on navigating geopolitics, addressing global expectations, sustainability, and technology frontiers. A highlight of the event will be a special all-women panel discussion - the first of its kind in an Indian textile conference - signalling the industry's commitment to inclusivity and fresh perspectives.

About TAI, Mumbai Unit

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit is the largest Unit of the Association having around 4500 members. The Unit has reputation of organizing events of topical interest both at national and global level. In this pursuit, Mumbai Unit is organising one day International Conference on "TEXTILES 2030 - Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations".

An Appeal

The successes of our Conferences / Seminars depend on the financial support from our valued sponsors. Industry has been very supportive and proactive in the activities of TAI, Mumbai Unit and we look forward for the same support and active participation in this conference. We assure you to provide maximum publicity and visibility to your valued products / activities. Your participation in this conference by way of sponsorships, advertisements and delegates would provide a common platform to meet the experts from the industry. The main advantage will be an opportunity to exchange the views on the latest developments in the field of the textiles.

We appreciate your support to The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit in its activities and it is our pleasure to invite you to be part of this event. Let us join hands to make this conference a great success.

For further information, please contact :

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TEXTILE EVENTS

SaigonTex 2026 (36th year)

Vietnam Saigon Textile & Garment Industry Expo
(including textile equipment machinery, garment machinery, non wovens, dyes and chemicals)

8 - 11 April, 2026, SECC, Hochiminh City, Vietnam

You are cordially invited to participate in SaigonTex 2026, Vietnam's leading textile and garment industry exhibition series since 1990s.

Last event was held successfully during 9 - 12 April, 2025, with over 32,000 buyers, 1,068 exhibitors from 26 countries/regions, and pavilions / groups from Jiangsu China, Taiwan, Korea, Hong Kong, India and Turkey etc.

Vietnam – the second-largest textile exporter globally

The textile and garment industry in Vietnam has an ambitious export target of \$47-48 billion this year due to strong order flows and growing global reach. Export turnover of the sector in the first seven months reached over \$26.33 billion—up by 9 per cent YoY. This expo will provide an ideal chance for industry players to access to the world's fastest-growing manufacturing hubs.

Register now for SaigonTex 2026

Floor plan will be ready in November, 2025. Please register now to secure your booth! For more details and registration, please visit www.sgentex.com or contact Mr Jason Chow in Hong Kong (Tel: +852 25117427, Fax: +852 25119692, Email: jason@cpexh.com, cpexh@yahoo.com, Wechat:cpexhibition) or our representative in your region.

Expo Topics

Textile Equipment Machinery & Parts

- Air jet, Water jet, Rapier
- Auxiliary & Preparatory
- Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing
- Cordage & Rope Making
- Filament Plant & Machinery
- Finishing & Treatment
- Knitting (flat, circular)
- Loading
- Printing Technology
- Shuttle & Shuttleless
- Spindles, Bearings
- Spinning
- Weaving
- Winding & Reeling

Garment Machinery & Parts

- CAD/CAM Systems
- Cutting and Laying
- Embroidery

- Fusing and Pressing
- Home Furnishing
- Hosiery Upholstery
- Knitwear, Underwear
- Production System
- Seam Sealing, Pleating
- Sewing
- Steam Boiler
- Washing Drying Tumbler

Non-wovens

- Fabric for different industries
- Machines & parts
- Bags
- Raw materials

Dyes & Chemicals

- Dyestuffs
- Auxiliaries & textile chemicals
- Intermediates
- Equipments & Instruments

Vietnam textile & garment industry

- Top 3 garment exporter in the world, employing around 3 million work force.
- Grow 20%-26% annually since 2018.
- Vietnam's textile and garment industry turnover of its goal to reach USD 100 billion in 2030

Background of the expos

- Only UFI approved, the biggest international textile and garment industry exhibition in Vietnam, established in 1991.
- The only textile and garment machinery exhibition being held in both Hochiminh City and Hanoi annually.

Background of Hochiminh City

- Traditional biggest economic city.
- Many foreign enterprises and joint ventures, private and national owned companies and factories are in Hochiminh City and nearby provinces.

Other CP shows in Vietnam:

HanoiTex 2025 - Hanoi Textile & Garment Industry Expo

16 - 18 December, 2025, ICE, Viet-Xo Cultural Palace, Hanoi, Vietnam

North Vietnam (Hanoi)'s development is so fast recently. Comparing to the South Vietnam (Hochiminh City), it has a lower labor and production cost, better cross-border connection with the southern China.

For further information, please contact :
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ITM 2026 Istanbul

International Textile Machinery Exhibition

9-13 June

The Technology Hub for Global Denim Trends: ITM 2026!

The ITM 2026 International Textile Machinery Exhibition, to be held at the Tüyap Fair and Congress Center in Istanbul from June 9–13, 2026, brings together groundbreaking technologies in denim production. From smart production systems to eco-friendly raw materials, from digital washing solutions to laser effect technologies, innovations that will shape the future of denim will be showcased for the first time at ITM 2026.

Türkiye is the EU's Most Important Supplier of Denim Fabric

With its advanced technology, strong logistics infrastructure, and high-quality, flexible, fast, and error-free production capabilities, Türkiye is among the top choices for international denim fabric manufacturers, thanks to the quality of its denim fabrics.

Thanks to its strong fabric infrastructure and designers, Türkiye is a supplier of many world-renowned denim brands and leverages its proximity to Europe as a geographical advantage. According to the World Denim Fabric Sector Foreign Trade Report published by the Istanbul Textile and Raw Materials Exporters' Association (ITHIB), Türkiye is among the EU's most important denim fabric suppliers. Single-handedly accounting for 25.4 percent of the EU's denim fabric imports in 2024, Türkiye ranks fourth globally with an export performance of \$291 million. In addition to denim fabric, Türkiye is also a major player in the ready-to-wear sector. With \$3.5 billion in denim apparel exports in 2024, Türkiye ranked fourth globally and is the second-largest supplier to the EU market, following Bangladesh.

Eco-Friendly and Sustainable Turkish Denim: The Preference of Global Brands

Türkiye, known for producing high-quality denim fabrics, is not only creating world-renowned brands but also developing technologies to produce denim through eco-friendly methods while maintaining the centuries-old tradition of denim. Turkish denim manufacturers, with the motto "Respect for the environment, respect for the world," are at the forefront of sustainable denim production. Collaborating with international certification organizations, Turkish manufacturers are leading the way by producing collections made from 100% organic and 100% recyclable fabrics.

The Latest Innovations in Denim Technologies will be Showcased at ITM 2026

ITM 2026, one of the most prestigious meeting points for the global textile technologies sector, will host cutting-edge technologies covering every aspect of the textile production chain, from weaving and knitting to dyeing and printing. One of the most anticipated sections of the five-day fair will be "Denim Technologies." This special section, which will cover all stages of denim production, including washing, dyeing, finishing, laser cutting, sustainable chemicals, and digital solutions, will shed light on the future of the denim industry by focusing on sustainable production, energy efficiency, and eco-friendly innovations. From water- and energy-saving machines to digital washing and laser effect systems, from dyeing technologies that minimize chemical use to automation solutions, groundbreaking innovations in denim production will be showcased at ITM 2026.

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Clean India show laundrex india

Clean India Show, an integrated exhibition, co-located with Laundrex India wraps successfully: AI, automation and eco-friendly products get prominence on the show floor

The integrated exhibition for cleaning and hygiene, linen care and industrial cleaning –Clean India Show, co-located with Laundrex India–concluded successfully, showcasing next-generation technologies for cleaning, facility management, laundrycare and chemicals. The show recorded a strong turnout of 8762 visitors from 266 Indian cities over three days. Visitors arrived from across India, including a notable share from Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, along with international visitors from 18 countries, significantly enhancing the expo's reach.

Organised jointly by Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India and Virtual Info Systems (VIS Group), the show presented the latest advancements across segments such as robotic cleaning solutions, measurable air quality systems, facility management software and automation, green cleaning chemicals, waterless hygiene and sanitation technologies, maintenance of surfaces, city cleaning systems, waste management

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solutions, vehicle care products and hygienic linen, laundry and dry-cleaning solutions.

Among the key attendees were substantial numbers of visitors from the railways, urban local bodies (ULBs), state departments, smart cities, urban planners, town planners and research firms. As executors of various initiatives, these visitors contributed significantly to the positive energy during the three days, both at the conferences and on the show floor.

This year, the Clean India Show hosted two dedicated pavilions – the Smart City Pavilion and the Start-up Pavilion. These showcased smart city innovations in sanitation, hygiene, and waste management, linking technology with urban planning and spotlighting emerging companies offering products such as drones, advanced chemicals, waste tech, smart cleaning tools and sustainable solutions.

Clean India Show united leaders and innovators to shape the future of cleaning, hygiene and facility management. The Waste Management and Technology Conference presented city models and tech solutions for smarter urban living, while the CEO2CEO Roundtable offered an exclusive exchange of strategies among top leaders. The DIGIFM Conference explored digital transformation and integration in Facility Management (FM), driving efficiency and sustainability. The prestigious CREFM Masterstroke Awards honoured excellence in corporate real estate and FM, while Laundrex Net highlighted next-gen innovations in laundry and textile care.

The expo received an overwhelming response from the exhibitors and visitors, expressing their satisfaction with engaging with the right clientele and finding new solutions for both the cleaning and laundry segments.

Exclusive Platinum Partner of Clean India Show and Laundrex India, Manoj Wanvari, Chief Operating Officer, O'terri (MKS O'terri Pvt Ltd) expressed: "This is the first time we are participating in Laundrex India Expo. Laundrex has been a fascinating platform for engaging with the laundry community in India. The first two days were pretty overwhelming. We had a very interesting mix of crowds visiting our stalls, describing their requirements about tracking and traceability and more."

This year, the show presented a blend of interesting technologies, starting from mechanised cleaning systems to robotic cleaning and even cleaning drones, laundry and dry cleaning equipment, chemicals, smart apps, system aggregators and more.

KTV Drone India engaged visitors with their very catchy live demonstration of its cleaning drones. Mr Mikhil Kotak, Managing Director, KTV Drone India expressed: "The Clean India Show has been amazing. We participated for the first time last year and are amused to see more and more connected technologies on the show floor. We received a good response from the visitors and buyers. I thank the organising team for allowing us to demonstrate our products live over three days."

Another demonstration from Kinetiq RRobotics showed robots interacting with each other. The brand also showed how easy their robots can be programmed to do the task using simple AI. Mr Divya Ramraika, Founder, Kinetiq RRobotics expressed, "The Clean India Show experience was amazing. We have a unique crowd here from various industries such as facility management, hotels, hospitals and education. They showed keen interest in going for robots, as they are still not very popular in India. I feel that the show is a one-stop solution for all cleaning needs."

At Laundrex India - Borghi India ran a live demo of the Star Gamma machine, designed for efficient production of brooms and brushes. Mr Gianluca Novelli, Sales Area Manager, Borghi SPA, opined: "We participate every year. We feel that we should register our presence here, as all our customers and distributors visit and participate in the show. Furthermore, many visitors are looking forward to starting their manufacturing ventures, seeking support for our machine supply and spares. To be able to meet and grab these opportunities, we feel the Clean India Show is a great platform."

Whirlpool Corporation has recently opened its commercial laundry vertical and solutions brand in India – Maytag. Mr Carlos Vasquez, Senior International Manager- Sales Strategy & Business Ops, Whirlpool Corporation shared: "Our experience in Clean India Show and Laundrex India is incredible. We have noticed an increase in the necessity for laundry solutions in the Indian market. We are here with our exclusive partners – Protek, a known name in laundry solutions. The promising growth in the Indian laundry industry makes it more important for us to have our presence in Clean India Show."

First time exhibitor from Sweden, Mr Milad Alhelal, Account Executive, SMRT Systems expressed: "We are very excited to be here in Mumbai for the Clean India Show, launching our product for the

first time. We have aggregated these services into a single platform – SMRT. We have seen keen interest from a lot of players in the laundry and dry-cleaning industry. We never expected such a huge interest in India. This is a great show for people looking for solutions like AI and automation.”

Visitors recorded a positive response to the wide variety of solutions across industry segments. Visitors liked the overall ambience, multi-segment solutions and timing of the show.

A visitor, Mr Geetesh Saraf, Managing Director, Urja Facility Management Services, shared: “This is a ritual for me as I have been attending the Clean India Show for many years. Clean India Show is the only event that brings together suppliers, machine vendors, facility management service providers and top-notch professionals. Every year, the show gets better and grander. I also like the conferences in the show that are very interactive and the senior-most professionals diligently answer queries.”

Another visitor, Mr Aniruddha Singh, Area Head – Procurement, Knight Frank (I) Pvt Ltd shared: “The expo is amazing with many new launches in both chemicals and equipment. I also liked the variety I saw about eco-friendly chemicals, solving serious issues of water discharge in public water bodies. Thank you, Clean India Show, for highlighting new trends in the market.”

Overall, the show experienced power-packed conferences across three days with an increasing visitor turnout compared to the previous editions. The next edition of the Clean India Show is scheduled from 17-19 March 2027 at Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai.

The show is part of Messe Frankfurt's Textile Care, Cleaning & Cleanroom Technologies events. For further details, please visit www.texcare.com/brand.

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2nd GENTEXH 2026

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March 11-13, 2026

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Oerlikon

The Nonwovens Institute (NWI) at North Carolina State University and Oerlikon Nonwoven work together Cooperation in the field of meltblown laboratory technology

The Nonwoven Institute (NWI) at North Carolina State University and Oerlikon Nonwoven will be collaborating in the field of meltblown laboratory technology in the future. This was announced by Professor Raoul Farer, Executive Deputy Director of the NWI and Professor at the Wilson College of Textiles at North Carolina State University, and Dr. Ingo Mählmann, Sales Director Nonwoven at Oerlikon Neumag, during this year's ITMA Asia and CITME in Singapore.



Sealing the future cooperation: Professor Raoul Farer, The Nonwoven Institute (right), and Dr. Ingo Mählmann, Oerlikon Neumag

The first step in the new cooperation is an investment in the hycuTEC hydrocharging system from Oerlikon Nonwoven; the institute will integrate the unit into its existing laboratory configuration. This will enable the NWI to operate a state-of-the-art meltblown hydrocharging laboratory in the future, facilitating the development of new products – primarily, but not exclusively, in the field of air filtration media. The advantage for North American Oerlikon Nonwoven customers and prospects is that they will be able to test hycuTEC technology and carry out their own meltblown product developments in a creative, innovation-oriented environment.

Oerlikon Nonwoven's patented hycuTEC system is a real innovation for the filtration industry. Using a special spray mist of demineralized water, the system enables the economic production of highly efficient electret-media with an impressive filtration efficiency of 99.99% at low pressure-

drop. The hycuTEC hydrocharging technology was honored with the Edana Filtrex Innovation Award in 2023.



Patented and award-winning: the hycuTEC hydro-charging system.

About Barmag

Under the traditional name Barmag, the Swiss Oerlikon Group has been continuing its chemical fiber business as a subsidiary since 2025. This includes the established product brands Oerlikon Barmag, Oerlikon Neumag and Oerlikon Nonwoven. As a future-oriented company, research and development are focused on energy efficiency and sustainable technologies (e-save).

Barmag is one of the leading suppliers of filament spinning plants for chemical fibers, texturing machines, BCF plants, staple fiber plants and solutions for the production of nonwoven fabrics. Together with its range of polycondensation and extrusion systems and their key components, Barmag thus covers the entire manufacturing process – from monomer to textured yarn – and supports it with customer-oriented engineering services. The product portfolio is rounded off by automation and digitalisation solutions. In addition, Barmag offers high-precision gear metering pumps for the textile industry and other sectors, including the automotive, chemical and paint industries.

The main markets for the Barmag product portfolio are in Asia, particularly China, India, Turkey and the USA. Barmag employs around 2,500 people worldwide and is represented in 120 countries with production, sales and service organisations. In the research and development centres in Remscheid, Neumünster (Germany) and Suzhou (China), highly qualified engineers, technologists and technicians develop innovative and technologically leading products for tomorrow's world.

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a global leader in surface technologies. Headquartered in Pfäffikon, Switzerland, the Group has over 12,000 employees at 199 locations in 38 countries and generated sales of CHF 2.4 billion in 2024.

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Gayatri Textile Machines

Gayatri Textile Machines acclaims global reputation for its textile machines

Our prime motto is to satisfy customer in all respects. Only customer's satisfaction is our profit margin. Considering Quality, Prompt Delivery, Price & after Sales Service, we are getting good responses from India and International Market. Gayatri Textile Machine has gained a lot of International reputation having participated at many national & international textile trade fairs like India ITME, ITM, DTG, VTG and ITMA etc.

Continuous design development / modification are being made in our range of products by studying customer's exact requirement, hence our products are successfully competing with others and exporting regularly in textile global market.

Cot Grinding Machine

Model GCGHY-200-25-AF

This machine has been sophisticatedly designed and constructed to perform vibration free for high accuracy, high productivity, Superior operability with very less maintenance. Hydro – Pneumatically operated to grind R/F and S/F (Murata Airjet, Sussen, Rocos etc) Top rollers only on pneumatically operated Centreless Grinding Attachment with 200 mm. wide emery having surface finish/accuracy as per international standards. To load 75 to 80 Top rollers of R/F or S/F at a time in adjustable magazine which will come one by one for grinding automatically with auto feeding system which is controlled by digital LCD electronic timer to set grinding time. The machine is equipped with dust extraction unit.



You can use another side to grind longer rollers like Draw Frame, Comber etc are grinded between centre by the help of MT2 Dead Centre with 25mm wide emery and hydraulically operated table traverse motion. Also we have made a provision that we have provided system for 200mm. wide emery attachment with hydro pneumatically operated Centreless Grinding attachment suitable to grind all kinds of R/F & S/F top rollers as an optional.

SCIENCE IN INDUSTRY

Net/Gross weight : 1400/1800 & 250/450 kgs

Size of cage L × W × H : 180 × 150 × 165 cm

Size of cage L × W × H : 180 × 85 × 160 cm

Ultra Violet Treatment Machine

The most advanced environment friendly and world wide accepted treatment for irradiation of all types of cots like Ring Frame, Speed Frame, Draw Frame, Comber, etc. Designed totally maintenance free to reduce lapping on buffed top rollers in spinning department. During treatment ultra violet rays improve the surface finish and control roller lapping to save costly rubber cots from damage ensuring consistency of yarn costly rubber cots from damage ensuring consistency of yarn quality and increased productivity, having 2KW, 1400 Volts, U.V. Lamp. For uniform treatment roller rotating system is provided. Treatment time is 6-8 minutes per batch for 35 top rollers of R/F and 20 of S/F. Loading and unloading of top roller is manual, safe and easy. Complete operation is controlled by auto reset timer.



Net/Gross weight : 450/650 kgs.

Size of cage L × W × H : 150 × 95 × 170 cm

Hydraulic Cots Mounting & De-mounting Machine

Machine is designed to mount & demount all types of longer top rollers like Comber, RSB Draw Frame "ALUCORE" cots etc. by horizontal attachment with roller guide, Stroke adjustment will be as per cots length. Separate Vertical attachment is provided for Ring Frame, Speed Frame & O/E & texturizing cots (Plane, PVC, Easyfit, Alucore) for more productivity. Hydraulic Power Pack is provided to operate both attachment at a time with 2HP, 3 Phase electric motor. Working pressure can be adjustable.

Net/Gross weight : 350/550 kgs.

Size of cage L × W × H : 195 × 105 × 120 cms

Spindle Lubricating Machine

Lubrication machine is designed with 2 separate guns — flushing & oiling guns for perfect flushing/clearing & oiling of spindle bolster for longer life of bearing, having trolley wheel to move one place to another place.

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skaushik@fancytex.com
www.beaelectronics.com

Due to zero leakage, there is no oil around the bolster which also ensures no fly and fluff accumulation, thus keeping the spindle/ring frame neat and clean.



Flushing Gun (Clearing Gun)

Fitted with S.S. nozzle assembly, which cleans the bolster from neck bearing to footstep bearing and the dirty oil will be sucked out efficiently which will go to the flushing oil tank duly filtered twice by micro filter.

Lubricating Gun (Oiling Gun)

Equipped with adjustable S.S. dual nozzle assembly and easily adjustable auto oil level gauge system to maintain automatic oil level uniformly with no overflow or leakage at all. The same gun can be used for oil topping facility.

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Marzoli Textile Engineering

Marzoli launches monthly magazine — December 2025 edition

Marzoli Achievements: Marzoli Innovation Portfolio

Marzoli Card C702 – Optimised for Indian Cotton & Indian Mill Economics

Indian spinning mills operate in one of the most challenging cotton environments globally — with wide variations in trash content, micronaire, moisture, contamination, and bale consistency. In such conditions, carding performance directly defines profitability.

The Marzoli C702 Card is specifically suited to Indian cotton realities, delivering stable quality, higher productivity, and lower cost per kg, even with fluctuating raw material quality.

Designed for Indian Cotton Characteristics

Indian cotton often contains:

- Higher trash and dust levels
- Variable fiber length and maturity
- Seasonal quality fluctuations
- Increasing mix of imported cotton and blends

The C702's large carding area (3.74 m²) and optimized carding geometry ensure:

- Efficient trash removal without fiber damage
- Lower nep generation even with mixed cotton lots
- Stable sliver quality despite raw material variation

⇒ **Result: Cleaner sliver, fewer downstream problems, and consistent yarn quality.**

Lower Cost per Kg – A Key Indian Mill Priority

With rising power tariffs, labor costs, and pressure on yarn margins, mills must reduce INR/kg cost, not just improve quality.

The C702 directly supports this objective:

- Up to 270 kg/hr production → fewer cards required per line
- 30% lower kW/kg compared to older card generations
- Reduced waste and fly → better raw-material utilization

⇒ **Mills achieve lower CAPEX, lower energy bills, and faster payback.**

High Productivity with Process Stability

- 90 flats (32 working flats)
- Large main cylinder (1006 mm)
- Balanced fiber density in the carding zone

The C702 allows:

- 50% higher production at same quality level
- Stable performance during long continuous runs

SCIENCE IN INDUSTRY

- ▶ Reduced card choking during high-trash cotton processing

⇒ **Ideal for 24x7 Indian mill operations with minimal stoppages.**

Lower Maintenance – Practical for Indian Conditions

Indian mills value machines that are:

- ▶ Robust
- ▶ Easy to maintain
- ▶ Less dependent on highly skilled manpower

C702 delivers:

- ▶ Longer card wire life due to reduced fiber stress
- ▶ Easy-access cleaning and quick flat handling
- ▶ Lower mechanical wear → reduced spare consumption

⇒ **Lower maintenance cost and higher machine availability.**

Flexibility for Indian Product Mix

Whether your mill produces:

- ▶ Carded yarn
- ▶ Combed yarn
- ▶ Blended yarns
- ▶ Rotor yarn feed sliver

The C702 adapts easily with:

- ▶ Optional integrated drafting system
- ▶ Capability to bypass the finisher draw frame
- ▶ Stable sliver CV% for rotor and ring spinning

⇒ **Enables mills to diversify products without adding machines.**

Digital Ready for Modern Indian Mills

With increasing focus on digitalization, ESG reporting, and energy tracking, the C702 integrates seamlessly with:

- ▶ YarNet – production, efficiency & energy monitoring
- ▶ MRM – condition monitoring & predictive maintenance

⇒ **Helps mills move toward Industry 4.0, reduce unplanned downtime, and improve management visibility.**

Why Indian Mills Choose Marzoli C702

- ▶ Handles Indian cotton variability with ease
- ▶ Delivers consistent quality at higher speeds
- ▶ Reduces INR/kg production cost

- ▶ Supports energy saving & sustainability goals
- ▶ Backed by Marzoli's global expertise + Indian service support

The Marzoli C702 is not just a card; it is a profit enabler for Indian spinning mills, helping convert challenging cotton into consistent yarn quality, while protecting margins in a highly competitive market.



Marzoli – Integrated Solutions for Smart & Sustainable Spinning

- Driving Efficiency, Profitability & Future Readiness

A Smarter Way to Run Your Spinning Mill

Marzoli offers an integrated portfolio of digital, automation, and re-engineering solutions that help spinning mills operate with greater efficiency, control, and sustainability—while maximizing returns on existing assets.

Textile India Market

Cotton Supply & Procurement Developments

Procurement Season Begins — Support to Farmers under MSP

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) commenced cotton procurement at the start of the 2025–26 season (from October 24). By mid-November, CCI had procured about 17,000 bales in Madhya Pradesh alone under MSP operations — marking the start of bulk procurement operations nationwide.

Record High Cotton Imports Anticipated

With domestic cotton output facing a downturn (due to lower acreage and crop disruptions), and continued raw-cotton duty-free status (valid till Dec 31, 2025), imports are projected to reach a record 4.5 million bales in the 2025/26 marketing

year — up ~9.8% year-on-year. Lower international cotton prices and supply pressures largely drive this.

What It Means for Mills & Stakeholders

- ▶ **Raw-Material Stability via CCI Procurement & Imports** — Early procurement & import surges provide a buffer for spinning mills, helping maintain cotton availability for yarn production.
- ▶ **Pricing Pressure & Volatility** — Increased import volumes and weaker global demand may push down cotton prices, but also increase uncertainty — keep a close watch on quality and fiber mix.



Automation Division (Camozzi Automation)

Compamed 2025 Participation (17–20 Nov 2025)

- ▶ Camozzi Automation confirmed its presence at Compamed 2025 — the leading medical-tech exhibition in Düsseldorf, Germany.
- ▶ **Exhibit Focus:** Integrated solutions for medical device manufacturing, including precision control of liquids and gases, microfluidics, proportional valves, and electric actuation systems.
- ▶ The Integrated Approach to Medical Device Manufacturing showcases customizable automation technologies tailored for life sciences.
- ▶ This participation underscores Camozzi's push into high-precision automation for healthcare, a domain that increasingly overlaps with industrial automation technologies used in smart manufacturing and digital control systems.

Machine Tools / Manufacturing Divisions

Agritechnica 2025 (9–15 Nov 2025)

- ▶ Although announced earlier, Camozzi's Automation and Fonderie Mora Gavardo activities continued in November through participation in Agritechnica 2025, a major trade fair for agricultural and off-highway machinery:
- ▶ Focus on combining advanced mechatronic automation with structural cast components for agricultural applications.
- ▶ Showcases how digital solutions & mechanical strength solutions integrate for Industry 5.0. This highlights Camozzi Group's strategy of demonstrating synergistic solutions across its divisions — mixing hardware, software, and sector-specific innovation.

Textile Machinery Division (Marzoli)

- ▶ The recent major textile event (ITMA Asia 2025) occurred late October, and the next major visibility opportunity remains upcoming exhibitions (e.g., events in 2026 titles).
- ▶ Strategic focus continues promoting the complete textile ecosystem and integration of digitalized solutions within global textile manufacturing.
- ▶ This suggests that in November, the division consolidated momentum from ITMA Asia and aligned internally for future showcases.



Group-Level Positioning & Strategic Context

Camozzi Group's presence at major global trade events and its emphasis on integrated automation platforms signal continued investment in:

- ▶ Industry-specific automation (medical/life sciences)
- ▶ Synergies between mechanical casting and automation (Agritechnica)

SCIENCE IN INDUSTRY

- Digitalization and smart systems across sectors
- Future-ready solutions applicable also in textile manufacturing (e.g., mechatronics, sensors, IIoT)

This multi-industry strategy reinforces Camozzi's role as a technology and systems partner rather than just a component supplier — benefiting textile, manufacturing, and high-tech sectors alike

What This Means for Customers

- Automation customers see Camozzi pushing into high-precision, customizable medical automation solutions. Manufacturing sectors benefit from integrated hardware and digital systems showcased at large global fairs.
- Textile machinery stakeholders align with Camozzi's broader strategic positioning in smart, digital industrial solutions — with Marzoli's recent ITMA showcase still providing momentum.

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Web: www.marzoli.com



Dhara Engineering Works

Dhara Engineering Works emerges as a global player in textile machine manufacturing and it is committed to provide superior level of satisfaction to its customers

A brief profile of Dhara Engineering Works

Dhara Engineering Works is one of the leading Stainless Steel Fabricator and mainly an OEM supplier to global textile machinery manufacturers. With more than three decades of industry presence, the company is now a reputed player in this field. Based in Ahmedabad, the company has been at the forefront of offering a wide range of value-for-money products. The stringent quality control measures employed by the company ensure quality products that adhere to specifications. The modern process technology and professional expertise enable the company to cater to the precise demand of its customers. Further, the strategic location of Dhara Tex Rolls in Ahmedabad makes it easily approachable through all modes of transportation. Moreover, this also facilitates



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New DELIGHT PG 80 - APRON





6 - 9 March, 2026
 Coimbatore Trade Fair Complex
 Coimbatore, India
Stall No. B-82

After run 6 month DELIGHT PJ 80 mesh apron





Current Mesh Apron - Problem Fiber Sticking To The Surface



After run 6 month Normal mesh apron

- ◆ Nonstick- Easy clean - Mesh Apron
- ◆ Long Life - 2 times
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- ◆ Huge Operator Saving
- ◆ Ring Frame Utilization improves due to less stoppage
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timely delivery and prompt post-sales service to its customers. A team of experts along with sophisticated infrastructure equipped with all necessary amenities help in boosting the production capacity of the company.

Dhara Tex Rolls considers customer satisfaction of paramount importance. The company strives hard to offer superior quality products of international standards by exploiting all its technological and instrumental expertise. Established in the year 1991, the company now features high on the priority list of its customers.

Founder and Promoter

Mr. Karsandasbhai Panchal, the Founder of Dhara Engineering Works has 45 years of experience in textile engineering industry. The success and position of Dhara Tex Rolls is due to his continuous efforts and vast experience.

Mr. Shailesh Panchal the Co-promoter of Dhara Engineering Works, has more than 25 years of experience in Administration and Human Resources Management and is a solid bridge between Production and Marketing handled by Mr. Jay Panchal.

Latest Innovative Products of Dhara Engineering Works

- ▶ Drying Cylinders/Cans
- ▶ Jacketed Cooling/Heating Cylinders
- ▶ Storage Vessels
- ▶ Premixing Vessels
- ▶ Cooking Vessels
- ▶ Vertical/Horizontal Drying Range
- ▶ Guide Rollers

Drying Cylinder/Can

Specially developed manufacturing process and more than 35 years of experience in the production of the walled cylinders ensure products of highest quality. The cylinders are characterized by particularly low radial run-out and perfect welding workmanship.

The thin-walled steam cylinders are designed and constructed as pressure vessels, in-line with customer's requirement and specifications. These cylinders are used in sizing, non-woven ranges as well as in textile and technical fabric finishing machines.

- ◆ Annual Production Capacity – 3000
- ◆ Diameter – 400mm to 800mm

- ◆ Working Width – 1000 to 4000mm
- ◆ Hydraulic Test Pressure – 3 Bar to 12 Bar
- ◆ Working Pressure – 1 Bar to 6 Bar
- ◆ Shell Thickness – 2mm to 4mm
- ◆ Surface Finish – SS304/SS316 Polished/Teflon coated



Jacketed Cooling / Heating Cylinder

The defined re-cooling of the web after thermal processing is of special significance. If the web temperature is too high in relation to the next stage of processing e.g. cold pad batch dyeing or in chemical web impregnation, it would make the dye/chemical bath temperature increase within a short time, causing a considerable product quality loss. At Dhara, our scope of production basically includes two types of cooling cylinders with water-spraying system without controlled water circulation or with guide spiral double shell cooling cylinders. The even cooling and the temperature tolerance of less than $\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ across the whole width is guaranteed through the precise execution of the water guidance system.



Similarly Oil heating spiral circulation cylinders are offered for Textile & Non Textile industries.

- ◆ Diameter – 400 mm to 800 mm
- ◆ Working Width – 1000 to 4000 mm
- ◆ Hydraulic Test Pressure – 3 Bar to 5 Bar

SCIENCE IN INDUSTRY

- ◆ Working Pressure – 1 Bar to 3 Bar
- ◆ Inner Shell Thickness – 5mm to 12mm (SS/MS)
- ◆ Outer Shell Thickness – 2 mm to 4 mm
- ◆ Outer Shell – SS304/SS316/Mild Steel
- ◆ Surface Finish – Polished/Teflon Coated/Hard Chrome Plated

Guide Rollers

Made of Stainless Steel/Mild Steel/Aluminum
Light weight Roller for lowest possible fabric Tension
Less Torque required

- ◆ Diameter – 100 mm to 400 mm
- ◆ Working Width – 1000 mm to 3600 mm
- ◆ Type – Plain/Fluted



Size Cooking Vessel

Size Cooker is compatible to any grade or size and ensures low viscosity even with starch sizes. It is designed to ensure easy operation and low maintenance. The stainless steel 304/316 pressure vessel has glass wool insulation and is jacketed outside to prevent heat loss.

The Stainless Steel Multilayer Blade Stirrer is positively driven by high torque AC geared motor. Direct Steam inlet thro perforated stainless steel pipe. Size Material loading thro manhole on the top that has hinged door and eyebolts. An indirect heating facilitate the cooker to be used as a storage vessel if required.

- ◆ Capacity – 1000 to 5000 Liters
- ◆ Type – Open/Pressurized
- ◆ Heating – Direct/Indirect

Size Storage Vessel

Stainless steel 304/316 storage Tank is provided with insulation from outside to prevent heat loss. SS stirrer work at a low speed and is driven by high torque AC Geared Motor on top of the vessel.

- ◆ Capacity – 1000 to 5000 Liters
- ◆ Heating – Direct / Indirect

Size Premixing Vessel

SS 304/316 mixing vessel is mainly used for homogenous mixture of size chemicals at ambient temperature. This stainless steel open vessel is provided with a high speed propeller stirrer which can be either clamped on to the rim of the kettle with swiveling arrangement or mounted vertically on the top of vessel. The position of propeller stirrer can be fixed high or low position to achieve best stirring results.

- ◆ Capacity – 1000 to 2500 Litres

For further information please contact :

Dhara Engineering Works

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Mimaki Europe BV

CEMAB raises status of Wooden Display Production with Mimaki's Advanced Industrial UV LED Flatbed Printing Solution

- ▶ Leveraging Mimaki's industrial UV LED flatbed printer - JFX600-2513 -CEMAB pioneers direct-to-wood digital printing, achieving over 500 displays produced per day with unmatched speed and precision
- ▶ The company also achieves sustainable innovation through waste reduction and eco-friendly UV inks

For over 40 years, CEMAB has been redefining wooden display manufacturing, establishing itself as one of the largest producers in Europe. Based in Italy (Puglia region), the company has consistently combined artisanal heritage with cutting-edge innovation to deliver displays that are both functional and highly customised.

The recent adoption of a Mimaki JFX600-2513 industrial UV LED flatbed printer has marked a turning point for CEMAB, enabling the company to achieve unprecedented levels of speed, quality, and sustainability – particularly in the pioneering field of direct-to-wood printing. “The quality of our work is built on innovation and precision. The Mimaki JFX600-2513 printer has allowed us to guarantee both exceptional speed and a level of print quality on wood that was previously unimaginable,” says Alessandro Leccese, Managing Director at CEMAB.



Alessandro Leccese, Managing Director at CEMAB

Direct-to-Wood Printing as a Game Changer

Traditionally, wooden displays required laminates, vinyls or adhesives to achieve decorative finishes, often adding cost, complexity, and production time. With the Mimaki JFX600-2513, CEMAB can now print vivid, high-definition graphics directly onto wooden substrates, whether smooth or irregular, eliminating unnecessary steps in the process.

The result is a faster, more efficient workflow. With a print width of 8cm per pass and speeds of up to 200m²/hour, CEMAB has scaled its production to more than 500 displays per day, meeting even the tightest delivery schedules while maintaining flawless detail and colour reproduction. “Speed has become one of our key competitive advantages. With the JFX600-2513, we can produce far more in less time without compromising quality. We are faster, more efficient, and still delivering the quality and precision our customers expect,” explains Leccese.

The integration of the JFX600-2513 was made possible through CEMAB’s long-standing collaboration with Mimaki’s exclusive Italian distributor, Bompan. From installation and training to continuous after-sales support, Bompan ensured

that CEMAB’s transition to this new technology was smooth and reliable.



Leveraging its recently-installed Mimaki JFX600-2513 industrial UV LED flatbed printer, CEMAB has achieved unprecedented levels of speed, quality, and sustainability – particularly in the pioneering field of direct-to-wood printing.

Sustainability at the Core

CEMAB’s innovation strategy is closely tied to its environmental responsibility. By eliminating the use of adhesives, the JFX600-2513 reduces material waste and lowers environmental impact. Mimaki’s eco-friendly UV inks further enhance sustainability, while an on-demand production model minimises stockholding and optimises resources. “We have always aimed to do our part for the environment. With the JFX600, we reduce waste while delivering a superior product,” adds Leccese.

By merging craftsmanship with cutting-edge printing technology, CEMAB has not only enhanced its operational capabilities but also unlocked new creative opportunities in wooden display design. “This integration of craftsmanship and technology is setting a new benchmark in the sector, proving that even in traditional industries, innovation is the key to staying ahead in a competitive global market,” concludes Leccese.

About Mimaki

Mimaki is a leading manufacturer of wide-format inkjet printers and cutting machines for the sign/graphics, industrial, textile/apparel and 3D markets. Mimaki develops the complete product range for each group; hardware, software and the associated consumable items, such as inks and cutting blades. Mimaki excels in offering innovative, high quality and high reliability products, based upon its aqueous, latex, solvent

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and UV-curable inkjet technology. In order to meet a wide range of applications in the market, Mimaki pursues the development of advanced on-demand digital printing solutions. Mimaki Engineering Co. Ltd., (President: Kazuaki Ikeda) Nagano (Japan), is publicly listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, Inc.

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RadiciGroup

Recycling mixed-fibre garments comes into reality: RadiciGroup, The LYCRA Company and Triumph go ahead in circular fashion

The process, which is both economically and environmentally sustainable, has enabled the production of an underwear set made from 100% recycled nylon and LYCRA® fibre in a closed-loop system.

Recycling of garments made from different types of fibres has always represented a major challenge for the textile industry. In the absence of a chemical or mechanical process capable of separating and recovering the individual materials, these garments have so far become waste destined for incineration or landfill. Today, however, Radici InNova, the RadiciGroup division dedicated to research and innovation, has developed an innovative recycling process based on selective dissolution technology, capable of treating mixed







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textile waste — such as swimwear, tights and leggings — and recovering both nylon and LYCRA® fibre, making them available again for the production of new garments. The collaboration with The LYCRA Company and Triumph, internationally-renowned lingerie brand, has made it possible to validate the process by using the recovered fibres to create a 100% recycled lingerie set. The process, internationally patented, uses non-toxic, non-flammable and environmentally compatible solvents. It can be applied to the main types of nylon (PA6 and PA66) and is economically sustainable because it allows for the recovery of both nylon and LYCRA® fibre, regardless of their respective proportions in the fabric, as well as the solvent itself.



“Thanks to this project, textile recycling enters a new dimension, demonstrating for the first time that it is possible to recover fibers from mixed fabrics and reuse them to produce new garments. This is an unprecedented innovation that opens up revolutionary development opportunities for the textile industry. As RadiciGroup, we are proud to have conceived and achieved this important milestone together with our partners, and we are ready to take the next steps,” said Stefano Alini, CEO of Radici InNova.

“This innovative project highlights the role that elastane can have in helping to advance circularity in the apparel industry. Working closely with Radici InNova and Triumph, The LYCRA Company has demonstrated that LYCRA® fibres can retain their renowned stretch and recovery performance — providing comfort, fit and ease of movement — even when reintegrated into the spinning cycle,” commented Nicholas Kurland, Product Development Director, Advanced Concepts The LYCRA Company.

The project began four years ago, when Radici InNova launched the study of an innovative process for the dissolution and separation of mixed textile fibres. After the initial development phase, subsequent tests made it possible to recover samples of LYCRA® fibre from multi-material fabrics, which were then sent to The LYCRA Company to verify their recyclability. The next step was to demonstrate the feasibility in practice: Triumph provided its own production surplus, a fabric containing 16% LYCRA® fibre. From this material, Radici InNova succeeded in recovering both LYCRA® fibre and nylon. The LYCRA® fibre was then re-spun by The LYCRA Company, while RadiciGroup processed the recycled nylon to produce new Renycle® yarn. Using these recycled yarns (LYCRA® fibre and Renycle®), a 60-meter black fabric was created, which Triumph used to produce a coordinated lingerie set — bra and briefs — concretely demonstrating the possibility of closing the loop: from textile waste to new garments. The result achieved so far by Radici InNova, The LYCRA Company and Triumph should be considered a prototype (concept garment) designed to prove the technical feasibility of recycling mixed textiles and lay the groundwork for its future industrialization.



“Although still in its early stages, Triumph is proud to contribute to this pioneering initiative and to explore the potential of this innovative recycling technology for future applications. Our next step will focus on developing a capsule collection, while also working on solutions to ensure product identification, traceability and circularity systems, so that garments can remain in use for as long as possible and, once they reach the end of their life, can be recycled in the most

SCIENCE IN INDUSTRY

appropriate way. At Triumph, we are committed to promoting innovation and collaboration in the field of sustainability. Being part of this project strengthens our belief that circularity for garments made from mixed textile fibers is possible, and we are proud to help turn this vision into reality," said Vera Galarza, Global Head of Sustainability – Triumph.

For further information, please contact : communication@radicigroup.com. □

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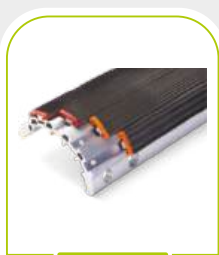
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